



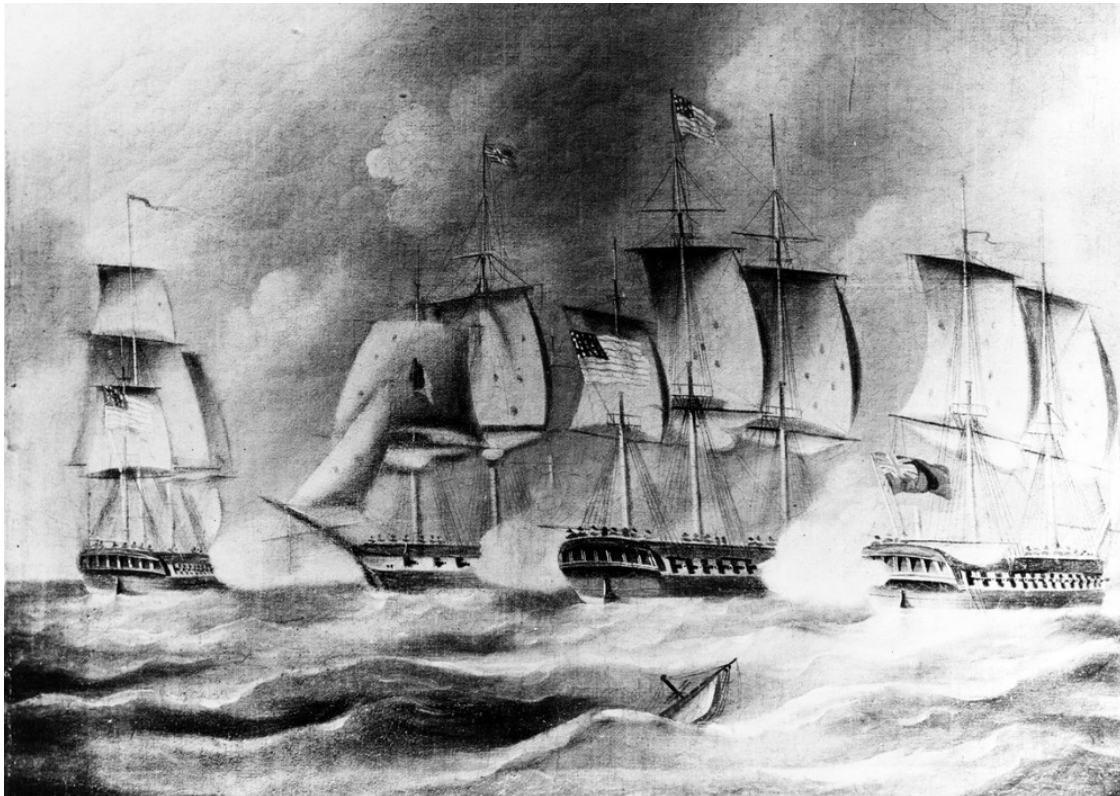
Background to the Battle

What was happening on Aquidneck Island during the British Occupation?

British and Hessians Land on Aquidneck Island - December 1776



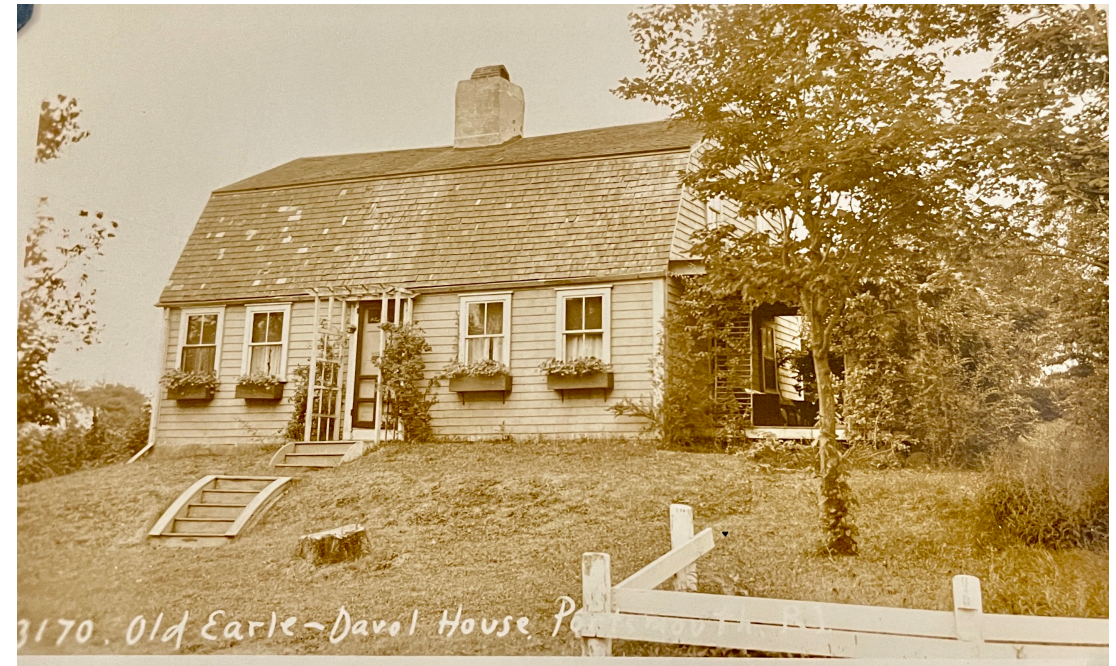
What happened to the Americans?



Blockade of Ships - goods cannot come in.



People couldn't move off Island



British and Hessians took over their houses



Wood needed for heating was chopped down



Throughout the war, British often sailed or rowed up inlets and raided coastal regions, burning and destroying supplies, granaries, and terrorizing patriot communities.

