

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Key Events & Milestones (1765-1783)

1765 The Stamp Act

The first direct tax on the American colonies by the British Parliament, sparking widespread protest and the cry of "No taxation without representation."

March 5, 1770 The Boston Massacre

British soldiers fire into a crowd of colonists, killing five. This event significantly increased anti-British sentiment.

December 16, 1773 The Boston Tea Party

American colonists, disguised as Mohawk Indians, dump 342 chests of tea into the harbor to protest the Tea Act.

April 19, 1775 Lexington and Concord

The "shot heard 'round the world." The first military engagements of the Revolutionary War.

July 4, 1776 Declaration of Independence

The Continental Congress adopts the formal statement declaring the thirteen American colonies independent from Great Britain.

Winter 1777-1778 Valley Forge

The Continental Army survives a harsh winter of starvation and disease, emerging as a disciplined fighting force.

October 19, 1781 Surrender at Yorktown

General Cornwallis surrenders to George Washington, effectively ending major land operations in North America.

September 3, 1783 Treaty of Paris

Great Britain formally recognizes American independence and the war officially concludes.