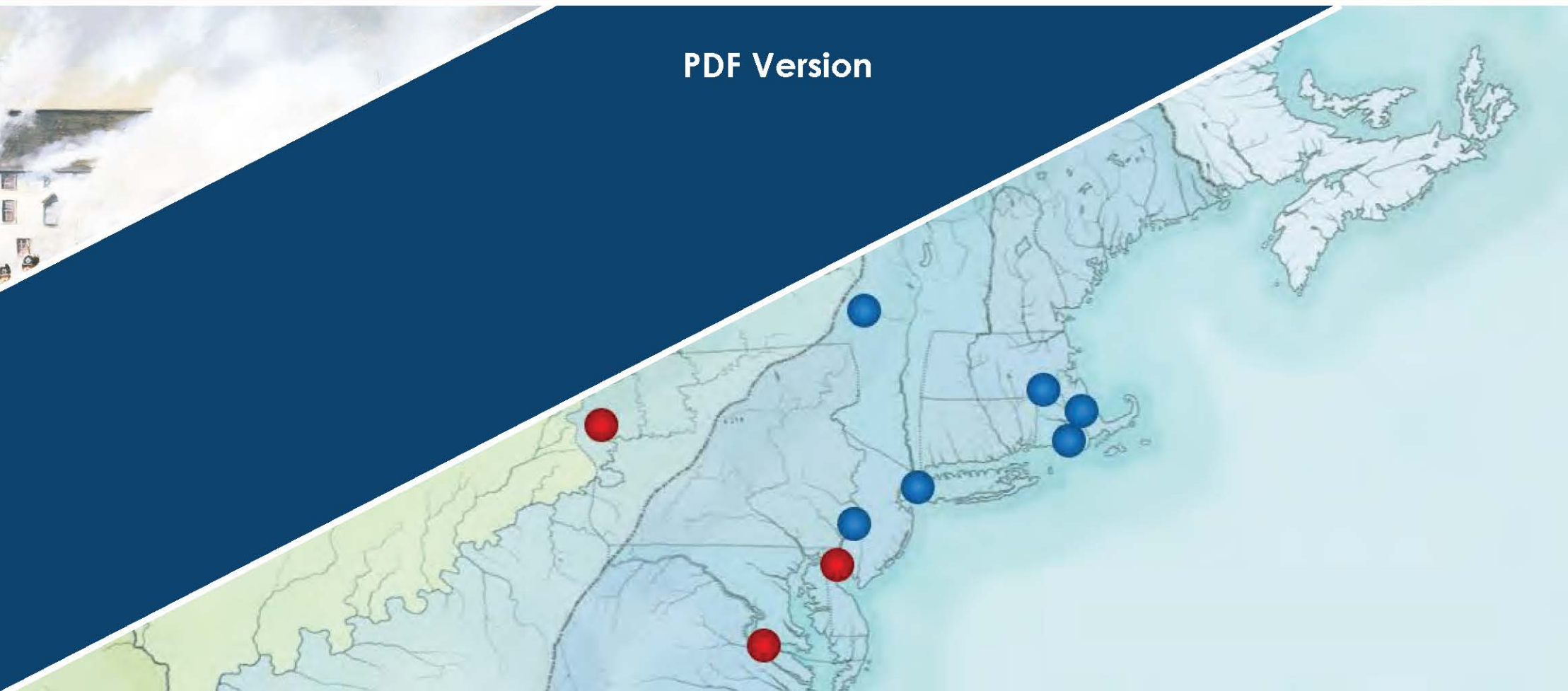


AMERICAN
BATTLEFIELD
TRUST ★ ★ ★

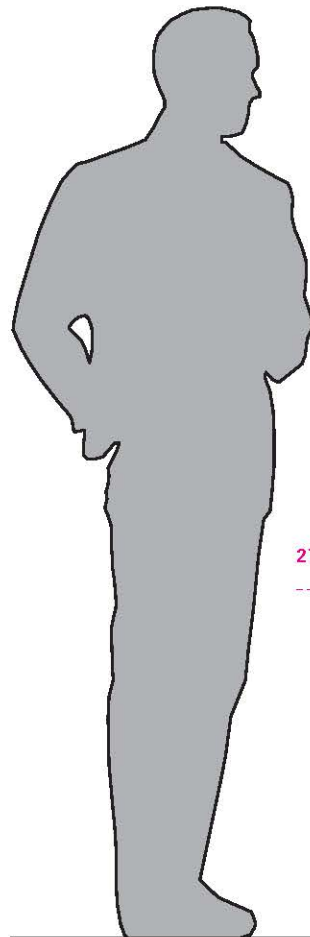
The American Revolution Experience Traveling Exhibition



PDF Version



Reference



78"

The AMERICAN REVOLUTION Experience

THE LIVES OF ORDINARY PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

The Revolutionary War (1775-1783) shaped "the course of human events" with 143 principal engagements. The conflict secured American independence and spread the ideals of liberty around the world. Explore the lives of ordinary people — patriots fighting for independence and loyalists defending the king — who contributed to this pivotal time in American history.

THE ROOTS OF REBELLION

Two bitter wars were fought in 17th and 18th century America. The first, King Philip's War (1675-1676), was fought between Native Americans and British soldiers. The second, the French and Indian War (1754-1763), was fought between the British and the French for control of North America. Both wars had a profound impact on the lives of ordinary people. Explore the lives of ordinary people — patriots fighting for independence and loyalists defending the king — who contributed to this pivotal time in American history.