It wasn't just Aquidneck Island that suffered

1778 the French joined the Americans.
They made a plan to rescue Aquidneck
Island. This was called the
Rhode Island Campaign



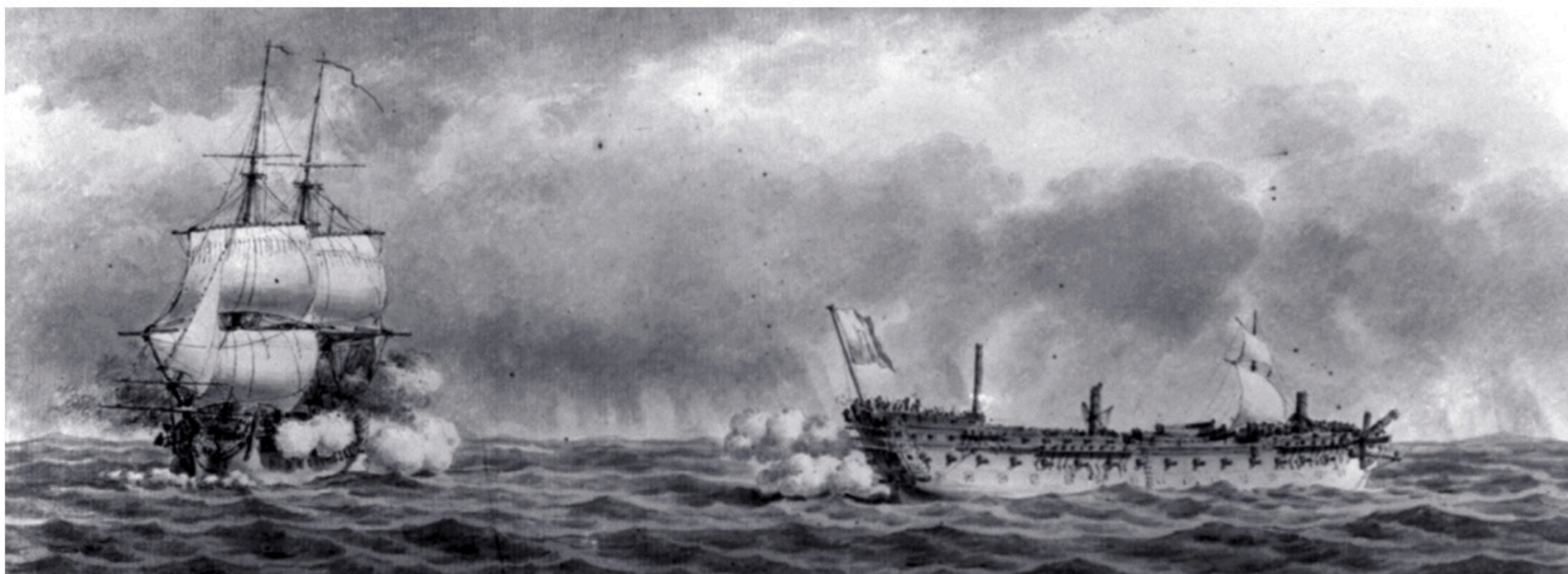
French Fleet Comes into Newport



10,000 Americans came over from Tiverton
August 11

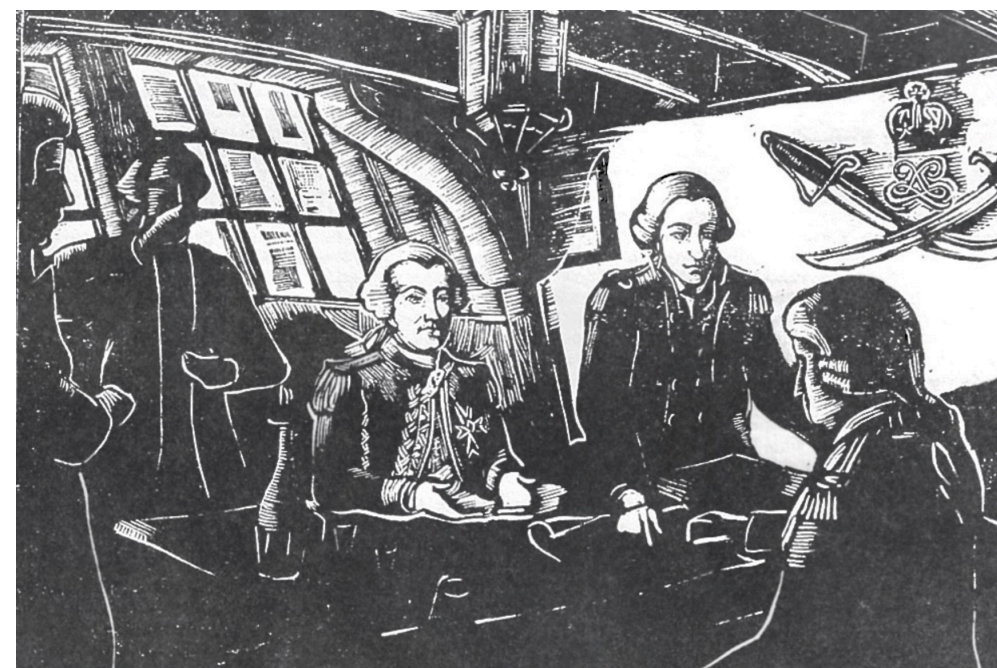
Nor'easter Damages Both Fleets, French Withdraw to Boston for Repairs

**August
12, 1778
Fierce
storm**



British 50-gun ship *Renown* rakes the French flagship *Languedoc* at the Battle of Rhode Island, killing 60 and wounding far more. The Frenchman lost masts and her rudder during the severe gale that damaged both fleets.

