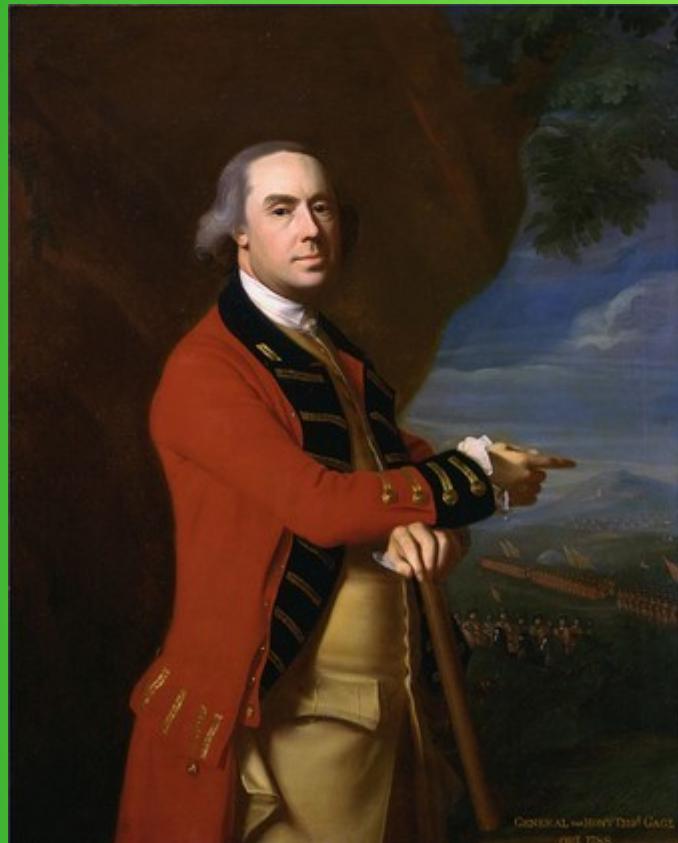


April 19th, 1775



Gen. Gage

- Prelude: colonial militias throughout Eastern Mass had been arming themselves in preparation for potential conflict with Britain.
- April 18th: Gen. Thomas Gage orders march to Concord to confiscate suspected powder stockpiles.
- 10pm – 2am: Around 700 British troops assemble at Lechmere Point.
- 2am: British march begins under command of Lt. Col. Francis Smith.

