



## *Kingston's First Patriots*



*22 local veterans of the American Revolution  
at rest in the Old Burying Ground*



*“Poor is the nation  
having no heroes;  
shameful the one that  
having them, forgets.”*

*~ author unknown*

# Introduction

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The majority of the members of Girl Scout Troop 80234 have been together since we were Daisies in 2009. We were Cadettes when we started our Silver Award project. The first step in our project was a more noticeable display of our thoughts and respect for the Veterans of our town. For two years, we created a “Sea of Flags” on the front lawn of our Town House. We placed an American Flag for every soldier from the Town of Kingston that lost their life while in service to our Country; to date there are 55 flags.

Our project then moved on to those Veterans who have not been so readily recognized. There are over 40 men who are buried in the Old Burying Ground in Kingston that fought in the American Revolution. We learned from Mr. Thomas Vendetti, the Archivist and Preservationist for the First Parish Unitarian Church that many of these Veterans’ graves are mismarked or don’t even have a marker identifying their service. This was not acceptable for us. In the process of our project we learned a lot about our Town’s involvement in the American Revolution as well as some important participants who were part of our community.

The research for our project began with a tour of the Old Burying Ground behind the First Parish Church guided by Mr. Vendetti. Mr. Vendetti has been a champion of Kingston history for a long time and he had compiled a list of soldiers in Kingston. As we did this tour, we saw that many markers were placed in front of the incorrect gravestones. We set out to correct these errors and also make a list of which gravestones did not have markers.

We also ran into the issue that some people who had markers did not actually fight in the war. The dates were either off or we could find no evidence that they fought. Some markers were also in front of the wives of the soldiers. While these women were brave and stayed strong while their husbands were away and deserve recognition, the markers were supposed to be placed in front of their husbands who served in the war.

We eventually narrowed our project down to the 22 men buried in the Old Burying Ground that had evidence supporting that they were soldiers in the American Revolutionary War.

We researched their service in the volumes of Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the American Revolution. We then went on to learn about the more personal side of these men, learning about their genealogy while they lived in Kingston using the Ancestry.com that is free at the Kingston Public Library where we held a lot of our meetings. We also used a book that contained the vital records for the town of Kingston through the year 1850.



This part of our project was very hard because a lot of people remarried. Also, if they had children, the firstborn of each gender normally took their parents' names. And unfortunately, many children died so often there was the same name for two or more children. This made it hard to track down the correct soldier and not their father, grandfather, or brother.

Finally, we compiled all of our findings into this book that you are holding right now thanks to the help of graphic designer, Mrs. Barbara Chandler of Kingston.

We have added a few other important community members that aided our town during the American Revolution as well as some basic historical facts.

However, we also learned in the process that history is constantly changing and that the stories and sometimes the facts can change from one historical document to another. We have done our best to present the most accurate findings made available to us - but if one picks up another rock their might be something different under it!

None of this would have been possible without the help of our loyal troop leader, Mrs. Deborah Grace. She has been our leader since day one. Mrs. Grace is an amazing person who always gets us back on track no matter how much we goof off. We owe this whole project to her. Thank you, Mrs. Grace!

Thank you very much,

The members of Troop 80234

Rachel Critz

Olivia Gauthier

Abigail Grace

Riley Hynes

Hannah Kelleher



The Old Burying Ground and First Parish Church in Kingston, Massachusetts Photograph by Emily Drew  
c. 1925 Kingston Public Library Collection

# Kingston's Old Burying Ground

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**K**ingston's Old Burying Ground is our town's most important historical treasure. Over 1,000 early pioneers rest here. Located to the left and behind First Parish Church, it extends north down to the much larger Evergreen Cemetery. The land for the Old Burying Ground was granted to the community in 1718 by Major John Bradford, the founder of Kingston. This generous gift also included land for a Meetinghouse, a Training Green, a home for Kingston's first minister (Rev. William Stacey) and a school. All this was accomplished nine years before this area became independent of Plymouth in 1726.

Charles Little (1717-1718) was the first to be buried here. He died before reaching his first birthday. (Twenty-five percent of the graves in this cemetery are of children under the age of 10.) His small grave is set about thirty feet from the grave of Major John Bradford and his wife. The gravestones and memorials of at least 40 patriots of the American Revolution are found here too. The memorial stones of those who risked everything to create our nation serve to remind us of Kingston's rich historic legacy.

It is with great pride that we thank the Girl Scout Troop 80234. Under the direction of Debbie Grace, they have committed themselves to locate, identify, and photograph the graves of Revolutionary War veterans. They have also researched and gathered family and military history of selected Kingston Patriots for this publication. As we move closer to the 300th Anniversary of the Town of Kingston, we hope that the work of these young women will help illuminate Kingston's "Spirit of '76."

## **Capt. James Sever**

During the 18 and 19th centuries, ship building was Kingston's most important industry. Ships of all sizes were built at various shipyards located at Jones River Landing. Hundreds were employed to both build and sail the vessels, and fortunes were made by the wealthy Kingstonians who owned them. The graves of captains, sailors, builders and owners are found in the Old Burying Ground in Kingston.

Kingston has produced its share of notable seamen. Captain Simeon Samson (1736-1789) was born in Kingston and took up an adventurous life at sea in his youth. He is best known as the captain of the 16 gun brig the Independence which is depicted on the seal of the Town of Kingston. The Independence was commissioned by the Provincial Navy of Massachusetts in 1776 and built here in Kingston. But Samson is buried in Plymouth.



The grave of Commodore James Sever (1761-1845), son of William Sever and Sarah Warren Sever, is found here in the Old Burying Ground. Like his father, he was a Harvard graduate. Sever served in New York during the American Revolution as ensign from June 1781 to March 1783. Later he began a career in the American Navy. He was the superintendent of the construction of the USS Congress at a shipyard in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. As Captain James Sever, he commanded the heavy frigate USS Congress, one of six original frigates of the US Navy and a sister ship of the USS Constitution.

The Constitution still exists today in Boston Harbor. In fact, it is said that Captain James Sever christened the Constitution with a bottle of choice old Madeira during her launching on October 21, 1797.

Stephen Higginson, late 18th century naval agent at Boston, offered the following evaluation of Sever: "[He] will be an excellent naval commander; he is a cool, firm, discreet, gentleman-like man,

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who feels and conducts [himself] with dignity and zeal proper to his station; he is remarkable for discipline and regularity.”

Near the end of his life, Sever resided at the beautiful Sever homestead that still exists today on Linden Street.

You may visit the grave of this Patriot, along with that of his wife Jane Russell Sever (1773 - 1840) and family, at the Old Burying Ground. Park in front of the First Parish Church on Main Street and enter to the left. His grave site is located behind the Meetinghouse.

### Major Seth Drew

Many monuments in Kingston's Old Burying Ground carry the names of people who labored at Jones River Landing during the glory days of Kingston's shipbuilding industry. On a casual walk through the old churchyard, one cannot fail to notice such names as Sever, Bartlett, Holmes, and Drew, whose families were associated with the shipbuilding, along with many others who rest in our town's most venerable site.