**Lafayette and Nathaniel Greene try
to persuade
French Commander D'Estaing to
stay.**

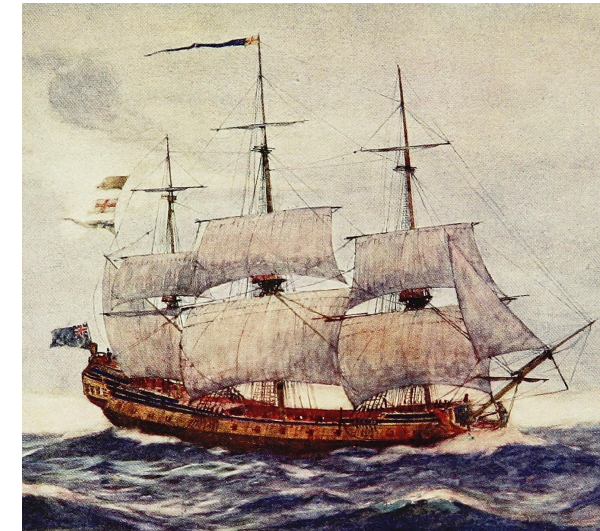


British Prepare for Battle

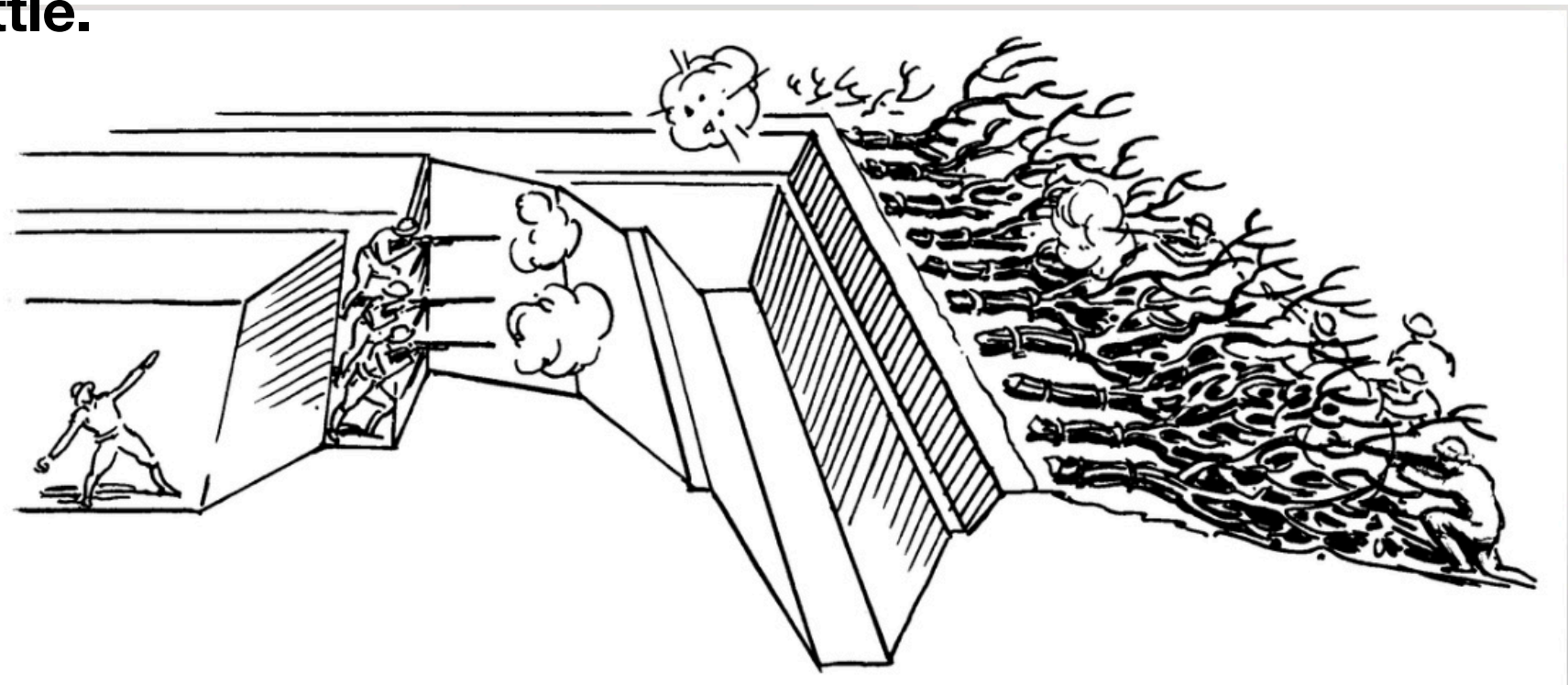
*British ordered ships destroyed rather than be taken by the enemy.
Lark, Cerberus, Orpheus and the Juno

The Lark's 76 barrels of gunpowder exploded and ignited the Wilcox home. Flaming debris landed as far away as three miles."

*British engineer Frederick Mackenzie wrote: "It was a most mortifying sight to us, who were Spectators of this, to see so many fine Frigates destroyed in so short a time, without any loss on the part of the Enemy."