April 19th, 1775

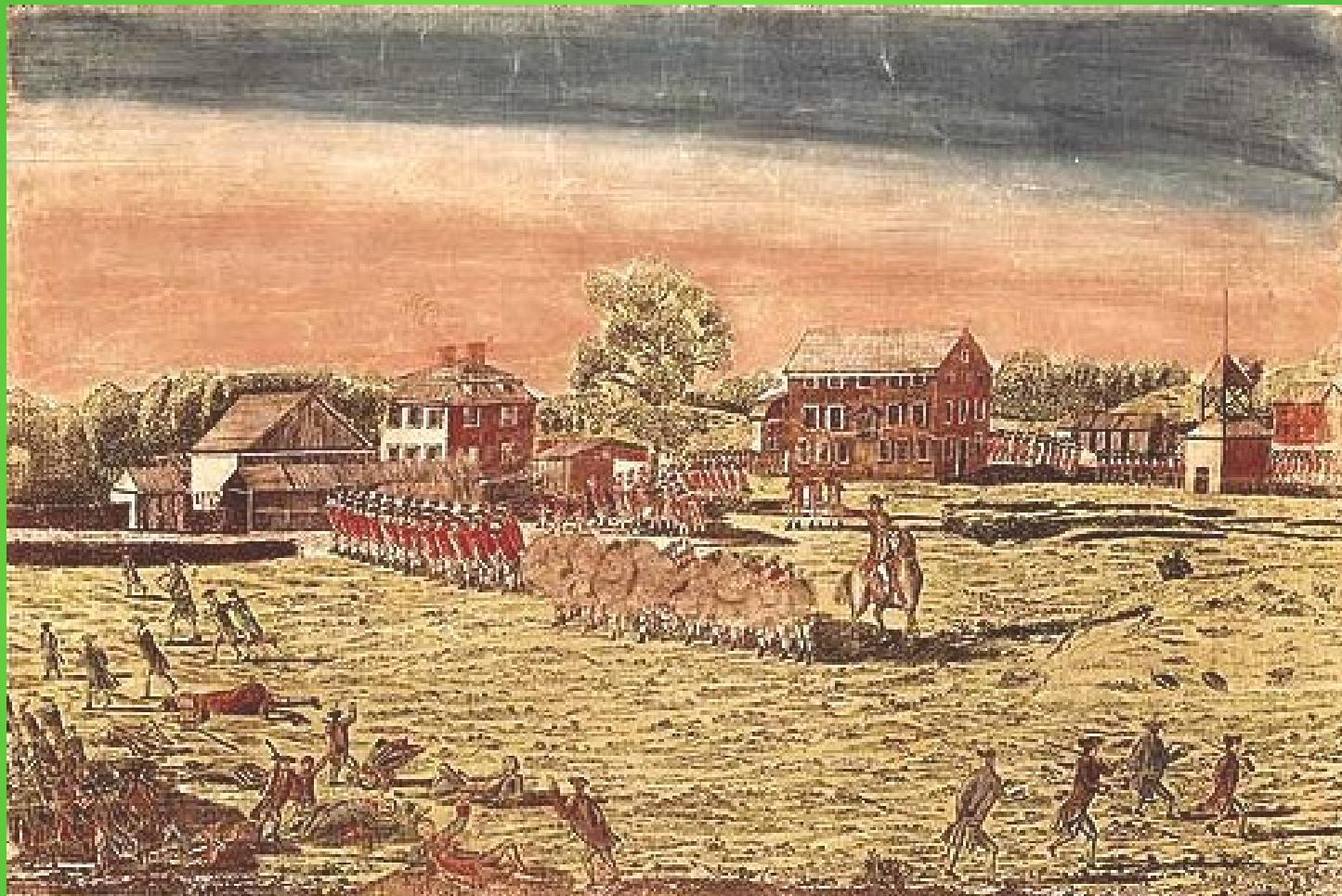


Lt. Col. Francis Smith



- 3am: British troops march through Menotomy.
- Sensing danger, Lt. Col. Smith sends party back to Boston to ask for re-enforcements.

