

If these monuments could Talk

The Whiskey Rebellion, Popular Rights and the
Meaning of the First Amendment
TPS Eastern Region Waynesburg University Barb Kirby
Director

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February 24, 2018
TPS Level II Workshop



Thomas Gaddis House 1769 Library of Congress <https://www.loc.gov/item/pa1916/>

If These Monuments Could Talk

Setting the Stage: What is a Monument?

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What is a Monument?



**Albert Gallatin
Surveying
Statue
Friendship Hill
National
Historic Site**

<https://www.nps.gov/frhi/learn/education/classrooms/field-trip-self-guided.htm>

Monument Definition

1 : something that serves as a memorial; especially : a building, pillar, stone, or statue honoring a person or event

2 : a work, saying, or deed that lasts or that is worth preserving <the book is a monument of scholarship>

3 : a boundary marker (as a stone)

4 : a place of historic interest or natural beauty set aside and maintained by the government as public property

Miriam-Webster Student Dictionary <http://www.wordcentral.com/cgi-bin/student?book=Student&va=monument>

A Folk Song: Copper Kettle

Written by Albert Frank Beddoe

Sung by Joan Baez 1962

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=glMQXjy46J8>

A Print or Painting

J. Howard Iams, Artist-Historian

◆ Tarring and Feathering

- Outraged farmers considered tarring and feathering a form of protest
- First recorded incident: September 6, 1791
 - Near Mingo Creek
 - Robert Johnson, Deputy Tax Collector for Allegheny and Washington Counties

A Print or Painting

J. Howard Iams, Artist-Historian

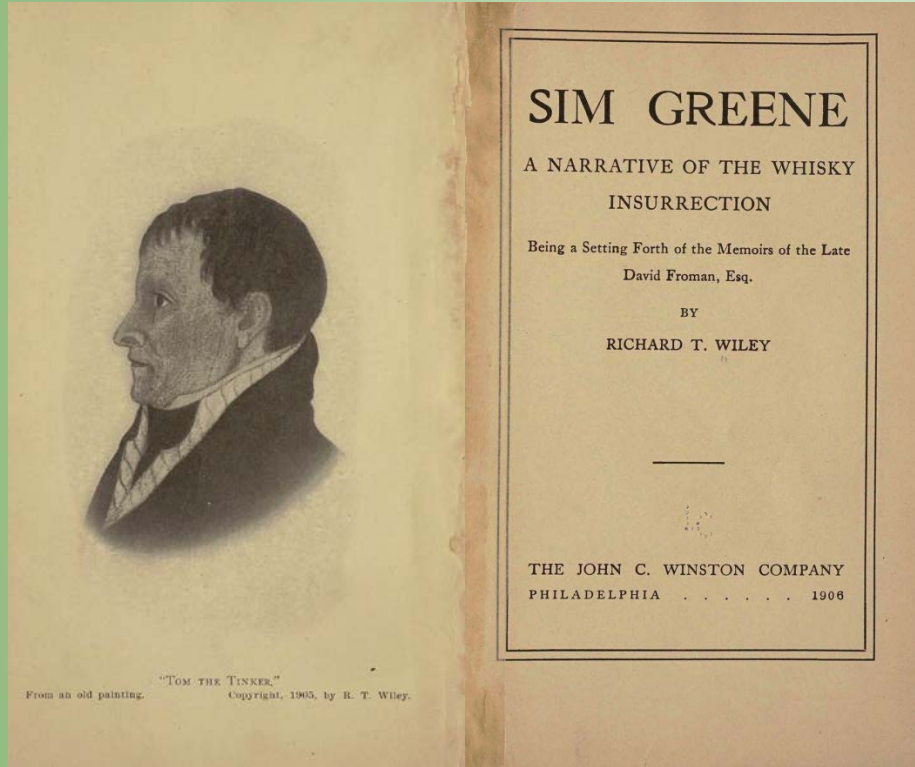
- ◆ [Tarring and Feathering](#)
- ◆ [Black Horse Tavern](#)
- ◆ [Miller House](#)
- ◆ [Colonel Presley Neville House](#)
- ◆ [The David Bradford House \(r\)](#)
- ◆ [The Burning Cabin](#)
- ◆ [The Terrible Night](#)

Gravestone

Inscription: Here lies the body of Captain James McFarlane of Washington, PA. He departed this life July 17, 1794 aged 43. He served through the war with undaunted courage in defense of American independence against the lawless and despotic encroachments of Great Britain. He fell at last by the hands of an unprincipled villain in support of what he supposed to be the rights of his country, much lamented by a numerous and respectable circle of acquaintances.

