

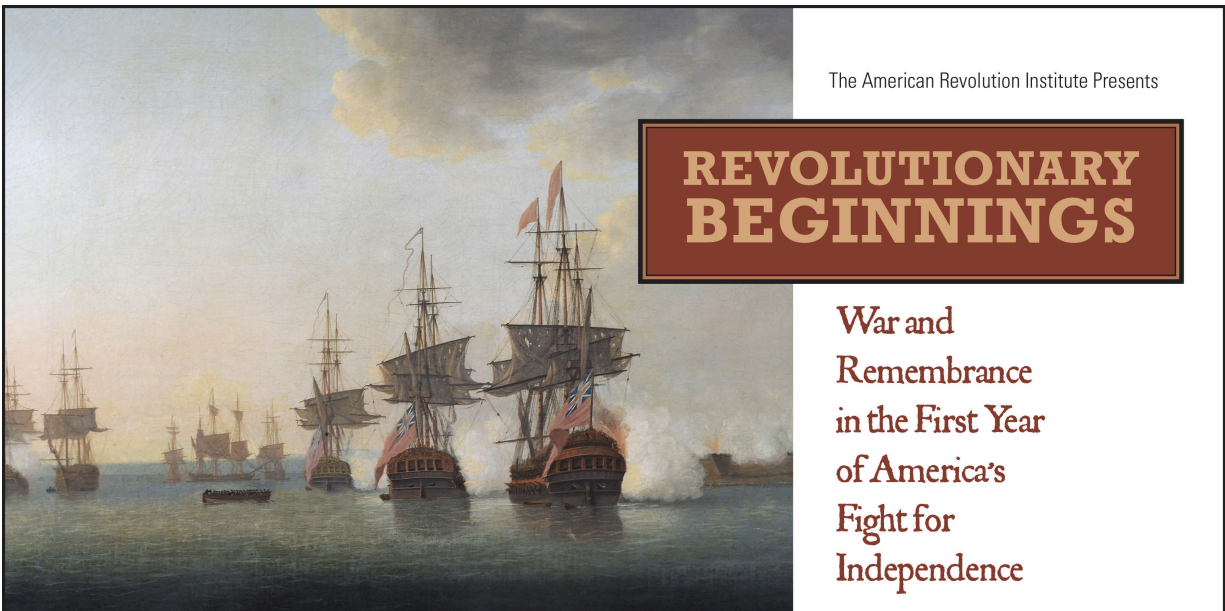
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News from the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Featured Story

The poster features a painting of several sailing ships on the water. Overlaid on the right side is a dark red rectangular box with the title 'REVOLUTIONARY BEGINNINGS' in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, the text 'The American Revolution Institute Presents' is written in a smaller font. Further down, the subtitle 'War and Remembrance in the First Year of America's Fight for Independence' is written in a serif font.

The American Revolution Institute Presents

REVOLUTIONARY BEGINNINGS

War and Remembrance in the First Year of America's Fight for Independence

***Revolutionary Beginnings* Closes January 4**

There's just about one more month to see our current exhibition, *Revolutionary Beginnings: War and Remembrance in the First Year of America's Fight for Independence*, before it closes on January 4.

Revolutionary Beginnings explores the first year of the War for American Independence through three particularly significant battles:

- the Battle of Bunker Hill outside Boston (June 1775),
- the Siege of Quebec in Canada (December 1775), and

- the Battle of Sullivan's Island in South Carolina (June 1776), which took place just days before the Declaration of Independence was adopted.

Through letters, maps, prints, paintings, and artifacts, Revolutionary Beginnings reveals the importance of these underappreciated battles and the extent of the rebellion across the American colonies in its first year. The exhibition also examines how these three battles have been remembered and commemorated, both in the immediate aftermath as well as generations later.

Visit our website to learn more about the exhibition, watch a video tour of the gallery, download the catalog, view recordings of lectures and other programs that have explored the exhibition's themes, and explore related classroom resources.

Revolutionary Beginnings online

This Month in Revolutionary History



The Battle of Quebec December 31, 1775

250 years ago, an American invasion of Canada culminated with the attack on Quebec City. Months earlier, in June, the Continental Congress authorized an invasion of Canada to take control of the region and to secure the colonies' northern border.