Looking down at the Jones River from atop the hill upon which the Major John Bradford homestead rests, it is hard to imagine the busy shipyards that once were so very active years ago. Captains, seamen, owners and builders produced and sailed hundreds of boats and ships to serve the needs of a growing colony and nation.

Major Seth Drew was born in Kingston on June 13, 1747. He was married December 3, 1772 to Hannah, daughter of Wrestling Brewster. Drew, a shipwright by trade, was the son of Cornelius Drew, himself a prominent shipwright and owner, whose sons continued the family enterprise on the Jones River well into the 19th century. It was the Drew Shipyard that built two early Revolutionary warships: the Independence (1776), whose image is upon our town's seal, and the Mars (1778).

In fact, Seth was engaged at the Drew shipyard when informed of the battle of Concord and Lexington. He had just set fire to a tar-barrel and began cleaning the hull of a vessel when news came of the April 1775 Alarm. He passed the barrel to a fellow workman, left the shipyard immediately and made preparations to take up arms. Drew was named Lieutenant in the Minuteman Company under the command of Captain Peleg Wadsworth. It would be another seven years before he would travel home to Kingston and resume his trade.

In January 1776, Drew served under fellow Kingstonian General John Thomas at the time of the fortification of Dorchester Heights. In a letter to his sister on January 29, 1776, Lieutenant Drew wrote, "We learn there is a large train of artillery arrived at Watertown..." reporting the arrival of the fifty nine cannons captured at Fort Ticonderoga. (It was General Henry Knox who transported the cannon using 80 yoke of oxen pulling them on ice sleds for 300 miles in 56 days to Boston.)

Seth Drew took part in the celebrated battles of Trenton, Brandywine, and Monmouth. He was present at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-78 and received a Captain's Commission on January 1, 1777. He was promoted to the rank Major on January 7, 1783.

Returning home, Drew built six of his own ships between 1784 and 1789 on the Jones River and later became part owner of at least three other vessels: the Harmony (1789), the Fortune (1795) and the Harmony (1804).

Major Drew was a well-respected citizen, serving as Kingston's first Postmaster. He was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1797 and represented the town in the General Court between 1795 and 1804.





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During the War of 1812, Drew was hired to oversee the building of fortifications in Plymouth Harbor and Fairhaven.

Drew's wife, Hannah Brewster was a capable businesswoman in her own right functioning in all but name as Postmaster while her husband carried out other private as well as public endeavors.

Seth Drew remained in his native town until his death on May 18, 1824 at 77 years of age.

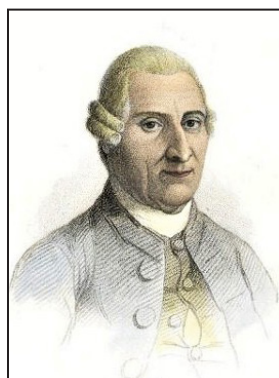
His wife Hannah died on April 13, 1832 at eighty.

The papers of Seth Drew are found in the University of Michigan.

You may visit the Old Burying Ground and the grave of Major Seth Drew by parking in front of the First Parish Church on Main Street and enter to the left. The Drew gravesite is located near the rear, right hand corner of the church.

### Gen. John Thomas

The Old Burying Ground in Kingston is not usually part of the town's Memorial Day observances. Many Revolutionary War grave markers are missing, numerous flags are scattered on the ground, overgrown shrubs and tree limbs obscure many monuments. But within this venerable site, are



found gravestones and memorials of at least 40 patriots whose service helped create our nation. Historian Sarah Y. Bailey claimed that 100 men from Kingston (or about half the men in town) took up arms for the cause of Liberty!

General John Thomas (1724-1776) served as a surgeon in the French and Indian War, but is best remembered for his service in our War of Independence. On the night of March 4, 1776, he led a force of 2,500 soldiers, 360 teams of oxen, tools, materials and hundreds of carts as they struggled up the frozen hillside to build a fortification on Dorchester Heights. Fifty-nine cannons, recently captured at Fort Ticonderoga by General Henry Knox, were dragged up to the battlement. In a single night, Thomas created an overwhelming threat to the British forces occupying Boston. These heroic efforts led to the complete evacuation of

British troops and warships that occupied the city.

General Washington quickly commissioned him as "the Major General and Commander in Chief of the American Army in Canada." General Thomas commanded American forces in Quebec and organized the Canadian campaign. Unfortunately General John Thomas died of smallpox near Chambly, Quebec. He is buried there along with other fellow Americans.

You can visit the Thomas Memorial which is also the burial site of his wife Hannah, his daughter Hannah and her husband Rev. Zephaniah Willis (the third minister of First Parish Church). The memorial is located behind the First Parish Church on Main Street in Kingston. After years of weathering, the inscription on the horizontal stone above the tomb is almost illegible. The service of General John Thomas to our nation should not be forgotten.



### Rev. William Rand

During our War of Independence, revolutionary fervor gripped this town, and the citizens of Kingston overwhelmingly answered the call to arms. Town historian Sarah Y. Bailey wrote that nearly one half of the men of Kingston served the cause of liberty! Many townsmen gave extraordinary service as already described in these pages. One can only imagine how difficult it was for the men of "King's Town" to take up arms against king and country. They had all been born Englishmen and were taught to be loyal to the crown. Furthermore, open rebellion was a great personal risk for the patriots, their families and community, since from the point of view of the British, rebellion was treason!

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A few chose to remain loyal to the king. Some left for Canada, others remained in Kingston. Samuel Foster and his son Charles, both fervent loyalists, were arrested while working in their fields and charged with being “internal enemies of the government.” They were tried in the Meetinghouse in 1777, found guilty, and sentenced to confinement on a prison ship in Boston Harbor. Ten months later, thanks to the intercession of the wife of Charles Foster and a Kingston lawyer, they were released and returned to the town. Robert Foster, another son of Samuel was also an outspoken Tory who fled to England and Nova Scotia. A broken man, he eventually returned home in 1791, the year of his death. The graves of Charles, Robert, and Samuel Foster are found amongst their patriot neighbors in the Old Burying Ground.

The patriot Rev. William Rand rests in the Old Burying Ground as well. He was born at Charlestown on March 24, 1700 and graduated from Harvard College in 1721. In June 1722, he became the minister in Sunderland, MA where he was ordained in May 1724. Rev. Rand was dismissed from the Sunderland church in 1745 owing to his opposition of the firebrand itinerant preacher Rev. George Whitefield who was greatly admired by church leaders in that town. Thaddeus Mccarty, the second minister of First Parish Church in Kingston was himself removed for attempting to bring Whitefield here to preach. Thanks to Rand’s opposition of Whitefield, he was selected as Kingston’s third minister serving for 33 years from 1746 to 1779. He married twice: first to Bridget, daughter of Westwood Cooke of Hadley, MA. She died on June 29, 1777, at 77 then to Rebecca who died on July 14, 1801, at 90 years.

Rand lived in the ancient Willett House on Wapping Road. Initially, Rand lived closer to the Meetinghouse, but he became irritated with the numerous congregants who dropped by for doughnuts and refreshment on their way to Sunday services.