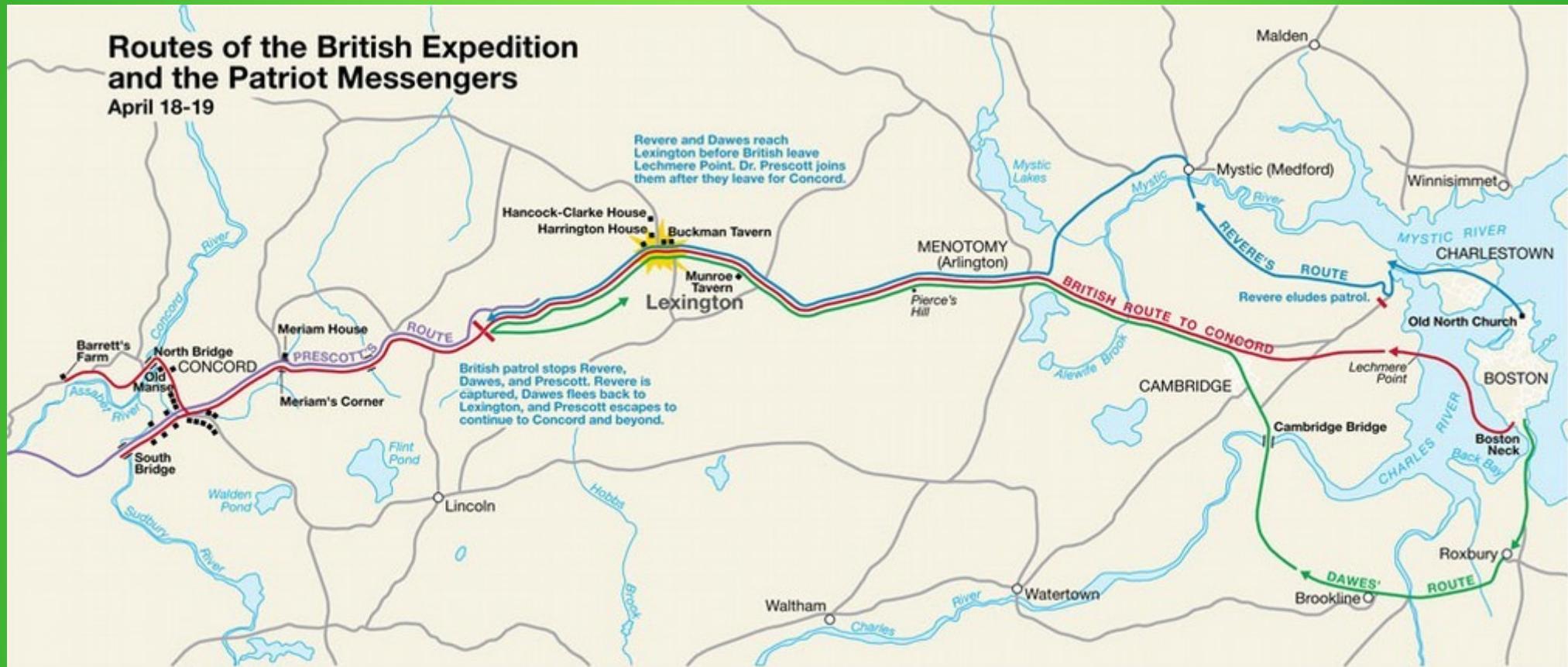
Lexington, April 19th, 1775



Lexington Green

- 5am: British meet armed resistance in Lexington.
- Skirmish on Lexington Green.

April 19th, 1775



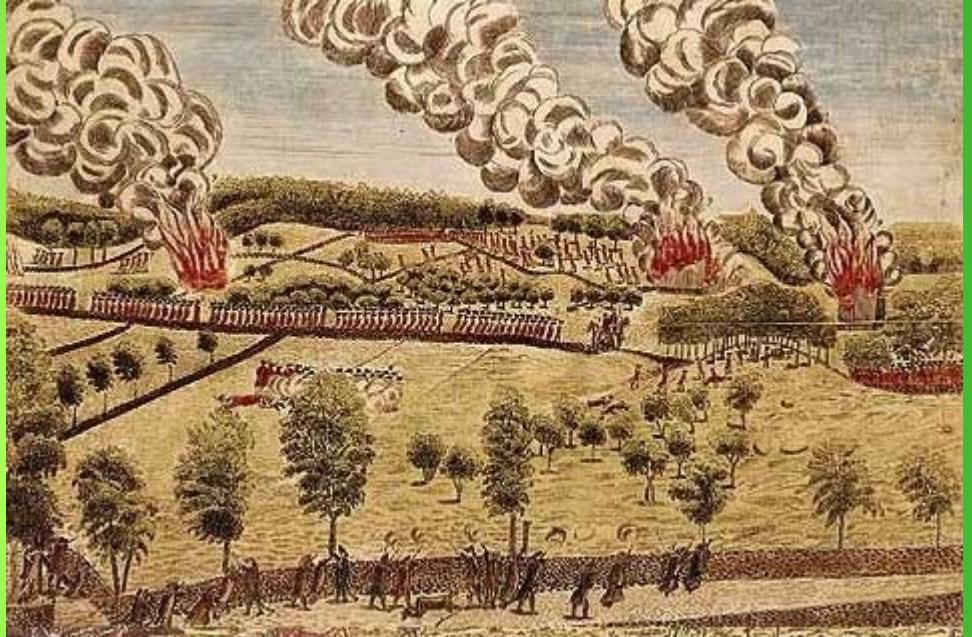
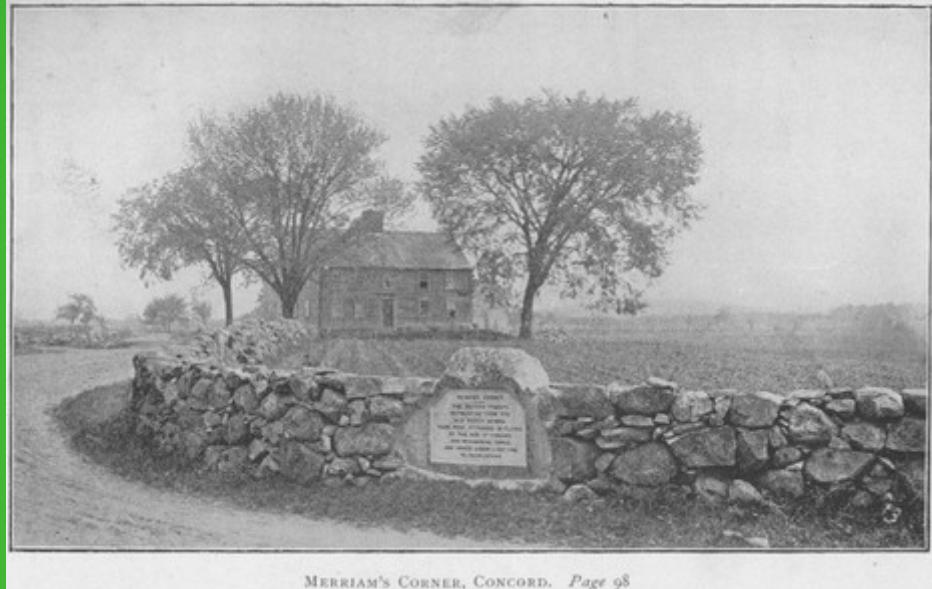
- After skirmish, British press on with their march.
- 7am: British arrive in Concord.