After a grueling journey from Fort Ticonderoga and New England, and successfully capturing Montreal, two American columns reached Quebec by mid-November, with artillery fire directed on the city beginning on December 9. With initial enlistment terms ending for many American soldiers and the approach of a winter storm, the timing was right to launch an attack on the city. In the early hours of December 31, American troops under the command of Brig. Gen. Richard Montgomery and Col. Benedict Arnold attacked Quebec, but their efforts could not withstand the defense of British reinforcements and their Canadian allies. Over 450 American soldiers became casualties or prisoners.

The failure to take Quebec did not deter Colonel Arnold, who continued to lay siege to the city through to the spring until the arrival of British reinforcements forced the Americans to retreat back to New York. This was the closest Britain would come to losing control of Canada during the war.

Events



The 250th Anniversary of America's Canadian Campaign Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American campaign into Canada with a lecture featuring historian Mark Anderson examining the American colonies' efforts to bring Quebec into the Continental confederation and to free Canadians from British "tyranny." Drawing from his research, Anderson offers new insights into the key political and military factors that ultimately doomed America's first foreign war of liberation and resulted in the Continental Army's decisive expulsion from Canada on the eve of the Declaration of Independence. This program accompanies our current exhibition, *Revolutionary Beginnings: War and Remembrance in the First Year of America's Fight for Independence*, on view through January 4, 2026.

[Learn more and register](#)



Behind Ken Burns's *The American Revolution*

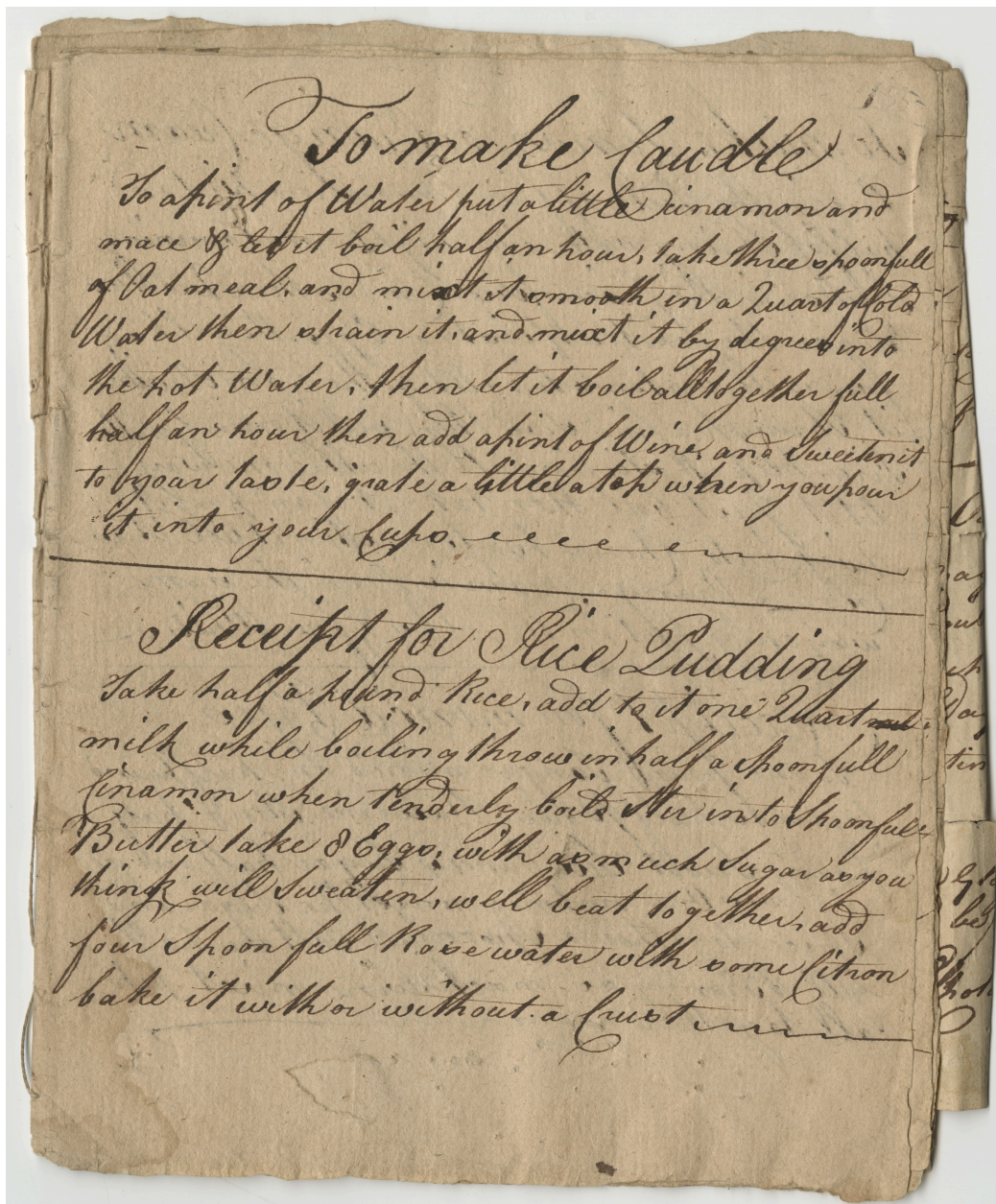
Last month, the American Revolution Institute hosted a conversation with Geoffrey C. Ward, the principal script writer for the documentary, and award-winning historian and consultant Rick Atkinson, discussing the making of Ken Burns's *The American Revolution* for the 50th anniversary of the Society of the Cincinnati's George Rogers Clark lecture.

