



A M E R I C A

250

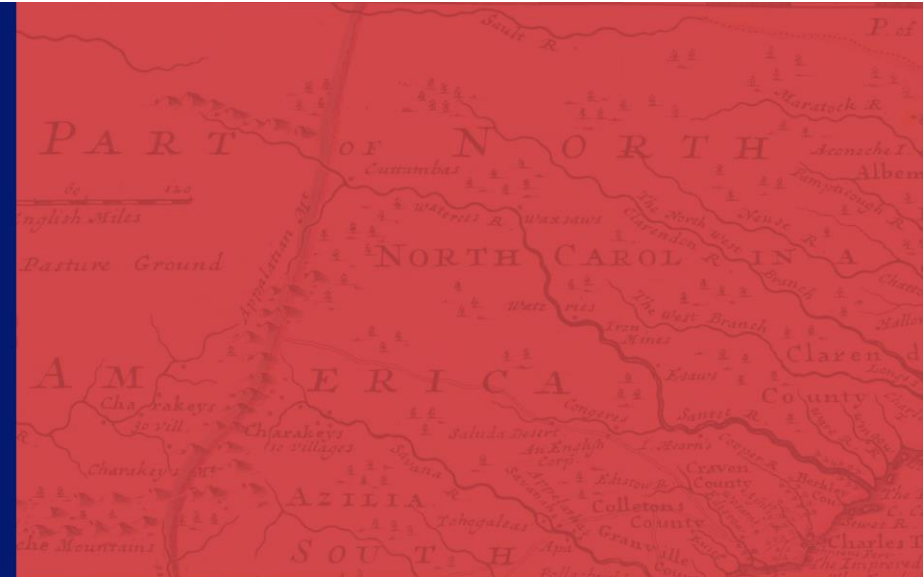
N C

To be rather than to seem

Agenda

- Brief timeline of NC and Revolutionary War
- Organization of commemoration
- DNCR goals and themes for commemoration
- Current plans/resources
- Resources previously appropriated

