Name ___________________________ Rank ______
Unit No. _______ City ____________ Cncl. ______
Date Hiked Trail ________________ Leader's Approval ______

**Observation Questions**

At each of the stops on the trail you are to look
For the answers to the following questions:

1. What is the length ______ and width ______ of fort.
2. When was the North Church founded ______
3. When was Elbridge Gerry V.P. ______
4. What color is Pedrick's house now ______
5. How many steps up to door of town house ______
6. Who erected plaque ______
7. How big is St. Michael's Church ______ by ______
8. Who was old man drummer in painting ______
9. Estimate current width of river ______ feet
10. Est. distance across parking lot - Wash. St. to P.O. ______
11. When were Cont. Comp. Delegates chosen ______
12. Est. width of North River today ______
13. What name on top, front of building ______

Comments:

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**Registration Form**

Pack
Troop ______ of ________ (city) ______ (state) plans to hike the Leslie's Retreat Trail ______
No. Hikers expected ______ No. adults ______

We have prepared our group for a safe hike and agree that the Trail Committee, Trail Sponsors or the BSA are not responsible for any accidents that may occur ______ Signed ______

Leader in Charge (please print) ______
Phone ______

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**Awards Order Form**

Pack
Troop ______ Completed the Leslie's Retreat Trail ______ and would like to order:

- Trail patches at $1.50 each ______
- Trail medals at $2.50 each ______
- Sets of patch and medal at $4.00 ______

Postage (see below) ______

Mail to: (please print) ______

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Current 3rd class postage is as follows: Patches 1-10 .52; 10-20 .70; over 20 add .35 each 10. Medals require .18 each postage/extra refunded.
toward Washington St. Continue on Essex, passed Wash. St. till you come to the Peabody Museum - a large stone building on the right side with a metal fence around the front.

Stop #13: Peabody Museum - After Col. Leslie returned to Boston, Gov. Gage waited awhile and then sent out another expedition - this time to Lexington and Concord. After the battle Gov. Gage sent a report to England. The Colonists feared that he would not tell the truth so John Derby of Salem sailed to England with "our side" of the trouble. The people wanted their friends in England to know the truth.

John Derby returned July 18, 1775 and reported to Geo. Washington that he had reached London 9 days before Gage’s dispatch and had time to tell "our side" before Gage’s report got there.

As a result, there were many people in England who helped the Colonists during the Revolutionary War. When the port of Boston was closed during the War, Salem was used to bring in supplies. Ships from here went all over the world picking up items of interest. Inside the Museum you can see samples of what the Sailing Ships brought back. There is a good collection of stuffed birds, model ships and a display of the tools used on the ships. There is also a large collection of items brought back.

There is a Group rate available for Scouts If you have the time I believe you will find the Museum most interesting. The Museum is open 9-5 weekdays and 2-5 Sundays. (9-4 weekdays during Nov.-Feb.)

This ENDS the Trail. There is a parking lot across the street between Essex and Federal which might be convenient for pick up.

(If you have time, you may be interested in visiting the Salem Maritime National Historic Site on Derby St. To reach it continue on Essex St. to Hawthorn Blvd. (end of Essex) and take a right. Take a left at the next intersection onto Derby. Wharf and Customs House are a short distance down Derby St.)
Requirements: Although the trail was designed for Scouts, anyone may and have hiked the Trail. Boy Scout, Girl Scout, Cubs and School groups have all completed this trail. Scouts are encouraged to wear full Scout uniform on the Trail and an adult over 21 must accompany each group on the entire hike. It is recommended that adult leadership be on a ratio of about one Leader to 10 Scouts to insure a safe and orderly hike. All Scout units should have a local tour permit (#4416) or a National Tour Permit (#4419) in their possession if they are not members of North Bay Council, BSA. These permits are issued thru your local Scout Office. The Trail must be hiked under the direction of a Troop, Pack, or some other organized group. No individual hikers will be recognized for awards. Each hiker is expected to obey the pedestrian safety rules as well as being "Courteous".

