

In 1992, the Morrill Worcester Wreath Company in Harrington, ME, had a surplus of Christmas wreaths at the end of the holiday season. Recalling a boyhood trip to the cemetery, Mr. Worcester donated to Arlington National Cemetery 5,000 wreaths to honor the cemetery's dead, with the help of volunteers and a local trucking company. After thirteen years of similar donations, in 2005 a photo of snowy gravestones covered with wreaths at Arlington received widespread circulation on the internet. Thousands of people called Worcester, wanting to replicate the wreath-laying service at their own veteran cemeteries. Thus was born the **Wreaths Across America** experience.

Today, each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, WAA's mission to "Remember, Honor and Teach" is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and at 3,000 additional locations in all 50 states and abroad, including Princeton Battlefield State Park.



Gravesite Memorial, Princeton Battlefield

Special thanks to:

- RW **Raymond E. Foose**, Grand Soloist
Grand Lodge, New Jersey Free and Accepted Masons
- Rev. **Kevin E. Bynes, Jr.**, Pastor, Victory Tabernacle Church of God in Christ
- **Wreaths Across America** for its 8 special wreaths
- **Will Krakower**, Princeton Battlefield State Park
- **Princeton High School** volunteers

PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD SOCIETY
PO Box 7465 | PRINCETON, NJ 08543
WWW.PBS177.ORG

Princeton Battlefield State Park Holiday Season Patriot Gravesite Wreath Laying and Commemoration

Saturday, December 18, 2021, 11:00 am

Convened by



and

New Jersey Freemasons

(Mercer Lodge No. 50,
Princeton Lodge No. 38)

**Daughters of the
American Revolution**

(Princeton Chapter)

**Sons of the
American Revolution**

(Princeton/Cranbury Chapter)

Marine Corps League

(Trenton Detachment #207)
(Invited)

1st Rhode Island Regiment

RevWar Re-enactors, Trenton, NJ (Invited)

In association with



Colonnade and Gravesite
Princeton Battlefield State Park
500 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ

On the frosty morning of January 3, 1777, after an overnight march from Trenton, General George Washington and his American soldiers engaged the British Army in the fateful **Battle of Princeton**. At first the British scattered the Americans into nearly disastrous retreat. But then, with bold leadership, General Washington charged onto the field into the line of fire and rallied the patriots. Soon the Americans put the British on the run and prevailed to win the day—and save the American Revolution.



The Death of General Mercer at the Battle of Princeton, by John Trumbull

Forty Patriots and 275 British soldiers died during Battle of Princeton. Some, from both sides, rest eternally in a grave on the field near the Colonnade.

Princeton Battlefield Society is the Officially Recognized Friends Organization of Princeton Battlefield State Park. Since 1970, PBS has worked to preserve and restore the lands and cultural landscape related to the Battle of Princeton; enlarge and improve the Princeton Battlefield State Park; and educate the public about the Battle of Princeton, the Ten Crucial Days, and the American Revolution.

Coming out of the COVID pandemic, PBS is pleased to resume its participation in the **Wreaths Across America** national commemoration of the lives and sacrifices of American veterans. Princeton Battlefield State Park is registered as one of WAA's 3,000 commemoration locations.

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Program

Welcome & Acknowledgements

Michael T. Russell, D.Sc., President, PBS

Presentation of colors

[Marine Corps League and 1st R.I. Regiment?]

Pledge of Allegiance

[Heritage Group representative]

Invocation

Rev. Kevin E. Byrnes, Jr.

Remarks: The Meaning of This Place

Will Krakower, Historian, Princeton Battlefield State Park

Wreath Laying

[Veterans and High School Students with escorts]

Tribute Volley

Bro. Douglas Moore, RevWar Re-enactor

Hymn

RW Raymond E. Foose, Jr., Grand Soloist, New Jersey Grand Lodge F. & A. M.

Benediction

[Grand Chaplain, New Jersey Grand Lodge F. & A. M.?]

Retire the colors

Close