Rev. Rand was not one to shy away from bringing politics to the pulpit. One interesting story comes down from historian Thomas Bradford Drew who tells of Rand reading a proclamation of King George to the congregation. Upon completing the reading, Rand turned the document over

to offer his own critical response which angered a Tory sea captain seated in the Meetinghouse. Outraged by Rand’s commentary, the captain... “left the house in an excited manner, slamming the pew door after him and shuffling his feet on the floor as he passed down the aisle. To irritate him a little more, just as the he was passing out of the house, one in the congregation cried out to him, ‘Shet the door arter ye, Captain’” much to the amusement of the audience.”

Rand’s epitaph reads:

“In Memory of the Revd M. William Rand,  
died March

Ye 14, 1779 aged 79 years wanting 7 days.

Here’s one who long had run the Human  
Race:

Kindly relieved reclines his hoary head,  
And sweetly slumb’ring in this dark embrace  
Listens the welcomed sound, ‘Arise ye dead’ ”



uel, Charles and Robert Foster as well as Rev. William Rand by parking in front of the First Parish Church on Main Street and entering to the left

Old Burying Ground history by Tom Vendetti (with special thanks to Susan Aprill at the Kingston Public Library) and Craig Dalton of the Kingston Historical Commission.

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# Kingston's First Patriots

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Ebenezer Adams

Israel Bradford

Wrestling Brewster

Josiah Cooke

Elisha Cushman

James Cushman

Joshua Delano

Cornelius Drew

Job Drew

Zeph Fuller

Col. John Gray

Elisha Hall

Levi Holmes

Sylvester Holmes

Robert McLathlin

Hezekiah Ripley

Crocker Sampson

Cephas Wadsworth







# Ebenezer Adams

*born November 17, 1744* ✦ *died September 24, 1820*

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**E**benezer Adams served as a Private in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company as well as Colonel Thomas Lothrop's Regiment. He also fought with Brigadier Joseph Cushing's Brigade for the cause of liberty. He served for a total of 17 days in December of 1766.



Adams, born in Kingston, was the son of John and Thankful Washburn Adams. He married Lydia Cooke on November 3, 1766. Lydia and Ebenezer had 11 children: George (1766-1789); Mary (1769-1851); Caleb (1770-1779); Nathaniel (1773-1792); Lydia (1775-1872); James (1777-1820); Charles (1779-1867); Lucy (1784-1863); Christian (1787-1882); George (1791-1870); and Caleb (1792-1859).

He was listed as a mariner and a yeoman. Ebenezer Adams died on September 24, 1820 of nephritic consumption. His wife Lydia passed away on January 24, 1829 from an abscess.



In memory of  
ISRAEL BRADFORD  
a Revolutionary  
soldier, who died  
Jan'y 5. 1855.  
Æ. 88 y'rs 4 mo.  
and 10 days.

# Israel Bradford

*born 1766* ♦ *died 1855*

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Israel Bradford was a Matross Captain in Amos Lincoln's Company and in Colonel Craft's Artillery Regiment. (A matross assisted the gunners in loading, firing and sponging the cannons.) Bradford enlisted on May 23, 1781 and was discharged August 21, 1783; his service lasted 27 months.



Israel Bradford was born in 1766. His wife Hannah Everson was born on November 2, 1767 in Kingston Massachusetts. She married Israel Bradford on August 6, 1785 when she was just 17 years old. Together they had eight children:

Sally (1785-1831); Polly (1786-1859); Lemuel (1788-1855); Hannah (b. 1790); William (b. 1790); Hannah (1797-1832 ); Nancy (1801-1850) and Betsey (1803-1882).

Israel died on March 26, 1855, at the age of 82. Hannah died on June 11, 1823 in Kingston at the age of 55. They are both buried in the Old Burying Ground in Kingston, Massachusetts.





# Wrestling Brewster

*born August 29, 1724* ❖ *died February 8, 1810*

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**W**restling Brewster was a Private in Captain Thomas Sampson's Company, Colonel Theophilus Cotton's Regiment, General Palmer's Brigade. His service was between September 25, 1777 and October 30, 1777. He marched 32 days on a secret expedition against Newport, Rhode Island. At that time he was 53 years of age.



Brewster was born on August 29, 1724, to his father Wrestling (age 30) and mother Hannah Tilden Thomas (age 25). He had six siblings, Isaac, Thomas, Elijah, Elisha, Hannah, and Mary.

On July 12, 1750, Wrestling married Deborah Seabury (1721-1802) of Duxbury. Together they had nine children: Hannah (b. 1752); Seabury (1754-1847); Huldah (b. 1756); Martin (1758-1833); Hosea (1762-1794); Deborah (1764-1802); Violette (b. 1766); Olive (b. 1768) and Wrestling (1770-1816).

Patriot Wrestling Brewster was a farmer who died on February 8, 1810. He lived to the age of 85 and is buried in the Old Burying Ground in Kingston, Massachusetts.



# Josiah Cook

*born July 28, 1745* ✦ *died April 24, 1827*

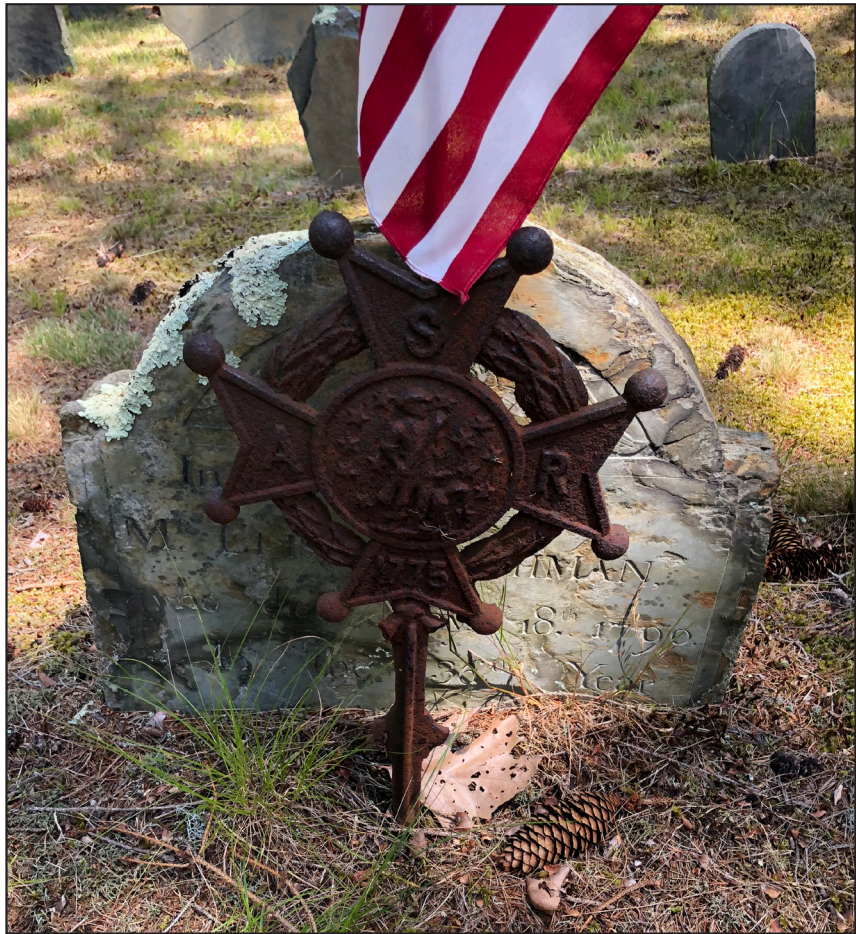
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Josiah served as a Private Captain in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company which marched on April 20, 1775 in response to the alarm of April 9, 1775. He served for seven days. He also served in Colonel Cotton's regiment.