https://images.findagrave.com/photos/2014/257/90867406_1410846959.jpg

An 18th Century Book

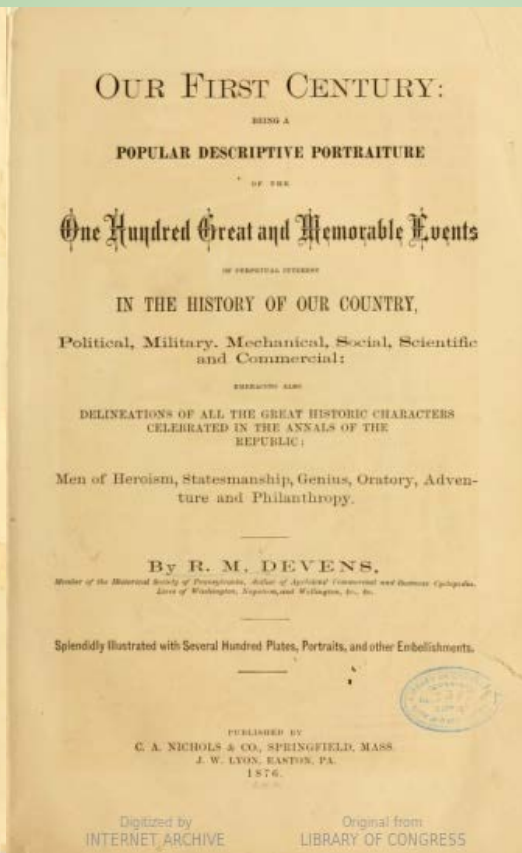


Wiley, R. T. (1906) Sim Greene, a narrative of the whisky insurrection; being a setting forth of the memoirs of the late David Froman. Philadelphia, The J. C. Winston company. [Pdf] Retrieved from the Library of Congress,

<https://www.loc.gov/item/06027712/>

This portrait labeled Tom The Tinker is found on the page opposite the title page.

A Nineteenth Century Book



Devens, R. M. (1876). Our first century: being a popular descriptive portraiture of the one hundred great and memorable events of perpetual interest in the history of our country.

Photograph Collections : Historic American Buildings Survey



<https://www.loc.gov/item/pa1916/> A 15 page data manuscript that includes information about Gaddis and his house during the Whiskey Rebellion

Historic Roadside Markers

Bradford House Historical Marker

Marker Location:

At site, 175 S. Main St., Washington PA

Dedication Date:

April 7, 1966

<http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-29A>

Historic Site

Woodville Plantation

Home of John and Presley Neville

in the early 1780s, General John Neville and his son Presley constructed Woodville, a Virginia-style country residence on land still claimed by both Pennsylvania and Virginia. Once complete, Neville gave the home to Presley and moved to nearby Bower Hill. When Whiskey Rebellion protesters burned down Bower Hill in July 1794, Neville returned to Woodville, where guests and relatives scratched their signatures into the window panes with the point of a diamond. Today, Woodville is owned by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation and open to the public.

<http://woodvilleplantation.org/>

The Whiskey Rebellion



Topic 1) The Tax

The Tax

Focus: The Excise Tax on Distilled Spirits and the First Amendment.

Key Individuals: Alexander Hamilton, John Neville, and Albert Gallatin

Investigative Question: Was the Excise Tax on Whiskey Fair?

Inquiry Task

As a team analyze the primary sources from both sides of the excise tax issue. Fill out the t-chart worksheet showing both points of view on the issue. The t-charts will be uploaded to the class Edmodo page so that the entire class can share their analysis. Individual students will prepare to support either side of the issue in an essay.

[Excise Tax t-chart worksheet](#)

The Excise Tax on Distilled Spirits (March 3, 1791)

FIRST CONGRESS. SESS. III. CH. 15. 1791.

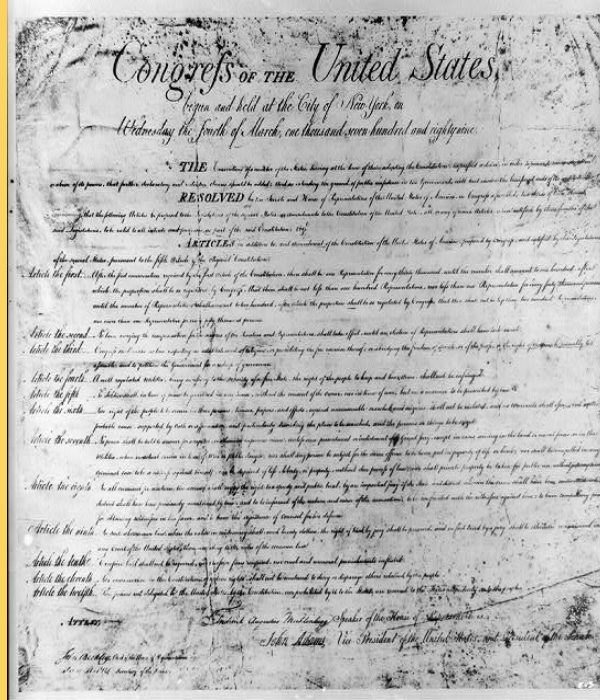
CHAP. XV.—*An Act repealing, after the last day of June next, the duties heretofore laid upon Distilled Spirits imported from abroad, and laying others in their stead; and also upon Spirits distilled within the United States, and for appropriating the same.*

<http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llsl&fileName=001/llsl001.db&recNum=>