Now here to learn more about the people and places highlighted in this exhibit!

27"

NEW YORK
MASSACHUSETTS
RHODE ISLAND
CONNECTICUT
DELAWARE
PENNSYLVANIA
NEW JERSEY
VIRGINIA
MARYLAND
NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTH CAROLINA
GEORGIA

REVOlUTIONARY WAR

The American Revolution was a truly global conflict, with battles fought in North America and the Caribbean. France came to the Patriots' aid with troops and ships that helped them win the war. Spain helped them win the war by helping them with covert support. The Dutch, too, provided monetary assistance to the colonists. America's foreign allies were primarily motivated by a desire to protect their own interests. Their participation, however, was critical to the American victory and earned the spirit of democracy abroad.

Introduction a

Introduction b

Choosing Sides

When we came to the 13 colonies, people had a difficult choice to make: to fight for independence, the colonists were often divided and breaking with their country seemed inconceivable to some. But the period of the Revolution was very emotional and complicated by family, friendship, financial circumstances, and race. Some colonists remained committed to their ideals while others acted out of fear and self-interest. As the war progressed, the lines between the two sides blurred. Loyalists and Patriots experienced doubt and uncertainty. With so much at stake, which side would you choose?

THOMAS EDWIN

The son of a wealthy Philadelphia merchant, Thomas Edwin was a Patriot. He was a member of the Continental Congress and served as a member of the Continental Army. He was a member of the Continental Congress and served as a member of the Continental Army. He was a member of the Continental Congress and served as a member of the Continental Army.

PEGGY SHIPPEN ARNOLD

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TRAYANDEGIA (JOSEPH BEANT)

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Theme 1a

Freedom or Slavery

The Declaration of Independence did not extend to African Americans, yet Black people in the colonies were recognized by the language of the document. Which side — loyalist or Patriot — would you choose? Freedom or Slavery? In the war, Black people fought for freedom, but they were often treated as property. Some were freed, but many were not. Some were freed, but many were not. Some were freed, but many were not.

WILLIAM FLEDER

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Governor William Franklin, an son of Patriot abolitionist Benjamin Franklin, urging the New Jersey General Assembly 1776 to remain loyal to the King.

Theme 1b

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Rhode Island Resolution for Negro Recruitment, 1778

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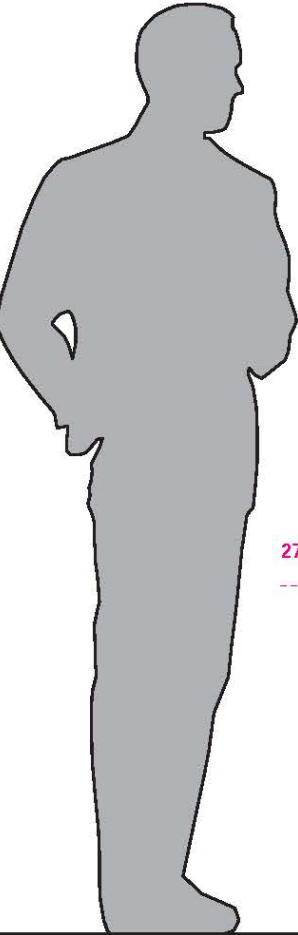
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Rhode Island Resolution for Negro Recruitment, 1778

Theme 2b



78"

On the Front Lines

An army needs officers, but ordinary soldiers and citizens help, too. The Continental Army was formed with the outbreak of the American Revolution. Local militia members studied the military tactics and provided the horse-drawn guns. British troops, some Native Americans, wanted to fight to support the army. Women and children of soldiers often

accompanied men to war and to help with the troops. They carried supplies or cooked. Even young boys were old enough to make an impact on the battlefield. Some Native Americans joined as drummers, providing essential communication on the front lines through the drum of battle.

SARAH OGDEN BENJAMIN

A nurse on the front lines. In 1777, Sarah OGDEN BENJAMIN accompanied the Continental Army and provided medical care to the wounded. She carried supplies and helped with the cooking. Her husband, John OGDEN, was a soldier in the army. She was with him at the Battle of Germantown and the Battle of Red Bank. She was also with him at the Siege of Fort Mifflin. She was with him at the Battle of Red Bank again. She was with him at the Siege of Fort Mifflin again. She was with him at the Battle of Red Bank again. She was with him at the Siege of Fort Mifflin again.



STEPHEN TANTER

A young Patriot soldier. Stephen TANTER was a young Patriot soldier who fought at the Battle of Red Bank. He was with the Continental Army when they were besieged by the British. He was with them at the Siege of Fort Mifflin. He was with them at the Battle of Red Bank. He was with them at the Siege of Fort Mifflin. He was with them at the Battle of Red Bank. He was with them at the Siege of Fort Mifflin. He was with them at the Battle of Red Bank. He was with them at the Siege of Fort Mifflin.



Theme 3a

Help From Abroad

The Revolution provided several foreign powers with an opportunity to humiliate a global superpower—Great Britain. France joined with Britain in order to help the United States. Spain and the Netherlands also joined with the United States. The French and Dutch aided the Americans to defeat British dominance in world politics.