The documentary series is an exciting moment to advance the Institute's mission to promote understanding and appreciation of the American Revolution and its legacy. And, it incorporates several of our collections into the film's storytelling, helping to connect the public to the political, military, and social history of this critical and tumultuous period.

[Watch the conversation](#)

[Read about the artifacts in our collections that help tell the story](#)

Collections



An Eighteenth-Century Dessert to Warm the Holiday Season

The Institute's library collections holds a handwritten recipe book from the last half of the eighteenth century. The book contains recipes for many different puddings, jellies, and cakes, as well as instructions for marinating fish and how to hash a calf's head. Among the recipes is a warm rice pudding and a hot wine drink—caudle.

"To make caudle

To a pint of Water put a little cinamon and mace & let it boil half an hour, take three spoonful of Oatmeal, and mixt it smooth in a Quart of Cold Water then strain it, and mixt it by degrees into the hot Water, then let it boil altogether full half an hour then add a pint of Wine and Sweeten it to your taste, grate a little atop when you pour it into your cups"

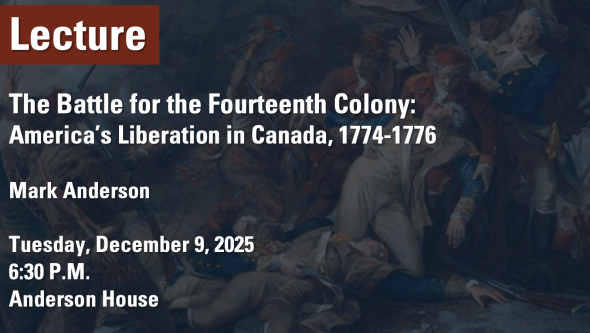
"Receipt for Rice Pudding

Take half a pound of Rice, add to it one Quart milk while boiling throw in half a Spoonful cinamon when tenderly boils stir into Spoonful butter take 8 eggs, with as much Sugar as you think will

Sweaten, well beat together, add four Spoonful Rosewater with some Citron bake it with or without a crust”

Historical Programs This Month

All programs are held in-person at Anderson House unless otherwise specified. Virtual options are available. Admission is free unless otherwise specified and registration is requested. Click the images below to learn more and register, or [click here to view our full calendar of upcoming programs](#).



Lecture

**The Battle for the Fourteenth Colony:
America's Liberation in Canada, 1774-1776**

Mark Anderson

Tuesday, December 9, 2025
6:30 P.M.
Anderson House



Virtual Lunch Bite

The Revolution's First Winter:
Loyalist Thomas Ainslie's Account of the American Assault of Quebec

Thomas Lannon, Library Director

Friday, December 12, 2025
12:30 P.M.
Virtual on Zoom



Read Past Issues

Calendar of Events

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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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