The Battle of Princeton
January 3, 1777
Tour Maps and Order of Battle

Painting by Don Troiani

The Princeton Battlefield Society
theprincetonbattlefieldsociety.com
Collected by Roger S. Williams roger@nepagency.com
Above: Cornwallis (red lines) marched on Trenton with his entire army down the Trenton Port Road. The march started before dawn, but was delayed by a combination of bad weather (a January thaw turned the road to mud) and effective delaying tactics by roughly 1,000 troops under Hand (cyan lines) Cornwallis didn’t arrive in Trenton until 4 PM. Sunset came at 4:45, leaving time for only a few direct assaults in Trenton itself. Cornwallis intended to attack the American right wing the next morning. During the night, Cornwallis shifted troops east in preparation for assaulting Philip’s Mill and Henry’s Mill.

Nine Days that Changed the World
(See Figure 3)
Hypothesized trace of Saw Mill Road
Figure 24. Location and tactical organization of American forces for the attack on Princeton, 0700-0720.
Figure 34. Conjectural route of strike force under Colonel Nicholas Hausegger.
Figure 25. Approximate location of forces at the time of first sighting, 0740-0745.
Figure 27. Location of Mercer’s forces when he gives orders to fire at Lt. Wilmot ("horseman"), 0745-0800.
Figure 28. Location of the Crown Forces at the initial exchange of fire, 0815-0830.
Figure 29. Movements of forces during the battle at Clarke’s farm (Mawhood’s Advance until American counterattack), 0830-0855.
Figure 30. Movements of forces during the battle at Clarke's farm, (American counterattack and Crown Forces retreat), 0855-0915.
Figure 31. Topographic analysis of Beale's account.
Figure 32. Final American assault on Princeton and American withdrawal, 0900-1100.
Driving directions to In grass triangle at intersection

Washington Route Marker
Nassau St & Washington Rd

https://maps.google.com/maps?daddr=Nassau+Street+and+Washington+Road+Princeton+NJ(Washington+Route+Marker)&daddr=Main+St+and+Church+St+Kin...
Appendix II  Order of Battle of Washington at Princeton. *Units in italics are non-Continental.*

Total 5,600 to 5,800 men.

**Sullivan's Division**

(Major General John Sullivan)

**St Clair's Brigade**

(Brigadier General Arthur St Clair)

The brigade had between 1,200 and 1,400 men.

1st

1st New Hampshire Regiment

(Colonel John Stark)

Raised June 1775 from Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties, New Hampshire with ten companies. Became 5th Continental Regiment 1 January 1776, with eight companies. Served in Canadian and Northern Departments April 1775—November 1776 and joined Washington at Trenton December 1776. Resumed original designation 1 January 1777.

Remnant only at Princeton.

3rd New Hampshire Regiment

(Colonel James Read, absent)

Raised June 1775 with ten companies from Cheshire, Hillsborough and Cumberland Counties. Became 2d Continental Regiment 1 January 1776, with eight companies. Served in Canadian and Northern Departments April 1775—November 1776 and joined Washington at Trenton December 1776. Resumed original designation 1 January 1777.

Remnant only at Princeton.

2d New Hampshire Regiment
Colonel Enoch Poor

Raised May-June 1775 with ten companies from Stratford and Rockingham Counties. Became 8th Continental Regiment 1 January 1776, with eight companies. Served in Canadian and Northern Departments April 1775-November 1776 and joined Washington December 1776.

Remnants only at Princeton.

1st Massachusetts Regiment

(Colonel John Paterson, absent)

Raised spring 1775 as Paterson's Regiment with eleven companies from Berkshire, Hampshire, Suffolk, Middlesex, Worcester and York Counties and Litchfield County, Connecticut. Reorganized 1 January 1776 as 15th Continental Regiment, with eight companies. Served in Canadian and Northern Departments April 1775-December 1776 when it joined Washington on the Delaware. (Current successor: 104th Infantry (2d Massachusetts), Massachusetts Army National Guard.)

Remnant only at Princeton.

Shepard's Massachusetts Regiment

(Colonel William Shepard, absent?)

