FREEDOM AND DIGNITY PROJECT

Georgia Herring, Millbrook High School

Topic: New York: The Key to Winning the American Revolution (A Geographic Explanation)

Grade Level: U. S. History and Government (Grade 11), Advanced Placement Human Geography (Grades 10-12)

New York State Core Curriculum Unit of Study: Unit IS - 1 .A.4.

New York State Learning Objectives:

(1) History of the United States and New York State
- Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.

(2) Geography
- Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live - local, national, and global- including the distribution of people, places, and environments over the Earth's surface.

Essential Questions:

(1) How was New York the key to winning the American Revolution?
(2) Why was New York's geography the strategic pivot in the war?
(3) How does topographv influence military strategy and outcomes of battles?

Time Allotment: 3 class days, with a one day optional field trip experience

Vocabulary: (see attached)

Materials/Resources:

Students need:

(1) Primary source documents for the American side
(2) Primary source documents for the British and Hessian sides
(3) Instruction sheet
(4) Template for request to the Continental Congress
(5) Chart for all battles
(6) Maps of the Revolution
(7) Markers for maps (blue, green, brown)

Teachers need:

(1) Overhead projector and map transparencies
(2) Field Trip plans

Procedure:

Day 1- Students receive “Northern Theater” map of New York during the Revolution. This map is drawn without borders, so students can see the topography of the area. Students color all waterways blue, mountains brown, and valleys green. Students then draw the borders of the colonies, which show the importance of New York in the Revolution. As they note forts along the waterways, they understand how all parties (British, French, Native Americans) felt the importance of controlling this area.

Next, they examine the maps entitled, "British Imperial Positions" and "Patterns of Allegiance" from D. W. Meinig. These also show the strategic position of New York from the British point of view. A brief overview of military strategy follows, with a discussion of how armies use topographic features to aid their battle plans,

Finally, students are given copies of the instruction sheet. They break up into groups of two and receive their battle assignment. Battles include New York City, Fort Clinton, Fort Montgomery, Stony Point and Verplanck, West Point, and Saratoga. Students receive the Important Topographic Features chart. As they study each land feature, they identify different strategies from a military standpoint to take and hold the territory. They then check their answers with the information sheet that describes important land features and how other military strategists have maintained their positions on the field. Students study their battle maps and identify any topographic features that appear in their sites.

DAY 2 - Students read all primary source documents about their battle site. They examine topographic maps about their site, and read "captured" British and Hessian documents pertaining to their area. They complete the template, requesting assistance from the Continental Congress, and share their plan to defend their area from British attack, using the geographic features in their defense.

For homework, students research "the real world", i.e., what really happened at their battle site. Many are surprised to learn that the original plans did not include geographic features, and perhaps that is why so many of the sites were American losses.

DAY 3 - Groups present their battle site to the class.

DAY 4 - The class attends a field trip to as many of the sites as possible.
I took my classes to Fort Montgomery and Fort Clinton at Bear Mountain Park.
Both of the "fort groups" reexamined their plans when confronted with the reality of topography!

Assessment:
All requests to the Continental Congress were graded using the following rubric**:**

Description of area's topography (20)

Strengths and vulnerabilities of area (20)

Description of British plans (20)

Strategic importance of area (20)

Description and Justification to Congress (20)

Name: _____
US History & Government

American Revolution - Ch. 4
Geography

New York - The Key to Winning the American Revolution
A Geographic Explanation

Was New York the key to the Revolution? George Washington certainly thought so - and so did the British high command. In this project, you will use documents to prove that the unique geography of New York was the strategic pivot of the war. You will contact the Continental Congress with specific requests that will enable the Continental Army to take and hold New York.
Your group will be assigned one area in New York. General George Washington has sent you to study a strategic area and assess its strengths and vulnerabilities so he can better defend it against the British. You will write a report to the Continental Congress requesting troops, supplies, expertise, etc. to fortify your area against enemy attack. Use the documents provided to complete the following:

- Describe the area's topography (geographic features)
- Identify how the area's topography can be used to benefit the Continental Army and the United States, and describe what would happen should it be lost to the British
- Use the British high command's documents (intercepted by American spies) to show the area's vulnerability to British invasion
- Use the American generals' quotes to prove your area's strategic importance
- Following the attached template, write a report to the Continental Congress requesting specific actions to be taken to defend your area
- Research and describe what actually happened at your area when the British ultimately attacked
- Present your group's report to the class
- Write an essay in which you prove that your area was the strategic pivot of the Revolutionary War. Use proof such as maps, documents, quotes, and battle plans

The areas covered are: New York City, Fort Clinton, Fort Montgomery, Stony Point and Verplanck, West Point, and Saratoga.

Due dates: Presentations to class start on _____

Essay due _____

We hope to culminate the activity with a field trip to two of the strategic areas.

(TEMPLATE)
REPORT TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
DATED:_____
(after the date of your last quote)

AREA:_____

Description of area's topography:

Strengths and vulnerabilities of area:

What the British are saying, according to stolen documents:

Why we think this area is strategic:

We are requesting the following from the members of Congress:

Respectfully submitted,

General Washington’s Aides-de-camp

Important Topographic Features Chart

Group: _____

Topographic Features	Characteristics	Importance	How to Control it
Cape/Peninsula/Reef Appears on my site? Yes/No	Land almost entirely surrounded by water – connected by a narrow strip of land	Can be a formidable defensive position or a besieged territory)	Must have steady supply line to reinforce troops on peninsula.
Waterways River, bay, gulf, estuary, delta, strait, etc. Appears on my site? Yes/No			
Mountains high ground, mesa, plateau, ridges, etc. Appear on my site? Yes/No			
Islands – archipelago, atoll, isthmus Appear on my site? Yes/No			
Plains – Appear on my site? Yes/No			

Valleys – Appear on my site? Yes/No			
Woods & Forest Appear on my site? Yes/No			

Important Topographic Features Chart
ANSWER KEY

Topographic Features	**Characteristics**	**How to Control It**	**Importance**
Cape/Peninsula/Reef	Land almost entirely surrounded by water – connected by narrow strip of land	Can be a fortress or a prison – (formidable defensive position or a besieged territory)	Must have steady supply line to reinforce troops on peninsula.
Waterways – River, bay, gulf, estuary, delta, strait, etc.	Body of water, usually navigable	Can be a highway or a barrier. Can be formidable to lines of defense – it is extremely difficult to storm a defended river. It is easier to attack a wide river because the launch is furthest from the enemy.	Establish a strong beachhead position on one bank. Be sure to have scouts located along easily navigable crossings. Put barriers in the water to impede your enemy's advance. Metal chains can be used to prevent advances.
Mountains – high ground, mesa, plateau, ridges, etc.	Several thousand feet above sea level – can have steep slopes, rocky terrain, and climatic differences from lower ground.	High ground is historically the most strategic and tactical position in warfare. Forts and castles were built on hilltops in order to survey and control surrounding areas.	High positions must be steadily supplied. Attackers have been able to successfully assault heavily defended positions with superior manpower, arms, and supplies.
Islands – archipelago, atoll, isthmus	Land totally surrounded by water. Narrow strip of land connecting larger land masses.	Controlling one island is important to use as a base to attack others (island hopping).	Create a sea fortress – be careful of beach assaults by the enemy. Steady supply lines are vital to maintaining your

			island position.
Plains	Land that is relatively large, open, and uninterrupted – like a giant chessboard. Be careful of waterways, foothills, and ravines as they do appear surprisingly on plains.	Wide open spaces are crucial in battles – generals must control the plains using their troops and maneuverability to box in and restrict the enemy since natural features are sparse.	Flanking, probing, and surrounding the enemy are vital in plains fighting. The victor will use his superior numbers to control the field (so be sure to have steady and short supply lines.)
Valleys	A low stretch of land between two mountains. Usually rich, fertile, productive farmland. Rivers and streams also appear.	Can be "valley of the shadow of death" if troops are trapped and cannot retreat. Or, can be a conduit to controlling an entire region.	Narrow passages can be blocked against enemy advances; wide passages must be defended against attacks.
Woods and Forest	Large expanses of trees, shrubs, wild plants. Can be quite dense.	Easily defended by native troops – guerrilla warfare is very effective with forest cover. "If the terrain is your foe, then make it your friend."	Ambushes by defending troops; sniper attacks; light infantry (which was created for woodland fighting); special forces using camouflage; hit and run tactics – no place to stop; hidden gun nests and dug-in artillery.

