



Lesson 5.1: Why Did We Have a Revolution?



Stamp Master in Effigy, 1829
Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



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All Persons claiming Property
in the following WHITE PINE LOGS,
seized by Order of the SURVEYOR GENERAL,
in Goffestown and Wear, in the Province of New-
Hampshire, may appear at a Court of Vice Admi-
rality to be held at Portsmouth on Thursday the 27th
Instant, at Ten of the Clock A. M. and shew Cause
why the same should not be decreed Forfeited, a-
greeable to an Information filed in said Court.

200 White Pine Logs from 15 to 36 Inches diame-
ter, lying at Richard's Mill in Goffestown.

250 Ditto from 15 to 36 Inches diameter, at Pattey's
Mill.

35 Ditto from 36 to 20 ditto, at Dow's Mill.

140 Ditto from 30 to 18 ditto, at Asa Pattey's old
Mill.

270 Ditto from 36 to 16 ditto, at Clement's Mill
in Wear.

164 Ditto from 36 to 15 ditto, at Job Rowles Mill:
Also 74 Bundles of Clapboards at Merrimac River.

Portsmouth, Feb. 5. 1772.

JOHN SHERBURNE, D. Rr.

White Pine for Sale, 1772

Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



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Edited text from White Pine for Sale, 1772, to make it easier for you to read.

All Persons claiming property in the following WHITE PINE LOGS, seized by order of the SURVEYOR GENERAL, in Goffstown and Weare, in the Province of New Hampshire, map appear at a court of Vice Admiralty to be held at Portsmouth on Thursday the 27th at 10:00 AM and show cause why the white pine logs should not be taken by the government as a penalty.

200 white pine logs from 15 to 36 inches diameter, lying at Richard's Mill in Goffstown.

250 white pine logs from 15 to 36 inches diameter, at Pattey's Mill.

35 white pine logs from 36 to 20 inches diameter, at Dow's Mill.

140 white pine logs from 30 to 18 inches diameter, at Asa Pattey's old Mill.

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Portsmouth, Feb 5, 1772.

John Sherburne, D. Rd.



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Fort William and Mary, 1705
Source: British Library



Lesson 5.1: Why Did We Have a Revolution?

Name _____

Revolution Before the War

A revolution does not always take place on a battlefield. Read about three events in New Hampshire that sparked revolutionary action and complete the chart with details about those events.

	The British government passes a Stamp Act.	The British government claims all white pine trees in the colony greater than 24 inches.	Paul Revere warns patriots that the British are sending troops to Fort William and Mary.
When did this event take place? Write the year.			
Why did this make the colonists angry?			
What action did New Hampshire colonists take?			
Where did their actions take place?			
How did the British authorities respond to the colonists?			





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Answer Key _____

Revolution Before the War

A revolution does not always take place on a battlefield. Read about three events in New Hampshire that sparked revolutionary action and complete the chart with details about those events.

	The British government passes a Stamp Act.	The British government claims all white pine trees in the colony greater than 24 inches.	Paul Revere warns patriots that the British are sending troops to Fort William and Mary.
When did this event take place? Write the year.	The Stamp Act was passed by the British government in 1765.	The British government began to officially mark white pine trees for use as ships' masts in the 1700s.	Paul Revere rode to Portsmouth in December 1774.
Why did this make the colonists angry?	The act required that nearly every piece of paper used in the colonies have a special stamp, which would cost colonists more money.	Colonists worked the land and needed the timber for their own purposes. They felt it was unfair that the best timber went to the King.	The colonists feared the troops would take complete control of the stock of gunpowder.
What action did New Hampshire colonists take?	A club called the Sons of Liberty organized to protest the Stamp Act. First, colonists sent petitions to the British government. Then they rioted in the fall of 1765.	In 1772, some men refused to pay the fine on the large white pine trees they took to the sawmill. They also attacked the British official who tried to collect the fine.	John Sullivan and other patriot leaders stormed Fort William and Mary before the British ships arrived. They took the gunpowder and hid it for future use against the British.
Where did their actions take place?	New Hampshire colonists rioted in the colonial capital, Portsmouth.	The events, called the Pine Tree Riot, took place in Weare and involved men from Goffstown and Weare.	The colonists stormed Fort William and Mary, located in Portsmouth Harbor near the capital.
How did the British authorities respond to the colonists?	Months after the riot, the British government repealed, or took back, the Stamp Act.	The men who attacked the official were put on trial but only received a fine. British authorities continued to use white pine timber.	The British authorities considered the act against the law but were unable to punish anyone involved.



Mapping Revolution in New Hampshire



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Mapping Tasks

- ☐ Draw a star on Portsmouth, the colonial capital of New Hampshire.
- ☐ Draw a blue circle around Portsmouth, the location of the Stamp Act riots of 1765.
- ☐ Draw a green circle around the border between Weare and Goffstown, the site of the Pine Tree Riot of 1772.
- ☐ Draw a red circle around New Castle, the site of Fort William and Mary.
- ☐ Draw a compass rose that shows the four cardinal directions.
- ☐ Create a key to explain your symbols.
- ☐ Give your map a title. Remember: the title explains the main idea of the map.

