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Accepted Types of Revolutionary War Service

- Signers of the Declaration of Independence
- Military Service
- Civil Service
- Patriotic Service

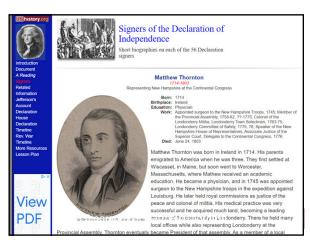
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Types of Civil Service

- State Officials Provisional or new state governments
- · County and Town Officials
 - Examples: Selectman, Judge, Sheriff, Justice of the Peace, Town Clerk

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Town Record Minutes

- Record the business of the town, including elected officials
- Town records date back to when the town was first incorporated



Acts of Patriotic Service

- These acts cannot be self-serving
- Service could only be rendered to the Patriots
- This can be one act or a series of actions demonstrating loyalty to the American cause

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Examples of Patriotic Service

- Signing oaths of allegiance to the new government
- Rendering aid to wounded (nurses and doctors)
- Furnishing supplies
- Lending money or munitions
- Ministers giving patriotic sermons
- Paying supply taxes
- Defenders of forts and stations
- Members of Continental Congress, State Conventions, and Assemblies
- Membership in committees during the war
- (ex. Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety)
- Boston Tea Party participants

Patriotic Sermons

- Religion provided a moral sanction for opposing British rule
- Ministers of the Church of England are not eligible—they swore an oath to support the King

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Sermon from Rev. Samuel Langdon

Rev. Samuel Langdon – president of Harvard College preached in Watertown, CT, May 31, 1775 (one month after the Battles of Lexington and Concord):

"We have lived to see the time when British liberty is just ready to expire—when the constitution of government which has so long been the glory and strength of the English nation is deeply undermined and ready to tumble into ruins—when America is threatened with cruel oppression and the arm of power is stretched out against New England, especially this colony, to compel us to submit to the arbitrary acts of legislators who are not our representatives, and who will not bear the least part of the burdens which, without mercy, they are laying upon us" (Thornton, John Wingate. The Pulpit of the American Revolution: or the Political Sermons of the Period of 1776 Boston: Gould and Lincoln, 1860, pg. 235).

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Oaths of Allegiance

- 18th century oaths were seen as "sworn promises"
- Most colonies required an oath of allegiance by free males over the minimum age (varied from over 16 to 21 years)
- Prisoners of war and enslaved persons were exempt from taking an oath of allegiance.
- Women were not required to take an oath of allegiance unless required in other circumstances (ex. in New York to file a lawsuit)
- Some colonies allowed Quakers to affirm allegiance (Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont)

Oath of Allegiance Example

"I, ------, do swear (or affirm) that I renounce and refuse all allegiance to George the Third, King of Great Britain, his heirs and successors, and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a free and independent state, and that I will not at any time do or cause to be done any matter or thing that will be prejudicial or injurious to the freedom and independence thereof, as declared by Congress; and also that I will discover and make known to some one justice of the peace of the said state all treasons 2 and traitorous conspiracies which I now know or hereafter shall know to be formed against this or any of the United States of America."

Oaths of Allegiance During the American Revolution 8 May 2021, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)

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Three Elements of Oath of Allegiance

- · Renouncing allegiance to the King of England
- Promise of allegiance to the state as an independent state
- · Commitment to reveal treasons and conspiracies against any of the states

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Oaths of Allegiance -**Minimum Age Requirements**

- Connecticut Office holders and freemen (over 21)
- Delaware White males over 21
- · Georgia All men over 16
- Marvland Free males over 18
- North Carolina Free males over 16
- Pennsylvania White males over 18
- Rhode Island Men above 21
- South Carolina Free males over 16
- Vermont Freemen (over 21)
- Virginia Free born males over 16 (except indentured servants)

Oaths of Allegiance – Massachusetts and Rhode Island

- Massachusetts and Rhode Island oaths did not include an allegiance to a state
- They required a man to pledge support of the war against Great Britain

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Oaths of Allegiance - Georgia