BURGOYNE
(6,000 total)

(1,800 in rear)

b

Fraser
(2,000)

Hamilton
(1,100)

Riedesel
(1,100)

(Main attack)

This column much delayed by broken bridges.

Arnold and Morgan
(3,000)

Unfortified high ground here dominated American position and was objective of Fraser's column.

(4,000)

GATES
(7,000 total)

HUDSON R.

BATTLE OF FREEMAN'S FARM
(FIRST BATTLE OF SARATOGA)
19 September 1777

SCALE OF MILES

STILLWATER
(3 miles)

NOTE: Gates committed 3,000, piecemeal and without artillery, but exercised no control over the action. Arnold and Morgan attempted to penetrate between Fraser and Hamilton but were repulsed. The fighting then became a series of uncoordinated frontal attacks on both sides, Gates refusing further reinforcements. Just before dark, Riedesel, with a small detachment, outflanked the American right, and the Americans withdrew. British fortified ground they had gained.

NOTE: By now Burgoyne's logistical situation imposed a choice between immediate attack or early withdrawal. On 7 Oct he ordered a reconnaissance (1,600 picked men) to locate the American left, with a view to attacking on the following morning.

BURGOYNE
(5,000)

c

Burgoyne began withdrawal to Saratoga night of 7 Oct.

Recon. force

Morgan

Poor

Learned

GATES (11,000)

HUDSON R.

NOTE: Gates advanced Morgan and Poor, who drove in the British flanks. Arnold (relieved of command and without authority) took over Learned's advancing force and broke through the British center. Taking general command, Arnold assaulted the British fortifications. He was unsuccessful in the center but captured the redoubt on the right, thus threatening British communications. Approaching darkness and inertia following the wounding of Arnold, caused suspension of operations.

STILLWATER
(3 miles)

BATTLE OF BEMIS HEIGHTS
(SECOND BATTLE OF SARATOGA)
7 October 1777

SCALE OF MILES

ONTARIO

OTTAWA R.

MONTREAL

6
a

Richelieu R.

ST. JOHNS

ISLE-AUX-NOIX

ST. REGIS

St Lawrence R.

Burgoyne completed concentration of his army (7,200) here. Resumed his advance 18 June.

Sorel R.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN

NOTE: Following Burgoyne's surrender, all British troops at Ticonderoga and Crown Point were immediately withdrawn to Canada.

27 June

CROWN PT.

Operations against fort began 1 July. Americans evacuated fort during night of 5-6 July.

Brown (500) raided British communications 18 Sept.

American rear guard surprised and defeated 7 July.

HUBBARDTON

Hudson R.

Evacuated 6 July

Supply route

Route of march

LAKE GEORGE

SKENESBORO

FT. ANNE

Americans wrecked roads, delaying British three weeks.

FT. GEORGE

FT. EDWARD

Surrounded by converging American columns (20,000), Burgoyne surrendered 17 Oct.

Diversion Cr.

SARATOGA

Fish Hill

SARATOGA LAKE

STILLWATER

Skenesboro

Slowly moving reinforcements (650) reached 16 Aug.

BENNINGTON

Stark (2,000)

Initial force (800) surrounded and destroyed 16 Aug.

Gates assumed command 19 Aug. Moved north 9-12 Sept., heavily reinforced.

ALBANY

Hudson R.

KINGSTON
(32 miles)

PITTSFIELD

CHERRY VALLEY

Mohawk R.

FT. OSWEGO

25 July

St. Leger (1,700 British, Tories, Indians) began siege of Ft. Stanwix 3 Aug. Retreated to Oswego 22 Aug., when exaggerated reports of Arnold's strength caused Indians to flee in panic.

FT. STANWIX

Arnold (950) relieved Ft. Stanwix 24 Aug., then rejoined main army.

LAKE ONEIDA

ONEIDA

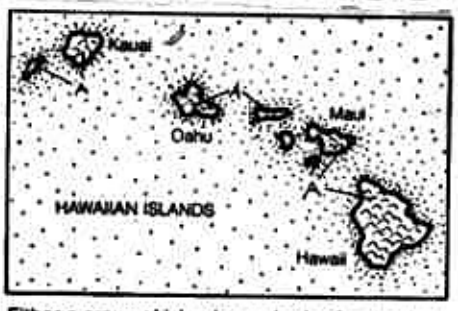
Herkimer (860 local militia) ambushed and repulsed on 6 Aug. in an attempt to relieve Ft. Stanwix.

NOTE: See boxed note upper right Map 7a for Clinton's attempt to assist Burgoyne.

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR
NORTHERN CAMPAIGNS
Burgoyne's Expedition, June-October 1777

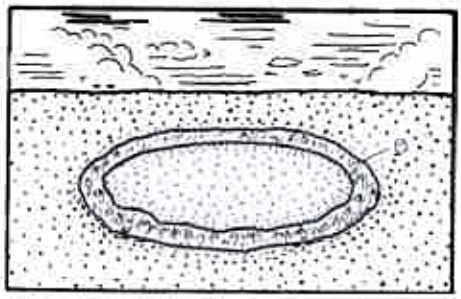
0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF MILES

ARCHIPELAGO



Either a group of islands or a body of water that has many islands in it. *The Hawaiian Islands; the Aegean Sea off the coast of Greece.*

ATOLL

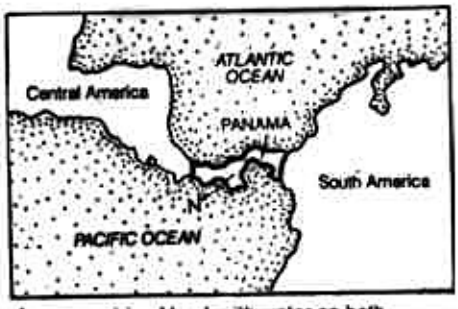


A circular coral island that encloses a *lagoon*. Atolls are usually formed on top of submerged volcanoes. *Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands of the Pacific Ocean, a US atomic test site.*

ISLAND

A body of land completely surrounded by water. It is smaller than a *continent* but larger than a *cay*, a *key*, or certainly a *large rock*. *Greenland is the world's largest island.*

ISTHMUS



A narrow strip of land, with water on both sides, that connects two larger land masses. *The Isthmus of Panama connects Central America and South America.*

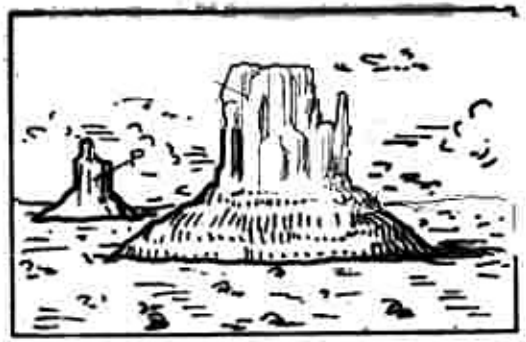
from The Geography Coloring Book by Wynn Kapit

New York

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE

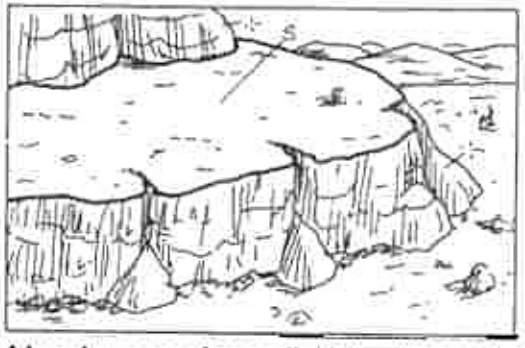
The highest point of a continent, from which the direction of river flow is determined. *The Great Divide is the name given to the crest of the Rocky Mountains, which sends rivers east and west.*

MESA



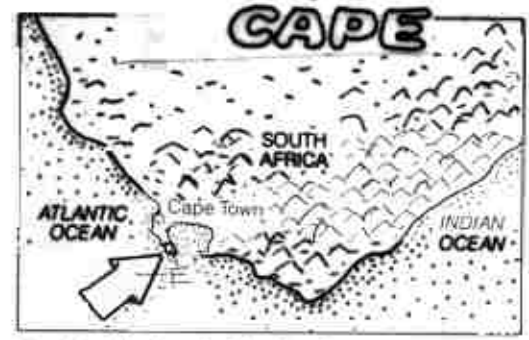
A tall, flat-topped mountain with steep vertical sides. Erosion-resistant mesas are left standing after all else has gone. *Buttes* are small mesas. *Monument Valley in Utah has 1,000 ft. (305 m) mesas.*