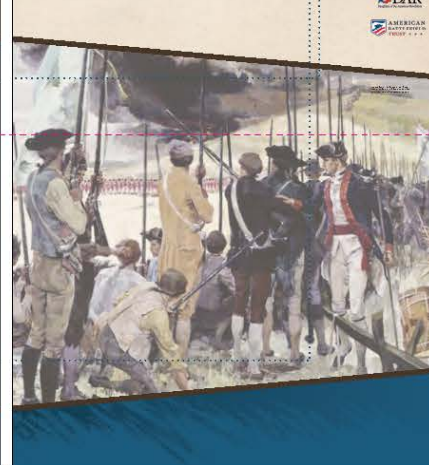
RICHARD LUSHINGTON

A British naval commander. Richard LUSHINGTON was a British naval commander who fought at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with the British fleet when they were defeated by the Continental Navy. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds.



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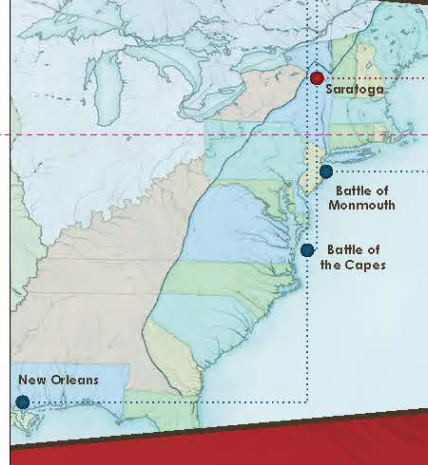
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Theme 4a

Post-War Lives and Legacies

With independence came change and stability. The 13 colonies became 13 sovereign states. The Continental Congress had to figure out how to govern the new nation. Some men stayed in the military service. Some who worked for the revolution are only now being recognized and re-evaluated.



MICHELE CAFFARELLI DUCRENOI

A Neapolitan soldier. Michele CAFFARELLI DUCRENOI was a Neapolitan soldier who fought at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with the Neapolitan army when they were defeated by the Continental Army. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds. He was with them at the Battle of the Clouds.



FEDERICA CHARLOTTE LOUISE DE BIESELE

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Theme 5a

LIVES CHANGED FOREVER

The ideals of the Revolution had a great impact on American attitudes, beliefs, and actions. It was the first time that a nation was founded on the principles of liberty and justice for all. The American Revolution was a turning point in the history of the world.



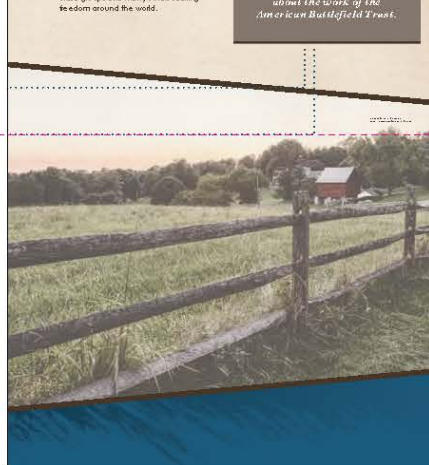
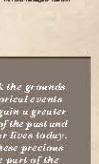
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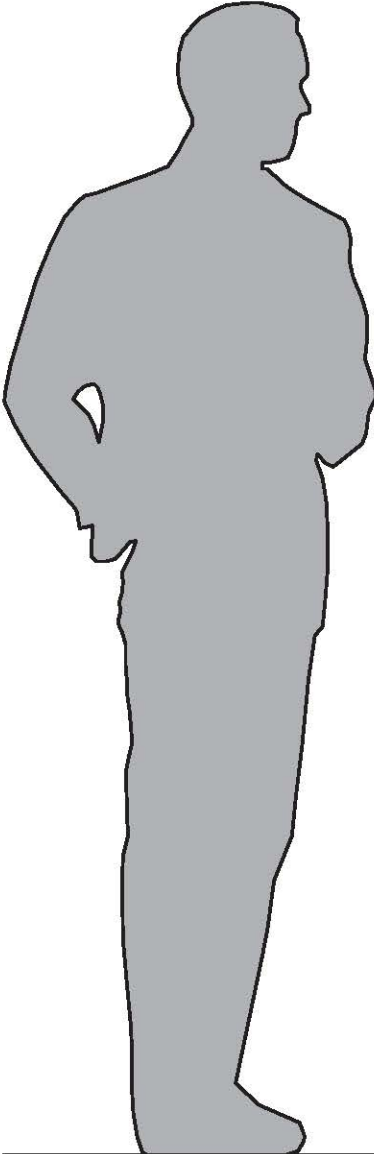
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Theme 5b

Introduction



The AMERICAN REVOLUTION Experience

THE LIVES OF ORDINARY PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

The Revolutionary War (1775-1783) shaped "the course of human events." With 165 principal engagements, the conflict secured American independence and spread the ideals of liberty around the world. Explore the lives of ordinary people — Patriots fighting for independence and Loyalists defending the King — who contributed to this pivotal time in American history.

THE ROOTS OF REBELLION

Years before guns were fired at Lexington and Concord in 1775, unrest was growing in the 13 colonies. Great Britain had successfully defended its North American colonies from French expansion in 1763. That struggle proved very costly to the British government. Parliament wanted the colonists to help pay the debts incurred on their behalf. They enacted a series of laws — an everything from paper to tea — to raise revenue. Americans were outraged but they had no voice in Parliament. Tensions increased when they protested taxation without representation. Ideas about independence and self-governance began to spread among the population. To some, those goals seemed worth fighting for.

Scan here to learn more about the people and places highlighted in this exhibit!