AMERICA
250
NC

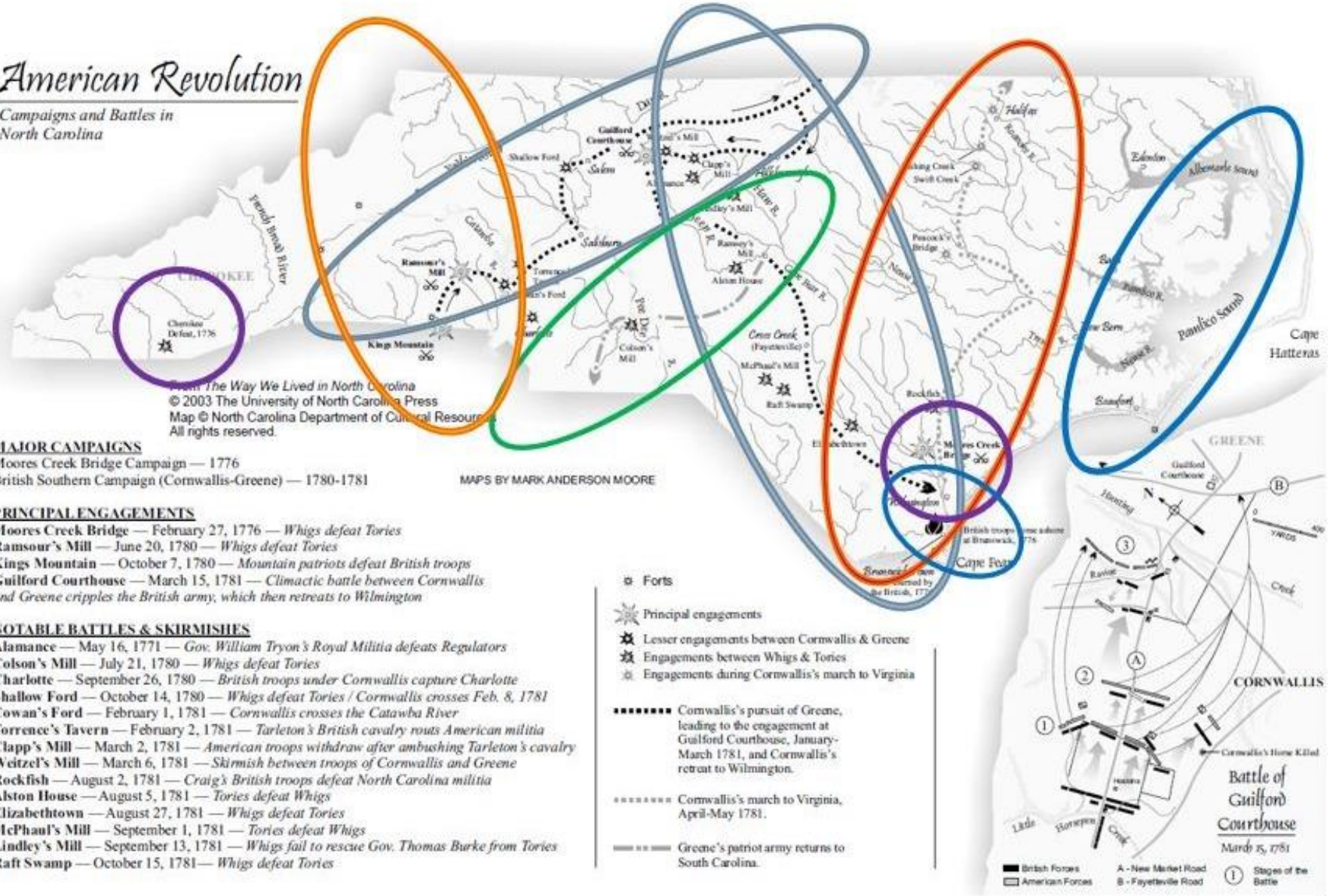


Color coded key
(no particular order)

- Actions against Cherokee
- B. Of Moore's Creek Bridge
- Greene-Cornwallis (including Race to the Dan)
- Cornwallis to Wilmington
- Cornwallis to Virginia
- Tory War
- Overmountain Victory Trail
- Coastal/Naval Actions

American Revolution

Campaigns and Battles in North Carolina



From *The Way We Lived in North Carolina*
© 2003 The University of North Carolina Press
Map © North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
All rights reserved.

MAJOR CAMPAIGNS

Moore's Creek Bridge Campaign — 1776
British Southern Campaign (Cornwallis-Greene) — 1780-1781

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

Moore's Creek Bridge — February 27, 1776 — Whigs defeat Tories
Ramsour's Mill — June 20, 1780 — Whigs defeat Tories
Kings Mountain — October 7, 1780 — Mountain patriots defeat British troops
Guilford Courthouse — March 15, 1781 — Climactic battle between Cornwallis and Greene cripples the British army, which then retreats to Wilmington

NOTABLE BATTLES & SKIRMISHES

Alamance — May 16, 1771 — Gov. William Tryon's Royal Militia defeats Regulators
Colson's Mill — July 21, 1780 — Whigs defeat Tories
Charlotte — September 26, 1780 — British troops under Cornwallis capture Charlotte
Shallow Ford — October 14, 1780 — Whigs defeat Tories / Cornwallis crosses the Feb. 8, 1781
Cowan's Ford — February 1, 1781 — Cornwallis crosses the Catawba River
Torrence's Tavern — February 2, 1781 — Tarleton's British cavalry routs American militia
Clapp's Mill — March 2, 1781 — American troops withdraw after ambushing Tarleton's cavalry
Weitzel's Mill — March 6, 1781 — Skirmish between troops of Cornwallis and Greene
Rockfish — August 2, 1781 — Craig's British troops defeat North Carolina militia
Alston House — August 5, 1781 — Tories defeat Whigs
Elizabethtown — August 27, 1781 — Whigs defeat Tories
McPhaul's Mill — September 1, 1781 — Tories defeat Whigs
Lindley's Mill — September 13, 1781 — Whigs fail to rescue Gov. Thomas Burke from Tories
Raft Swamp — October 15, 1781 — Whigs defeat Tories

- Forts
- Principal engagements
- Lesser engagements between Cornwallis & Greene
- Engagements between Whigs & Tories
- Engagements during Cornwallis's march to Virginia
- Cornwallis's pursuit of Greene, leading to the engagement at Guilford Courthouse, January-March 1781, and Cornwallis's retreat to Wilmington.
- Cornwallis's march to Virginia, April-May 1781.
- Greene's patriot army returns to South Carolina.

