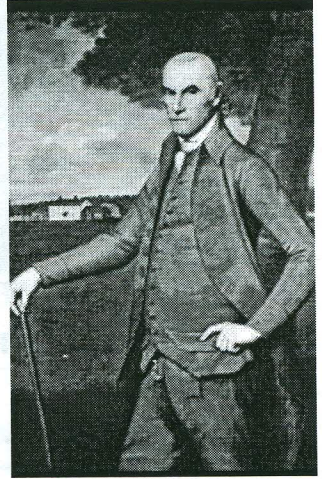


William Floyd

William Floyd was born in Mastic in 1734 and inherited his father's plantation when he was just 20 years old. He eventually became a colonel in the Suffolk County Militia and was sent as a representative from New York to the First and Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia. He was an ardent patriot and in 1776 he signed the Declaration of Independence. When the British advanced into Long Island at the start of the Revolutionary War, they came to his house and found it abandoned. William and his family had already fled to escape the wrath of the British troops.



Floyd later in life became a Major-General in the New York State Militia, a New York State Senator and also a Representative to the First United States Congress. He also served as a presidential elector four times. The house he was born in still stands today and is maintained by the National Park Service as the William Floyd Estate. He is buried in upstate New York in the town of Westerville, but generations of his descendants resided in the old Mastic house until 1976, when the family gave it to the National Park Service to be maintained forever as a cultural preservation.

Contributed by MaryLaura Lamont, FINS