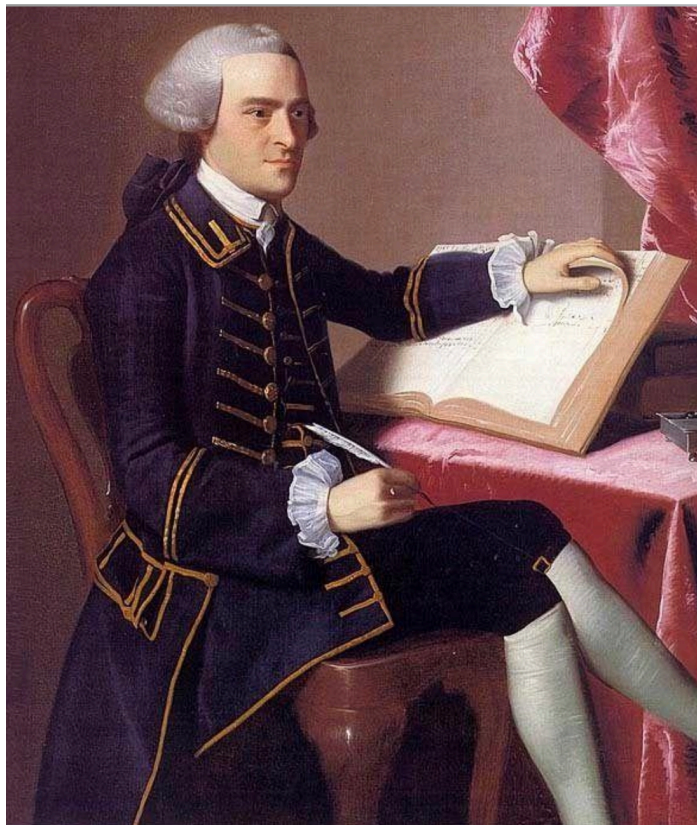


**British cut down orchards,
Burn American houses to
clear sites for battle.**

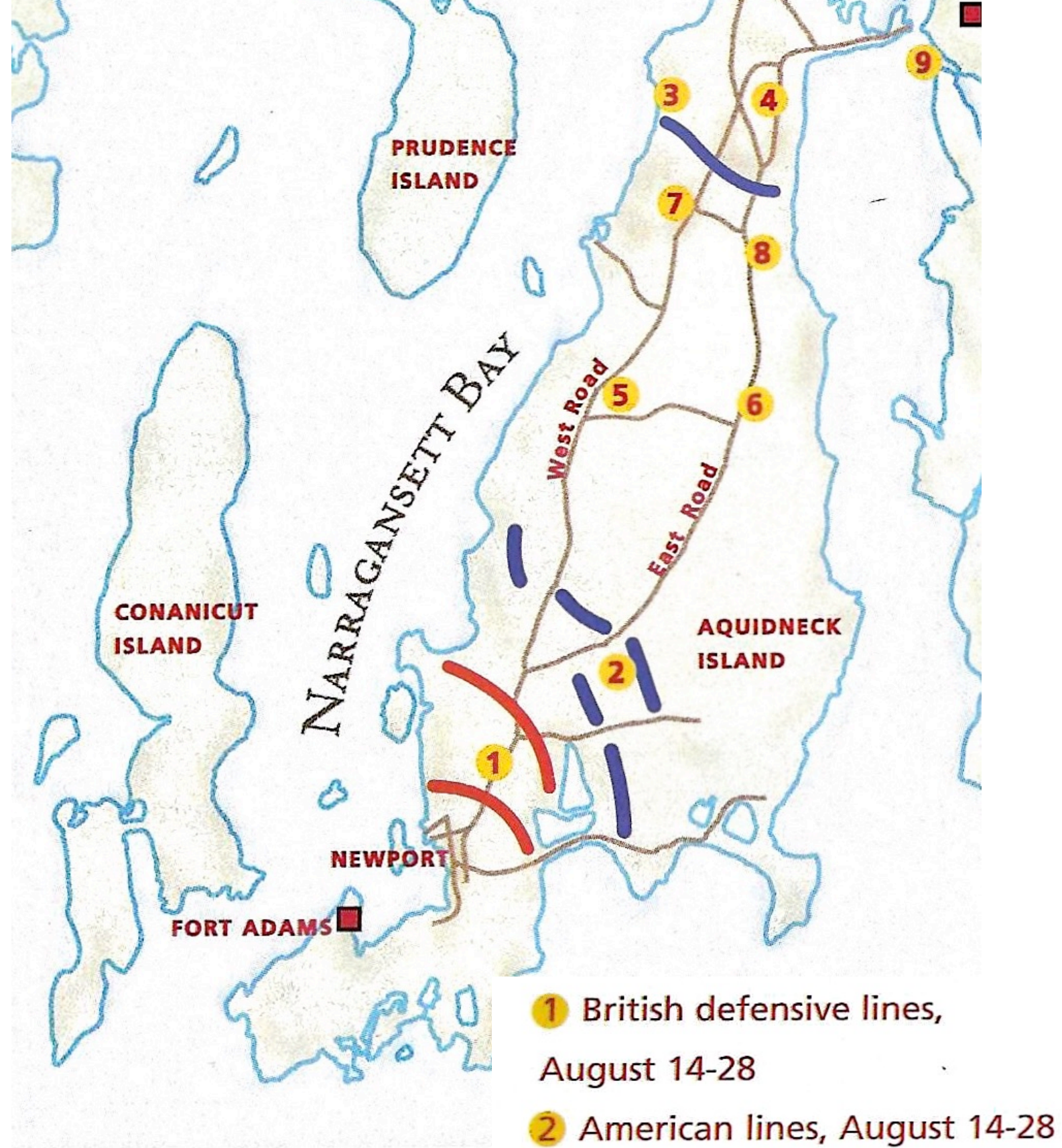




Paul Revere



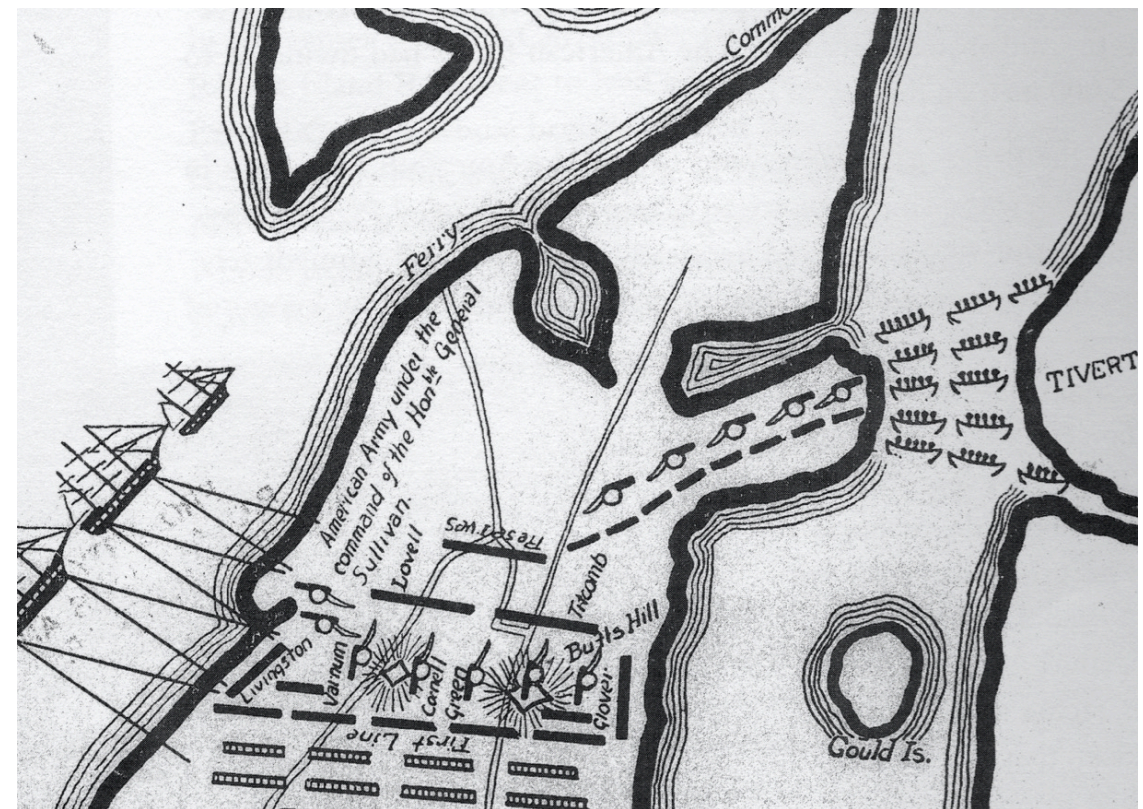
John Hancock



Siege of Newport

Retreat

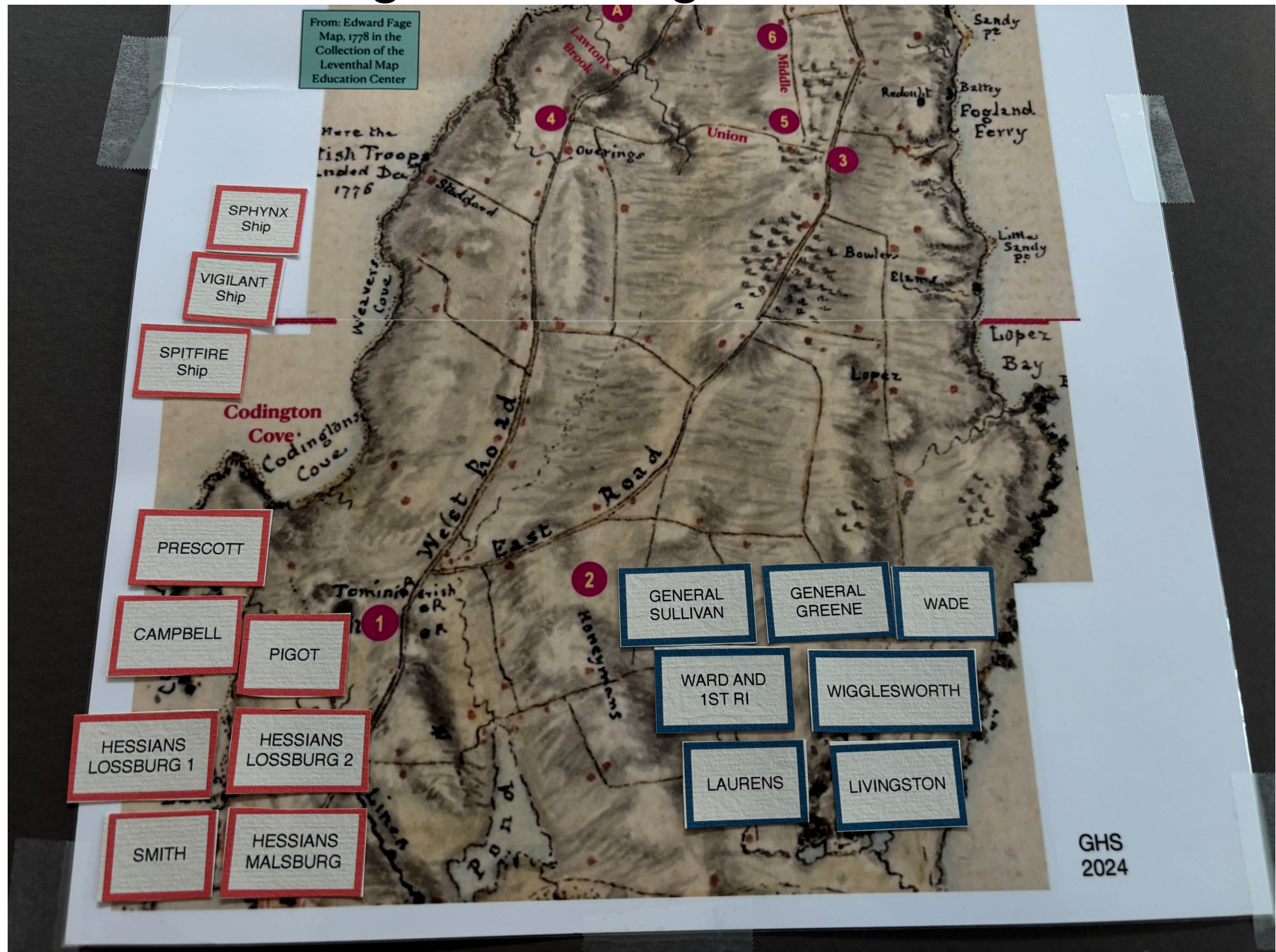
- August 26: Americans know that the British fleet is coming and that it would be at least three weeks before the French would arrive.
- They begin to send their heavy cannon back to Butts Hill.
- Americans wanted to get all weapons out so it they would not fall into enemy hands.
- Fight again another day.