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The American Revolution was a truly global conflict, with battles fought in North America and the Caribbean. France came to the Patriots' aid with funds and troops that helped them win the war. Spain helped with covert support. The Dutch, too, provided monetary assistance to the colonists. America's foreign allies were primarily motivated by politics rather than revolutionary ideals. Their participation, however, was critical to the American victory and cemented the spirit of democracy abroad.

DAR **AMERICAN BARRIERS**

Participated with the support of our generous donors. Thank you to the American Revolution Foundation for their support.

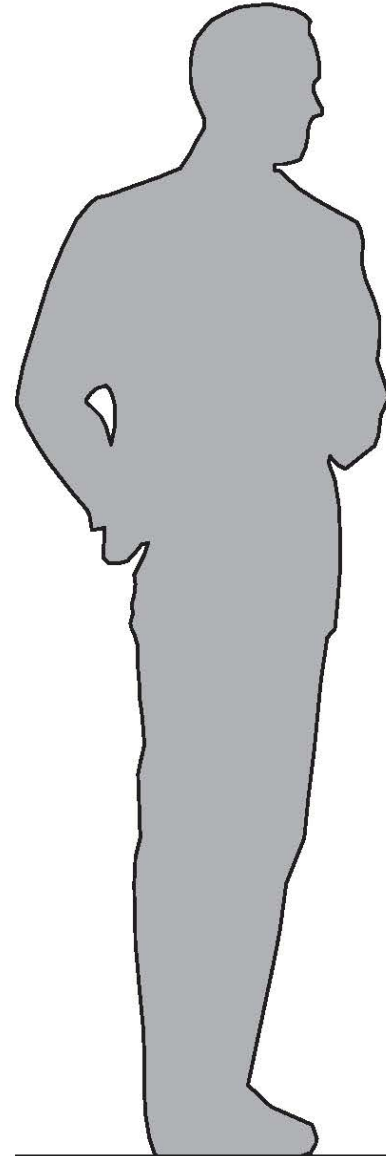
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Introduction a

Introduction b

Theme 1: Choosing Sides



Choosing Sides

When war came to the 13 colonies, people had a difficult choice: stay loyal to the King or fight for independence. The colonists were British subjects and longing for their country remained inconceivable to some, but essential to others. Decisions were very personal and were complicated by family friendships, financial circumstances, and race. Some colonists remained committed to their ideals while others acted out of revenge and self-interest. Several changed sides as the war raged on. As British and Continental troops clashed in battle, Loyalists and Patriots experienced doubt and fear about the future. Both paths held risk and uncertainty. With so much at stake, which side would you choose?

PEGGY SHIPPEN ARNOLD

A Loyalist who did her best

Born to a wealthy Philadelphia family, Peggy Shippen was intelligent and educated. Her father remained neutral when war broke out, but Peggy developed a political leaning as her relationship with a close friendship with British officer Major John André during the British occupation of Philadelphia. Later, when the American general control of the city, Peggy became captivated with Continental Army general Benedict Arnold. The unlikely political partnership in 1778 soon after, Benedict's allegiance shifted. He offered his services to the British in a secret code message. Peggy, who still had ties to André, was the perfect go-between. The treasonous couple managed to escape capture by the Patriots, but André was caught and hanged.

THOMAS BROWN

An unimprisoned Loyalist

Thomas Brown emigrated from England to Georgia in 1734, where he became a planter and magistrate. During the Revolution he remained loyal to his roots. In August 1778, he was tortured for his refusal to join the Patriot cause. Undaunted, Brown called to assist in Georgia and South Carolina until he was forced to flee to British East Florida. There, he met British Cherokee warriors to fight for the British and waged several campaigns in the South. Brown led a Loyalist company called the King's Rangers during the 1781 invasion of Georgia, the 1779 Siege of Savannah, and Loyalist occupations of Augusta in 1778 and 1781. He was later added to the British Garrison.

Theme 1a

Choosing Sides

LUCY RUCKER KNOX

A Patriot who followed her heart

Lucy Rucker's affluent Massachusetts family expected her to marry a man of their social standing and loyal to the King. But her heart chose otherwise. Henry Knox, a British soldier in 1770 and her first love, the Ruckers disapproved of Henry, who was from a lower class, and they disowned their daughter when she was married. After war erupted, Henry enlisted with the Continental Army, and Lucy, despite her parents' anger, pledged her support to the fight for independence. Lucy occasionally joined her husband's military camps like he did at Valley Forge in 1778, where she befriended Martha Washington. After the Revolution, Henry served as President Washington's secretary of war.

THAYENDANEGEA (JOSEPH BRANT)