Concord, April 19th, 1775



- In Concord, British search for munitions, find almost nothing.
- 9am: Firefight on North Bridge.
- Afterwards: British linger in Concord for 3 hours without incident.

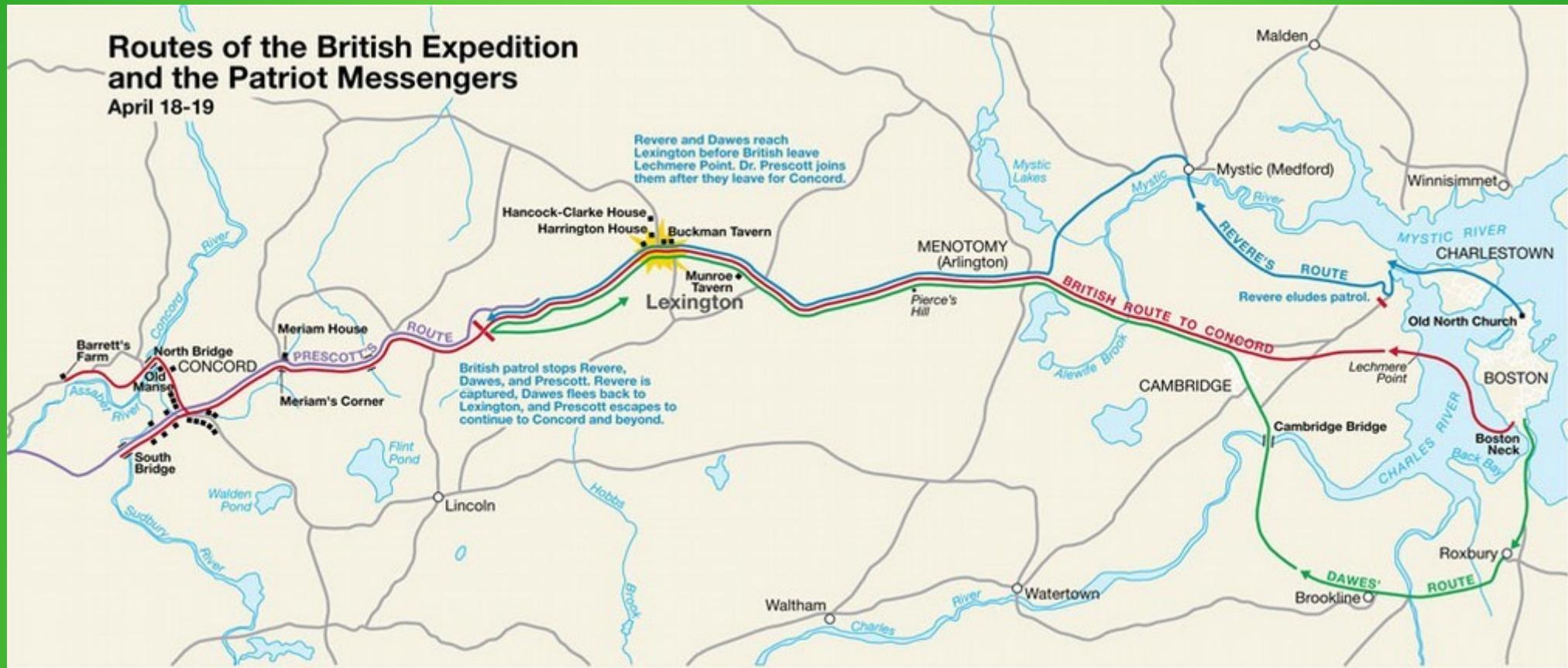
British retreat, April 19th, 1775



- Noon: Retreat from Concord begins.
- Thousands of militia members from Eastern Mass begin “ring of fire” around retreating troops.