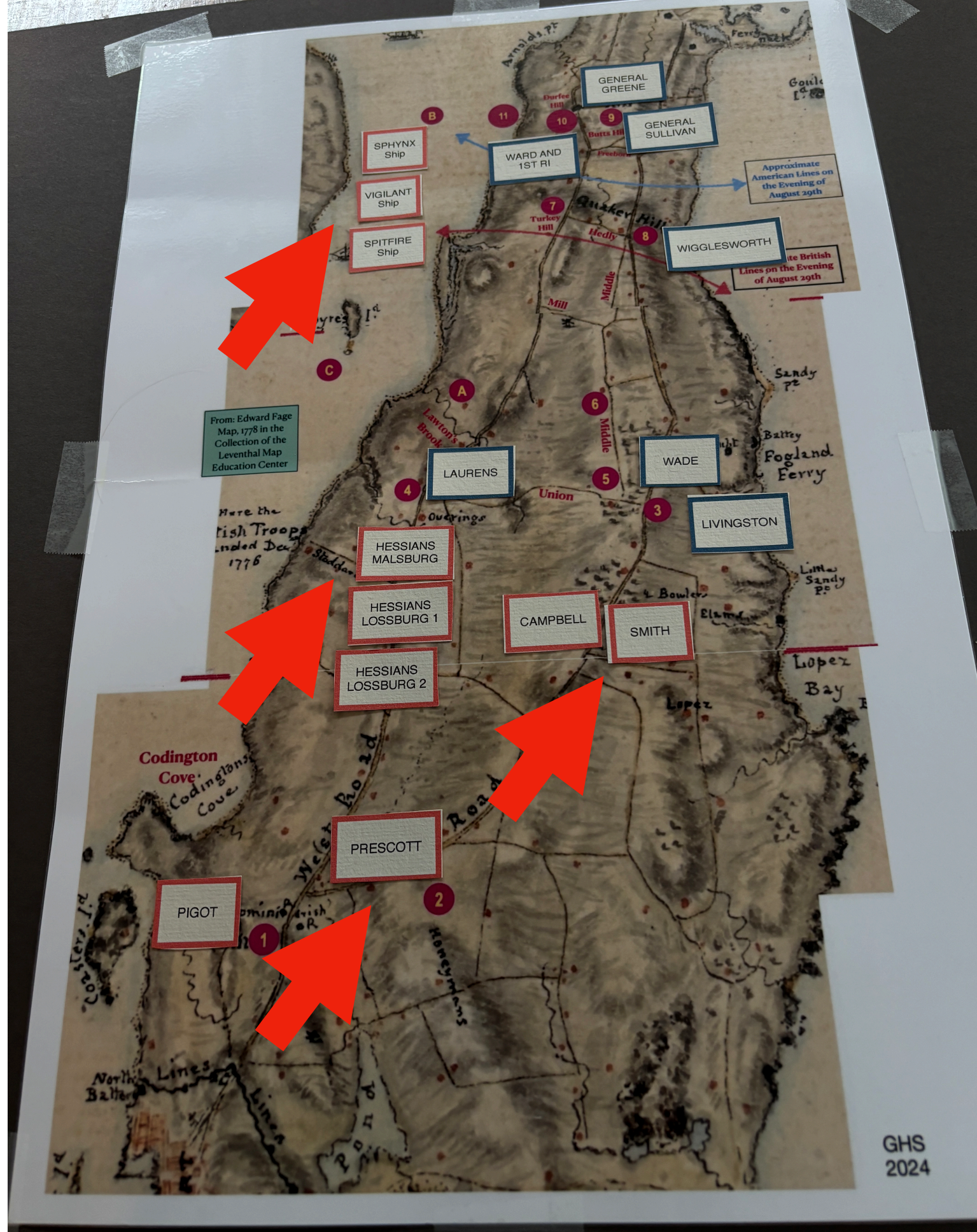
The Battle Begins August 29, 1778

Starting Points August 28, 1778

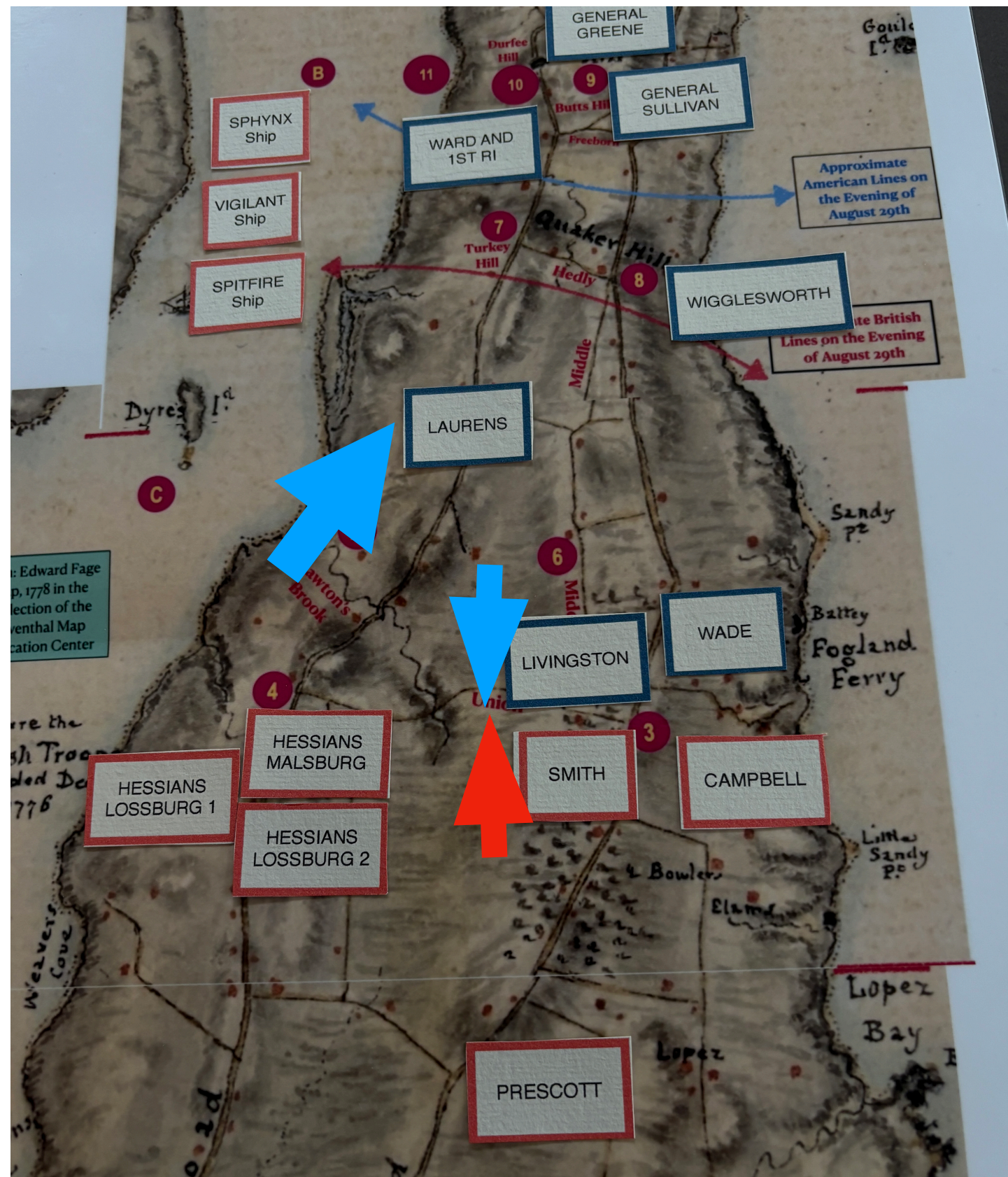




**Early Morning
August 29th**



6:30 AM August
29, 1778



7 AM August 29, 1778



8 AM, August 29. 1778



8:30 AM, August 29, 1778



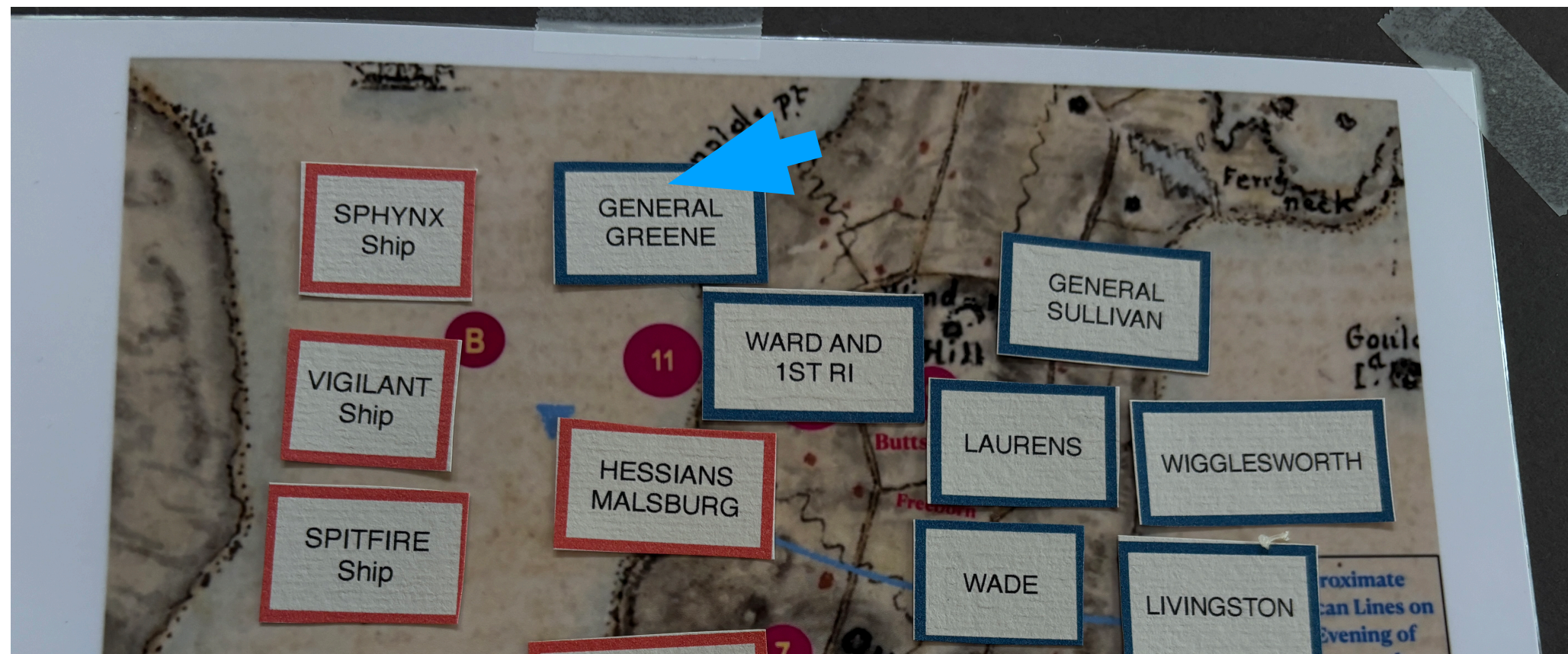
9 AM, August 29, 1778



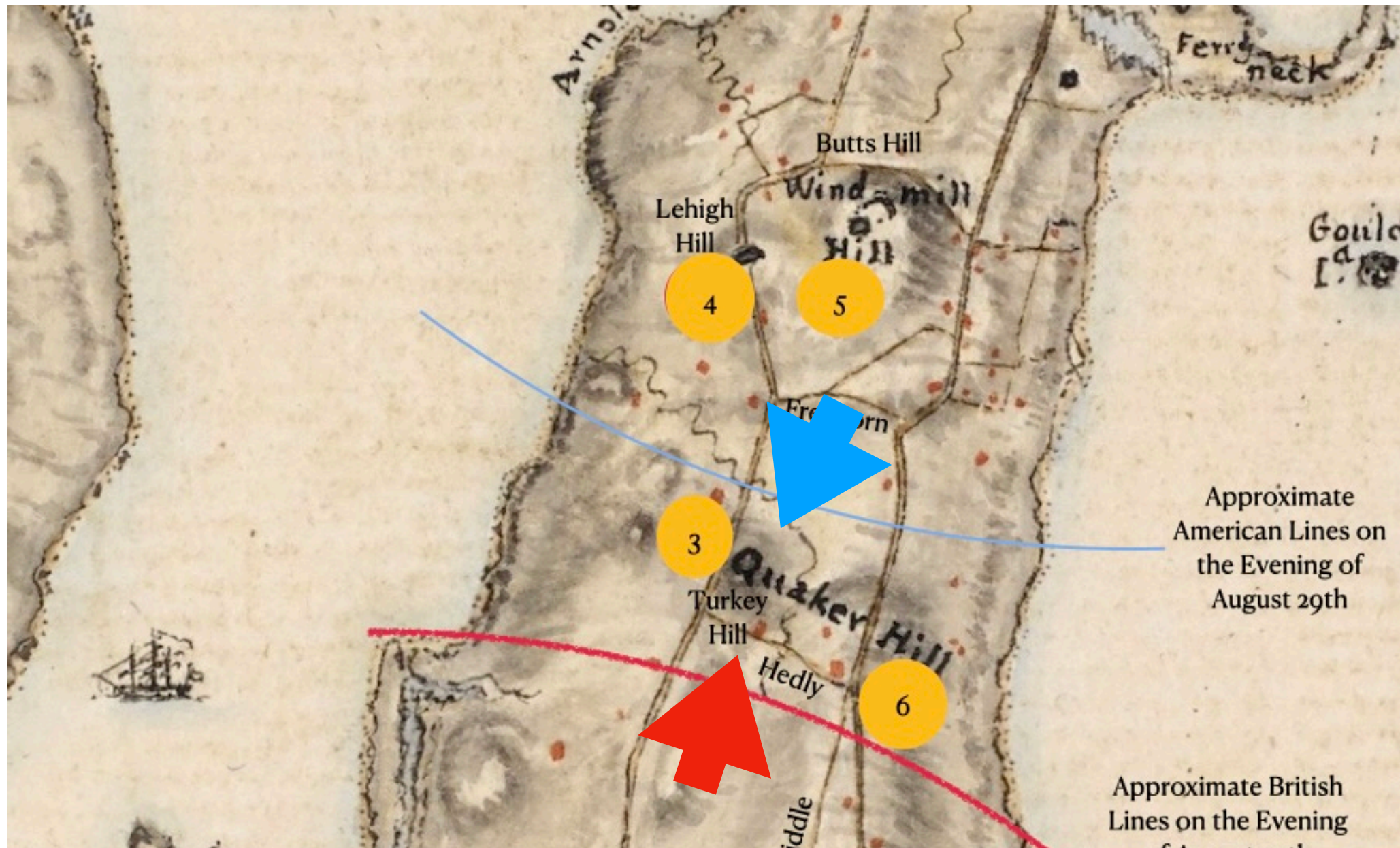
9:30 AM, August 29, 1778