A Mohawk warrior and Loyalist

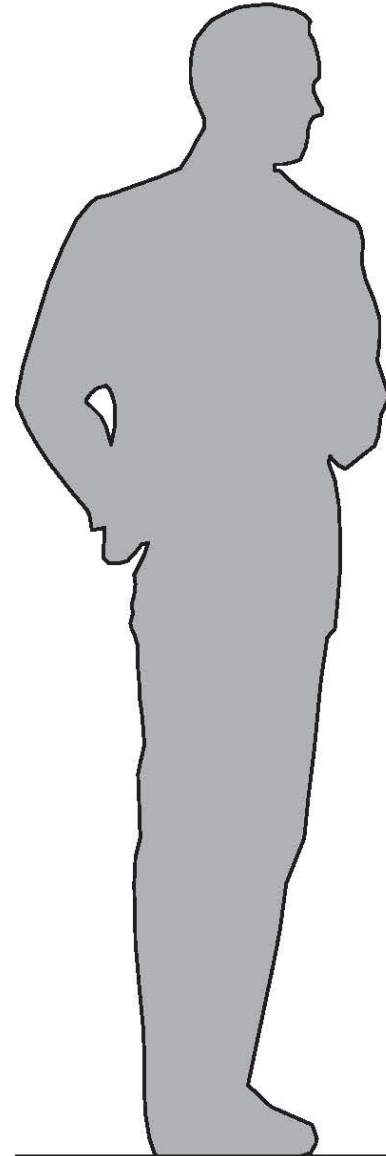
Mohawk leader Thayendanegea, also known as Joseph Brant, joined the British. He formed a Loyalist fighting force called Brant's Volunteers, which conducted raids on the New York and Pennsylvania borders. With the British victory in the Revolution, Brant led his warriors to Thayendanegea. All British-held territory south of Canada and east of the Mississippi was ceded to the United States, including the lands Brant's family held by the Mohawk and other Haudenosaunee nations.

"You have now pointed out to you, Gentlemen, two Roads — one evidently leading to Peace, Happiness, and Restoration of the public Tranquility — the other inevitably conducting you to Anarchy, Misery, and all the Horrors of a Civil War."

— Governor William Franklin, son of Patriot statesman Benjamin Franklin, urging the New Jersey General Assembly in 1775 to remain loyal to the King

Theme 1b

Theme 2: Freedom or Slavery



Freedom or Slavery

The Declaration of Independence did not extend "the Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" to African Americans, yet Black people in the colonies were encouraged by the language of that document. Which side — Loyalist or Patriot — would guarantee their liberty? Early in the war, Britain promised freedom to enslaved workers owned by Patriots, prompting thousands of runaway loyalist forces. The Continental Army approved the enlistment of both free and enslaved Black soldiers later in the conflict. Many promises were made to Black individuals who risked their lives serving Britain and the United States in the American Revolution but in the end, few were kept.

WILLIAM FLORA
A free Black man fighting for independence
After the British governor of Virginia threatened violence against Blacks who refused to swear allegiance to King William, a free Black man from Portsmouth, made his way to the Patriots. Flora fought with the 1st Virginia Regiment at the Battle of Great Bridge near Norfolk on December 19, 1776. He was a hero on the narrow bridge when British troops started advancing. Flora led a group of his own, driving the British back toward the British position. He helped save a critical Patriot victory and was hailed for his heroic actions. He later fought at Yorktown and eventually received 300 acres of land for his service.

HARRY WASHINGTON
An enslaved man working freedom with the Loyalists
When Lord Dunmore of Virginia issued a proclamation in 1775 promising to free any people enslaved by the British who were willing to bear arms for the British, Harry Washington ran away from his enslaver, General George Washington. Harry joined Dunmore's all-Black Loyalist unit called the Ethiopian Regiment. He achieved the rank of corporal, participated in the invasion of South Carolina, and may have been at the Siege of Charleston. After the British defeat in the war, many Black Loyalists were worried that a captured slave would be returned. The British however sent several hundred Black Loyalists, including Harry, to freedom in Nova Scotia. As they he was hard in that despite the hard and he moved to Saint John's, where he joined an uprising against British rule.

THOMAS CARNEY
A free Black man and former Patriot fighter
Thomas Carney, a free Black man from Maryland's Eastern Shore, served for the Patriots in the Maryland Continental Brigade during the Revolution. He was unusually tall for the time — over six feet — and known as a fearless fighter. He fought at Brandywine and Germantown, Pennsylvania, and across the South. When the Patriots fled the loyal outpost of Hinesley in South Carolina in 1781, Carney saved the life of his commanding officer, Captain Fanny Berman. Ignoring mortal risk, Carney carried the critically wounded Berman off the battlefield to a safe place. Carney refused to stay in a British discharge in 1781 and Berman awarded as a witness for Carney's pension application. Carney used his 300-acre land grant to start a farm.

CHRISTOPHER GREENE
Patriot leader of an integrated regiment
Though reluctant to enlist enslaved soldiers in the Continental Army, General Washington ordered in 1775 that enslaved soldiers be freed by their masters. The Black soldiers who joined the 1st Rhode Island Regiment were commanded by the Rhode Island Patriot Christopher Greene were granted freedom in exchange for their service and their enslavement received compensation. Early on the morning of May 14, 1778, Greene's encampment of Rhode Island was attacked by a Loyalist force. Greene was killed and his body was mutilated. Some reports suggested that the an angry mob surrounded his body and burned it. A few men in the Rhode Island Regiment would not let his body be taken and the British Army removed his body.

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THOMAS CARNEY
The Rhode Island Resolution for Negro Recruitment, 1778

"That every slave so enlisted shall, upon his passing muster before Col. Christopher Greene, be immediately discharged from the service of his master or mistress, and be absolutely free, as though he had never been incumber'd with any kind of servitude or slavery."

EDAR
AMERICAN
REVOLUTION
TRUST

Theme 2a

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The Rhode Island Resolution for Negro Recruitment, 1778

"That every slave so enlisted shall, upon his passing muster before Col. Christopher Greene, be immediately discharged from the service of his master or mistress, and be absolutely free, as though he had never been incumber'd with any kind of servitude or slavery."