Josiah Cook was born on July 28, 1745 to Charles and Hannah (Faunce) Cook. He was married to Lydia Faunce on March 31, 1768. Josiah and Lydia had ten children together: Olive (1769-1851); Lucy (1771-who died of consumption in 1805); Lydia (1774-1852); Josiah (1775-1853); Molly (1778-1857); Abigail (1781-1843); Nathaniel (1783-who died of consumption in 1786); Daniel (1785-1863); Kezia (1787-1808); and Nancy (1791-1871).

Josiah died on April 24, 1827 at the age of 83.





# Elisha Cushman

*born January 15, 1755* ✦ *died May 18, 1790*

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Elisha's name is noted on the list of men drafted into the Continental Army, as returned by 2nd Lieutenant Samuel Gray, dated Kingston, February 21, 1778. Cushman was also a Private in Captain Isaac Pope's Company, Captain William Shephard's Regiment. He was mustered (but the year is not given), as reported by the Continental Muster Master. The record does not give details of the length or details of his service, but many served for a considerable period in the Continental Army.



Elisha's was the son of Thomas Cushman and Mehetabell Faunce. He was married to Lydia Fuller on May 15, 1781. They had four children: Thomas (1781–1853); Bartholomew (1782–1837); Lydia (1784–1785); Elisha (1788–1838).

Elisha, a cordwainer (shoemaker) by occupation, died of consumption on May 18, 1790. His wife Lydia married again in 1798 to Perez Bradford of Plympton. Lydia died in Kingston in 1842.



# James Cushman

*born December 22, 1756* ✦ *died November 24, 1832*

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James Cushman was a Private in Captain Jesse Harlow's Company of Minutemen. They marched on April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775 of Concord and Lexington. James also fought under Colonel Theophilus Cotton's Regiment which dispatched on September 25, 1777. James participated in a secret expedition in Newport, Rhode Island. James' military service also took him to Middleton under the guidance of Captain James Cushman and Major Levi Pierce.



James Cushman, the son of Thomas and Mehitabel Faunce Cushman, was born on December 22, 1756. On April 1, 1780 he married Marcy Morton of Plymouth. Together they had the following children: Nathaniel (1781-1868); James (1784-1807); Mary (b. 1787); Sarah (b.1789); Zenas (b. 1791); and Job (1797-1878); Spencer (b. 1798); Martin (b. 1800); Samuel (b. 1804).

Patriot James Cushman was a tanner and died in 1832 at the age 75.



Erected  
in memory of  
*Mr. Joshua Delano*  
who died  
July 22, 1816  
aged 71.

Diligent, upright, a blessing crown'd his life.  
Peaceful at home, remote from troubling strife.  
Repent with years, he found the sentence just.  
His life resign'd, and mingl'd with the dust.

# Joshua Delano

*born October 11, 1744* ✦ *died July 22, 1816*

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Joshua served in Captain Ebenezer Washburn's Company, Colonel Thomas Lothrop's Regiment, and Brigadier Joseph Cushing's Brigade where his service lasted 17 days. His company marched to Bristol, Rhode Island on an alarm. He also served in Captain Thomas Newcomb's Company and Colonel Theophilus Cotton's regiment. His service lasted from September 28, 1777 to October 31, 1777. He spent 35 days in Rhode Island on a secret expedition.



Joshua was born in Duxbury. He was the youngest child of Joshua and Hopestill Peterson. Joshua married Mary Chandler of Duxbury in October 1766.

The couple had nine children together: Charlotte (1767-1801); Joshua (1769-1800) who died of apoplexy; William (1771-1797) who died at sea; Lucy (1772-1776); Mary "Polly" (1774-1858); Lucy (1776-1855); Benjamin (1778-1868); Rebecca (1782-1810) and Welthea (1785-1837) who died of canker rash.

His career was listed as that of a yeoman.



JOHN DREW

The first of the family who settled in Plymouth.  
died there July 23, 1732, aged 39 yrs.

SAMUEL DREW

his son born Feb. 21, 1678, died in Kingston 1739.  
From his sons CORNELIUS, EBEREZ, EBENEZER,  
and SAMUEL, the Duxbury and Kingston families  
have descended.

SAMUEL 1732-1813 and NHEEMIAH  
1732-1813, were sons of Ebenezer.

CORNELIUS DREW

died Dec. 16, 1762, aged 39 yrs.

SARAH EBERHART DREW

his widow died Dec. 21, 1740, died Jan. 1744-45.

their sons and daughters WILLIAM 1734-1795,

ELIAS 1733-1807, ELYAS 1735-1822,

SAMUEL 1737-1824, ABRAHAM 1738-1818,

CORNELIUS 1752-1834, EUNICE wife of  
Joseph Eberhart 1798-1845, and SARAH wife of  
John Adams 1770-1852 who all buried in  
this church-yard.

Erected by their descendants 1871.

# Cornelius Drew

*born February 3, 1752* ♦ *died 1814*

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Cornelius served as a Private in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company which marched to Marshfield on April 20, 1775 in response to the alarm at Concord and Lexington of April 19, 1775. He served for seven days. He was also a 1st Lieutenant in Colonel Theophilus Cotton's (1st Plymouth Company) regiment of Massachusetts militia. He was commissioned in a list of officers on October 28, 1778.



Cornelius was the child of Cornelius and Sarah (Bartlett of Duxbury). He married Sarah Stetson on November 17, 1782. Cornelius and Sarah had five children together: Edward (1783-1863); Lurana (1784-1804); Cornelius (1787-1867); Robert Adams (1790-1801 death by putrid fever) and Edward (1795).

Cornelius's career was listed as a shipwright and was a member of one of Kingston's greatest ship building families. He died on November 24, 1814 in Kingston.



In Memory of  
**J O B D R E W.**

of Halifax,  
who  
died March

16, 1833:

aged 89 yrs.

Fled from the raging storms of time,  
And rested to a smoother clime.

# Job Drew

*born February 3, 1743* ✦ *died March 16, 1833*

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Job served in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company of Minutemen as well as Colonel Cotton's regiment that marched on April 20, 1775 to Marshfield. He served for 11 days. He also served in Sergeant Captain Ebenezer Washburn's Company, Colonel Thomas Lothrop's Regiment, and Brigadier Joseph Cushing's Brigade. His service lasted for 17 days. He also marched to Bristol Rhode Island on an alarm.



Job was born on February 3, 1743 to Ebenezer and Martha Cobb. He was married to Thankfull Delano Prince on May 21, 1767. The couple had 15 children together: Prince (1768-1777); Job (b. 1769); Fanny (b. 1770); Job (1773-1838); Kezia (b. 1774); Lebbeus (b. 1777); Nehemiah (1778-1813); Charles (b. 1781); Sophia (1782-1856); Thomas (1784-1788); Ira (b. 1786); Ezra (1788-1877); Sukey (b. 1791); Harvey (1793-1795) and Albert (1810-1830).

