



The enduring symbol of the Princeton Battlefield and the January 3, 1777 battle is the Mercer Oak against which, tradition suggests, General Hugh Mercer was placed after being mortally wounded. He eventually gave his life for the American cause. Today, a new-generation Mercer Oak grows at the battlefield still symbolizing how Princeton fundamentally altered the Revolution in favor of independence.

The Mercer Oak Award is the spirit and heritage of America's fight for independence. It represents what every American who visits the Battlefield senses - the freedom and independence that Washington and Mercer fought to secure.

The Mercer Oak Award is given by the Princeton Battlefield Society to recognize a personal dedication to American history and the heritage of the Princeton Battlefield. The honor embraces the spirit of January 3, 1777.



The painting on our Mercer Oak Award invitation is a mural of Washington's troops crossing the Delaware on December 25, 1776 by George Matthews Harding. Painted for the Trenton Opera House in 1921, it was removed from building in the late '60s and stored in a North Jersey basement, where it was all but forgotten for fifty years. Now restored by the Washington Crossing Park Association, the mural is on display in the new Washington Crossing State Park Museum & Visitor Center. Lorna Hainesworth was a proud contributor to this restoration.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD SOCIETY  
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO



**MERCER OAK**  
**AWARD**  
2025

RECEPTION IN HONOR OF

*Lorna Hainesworth*

Thursday, June 11, 2026  
6:00 – 8:30 PM  
The Nassau Inn, Princeton





## PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD SOCIETY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT – BENJAMIN STRONG  
VICE PRESIDENT – KENNETH GAVIN  
SECRETARY – JERALD HURWITZ  
TREASURER – CREA MALLERY

JOHN CASSULLO	MARK HERR	TODD QUACKENBUSH
ROBERT O. COHEN	ROSEMARY KELLEY	MICHAEL RUSSELL
MICHAEL DUFFY	THOMAS PYLE	R. RANDALL RICCARDO
KIM GALLAGHER		CONSTANCE WIELER

## MERCER OAK AWARD COMMITTEE

ROBERT & MARY COHEN	MARK & RACHEL HERR	ASSEMBLYWOMAN MITCHELLE DRULIS
MAYOR MARK FREDA	PAUL & ROSEMARY KELLEY	BEN & CHRISTINA STRONG
ASSEMBLYMAN ROY FREIMAN	RAOUL MOMO	PETER & CAROLINE TRAVERS
KIM GALLAGHER	TODD QUACKENBUSH	CONSTANCE WIELER
KENNETH A. GAVIN	MARY SKEVINGTON	

FUNDS RAISED IN HONOR OF

*Lorna Hainesworth*

WILL SUPPORT THE CONTINUED PRESERVATION OF THE  
PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD AND THE HERITAGE  
OF THE BATTLE OF PRINCETON AS WE PREPARE FOR THE  
NATION'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY.

TICKETS ARE \$100 PER PERSON

MESSAGES OF SUPPORT AND CONGRATULATIONS  
WILL APPEAR IN THE RECEPTION PROGRAM.

SILENT AUCTION

R.S.V.P. BY JUNE 9, 2026

DRESS: CASUAL  
THE NASSAU INN, PRINCETON

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED RESPONSE CARD AND RETURN IT TO:  
THE PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 7645  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08543  
OR ONLINE AT [WWW.PBS1777.ORG](http://WWW.PBS1777.ORG)