

Whose 250th?



As students of early American life preparing to commemorate America's 250th year of independence, what should we know and what might we do?

What Caused the American Revolution? Historians' Views From the Sesquicentennial Era



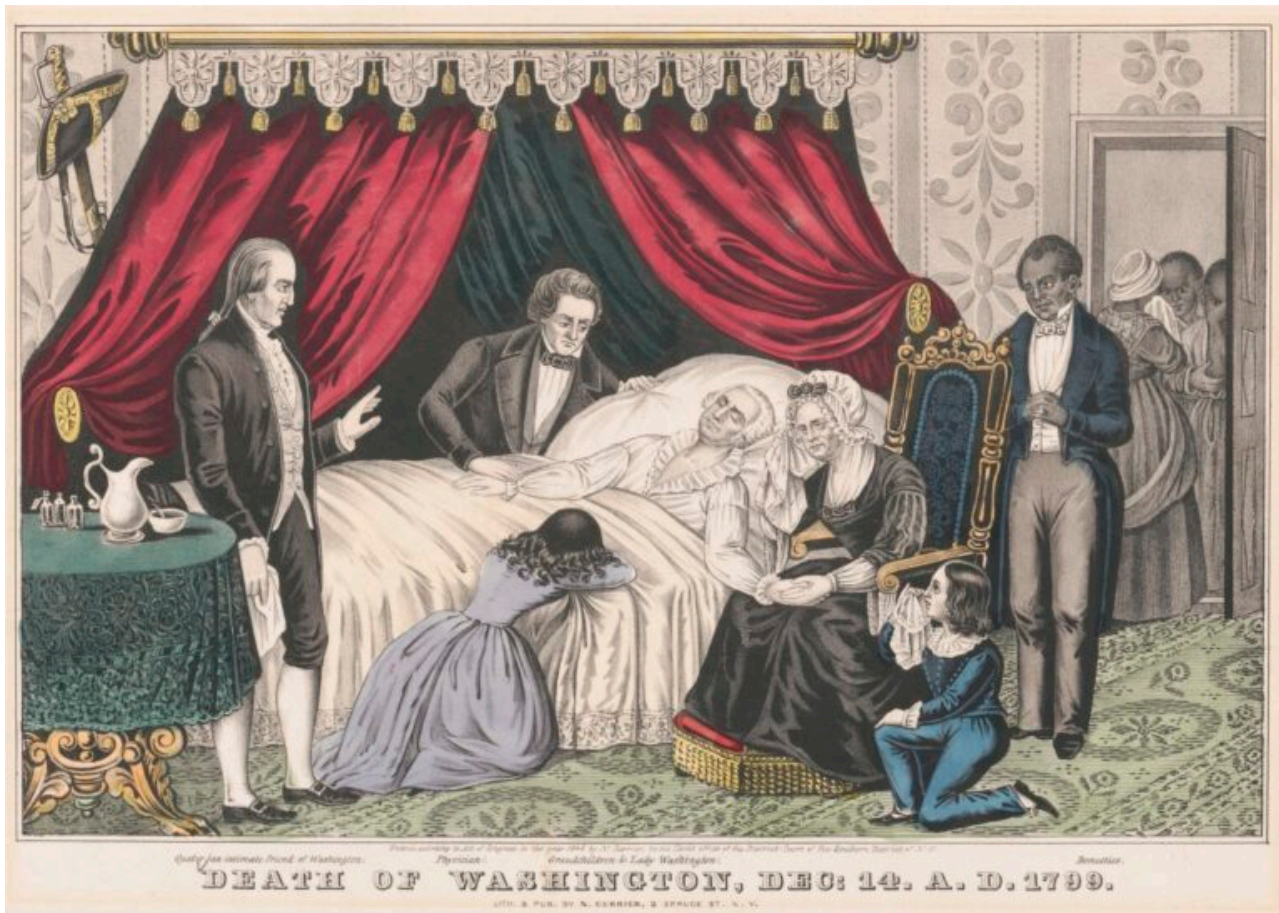
Historians today may have varying interpretations of what caused the Revolution, just as their predecessors did a century ago.

[Pasted Indians: John F. Watson, Scrapbook Culture, and the Construction of a Lenape Image](#)



Rather than preserving a direct record of Native life, the page reveals the processes by which early American antiquarians assembled and interpreted the past.

[Read More Books: John Garrison Marks, Thy Will Be Done: George Washington's Legacy of Slavery and the Fight for American Memory \(UNC Press, 2026\)](#)



If there are two rules about early American history, one is that, no matter how vast, George Washington will always be instructive.

