

MARBLEHEAD IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
A Select Bibliography Compiled by Judy Anderson, 2024

General John Glover

Billias, George Athan. **General John Glover and his Marblehead Mariners.** Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1960.
Foundational research about Gen. John Glover

O'Donnell, Patrick. **The Indispensables: The Diverse Soldier-Mariners Who Shaped the Country, Formed the Navy, and Rowed Washington Across the Delaware.** Atlantic Monthly Press, 2022.

Thorough coverage of Mhd. & Mass. in the early Revolution, and a compelling narrative of the Regiment. Billias did the foundational research about Glover & the Regiment in 1960. O'Donnell includes the larger picture of Marblehead early in the Rev.

Billias, George Athan. **"Soldier in a Longboat."** *American Heritage Magazine*, Feb. 1960, vol. 2, no. 2.
Biographical summary

Ellis, Joseph. **Revolutionary Summer: The Birth of American Independence.** Random House, 2013.
References Glover's Regiment in Long Island & New York, August 1776

Fisher, David Hackett. **Washington's Crossing.** Oxford University Press 2004.
Provides in-depth context for the end of 1776.

Gardner, F. A. Gardner. **"Glover's Marblehead Regiment in the War of the Revolution"** *The Massachusetts Magazine*, April 1908, vol. 1, no. 2. AND The Salem Press Co., Salem, MA, 1976.
Includes lists of men in service. Note: this booklet includes the erroneous inclusion of Major John Pedrick on Feb. 26, 1775 as fact, and does not include Jeremiah Lee as militia Colonel in Jan. 1775.

Ketchum, Richard M., **The Winter Soldiers: The Battles for Trenton and Princeton.** Henry Holt & Company, New York, 1973.

Knight, Russell W. **"General John Glover: Legend and Fact."** *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, January 1958, vol. XCIV, no. 1, pg. 76-78.

Knight, Russell W. **"General Glover Battles a 'Temporal Curse.'"** *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, April 1965, vol. CI, no. 2, pg. 116-120.
Discusses Glover's post-retirement problems

Knight, Russell W., editor. (foreword by Walter Muir Whitehill) **"General John Glover's Letterbook."** *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, 1976.
The letterbook covers Sept. 1776 (after Evacuation of Long Island) to October 1777 (Saratoga)

Magra, Christopher. **"Brigadier General John Glover."** Self-published.
Timeline of Glover's military career

O'Donnell, Patrick K. **"Glover and the 'Indispensables' Save Washington's Army."** *American Heritage Magazine*, Spring 2024, vol. 69, no. 2.

Schellhammer, Michael. **"Overlooked Hero: General John Glover."** *Journal of the American Revolution* (allthingsliberty.com), July 2013 (online).

Sanborn, Nathan Perkins. **“General John Glover and his Marblehead Regiment in the Revolutionary War”** A paper read before the Marblehead Historical Society, 1903.

The publication erroneously states that after Gen. Glover’s return from the war, he “retired to his home in Marblehead to cobble shoes in a corner of his parlor.” He did retire to his fine home in Marblehead, but he had abandoned cobbling shoes three decades before. Instead, he worked hard to rebuild a trading operation and served in several elected state legislature and local selectman positions. Sanborn also wrote that Glover retired “reluctantly,” whereas he had actually wanted to and tried to retire ever since 1777 & 1778. He also states that Glover was “uncomplaining,” which is also not true, because his letters to both George Washington and to his older brother Colonel Jonathan (Fifth Essex Regiment) indicate otherwise. Also, early in the text, Sanborn incorrectly notes that Glover’s older brother Samuel (younger twin to Jonathan, eldest of the 4 brothers) was a goldsmith, but no facts substantiate that. He apparently went to sea and was a merchant.

Schulz, Nancy L. **“Home of General John Glover Threatened by Demolition.”** *American Heritage Magazine*, Spring 2024, vol. 69, no. 2.

Grosvenor, Edwin S. **“Save the Gover House.”** *American Heritage Magazine*, Spring 2024, vol. 69, no. 2.

Byrne, Kerry J. **“Meet the American who rowed Washington across the Delaware on Christmas.”** Fox News Digital, Dec. 22, 2023.

There are errors toward the end this article, but overall it is fairly good

Marblehead in the Revolution

Knight, Russell W. **“The Longest Town Meeting”** (May 1774 to May 1775). Headers in Life & Legend, 1989, pg.96-122. <https://www.legendinc.com/Pages/MarbleheadNet/MM/Headers/Headers20.html>
Legend Inc., Marblehead, MA 1989 (book, published by Legend Publications).

Roads, Samuel Jr. (book) **“The History and Traditions of Marblehead.”** Broughton, Osgood and Company, The Riverside Press, Cambridge, 1880 and Press of N. Allen Lindsey & Co., Marblehead, MA 1897.

Privateering in the Revolution & the establishment of a seagoing Army force (later “Navy”)

Smith, Philip Ch. Foster. **“The Privateering Impulse of the American Revolution.”** *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, Jan. 1983, vol. 119, no. 1, pg. 49-62.

Smith, Philip Ch. Foster and Knight, Russell W. **“In Troubled Waters: The Elusive Schooner Hannah.”** *American Neptune, Volume XXX, No. 2, April 1970.*

Patton, Robert H. **Patriot Pirates: The Privateer War for Freedom and Fortune in the American Revolution.** Vintage Books, 2009.

Hulbert, Kylie. **The Untold War at Sea: America’s Revolutionary Privateers.** University of Georgia Press, 2022.

Frothingham, Captain Thomas G., U.S.R. **“The Service of Marblehead to the United States Navy”** *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, 1926, vol. 52, no. 12. Reprinted by Marblehead Historical Society.

