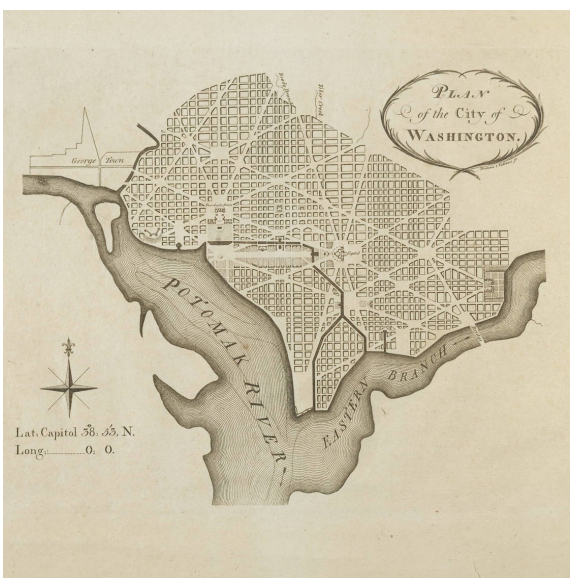


George Washington and the Design of D.C.

Ever wonder how the District of Columbia came to be? Join us on April 19 for a lecture with Robert P. Watson, professor of American history at Lynn University, about his book on the role of George Washington in the creation of our national city. Washington imagined what he called the grand Columbian federal city (he didn't call it Washington, even after the commissioners for the federal district named the city in his honor) and he played a major part in planning the nation's capital. The city did not rise as fast as Washington hoped, but in time, as he expected, it became a symbol of the nation and a source of pride for its people.



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Conservators vs. Deteriorating
Daguerreotypes of Revolutionary
War Veterans

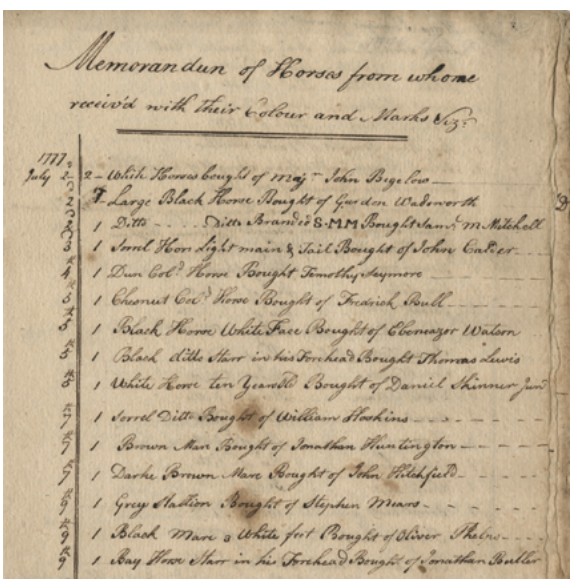
A few veterans of the Revolutionary War lived long enough to be photographed. Many of the surviving photographs of veterans are daguerreotypes, produced by the first commercially successful photographic method. Daguerreotypes are also among the most challenging artifacts to preserve. The natural deterioration of the antique cover glass and brass preserver that encase the daguerreotype threatens to expose the image to air, which would erase the photograph. The Institute recently embarked on an effort to conserve two daguerreotypes in our collections to address their long-term preservation and to prepare for their display in our current exhibition, *America's First Veterans*. The treatment of the daguerreotypes of Surgeon John Richard Watrous of Connecticut and his wife Lois is the subject of a new feature in the Conservation section of our website.



[Read Now](#)

Digitized Dragoons

Documentation on Continental Army cavalry is rare, so we were excited recently to acquire a manuscript memorandum—actually two documents in one—providing details about the mounts used by Elisha Sheldon's Second Continental Dragoons. Dragoons were the most versatile soldiers in the Continental Army. They operated as cavalry, scouting for the army and fighting on horseback with saber and pistol, and as mounted infantry, fighting on foot with carbines. Sheldon's Dragoons patrolled eastern Connecticut and nearby New York, keeping close watch over the supply line connecting farms and craft shops in Connecticut to Washington's army in New Jersey. The first manuscript begins in July 1777—in the aftermath of the British army's devastating raid on the Continental Army supply depot at Danbury. It lists horses purchased for the unit, noting ages, heights, colors, and distinctive markings. A bay horse was marked "GR," indicating that he had previously served the king's army. Some were in rough shape. One was blind in one eye, another stiff in one leg. A third is described as an "old cart horse," and saddest of all, one is described as "low in flesh, and Fitt for the Crows."



[View the Manuscript](#)

Professional Development
Opportunities for Educators

As the 2021 academic year enters its final months, our staff is busy delivering remote learning programs and presentations to teachers about the American Revolution and its legacy. In addition to our own seminars for educators, our team has made online presentations to two national and four state teachers' conferences and collaborated with over fifty museums, cultural organizations, and historic sites to reach teachers with exciting material about the American Revolution. We met with two hundred educators—virtually—on March 10, and are getting ready for a workshop for teachers attending the National Council of History Education's annual conference on April 8 and a session created for the Alabama Council for Social Studies on April 10. Visit the [Classroom](#) on the American Revolution Institute website to learn more about our digital resources and programs for students and teachers.



[Learn More](#)

Mapping Victory

Sebastian Bauman's *Plan of the Investment of York and Gloucester* was the first published American map documenting the decisive allied victory at Yorktown. Bauman, a major in the Second Regiment Continental Artillery, surveyed the Yorktown battlefield and encampments within days of the British surrender. The following year he collaborated with a Philadelphia engraver, Robert Scot, to publish an elegant large-scale map "in order that the public may form an idea of that memorable siege." Dedicated to George Washington, Bauman's *Plan* provides remarkable detail of the topography, fortifications, siege works, positions of the American and British lines, headquarters of the commanding officers, and "The Field where the British laid down their Arms." As one of the landmark treasures of the Robert Charles Lawrence Fergusson Collection, the Institute's copy of the Bauman Plan is the latest feature on our online series Masterpieces in Detail.



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Reenlist as an Associate

The American Revolution Institute invites you to renew your commitment to the cause by reenlisting as an Associate, which you can do quickly and easily using our online payment platform. If you recently received a renewal notice, you can follow this [link](#) to instantly affirm your support for our newest digital programs. If you haven't joined our cause yet, you can use the same link to help us continue creating new lesson plans, educational videos, books, and exhibitions. If you have any questions about how the Associates program contributes to our mission, e-mail [Kathleen Higgins](#).



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The American Revolution secured our independence, created our republic, established our national identity, and expressed ideals of liberty, equality, natural and civil rights, and responsible citizenship that have defined our history and will define our future. The American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati promotes knowledge and appreciation of those achievements, fulfilling the aim of the Continental Army officers who founded the Society of the Cincinnati in 1783 to perpetuate the memory of that vast event. The Institute supports advanced study, presents exhibitions and other public programs, advocates effective classroom instruction, and provides resources to teachers and students to enrich understanding of the American Revolution and the principles of the men and women who secured the liberty of the American people.