Routes of the British Expedition and the Patriot Messengers

April 18-19

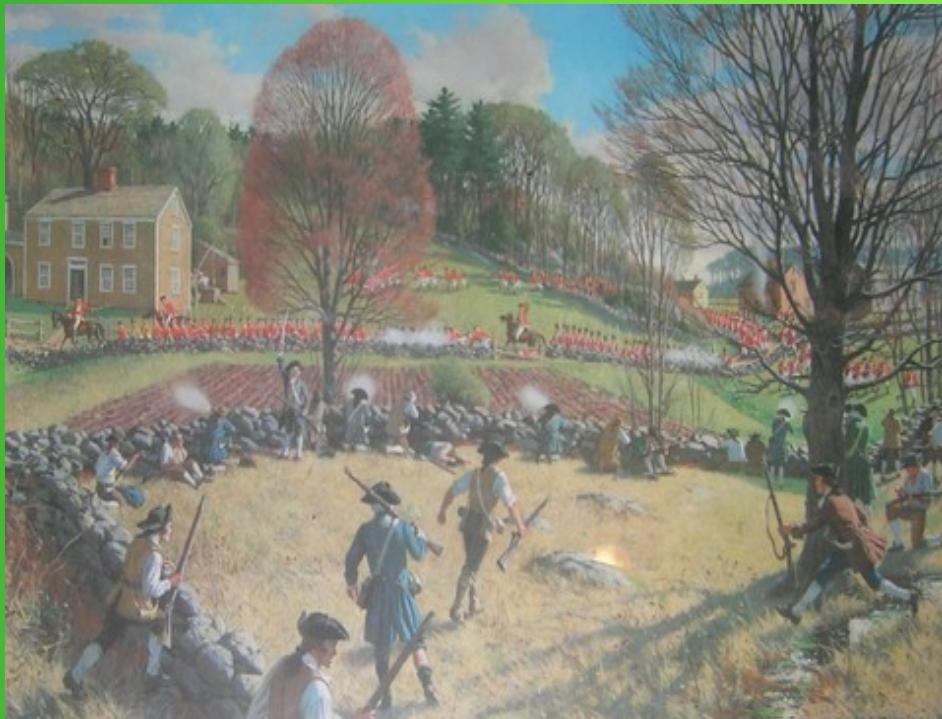


- 3pm: Retreating troops reach Lexington.
- Retreating troops are almost out of gunpowder, and are in serious trouble deep in enemy territory. Fortunately, Around 1000 re-enforcements finally arrive.
- Lt Col. Smith is replaced by Lord Hugh Percy as commander.
- Percy rests the troops on the Lexington Green.



Lord Hugh Percy

Later afternoon: The Battle of Menotomy



- Afternoon: British resume retreat with Lord Percy in command.
- Percy uses cannon, flankers, and other military techniques to handle retreat.
- 4:30pm: British pass the Foot of the Rocks. Battle heats up again.



- Around 5pm: The Battle of Menotomy reaches Jason Russell's house.

The Battle of Menotomy

- Colonial militia members gather on the lawn of the house to harass retreating British.
- Flankers surround militiamen, driving them into the house.



- Militia members escape into the house pursued by British.
- Jason Russell himself is killed on his doorstep while trying to escape the British.

The Battle of Menotomy



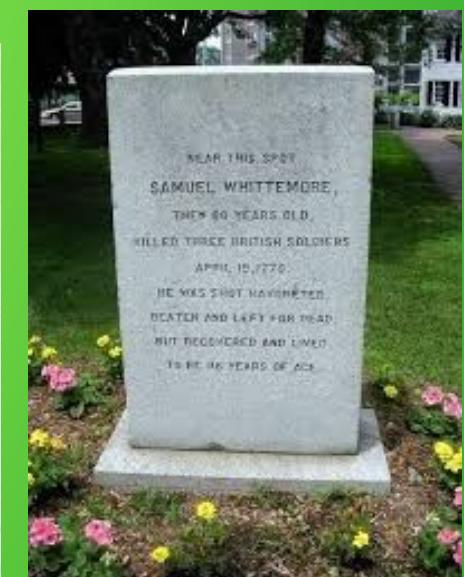
- 12 people killed in or around Jason Russell House, including Jason himself.
- Townsend and Munroe jump through window in kitchen to escape.
- Militia from Beverly hide in basement.
- Elizabeth Russell returns late in the day to find 12 dead bodies lined up on the floor of her kitchen.
- Bullet holes remain in house to this day.

The Battle of Menotomy

- Other brutal events in Menotomy:
 - Deacon Adams's house is invaded, looted. Wife is sent running from house by troops. Troops set house on fire – boys put fire out with beer.
 - Winship and Wyman killed in Cooper's tavern.
 - Thomas Russell's store ransacked, molasses barrels left to drain onto floor.
 - Samuel Whittemore is shot, bayoneted, beaten, and left for dead.