PLATEAU



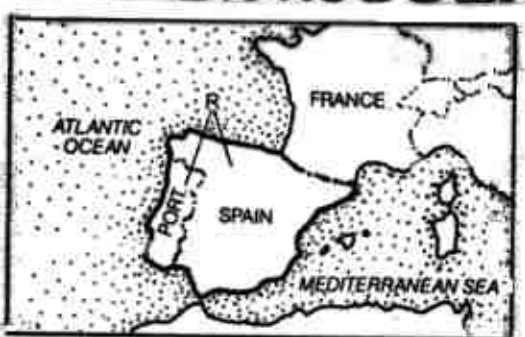
A broad expanse of generally high and flat land, also called a *tableland.* Plateaus can rise up from a lower area, or can be level regions within a moun tain range. *Most of Spain is the Meseta Plateau.*

CAPE



A point of land extending into the sea. It is usually smaller than a *peninsula*. A mountainous cape is called a *promontory* or a *headland*. *The Cape of Good Hope off the South African coast.*

PENINSULA

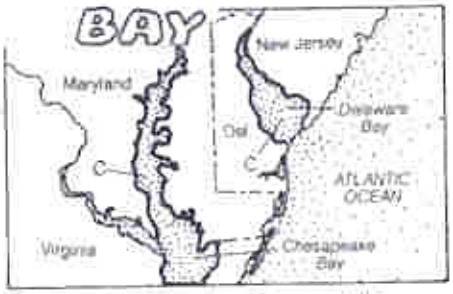


A mass of land almost entirely surrounded by water. It is usually connected to the mainland by a narrow neck. *The Iberian Peninsula in Europe, home to Spain and Portugal.*

REEF

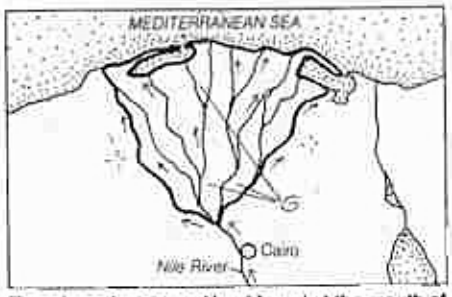
A narrow, low ridge of rock, or more commonly of coral, that is connected to a coast *(fringing reef)* or lies off a coast *(barrier reef)*. *The Great Barrier Reef, off the northeast coast of Australia.*

BAY



A body of water that penetrates a coastline. It is generally wider in the middle. It is usually smaller than a *gulf*, but larger than a cove. *Delaware and Chesapeake Bays.*

DELTA



The triangular-shaped land found at the mouth of some large rivers. So much soil is transported by the river that the coastal waters cannot wash it all away. *The Nile Delta on the Mediterranean Sea.*

STRAIT

A narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water. A *channel* is wider than a *strait*. If it is shallow, it is called a *sound*. *The English Channel becomes narrower at the Strait of Dover.*

ESTUARY

An ocean inlet that merges with the mouth of a river. The estuary's salinity varies according to river flow and ocean tides. *The Río de la Plata, separating Argentina from Uruguay.*

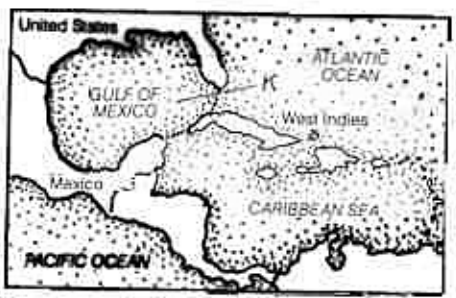
FJORD

A narrow, winding ocean inlet that penetrates a coastal mountain range. The steep cliffs that line its route make a fjord (fiord) one of nature's grandest sights. *Norway's Sogne Fjord is the world's longest.*

HEADWATERS

Upper river springs, streams, and tributaries. Headwaters can refer to *continental divides* or *watersheds*. *Watershed* also describes a region drained by a river. *The Alps have been called the headwaters of Europe.*

GULF



A part of an ocean or sea that is partially enclosed by a curving coastline. A more fully enclosed body of salt water could be called a sea. *The Gulf of Mexico.*

LAGOON

A small body of water separated from the larger sea by a barrier of *sand or coral reefs*. It can either be adjacent to a coastline or surrounded by an *atoll*. *Mirim Lagoon off the coast of Brazil.*

British Plans Packet (p.1)

TOP SECRET

FOR EYES ONLY

BRITISH HIGH COMMAND

REPORT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROYAL COLONY OF NEW YORK IN THE REBELLION

TO: Lord George Germain

FROM: Lord Charles Carroll

April 5, 1776

This river seems intended by nature to open a communication between Canada and the province of New York by water. If we succeed in our strategy of driving a wedge across this narrow ribbon of settled America and maintain our hold on it, we can split the factious New England colonies from the rest, stopping the rebellion where it began, and mop up any remaining pockets of resistance at leisure... As fortune would have it, geography has provided Great Britain with the ideal means for dividing the colonies, in the form of the great North-South water route that extends for 400 miles, virtually without a break, from Montreal, entry point for the Great Lakes for trade and Canada's second city, down the St. Lawrence River to the South, down the Richelieu, up Lake Champlain, overland a short distance to Lake George, and thence to the Hudson River and New York City. At each extremity this waterway is an important population center, with Albany, a strategically significant settlement, roughly midway between. Since water transportation is the only feasible way for an army to make its way through the great sweep of wilderness.

(Adapted from Ketchum's Saratoga)

British Plans Packet (p.2)

TOP SECRET

FOR EYES ONLY

BRITISH HIGH COMMAND

REPORT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROYAL COLONY OF NEW YORK IN THE REBELLION

TO: Lord George Germain

FROM: General John Burgoyne

Unlike Boston, New York dominates land and water communications and as such is the key city in America, gateway to the mighty Hudson River, that huge tidal estuary of the Atlantic. New York, more than any other American city, is where we MUST establish a base. The island is a centrical place, ideally situated on the Atlantic coastline. Surrounded by navigable waters, it could be protected and provisioned by our fleet, the world's greatest navy. New York is a superb base of operations for a military force such as ours that is dependent on our navy. From New York, even our largest ships of the line - those drawing as much as 20 feet - could sail up the Hudson for more than 100 miles to within 46 miles of Albany. At the very least, this means that His Majesty's formidable navy could take some of the burden off our army by patrolling the lower reaches of the river, spotting and frustrating the movement of rebel troops and arms, while the army holds only strongpoints on the river's banks.

(Adapted from Richard M. Ketchum's work, Saratoga-Turning Point of the Revolution. Henry Holt & Co., NY: 1997)

British Plans Packet (p.3)

TOP SECRET

FOR EYES ONLY

BRITISH HIGH COMMAND

REPORT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROYAL COLONY OF NEW YORK IN THE REBELLION

TO: General Thomas Gage

FROM: Governor General Guy Carleton (1766)

Consider the possibility of cutting off New England from the other colonies by locating a place of arms [fort] on Manhattan Island along with a citadel at Quebec. We need to strengthen the forts on the main line of communication.

Local Indians call the system of waterways linking New England to the interior ^he gate of the country".

British Plans Packet (p.4)

TOP SECRET

FOR EYES ONLY

BRITISH HIGH COMMAND

REPORT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROYAL COLONY OF NEW YORK IN THE REBELLION

TO: LordRochford

FROM: General John Burgoyne

1775

A large army of such foreign troops as might be hired to begin their operations up the Hudson River; another army composed partly of old disciplined troops and partly of Canadians, to act from Canada; a large levy of Indians, and a supply of arms for the blacks, to awe the southern provinces, conjointly with detachments of regulars. Supported by a numerous fleet to sweep the whole coast, might possibly do the business in one campaign!

British Plans Packet (p.5)

British General John Burgoyne

Quotes from his book, Thoughts for Conducting the War from the Side of Canada, published in January 1777:

> "Our army in New York should head North and join forces with another army moving, South from Canada, using the Hudson-Champlain waterway severing New England from the rest of the country. New York City and Canada should firmly be in British hands.."