The old section of Marblehead had very narrow streets and sidewalks are missing in some areas. Take care to keep the group in order and not block roads or take chances with traffic in this area. The rest of the hike has a normal sidewalk. Each group should see that it has training in hike precautions and first aid. All hikers should look for the answers to the observation questions provided at the end of this booklet. This will help them get more out of the hike and make it more than just a long walk.

It is to be noted that the participation of individuals in hiking of the "Leslie's Retreat Trail" in no way obligates the Trail Committee, Trail Sponsors, or the Boy Scouts of America in the case of any accidents or injuries.

The Trail does not require entrance into any building charging admission. It is recommended that you end the Trail at the Peabody Museum which does charge. We believe the cost is well worth the show. However, it is not required.
He followed Lynde St. for one block and then turned right onto North St. When he turned this corner the bridge over the North River was in front of him and he could see that it had been raised.

The overpass in front of you replaced the bridge over the North River. On the right hand side of the overpass, 3/4 of the way over there is a large stone marker with a plaque commemorating the halting of Leslie at this point.

Stop #12: North Bridge - As you can see by looking down, the North River has been greatly reduced in width by land fill. The River was just as wide on both sides of this point prior to the fill. (see map #4)

It was here that the Salem Minutemen stopped Col. Leslie by raising the draw bridge. Thus his troops did not capture the cannons and only served to make the people angry and get them prepared for the future. Col. Leslie was finally permitted to cross over the bridge and march 500 feet into North Salem. You may wish to do this also since there is a hamburger drive-in stand at the foot of the bridge, on the right side. About now might be a good time for a snack.

Col. Leslie marched his troops back to Marblehead (which you are welcome to do) under the watchful eyes and guns of more than 500 Minutemen. Instead of re-tracing his steps back let's look at what the people did in Salem. (Hiking back will give you a 10 miler)

Once you have refueled your troops go back over the bridge and go straight down North St. to Essex.

On the far right corner of Essex and North (opposite the Witch House) is a monument to the first man to call our flag "Old Glory". This was Capt. William Driver of Salem.

Turn left at Essex St. and follow Essex (east) back

In order that the stops be fully understood and that the hikers get the most out of the Trail, it is strongly recommended that each hiker review this booklet and the History of America of 1760 - 1780 prior to the hike.

Other Information: There are numerous eating spots along the Trail. Camping is locally best done at Camp Vihan in Saugus (Run by the City of Boston - Tel. 617 - 438-5690).

Religious services are available in Marblehead. Restrooms are available at Crocker Park and Fort Sewall in the summer and at gas stations along the route.

The Witch Trail Committee sponsors a total of 9 trails in this area. Guide books for each are available for 25c each plus postage or $2.65 set. from 157 Circuit Road, Winthrop, Mass. 02152.

Pirate Legend Trek and Trail: - The Trek is approx. 4 miles long and is recommended for Cubs. The Trail covers 10 miles. Both are in the Lynn Woods and visit a Pirate Cave dug 150 feet thru solid rock.

Witch Trail - 10 miles from Danvers to Salem to see all the sites of the 1692 witchcraft hysteria.

Leslie's Retreat - from Marblehead to Salem - 6 miles retracing the British march of Feb. 26, 1775.

Sons of Liberty - 10 miles from Lexington to Concord on the battle road of April 19, 1775.

Sky Line Trail - Thru the Middlesex Fells in Stoneham to point out the local Indian History.

Blue Hills #1 and #2 - 2 or 8 miles thru the Blue Hills, south of Boston for compass work.

Spirit of '76 Trail - 2 miles around "Old Town" part of Marblehead, seeing '76 painting and history.

Registration: Please fill out the registration form found at the front of this booklet. This will let us inform you of any changes that may have occurred. In the back of this booklet you will find one copy of questions we suggest you have the hikers answer along the trail. Reproduce as many as you need, so that each hiker will be kept busy and find it more interesting.
Parking: A 6 mile hike - there is very limited parking in the "Old Town" section of Marblehead, where the trail starts. It would be best to have your Unit dropped off in Marblehead and have the transportation meet you in Salem. There is ample parking in Salem in front of the Post Office (Washington St.) or off Federal St, between Federal, Essex and Washington.

Bus Service from Salem to Marblehead leaves from the corner of Federal and Washington Streets. The bus will leave you off one block from the start of the trail. Ask to be let off at Fort Sewall (Franklin St.).

