



Camden County College and the Haddonfield Skirmish Committee present a seven-part lecture series on the American Revolution, from the perspective of our communities, in preparation for the June 3, 2023 Skirmish event in Haddonfield.

When Religious and Political Beliefs Conflict: The Dilemma of Old Gloucester County Quakers During the American Revolution

Wednesday, 4/12/23 - 6:30 p.m.
204 Wayne Avenue, Haddonfield
Speaker: **Dr. Garry Stone**

Prior to the British attack on Massachusetts militia at Lexington, April 19, 1775, almost all Old Gloucester County residents were "Whigs." They believed that King and Parliament had no right to levy taxes on them. Members of the Religious Society of Friends had lobbied along with their neighbors to oppose the Townsend Duties. But when independence-minded Whigs gained control of New Jersey's government and began preparations for War with Britain, unity ruptured. Gloucester County Quakers found themselves caught between Rebel controlled state, county, and township governments and a Yearly Meeting dominated by Philadelphia Loyalists. Some men abandoned their faith and became officers and soldiers in the militia and Continental Army. Others like Thomas Redman enjoyed being "martyred" by intolerant Rebels. Most Quakers seem to have tried to avoid conflict. The Haddonfield Monthly Meeting enforced political neutrality.

FREE LECTURE SERIES

The Impact of Disease on the American Revolution and Local Communities

Wednesday, 4/19/23 - 1 p.m.
Blackwood Campus, Connector Building, Room 105 - Civic Hall

Speaker: **Kelly Jackson**

Not only did George Washington's army have to fight British soldiers during the American Revolution they had to fight an even more dangerous foe, disease. Diphtheria, Malaria, Yellow Fever, Dysentery, and Small Pox all had an impact in one way or another on how the war was fought. Washington also had to fight the State Houses in the various states that forbade smallpox inoculation once he decided he wanted to have Continental troops inoculated. The community spread of disease in the Revolutionary period had an enormous impact on how the General timed his battles, where he rested, and how he raised troops.

Phillis Wheatley: An Enslaved Poet

Wednesday, 4/26/23 - 6:30 p.m.
204 Wayne Avenue, Haddonfield

Speaker: **Daisy Century,**
American Historical Theatre

Daisy Century of the American Historical Theatre will present a theatrical portrayal of "Phillis Wheatley: Enslaved Poet." Phillis Wheatley is the first published African-American poet and the first African-American female public writer. Her poetry dramatized the condition of black Americans during the Revolutionary Era. While still an enslaved person, she met with Benjamin Franklin and George Washington, traveled to London and attended social events with many dignitaries. Although shortly after her manumission, she died in poverty at age 31, her poetry remains as an eloquent voice of hope for American Liberty.

African Americans in the Age of Revolution

Wednesday, 5/3/23 - 1 p.m.
Camden Campus, CTC Conference Center
Speaker: **Kendra Boyd**

This lecture will discuss African Americans during the Revolutionary war, concentrating on New Jersey and Philadelphia. It will cover African Americans' direct involvement in fighting for the Patriots, Black Loyalists who sought freedom by fighting for the British, and African Americans' views on the revolutionary philosophy of freedom that left out both free and enslaved Black people.

Fighting for the Crown: Colonial Loyalists

Wednesday, 5/17/23 - 6:30 pm
204 Wayne Avenue, Haddonfield

Speaker: **Herb Kaufman**

In both schools and in the media, it is argued that with the signing of the Declaration of Independence, American citizens rose up as one to challenge the King and Parliament. However, nothing could be further from the truth. It is estimated that when the war began only one-third of the colonists supported the revolution. What actually began was our first civil war: a very personal war of battles and bitterness, often pitting neighbor against neighbor.

*This series is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The views expressed in these lectures are not necessarily those of the New Jersey Council or of the National Endowment.

LECTURE SERIES (CONTINUED)

We Were There Too: Jews and the American Revolution

Wednesday, 5/24/23 - 7 p.m.
Cherry Hill Library, 1100 Kings Highway North, Cherry Hill

Speaker: **Norman H. Finkelstein**

The role of Jews in the events of the American Revolution is largely unrecognized, given that they represented a small percent of the total population and that they were scattered throughout the thirteen colonies. Their loyalties like those of their neighbors were divided with a sizable majority favoring the Patriot vision of an independent America. However, some Jewish families were divided within themselves in their loyalties. Their participation marked the first time since their exile from Jerusalem that they could take their place alongside Christian neighbors as equals. This talk will discuss Jewish attitudes toward the Revolution and their contributions to it.

Freemasonry and the American Revolution

Wednesday, 5/31/23 - 6:30 p.m.
204 Wayne Avenue, Haddonfield

Speaker: **John Herd Couch Minott**

This lecture will address the mostly mythical idea that Freemasonry was at the ideological, political, and military core of the American struggle for independence. The Fraternity did indeed help disseminate the philosophies of the enlightenment and the perceived ancient rights associated with being a British citizen, but these concepts were also being circulated by their far more numerous peers. We will also cover such topics as the Boston Tea Party, and the role Military Lodges played in binding together the officers of the Continental Army. However, the major portion of the talk will be devoted to the role played by individual Freemasons such as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Warren, John Hancock, Benedict Arnold, Paul Revere, and John Paul Jones.

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UNHEARD VOICES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Presented by
the **Haddonfield Skirmish Committee**
and **Camden County College***

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES