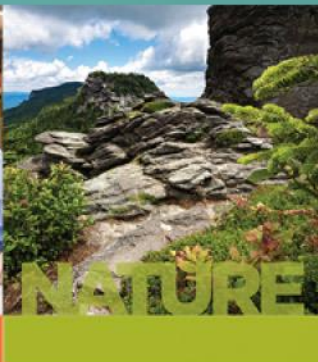


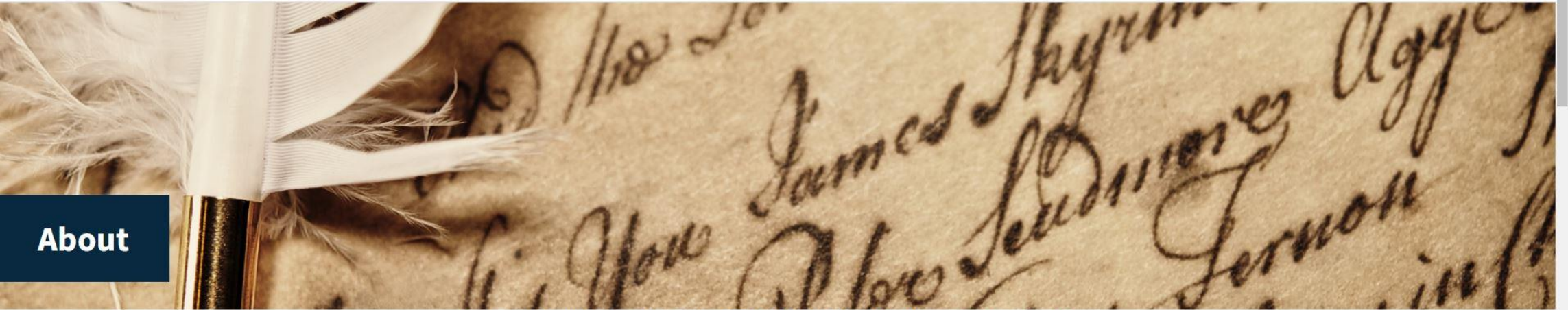
[Donate](#)

A MILESTONE 250 YEARS IN THE MAKING



NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources





About

As the United States nears its 250th year, North Carolina is preparing to commemorate this important historical marker.

The commemoration will focus on two interpretive concepts to explore our past, present, and future: **Revolutionary NC** (the historical events of the Revolution and NC) and **When Are We US?** (an exploration of the ideas of freedom, civic responsibility, overcoming challenges, and change as we lean into the ideals of democracy).

Our team worked with a subcommittee of creative colleagues from across the department to develop interpretive themes that will guide our commemorative activities, falling under these two large concepts.

These themes illustrate how we at DNCR are sourcing and developing content related to our two overarching themes that will define the statewide commemoration.

Statewide coordination by DNCR

- Quarterly statewide stakeholder meeting
- Newsletter
- <https://www.america250.nc.gov/>
- Outreach to local planning committees
- Outreach to other state commissions and stakeholders



NC's Commemoration

- Multi-year
- Statewide
- Open to all
- Reflecting all 250 years of our nation's history
- Provide a legacy for the state



Thematic Frameworks

Revolutionary NC

historical events of the Revolution
and NC as an incubator for
revolutions in thought, history and
technology

When Are We US?

exploration of the concepts of
freedom, civic responsibility,
overcoming challenges, and
leaning into the ideals
of democracy



Visions of Freedom

The American Revolution was the beginning of a continual journey for North Carolinians to seek true freedom.



A Gathering of Voices

North Carolina's many voices inspire future generations to create and lead.



Common Ground

Places carry our stories of struggle, creation, and connection to one another.



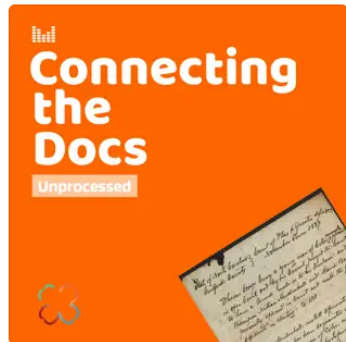
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park
Source: National Park Service

Commemoration Products

- Online resources
- Educational outreach
- Events and programs
- Waysides
- Community resources



Online resources to include videos, exhibits, digital collections, podcasts



54 min

PLAY ▶

When Are We US? America250: A Look to the Past to Inform Our Future

[Connecting the Docs: True Stories from the Old North State](#)

History

[Listen on Apple Podcasts](#)



In this special hour-long episode and season finale of Connecting the Docs: Unprocessed, State Archivist Sarah Koonts and Becky McGee-Lankford, assistant state records administrator, introduce us to America250, the nationwide commemoration to mark the 250th anniversary of the United States' founding. North Carolina's programming will highlight historical events of the Revolution as well as the ideals of liberty, courage, sacrifice, civic responsibility, and progress that have developed in the years since. To kick off preparations for this momentous occasion, Koonts and McGee-Lankford share inspiring records in the State Archives that embody these ideals and bring history to life: a 1776 letter from John Adams that later become the renowned pamphlet Thoughts on Government; a rare 1903 Constitutional Reader created to aid disenfranchised black men—and later women—overcome the burden of the Permanent Registration Act of 1901; a 1964 report from the Council on the Status of Women that details systemic challenges in work and life; and much more.



1963 image of men carrying a sign stating "Freedom for all People!" From the News and Observer Negative Collection.

