



A bulletin issued in the interests of the New Hampshire Society, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION and in tribute to the PATRIOTS OF THE THIRTEEN COLONIES, who pledged their lives and fortunes to establish the Republic.

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2003 MUSTERFIELD ENCAMPMENT

Sutton – The annual Musterfield Farm Day event at the Musterfield Farm Museum & Matthew Harvey Homestead in Sutton, NH on August 23 and 24 saw members of the Sons of the American Revolution encamped on fields that were once used for the training of 18th Century militia. This annual encampment, part of a weekend program, is designed to enlighten the public about the Revolutionary War, New Hampshire's 18th Century history and the roll of the 18th Century militia. Members of the NHSSAR's NH Rangers (Stark's Company) and the CTSSAR's 11th Connecticut Regiment demonstrated military maneuvers and educated the public about the history of the Revolutionary War. The 2003 encampment and activities of the militia commemorated the farm's history as the site of Militia Musters during the 18th and 19th centuries. Muster Field Farm Museum itself was established for educational purposes to promote and encourage NH History. The Farm Day event is the museum's largest event of the year, a two-day celebration of agrarian life from the 18th to 20th centuries. The weekend saw hands-on exhibits and demonstrations positioned over the large fields and in the historic buildings of the farm. Visitors were treated to exhibitions of haying, threshing, cider and ice cream making, hand-hewing of timbers, stone wall building and stone splitting, rope making, and other farm-related skills.



Patriots by the Fireside



Drilling the Troops at Musterfield

Pictured above: members of the NHSSAR and New England Contingent prepare to drill and march.



New Hampshire



Minute Man



Members of the New England Contingent at Musterfield Farm Days

*Muster Field Farm Museum
& The Matthew Harvey Homestead*

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This well-attended encampment traditionally marks the end of the NHSSAR Color Guard's busy summer season. Over 80 colonial and British living historians attended. Military maneuvers included mustering and drilling, demonstrations of the manual of arms (Von Steuben's drill) and parade marching. Saturday's festivities saw two colonials (NHSSAR compatriots) tried by a British Military Tribunal (47th Regiment of Foot) and sentenced to a mortal fate, one to be hung and the other to be executed by firing squad.

The crowd and the colonial militia managed to save one of these patriots, but the other was not as lucky and the public was reminded of King George III's idea of justice, and the Redcoat's treatment of those who would dare demand their liberty. Upon the conclusion of this reenactment the public was polled and the outcome of the poll mirrored the political sentiments held in America in the 18th century. About one-third were for the colonial captives, one-third supported the British, and one-third chose to remain neutral.