- Men were allowed to affirm allegiance
- Officers in high state positions were required to swear an oath of allegiance

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Oaths of Allegiance - Maryland

- Also allowed affirmation by Dunkers and Mennonites
- Separate lists were kept of those who swore and those who affirmed allegiance
- 1781 Permitted Quakers, Dunkers, and Mennonites to preach without affirming allegiance assuming they had not manifested a disposition against the state of Maryland
- 1783 Allowed Methodists to preach without affirming allegiance

Oaths of Allegiance – North Carolina

- Also allowed affirmation by Dunkers, Mennonites, and Moravians
- Men who took an oath of allegiance were allowed to purchase land at 50 shillings/acre
 - 640 acres per single man
 - 640 acres per married man plus 100 acres each for his wife and each child

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Supply Taxes

- Congress has no authority to levy taxes; money and supplies were requested from the states
- Taxes went toward raising supplies, paying troops, building ships, providing clothing, raising bounty money, and providing relief for families of soldiers in service
- The laws that were passed to levy taxes must state in the statute that they were addressing a request of the Continental Congress and/or to support the war or achieve independence
- Each state has different tax assessments that were levied; If applying to a lineage society (e.g., DAR, SAR), consult guides on which taxes count for patriotic service

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How did women show patriotic service?

- Making homespun cloths
- · Boycotting British goods
- · Paying taxes
- Fundraising money for supplies for soldiers
- Battlefield service (camp followers, nurses, military service)

Daughters of Liberty

- Established in 1765
- Organization composed solely of women
- Boycotted British goods and made their own, including homespun cloth

PROVIDENCE, March 12.

PROVIDENCE, March 12.

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Providence Gazette 12 Mar 1766 via Early American Newspapers

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Spinning Bees



- Gatherings of women spinning yarn
- The amount of thread and yarn produced at the spinning bees was published in newspapers

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THE following is an Account of the Performances of a Number of Miffes at Warren, in this Colony, who, at a late Spinning-Match in that Town, fpun in one Day, of good Linen Thread, the Quantities afcribed to their respective Names, viz.

Miffes Sk.Kn.Tb. Miffes Sk.Kn.Tb.

Lydia Cockrum, 4 11 colPatience Miller, 3 11 25

Reb. Easterbrooks, 4 11 20 Roby Thurber, 5 5 0

Anna Easterbrooks, 4 11 20 Roby Thurber, 5 5 0

Anna Easterbrooks, 4 12 20 Roby Thurber, 5 5 0

Anna Easterbrooks, 4 12 20 Roby Thurber, 5 5 0

Roby Luther, 4 9 20 Lois Cole, 5 1 36

Lilles Barton, 4 3 2 Rebecca Miller, 3 12 29

Polly Miller, 4 5 0 Nabby Bradford, 4 8 20

Lilles Hale, 4 4 0 Harty Cole, 5 2 34

Patience Hill, 5 4 0 Mary Cary, 4 13 13

Deborah Cole, 5 11 0

Rebecca Nuning, 4 3 30 Total, 96 2 18

The Newport Mercury 26 May 1766 (Early American Newspapers)

Tea Boycotts

- Foreign tea was not allowed in social gatherings
- "Liberty teas" were made instead from herbs and fruits
 - Labradore tea (also known as Hyperion Tea)
 - Yeepann tea (popular in North Carolina)
 - Raspberry Leaf Tea
 - Indian Lemonade Tea

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Edenton Tea Party

- 51 women in Edenton, North Carolina, led by Penelope Barker, met on October 25, 1774
- The women signed a statement of protest to give up tea and boycott other British products



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American Newspapers)

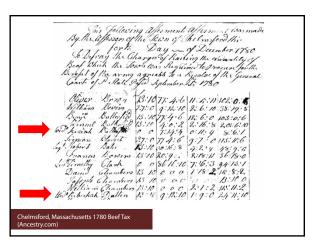
Beef Tax

- Chapter 205 Acts and Resolves of the Province of Massachusetts Bay
- Inhabitants of several towns were required to supply cattle or money to purchase beef for the Continental Army