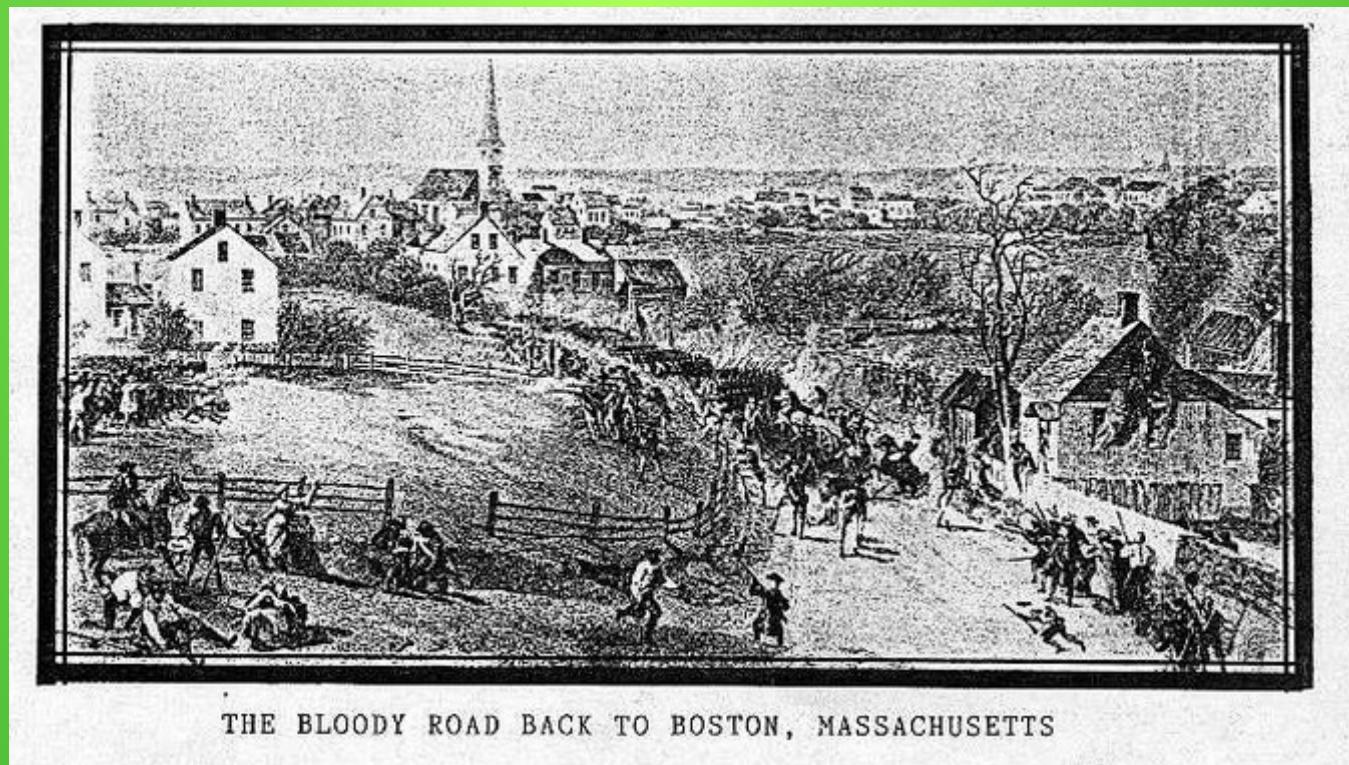


RUSSELL STORE, MENOTOMY



End of British retreat

- Late afternoon: British continue retreat through present-day Cambridge, Somerville.
- Dusk: British soldiers finally safe in Charlestown under cover of warship parked in Boston harbor. They rest on hillside facing the harbor.



April 19th, 1775 -- Aftermath

- As many as 3,500 colonial militiamen participated in fighting against the British over the 18 miles of retreat.
- Around 250 redcoats (out of 1700) killed or wounded overall.
- Around 90 colonial militia casualties total.
- In Menotomy, the British lost 40 men killed and 80 wounded.
- In Menotomy, the colonists lost 25 men killed and 9 wounded.
- Almost 1/2 the British casualties of that day occurred in Menotomy.
- The American Revolution began on that day.
- In particular, the enormous number of militiamen who participated in the action provided sobering evidence to the British that their colonial holdings were in peril, and the revolutionaries were both well-trained and popular enough to present a real problem to their rule.



Questions?