Raised in spring 1775 as Learned's Regiment with ten companies from southwestern Worcester County. Consolidated 1 January 1776 with Danielson's Regiment (raised spring 1775 with eleven companies from southern Hampshire County & Bristol and Worcester Counties) to form 3rd Continental Regiment, comprising eight companies. Merged with a company of 21st Continental Regiment (raised spring 1775 as Ward's Regiment with ten companies from eastern Worcester County and Middlesex and Hampshire Counties; reorganized 1 January 1776 as 21st Continental Regiment, absorbing Fellows' Regiment (raised spring 1775 with ten companies from central Hampshire County, southern Berkshire County and Worcester County). 3rd & 21st Continental Regiments (both with Washington since New York) consolidated to form Shepard's Regiment 1 January 1777. (Current successor: 104th Infantry 2d Massachusetts), Massachusetts Army National Guard.
Remnant only at Princeton.

19th Continental Regiment [Connecticut]

(Colonel Webb, absent?)

Raised July 1775 with ten companies from New Haven, Fairfield, New London and Litchfield Counties, ten companies, as 7th Connecticut Regiment. On 1 January 1776 became 19th Continental Regiment with eight companies. Was with Washington in New York.

Remnant only at Princeton.

14th Continental Regiment [Massachusetts]

(Colonel John Glover, absent?)

Raised spring 1775 with ten companies from Marblehead in Essex County as Glover's Regiment, redesignated 14th Continental Regiment 1 January 1776, with eight companies. Served in Eastern Department April-July 1776, then joined Washington in New York. (Current successor: 101st Engineer Battalion, Massachusetts Army National Guard.

Remnant only at Princeton.

Bailey's Massachusetts Regiment

(Colonel John Bailey, absent?)

Raised spring 1775 as Prescott's Regiment with eleven companies from northwestern Middlesex County, Hampshire County, Massachusetts and Hillsborough County, New Hampshire. Reorganized 1 January 1776 as 7th Continental Regiment, with Washington in New York, was sent to Highlands Department late November 1776, rejoined Washington on the Delaware late December 1776 and on 1 January 1777 was consolidated with 23rd Continental Regiment (raised spring 1775 as Thomas' Regiment with ten companies from northern Plymouth County). Became Bailey's Regiment 1 July 1775, merged with Cotton's Regiment (formed spring 1775 with ten companies from southern Plymouth County) to form Bailey's Regiment. (Both the 7th & 23rd
had been with Washington in New York.)

Remnant only at Princeton.

16th Continental Regiment [Massachusetts]

(Colonel Paul Dudley Sargent)


Ward's Connecticut Regiment

(Colonel Andrew Ward)

Raised summer 1776 with eight companies from Hartford, Windham and New Haven Counties for Eastern Department. Joined Washington in New York in August 1776. (Disbanded 14 May 1777 at Morristown, New Jersey.)

Remnant only at Princeton.

6th Connecticut State Troops

(Colonel John Chester)

Remnant only at Princeton.

13th Continental Regiment [Connecticut]

(Colonel Joseph Read)

Raised spring 1775 as Read's Regiment with ten companies from southwestern Suffolk County, southeastern Worcester County and Bristol County. Merged 1 January 1776 with Walker's Regiment (raised spring 1775 with ten companies in northern Bristol County) and David Brewer's Regiment (raised spring 1775 with

Remnant only at Princeton.

New York Provincial Company of Artillery

(Captain Alexander Hamilton)

Lineal descendant 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, U.S. Army.

2 guns at Princeton.

Other artillery

Captain Allen with 2 brass 3-pdr's, Lieutenant Swarthout with 1 brass 3-pounder, Lieutenant Read with 1 brass 6-pdr, Captain Lieutenant Clarke with 2 brass 3-pdr, Captain Lieutenant Freeman with 1 brass 6-pdr and Lieutenant Slewman with 1 howitzer.

Total 8 guns at Princeton.

Greene's Division

(Major General Nathanael Greene)

Mercer's Brigade

(Brigadier General Hugh Mercer)

The brigade had between 325 and 350 men.