Job's career was listed as a blacksmith. He died on March 16, 1833 at the age of 89.





# Zephaniah Fuller

*born July 31, 1750* ♦ *died 1815*

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**Z**ephaniah Fuller was a Private in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company of Minutemen and Colonel Theophilus Cotton's Regiment. He marched to Marshfield on April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of Concord and Lexington of April 19, 1775. He served for only seven days.



It is said that Zephaniah's parents are Josiah Fuller and Lydia Cushman and Lydia Cushman Fuller. He was one of 12 children. The Vital Records Book of Kingston, list that Zephaniah married Polly (Mary?) Loring of Duxbury on October 26, 1781. They had six children together: Sarah (b. 1782); Zephaniah (1784-1806); George (1785-1838 of typhus fever); Ebenezer (b. 1788); Loring (b. 1789) and Peres (b. 1797). It is reported that he died at the age of 65 from "decay by intemperance."

Patriot Zephaniah Fuller was a mariner.



# Colonel John Gray

*born December 3, 1729* ✦ *died April 26, 1810*

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Colonel Gray served in the American Revolution. Although, his war record was out of Plymouth, he resided in Kingston for his entire life. His service was not in the Continental Army, instead he served in Colonial Gamaliel Bradford's and Theophilus Cotton's First Plymouth Company in the Regiment of the Massachusetts Militia from February 1776 to March 1778.



John was born on December 3, 1729 to Samuell and Patience Gray. He then married Desire Cushman (b. 1748) on January 26, 1775. The couple had six children together: Molly (1775-1777); John (1777-1848, disease of heart); Thomas (1780-1787); Phoebe (b. 1783); Betsey (b. 1785) and Lewis (b. 1790). Colonel Gray died on April 26, 1810 of stoppage mortification. His wife died on October 25, 1822.





# Elisha Hall

*born January 31, 1753    ♦    died May 17, 1818*

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**E**lisha was a Private in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company of Minutemen, and Colonel Cotton's Regiment. They marched to Marshfield on April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of Concord and Lexington of April 19, 1775.

Hall's service lasted 11 days. He also served in Captain Wadsworth's Company and Colonel Theophilus Cotton's 16th Regiment for 3 months and 8 days.

Hall later joined Captain Joseph Wadsworth's Company and Colonel Gamaliel Bradford's Regiment of the Continental Army; his term lasted 3 years. Elisha was 23 at the time. His enlistment expired January 1, 1780. The same company and regiment return dated Valley Forge, on January 28, 1778 mustered by County and Continental Muster Masters. In 1780, Hall was 26 years old; stature 5 feet , 9 inches; complexion dark; and was engaged to the town of Kingston.

Hall enlisted for an additional 6 months under the command of Captain John Williams. Hall's name along with the names of other soldiers was recorded by Brigade General Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, October 25, 1780.

Hall marched to camp July 19, 1780 and was discharged January 31, 1781. He traveled 200 miles home. He served the cause of independence for 5 years.



Sylvanus and Lydia Fish Hall are said to be Elisha's parents. His wife, Asenath Sampson Hall, was born on October 18, 1758 in Duxbury Massachusetts. Asenath and Elisha were married on April 15, 1780 in Kingston, Massachusetts. Together Asenath and Elisha had 11 children: Silvenias (b 1781); Lydia (b. 1783); Deborah (b. 1785); Dorothy (b. 1788); Elisha (b. 1788); Aunna (b. 1778); Lot (b. 1791); Judah (b. 1794); John (b. 1797); Washington (b. 1800) and George (b. 1802). These records are found in the Kingston Book of Vital Records where Elisha's job titles are listed as Yeoman and Mariner. Elisha Hall died on April 15, 1780 in Turner, Maine "while on a visit" at the age of 63. His wife died on December 16, 1836. She lived to the age of 78.



In memory of  
M<sup>r</sup> Levi Holme  
who died May 7<sup>th</sup>  
1795  
aged 47 years 4 months  
3 9 days

# Levi Holmes

*born November 28, 1747* ✦ *died May 6, 1795*

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Levi was a Private in Captain Ebenezer Washburn's Company, Colonel Thomas Lothrop's Regiment and Joseph Cushing's Brigade. His service for these men lasted 17 days. In December of 1776, his company marched to Bristol Rhode Island. The Kingston roll also shows that he fought under Captain James Harlow and Colonel Ezra Wood's. From June 5, 1778, he served for eight months and four days guarding the passes of the North River. His travels during these months totaled over 480 miles.

In August 1780, Levi joined Captain Benjamin Rider's Company and Colonel John Jacob's Regiment where he stayed until his discharge on November 1, 1780.



Levi was born to Ephraim and Sarah Tilden Holmes. On April 19, 1770, Levi married Lydia Bradford. The couple had nine children together: Zeresh (1772-1795); Sarah (b. 1773); Bradford (b. 1776); Lydia (b. 1779); Mercy (b. 1781); Levi (b. 1784); Lucy (b. 1787); Sylvester (1789-1810, apoplexy) and Charlotte (b. 1792). Levi died on May 6, 1795 in Kingston, Massachusetts.





# Sylvester Holmes

*born October 11, 1756* ✦ *died July 26, 1810*

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Sylvester Holmes was a Private in Captain Ebenezer Washburn's Company, Colonel Thomas Lothrop's Regiment and Joseph Cushing's Brigade. His company marched to Bristol, Rhode Island on an alarm in December 1776. The mileage to and from battle was over 100 miles. His service lasted 17 days. Sylvester along with another group of men left Kingston to serve under Second Lieutenant Samuel Gray, Captain Pope and Colonel Shepard's Regiment. On March 30, 1777, Sylvester marched to Boston under Nathaniel Barber, the Muster Master for Suffolk Company. Sylvester's discharge from service was dated January 1, 1780.



Sylvester Holmes was born on October 11, 1756 in Kingston Massachusetts. He was the son of Ruth Cooke and Josiah Holmes. He had six brothers and four sisters. In November 26, 1789 he married Molly Washburn (1758-1822). Sylvester and Molly had at least three children: Josiah (b. 1790); Molly (b. 1795) and Lois (b. 1800).

Patriot Sylvester was a founder and yeoman. Sylvester Holmes died on July 26, 1810 at the age of 53. It should be noted that his gravestone is severely damaged and it is hoped that it will be repaired soon.



ERECTED

In Memory of

Capl Robert M Lanthier

who died Dec. 28 1856.

Æt. 66 yrs 6mo.

& 10 days.

His Children and widow here bound over the grave.  
"Oft a Father's protection and friend;  
"Oft a Father's protection and friend;  
"Oft a Father's protection and friend;  
"Oft a Father's protection and friend;

# Robert McLathlin

*born 1740    ❖    died September 6, 1825*

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**R**obert McLathlin was a Private Captain in William Weston's 16th regiment. His company was stationed at the Gurnet for defense of Plymouth Harbor. He enlisted July 2, 1776 and was discharged December 31, 1776. McLathlin's service lasted 5 months and 30 days.