322

Photographic reproduction of original Bill of Rights

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2012645734/>

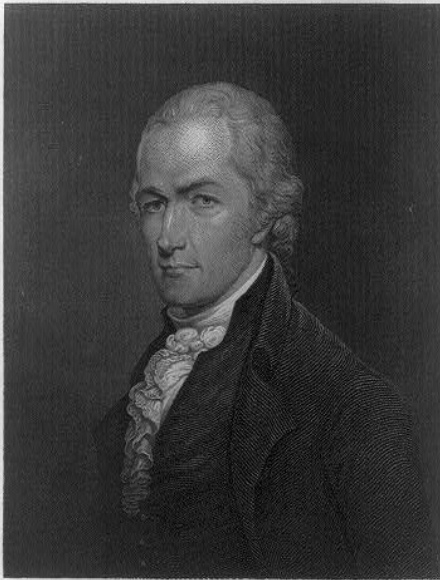


Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

**Image of a copper kettle still
in the style of western farmers**

<https://journals.psu.edu/wph/article/view/4262/4079>

Hamilton's Rationale for Tax, 1792



Engraved by R. Pinckney from the Original Miniature by J. M. W. Turner.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

A Hamilton

Hamilton's Rationale for Tax, 1782

https://www.ttb.gov/public_info/special_feature.shtml

Alexander Hamilton. , . [No Date Recorded on
Caption Card] [Photograph] Retrieved from the
Library of Congress,

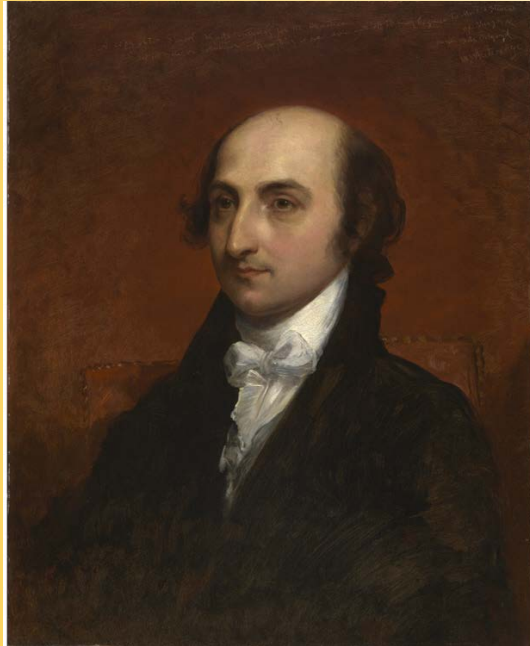
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2004672093/> .

Neville's Broadside, May 1794

<http://explorepahistory.com/displayimage.php?imgId=1-2-731>

Gallatin's Petition, 1792

<http://explorepahistory.com/odocument.php?docId=1-4-16D>



Albert Gallatin

Artist

Thomas Worthington Whittredge, 22 May 1820 - 25 Feb 1910

Copy after

Gilbert Stuart, 3 Dec 1755 - 9 Jul 1828

Sitter

Albert Gallatin, 29 Jan 1761 - 12 Aug 1849

Date

after 1859

[National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution](#)

Exciseman Cartoon, 1792

<http://explorepahistory.com/displayimage.php?imgId=1-2-70E&storyId=1-9-16>

Examples of Student Essays on the Excise Tax on Distilled Spirits

[Excise Tax Essay #1](#)

[Excise Tax Essay #2](#)

The Whiskey Rebellion

Topic 2) The Spark

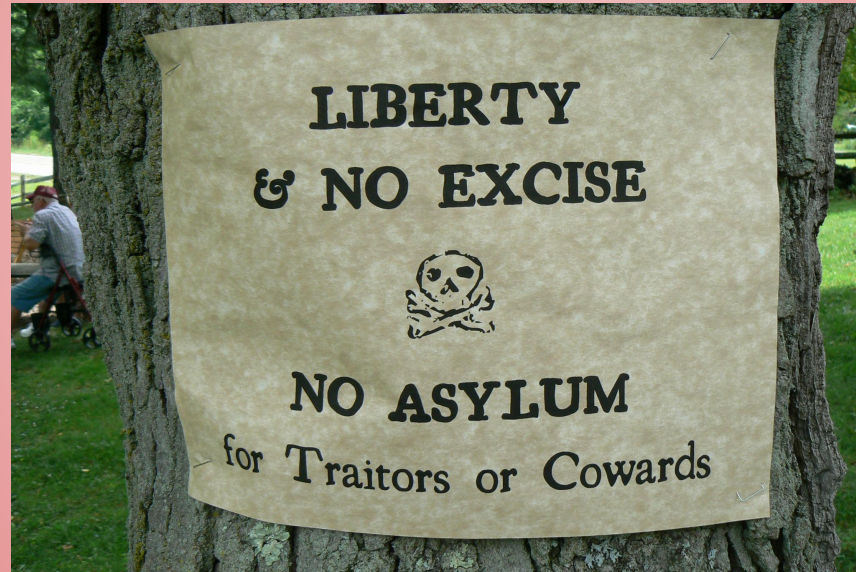


Photo by Greg Giardina at the Miller Homestead 2017

The Spark

Key locations: the Oliver Miller Homestead, Woodville Plantation, and Bower Hill

Key individuals: Oliver Miller, James McFarland, David Lennox, & John Neville

Investigative Question: What were the differences between John Neville and Oliver Miller?