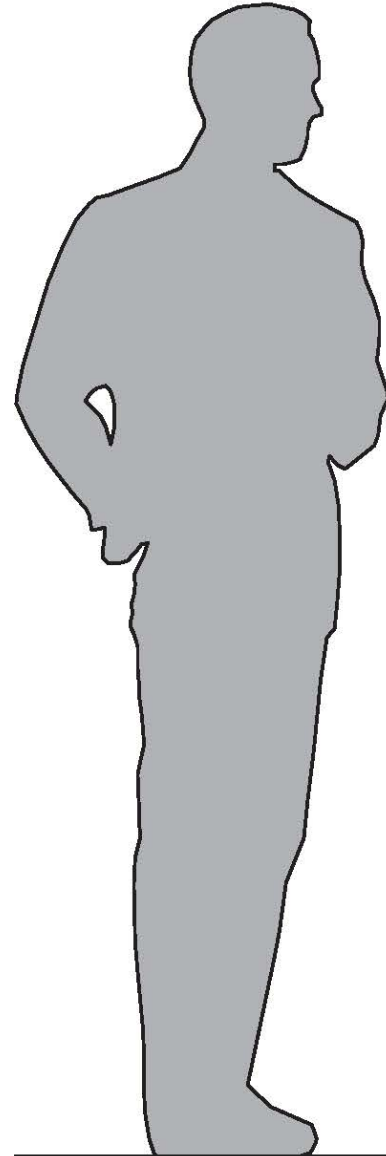
EDAR
AMERICAN
REVOLUTION
TRUST

Theme 2b

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Theme 3: On the Front Lines



On the Front Lines

An army needs officers, but ordinary soldiers and citizens help win wars. The Continental Army was formed at the outbreak of the American Revolution. Local militia members assisted the military forces and protected the home front from British invasion. Some Native American warriors formed units to support the army, as well. Wives and children of soldiers often accompanied men to war and traveled with the troops. They endured dangerous conditions while caring for the wounded, washing laundry, and cooking. Even young Patriots who were not yet old enough to enlist as regular soldiers served as drummer boys, providing essential communication on the front lines through the din of battle.

SARAH OSBORN BENJAMIN

A wife on the Patriot front

In 1777, Sarah married Jason Osborn and accompanied him to war. In camp, she cooked and washed clothing for Jason and his fellow soldiers. One cold night while a blizzard blew, New York, Sarah joined a Patriot unit. He was in a military duty, she wore her husband's overcoat and carried his gun. When General George Washington asked who placed her on the point, she boldly answered, "Them who had a right to." She marched south with the troops and witnessed the British surrender at Yorktown. After the war, Jason abandoned Sarah and the children, she remained one Patriot war veteran. John Benjamin, recalled two widow's pensions (one for each husband), and lived to be more than 90 years old.




Other notable information:
Sarah Osborn Benjamin is the first woman to be mentioned in the historical record of the Continental Army. She was the first woman to be mentioned in the historical record of the Continental Army.

STEPHEN TANNER

A young Patriot served with a drum

Stephen Tanner was barely 14 years old when he joined the 8th Massachusetts militia unit in 1776. The beat of his drum kept soldiers synchronized as they marched and told soldiers when to fire, go for rations, and end the day's work. Most importantly, his drumbeat conveyed battle orders through the noise and confusion of combat. He then spent the winter of 1776-1777 with the Continental Army at Morristown, New Jersey, and was with Patriot General Nathaniel Gates's army when they were surrounded at Red Bank on October 11, 1777. He spent the night with the British in the barracks but left the following day. After the war, he became a physician.




Regarding the fact:
The drum was a vital part of the army's communication system. It was used to convey orders and maintain discipline during battle.





Theme 3a

On the Front Lines

HAN YERRY TEWAHANGARAHKEN

An Onondaga warrior battling for the Patriots

Han Yerry Tewaahangarahken was an Onondaga warrior who fought for the Patriots during the American Revolution. He was a member of the Onondaga tribe and served as a messenger and scout for the Continental Army. He was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.






Regarding the fact:
Han Yerry Tewaahangarahken was a brave warrior who fought for the Patriots during the American Revolution. He was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.

RICHARD LUSHINGTON

A Quaker who served to save for the Patriots

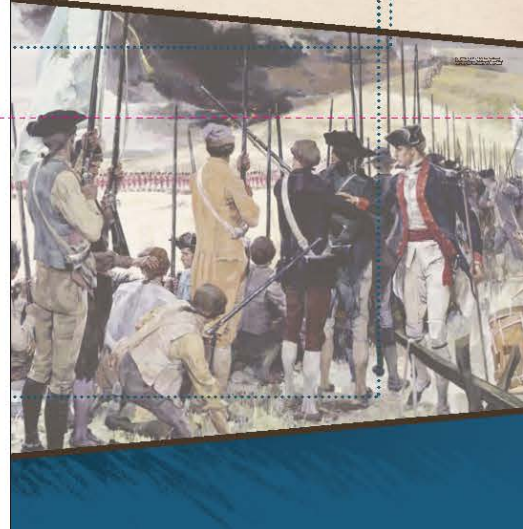
Richard Lushington was a Quaker immigrant who served the Patriots during the American Revolution. He was a member of the Quaker community and served as a messenger and scout for the Continental Army. He was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.

Regarding the fact:
Richard Lushington was a Quaker immigrant who served the Patriots during the American Revolution. He was a member of the Quaker community and served as a messenger and scout for the Continental Army. He was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.

"The Indian killed nine of the enemy, when having received a ball through his wrist that disabled him from using his gun, he then fought with his tomahawk."