Robert McLathlin was born sometime in the 1740s in Kingston, Massachusetts to John and Margaret McLathlin (also seen spelled in records as McLaughlin). On October 13, 1763 he married Mary Keen, together they had six children: Ruth (b. 1772); Robert (b. 1770); Rebecca (b. 1764); Polly (b. 1768); Judeth (b. 1778); Rught (possibly Ruth – see above – b. 1772 and Peggy (b. 1775).

Mary Keen McLathlin died on October 24, 1818 and Robert died on September 26, 1825 at the age of 85 years.





**SAMUEL RIPLEY**  
He died Dec. 13, 1841, in his 90<sup>th</sup> year.  
Can be the spot where his form now reposes,  
And the friends who so loved revisit his grave,  
And feel that the gold and his wife's endow'd  
The presence of him who once stood  
A son of Hezekiah & Hannah  
Ripley who was lost at Sea Nov. 10  
1810. Aged 23 yrs & 3 months.  
He now rests in his earthly home of clay,  
And sleeps in Ocean's depths till that great day  
When Christ shall bid the sleeping dust arise  
And we may hope to meet again beyond the skies.

# Hezekiah Ripley

*born November 18, 1751* ♦ *died October 19, 1841*

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**H**ezekiah Ripley was a Lieutenant and Quartermaster in Colonel John Bailey's Second Regiment and Lieutenant Colonel Badlam. He served in the Continental Army from January 1, 1777 to December 31, 1780. He also served as a Lieutenant in Captain Seth Drew's Fifth Company. On January 24, 1778; he returned to Camp Valley Forge in Pennsylvania. Prior to his service in the Continental Army, Ripley may also have served as a seaman on the Brigantine "Independence" commanded by Captain Simeon Samson from May 2, 1776 to September 22, 1776. The Independence was built in Kingston and commissioned by Massachusetts Colony.



Hezekiah was born in Kingston on November 18, 1751 to Hezekiah and Abigail. Hezekiah married Hannah Tilden (b. 1766) of Scituate on January 20, 1785. Hezekiah and Hannah raised eight children: Rufus (1787-1810, lost at sea); Marcia (b. 1790); Kenelm (1792-1830, drowned); George (1794-1848); Joseph Tilden (b. 1785); Lucia (b. 1800); William (b. 1803) and Harvey (b. 1807). Patriot Hezekiah Ripley died in Kingston on October 19, 1841 at the age of 90.



# Crocker Sampson

*born April 25, 1749    ♦    died July 7, 1823*

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Crocker Sampson was a Quarter Master with the rank of Ensign (later called Second Lieutenant) and Lieutenant in the Continental Army as early as November 6, 1776. He was stationed in regiments commanded by Colonel Bradford, Lieutenant Colonel Brooks, Lieutenant Captain King mainly in New York (West Point, Peekskill, White Plains, and Newburgh). Quarter Masters were charged with obtaining, storing, and transporting supplies and provisions to soldiers. He also served in Boston in 1779. He was relieved of duty after more than 6 years of service by General Washington on June 13, 1783.



Crocker was born to Cornelius and Desire on April 25, 1749. He married Rebecca Hawley of Barnstable on May 4, 1794 in Barnstable, Mass. The couple had four children together: Benjamin (1795-1832), Harriot (b. 1797), Rebecca (b. 1799), and Lucy (b. 1801). He died on July 7, 1823. His wife died of apoplexy on June 27, 1844.





# Cephas Wadsworth

*born August 23, 1743* ♦ *died September 12, 1819*

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Cephas was a Private in Captain Peleg Wadsworth's Company as well as Colonel Theophilus Cotton's Regiment. He marched on April 20, 1775 to Marshfield in response to the alarm sounded on April 19, 1775 in Concord and Lexington. His service lasted 11 days. He enlisted on May 1, 1775 and remained in service until October 7, 1775. He was compensated for his service on January 5, 1776.



Cephas, born in Duxbury, was the son of Peleg and Susannah Sampson. He married Molly Cooke (1743-1828) on November 5, 1767. Cephas and Molly had ten children together: Peleg (1768 – 1790); Peleg drowned at sea after falling from a loft at latitude 39 north and longitude 70 west; William (1770-1790); Lucy (1772-1850); Alfred (1774-1846); Molly (1777-1821); Welthea (1779-1857); Cephas (1781-1861); Lavina (1783-1868); Zilpha (1785-1787) and John (1788-1861).

Cephas was a housewright. He died on September 12, 1819 from cholera morbus. Molly died on May 15, 1828 from "old age."

Note: Cephas' younger brother and Kingston resident Peleg (1748 – 1829 and not to be confused with his father or son of the same name) was a distinguished General serving with distinction in the American Revolution. He was the grandfather of the great poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. General Peleg Wadsworth died in Maine.

# Kingston during the Revolutionary War

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**1766**

Town Meeting voted down a motion to instruct its representative to the Great and General Court to vote for a motion for compensation to “sufferers of the late disturbances in Boston.”

**1773**

Kingston received from the Committee of Correspondence a pamphlet informing the townspeople “of infringements of rights of the inhabitants of the province.” Kingston reacted by acknowledging the injustices of the British government toward the Colonies and stated that this town would be “Always ready to co-operate with our brethren in any legal and constitutional measure tending to the redress of the grievances we so justly complain of.”

**1774**

Kingston chose a Committee of Correspondence headed by John Thomas, Esquire.

**1775**

January: the Town of Kingston purchased “firearms and accouterments to equip thirty-three soldiers completely.”

March 24: Kingston Company (of minute men) was formed under Peleg Wadsworth and later became part of the regiment from Plymouth County under Theophilus Cotton.

April 20: Theophilus Cotton led an expedition against Marshfield, which contained troops from Kingston under Peleg Wadsworth.

Thomas B. Drew (a Kingston historian) stated that 92 men from Kingston served; Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War lists 77 (including one “black”: Ben Jeffreys); a 1927 Memorial Day program. includes the 158 names listed below.

Two generals came from Kingston: General Peleg Wadsworth, a militia General in charge of eastern Massachusetts, and General John Thomas, a Brigadier General in the Continental Army and a leader on the Canadian expedition of 1776 – 1776.

One of the first vessels commissioned by the Provincial Navy, the brig Independence, a 16-gun ship, 94 feet long and costing 488 pounds, was built in Kingston. Simeon Sampson, a Kingston native commanded the ship. Sampson captured five prizes in 1776 before he himself was defeated in a bloody battle by Captain Dawson of the British fleet, who returned Sampson’s sword as a salute to his gallantry.