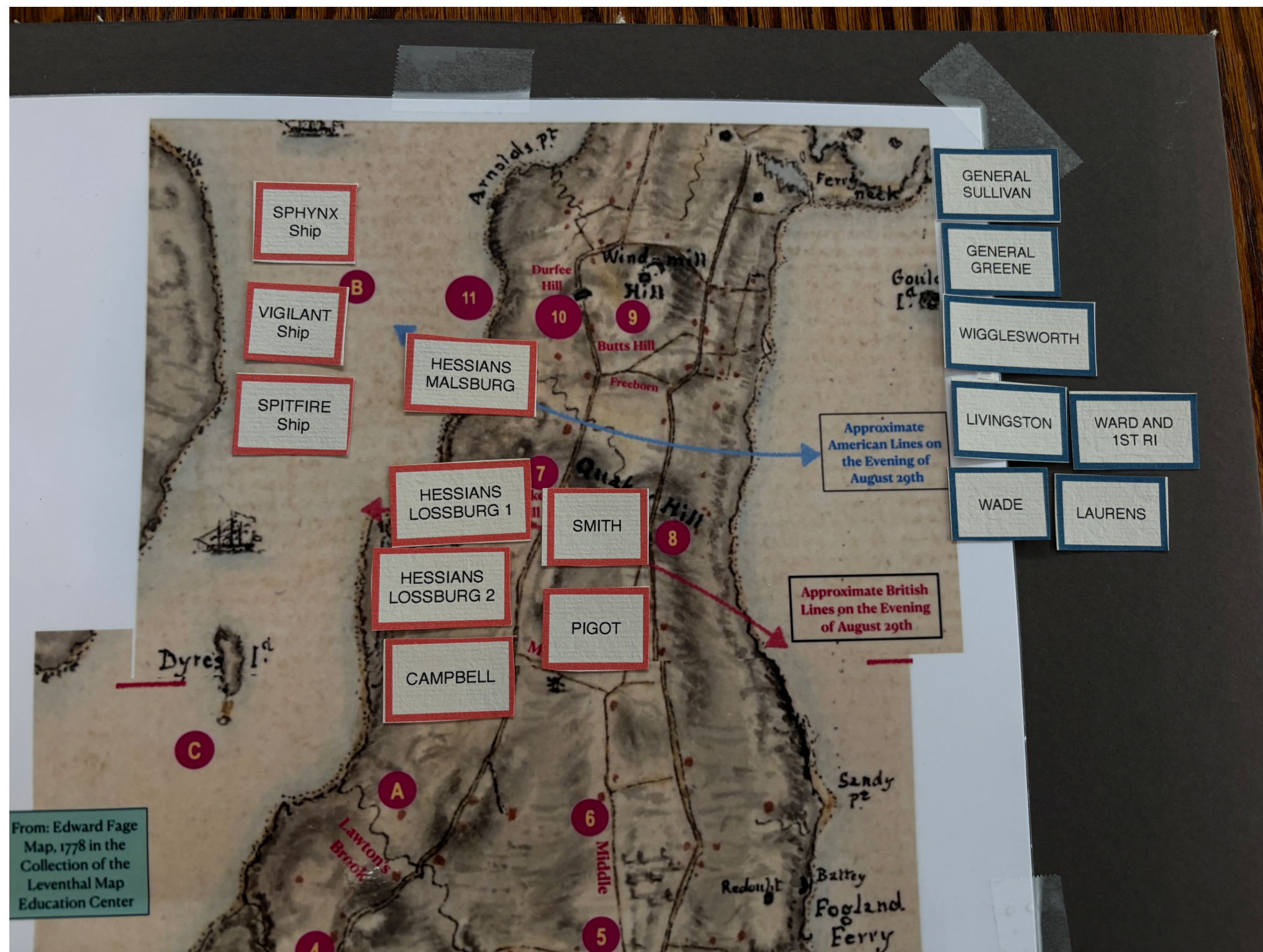
10 AM August 29, 1778



11:30 AM - 1 PM, August 29, 1778



Musket and Canon Shot for 7 hours
Battle of Rhode Island is Over



Early Morning August 30, 1778
Live to Fight Another Day

