



Contributor: Laura McCulloch **Grade Level:** 4th

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

State of TN 4th Grade Social Studies, History of the United States: Revolution to Reconstruction, The War for Independence 1700s-1780s, Standard 4.10 Evaluate the contributions made by women during the American Revolution. Content Strand - Culture, Economics, History

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

Students will become familiar with a female patriot who made significant personal sacrifices during the American Revolution and eventually became an early settler of Tennessee. Students will be able to recognize and understand the impact the Revolution had on her during the course of her life.

3. Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:

Biography of Mary Shirley McGuire, Map identifying Fort Ruddell, Martin's Station and Fort Boonesborough, prints of Fort Detroit, Fort Montreal and Fort Boonesborough, early map of Tennessee identifying Bedford County.

4. Introduction of the topic:

During the years 1776-1783, while the American Revolution was being fought, American patriots were not only men but also women and children. A Patriot was someone who provided service or donated something of value to America while the Revolutionary War was being fought. Today we will discuss a female Patriot who sacrificed much for the cause of the American Revolution. A woman whose name was Mary Shirley McGuire.

5. Procedure for instruction:

****Read the Mary Shirley McGuire autobiography, either print copies of the maps attached or download to allow viewing on white board and have students identify the locations in Mary's story - Fort Boonesborough, Ruddell's Fort, and Martin's Station.**

****Utilizing the search capabilities on a computer, have students find the distance between Martin's Station and Fort Detroit (482 miles), from Fort Detroit to Fort Montreal (559 miles), Fort Montreal, Canada to Fort Chambley, Chambley, Canada (23 miles), Fort Chambley to New Windsor Camp, NY (306 miles), New Windsor Camp to Fort Boonesborough, KY (730) What was the total miles traveled by Mary and her family?**

Mary Shirley McGuire and her family traveled 2,100 miles.

****The first 482 were on foot, the second leg of 559 miles was by boat, Montreal to Fort Chambley/Fort Chambley to New Windsor and New Windsor to Fort Boonesborough were on foot. How many miles did the family travel on foot? 1,511 were traveled on foot.**

**Mary and William McGuire moved to Bedford County, TN following the revolution. What was the distance between Fort Boonesborough and Bedford County, TN (about 260 miles) What distance did the family travel to reach their final home? 260 miles

Lesson Closure

Discuss with students what Mary and her family sacrificed as Patriots - Their home in Martin's Station, all their possessions, the amount of time they spent as prisoners of the British, and the loss of a child. Ask class if they think they, as individuals, could endure the forced march and captivity Mary and her family withstood.

6. **Assessment of Understanding:**

Ask each student to write a paragraph titled "What Made Mary Shirley McGuire a Patriot."

Mary Shirley McGuire

Born: 17 February 1762 / Western Virginia

Died: 1845 / Bedford County, Tennessee

Married: William Thomas McGuire

23 February 1778 / Rockingham County, Virginia

I was born the oldest child of Johan Michael Shirley and Catherine Frantz. My father was a surveyor, and we were living at Fort Boonesborough which had been established by Daniel Boone. One day my father went out to do his work and did not come back. He had been attacked by Indians and left in the forest to die. Instead of leaving, my mother bought land from Daniel Boone, and we stayed in that area. I had 7 siblings, Katherine, Elizabeth, Susannah, George, Nancy, Charles, and Sarah "Sallie".

I met William McGuire when I was about thirteen and married him three years later when I was sixteen and he was thirty. William and his brother Thomas McGuire were both in the Continental Army where William served as a scout. We were living in a place called Martin's Station where my husband's sister, Christina, was married to Captain Charles Gatliff. Capt. Gatliff had been elected by the people of Martin's Station to lead their Militia Company which had been formed in case the British attacked.

We thought we were safe in Kentucky but did not know at the time that British Capt. Henry Bird was headed our way intending to destroy the forts and stations west of the mountains. He wanted all the settlers to move back east. He left Detroit in what is now Michigan with British troops but added about 1,000 Native Americans to his fighting force on the way to what we called Kentucky. Capt. Bird first attacked Ruddell's Station on June 22, 1780, where the settler's negotiated a surrender with a promise that they would be captured, not killed. Unfortunately, the Native Americans attacked the settlers anyway and many men, women and children were killed. We heard the news about Ruddell's Station, and it was decided that Martin's Station would also surrender. We fared better at Martin's Station but still had 20 killed. One hundred and fifty of us became prisoners of war and headed out on a forced march to Detroit some 500 miles away. Many died from illness and injury on the trip but on August 4 I arrived in Detroit with my husband and two-year-old son, Michael. Fort Detroit did not have enough room for our all of us so we became part of a group that was sent on to Montreal, Canada by boat and on foot – another 500 miles.