*Courtesy of Kingston Public Library Local History Room.*

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# Those who served from Kingston\*

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Major Gen. John Thomas	Samuel Cole	Charles Green	Samuel Randall
Brigadier Gen. Peleg Wadsworth	Meletiah Cobb	Joseph Griffin	Onesimus Randall
Colonel Joseph Sampson	Sylvanus Cobb	Benjamin Gilber	Kenlom Ripley
Colonel John Gray	Eben Cobb	Samuel Gilbert	Calvin Ripley
Commander James Sever	Benjamin Carter	Simeon Hall	John Robinson
Major Seth Drew	Elisha Cushman	Elisha Hall	Benjamin Sampson
Captain Ebenezer Washburn	James Cushman	Abner Hall	James Sampson
Lieutenant Daniel Adams	Joseph Chamberlain	Thomas Hall	Croad Sampson
Lieutenant Crocker Sampson	Echabod Churchill	Enoch Hall	Andrew Simmons
Lieutenant Hezekiah Ripley	Job Drew	Job Hall	William Sever
Lieutenant Noah Simmons	Cornelius Drew	Sylvanus Hall	Elijah Sturtevant
Lieutenant Samuel Gray	Lebbins Drew	Samuel Hollis	Joseph Tinkham
Lieutenant Robert Cook	Samuel Drew	Andrew Harlow	John Tinkham
	John Davis	Josiah Hatch	Samuel Tupper
	John Doty	Wally Holmes	Jonothan Torrey
Ebenezer Adams	James Dodge	Abner Holmes	Spencer Thomas
Joshua Adams	Zenas Davis	John Holmes	James Thomas
John Adams	James Doten	Jonathan Holmes	Zebediah Thompson
Hosea Brewster	Joshua Delano	Sylvester Holmes	Peleg Whitten
David Bradford	Job Eaton	Levi Holmes	Cephas Wadsworth
Chandler Bradford	James Everson	Benjamin Holmes	Josiah Waterman
Sylvanus Bradford	Joseph Everson	John Johnson	Josiah West
Peleg Bradford	Seth Everson	John Jones	Asa Whitten
Noah Bradford	Samuel Everson	Benjamin Jeffereys (negro)	Bildad Washburn
Enoe Bradford	Ephraim Everson	Richard Johnson	Elisha Washburn
Isreal Bradford	Jabez Eaton	Charles King	Judah Washburn
Robert Bradford	Eleazer Fuller	Nathaniel King	Thomas Washburn
Consider Bradford	Robert Fuller	Daniel Loring	John Washburn
Nathan Brewster	Ebenezer Fuller	Mark Marlin	Ziba Witherell
Benjamin Battlesbee	Barzilla Fuller	John McLean	John Williams
Martin Brewster	Consider Fuller	Benjamin Monroe	Benjamin Waterman
Levi Bryant	Barnabas Fuller	Seth Magoun	Soloman Whitten
Thomas Bars	John Fuller	Andrew Murdock	John Wade
James Bassett	Josiah Fuller	James Murdock	James Waterman
Barzilla Briggs	Zeph Fuller	Thomas Moon	Joshua Waterman
Samuel Beason	Elijah Fuller	Ezra Morton	Zenas Waterman
Josiah Cook	Elephalett Fuller	Robert McLathlin	Abner Weston
Simeon Cook	Samuel Fuller	William Pratt	
Zadoc Cook	Thomas Fish	Benjamin Parris	
Bartlett Cook	Jacob Fish	Mathew Parris	
John Cook	Isaac Fish	Noah Prince	

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*\*not all were residents of Kingston, but left from Kingston*



# Timeline

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## 1775

March 23: Patrick Henry's 'Give me Liberty or Give me Death' speech

April 18: The rides of Paul Revere and William Dawes

April 19: Minutemen and redcoats clash at Lexington and Concord 'The shot heard around the world'

May 10: The second continental congress meets in Philadelphia

June 15: George Washington is named Commander in Chief

June 17: Battle of Bunker Hill

July 3: Washington gains command of the Continental Army

December 11: Virginia and NC patriots rout Loyalist troops and burn Norfolk

December 22: Col. Thomson with 1,500 rangers and militia capture Loyalists at Great Canebrake, SC

December 23-30: Snow Campaign, in SC, so-called because patriots are impeded by 15" of snow

Dec. 30-31: American forces under Benedict Arnold fail to seize Quebec

## 1776

Jan. 1: Daniel Morgan taken prisoner in attempt to take Quebec City

Jan. 15: Paine's "Common Sense" published

Feb. 27: The patriots drive the Loyalists from Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina

March 3: The Continental fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas

March 17: The British evacuate Boston; British Navy moves to Halifax, Canada

June 8: Patriots fail to take Three Rivers, Quebec

June 12: The Virginia Declaration of Rights

June 28: Sullivan's Island, SC, failed British naval attack

June 29: The First Virginia Constitution

June 28: Patriots decisively defeat the British Navy at Fort Moultrie, South Carolina

July 1: At the instigation of British agents, the Cherokee attack along the entire southern frontier

July 1-4: Congress debates and revises the Declaration of Independence. See Chronology of the Declaration

July 4: Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence; it's sent to the printer

July 8: The Declaration of Independence is read publicly

July 15: Lyndley's Fort, SC, Patriots fend off attack by Indians and Tories dressed as Indians

Aug. 1: Ambushed by Cherokees, Patriots are saved by a mounted charge at Seneca, SC

Aug. 2: Delegates begin to sign The Declaration of Independence

Aug. 10: Tugaloo River, SC, Andrew Pickens defeats Cherokees

Aug. 12: Andrew Pickens' detachment surrounded by 185 Cherokee Indians, forms a ring and fires outward. It is known as the "Ring Fight."

Aug. 12: Col. Williamson and Andrew Pickens defeat Cherokee Indians and burn Tamassy, an Indian town

Aug. 27: Redcoats defeat George Washington's army in the Battle of Long Island. Washington's army escapes at night.

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# of the American Revolution

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Sept. 15: The British occupy New York City

Sept. 16: Generals George Washington, Nathanael Greene, and Israel Putnam triumphantly hold their ground at the Battle of Harlem Heights

Sept. 19: Col. Williamson's patriots attacked by Cherokees at Coweecho River, NC

Oct. 11: Benedict Arnold defeated at the Battle of Valcour Island (Lake Champlain), but delayed British advance

Oct. 28: The Americans retreat from White Plains, New York. British casualties (~300) higher than American (~200).

Nov. 16: The Hessians capture Fort Washington, NY

Nov. 20: Lord Cornwallis captures Fort Lee from Nathanael Greene

Dec. 26: Washington crosses the Delaware and captures Trenton from Hessians

## 1777

Jan. 3: Washington victorious at Princeton

Jan. 6-May 28: Washington winters in Morristown, NJ

Apr. 27: Benedict Arnold's troops force a British retreat at Ridgefield, Connecticut.

May 20: Treaty of DeWitt's Corner, SC: Cherokees lose most of their land east of the mountains

June 14: Flag Resolution

July 5: St. Clair surrenders Fort Ticonderoga to the British

July 27: Lafayette arrives in Philadelphia

Aug. 6: The Redcoats, with Iroquois support, force the patriots back at Oriskany, NY, but then have to evacuate

Aug. 16: American Militia under General Stark victorious at the Battle of Bennington, VT (actually fought in Walloomsac, New York, several miles to the west)

Aug. 23: British withdraw from Fort Stanwix, NY, upon hearing of Benedict Arnold's approach

Aug. 25: British General Howe lands at Head of Elk, Maryland

Sept. 11: The British win the Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania

Sept. 16: Rain-out at the Battle of the Clouds, Pennsylvania

Sept. 19: Burgoyne checked by Americans under Gates at Freeman's Farm, NY. This is part of the "Battles of Saratoga."