British Plans Packet (p.6)

SECRET COMMUNICATIONS between GENERAL WILLIAM HOWE, British commander in New York City, and LORD GEORGE GERMAIN, Secretary of State for the Colonies:

From HOWE, October 9, 1776:

We will begin by opening a communication with Canada by controlling the Hudson - our primary object - which will enable us to attack the heart of the rebellion - New England!

From HOWE, Nov. 30, 1776:

I am requesting 15,000 men for a total of 35,000 under my command to finish the war in one year! 10,000 will advance up the Hudson River, 5000 will remain in New York City, 10,000 will attack Boston, 2000 will attack Rhode Island, and 8000 will pursue George Washington's troops in New Jersey.

From HOWE, December 1776:

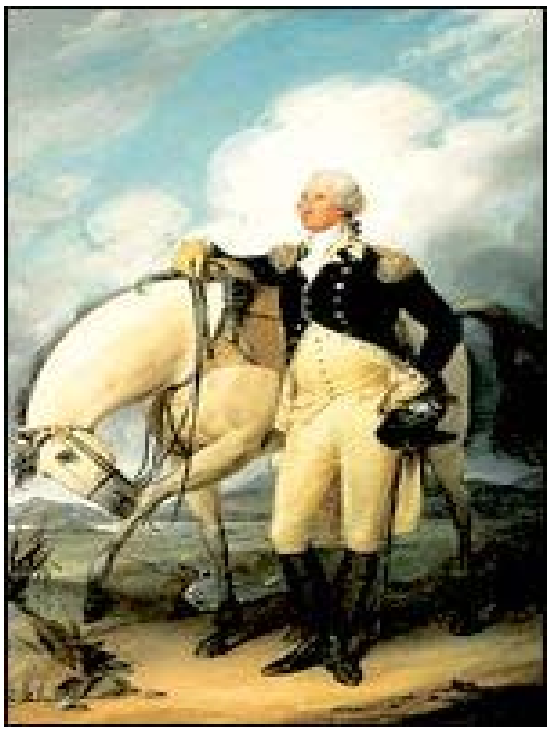
I am changing my previous battle plans. Instead, I plan to pursue the rebels to Philadelphia, capture this capital, and end the war. There may be a corps to act defensively upon the lower part of Hudson's River to facilitate, in some degree, the approach of [Burgoyne's] army from Canada.

From GERMAIN, April 1777 :

I approve your plan to attack Philadelphia but assume that you will also cooperate with [Burgoyne's] army leaving Canada.

Treasures of the Winterthur on a rare visit to Washington

By Katherine Stephen



It was the all-American aesthetic – a marriage of simplicity and elegance rivaling the splendor of its European antecedents – that captivated young Henry du Pont and motivated him to present in his museum more than just a store of valuable objects, but the mood and atmosphere of the past.

This mood is most poignantly conveyed to contemporary America in a room at the exhibit devoted to objects commemorating the newly minted patriotism born at the founding of the republic. Intermingled with the antiques are splendid canvases.

"Washington at Verplanck's Point," by John Trumbull, one of America's finest historical painters, is a small but beautiful example. The likeness of Washington is said to be one of the most accurate ever painted. This is no surprise, considering that Trumbull, son of the governor of Connecticut, was a family friend of Washington. In fact, Trumbull served as an aide to Washington early in the Revolutionary War.

"Sat from 9 o'clock to after 10 for ... Trumbull who was drawing a portrait of me which he intended to present to Mrs. Washington," Washington wrote in his diary for July 8, 1790.

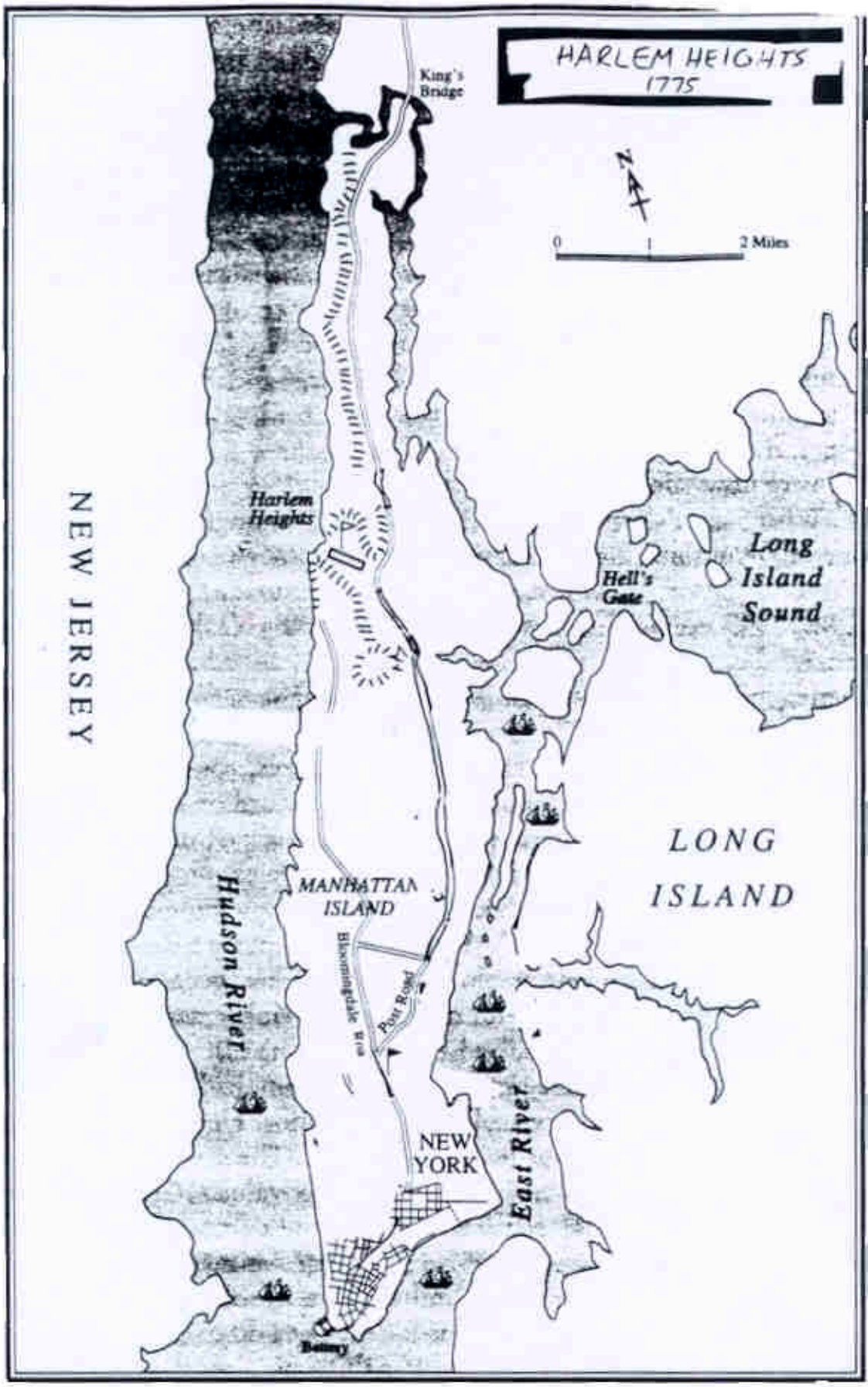
The general, in almost casual pose, exudes the ruddy confidence of the leader who became father of his country. Trumbull has placed him on a hill, conveying the sense of an apex of experience. The sky is bright and the clouds plump, echoing the subject's air of optimism. "The background represents the encampment of the American Army at Verplanck's Point on the North River in 1782," Trumbull wrote, "and the reception there ... of the French Army returning from the capture of Yorktown." The artist has captured an image of the American spirit emerging from the darkness of war into nationhood, well fortified to meet the challenges ahead. It is one example of how the "American Vision" of Winterthur can inspire us today.

Be a history detective!

- What piece of information in the description to the right, does not fit with the picture above?
- What could be the explanation for this discrepancy?