10 Mile hike - if you plan to make a round-trip of the hike you should find a parking place on Franklin St. or one of the other side streets near Fort Sewall.

To Reach the Trail: Marblehead may be reached by Rt. 129 out of Lynn or by Rt. 114 from Rt. 128.

From Boston take the tunnel and then Rt. 1A north to the first traffic circle (Bell Circle). Go right at the circle toward Wonderland Dog Track and then continue on this road (Rt. 1A) into Lynn via the Gen. Edwards Bridge. Follow the road along the coast in Lynn (signs point to Swampscott and Marblehead) and then follow Rt. 129 into Marblehead.

Rt. 129 is Atlantic Ave. in Marblehead. This will lead you directly into town. You will pass two sets of traffic lights, a large Catholic Church, an American and an Exxon gas station and come to a left bend in the road. The Marblehead Savings Bank is located on the left at this bend.

At the next intersection (Shell Gas on corner) turn right onto Washington St. Follow Washington St. up hill, pass large stone building on right and continue down hill. At foot of hill bear left, then take first right onto Darling St. (Street opposite the "Sea Gull").

Follow Darling St to end. Turn left onto Front St. and follow Front St to its end. Sign at end reads "All traffic turn here". There is a small public parking lot here. Start of Trail is at Fort Sewall which is a short walk further on Front St. to the right (no traffic permitted).
Via Rt. 114 - follow Rt. 114 from Rt. 128 thru Salem to Marblehead. After you enter Marblehead (cross water you will find the road bears left and you will come to a Fire Station on the right at a blinking traffic light. There is a sign at this corner directing you to Rt. 129.

Turn right at this blinking light and take your next left. This will put you on Rt.129 and Atlantic Ave. From here follow the instruction written above, starting with the second paragraph, for Rt. 129.

Return to Salem: If you wish to drive back to Salem from Fort Sewall, go back on Front St. to first right turn (Franklin St.) - Front St. is one-way beyond this point. Go up Franklin St to the top and take a left onto Washington St. Follow Washington to lights - Town Hall in middle of street. Take a right at the lights, go one block and take a left onto Elm St. Follow Elm and the signs and you will be directed to Salem - Rt. 114. Marblehead has placed some signs here to help direct traffic. Follow Rt. 114 directly into Salem. This will also be the hike route - Rt. 114.

References:

History and Traditions of Marblehead by Roads (1897)
History of Mass. by Alder Bradford (1822)
Essex Institute Historical Collections - Vol 32 & 38 from the Essex Institute, Salem.
A collection of old maps of Salem from the Salem Public Library
The Concord Fraud by Dobbs (1968) Essex Inst. Paper
Old Marblehead by Chamberlain (1940)
Salem in the 17th Century by Phillips
Background:

There were many incidents that lead up to the Revolutionary War. In order that the feelings of the people living in Marblehead be made clear, the following brief outline of the history leading up to Leslie's Retreat is presented here.

When Governor Coggeshal appointed the British Crown to rule Massachusetts he decided to be tough. In March of 1774 he legalized the quartering of troops in private homes. Further, he abolished Town Meetings and passed the "Port Bill" which closed the port of Boston to commerce and moved the seat of government to Salem. On Oct. 5 he dissolved the Mass. Legislature. The members of the Legislature met anyway and promptly formed into a ' Provincial Congress' and decided to raise an army.

On Jan. 2, 1775 the town of Marblehead held a Town Meeting and voted to support the newly formed Congress and to help raise the army. The members of the Town Meeting voted to pay persons who enlisted as Minutemen. Men had been training for some time in a field ( not Washington Sq.) under the command of John Glover.

On Jan 9, the British ship "Lively" with 20 guns arrived in Marblehead Harbor and anchored off Fort Sewall. All vessels arriving were diligently searched and any guns, ammunition or military supplies found were confiscated by order of Gov. Coggeshal. He believed the Provincial Congress was collecting munitions of war in dangerous quantities and wished to put a stop to it.