Dolin, Eric Jay. **Rebels At Sea: Privateering in the American Revolution.** Liveright Publishing Corporation, 2022.

Collins, Dr. J. Richard. "The Hannah-Nautilus Affair." *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, Jan. 1968, CIV, no. 1, pg. 34-42.

Cahill, Robert Ellis. **New England's Naughty Navy.** Chandler-Smith Publishing House, no. 11, 1987, pg. 1-60.

Allen, Gardner William. **Massachusetts Privateers of the Revolution.** Heritage Books, 2012.

Specific Revolutionary Captains from Marblehead

Smith, Ph. Chadwick Foster. "Captain Samuel Tucker (1747-1833), Continental Navy." *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, July 1976, vol. 112, no. 3, pg. 155-268.

Dowdell, Vincent Dowdell Jr. "Captain Mugford and the Powder Ship." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, December 1956, vol. 82, no. 12, pg. 64.

Related Works about the Revolution from similar perspectives to Marblehead's

Breen, T. H. **American Insurgents, American Patriots: The Revolution of the People.** Hill and Wang, 2010.

Ellis, Joseph. **The Cause: The American Revolution and Its Discontents, 1773-1783.** Liveright Publishing Corporation, 2021.

Raphael, Ray. "Blacksmith Timothy Bigelow and the Massachusetts Revolution of 1774." *Revolutionary Founders: Rebels, Radicals, and Reformers in the Making of the Nation.* Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2012, pg. 35 – 52.

About Worcester, but similar mindset and actions

Before and Early in the Revolution ~ Causes of the Revolution

Beck, Derek W. **Igniting the American Revolution: 1773 – 1775.** Sourcebooks, 2015.

Beck, Derek W. **The War Before Independence: 1775 – 1776.** Sourcebooks, 2016.

Borneman, Walter R. **American Spring: Lexington, Concord, and the Road to Revolution.** Little Brown & Co., 2014.

Carp, Benjamin. "Boston Harbor a Tea-pot This Night!" *American Heritage Magazine*, Spring 2024, vol. 69, no. 2.

Schiff, Stacy. "Samuel Adams Starts a Revolution." *American Heritage Magazine*, May 2023, vol. 68, no. 3.

Maritime background related to the Revolution and Marblehead

Magra, Christopher (PhD, U. Tenn. Knoxville) (books)

The Fisherman's Cause: Atlantic Commerce and Maritime Dimensions of the American Revolution
Cambridge University Press, 2009 (book)

Poseidon's Curse: British Naval Impressment and Atlantic Origins of the American Revolution
Cambridge University Press, 2016 (book)

About *The Fisherman's Cause*:

In **the first book-length examination of the connections between the commercial fishing industry in colonial America and the American Revolution**, Christopher Magra places the origins and progress of this formative event in a wider Atlantic context.

The Fisherman's Cause utilizes extensive research from archives in the United States, Canada, and the U.K. in order to take this Atlantic approach. Dried, salted cod represented the most lucrative export in New England. The fishing industry connected colonial producers to transatlantic markets in the Iberian Peninsula and the West Indies. **Parliament's coercive regulation of this branch of colonial maritime commerce contributed to prompting colonists to engage in a variety of revolutionary activities.**

Colonists then used the sea to forcibly resist British authority. Fish merchants converted transatlantic trade routes into military supply lines, and they transformed fishing vessels into warships. Fishermen armed and manned the first American navy, served in the first coast guard units, and fought on privateers. **These maritime activities helped secure American independence.**

About *Poseidon's Curse*: **(about the impact of British impressment of Seamen)**

(*Magra summary*): The American Revolution was deeply moored in Atlantic matters. Dramatic events on and around the Atlantic Ocean shaped the contours of this formative event. ...British naval impressment supported the rise of Great Britain's seaborne empire, then helped prompt its decline. The state appropriated free laborers to man the warships that defended overseas colonies and maritime commerce. Mariners resented the ways in which impressment jeopardized their earning potential and occupational mobility. And maritime employers were bitter about the detrimental effect of manpower losses on trade. British press gangs took mariners into military service around the Atlantic World. Why, then, did impressment only contribute to a revolution in North America? Extensive new archival research demonstrates that a sea of shared resentment and particular American concerns about imperial policy changes largely explain why impressment is listed in the Declaration of Independence as one of the foremost grievances Americans had with the British government.

Articles by Magra, Christopher (PhD, U. Tenn. Knoxville)

"Soldiers... Bred to the Sea": Maritime Marblehead, Mass., and the Origins and Progress of the Am. Rev.
The New England Quarterly, Vol. 77, No. 4 (Dec., 2004), pg. 531-562 (32 pgs.)
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/1559726>

Anti-Impressment Riots and the Origins of the Age of Revolution

The International Review of Social History, 58:21 (Special Issue, 2013), pg. 131-151.

The Fraternity of the Sea: Family, Friendship, and Fishermen In Colonial Massachusetts, 1750-1775

International Journal of Maritime History, Vol. 22, No. 2 (December 2010), pg. 113-128.

Fishermen, Fish Merchants, and the Origins of the American Navy

The International Journal of Naval History, Vol. 8, No. 1 (April 2009), pg. ____

Beyond the Banks: The Integrated Wooden Working World of 18th-Century Massachusetts' Cod Fisheries
The Northern Mariner/ Le Marin Du Nord, Vol. 17, No. 1 (Jan. 2007; printed Jan. 2008), pg. 1-15

Other Books

Burrows, Edwin, **Forgotten Patriots: The Untold Story of American Prisoners During the Rev. War**
Basic Books, New York, 2008

Loyalists

There are many good books and articles about Loyalists.