When Are We US: An Introduction to the America250 Commemoration

State Archives of North Carolina

Subscribe

1.68K subscribers

3



Share

Download

Clip

Save



Regulator Movement

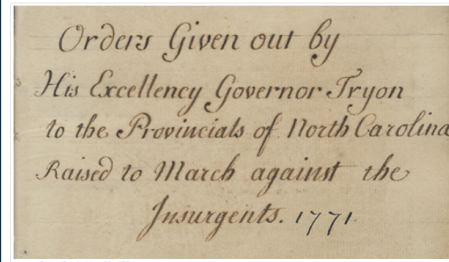


Image: Order Book, May 22, 1771

Search this collection... submit

Popular subjects

- North Carolina—History—Regulator Insurrection, 1766-1771
- North Carolina—History—Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
- North Carolina—Politics and government—To 1775

Top formats

- Financial records
- Judicial records
- Military records

[Browse all items in this collection](#)

About this collection

The Regulator Movement was a brief uprising in eastern North Carolina from 1766 to 1771, before the start of the American Revolution. North Carolinians became angry with government officials, particularly appointed officials, due to excessive taxes, dishonest sheriffs, and illegal fees. Western Carolinians were particularly upset as they were taxed at the same rate as the more productive land in the Coastal Plain. The newly built "Tryon's Palace" in New Bern, the governor's new home and state capitol, built at public expense, did not help.

When attempts at peaceful negotiations were unsuccessful, Regulators took up a more disruptive approach, targeting public officials and court proceedings. Royal Governor William Tryon in 1771 called up the militia, and General Hugh Waddell was ordered to march towards the Regulators in Hillsborough as a show of force. On May 16, 1771, the Battle of Alamance broke out after the Regulators refused to disband. The Regulators were defeated at the Battle of Alamance and eventually disbanded. Governor Tryon offered pardons for those who pledged an oath of allegiance to the royal government.

To read more about the Regulators, check out these articles in NCPedia:

- The Regulators
- Regulator Movement

Educational Outreach

- Curriculum materials and teacher training
- Freedom Fellows
- Docs Box program
- Tar Heel Junior Historian special issues
- Classroom posters
- *Ongoing Fight for Freedom*
- Children's books with NC stories

Printer-friendly page

Introduction to NC Digital History >

Table of Contents

[Introduction to NC Digital History](#)

[Two Worlds: Prehistory, Contact, and the Lost Colony \(to 1600\)](#)

[Colonial North Carolina \(1600-1763\)](#)

[Revolutionary North Carolina \(1763-1790\)](#)

[Early National \(1790-1836\)](#)

[Antebellum \(1836-1860\)](#)

[Civil War and Reconstruction \(1860-1876\)](#)

[North Carolina in the New South \(1870-1900\)](#)

[North Carolina in the Early 20th Century \(1900-1929\)](#)

[The Great Depression and World War II \(1929 and 1945\)](#)

ANCHOR

A North Carolina History Online Resource

This online textbook is designed for grade 8 and up and covers all of North Carolina history, from the arrival of the first people some 12,000 years ago to the 21st century. The textbook is organized into eleven chapters, presented chronologically and thematically, and includes secondary source readings, primary sources and multimedia. The resource is designed to model historical inquiry and help students build critical thinking and literacy skills.

What's new in ANCHOR?

During 2020, all new content has been added relevant to the 20th century and recent North Carolina history chapters. These new pages include relevant primary sources and related historical materials, along with numerous classroom and student activities. Lesson plans have also been included from project partners at [Carolina K-12](#) at Carolina Public Humanities at the University of North Carolina. Please visit these new resources and add them to your classroom toolkit.

- [The Women of Bennett College: Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement](#)
- [Religion and the Civil Rights Movement: Malcolm X Visits North Carolina in 1963](#)
- [The Wilmington Massacre of November 1898: Correcting the Historical Record](#)
- [African American Involvement in World War I: The Great War and Global Change](#)
- [Economic Change: From Traditional Industries to the 21st Century Economy](#)
- [Black Student Activism in the 1920s and 1930s: Sparking a Century of](#)

Artifacts



Weighing in at a sizeable 1,965 pounds, this anchor was recovered from the wreckage of the pirate ship *Queen Anne's Revenge (QAR)* off the coast of N.C. in May 2011. The QAR was the ship of N.C.'s notorious pirate Blackbeard.

2024 Freedom Fellows

February 10, 2024

AMERICA
250
NC

2024 Freedom Fellows
go.unc.edu/2024freedomfellows

America 250 NC Freedom Fellows tour NC Freedom Park with Dr. Reginald Hildebrand, one of the Park's visionaries, during the Fellowship kick-off.



In 1774, many people in thirteen of Great Britain's North American colonies were angry. They had been ordered to pay money—taxes—to the government. However, they had no governmental representatives in faraway England to say how they wanted their money spent. The colonists rallied around the cry “*Taxation Without Representation.*” They boycotted tea, cloth, and other British products. Fearing punishment for protesting the unfair practice, some disguised themselves to avoid recognition, specifically when dumping tea in a harbor. Others wrote about it, but hid their identity by using an alias.