A vessel containing a chest of guns was compelled to anchor near the "Lively" and the arms were held as property of the Crown. A few nights later the ship was boarded by a group of young men - lead by Sam Trevett. They took the guns ashore and hid them. A search by the British failed to uncover the guns, which were used in completing the armament of the Marblehead regiment.

Gov. Coggeshal received a tip that there were 8 brass cannons in Salem as well as a supply of other ammunition. The cannons were supposed to have come from Holland.

when Col. Leslie marched thru. There were few houses located here at that time.

As you continue your hike you will be able to see how much the road has been widened by noting the trees growing in the middle of the road. You will pass the Salem State College on your left and come to an intersection. Friendly Ice Cream on right. Continuing on Lafayette St you will pass many houses built in the 1800's and finally see the Lafayette Hotel sign in the distance. Just before the Hotel is where you bear left and continue to follow Rt. 114 down to Washington St. As you reach Wash. St. there will be a large parking lot in front of you.

Stop #10: South River - Col. Leslie was delayed briefly near this point when the people tore up the planks from the bridge across the South River. Pedrick had warned the people and they did the best they could to stall the British. However, they did not have time to complete the job.

Leslie had his men replace the planks and, with only a short delay proceeded to march his men into Salem. (The large parking lot and the area to the left - Canal St. - were all part of the Mill Pond and South River at the time.)

Continue up Washington St. (parking lot will be on your left). Do not follow Rt. 114 to the left but rather continue up Washington toward the center of the city. Stop at the corner of Essex and Washington. The Daniel Low Building is on the corner.

Stop #11: Site of Old Meeting House - Col. Leslie was met in this area by a Tory and told that the guns he wanted were in North Salem. A large crowd had gathered about the Meeting House at this time due to the ringing of the alarm bell.

From here Col. Leslie marched his troops up Wash. St. one block further and turned left onto Lynde St. (You will pass a Burger King on your left here)
stone building on the left at the top of the hill. This is Abbot Hall.

Stop # 6: Abbot Hall - This is the center of government for Marblehead. The Selectmen meet in the first room on the left inside the door. The original painting of the "Spirit of '76" as well as other historic papers related to Marblehead are on display here.

On this site the Minutemen trained for the Revolt.

After viewing the painting, return to Wash. St. (turn left on leaving the Building) and continue on Washington St. downhill to the bottom. Cross Atlantic and continue on Washington. At the next intersection Washington St. ends and you should bear left onto Pleasant St. Follow Pleasant St out of town, bearing right at the intersections. This is Rt. 114 and you may follow it directly to the bridge over Forest River. Along the way you will pass many old homes and a fire station on your left. If you want to get away from the highway for a while and follow a woods path as an alternate to Rt. 114 - take a right onto the old railroad right-of-way you will come too just after you pass the fire station. Bear left along this trail, pass an electrical transformer on your right, and continue to the water, bearing left here also. You will come out on Lafayette St. at Stop #9.

Stop #9 Forest River - It was here that John Pedrick caught up with Col. Leslie and the Redcoats. The Soldiers were marching along, taking up the whole road. Luckily, Col. Leslie knew Mr. Pedrick and his beautiful daughter. He had his men step out of the way and let Pedrick ride by. Pedrick said he wished to visit a "Sick friend" in Salem and thanked the Col. for letting him pass. He rode on slowly until out of sight and urged his horse to a gallop.

Continue to follow Rt. 114 straight into Salem. All the land from here to South River was farm land.

The Gov. ordered the 64th Regiment of Foot under Col. Leslie to leave Castle Williams in Boston by ship and capture the weapons.

On Sunday, Feb. 26, 1775, a transport sailed into the Marblehead harbor and anchored along side the "Lively". Col. Leslie had all his men (over 200) hidden below deck like in a Trojan Horse. When most of the town was at afternoon worship services, Leslie brought his men ashore. He landed on Lovis Beach and Homan's Beach, in an area now called Leslie's Cove. The men were carrying coils of rope, lanterns, shovels, pickaxes, hand spikes and muskets. He marched his men along Lafayette St. toward Salem, which is about 5 miles away.

When the people saw the soldiers march off with loaded rifles and fixed bayonets they became alarmed and rang all the bells in town and beat the alarm drum. John Pedrick quickly mounted his horse and set out to warn Salem. He caught up with the British soldiers at Forest River. Col. Leslie knew Pedrick and admired his daughter. He let him pass, even moving the troops out of the way, so that Pedrick could visit a "sick friend".