1st Maryland Regiment

(Brigadier General John Smallwood, absent)

Raised spring 1776 as the Maryland Battalion with nine companies from northern and western Maryland. With Washington in New York. Reorganized as 1st Maryland Regiment 1 January 1777. (Current successor: 175th Infantry (5th Maryland), Maryland Army National Guard.)

50 men under Captain John Stone at Princeton.
Pennsylvania State Rifle Regiment

(Colonel Samuel Miles)

Raised March-May 1776 with a 1st Battalion of six companies from Philadelphia, and Bucks, Bedford, York, Northampton & Northumberland Counties and a 2d Battalion of six companies from Berks, Lancaster, Cumberland and Westmoreland Counties. With Washington in New York but reorganized as one battalion.

200 men under Major Ennion Williams at Princeton.

Maryland and Virginia Rifle Regiment

(Colonel Moses Rawlings)

Raised 27 June 1776 from new and existing companies to consist of nine companies. With Washington in New York but most of regiment captured by the British Army at Fort Washington 16 November 1776 and regimental organization disbanded.

A remnant of 75 men at Princeton. (Current successor: 201st Field Artillery, West Virginia Army National Guard.)

New Jersey State Artillery

(Captain John Neil)

About 30 men manning two guns.

Stirling's Brigade

(Brigadier General William Alexander, Lord Stirling)

Remnant of 50 to 75 men.

The Delaware Regiment

(Colonel John Haslet)

Raised 13 January 1776 with eight companies from Kent, Sussex and New Castle Counties. With Washington in New York. (Current successor: 198th Signal Battalion, Delaware Army National Guard.)
Remnant of 6 men at Princeton.

1\textsuperscript{st} Virginia Regiment

(Captain John Fleming, vice Colonel Read)

Raised 21 October 1775 with eight companies. Two companies added 11 January 1776. Joined Washington on the Delaware 10 December 1776.

Remnant of 20 men at Princeton.

3\textsuperscript{rd} Virginia Regiment

(Colonel George Weedon)


Remnant of unknown strength at Princeton.

(Maryland and Virginia Rifle Regiment)

(Colonel Otho Holland Williams)

A small remnant of the regiment may have participated but Williams still on parole at the time of the battle. He was made colonel of the 6th Maryland Regiment on 10 December 1776 but was not exchanged till January 1778. the 6th Maryland had not actually been formed yet, so this designation may refer to the same body of men as the Maryland and Virginia Rifle Regiment (above).

Stephen's Brigade

(Brigadier General Adam Stephen, absent)

Brigade of 400 men under Colonel Charles Scott.

4\textsuperscript{th} Virginia Regiment

(Lieutenant Colonel Robert Lawson, vice Elliott)

5th Virginia Regiment

(Major Josiah Parker, vice Scott)

Raised 28 February 1776 with ten companies from Lancaster, Richmond, Northumberland, Spotsylvania, Westmoreland, Chesterfield, Henrico, Hanover, Bedford and Loudoun Counties. Joined Washington on the Delaware December 1776.

6th Virginia Regiment

(Major Richard Parker, vice Buckner)

Raised February-May 1776 with ten companies from Halifax, Albemarle, Botecourt, Gloucester, King William, Essex, Middlesex, Cumberland, King and Queen, Orange, and Fincastle Counties. Served in north New Jersey and reached Washington in time for Princeton.

Fermoy’s Brigade

( Brigadier General Matthias Alexis de Roche Fermoy)

German Regiment

(Colonel Nicholas Hausegger)

Raised July-September 1776 with five companies from eastern Pennsylvania, two companies from Baltimore County, Maryland two companies from Frederick County, Maryland. Reached Washington on the Delaware ca 22 December 1776. 410 men at Princeton.

1st Pennsylvania [Rifle] Regiment

(Colonel Edward Hand)
Raised June-July 1775 as Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment from existing rifle companies to consist of nine companies from Cumberland, Lancaster, Northumberland, Northampton, Bedford, Berks and York Counties. Became 1st Continental Regiment 1 January 1776. Redesignated 1 January 1777 as 1st Pennsylvania Regiment. Was with Washington in New York.