Reflection Questions

1. The Stamp Act riots took place in New Hampshire's colonial capital, Portsmouth. Why would protesting in the capital be a good strategy?
2. Compare the location of the colonial capital, Portsmouth, with the location of the Pine Tree Riot of 1772. Why do you think the colonists who participated in the riot were so upset by the White Pine Act?
3. Look at the location of Fort William and Mary. There were just a few British soldiers in the fort when Paul Revere told patriots in Portsmouth that the British were sending more troops. Why do you think colonists were worried about more British soldiers taking control of the fort?



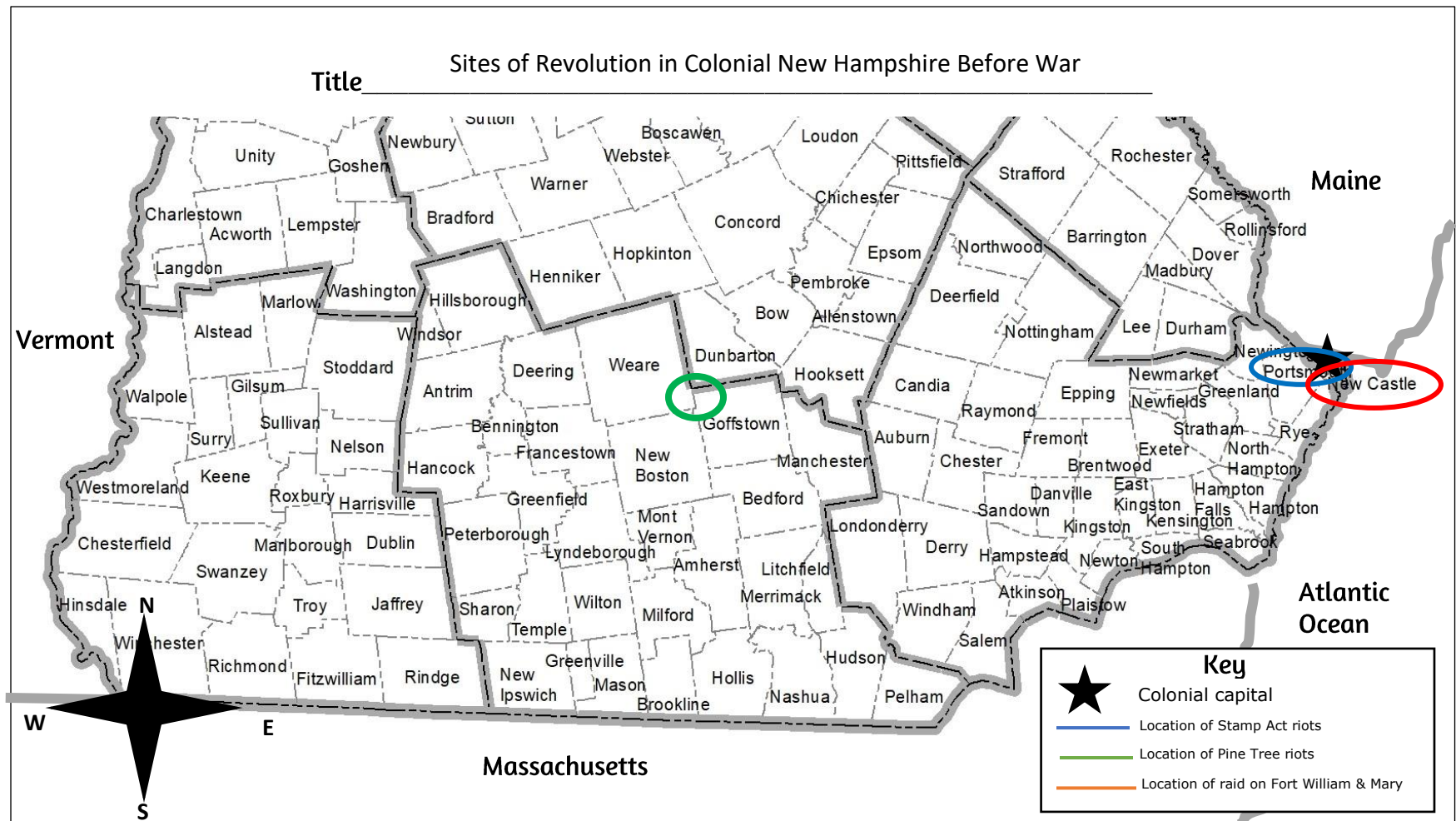


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Name _____ Answer Key _____

Mapping Revolution in New Hampshire

Complete the tasks to add a layer of historic data to this detail of a modern map. Then answer the reflection questions.