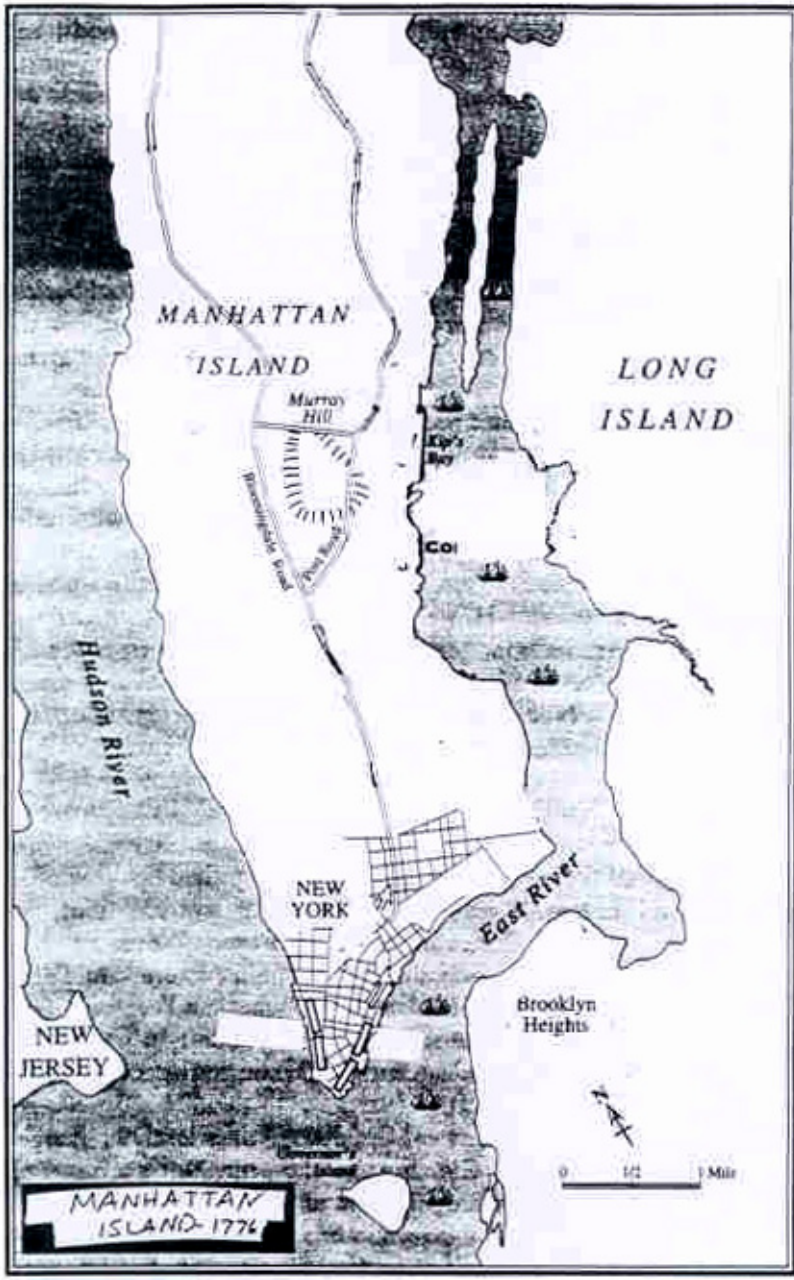
Straight as an Indian, measuring six feet two inches in his stockings and weighing 175 pounds…His frame is padded with well-developed muscles, indicating great strength. His bones and joints are large, as are his hands and feet. He is wide shouldered but has not a deep or round chest; is neat waisted, but is broad across the hips and has rather long legs and arm. His head is well-shaped, thought not large, but is gracefully poised on a superb neck. A large and straight rather than a prominent nose; blue gray penetrating eyes which are widely separated and overhung by a heavy brow. His face is long rather than broad, with high round cheek bones, and terminates in a good firm chin. He has clear though rather colorless pale skin which burns with the sun. A pleasing and benevolent thought a commanding countenance, dark brown hair which he wears in a cue. His mouth is large and generally firmly closed, but which from time to time discloses some defective teeth.. His features are regular and placid with all them muscles of his face under perfect control, though flexible and expressive of deep feeling when moved by emotions. In conversation he looks you full in the face, is deliberate, deferential, and engaging. His demeanor at all times composed and dignified. His movements and gestures are graceful, his walk majestic, and he is a splendid horseman.

Papers of GW, Colonial Services, Vol. 6
"George Mercer to a friend,"1760



from Jeff Schaara ~ The Glorious Cause

NY: 2002



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NY:2002

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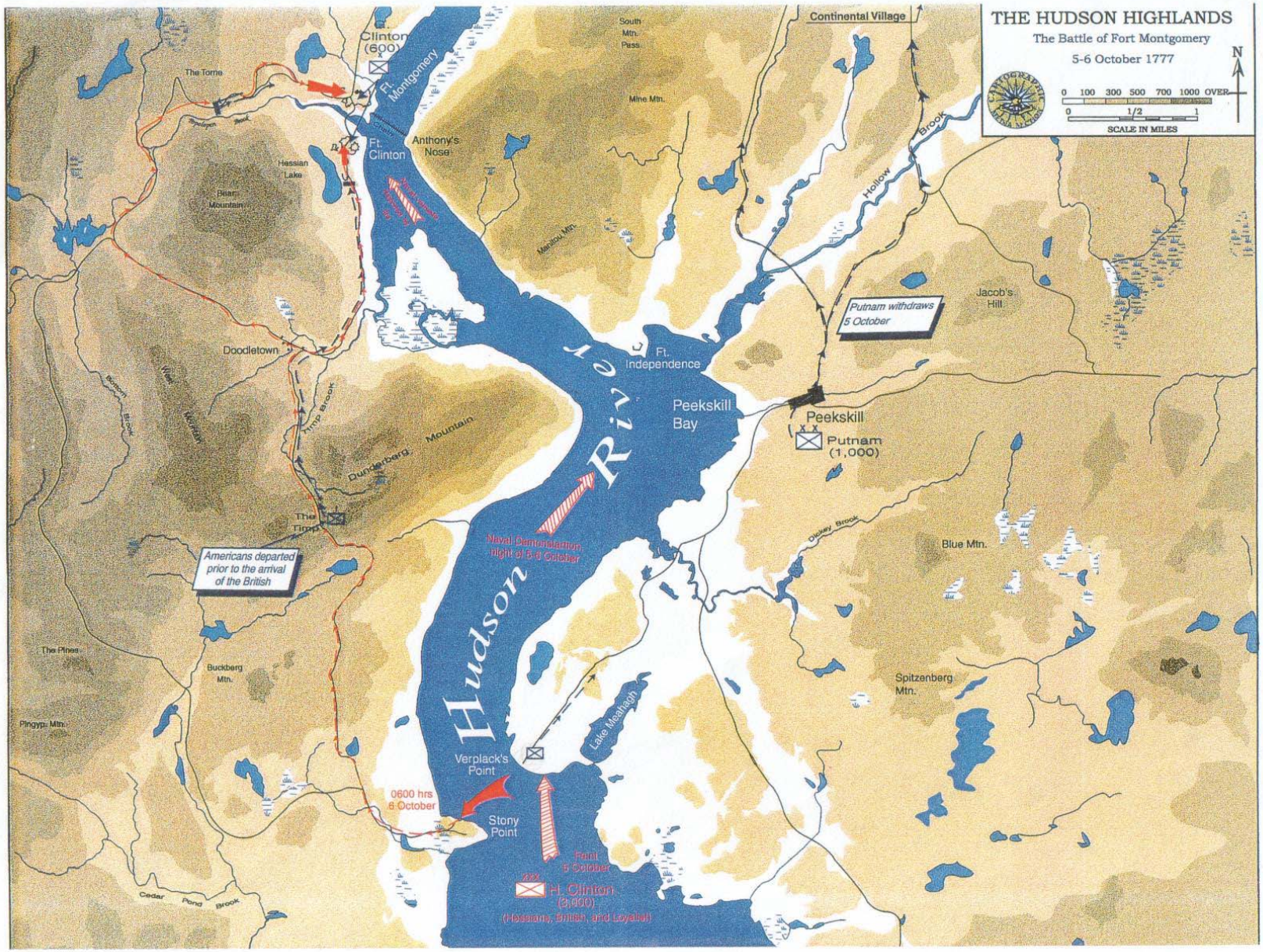
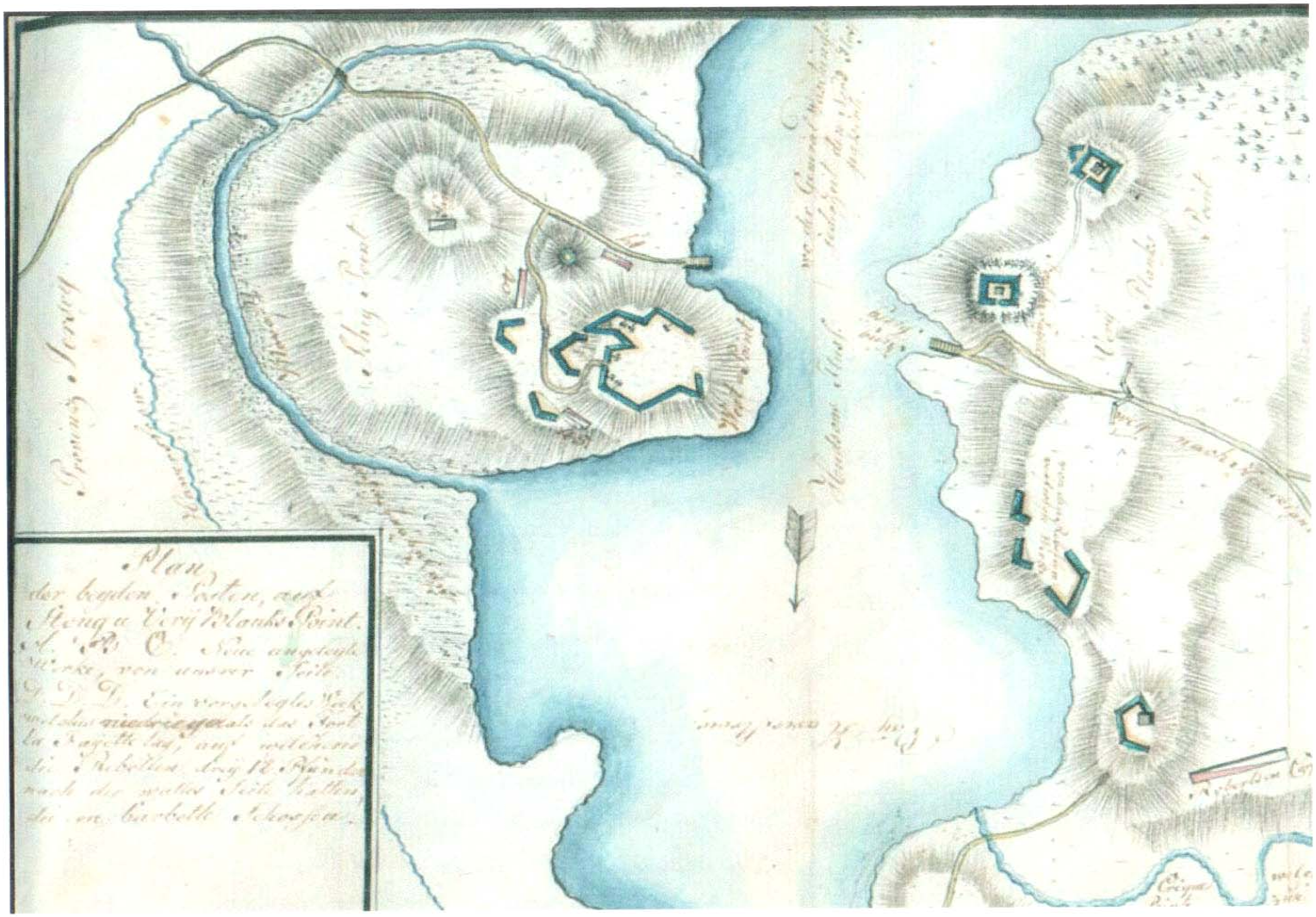

THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS
The Battle of Fort Montgomery
5-6 October 1777
N
0 100 300 500 700 1000 OVER
0 1/2 1
SCALE IN MILES
Continental Village
South Mtn. Pass
Mine Mtn.
Clinton (600)
Ft. Montgomery
The Torne
Anthony's Nose
Ft. Clinton
Hessian Lake
Bear Mountain
Manitou Mtn.
Hollow Brook
Jacob's Hill
Putnam withdraws 5 October
Doodletown
Ft. Independence
Peekskill Bay
Peekskill
Putnam (1,000)
Timp Brook
Dunderberg Mountain
The Timp
Americans departed prior to the arrival of the British
Naval Demonstration night of 5-6 October
Hudson River
Dewey Brook
Blue Mtn.
The Pines
Buckberg Mtn.
Spitzenberg Mtn.
Pingyp Mtn.
Lake Meahagh
Verplack's Point
0600 hrs 6 October
Stony Point
Paint 5 October
Ft. Clinton (3,000)
(Hessians, British, and Loyalist)
Cedar Pond Brook

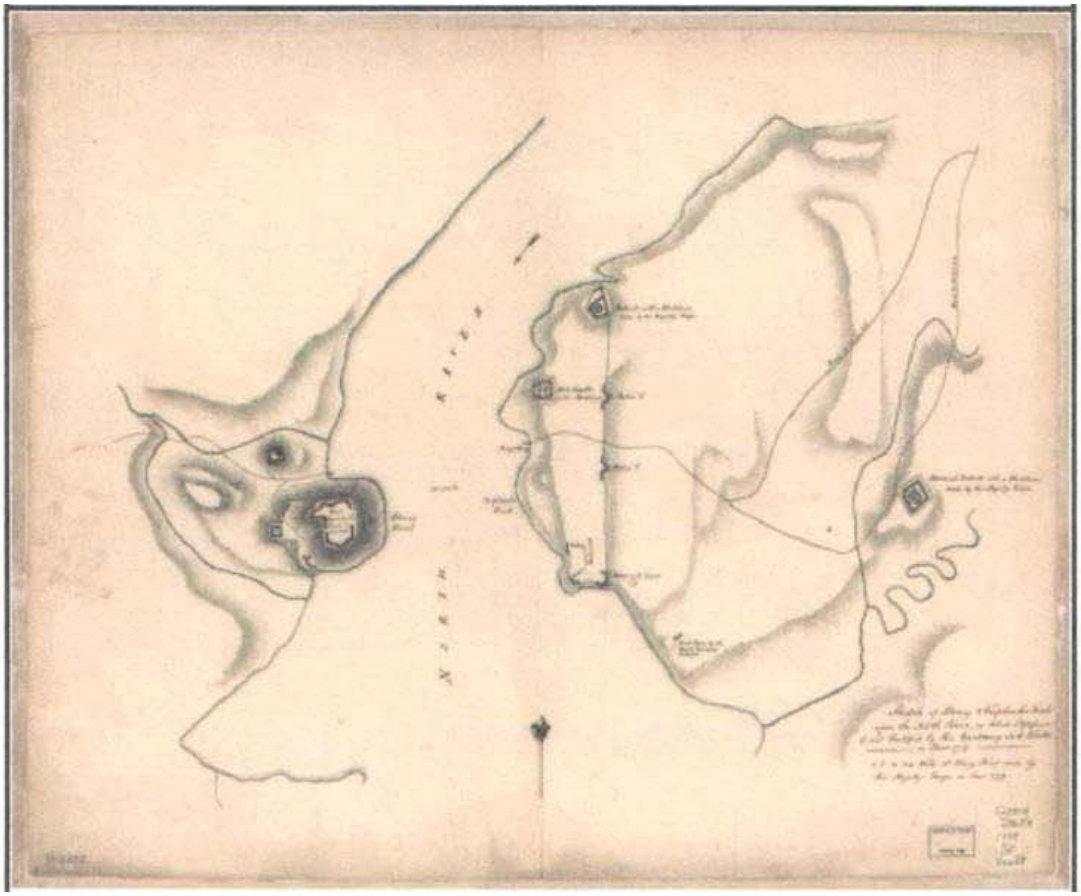
Plan of the Two Posts on Stony and Verplanck's Points

