

## THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INSTITUTE

**News, Events, and Commentary  
from the American Revolution Institute  
of the Society of the Cincinnati**

# today

March 1, 2022

### ***Our Museum Reopens in April***

We're not fooling you . . . On Friday, April 1, after almost two years of closure owing to the pandemic, our museum at Anderson House will reopen to the public for tours and in-person historical programs. Visitors will also be able to view our new exhibition, [\*Saving Soldiers: Medical Practice in the Revolutionary War\*](#). Museum hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays through Saturdays and 12 to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

Our corps of expert volunteer docents is vital to our ability to offer tours of Anderson House. As part of efforts to prepare for reopening, the docents have been attending tour refresh workshops and diligently studying for their return to the museum. This has been an opportunity to dust off those cobwebs and practice tours to ensure we continue to provide the best experience for our visitors. We hope you'll visit us soon!

[Learn more about tours](#)



### ***Cornwallis Reconsidered***

On March 2 at 12 p.m. EST, join historian Richard Middleton for an online discussion about Charles Cornwallis. Cornwallis is remembered in the United States as the general who lost the Revolutionary War at Yorktown, but he was not at all the bumbling incompetent who stumbled to defeat. He was the most aggressive and energetic British general of the war whose defeat capped a remarkable, though unsuccessful, campaign to reduce the South to obedience. Focusing on the first section of his forthcoming biography, *Cornwallis: Soldier and Statesman in a Revolutionary World*, Middleton offers insight into Cornwallis' time in



America and argues that Cornwallis' legacy during the Revolutionary War is significantly more complex than the shortcomings he is most often associated with.

[Learn more and register](#)

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## ***An Eagle at Mount Vernon***

George Washington was not only the first president of the United States but also the first president general of the Society of the Cincinnati, founded in 1783 to promote and preserve the achievements and ideals of the American Revolution. The Society's iconic Eagle insignia, designed by Pierre L'Enfant, represents the history and purpose of the organization in a gold-and-enamel medal just two inches high. At the time of his death, Washington owned three examples of the Society insignia. Beginning in April, an original eighteenth-century Society Eagle from our collections will be on display at George Washington's Mount Vernon estate in their new museum exhibition [\*Mount Vernon: The Story of an American Icon\*](#). This exhibition will explore the people who created, shaped, and later saved Mount Vernon and, with objects like the Society Eagle, shed light on what the Washingtons valued and how they presented themselves to the world.

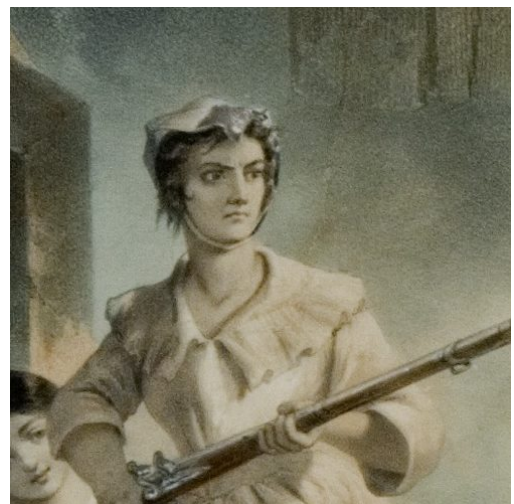


[Learn more about Society Eagles](#)

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## ***March is National Women's History Month!***

In the 1848 publication of *The Women of the American Revolution*, author Elizabeth Ellet wrote of "the important part *she* bore . . . to which we are not less indebted for national freedom, than to the swords of our patriots who poured out their blood." Celebrate the role of women in the American Revolution this month by reading a post about the harrowing sacrifice made by [\*Margaret Corbin\*](#), or hearing about a soldier in the Massachusetts Line who was one of the first female pensioners of the American Revolution in [\*Deborah Sampson at War\*](#). Use our classroom lesson resources to learn about [\*The Legacy of the American Revolution for Women's Rights\*](#) and the economic and political [\*Influence of Women During the American Revolution\*](#), or, view a curated collection of library objects and short videos for the classroom at [\*Remembering the Ladies\*](#).



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## ***"The Anniversary of St. Patrick"***

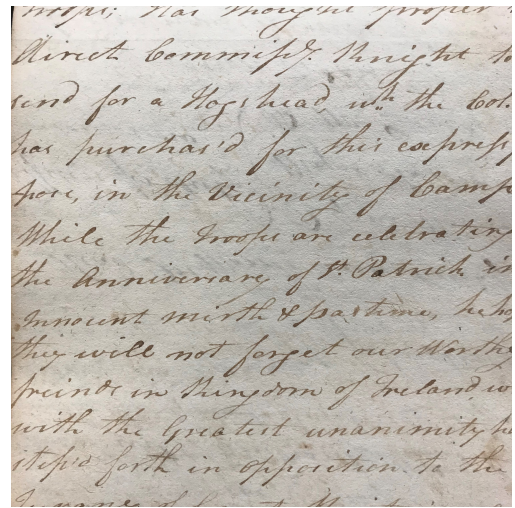
On March 16, 1780, during one of the bleakest, coldest



winters the army had to endure in Morristown, New Jersey, George Washington ordered a public holiday on St. Patrick's Day recognizing the efforts of the people of Ireland to "restore to a brave and generous people their ancient Rights & Freedom, and by their operations to promote the Cause of America" as they continued their own struggle against England. The Institute's library holds an orderly book kept by the Ninth Pennsylvania Regiment at Morristown recording the orders for the holiday. The division orders given by Col. Francis Johnston include this compelling passage on the celebration:

"While the troops are celebrating the anniversary of St. Patrick in innocent mirth & pastime, he hopes they will not forget our worthy friends in [the] Kingdom of Ireland, who with the Greatest unanimity have step'd forth in opposition to the Tyranny of Great Britain, and who like us are determined to die or be free. The Col. Expects the Troops will conduct themselves with the greatest sobriety & good order."

[Learn more about the Institute's orderly books](#)



## Revolutionary Choices Now Available as a Free Android App at Google Play

In a letter to his wife, Abigail, in 1777, John Adams wrote, "Posterity! You will never know, how much it cost the present Generation, to preserve your Freedom!" Mr. Adams would be pleased to learn that over 277,000 people (and counting) have used the Institute's digital strategy game [Revolutionary Choices](#) to simulate the experience of the Revolutionary generation and understand the sacrifices made by eighteenth-century Americans to secure the freedoms we enjoy today. Initially released at [RevChoicesgame.org](#) and subsequently debuting in [Apple's App Store](#), *Revolutionary Choices* is now available as a free Android App at Google Play. Test your ability to manage the dilemmas confronted by the men and women of Revolutionary America with *Revolutionary Choices* today!

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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.*



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