

Travis Fink

Sean Vitti

The Hudson River Valley during the American Revolution

1770-1774

1775

June 17th = Battle of Bunker Hill in Charlestown, Massachusetts.

Militia raised by Albany Committee after the events at Bunker Hill.

1776

Plan devised by British military to invade New York from Canada in summer 1777. Command of the invasion force given to Lieutenant General John Burgoyne. [USAHistory.info]

***Battle of Brooklyn Heights** (August) = William Howe forces George Washington out of Brooklyn. The British control of the Atlantic Ocean allows them to launch an amphibious invasion of Brooklyn, forcing Washington to disengage.

***Battle of Kip's Bay** (September) = British launch an amphibious assault on Manhattan in which Washington is forced to retreat north. The British under the command of General Henry Clinton occupy New York City upon Washington's retreat.

***Battle of White Plains** (October) = With Washington's Army now moving into the Hudson Valley, the British attempt to outflank the American's by having Howe's troops land at Throgs Neck to cut off his retreat. Hessian troops under Colonel Rahl and the British 2nd Brigade engage an American contingent of 4,000 men and force them to pull across the Hudson into New Jersey.

***Battle of Fort Mifflin** (September) = General William Howe launches an attack on the fort from both on land (north, south and east) and sea. 2,300 Americans surrender to the British as the remnants of Washington's Army escapes across the Hudson into New Jersey.

***Battle of Fort Mifflin** (November) = Fort evacuated by 2,000 American troops and is subsequently captured by General Cornwallis and the British

1777

April 22nd = New York State's first Constitution is approved by delegates convening in Ulster County Courthouse in Kingston. The city is used temporarily as the state capital. [NPS.gov]

Colonel Beverly Robinson Sr. forms the Loyal American Regiment from loyalists in Westchester and Dutchess Counties during the spring. [NYHistory.net]

***Siege of Fort Ticonderoga** (July) = A British Army under the command of Lieutenant General John Burgoyne, 8,000 men in total, occupies the hills overlooking Fort Ticonderoga. The 3,000 American troops in the fort withdraw.

***Battle of Bennigton** (August) = General John Stark and a force numbering 2,000 men, as well as a Green Mountain Boys contingent, ambush a portion of Burgoyne's Army in Walloonmsac, New York.

***Battle of Bemis Heights** (September) = The British goal was to capture the entire Hudson River. This would isolate New England from all of the other colonies. General Horatio Gates had set up fortifications along the river in order to stop Burgoyne's troops from reaching Albany. The two sides squared off and Burgoyne is halted and forced to retreat south to Saratoga.

***Battle of Freeman's Farm** (September) = The British planned to utilize a three pronged attack in order to break through the Americans' defensive position by the river. The advancing British were halted by Benedict Arnold and his army. The ensuing battle significantly weakened the British force and for them to fall back. Arnold had sought the assistance of Horatio Gates during the skirmish, but Gates was unable to assist.

***Battle of Saratoga** (October) = The British surrendered here thanks in large part to the heroics of Benedict Arnold, not Horatio Gates. This battle was significant because it convinced the French to enter the war as allies with the Patriots against the British. Turning point in the war.

City of Kingston burned by British troops under the command of General John Vaughan. On October 16th [NPS.gov]

1778-1779

***West Point** = Washington designates West Point as headquarters for the Continental Army. The forts location along the river provides a major level of strategic importance for Washington [USMA.edu]

Iroquois tribes supported by the British conduct raids on American settlements including Cherry Valley.

***Sullivan's Expedition** = Lead an expedition against Iroquois and loyalists in the Mohawk Valley. Destroyed villages and corn supplies. Assault was launched to thwart Iroquois incursions on American villages and towns, which had been attacked the previous year.

1780

1781

September 28 – October 19 = Siege of Yorktown

1782

General Washington establishes his headquarters in Newburgh.

1783

September 3rd = Treaty of Paris signed

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