Inquiry Task

Compare the Oliver Miller Homestead and the Woodville Plantation. Analyze the description of the events in the letter from General Gibson to Governor Mifflin from Pittsburgh on July 18, 1794 in order to help create a news report of the incidents of mid-July at the Miller Homestead and Bower Hill. Students will be able to use a Google Doc template of a Pittsburgh Gazette for their story.

The Oliver Miller Homestead

<http://olivermillerhomestead.org/>

[Map of Oliver Miller Homestead](#)

Woodville Plantation

<http://woodvilleplantation.org/>

Neville and Miller were basically neighbors

Bower Hill Historic Marker

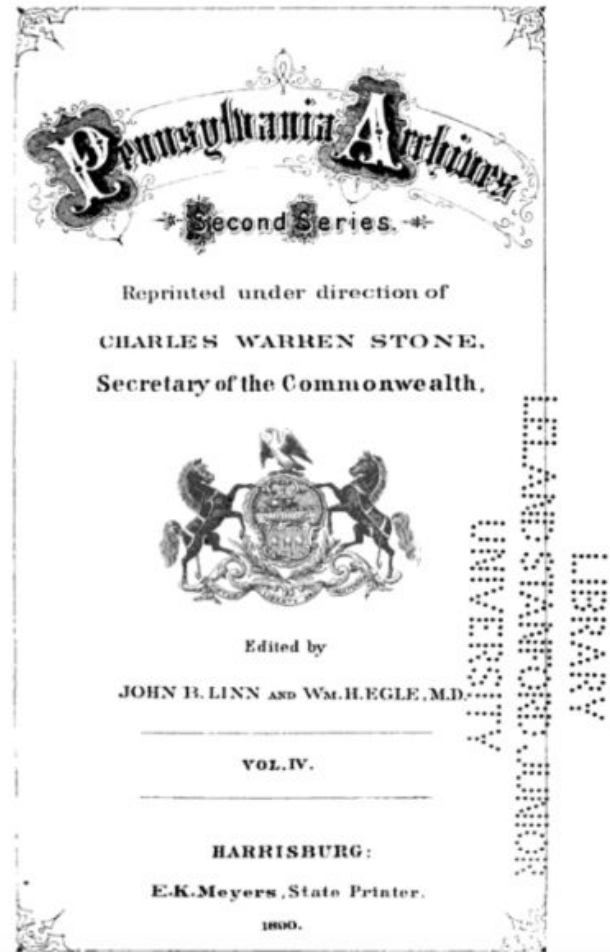
<http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-29C>

Bower Hill on Fire viewed from Woodville

**Painting of Neville's House Burning in 1794 as
viewed from Woodville**

General Gibson to Governor Mifflin on the attack of Bower Hill

[Pennsylvania Archives - General
Gibson to Governor Mifflin](#)



The Whiskey Rebellion



Topic 3) The Rebellion

Photo taken by Greg Giardina of an 8th grade student team project that replicated a 1794 Liberty Pole including a Phrygian red cap borrowed from ancient Greece and made popular in both the American and the French Revolutions to symbolize freedom.

The Rebellion

Key locations: the David Bradford House, The Mingo Creek Meeting House, and Whiskey Point

Key individuals: David Bradford, Tom the Tinker, and Albert Gallatin

Investigative Question: Were the actions of the Whiskey Rebels protected by the First Amendment?

Inquiry Task

Student Teams will create an “instrument of insurrection” (a speech, a handbill, a note (like those of Tom the Tinker) featuring one of the activities presented in this section.

Mingo Creek Meeting House

<https://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=45012>

Tom the Tinker

Wiley, R.T. (1906) *Sim Greene, a narrative of the whisky Insurrection; being a setting forth of the memoirs of the Late David Froman*. Philadelphia, The J.C. Winston Company, [PDF] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/06027712/>.