A group of fifty-one women in Edenton, North Carolina strongly opposed taxation without representation. At that time, women could not serve in the government, nor were they permitted to vote. But the Edenton ladies knew that their belief mattered. They decided they would make a difference. Like others, they would boycott British products. *Unlike* others, they shunned anonymity.

Using a “tea party” of a different sort, Edenton’s courageous women powerfully expressed their belief in a very public way. One that spread their belief and commitment not only throughout the North American colonies, but also across the Atlantic Ocean. The Edenton ladies’ courage still resonates today. They show us that people can join together and create a strong voice that stands firm against injustice.

In recognition of women who have advocated for freedom throughout our history, the America 250 N.C. commemoration is honored to highlight the voices of the women in Edenton and the role their protest played in the revolutionary spirit of North Carolina.

SARAH E. KOONTS, State Archivist and America 250 N.C. Director



Historical Research and Publications Office
Office of Archives and History
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
4610 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4610

Distributed by the
University of North Carolina Press
www.uncpress.org

Printed in Canada



ISBN 978-0-8652-6506-6

Within Our Power: The Story of the Edenton Ladies' Tea Party

Walker

North Carolina Office of Archives and History

Within Our Power

The Story of the Edenton Ladies' Tea Party



Sally M. Walker
Illustrated by Jonathan D. Voss

Program resources
include:

- Special Symphony concerts
- Special programs across the Office of Archives and History
- Linking our natural resources to historical landscapes and events



WHITESELL'S MILL

"A Pretty Severe Conflict"

GUILFORD COURTHOUSE CAMPAIGN

ON the morning of March 6, 1781 the ford in front of you erupted in chaos, as the men of Col. Otho Williams's Infantry hurriedly crossed. They only had a few moments to spare.

For days, Maj. Gen. Greene, commanding the American forces had been keeping just ahead of British Gen. Lord Cornwallis, waiting for reinforcements and the right opportunity to stop the British advance. To keep an eye on the British movements, Greene had deployed Williams and a detachment of cavalry under "Light-Horse" Harry Lee.

Through the thick fog on that morning, British Lt. Col. Tarleton, under orders from Cornwallis, hoped to surprise the approximately 700 American men at their camp here. The swift British advance was discovered and the Americans quickly reacted. Williams and his infantry had only a few moments to cross the creek and set up defenses. Soon Lee's cavalry hurried across the ford with the British at their heels.

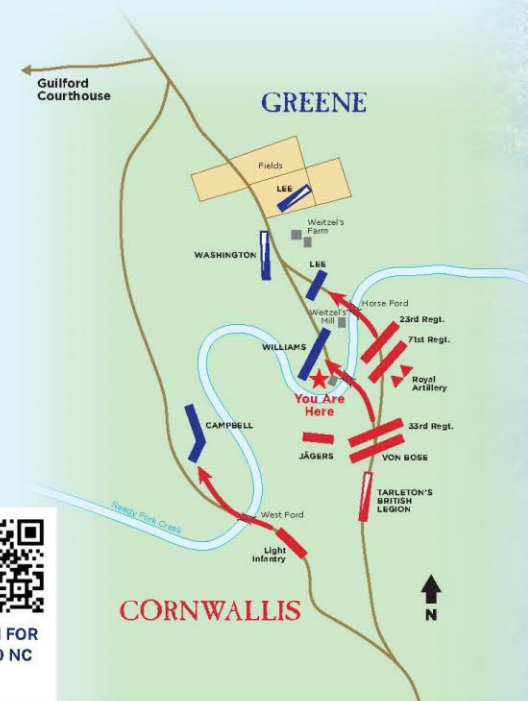
The American forces held off the British for several hours but eventually Tarleton made headway across the fords, causing the American line to crack. After an initial pursuit, fading daylight forced Tarleton to fall back. Williams had eight soldiers killed and 12 wounded, while the British suffered a greater loss with around 30 killed and wounded.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The history of the mill ruins you see here involves multiple variations of its name: Weitzell, Weitzel, Whitesell, or Whitsall. In Henry Lee III's writings, he gave the name as "Wetzell." Henry Weitzell commanded a company of Guilford County militia during the Revolution, and owned the mill after the war. Eventually, the name was Anglicized to Whitesell.

"At Whitesell's Mills we had a pretty severe conflict ... but being greatly out numbered we could only delay the enemy til our baggage got clear."

