

BATTLES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

THE BATTLES OF LEXINGTON AND CONCORD

The Battles of Lexington and Concord began the American Revolution. The battles took place on the same day, April 19, 1775. Several towns around Boston, Massachusetts, including Lexington and Concord, saw fighting that day. The battles are known as the “shot heard ‘round the world.”

The militia were citizens who served as volunteer soldiers. They were not trained soldiers, but were often farmers or businessmen. The Massachusetts militia had learned of a British plan to attack the militia supplies in Concord. To prevent this, the militia moved the supplies and waited for the British at Lexington.

Around 400 British soldiers arrived early on April 19 where 77 militiamen were waiting. The first shots were fired and the militia retreated, as they were outnumbered. The British went on to Concord, where they faced militia reinforcements of over 500 men. Now the British were outnumbered and they retreated to Boston under heavy attack from the militia along the way. The militiamen blocked the roads to Boston so the British could not leave, beginning the Siege of Boston.



Map of the Battles of Lexington and Concord



Shots being fired at Lexington

Q & A

Fill in the blank with the correct answer.

What was the date of Lexington and Concord?

April 19, 1775

What are militia?

Volunteer soldiers who are regular citizens

What state are Lexington and Concord in?

Massachusetts

Where were the first shots fired?

Lexington

What started when the militia blocked the roads?

The Siege of Boston



The North Bridge in Concord as it looks today