Pedrick sounded the alarm in Salem with the help of David Mason. The people hastily removed the planks from the South Bridge to stall for time. In the mean time others moved the cannon and ammunition to a safe place in North Salem, across the North River.

When Col. Leslie and his troops finally reached Salem the people were waiting for him. A Tory named John Sargent told him the weapons were in the mill of Robert Foster in North Salem. Leslie proceeded to march his men to the North River, only to find that the Salem Minutemen had raised the draw bridge. Col. Pickering of Salem had assembled 30 or more of his Minutemen on the other side of the river. The river was over 150 feet wide at this point, spreading to over 600 feet wide on either side of the bridge. (It has since been filled in almost completely.)

Col. Leslie demanded that the bridge be lowered for the use of the King's troops. He was told that it was not a King's road but rather a private road and thus he would
have to declare Martial Law to get it down. Col. Leslie was so mad he is reported to have ordered an Officer to face his company toward a group of men standing on the wharf and to fire.

One of the Townsmen instantly told him he had no right to fire and, "If you do fire you will be all dead men". Leslie returned to the center of his regiment and conferred with his Officers.

While this was going on Ben Daland was riding to spread the alarm to Danvers and others were alerting the rest of the towns to the North and West. By night Minutemen from all around were marching to the aid of Salem.

Joe Sprague and Jim Barr scuttled two flat boats that were on the shore by chopping holes in the bottoms, less they be used to ferry the soldiers across. The British saw this and threatened the men and their helpers with loaded muskets and fixed bayonets. One man, named Joe Whicher, was cut in the shoulder by a bayonet deep enough to draw blood.

For the next 1½ hours it was a stand-off. This gave the men plenty of time to hid the cannon in a field and cover them with leaves. By this time it was only a matter of honor to the British whether they crossed the bridge or not. As the troops were waiting for the bridge to be lowered they were called "Lobster Backs" and taunted by the crowd. Bob Wormsted of Marblehead was a skillful fencer and used his cane as a weapon to disarm 6 of the British regulars. All this action made the troops and the people very tense.

Rev. Thomas Barnard, minister of Salem, is credited with working out a compromise whereby the bridge would be lowered and the troops permitted to cross if they agreeded to only go 30 rods (about 500 feet) beyond the bridge and then return without a search.

The British kept their word and only went as far as Mason St. and turned around.

Sarah Tarrant called out to the British from her window, "Go home and tell your master he sent you on a fool's errand and has broken our Sabbath. What do you think we were born in the woods to be frightened by owls?"

to decide if he should attack the British, ambush them on the way back or what.

By the time Col. Leslie returned Glover had assembled over 400 armed Minutemen. The British came back empty handed so there was no need to fight. But the army that John Glover had assembled made it clear that Leslie never would have made it back to the ships had he caused trouble in Salem.

Turn right at Glover's home and follow Glover St. toward the water to Front St. At Front St. turn right and follow Front St. - along which Col. Leslie and his troops were marching - west. Pass State St. and take the next right onto Darlin St.

This will bring you back up to Washington St. at the spot where "Brick Path" is located. Cross Washington St. and turn right. You will pass in front of the old Tory Headquarters - "Brick Path" where people loyal to the King met.

Turn left at the next corner onto Summer St. Go up Summer St. to St. Michael's Church.

Stop #7: St. Michael's Episcopal Church - This is one of the oldest Episcopal churches in America. This is the original building - built in 1714. The people were in this church when the doors were thrown open and the alarm was spread - "The British are Coming". Although this was considered the "Church of England", most of the congregation were in favor of independance and were not happy with the way they were being treated by the British.

The church contains the original bell which was cracked while ringing out the news of the Declaration of Independence. The bell was fixed by Paul Revere and is still in use. The church is open 9-5 weekdays and services are held here at 11 on Sundays.