ENSIGN, THOMAS MILES, VIRGINIAN



The 33rd Regt. charged across the ford here helping to route the American forces behind you.
Courtesy Paul Luks

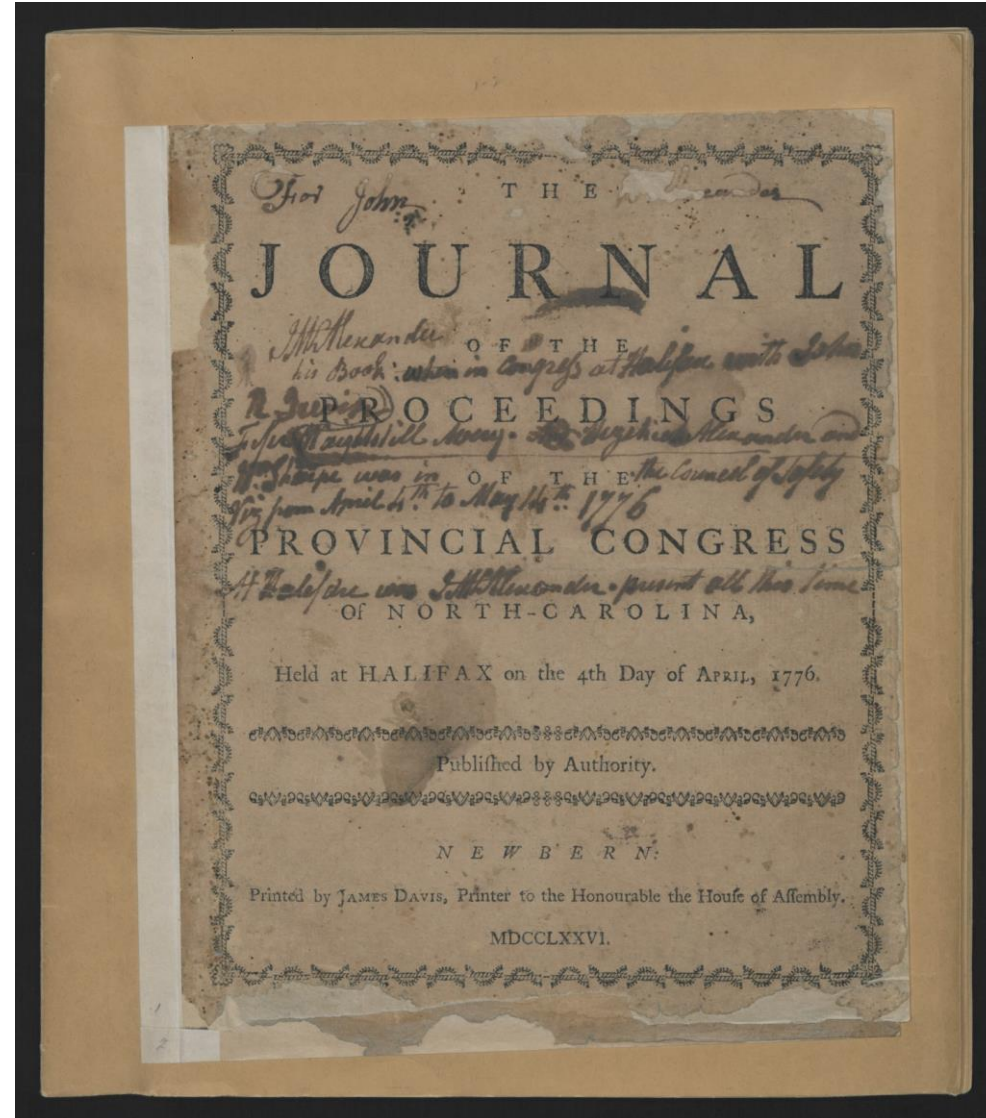


SCAN FOR
A250 NC

Wayside program and historic preservation research

Community resources include:

- traveling exhibits (both non-artifact based and “One Day Wonders” from the State Archives)
- print-on-demand exhibits
- program toolkit and workshop
- branding guide
- Activity kits for children (for use in libraries, sites, museums, parks)
- statewide events calendar



Print-on-Demand Exhibits Page

<https://www.america250.nc.gov/print-demand-exhibits>

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with options: Events, Educational Resources, When Are We Us?, Revolutionary NC, Get Involved, and About. Below the menu is a large banner for 'Print-on-Demand Exhibits' featuring a collage of historical images and text. Below the banner, there are two sections with dashed lines above them:

What is a print-on-demand exhibit?
A set of digital files available for download that allow for commercial printing of complete exhibits. This resource is available for use in various settings, such as classrooms, historic sites, museums, and more.

How much does an exhibit cost?
The digital files are free. Printing costs depend on your location and materials. The user is responsible for all printing costs.

When Are We US?

Becoming American

OUR NATION'S AND STATE'S FOUNDING DOCUMENTS
promote values of equality, justice, general welfare, and liberty. Guaranteed freedoms motivate some to take courageous stands and encourage citizens to embrace opportunities. These ideals shape American identity and instill pride.

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article I. The equality and rights of persons. That we hold it to be self-evident that all persons are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness.