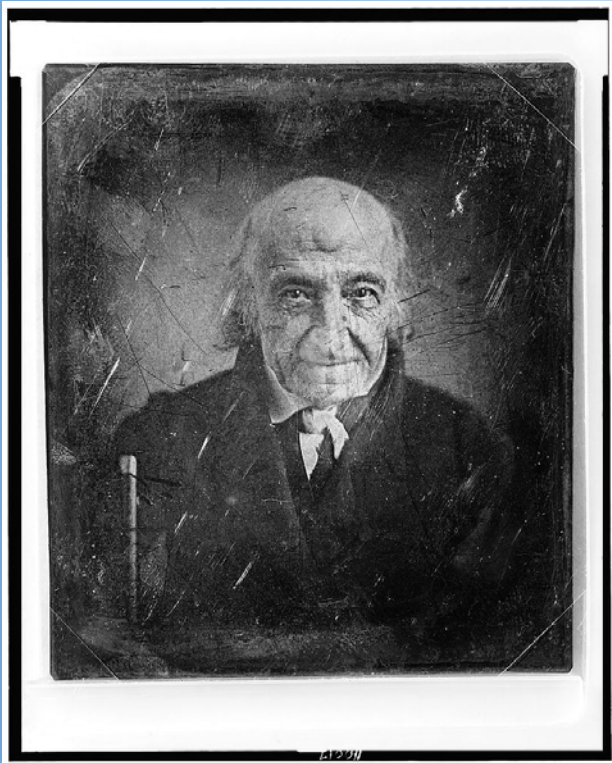
The David Bradford House

<http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-29A>



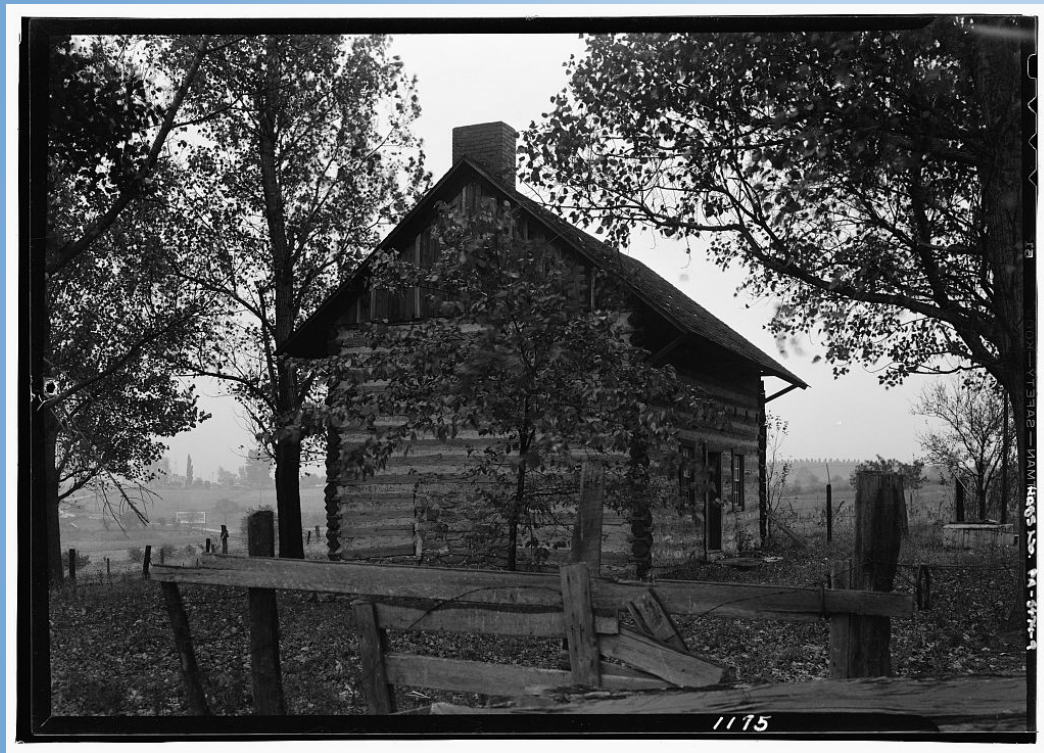
Whiskey Point

<http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-29D>



Brady, M. B. & Anthony, E. & C. Albert Gallatin, head-and-shoulders portrait, facing front, with walking stick. , None. [Between 1844 and 1860] [Photograph] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2004663958/> .

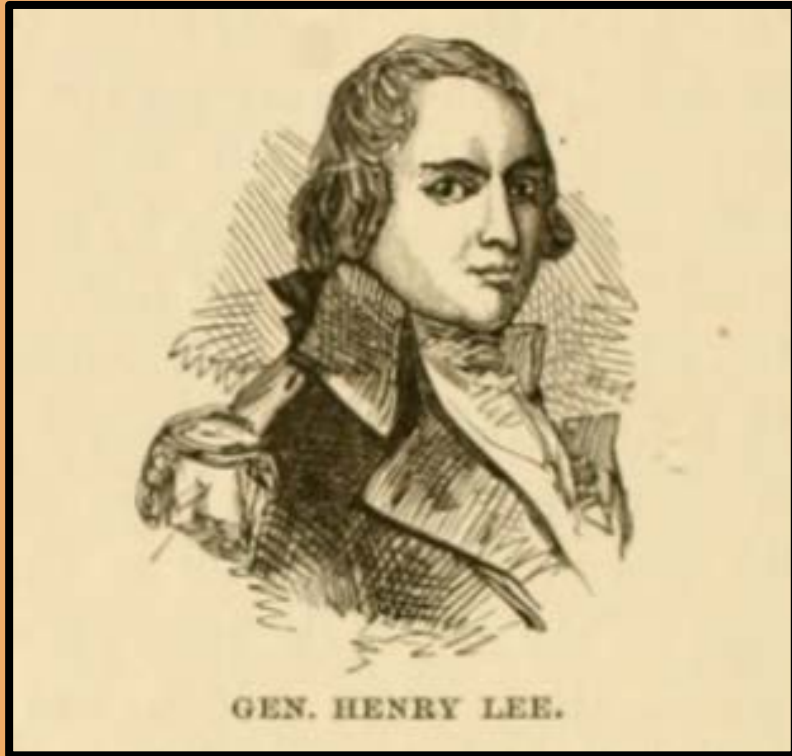
Fort Gaddis



Student
Example of an
Article of the
Insurrection



The Whiskey Rebellion



Part 4) The Reaction

The Reaction

Key locations: The Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, The Espy House in Bedford PA, McMillan Hall (Washington Academy)