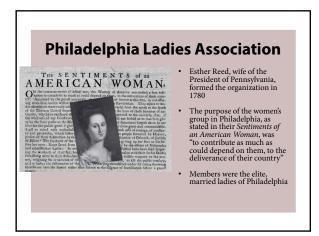
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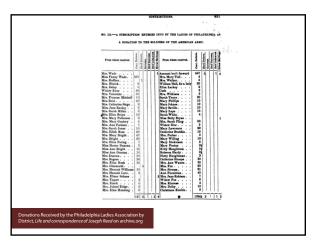
Canvassing

- The city was divided into ten districts as well as one near Germantown
- A team of women was assigned to canvass the district seeking donations from every woman "according to her ability, and her disposition"
- Amassed over \$300,000 from 1,400+ residents

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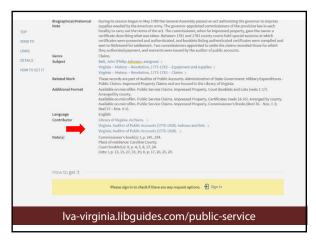


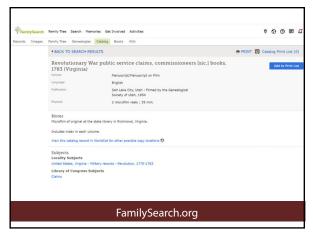




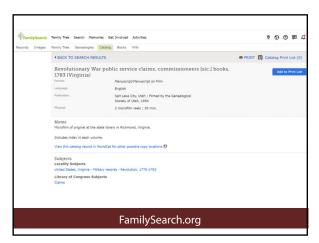
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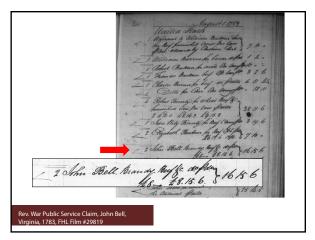




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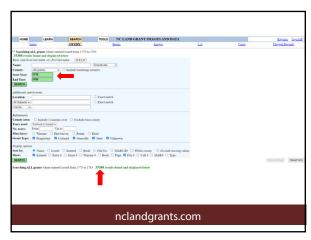


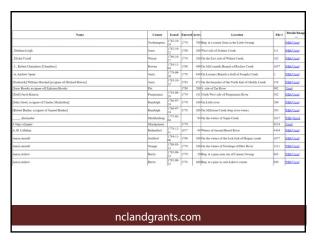




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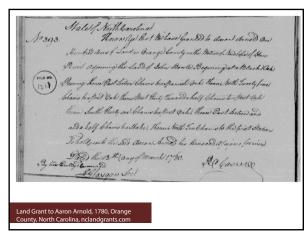






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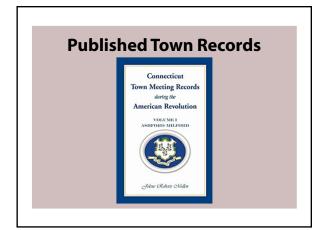




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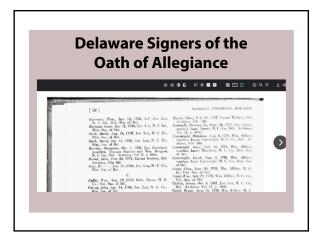




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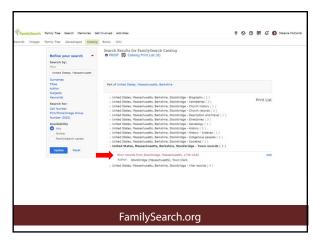
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Town Records

- Many are digitized on FamilySearch.org
 found under the town name in the catalog
- Ancestry.com has some town records under their Town and Vital Records databases
- For town records not online, contact the Town Clerk to ask for access to their early collections
- Many are kept in the town's vault for safe keeping and may be restricted