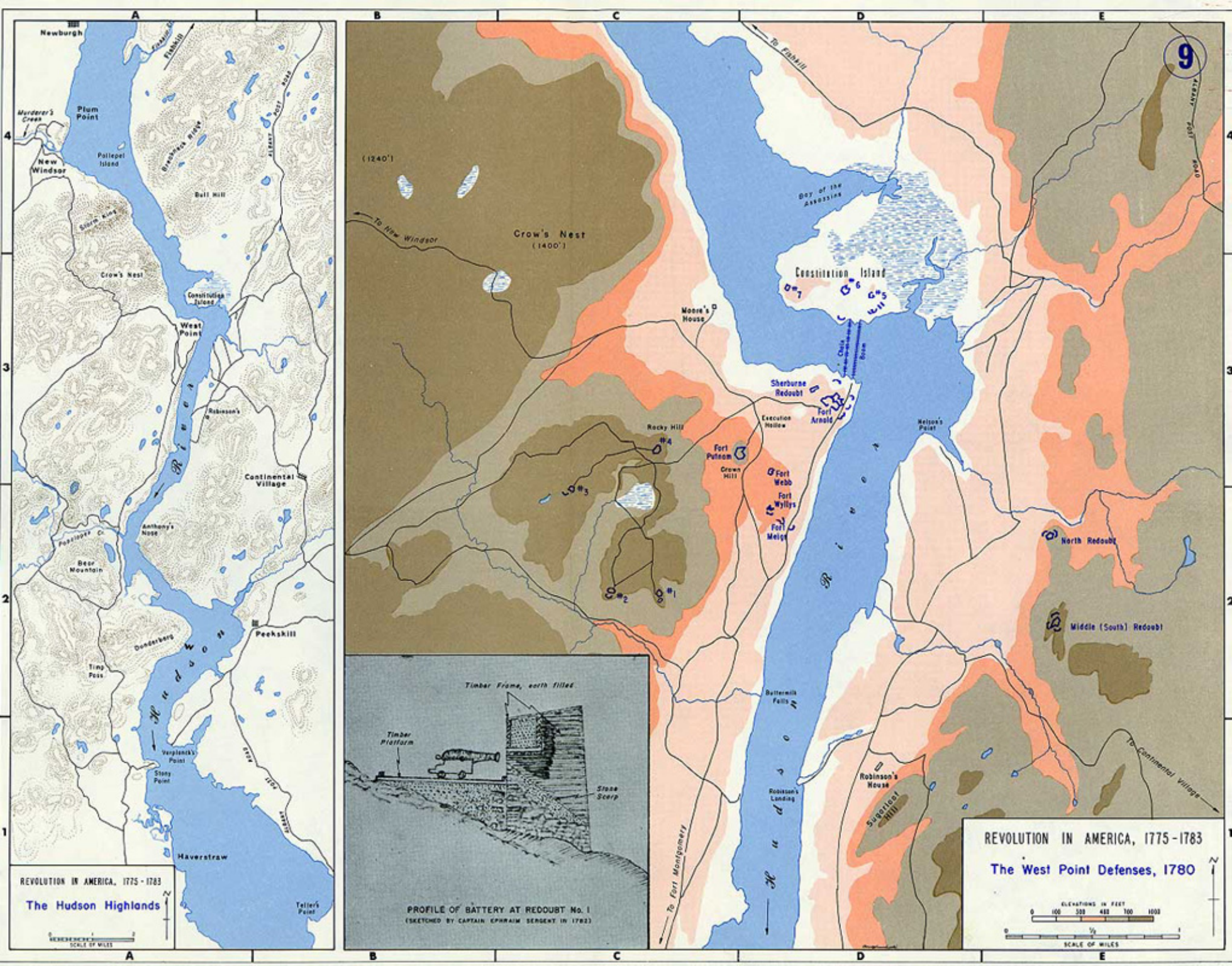


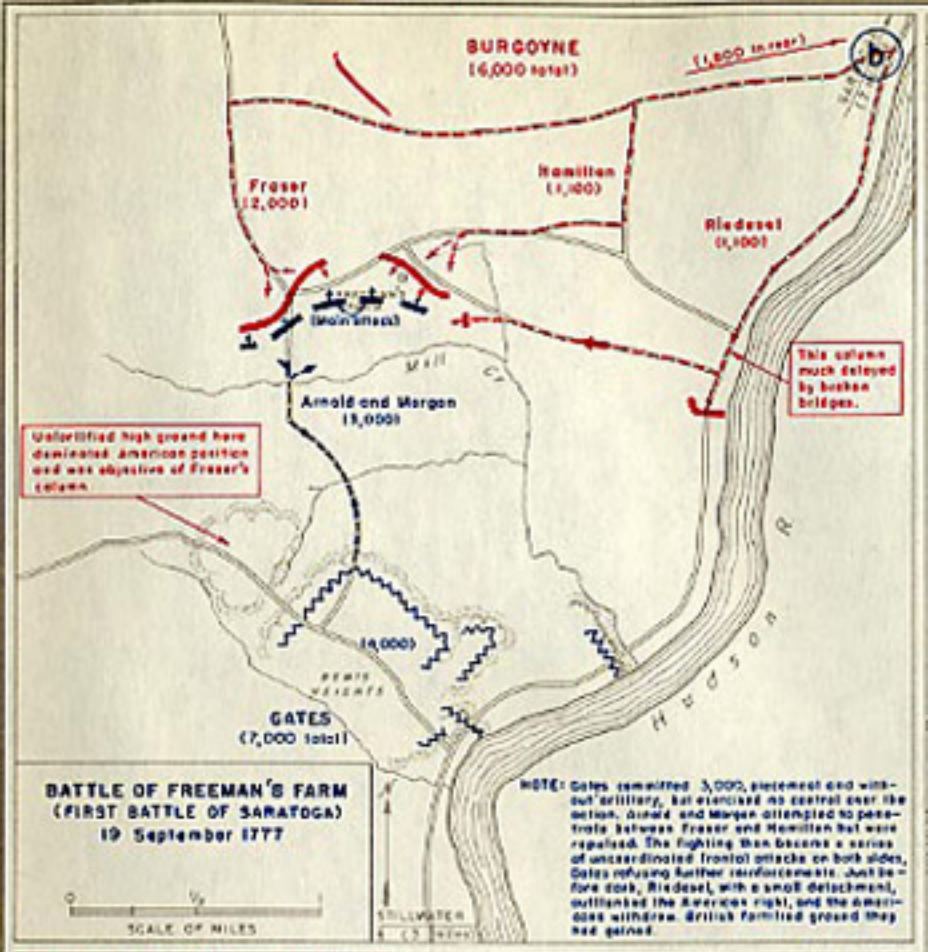
http://library.bloomu.edu/Archives/Maps/map171.htm