Key individuals: Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, Lighthorse Henry Lee, (Governor Thomas Mifflin)

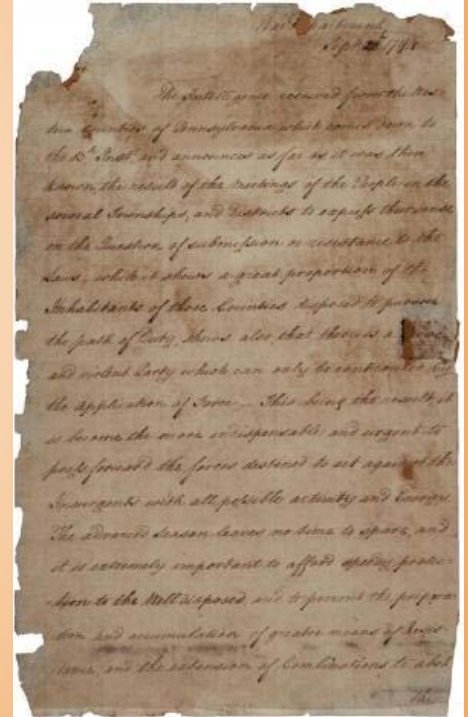
Investigative Question: What was the significance of the different federal reactions to the Whiskey Rebellion?

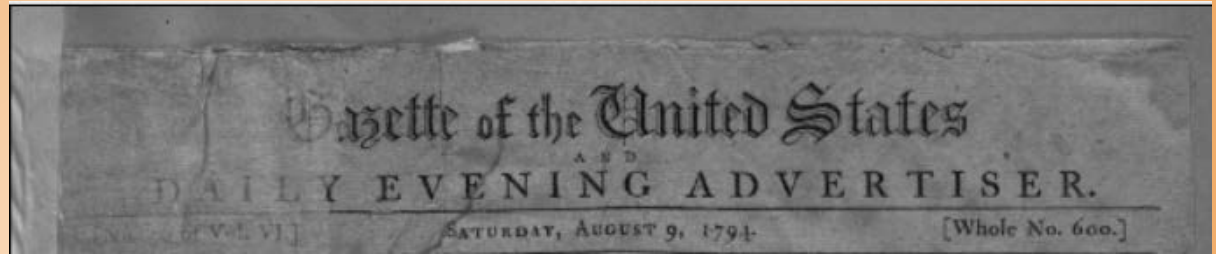
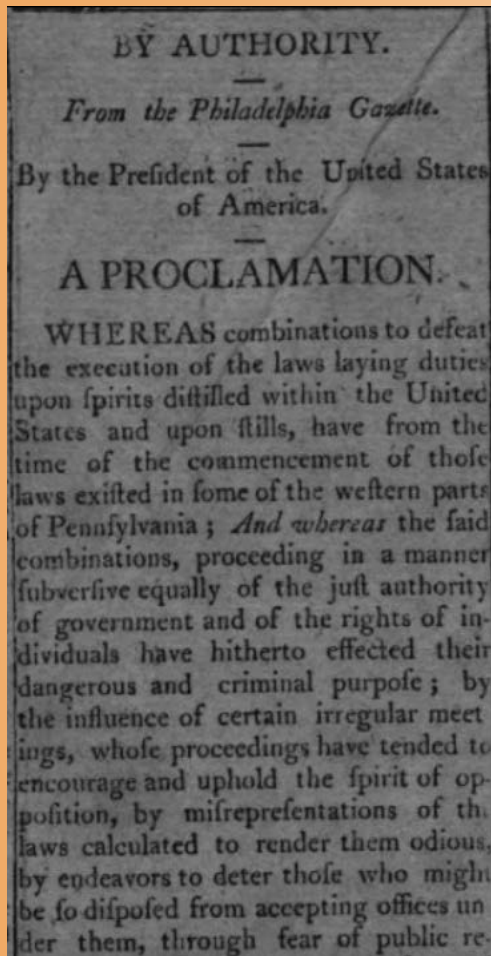
Inquiry Task

Student Teams will create a timeline of the federal response to the unrest in Western Pennsylvania.

**Alexander Hamilton to Governor Thomas Mifflin,
Alexander Hamilton to Henry Lee
September 20, 1794**

[https://www.gilderlehrman.org/h
istory-by-
era/hamilton/resources/whiskey
-rebellion-1794](https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/hamilton/resources/whiskey-rebellion-1794)
[https://founders.archives.gov/
documents/Hamilton/01-17-
02-0317](https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Hamilton/01-17-02-0317)





President Washington's Proclamation of Rebellion in Western Pennsylvania

Gazette of the United States and daily evening advertiser. (Philadelphia [Pa.]), 09 Aug. 1794. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers.* Lib. of Congress.

