

THE CROSSING OF THE DELAWARE: MORE ARTISTIC REPRESENTATIONS

Though we most often think of Emanuel Leutz's depiction of Washington crossing the Delaware as the iconic representation of this historic event, contemporary artists have been inspired as well. The two paintings depicted below are by contemporary artist, Peter Fiore. The first is meant to be a more historically accurate depiction of the crossing. This and the second painting were made for Lynne Cheney's (wife of former Vice President Dick Cheney) New York Times bestseller children's book "When Washington Crossed the Delaware."







These are replicas of the Durham boats that Washington and his men used to cross the river. They were originally designed to transport goods such as iron and lumber up and down the Delaware River and get them to markets in Philadelphia. The Durham Boat Company was located in the upper part of Bucks County in Durham Township. Robert Durham was an engineer at the company and had a prototype boat as early as 1757, almost 20 years before the crossing. As of 2006 another replica was being built at a cost of about \$100,000. The replica will be 40 feet long and 10 feet wide and have four 18-foot oars. Note the difference between these boats and those represented in Leutz's depiction of the crossing.