[The NorthEast Corner: Rediscovering the Final Resting Place of Concord's Black Community](#)



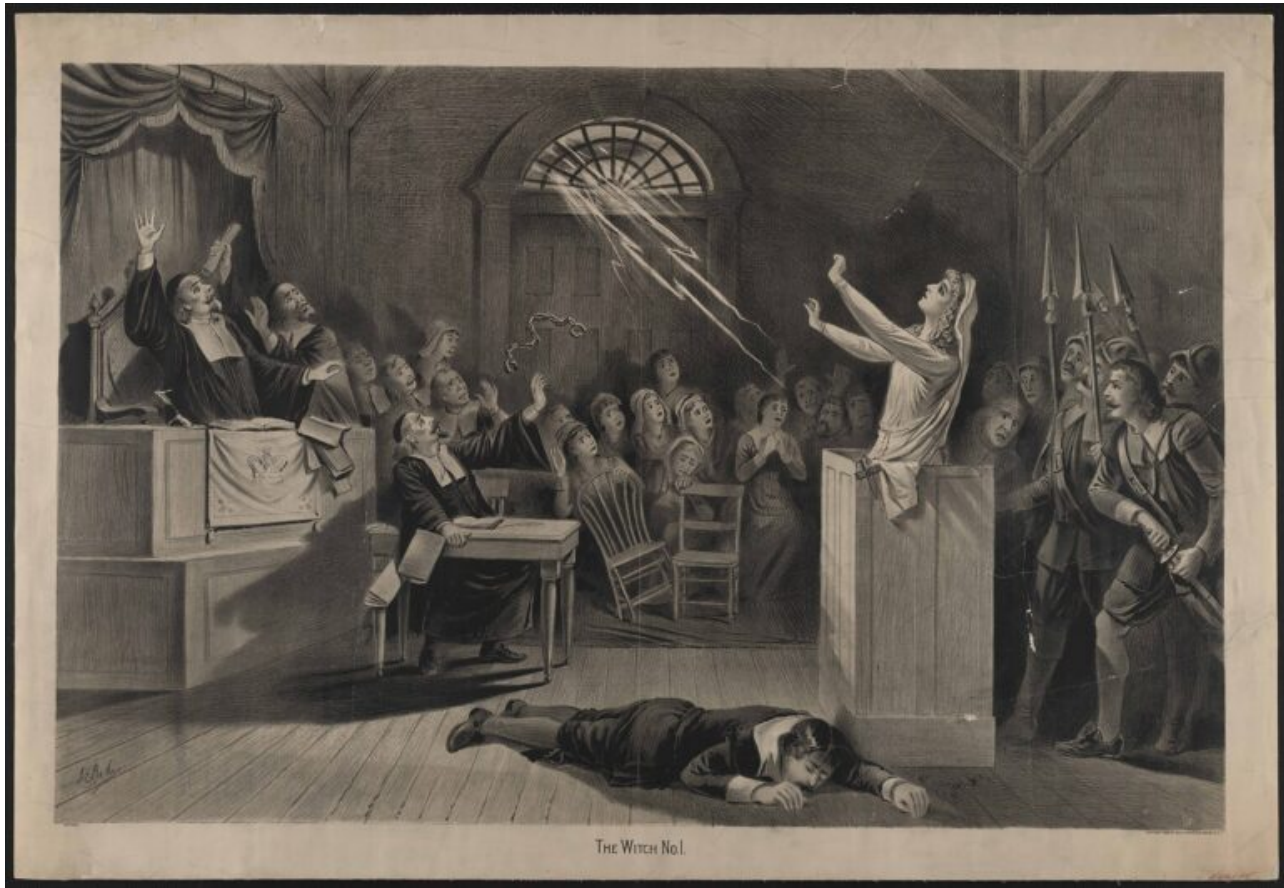
Ultimately, the search for Concord's lost graves is not solely about stones and names; it is about restoring individuals to history, one clue at a time.

[Smuggler Lawrence Kelly on the Salish Sea](#)