- Description of Han Yerry, Battle of Oriskany, Pennsylvania Journal, September 3, 1777

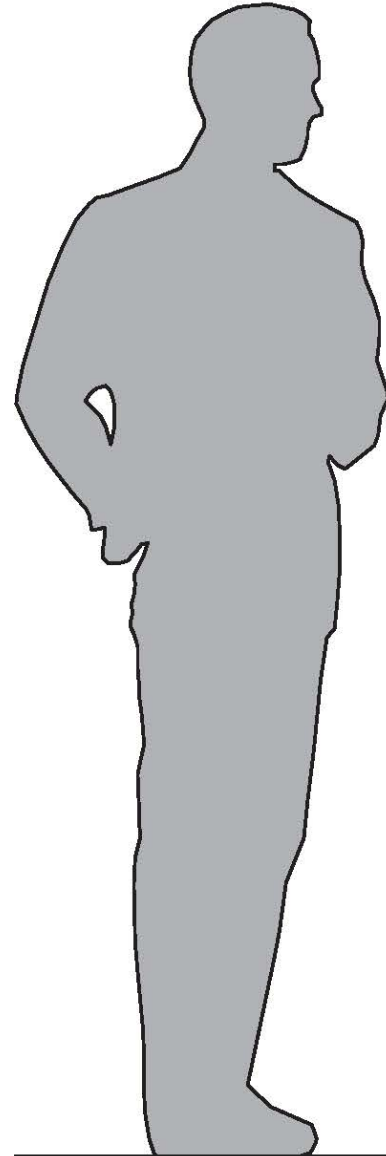


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Theme 3b

Theme 4: Help From Abroad



Help From Abroad

The Revolution provided several foreign powers with an opportunity to humiliate a global adversary: Great Britain. France allied with Britain in earlier wars and wished to see their foe defeated. They sent weapons, equipment, and troops to support the Patriots. Similarly, the Spanish and Dutch called the Americans to loosen Britain's dominance in world politics.

The war gave some foreign soldiers a chance to earn greater pay and advance their military careers through service to the Patriots. To boost their own power and that of their colonies, Britain also used foreign fighters. They paid approximately 30,000 German troops, called Hessians, to join their cause.

FRANÇOIS JOSEPH PAUL DE GRASSE
A heroic French naval commander

Baron de Grasse was an admiral in the French Navy during the American Revolution. In 1781, he was commanding the French fleet in the West Indies when ordered to sail to North America where his mission was to support the American and French armies attempting to trap British Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. On September 5, 1781, de Grasse's ships engaged and defeated a Royal Navy fleet in the Battle of the Capes. With the French in control of the Chesapeake Bay, the British could not re-embark. Realizing defeat, de Grasse ordered a retreat for British in Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, which became Britain's defeat in the war.




Surrender at Yorktown

The surrender of the last major British army in October 1781 was the decisive battle of the Revolutionary War. Cornwallis's army was surrounded by the combined forces of the Continental Army and the French Navy.

BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ
An unlikely Patriot ally

Bernardo de Gálvez chose to support the Patriots for political purposes rather than personal beliefs. The young officer was the governor of the Spanish territories in North America at the time of the Revolutionary War. Spain was then an ally of France and a long-time foe of Great Britain. Gálvez also used supplies he had picked up from the Mississippi River to help France in the North, and when Spain officially entered the war in 1779, Gálvez raised an army and attacked British bases in Baton Rouge and Natchez. Gálvez also fought the British at Pensacola and Mobile, weakening Britain's hold on the American South.




Portrait of a hero

In 1782, the Spanish minister of the Navy ordered Gálvez to support the Patriots. Gálvez's support was crucial in the final British surrender at Yorktown. Gálvez's support was crucial in the final British surrender at Yorktown.





Theme 4a

Help From Abroad

MICHEL-CAPITAINE DU CHESNOY
A revolutionary in the Patriots

French army lieutenant and engineer Michel Capitaine du Chesnoy traveled to America with the Marquis de Lafayette's entourage in spring 1777 to serve the Patriot cause. He not only shared Lafayette's passion for the idea of liberty but also seized the opportunity to advance his military career. Chesnoy was appointed a captain in the Continental Army of Engineers and became an aide-de-camp and quartermaster to Lafayette. He was critical both in wartime, especially for French officers fighting on foreign terrain. Chesnoy was killed in France after the Revolution and his service in America earned him promotion to the rank of captain in the French army and an appointment to the King's Dragoon.






Michel-Capitaine du Chesnoy's voyage

The Marquis de Lafayette's voyage to America was a key moment in the American Revolution. He arrived in Philadelphia in September 1777 and became a close friend of George Washington.

FREDERIC A CHARLOTTE LOISE VON BIEDEL
A German wife in the British army

Many women traveled to camp with their husbands during the American Revolution, but few women were allowed to get the same pay as their husbands. Charlotte von Biedel and her husband, a young officer, traveled with the British to North America during the war. After a difficult sea voyage, the family participated in British General John Burgoyne's expedition to New York. In July 1777, they learned that they were doing the bloody Battle of Brandywine and were destined to become prisoners of the British following their defeat. The British retreated to Quinsboro in 1781. After her husband's death in 1781, Charlotte lived in Berlin and wrote her memoirs of the American Revolution.







Portrait of a woman

The portrait of Charlotte von Biedel is a rare example of a woman's portrait from the Revolutionary War. She is shown in a simple, practical dress, reflecting the conditions of her life as a prisoner of war.

"I will extend... whatever assistance I can, but it must appear that I am ignorant of it all."