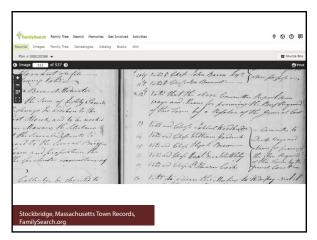
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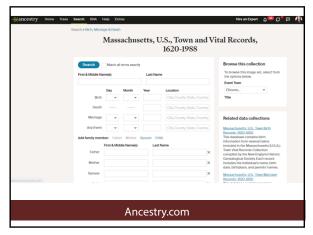
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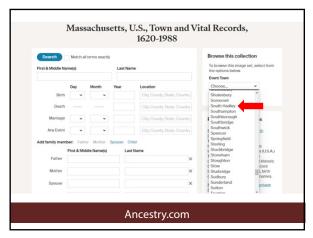


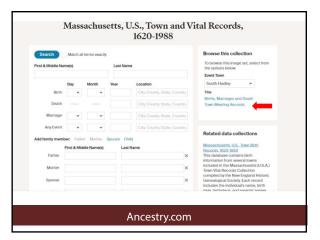




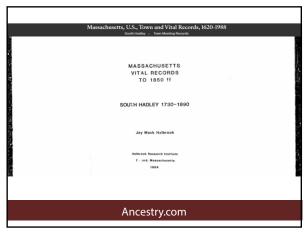
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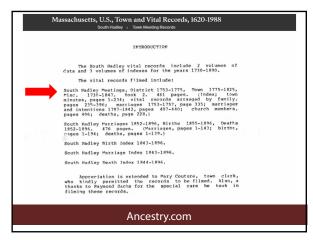


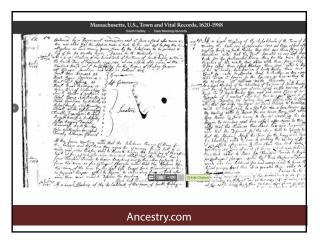




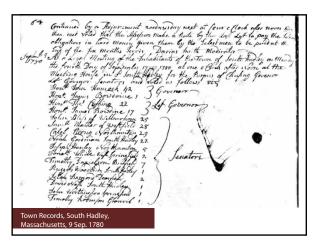
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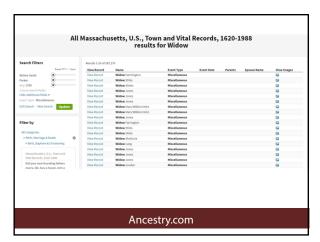




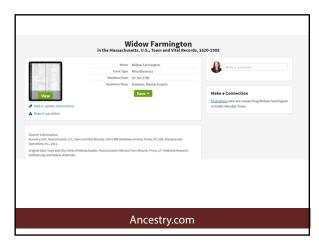
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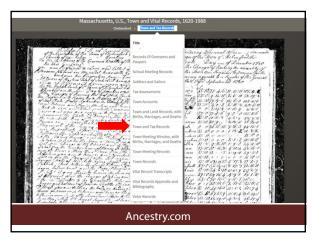






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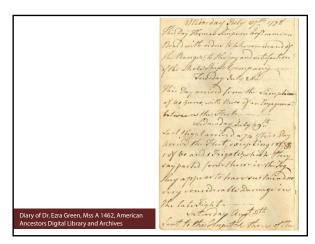






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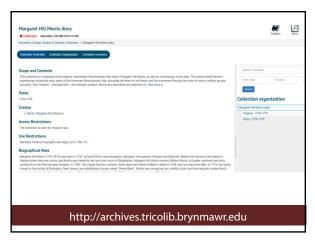




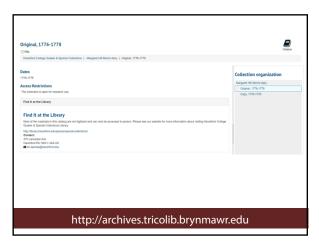
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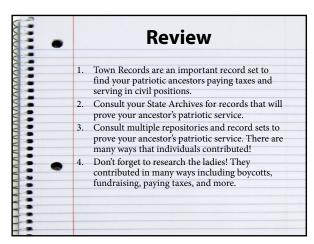






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