



Fairfield Museum
AND HISTORY CENTER
A M E R I C A 2 5 0



April 19 – Battles of Lexington & Concord

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On this date, April 19, 1775, British forces marched into Lexington and Concord looking to suppress potential rebellion and seize weapons from the colonists. Instead, fighting erupted along the Bay Road (now Route 2A) between Boston and Concord in Massachusetts. Since Paul Revere and two other riders were able to warn the countryside of the British arrival the night before, 1,500 British troops were outnumbered by nearly 4,000 militiamen. The British suffered significant casualties and retreated to Boston until they reached the cover of British ships anchored in the harbor.

The Lexington Alarm was issued on April 19, summoning militias from across New England through a series of messages sent along an extensive network of revolutionaries. The Alarm reached Fairfield on April 22 and Fairfield's local revolutionary committee which included Gold Selleck Silliman, Thaddeus Burr, Job Bartram, Andrew Roland, and Jonathan Sturges organized 68 Fairfield men under Captain David Dimon to fight for the revolutionary cause in Boston.

Image: *The Battle of Lexington*, 1850. Courtesy of The New York Public Library, The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs Collection.