200 men at Princeton.

_Cadwalader's Brigade_

_(Brigadier General John Cadwalader)_

Raised 29 December 1747 in Philadelphia by Benjamin Franklin as the Associated Regiment of Foot of Philadelphia. Reorganized 1775 as the Associators of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, with five battalions. Reorganized 1776 as a brigade. (Current successor: 111th Infantry (3d Pennsylvania-The Associators), Pennsylvania Army National Guard.)

1,150 men (militia) at Princeton.

1st Battalion Philadelphia Associators

_(Colonel Jacob Morgan)_

2nd Battalion Philadelphia Associators

_(Colonel John Bayard)_

3rd Battalion Philadelphia Associators

_(Colonel John Nixon)_

Attached to the German Regiment.

Philadelphia Rifle Battalion

_(Colonel Timothy Matlack)_

Philadelphia Light Infantry

_(Captain George Henry)_
It appears from Rodney's diary that there were three other light companies of
Associators, making, with Henry's company and the Dover Light Infantry, in all a
battalion of five light companies.

**Chester County Militia**

Probably included some Northumberland County Militia.

**Dover Light Infantry Company**

(Captain Thomas Rodney)

**Continental Marines**

(Major Samuel Nicholas)

*2nd Company Artillery Philadelphia Associates*

(Captain Joseph Moulder)

2 iron 3-pdr at Princeton.

**2nd Continental Artillery Regiment**

(Colonel John Lamb)

Captain Lee [may have belonged to the 4th Continental Artillery Regiment
(Proctor's)] with 2 brass 6-pdr, Captain Ayres with 1 brass 3-pdr, Captain Bruster
with 1 brass 3-pdr.

Total of 4 guns at Princeton.

**Hitchcock's Brigade**

(Major Israel Angell, vice Daniel Hitchcock)

Brigade had a total of 333 men.

**Lippitt's Rhode Island Regiment**

(Colonel Christopher Lippitt)
Raised 18 January 1776 at Newport as Babcock's Regiment consisting of twelve companies. Redesignated 1 May 1776 as Lippitt's Regiment Sent to the Eastern Department. Joined Washington on the Delaware December 1776.

160 men at Princeton.

2nd Rhode Island Regiment

(Colonel Daniel Hitchcock)

Raised 8 May 1775 as Hitchcock's Regiment with eight companies. Became 11th Continental Regiment 1 January 1776, with Washington in New York.

120 men at Princeton.

1st Rhode Island Regiment

(Colonel James Varnum)

Raised 8 May 1775 as Varnum's Regiment with eight companies from Kings and Kent Counties. Two companies added 28 June 1775. Became 9th Continental Regiment 1 January 1776, with Washington in New York.

Remnant of 7 men only at Princeton.

4th Continental Regiment [Massachusetts]

(Colonel John Nixon)

Raised spring 1775 as Nixon's Regiment with ten companies from eastern Middlesex County, Essex and Lincoln Counties, Massachusetts and Rockingham County, New Hampshire. Consolidated 1 January 1776 with a company of Danielson's Regiment (see Shepard's Regiment, above) to form 4th Continental Regiment. Reorganized 1 January 1777 as Nixon's Regiment but better known by former title. With Washington in New York.

63 men at Princeton.

12th Continental Regiment [Massachusetts]

(Colonel Moses Little)
Raised spring 1775 as as Little's Regiment with ten companies from northeastern Essex County. Became 12th Continental Regiment 1 January 1776. With Washington in New York. (Current successor: 101st t Engineer Battalion, Massachusetts Army National Guard.)

Remnant of 3 men.

Massachusetts Company of Continental Artillery

(Captain Lieutenant Winthrop Sargent)

2 guns at Princeton manned by about 30 men.

Mifflin's Brigade

(Brigadier General Thomas Mifflin)

1,500 men.

2nd Pennsylvania Regiment

(Colonel Philip De Has)


4th Pennsylvania Regiment

(Colonel Daniel Brodhead)


10th Pennsylvania Regiment

(Colonel Joseph Penrose)
A nominal corps since it was not raised till spring 1777.