< <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026271/1794-08-09/ed-1/seq-4/> >

[Transcript](#)

‘President Washington’s Coach Fording the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg,’ by J. Howard Iams, c. 1935

<https://journals.psu.edu/wph/article/view/4262/4079>

“In early October, 1794, the president traveled to Western Pennsylvania to inspect the troops sent to quell the frontier uprising. An old frontiersman himself, Washington later wrote that the Susquehanna, where he crossed, teemed with ‘Rockfish’. Here, the curious president holds open the coach door, watching the fish.”

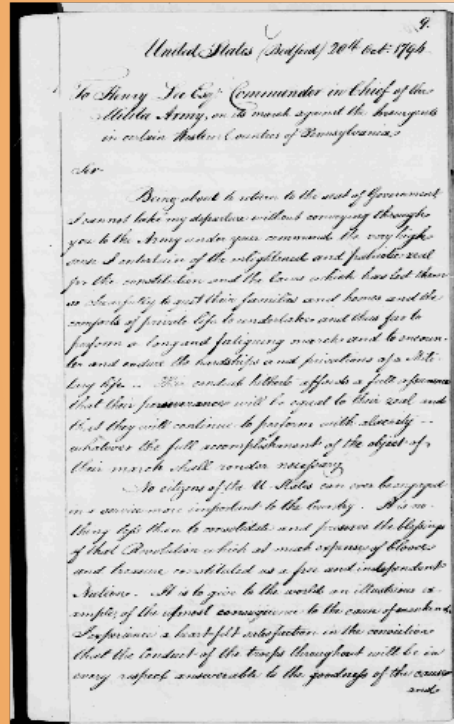


The Espy House

<http://www.historicpittsburgh.org/islandora/object/pitt%3AMSP285.B012.F02.I02>

<http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-29E>

George Washington Letter to Virginia Governor Henry Lee from the Espy House in Bedford, PA



<http://cdn.loc.gov/service/mss/mgw/mgw2/040/040.pdf>

The Terrible Night

Block Print by J.Howard Iams

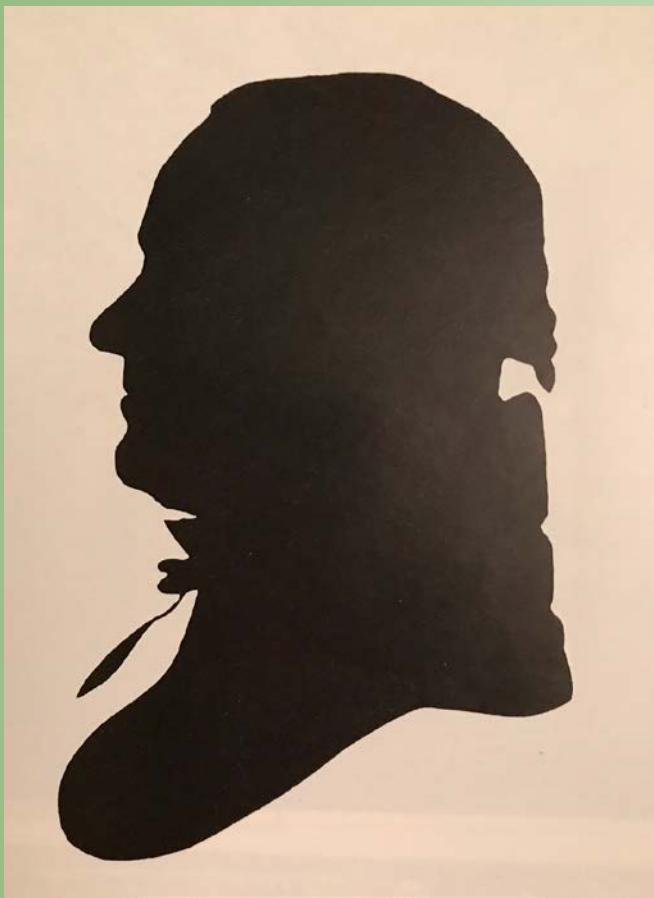
<http://collection.thewestmoreland.org/Media/images/Collection/JPEG/1984.75.jpg>

McMillan Hall (Washington Academy)



<https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa1291.photos.141880p/>

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/20170619/hamilton-comes-to-washington>



General John Neville

The Whiskey Rebellion

Part 5) Winners?

Winners?

Since this topic will look at the aftermath of the rebellion it will focus on individuals rather than locations.

Key individuals: Thomas Jefferson, Albert Gallatin, John Neville, George Washington, and David Bradford

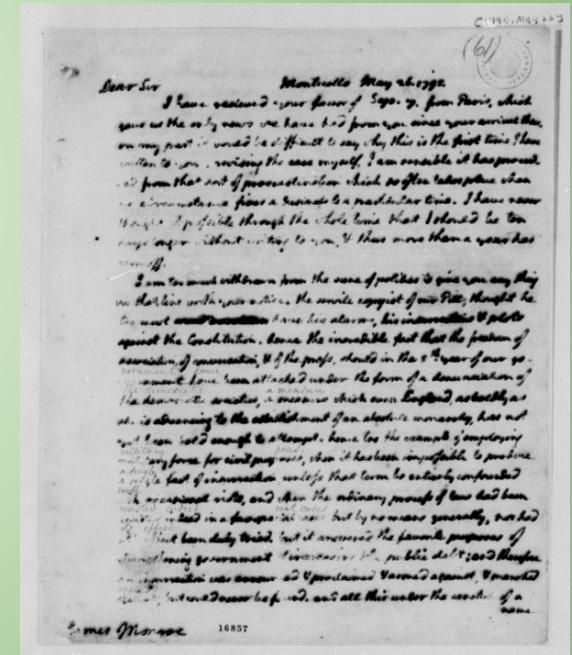
Investigative Question: What role did individuals play in the Whiskey Rebellion?