Lesson 5.1: Why Did We Have a Revolution?

Mapping Tasks

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- ☐ Create a key to explain your symbols.
- ☐ Give your map a title. Remember: the title explains the main idea of the map.

Reflection Questions

1. The Stamp Act riots took place in New Hampshire's colonial capital, Portsmouth. Why would protesting in the capital be a good strategy?
A protest in the capital would be more likely to get the attention of the British authorities who were based there.
2. Compare the location of the colonial capital, Portsmouth, with the location of the Pine Tree Riot of 1772. Why do you think the colonists who participated in the riot were so upset by the White Pine Act?
Goffstown and Weare are far away from the capital. Perhaps the colonists were used to being able to do as they wished to meet their needs. Colonists so far from the capital were mostly farmers and worked more with cutting down trees. Their livelihoods depended on using and selling timber from the best trees.
3. Look at the location of Fort William and Mary. There were just a few British soldiers in the fort when Paul Revere told patriots in Portsmouth that the British were sending more troops. Why do you think colonists were worried about more British soldiers taking control of the fort?
The fort is located where Portsmouth Harbor opens up to the Atlantic Ocean. It was a key point of access on the coast. More soldiers in the fort meant more British control of the harbor, its business, and its resources.



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Town Meeting Extension

Letter from Governor John Wentworth to General Thomas Gage, December 14, 1774

John Wentworth was the governor of the New Hampshire colony, appointed by the king. General Thomas Gage was commander-in-chief of the British army in North America, and from May 1774 to October 1775, military governor of Massachusetts.

Portsmouth New Hampshire 14th Dec. 1774.

Sir,

. . . Yesterday in the afternoon, Paul Revere arrived in this town, and delivered his dispatch to Mr. Samuol Cutts a merchant of this town, who immediately convened the committee, and laid it before them. Today about noon before any suspicions [could] be had of their intentions, about four hundred men were collected together and immediately proceeded to Fort William and Mary, forcibly took possession of it, in spite of the best defense that could be made by Captain Cochran (whose conduct has been extremely honorable). By violence they carried away upwards of one hundred barrels of powder belonging to the King deposited in the fort. I am informed that express messengers have been circulated through the neighboring towns to collect a number of people tomorrow or as soon as possible, to carry away all the cannon and arms belonging to the fort, which they will undoubtedly succeed in unless some assistance should arrive from Boston, in time to prevent it. The principal persons who took the lead in this enormity are well known. Upon the best information I can obtain, this mischief originates here by the previously mentioned Mr Revere, and the dispatch he brought, before which, all was perfectly quiet & peaceable here.

I am with the greatest respect,
Sir your most obedient humble Servant,
Wentworth



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Money Does Grow on Trees!

The white pine trees of New Hampshire were a valuable resource to colonists and the British. Both sides wanted the trees and both sides knew how much those trees were worth in pounds sterling (£), the currency of Great Britain. How much would they be worth in today's U.S. dollars (\$) ? Take a closer look at "White Pine for Sale," a 1772 *New Hampshire Gazette* announcement about white pine logs seized by British authorities just before the Pine Tree Riot. Then use your multiplication skills to calculate their value.

Read the beginning of the announcement. Why were these logs taken from the sawmills?	What is the range of feet in diameter for this group of logs? (Hint: how many inches are in one foot?)
In 1772, logs of 32 inches in diameter at the base were worth about £60 each. Logs of 36 inches in diameter at the base were worth about £147 each. What would be the value in pounds sterling (£) of the logs seized from Dow's Mill if all were 32 inches? What if they were all 36 inches?	If a pound sterling (£) from 1772 is worth about \$159 in today's U.S. currency, how much would the 36-inch logs from Dow's Mill be worth today?





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<p>Read the beginning of the announcement. Why were these logs taken from the sawmills?</p> <p>The logs were seized, or taken, by order of the Surveyor General. These logs were the size reserved for use by the British for the Navy.</p>	<p>What is the range of feet in diameter for this group of logs? (Hint: how many inches are in one foot?)</p> <p>The logs ranged from 15 to 36 inches in diameter at the base. So, they were 1 ¼ to 3 feet in diameter.</p>
<p>In 1772, logs of 32 inches in diameter at the base were worth about £60 each. Logs of 36 inches in diameter at the base were worth about £147 each. What would be the value in pounds sterling (£) of the logs seized from Dow's Mill if all were 32 inches? What if they were all 36 inches?</p> <p>35 logs were seized from Dow's Mill.</p> <p>35 x 60 = £2,100 if the logs were all 32 inches.</p> <p>35 x 147 = £5,147 if the logs were all 36 inches.</p>	<p>If a pound sterling (£) from 1772 is worth about \$159 in today's U.S. currency, how much would the 36-inch logs from Dow's Mill be worth today?</p> <p>5,145 x 159 = 818,055</p> <p>The logs, if all 36 inches, would be worth about \$818,055 in today's U.S. currency.</p>