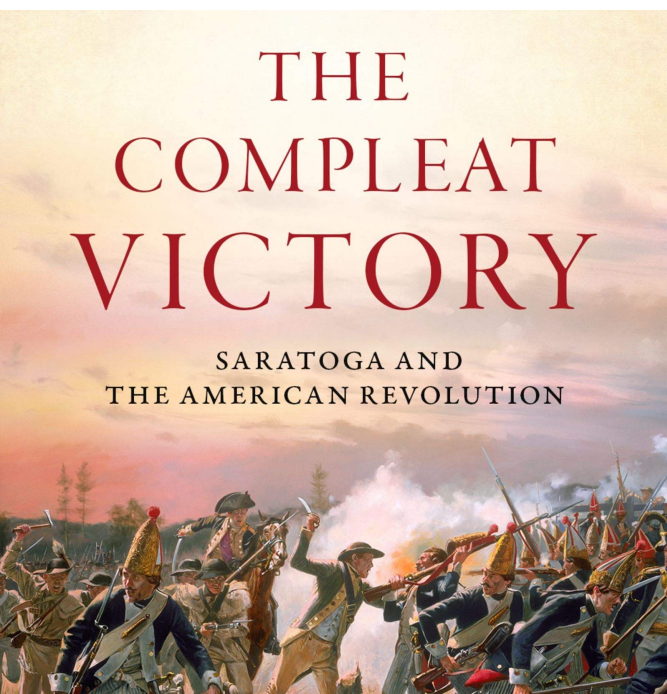


Virtual Author’s Talk on the Battle of Saratoga

Join us on May 6 to hear Kevin J. Weddle, retired U.S. Army colonel and Army War College professor, discuss the Battle of Saratoga. In his new book, *The Compleat Victory: Saratoga and the American Revolution*, Weddle explains how British plans were undone by a combination of distance, geography, logistics, and an underestimation of American leadership and fighting ability. Burgoyne was over confident from the start, and the ease with which he captured Ticonderoga had misled him into thinking victory was certain. It wasn’t. Over extended, deep in hostile country, with supplies running low, he was forced to surrender his army. The outcome forced the British to rethink their strategy, inflamed public opinion in England against the war, boosted patriot morale, and led directly to the Franco-American alliance. Kevin Weddle unravels the web of contingencies and the personalities that ultimately led to what one American general called “the Compleat Victory.”



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Newly Acquired Portrait of a French Officer of the American Revolution

We prize portraits of men and women of the American Revolution—especially the soldiers who won our independence—and are excited to report that we have discovered, and acquired, a new one: a pastel painting of Philippe-Jacques-François Aupépin de Lamothe, an officer in the Auxerrois Regiment of the French army. Aupépin de Lamothe served in America from 1777 to 1783, primarily as a marine with the squadrons of admirals d’Estaing and Guichen. He fought in the Battle of Savannah as well as nearly a dozen engagements in the Caribbean, and was wounded twice. In this portrait he wears the uniform of a captain-commandant in the Auxerrois Regiment and on it, the Order of Saint Louis, awarded for his service in the capture of St. Eustatius, and the Eagle of the Society of the Cincinnati. Learn more about the portrait in the Recent Acquisitions section of our website.



[Read More](#)

Revolutionary Leaders in Education

The American Revolution Institute is blessed to have two veteran educators—Herbert M. Berg, Ph.D., and John Morgan Douglass, Jr., Ph.D.—actively engaged in shaping and promoting our mission. Dr. Berg is a member of the Institute Board of Governors and a former teacher, principal, and superintendent in Washington state, South Carolina, and Virginia. On April 16 he facilitated a professional meeting at Anderson House for the Washington Area School Superintendents. This group—including superintendents who manage some of the nation’s most influential school districts—engaged in a lively discussion with Executive Director Jack Warren about the challenges of history education today and why students need to understand the constructive achievements of the American Revolution.



John Douglass is the vice chairman of our education committee and has served as a teacher, supervisor, and principal in Mississippi, Colorado, and Alabama. He orchestrated an online teacher learning event on April 10, recruiting the support of the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Council for the Social Studies. Entitled *Why the Revolution Matters*, the program introduced the Institute’s lesson plans and classroom resources to over one hundred Alabama history teachers.

Dr. Douglass ends his email communications with these words from Nelson Mandela: *Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world*. He and Dr. Berg take this charge to heart, channeling over seventy years’ collective experience into our campaign for the memory of the American Revolution.

[Read “Why the American Revolution Matters”](#)

Uniformly Digitized

We are excited to share the eighteenth-century manuscript “The Uniform of the Several Regiments of Foot of his Majestys Service 1771,” a new addition to the Digital Library depicting seventy hand-colored plates representing the regimental uniforms of the British army at the time of the American Revolution. This vibrant manuscript, one of only two known examples, is bound in gilded red leather and inscribed by Maj. Donald Grant, deputy adjutant general of Ireland. The details of the uniforms reflect the Royal Clothing Warrant of 1768, which regulated the patterns of lace, colors of facings, and other details of the British uniforms. The colorful images are superimposed onto the same engraved soldier and each is marked with its regimental number, and occasionally the regiment’s nickname or commanding officer. See if you can find the Royal Highlanders plate, the only image depicting a soldier wearing a kilt. While most of the redcoats look nearly the same in thumbnails, they all have distinctive differences when you take a closer look, varying in colors, cuff and button design, and sword hilts.



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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.