After viewing the church continue up Summer St. to the next intersection (Rockaway St.). Take a left onto Rockaway and a right at the next corner onto Washington St. Follow Wash. St. uphill to the large
Stop #3: Home of Elbridge Gerry - He was a member of the Provincial Congress at this time. This was the "rebel congress" that had defied the British and had sent out the call to organize the Minuteman Army. The first concern of the people was that the soldiers might be here to arrest him.

Continue down Washington St. to the next corner. There is located #52 Washington St.

Stop #4: Home of Major John Pedrick - John Pedrick was a man of action. When he learned the British were marching toward Salem he decided someone had to warn the people. Without hesitation he ran down from the church, saddled his horse and rode off toward Salem.

Continue down Wash. St. toward the intersection (traffic lights) where there is a building in the middle of the street. This is the Old Town House.

Stop #5: Old Town House - This building was used for Town Meetings in 1775. It was here that the Town voted to support the new "Provincial Congress" and to help by raising a Minuteman Army. John Glover recruited the first Marblehead Minutemen here. He was in charge of training the men.

Turn left at the traffic lights onto State St. and follow it down toward the water to your first left - Glover St. Turn left onto Glover and Gen. John Glover's home will be directly in front of you at the end of the street - #11 Glover St.

Stop #6: Home of John Glover - He was in charge of organizing the Minutemen. He knew that the British would be back once they finished their work in Salem. It was up to him to plan what to do now. He sent men out to warn the towns to the West and South and to request they send help. He alerted all his Minutemen and assembled them, ready to fight. It was up to him

At this point on of the Redcoats pointed his musket at her.

"Fire if you have the courage! I doubt it," she yelled. The soldier lowered his gun and fell back into place.

Col. Leslie then marched his troops back to Marblehead. The Danvers Minutemen had arrived by this time and escorted the British back to the Marblehead-Salem border. The alarm had brought men from all the neighboring towns. As a result the stone fences all bristled with musketry and the road was lined with determined men. On his return to Marblehead Col. Leslie passed John Glover and a regiment of his Minutemen. It was clear that had trouble started in Salem none of the British troops would have reached their ship alive.

Col. Leslie boarded his ship to the tune "The World Turned up-side-down" and returned to Boston. This ended the first military expedition of the Revolutionary War and the first direct resistance to the British authority of 1775.

The Minutemen of Marblehead and Salem increased their training, now that they had seen the enemy. 1500 men from Marblehead are said to have served in the army during the Revolutionary War - almost every man in town. Over 600 of them are buried on Old Burial Hill in Marblehead.

After this incident the 'Committee of Safety' selected several people to keep an eye on the British and report any movement of the troops, so the towns would have more warning. Thus, Paul Revere was ready to warn Lexington and Concord that the British were going to try the same thing again.

The humiliation suffered by the British at Salem plus the threatened Courtmartial of Col. Leslie made the march on Lexington and Concord a determined show of force. The British could not afford to be humiliated a second time.
Trail Guide:

Stop #1: Fort Sewall - At the end of Front St. the path to the right leads to the Fort. At the entrance there is a sign giving the history of the area. The British ship Lively was anchored in the harbor just off this Fort. Col. Leslie brought his ship into the harbor on Feb. 26, 1775 and anchored along side the Lively. He landed his men in the cove just east of the Fort on Front St. - Lovis Beach and Noman's Beach. After landing, they loaded their rifles and marched off carrying coils of rope, lanterns, pickaxes, shovels, and hand spikes.

(Restrooms and water are available at the Fort during the summer. The Fort was named for Chief Justice Samuel Sewall.)

The Trail starts here, in the same location that Col. Leslie and his Troops started. In order to include the complete picture of this event we will follow the townspeople and their reaction to Col. Leslie as well as the British line of march.

From Fort Sewall return to Front St., walk down Front St. to the first intersection - Franklin St. - and turn right onto Franklin. Go up Franklin St. to the top of the street and turn left onto Washington St. (at corner Store). Follow Washington St. to #44 on the right side.

Stop #2: Old North Church of Marblehead - This church was built in 1824 to replace the original one located on Burial Hill (a short distance behind this church). Most of the people of Marblehead were at afternoon church services when Col. Leslie came ashore. When the soldiers were spotted men went to the churches and alerted the people.

Across the street from the church is #44 - the home of Elbridge Gerry.