Sept. 21: Paoli Massacre, PA

Sept. 26: British under Howe occupy Philadelphia

Oct. 4: Americans driven off at the Battle of Germantown

Oct. 7: Burgoyne loses second battle of Freeman's Farm, NY (at Bemis Heights). This is part of the "Battles of Saratoga."

Oct. 17: Burgoyne surrenders to American General Gates at Saratoga, NY

Oct. 22: Hessian attack on Fort Mercer, NJ repulsed

Nov. 16: British capture Fort Mifflin, Pennsylvania

Dec. 5-7: Americans repulse British at Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania

Dec. 19: Washington's army retires to winter quarters at Valley Forge

*continued next page*

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# Timeline

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## 1778

Feb. 6: The United States and France sign the French Alliance  
March 7: British General William Howe replaced by Henry Clinton  
May 20: Battle of Barren Hill, Pennsylvania. Lafayette with 500 men and about 50 Oneida Indians successfully evade British onslaught  
June 18: British abandon Philadelphia and return to New York  
June 19: Washington's army leaves Valley Forge  
June 28: The Battle of Monmouth Courthouse ends in a draw  
July 4: George Rogers Clark captures Kaskaskia, a French village south of St. Louis  
Aug. 8: French and American forces besiege Newport, RI  
Dec. 29: The redcoats occupy Savannah

## 1779

Feb. 3: Maj. Gen. Moultrie defeats British detachment at Port Royal Island, SC  
Feb. 14: Patriots Andrew Pickens and Elijah Clarke beat Loyalists at Kettle Creek, GA  
Feb. 23-24: American George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes (in what is now Indiana) on the Wabash in the Western campaign  
March 3: British Lt. Col. Jacques Marcus Prevost defeats Americans under Gen. John Ashe at Brier Creek, GA  
May 11-13: Maj. General Augustin Prévost (brother of Jacques, see above) breaks his siege when American forces under Maj. Gen. Lincoln approaches  
June 20: Stono River, SC, Maj. Gen. Lincoln inflicts extensive British casualties in indecisive battle  
June 21: Spain declares war on Great Britain  
July 8: Fairfield, CT, burned by British  
July 11: Norwalk, CT, burned by British  
July 15-16: American "Mad" Anthony Wayne captures Stony Point, NY  
Aug. 19: "Light Horse" Harry Lee attacks Paulus Hook, NJ  
Aug. 29: Newtown, NY, after two massacres, American forces burn Indian villages  
Sept. 23: John Paul Jones, aboard the Bonhomme Richard, captures British man-of-war Serapis near English coast  
Sept. 28: The Tappan Massacre ("No Flint" Grey kills 30 Americans by bayonet)  
Oct. 9 American attempt to recapture Savannah, GA fails  
Nov.-June 23, 1780 Washington's 2nd winter at Morristown, NJ (the harshest winter of the 18th century)

## 1780

May 12: British capture Charleston, SC  
May 29: British crush Americans at Waxhaw Creek, SC  
June 20: Patriots rout Tories at Ramseur's Mill, NC  
July 11: French troops arrive at Newport, RI, to aid the American cause  
Aug. 6: Patriots defeat Tories at Hanging Rock, SC  
Aug. 16: British rout Americans at Camden, SC  
Sept. 23: John André arrested, leading to the exposure of Benedict Arnold's plans to cede West Point to the British

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# of the American Revolution

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Oct. 7: King's Mountain, SC: battle lasts 65 minutes. American troops led by Isaac Shelby and John Sevier defeat Maj. Patrick Ferguson and one-third of General Cornwallis's army

Oct. 14: Washington names Nathanael Greene commander of the Southern Army

## 1781

Jan. 1: Mutiny of unpaid Pennsylvania soldiers

Jan. 17: Patriot Morgan overwhelmingly defeats British Col. Tarleton at Cowpens, SC

Feb. 1: The Battle of Cowan's Ford, Huntersville, NC

March 2: Articles of Confederation adopted

March 15: British win costly victory at Guilford Courthouse, NC

April 25: Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill, SC

May 15: British Major Andrew Maxwell cedes Fort Granby, SC to patriot Lieutenant Colonel Henry Lee

June 6: Americans recapture Augusta, GA

June 18: British hold off Americans at Ninety Six, SC

July 6: "Mad" Anthony Wayne repulsed at Green Springs Farm, VA

Sept. 8: Greene defeated at Eutaw Springs, SC

Sept. 15: French fleet drives British naval force from Chesapeake Bay

Oct. 19: Cornwallis surrounded on land and sea by Americans and French and surrenders at Yorktown, VA

## 1782

March 20: Lord North resigns as British prime minister

July 11: British evacuate Savannah, GA

Nov. 30: British and Americans sign preliminary Articles of Peace

Dec. 14: British leave Charleston, SC

## 1783

April 19: Congress ratifies preliminary peace treaty

Sept. 3: The United States and Great Britain sign the Treaty of Paris

Nov. 25: British troops leave New York City

Dec. 23: Washington resigns as Commander

## 1787

Sept. 17: U.S. Constitution signed

## Source:

<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/revwartimeline.html>

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## Revolutionary War Markers

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Each soldier who fought in the American Revolutionary War in the Old Burying Ground Cemetery has a “Sons of the American Revolution” marker that honors their service.

The Massachusetts Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was founded on April 19, 1889 by a group of patriotic men near San Francisco. They broke off of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires, another society who kept the story of many patriots of the war alive. The Sons of the American Revolution were the descendants of some of the men who fought in the American Revolutionary War. The goal of their new non-profit society was to honor the men and women who gave so much to try to break away from Great Britain.

Fifteen of America’s presidents have been members of the Sons of the American Revolution and many more have been very influential in politics, law, and education.

# Bibliography

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## **Historical resources**

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Boston, Massachusetts, 1896-1908

Vital records of the Town of Kingston Massachusetts to the Year of 1850, Published by the New  
England Historic Genealogical Society at the charge of the Eddy Town Record Fund, Boston,  
Massachusetts 1911

## **Local resources**

Various documents written by the Archivist Ms. Susan Aprill of the Kingston Public Library  
Various documents written by Mr. Thomas Vendetti, Archivist and Preservationist of the First  
Parish Unitarian Church of Kingston, Massachusetts with assistance from Mr. Craig Dalton,  
Chairperson of the Kingston Historical Commission

## **Online resources**

[www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com)  
[www.Findagrave.com](http://www.Findagrave.com)

# Acknowledgments

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We, the members of Troop 80234, would like to thank the following people for their support and assistance in completing our Silver Award Project:

Mr. Thomas Vendetti for his enthusiasm, his love of Kingston history and for his seed of thought that helped our project get started;

Ms. Susan Aprill and Ms. Sharon Pietryka, the archivists of the Kingston Public Library, for their enormous wealth of knowledge as well as their large amount of patience that helped us get all of our questions answered;

Barbara Chandler, whose amazing design work made our project look amazing and professional;

Mrs. Priscilla Brackett of the Veterans Affairs Office and Ms. Elaine Fiore for their support of the Girl Scouts and this initiative;

And last but not least our families: the Critzs, the Gauthiers, the Graces, the Hynes, and the Kellehers, who have gotten us to where we have needed to be in Girl Scouts for the past ten years.