

Minute Man National Historical Park, in partnership with the 10th Massachusetts Regiment, The Authentic New England Campaigners (portraying Capt. Minot's Company of Concord Militia), and The Ladies of Refined Taste, is pleased to bring you **"1774: The Gathering Storm."** This living history event will focus on that turbulent, momentous, and largely overlooked year in the making of America.

Saturday, August 9th

9:30 AM Event site opens.

10 AM Market fair begins in front of Hartwell Tavern. Militia will muster in the field/orchard to the east of the Tavern – officers holding royal commissions will be called upon to resign and new officers to be chosen in their place. *Musket firing demonstration.*

11 AM Town Meeting under the trees behind the tavern moderated by Dr. Charles Russell of Lincoln. The moderator's loyalties will be tested, as well as those of others in the assembly, as we discuss matters of local and regional importance. We will be discussing schools, whether to send a delegate to the Provincial Congress, our response to the closure of the Port and other acts of General Gage.

1 PM Militia muster and election of officers. *Musket firing demonstration*

2 PM Homespun smock race/sack race

3 PM Court of General Sessions of the Peace – Mandamus Councillor Judge Peter Oliver will conduct court beneath the trees behind the Tavern. The legitimacy of the court will be called into question. Will they be able to finish their business? Additionally, rumor has it that the Provincial Congress has issued a warrant for Judge Oliver's arrest – could be an interesting session!

4 PM Continued discussions in the tavern of the events of the day, and how they fit into the bigger picture of what's going on elsewhere in Massachusetts.

Sunday, August 10th

9:30 AM Event site opens.

10 AM Divine Service – Rev. Mr. Lawrence will prepare a carefully balanced sermon if he wishes to keep his job and not have his loyalty questioned!

11 AM Reconvening of Town Meeting – warrant to include whether to form a minute company and a committee of safety and observation, discussion of the need for self-sufficiency, and the ladies proposing measures to enhance domestic self-sufficiency, including wool and linen production and non-consumption of English goods.

1 PM Militia will muster under the new officers. Who has command authority? *Musket firing demonstration.*

2 PM Homespun smock races.

3 PM Estate auction in settlement of Saturday's court judgement, including sale of a "Negro servant"

3:30 PM Final Session of Town Meeting. Where do we go from here?

4:15 PM *Musket firing demonstration*

In addition!

Throughout the weekend, there will be many ongoing activities, including:

- a market fair
- spinning demonstrations
- leatherworking
- period music