

PRIMARY SOURCES ON BRUSH HUTS & HURDLED WEDGE TENTS

“After Orders. The following proportion of tents is allowed the army upon the next march—vizt—One soldier’s tent for the field Officers of each regiment. One ditto for every four Commissioned officers. One do for eight Serjeants, Drums or fifes. One do for eight privates. The Brigadiers to have returns made out, and the above proportion of tents taken for their brigades, and one waggon for every fifty tents, and no more—No woman under any pretence whatsoever to go with the army, but to follow the baggage—The soldiers are to carry their camp kettles, which, if the army should come to action, are to be put into waggons with the tents. The invalids, under a good subaltern, are to guard the tents of each brigade.”¹

“General Orders, 20 December 1777,” Founders Online, National Archives, last modified June 13, 2018, <http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-12-02-0584>. [Original source: The Papers of George Washington, Revolutionary War Series, vol. 12, 26 October 1777–?25 December 1777, ed. Frank E. Grizzard, Jr. and David R. Hoth. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 2002, pp. 641–644.]

“That the timber prevalent about Valley Forge, previously to its being fallen for the use of the American army, in the autumn of 1777, and winter and spring of 1778, consisted of white oak, black oak, spanish oak, rarely interspersed with scrubby chestnut and hickory.”²

¹ “General Orders, 13 September 1777,” Founders Online, National Archives, last modified June 13, 2018, <http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-11-02-0203>. [Original source: The Papers of George Washington, Revolutionary War Series, vol. 11, 19 August 1777–25 October 1777, ed. Philander D. Chase and Edward G. Lengel. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 2001, pp. 211–213.]

² “On Timber at Valley Forge,” Letter from Isaac Wayne, Esq., Eastown, Chester County (PA) to Richard Peters, Philadelphia, 4 March 1814, in “Memoirs of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, Containing Communications on Various Subjects in Husbandry and Rural Affairs,” Vol III. (Philadelphia: Johnson and Warner, 1814), 376.