



KEY ARTIFACTS

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The Museum of the American Revolution has an impressive collection of several thousand Revolutionary-era artifacts, including weapons, works of art, manuscripts, personal items, and more. One of the premier collections of its kind, it began more than a century ago when a history-minded minister in Valley Forge raised funds from around the nation to purchase the original tent that George Washington used as his command center during the American Revolution. It was the beginning of a rich and diverse collection that continues to grow.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COLLECTION INCLUDE:

★ ITEMS OWNED OR USED BY GEORGE AND MARTHA WASHINGTON

- George Washington's Headquarters Tent, which served as both his office and sleeping quarters throughout much of the war
- Original silver camp cups from Washington's field equipment (*photo below, left*)
- Wartime correspondence and books from Washington's library
- The 13-star flag known as the Commander-in-Chief's Standard, which was used to mark General Washington's presence on and off the battlefield
- A religious book signed by Martha Washington

★ FIREARMS AND EDGED WEAPONS

- A musket that was one of 40 commissioned by Washington from Philadelphia gunsmith Thomas Palmer
- A rare French presentation sword that bears the

inscription "Ex Dono Regis" (Given by the King) on its gilded blade, a design suggesting it was awarded for bravery

- Rare American military firearms made in Philadelphia, Connecticut, Virginia, and other locations
- A pair of English holster pistols carried through the Revolutionary War by German American Brigadier General Peter Muhlenberg (*photo below, right*)

★ WORKS OF ART

- "The March to Valley Forge," William B. T. Trego's iconic 1883 painting (*photo below, center*)
- Xavier della Gatta's paintings of the Battle of Paoli and Germantown
- An 1817 terra cotta bust of George Washington by Philadelphia sculptor William Rush
- Portraits of French, British, and American participants in the Revolution

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KEY ARTIFACTS *Continued*

★ PRINTED WORKS AND MANUSCRIPTS

- The first newspaper printing of the Declaration of Independence, printed by the *Pennsylvania Evening Post* on July 6, 1776
- Soldiers' and officers' letters, orderly books from regiments in the Continental Army, and a variety of military documents, including troop returns, muster rolls and descriptive lists
- A small King James Bible that was carried by Francis Merrifield at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775
- Colonial newspapers bearing the segmented snake device first created by Benjamin Franklin as a call for colonial unity
- Five law books owned by Patrick Henry

★ PERSONAL ITEMS

- A soldier's wooden canteen branded "UStates" at a time when the phrase was merely an aspiration
- William Waller's Powder Horn, which bears several popular slogans of the time, including "Liberty or Death" and "Kill or be Killed" (photo below, right)

- An early 19th century summer coat worn by Jacob Latch, a Revolutionary War veteran from Lower Merion, Pennsylvania
- Drinking vessels bearing political slogans that expressed American ideas of liberty
- A pair of baby booties, made from the pilfered coat of a British footsoldier, which belong to Sgt. James Davenport, a Massachusetts native who lost two brothers in the fight for independence (photo below, center)

★ ARTIFACTS THAT REPRESENT DIVERSE STORIES

- A pair of earrings belonging to an enslaved woman of African descent who lived at Mount Vernon
- A signed 1773 volume "Poems on Various Subjects" by Phillis Wheatley, America's first published black female poet (photo below, left)
- 18th century slave shackles that are small enough to fit a child