11th Pennsylvania Regiment

(Colonel Richard Humpton)

A nominal corps since it was not raised till spring 1777.

12th Pennsylvania Regiment

(Colonel William Cooke)

Originally the Northampton and Northumberland Defence Battalion, raised September-December 1776 with eight companies from Northampton, Northumberland, Berks and Cumberland Counties and redesignated 12th Pennsylvania Regiment. Joined Washington on the Delaware late December 1776.

Pennsylvania State Artillery Battalion

(Major Thomas Proctor)

Major Proctor with 1 iron 3-pdr & 2 brass 6-pdr, Captain Forrest with 2 brass 6-pdr, Captain Brown with 1 iron 4-pdr and Captain Gibbs Jones with 2 iron 3-pdr. Total 8 guns at Princeton.
Appendix III

Order of Battle of Crown Forces at Princeton

*Names in italics are proprietary colonels*

Total ca 1,500 men.

**4th Brigade**

(Lieutenant Colonel Charles Mawhood)

**17th Regiment of Foot**

*Lieutenant General The Hon. Robert Monckton*

(Lieutenant Colonel Charles Mawhood)


246 men

**40th Regiment of Foot**

*Lieutenant General Sir Robert Hamilton, Bart*

(Major Samuel Bradstreet)

Formed 1717 from independent companies in North America and the West Indies as Colonel Richard Philips's Regiment of Foot, numbered 40th 1751. Subsequent titles: 40th (the 2nd Somersetshire) Regiment of Foot (1782), 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales's Volunteers (South Lancashire) (1881), 1st Battalion The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers) (1938), 1st Battalion The Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers) (1958), 1st Battalion Queen's Lancashire Regiment (1970), 1st Battalion Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's Lancashire and Border) (2005).
333 men at Princeton.

55th Regiment of Foot

General James Grant

(Major Cornelius Cuyler)

Raised 1755 at Stirling as 57th Regiment of Foot and renumbered 1757 as 55th. Subsequent titles: 55th (Westmoreland) Regiment of Foot (1782), 2nd Battalion The Border Regiment (1881), 1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment (1959), 3rd Battalion Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's Lancashire, and Border) (2006).

250 men.

16th (The Queen's Own) Regiment of (Light) Dragoons

Lieutenant General John Burgoyne

6 dismounted and 1 mounted troops, totalling 70 to 100 men.

Raised 1759 as 16th Regiment of (Light) Dragoons and also known as Burgoyne's Light Horse. Redesignated 1766 as 2nd (The Queen's) Regiment of Light Dragoons, in 1769 as 16th (The Queen's Own) Regiment of (Light) Dragoons, 16th The Queen's Lancers (1861), 16th/5th The Queen's Lancers (1922), The Queen's Royal Lancers (1993).

Grenadiers

(Captains Hatfield & Williams)

An ad hoc company of recruits for the grenadier companies of the 43rd and 52nd Regiments of Foot, temporarily under command.

Light Company, 44th Regiment of Foot

(Lieutenant John Campbell)

50 men temporarily under command.

42nd (Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot (The Black Watch)
One company of 50 men, temporarily under command.

2nd Battalion 71st (Highland) Regiment of Foot

(Captain Munro)

Regiment raised 1757 as 2nd Highland Battalion from a company in the Highlands of Scotland raised 1745, 78th (Highland) Regiment of Foot (Fraser's Highlanders) (1758), disbanded 1763 in North America; re-raised in Scotland with two battalions from the half-pay list as 71st (Highland) Regiment of Foot. Half of 1st Battalion captured July 1776 by an American privateer and 2nd Battalion captured on sailing into Boston Harbor after British evacuation, exchanged and reconstituted in Scotland as “second 71st Foot”. Regiment disbanded 1783-84 in Canada.

About 70 men, possibly new recruits.

Royal Regiment of Artillery

4th Battalion Royal Artillery was formed of ten mainly existing companies in 1776, eight of which served in America.

A detachment of about 30 men served at Princeton.

Attached

Convalescents excluding transfers – ca 100 men temporarily under command.
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