“ Our blood and our sweat and our tears and our memories are built into the country. ”
Paul Murray, 1916
Writer, Activist, Attorney, Episcopal priest

“ Lumbee people have great pride in our homeland...one of the greatest forces for the survival of our people. ”
Ben Jacobs, 1983
staff member, Lumbee Regional Development Association

“ I am just as American as anyone else who was born and raised here...The American Dream, to me, is to be able to come from a country where there is corruption to be able to have a future. ”
Alma Isala, 2015
UNC student and Mexican immigrant

Source Notes

- Billy Austin, an eighth-grade student at the Waughton School in Winston-Salem, created this poster during World War II, WWII 12.P29, State Archives
- Constitution of the United States as approved by North Carolina, 1788, Revision of the North Carolina State Constitution, 1965, vault collection 47-5-8 & 15, State Archives
- The Cardinal Singers posed with an Uncle Sam character at a naturalization ceremony in Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh, 1962, News & Observer negative collection 80-94073, State Archives
- Visitors salute the flag at Chimney Rock, c. 1920, N.C. State Parks Collection, State Archives
- Elmer H. Gibson, son of military chaplain Elmer P. Gibson, poses with a flag c. 1943, Military Collection, MMP-8, State Archives
- Paul Murray, Southern Oral History Program interview, 1976, UNC
- Ben Jacobs, Carolina Indian Voice, June 23, 1983, newspaper collection, UNC
- Alma Isala, Southern Oral History Program interview, 2015, UNC

<https://mosaicnc.org/revolutionary-pensions>



About

Editorial Method ▾

Exhibits

Names

Search



Nearly 250 years after the American Revolution, North Carolina women's contributions to the Patriot war effort remain little understood. Using pension applications, we can understand women's experiences during the War for Independence through their own words. The pensions in this exhibit are especially unusual, as they contain women's recollections not only about their husbands' wartime service, but also the widow's own actions during the war, whether it was in the role of farmer, nurse, refugee, or as a family guardian.

Today, these pension applications are a remarkable resource for researchers. Although these women were largely illiterate and do not often otherwise appear on the historical record, pension applications afforded them an opportunity to chronicle not only their wartime experiences, but the full breadth of their lives. Moreover, the complicated process of applying for a pension





State Historical Records Advisory Board resources:

- Community Collecting & Storytelling workshops
- Sessions on State Archives' YouTube channel
- Recorded workshop sessions, including:
 - Community storytelling
 - Community scanning events
 - Digital storytelling
 - Oral histories

youtube.com/watch?v=na3-fRPXroU&t=36s

State Archives of NC

Adrienne Berney

STATE ARCHIVES
of NORTH CAROLINA

STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS
ADVISORY BOARD

Community Collecting & Storytelling

Introduction to “When Are We US?” and Panel Design

Hello! Thank you for tuning in to the community collecting and storytelling series. The module

Play (k)

0:06 / 27:49

Tell Your Story: Introduction to “When Are We US?” and Panel Design with Adrienne Berney

State Archives of North Carolina
1.84K subscribers

Subscribe

0 | Share | Download | Clip | Save

23 views 2 weeks ago

State Archives Outreach Coordinator, Adrienne Berney, discusses ways your community can commemorate the America250 anniversary by sharing local stories through panel exhibits and programs. Her design tips include compelling titles and images, brief text, and accessibility measures.

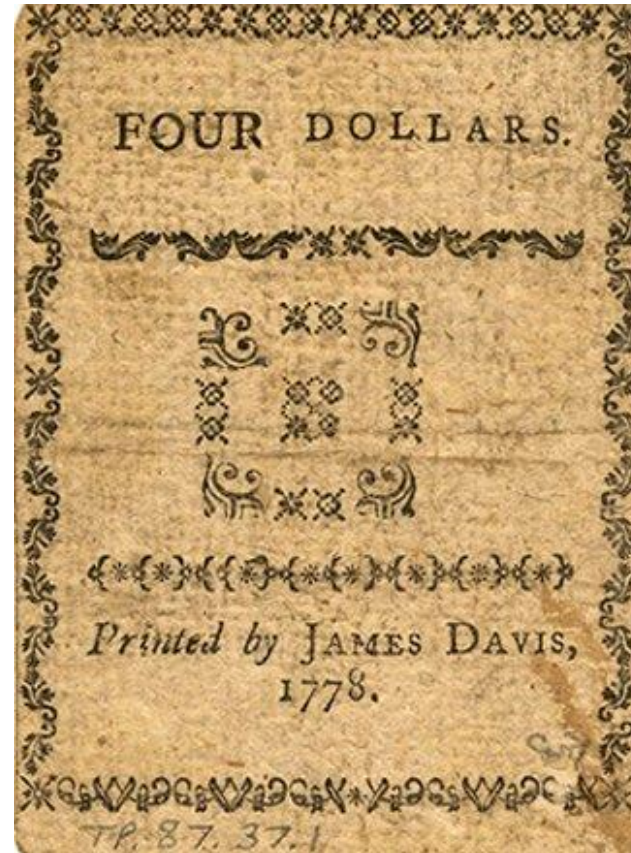
Marketing and Social Media

- Statewide calendar of events
- Branding guide and tool kit
- America 250 NC newsletter
- Flickr
- America 250 NC socials
 - Facebook
 - Instagram