After arriving in Montreal, we were set to work on a local farm until November 1, 1782 when we were released in a prisoner exchange. Our second child, Thomas, had been born just a year earlier so the four of us set out for home. We walked twenty-three miles to Fort Chambley where the British soldiers refused to let us in out of the cold. I am not exactly sure what day it was but around November the 5th, we spent the night sleeping in a cemetery on the ground. It was so very cold. I was able to button the baby up inside my clothes and little Michael slept between us. The next morning, we found that he had frozen.

Michael was buried in a grave we dug by hand in the snow. That very day, we had to continue our journey, leaving our baby behind. Eventually, we made it to Vermont where we were exchanged for British prisoners. From there it was on to New Windsor Camp in New York where we met General Washington himself. We even got to eat with General Washington, and he told us how sorry he was for our time as prisoners and the loss of our baby. We finally made it back to Kentucky by boat, canoe and on foot.

Following the conclusion of the war, William and I moved to Bedford County, TN where we remained until we died. We are buried in the Horse Mountain Cemetery outside Shelbyville and our home still stands.

***Mary and William had nine children, Michael "Bennie" born in Western Virginia, Thomas born in Canada, Mary "Polly", Sarah, and Catherine all three born in Western Virginia, William McGuire II, Cornelius "Neely", and John all born in Lincoln Co., Kentucky, and Elizabeth born in Shelby Co., Kentucky.