Inquiry Task

Student Teams will create an epitaph for one of the individuals we discussed in the Whiskey Rebellion focusing on their participation and how the Rebellion affected them. Teams will randomly pick from “trading card” profiles of George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, John Neville, David Bradford, Albert Gallatin.

(1795) Thomas Jefferson to James Monroe, May 26, 1795. -
05-26. [Manuscript/Mixed Material] Retrieved from the Library
of Congress

<https://www.loc.gov/item/mtjbib008502/>



Albert Gallatin 4th Secretary of the Treasury

1802.]

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL.

405

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1802.

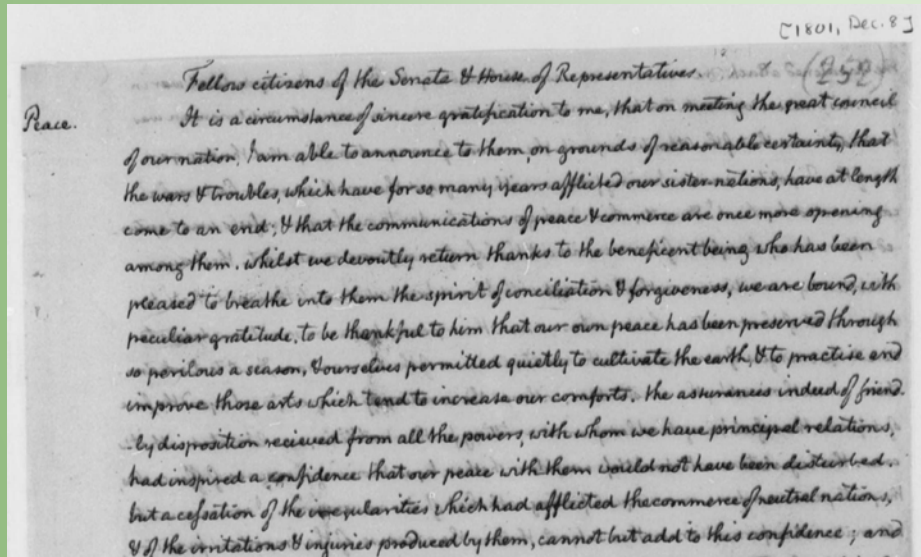
The Senate resumed the consideration of the message of the President of the United States, of the 6th instant, nominating Albert Gallatin, and others, to office.

On motion,

To advise and consent to the appointment of James Lynne, as nominated in the message, it was agreed that this nomination should be postponed until Tuesday next.

https://blogs.loc.gov/inside_adams/2016/01/albert-gallatin-the-4th-secretary-of-the-treasury/

Thomas Jefferson announces in Annual Message to Congress that Whiskey Excise Tax and other taxes will be removed



[https://www.loc.gov/
item/mtjbib010808/](https://www.loc.gov/item/mtjbib010808/)

Acts of the 7th Congress of the United States. Chapter XIX p. 21 April 6, 1802

**Thomas Jefferson and Albert Gallatin responsible for repealing the Whiskey
Tax of 1791.**

CHAP. XIX.-In Act to repeal the Internal Taxes. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the internal duties on stills and domestic distilled spirits,

<http://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/7th-congress/c7.pdf>

John Neville Gravestone

<http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-29C>

David Bradford, Lawyer and Architect
Applied for Land Grant in Spanish Florida in 1792
Built Richland Plantation 1797 in West Feliciana Parish
[National Register of Historic Places](#)



Student Created Epitaph

Albert Gallatin

1761-1849

Here lies the dead body of Albert Gallatin, a brave man who never settled for anything less than justice. He was a member of the House of Representatives that strived for justice so much, that he was willing to openly challenge the thoughts of his fellow representatives. When the tax on whiskey erupted, he never stopped fighting for justice. He focused only on what was right for America, and made it his one and only priority to repeal the tax with fellow friend and ally, Thomas Jefferson. He will greatly be missed by all who knew him.



John Neville

Here lies John Neville,
Whose house was burned by rebels,
The price to pay for helping a friend,
Is very unfair in the end.*

*John Neville was a true patriot and fighter.
He supported the whiskey tax when no one else would, simply because he felt it
was his duty. He enforced the law when it was dangerous. The result for serving
his country was having his house burned down by rebels.

Student
Created
Epitaph

Student Created Epitaph

George Washington

February 22, 1732 - December 14, 1799

Here lies buried George Washington,
first president of our country,
creator of the Excise Tax on Distilled Spirits,
first to confront the problems that arose against the newly
established government,
quickly and efficiently raised militia against the rebellion,
and successfully quelled the insurgency against the tax.