Appropriated Resources

- FY 22-23
 - 1 research historian and travel (\$92,237 R)
 - \$200,000 NR for program support
- FY23-24
 - 4 position and support-temp (\$375,000 NR)
 - \$2.1 million for local grants
- Grants
 - National America 250 grant (\$10,000)
 - NPS grant Brunswick Town (\$500,000)
 - NPS grant House in the Horseshoe (\$500,000)
 - NPS study grant for Race to Dan (\$129,400)
 - Federal earmark for Docs Box program (\$142,000 fy23-24)



Local Grant Program

S.L. 2023-134 page 405

AMERICA'S 250TH LOCAL GRANTS

SECTION 14.9.(a) Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (the Department) for America's 250th Local Grants shall be used for a grant program to facilitate participation in America's 250th anniversary activities, as set forth in this section.

SECTION 14.9.(b) The Department shall use up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in fiscal year 2023-2024 for grants of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) each to county governments whose county commissioners have adopted a resolution creating a commemoration committee or otherwise designated a group to ensure North Carolina's commemoration of the semiquincentennial occurs in their county. Any funds allocated under this subsection but not spent or encumbered by June 30, 2024, may be reallocated by the Department for grants under subsection (c) of this section and shall be in addition to the allocations made in that subsection.

SECTION 14.9.(c) The Department shall use five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in fiscal year 2023-2024 and six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) in fiscal year 2024-2025 to provide matching grants to local governments and nonprofits for commemoration activities, including Revolutionary War research, development of educational resources, wayside installation, and event needs. The Department may consider county tier designations under G.S. 143B-437.08, for the county in which the project is located, in determining match amounts awarded under this subsection.

SECTION 14.9.(d) The Department may use up to five percent (5%) of the funds allocated by this section to administer the grant program and provide technical assistance to counties.

Grants-

<https://www.america250.nc.gov/grants>

- One per official county America 250 committee (county grants only)
- Match may be required
- Grant activities include:
 - Strategic plan and report
 - Public art or mural
 - Wayside
 - Local marker
 - Exhibit (online or in-person)
 - Research for A250 program
 - Printed resource for A250 program
 - Selected A250 event expenses
 - Local field trip support
 - A250 related tours
 - Student competitions
 - America 250 aligned curriculum resource
 - Oral history program



America 250 NC Local Grants-First Cycle

- Counties
 - 22 awarded grants
 - \$220,000
 - 3 additional applications recently reviewed
 - Projects included events, online exhibit, waysides, strategic planning for county committee, website and promotions, student contest)
- Non-profits/Local Governments
 - 71 applications
 - \$1,387,248 total requested
 - 50 awarded grants
 - \$882,251 total awarded
 - 20 counties
 - Projects included events, field trips, exhibits, public art (statues and murals), teacher education, classroom resources, DAR projects)



Potential Collaborative Activities Among States

- Keep America Beautiful
- Two lights (April 2026)
- Commemorate founding of armed services branches
- Naturalization ceremonies
- America 250 Foundation
 - America Gives
 - Our American Story
 - America Innovates
 - America Waves
 - Time Capsule
- PBS and The American Revolution

The screenshot shows the VA250 website for the event "A Common Cause To All". The page features a navigation bar with "ABOUT", "DISCOVER", "PROGRAMS", "GET INVOLVED", "NEWS", and a "DONATE" button. The main content area includes the event title, dates (March 18 - 20, 2024), and a large photograph of a panel discussion on a stage with a "LOVE" sign. To the right, there is a "Program & Presentations" section with a poster for the event, a "Hosted By" section listing "VIRGINIA 250 AMERICAN REVOLUTION" and "The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation", and an "Acknowledgements To" section.

va250.org/a-common-cause-to-all-2024/

VA250

ABOUT ▾ DISCOVER ▾ PROGRAMS ▾ GET INVOLVED ▾ NEWS ▾ **DONATE**

A Common Cause To All
A Convening of States
March 18 - 20, 2024

Panel Discussion with 250th planners from Virginia, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Wisconsin

Program & Presentations

VA250
A Common Cause to All
PROGRAM
A Signature Event of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission
The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Williamsburg, Virginia
March 18 - 20, 2024

Hosted By

VIRGINIA 250
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Acknowledgements To

Questions?

- america250.nc.gov
- america250nc@dncr.nc.gov

• Sarah Koonts

Sarah.Koonts@dncr.nc.gov

919-814-6876

