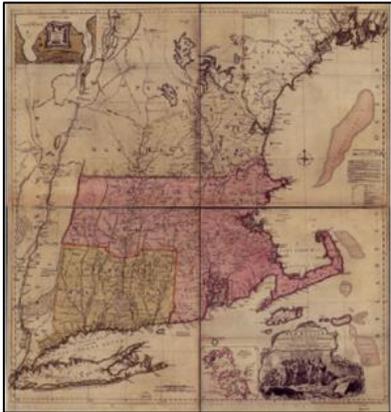


District of Maine: Henry Dearborn

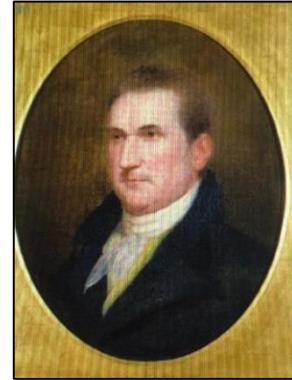
Among the appointees was a 38-year-old veteran, who played a central role in both the American Revolution and the early years of the nation. Born on February 23, 1751, in North Hampton, NH, Henry Dearborn began his career as a doctor. However, when the news of the battles of Lexington and Concord reached him, Dearborn quickly raised a militia unit and proceeded to the outskirts of Boston, MA.⁸ Beginning with the [Battle of Bunker Hill](#) on June 17, 1775, Dearborn participated in some the most critical battles of the American Revolution and ended the war with the



On this map of New England from 1776, Maine is known as the "Eastern Part of Massachusetts". Maine would not become a state, until March 15, 1820.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress

rank of colonel. At the conclusion of the war, Dearborn moved to Maine, where he continued to build upon his military achievements and ingratiate himself with the local community.⁹ By the fall of 1789, he was a major general in the local militia and President Washington's appointee as Maine's first U.S. marshal.



Portrait of Henry Dearborn
1796-97

*Courtesy of Independence
National Historical Park*

With his appointment as a U.S. marshal, President Washington charged Dearborn with leading the enumeration of the District of Maine for the 1790 Census. Unlike some of the other 1790 census returns, Dearborn's 1790 returns do not provide a clear date for when he and his deputies completed their enumeration of Maine's population.¹⁰ Dearborn personally counted the population of 23 towns in three different countries. Based on the extant 1790 Census

schedules, it appears as though Dearborn was the only U.S. marshal to emphasize his personal role as both the primary overseer and an enumerator of the 1790 Census as he was the only one who noted in the final report which counties he personally enumerated.¹¹

⁸ "History - The First Generation of United States Marshals/The First Marshal of Maine: Henry Dearborn," U.S. marshals Service, last estimated release October 11, 2019, <https://www.usmarshals.gov/history/firstmarshals/dearborn.htm>. (Accessed October 7, 2019).

⁹ History - The First Generation of United States Marshals/The First Marshal of Maine: Henry Dearborn,"

¹⁰ "Maine". *Return of the whole number of persons within the several districts of the United States: according to "An act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States," passed March the first, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one*, pg. 21. PDF. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/content/census/en/library/publications/1793/dec/number-of-persons.html>. (Accessed October 7, 2019).

¹¹ "Assistant marshals for the state [Maine]: 1790," in *Heads of Families/1790/A Century of Population Growth Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1908), 1:10.