— Bernardo de Gálvez to George Mifflin, the commander at Pittsburgh's Fort Pitt, April 1777



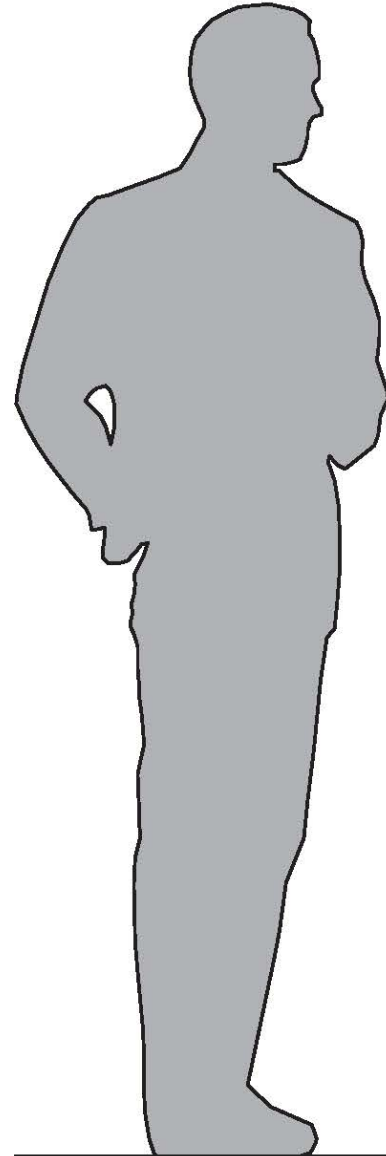



Theme 4b

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Theme 5: Post-War Lives and Legacies




Post-War Lives and Legacies


With independence come change and instability. The 13 colonies become 13 sovereign states with no federal government to unify them until the Constitution was ratified in 1788. Men returning from war, some wounded or weary for years, often found their farms or homes gone. Loyalties were earned by warring Americans and occasionally


settled. The Continental Congress had promised pensions to those who served in battle, but veterans struggled to secure compensation for their military service. Some who sacrificed for the new nation are only now—finally—being rediscovered and recognized.

BUTON GWINNETT
A Patriot of the Revolution
A native of England, Gwinnett moved to Savannah, Georgia, in 1741 to become a merchant but ended up in politics. As tensions escalated with Britain, he became an early patriot. He was elected to the Georgia Trustees in 1774 and signed the Declaration of Independence. One of the 33 delegates who signed, Gwinnett was one of only eight born in Britain. During the war, he developed a bitter rivalry with Francis Pickens, Governor of Georgia's Continental troops. When Pickens publicly denounced Gwinnett, Gwinnett challenged a duel to the death. Both men were wounded in the confrontation on May 14, 1777, but Gwinnett died days later and never saw independence won.



ROBERT MCKIMWOOD
A Patriot of the Revolution
A native of Rhode Island, Robert McKimwood was drafted for the military and fought with British forces in 1776. He received an officer's commission in the Rhode Island Regiment in January 1776, and was soon promoted to captain. McKimwood began recording army life in his journal. He saw action in New York and Pennsylvania, closely observed the Continental Army's winter quarters at Valley Forge, and participated in southern battles from Camden to Yorktown. After the war he moved to the North Carolina frontier and joined the Second Kentucky Regiment, raising a volunteer militia. McKimwood was the only one of his rank to attend the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. He died in 1811, his death being the public Revolutionary War Patriot.







Theme 5a

Post-War Lives and Legacies

WINSOR FRY
A Patriot of the Revolution
After the Revolution and long forgotten Patriot soldier. In 1775, Rhode Islander Thomas Fry begged the British to let him join the Continental Army. Two years later, Fry managed to escape British hands and join the Patriot army as a private. Fry served many of the war's pivotal engagements and endured winter with the Continental Army at Valley Forge in 1777. He faced a court-martial in March of 1778 for stealing from the commissary's store and the Board sentenced him to be executed. General George Washington intervened on his behalf and saved his life, but Fry did not see out the war. He died in 1822, almost forgotten, until new research enabled his descendants to gather at Rhode Island cemetery in 2018 to dedicate a monument to his memory.




HENRY DEARBORN
A Patriot of the Revolution
In April 1775, Henry Dearborn's New Hampshire militia unit marched to join the Patriot forces besieging Boston and participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Months later, he served with Patriot Colonel Benedict Arnold on the Continental Army expedition to Canada and was captured during the Battle of Quebec. Upon his release as a prisoner of war in March 1777, he was permitted to remain. Dearborn's journal document his time at Fort Mifflin, the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge, and the flight around of Fort Mifflin in 1781. After the Revolution, he was appointed Secretary of War under President Thomas Jefferson and Major General in the War of 1812, when he challenged the British once again.



LIVES CHANGED FOREVER
The ideals of liberty that fueled the fight for independence had a great impact on American attitudes, yet free and enslaved Blacks who served in the war saw little or no difference in their circumstances. Women's support at home and on the battlefield: failed to open them from education, equality, or voting rights. Native Americans, those who fought for the British and those who fought for liberty, were forced from their territory. Still, the American Revolution ultimately gave hope and a voice to these groups and many others seeking freedom around the world.

When you walk the grounds on which historical events occurred, you gain a greater understanding of the past and its impact on our lives today. Help protect these precious sites. Become part of the effort to preserve American history by learning more about the work of the American Battlefield Trust.



Theme 5b

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