

The General Henry Champion House

A Classroom Resource on Local History & the American Revolution

526 Westchester Rd, Colchester, CT · henrychampionhouse.org

Built	1790, in Federal-period style
Location	Colchester, Connecticut (Westchester section)
Status	National Register of Historic Places since 1972
Route	A stop on the Washington–Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R), a National Historic Trail
Built for	Colonel Henry Champion built the house for his son, General Henry Champion, who made it his home from 1790 to 1836

Two Champions, Two Stories

Colonel Henry Champion (1723–1797) served as a Commissary for the Revolutionary War effort starting in 1775, tasked with keeping the Continental Army supplied. His best-known act came in the brutal winter of 1777–78: he personally drove a herd of cattle 300 miles to reach General Washington's starving army at Valley Forge. It was purchased at great expense and eaten by the troops within five days of arrival.

General Henry Champion (1751–1836) answered the Lexington Alarm in 1775 and fought at Bunker Hill. In 1779, he served under Washington's direct command at the capture of Stony Point — a moment he marked every year afterward with a celebration at this house. He built on his father's legacy of public service, later serving in Connecticut's General Assembly and on its Supreme Court of Errors.

230 Years, at a Glance

1775	1777–78	1779	1790	1836	1972	2026
Commissary appointment	Valley Forge cattle drive	Capture of Stony Point	House built for the General	General Champion dies	Listed on the National Register	Restoration begins

Discussion Starters for the Classroom

- Why might keeping an army fed be just as important as fighting in battle?
- Find Colchester, CT and Valley Forge, PA on a map. How far is 300 miles from where you live?
- What does it mean for a building to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and why might that matter?



The General Henry Champion House today, mid-restoration

The General Henry Champion Trust, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to restoring and preserving this 1790 National Register landmark. See restoration progress, plan a visit, or learn more at henrychampionhouse.org.