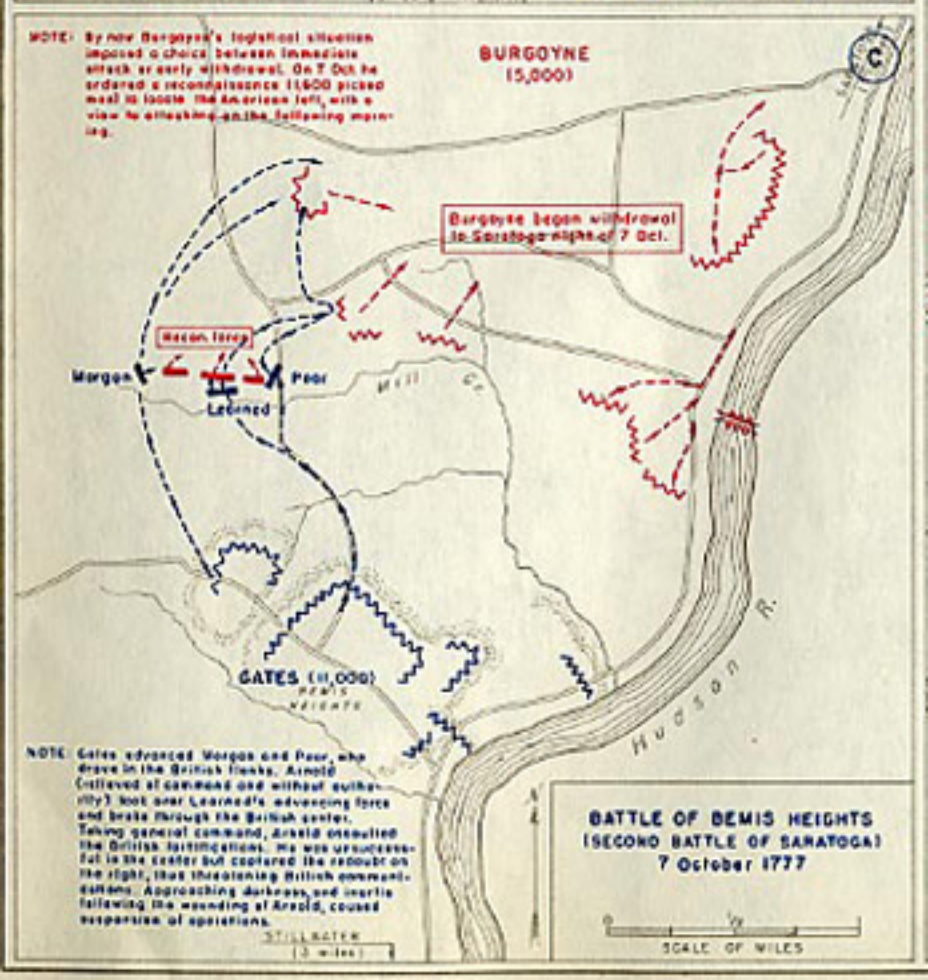
Sketch of Stoney & Verplank's Points

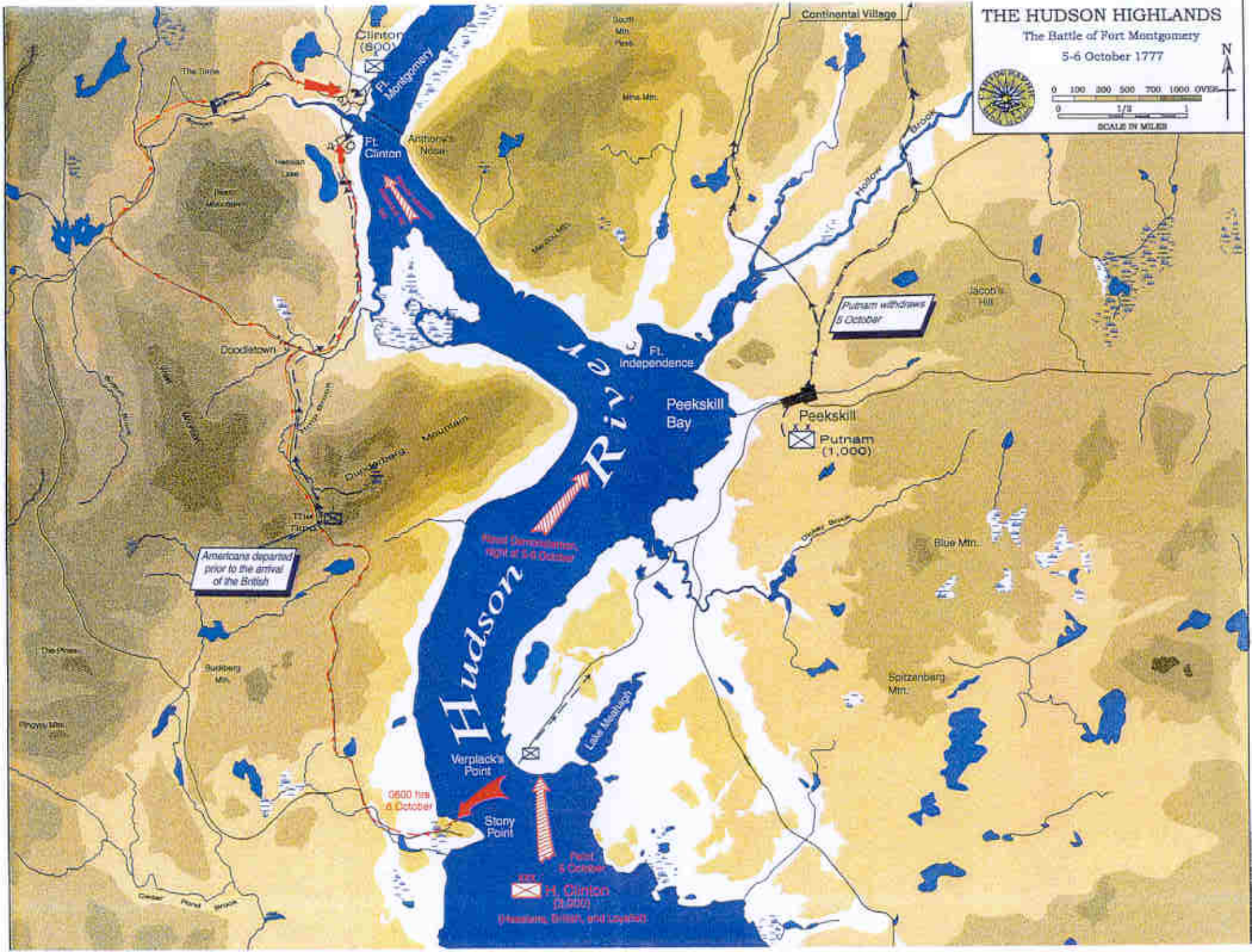
Upon the North River




Newburgh
Plum Point
Murderer's Creek
New Windsor
Pollepel Island
Breakneck Ridge
Bull Hill
Storm King
Crow's Nest
Constitution Island
West Point
Robinson's
Continental Village
Anthony's Nose
Beer Mountain
Donderberg
Peekskill
Tiny Pass
Verplanck's Point
Stony Point
Haverstraw
Teller's Point
REVOLUTION IN AMERICA, 1775 - 1783
The Hudson Highlands
SCALE OF MILES
(1240')
To New Windsor
Crow's Nest
(1400')
Moore's House
Boy of the Assassins
Constitution Island
Chain Boom
Sherburne Redoubt
Fort Arnold
Execution Hollow
Nelson's Point
Rocky Hill
#4
Fort Putnam
Crown Hill
Fort Webb
Fort Wyllys
Fort Meigs
#3
#2
#1
North Redoubt
Middle (South) Redoubt
Buttermilk Falls
Robinson's House
Sugarloaf Hills
Robeson's Landing
To Fort Montgomery
To Continental Village
Timber Frame, earth filled
Timber Platform
Stone Scarp
PROFILE OF BATTERY AT REDOUBT No. 1
(SKETCHED BY CAPTAIN EPHRAIM SERGENT IN 1782)
9
REVOLUTION IN AMERICA, 1775 - 1783
The West Point Defenses, 1780
ELEVATIONS IN FEET
0 100 300 400 700 1000
SCALE OF MILES


BURGOYNE
(6,000 total)
(1,800 in rear)
b
Fraser
(2,000)
Hamilton
(1,100)
Riedesel
(1,900)
(Main attack)
Arnold and Morgan
(3,000)
This column much delayed by broken bridges.
Unfortified high ground here dominated American position and was objective of Fraser's column.
(4,000)
GATES
(7,000 total)
Hudson R.
BATTLE OF FREEMAN'S FARM
(FIRST BATTLE OF SARATOGA)
19 September 1777
SCALE OF MILES
NOTE: Gates committed 3,000, pieces and without artillery, but exercised no control over the action. Arnold and Morgan attempted to penetrate between Fraser and Hamilton but were repulsed. The fighting then became a series of uncoordinated frontal attacks on both sides, Gates refusing further reinforcements. Just before dark, Riedesel, with a small detachment, outflanked the American right, and the Americans withdrew. British fortified ground they had gained.


NOTE: By now Burgoyne's logistical situation imposed a choice between immediate attack or early withdrawal. On 7 Oct he ordered a reconnaissance (1,600 picked men) to locate the American left, with a view to attacking on the following morning.
BURGOYNE
(5,000)
c
Burgoyne began withdrawal in Saratoga night of 7 Oct.
Recon. force
Morgan
Poor
Learned
GATES (11,000)
Hudson R.
NOTE: Gates advanced Morgan and Poor, who drove in the British flanks. Arnold (relieved of command and without authority) took over Learned's advancing force and broke through the British center. Taking general command, Arnold assaulted the British fortifications. He was unsuccessful in the center but captured the redoubt on the right, thus threatening British communications. Approaching darkness and inertia following the wounding of Arnold, caused suspension of operations.
BATTLE OF BEMIS HEIGHTS
(SECOND BATTLE OF SARATOGA)
7 October 1777
SCALE OF MILES


THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS
The Battle of Fort Montgomery
5-6 October 1777
N
0 100 300 500 700 1000 OVER
0 1/2 1
SCALE IN MILES
Continental Village
Clinton (800)
Ft. Montgomery
Ft. Clinton
Anthony's Nose
Bear Mountain
Doodletown
Peekskill Bay
Ft. Independence
Peekskill
Putnam (1,000)
Putnam withdraws 5 October
Jacob's Hill
Hollow Brook
Blue Mtn.
Spitzenberg Mtn.
Hudson River
Americans departed prior to the arrival of the British
Forest Demonstration, night of 5-6 October
Verplanck's Point
0600 hrs 6 October
Stony Point
Land. 6 October
H. Clinton (5,000)
(Hessians, British, and Loyalists)
Lake Meahagh