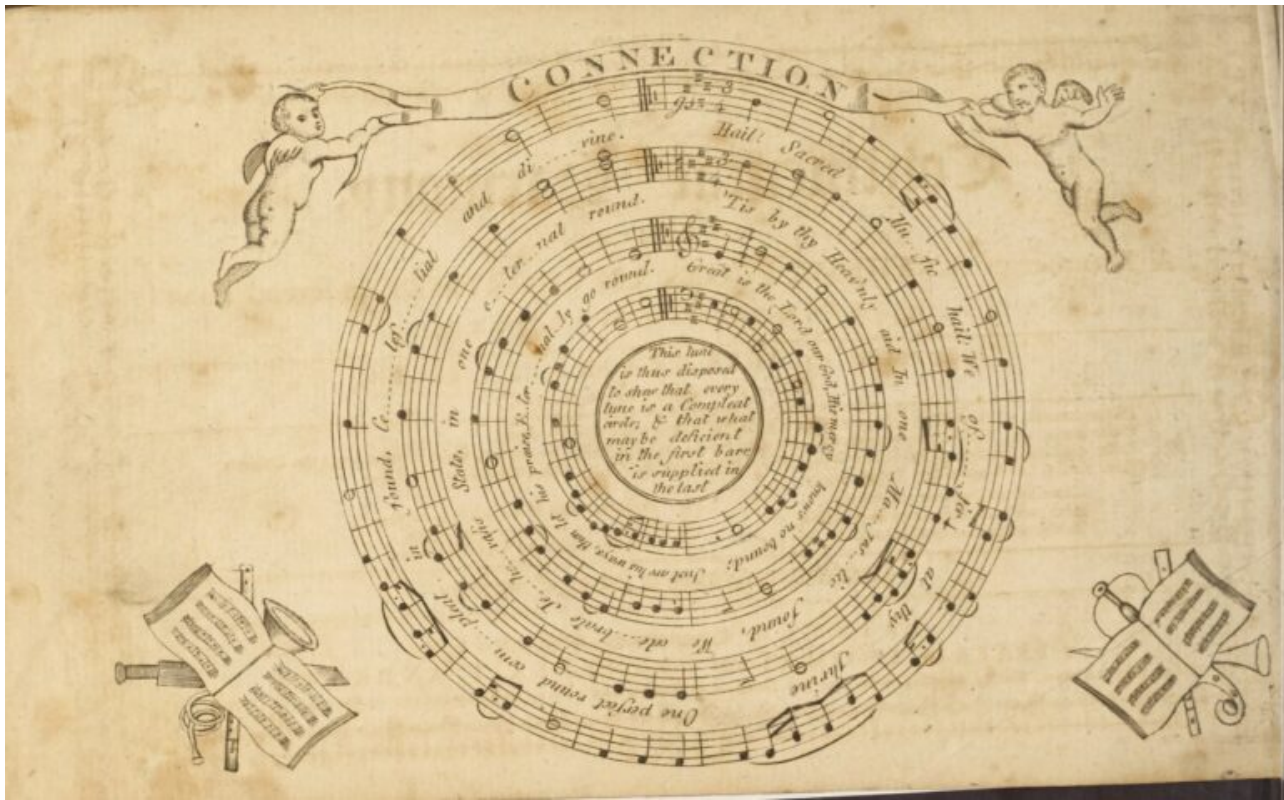
Separating fact from folklore in Kelly's life is no easy task. Secondhand reminiscences and nautical gossip layer much of the available information.

[The Medical Doctor Who Triggered the Salem Witch Trials of 1692](#)



There is little historical information about Dr. Griggs, but what little there is, is significant. Also important are historians' assessments of his medical competence and moral character.

[Writing William Billings](#)




When historical details are nonexistent, make them up. Not usually considered sound advice to historians, granted, but possibly warranted under these circumstances.

[John Adams and the Making of the Presidency](#)

LINDSAY M. CHERVINSKY

John Adams
and the Precedents
That Forged
the Republic

A detailed oil painting portrait of John Adams, showing him from the chest up. He has a large, curly white wig, a high forehead, and is wearing a dark coat over a white cravat. The background is dark and indistinct.

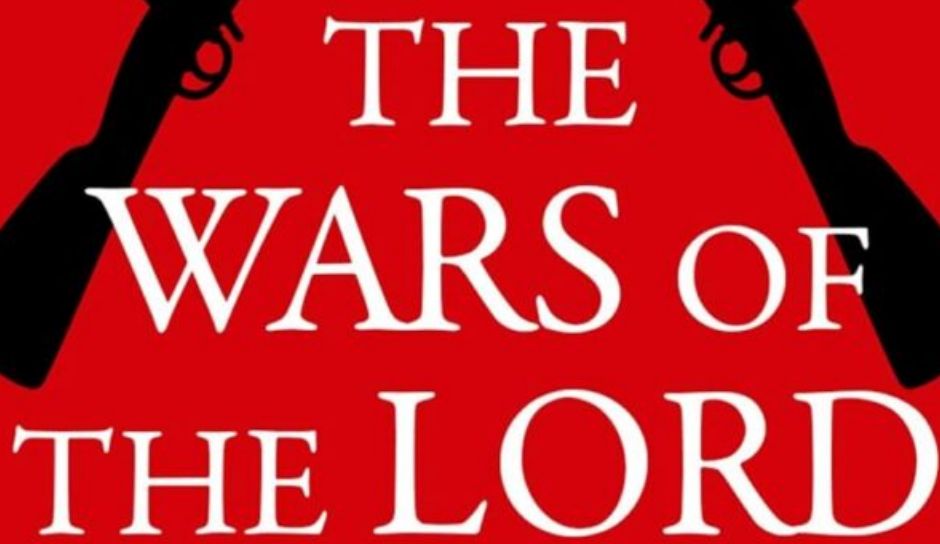
MAKING
THE
PRESIDENCY

In Making the Presidency, she shows how Adams made decisions when no structure or precedent offered guidance.

Attempting to Merge Narratives: An Alternative History of Puritan-Native Relations



**THE
PURITAN
CONQUEST
OF AMERICA'S
FIRST PEOPLE**



**THE
WARS OF
THE LORD**

MATTHEW J. TUININGA

Tuininga contends that although they had disagreements about how to execute their Wars of the Lord, both missionaries and warriors were in consensus about waging an intentional Godly war.