

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910795412203321
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Titolo	Following the drum : women at the Valley Forge encampment / / Nancy K. Loane
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, District of Columbia : , : Potomac Books, , [2009] ©2009
ISBN	9781640123953 9781597973854
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (172 pages)
Classificazione	15.87 7,26
Disciplina	973.3341082
Soggetti	Women - United States Biography Biographies. History Valley Forge (Pa.) History 18th century United States History Revolution, 1775-1783 Women United States History Revolution, 1775-1783 Participation, Female Etats-Unis Histoire 1775-1783 (Revolution) Femmes Etats-Unis Histoire 1775-1783 (Revolution) Participation des femmes Pennsylvania Valley Forge United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Half Title Page -- Title Page -- Copyright Page -- Dedication Page -- Contents -- Preface -- 1 Setting the Stage: The War, Army, and Community -- 2 Martha Washington at Valley forge: "The Worthy Partner of the Worthiest of Men" -- 3 Martha Washington at the Other Encampments: A Resolute and Loyal Lady -- 4 Catharine Greene and Lucy Knox: The Ladies Come to Valley Forge -- 5 Rebekah Biddle, Lady Stirling, and Alice Shippen at Valley Forge: "I Should not Be Sorry to See You Here" -- 6 The Women with Washington's "Family": Slaves, Servants, and Spies -- 7 Camp Women at Valley Forge: "A Caravan of

Wild Beasts" -- 8 Camp Women with the Continental Army: Cannonballs and Cooking Kettles -- 9 The General Returns to Valley Forge: A Distinguished Officer's Musings -- Appendix Making the Myth of Martha Washington: Nineteenth-Century Fantasy vs. Eighteenth-Century Reality -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- About the Author.

Sommario/riassunto

"[This book] tells the story of the forgotten women who spent the winter of 1777-78 with the Continental Army at Valley Forge -- from those on society's lowest rungs to ladies of the upper echelon. Poor, dirty beings who clung to the very edge of survival, many camp women were soldiers' wives who worked as the army's washerwomen, nurses, cooks, or seamstresses. Though these women's written correspondence is scarce, author Nancy Loane uses sources such as issued military orders, pension depositions after the war, and soldiers' descriptions to bring these women to life. Other women at the encampment were of higher status: they traveled with Washington's entourage when the army headquarters shifted from place to place and served the general as valued cooks, laundresses, or housekeepers ... Drawing from diary entries and letters, *Following the drum* illuminates the experiences of these ladies, including Martha Washington, Lucy Knox, and Lady Stirling, during the encampment and then traces their lives after the Revolutionary War"--Jacket.
