

Witness TO REVOLUTION | The Unlikely Travels of Washington's Tent

AUDIO TOUR »

Introduction 201

Welcome to the Museum of the American Revolution and the audio tour for our newest special exhibition, *Witness to Revolution: The Unlikely Travels of Washington's Tent*. I'm Andrew Wineman, an educator here at the Museum, and I'll be your guide. I've been here since the Museum opened in 2017 and have always been excited to talk about Washington's tent with our visitors. This exhibition you're about to enjoy shines a new light on a very precious artifact.

From the Revolutionary War to the present day, people have found inspiration in the presence of George Washington's sleeping and office tent. Today, this historic object is upstairs in a special theater. If you haven't seen the tent film yet, don't worry: you can still explore this exhibition, but don't miss it before you leave.

This audio tour will help you learn about some of the highlights of the exhibition, but there is also much more here to explore. Take time between stops to check out original objects and documents from our collection and on loan from other museums and collectors, some of which haven't been back together since the Revolutionary War.

Look for wall labels with audio tour numbers or ask a staff member to help you locate a stop. Begin a clip by simply inputting its number and pressing play. To end a clip early, press the "stop" button. To hear it again, re-enter the number. You can adjust the volume using the arrows on your guide. You'll know a stop has ended when you hear a brief snippet of instrumental music.

This exhibition is sponsored by The Reese Family: Philip, Lee, and Natalie & Kleon, and The Society of the Lees of Virginia, with the generous support of others.

This exhibition brings together, in many cases for the first time, amazing works of art, rare documents, and significant historical objects from public and private collections across the United States. It illuminates how people from all walks of life contributed to what the tent has meant over 250 years. They set it up, lived under its canvas, and used it when they toasted the nation's triumphs and worried about its perils, saved it from destruction, and made the tent's survival into a metaphor for the fragility and endurance of the American republic.