Mary Shirley McGuire Historical Marker Bedford Co., TN

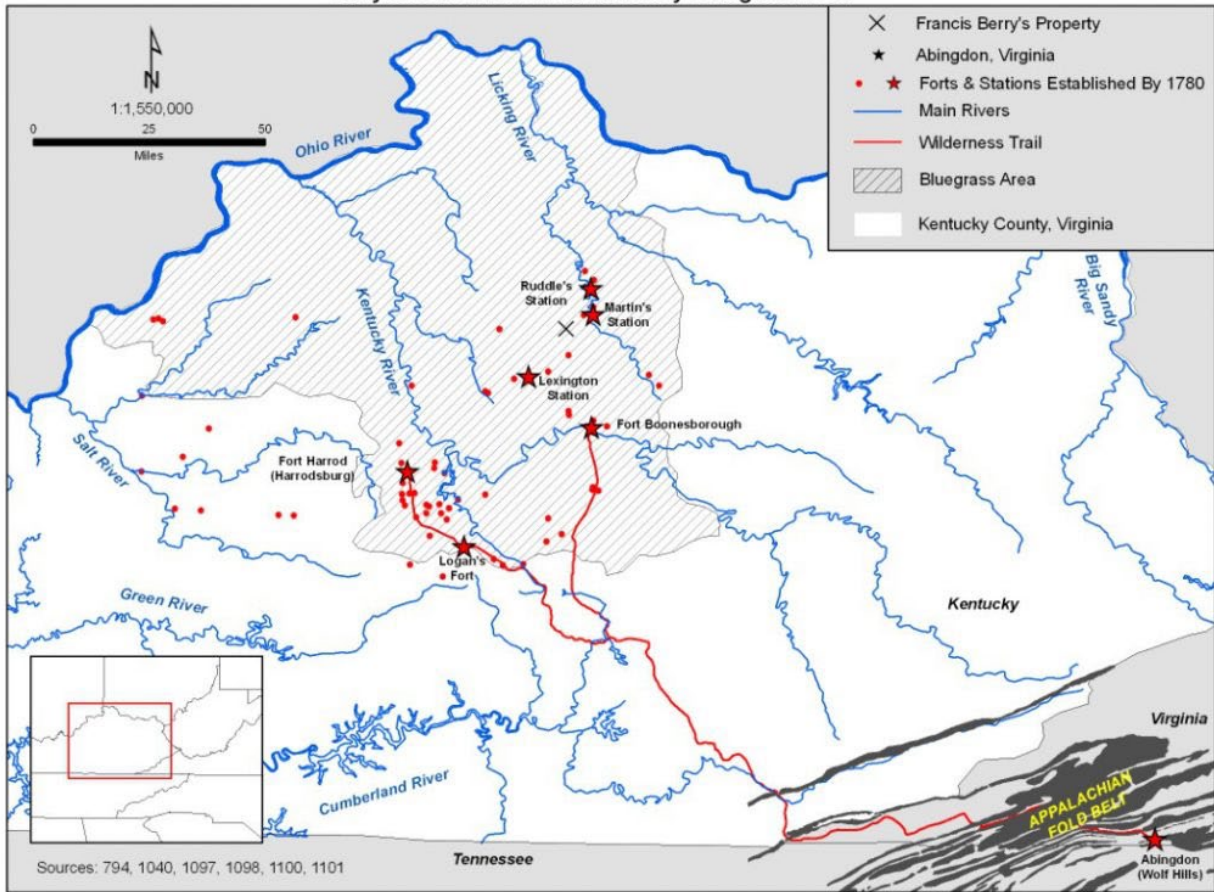


Mary Shirley McGuire Headstone

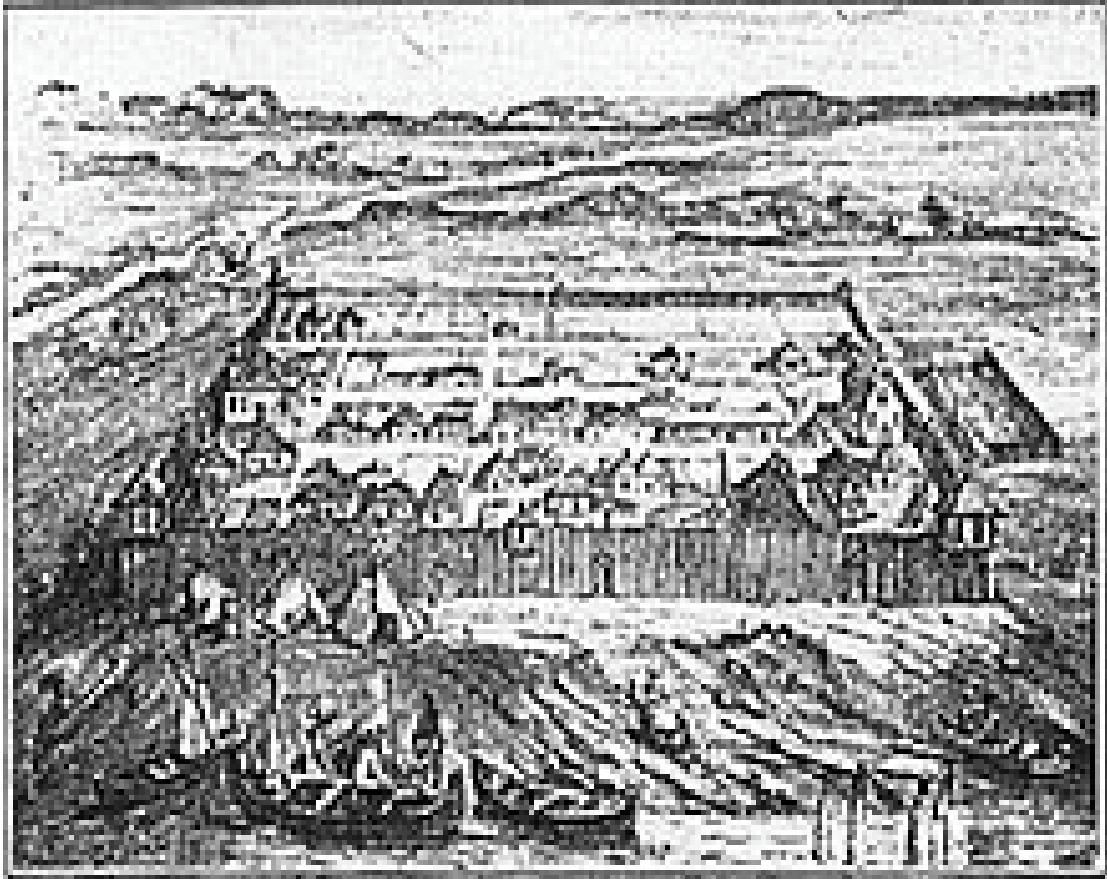


Fort Boonesborough

Figure 92
Early Settlements in the Kentucky Bluegrass Area



Early Kentucky Settlements



Fort Detroit