

# Philip Schuyler

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Philip John Schuyler** (/ˈskaɪlər/; November 20, 1733 – November 18, 1804) was a general in the American Revolution and a United States Senator from New York.<sup>[1]</sup> He is usually known as **Philip Schuyler**, while his son is usually known as Philip J. Schuyler.

## Contents

- 1 Early life
- 2 Revolutionary War
  - 2.1 Battle of Saratoga
- 3 Later career
- 4 Family and relatives
- 5 Legacy
- 6 Notes
- 7 References
- 8 External links

## Early life

Philip Schuyler was born in Albany, New York, on November 20, 1733, to John (Johannes) Schuyler, Jr. (1697–1741), third generation of the Dutch family in America, and Cornelia Van Cortlandt (1698–1762).

Prior to his father's death on the eve of his eighth birthday, Schuyler attended the public school at Albany. Afterward, he was educated by tutors at the Van Cortlandt family estate at New Rochelle. He joined the British forces in 1755 during the French and Indian War, raised a company, and was commissioned as its Captain by his cousin, Lt. Governor James Delancey. Later in that war, he served as a quartermaster, purchasing supplies and organizing equipment.

From 1761 to 1762, Schuyler made a trip to England to settle accounts from his work as quartermaster. During this time his home in Albany, later called Schuyler Mansion, was built. His country estate (General Schuyler House) at Saratoga (now Schuylerville, New York) was also begun. After the war he also expanded the Saratoga estate to tens of thousands of acres, adding slaves, tenant farmers, a store, mills for

### Philip Schuyler



**United States Senator**  
**from New York**

**In office**

July 16, 1789 – March 4, 1791

**Preceded by** *(none)*

**Succeeded by** Aaron Burr

**In office**

March 4, 1797 – January 3, 1798

**Preceded by** Aaron Burr

**Succeeded by** John Sloss Hobart

#### Personal details

**Born** Philip John Schuyler  
November 20, 1733  
Albany, New York

**Died** November 18, 1804 (aged 70)  
Albany, New York

**Political party** Pro-Administration,  
Federalist

**Spouse(s)** Catherine Van Rensselaer

**Children** John Bradstreet Schuyler, Philip Jeremiah Schuyler, Angelica Schuyler Church, Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton, Margarita "Peggy" Schuyler Van Rensselaer, Catherine Van

flour, flax, and lumber. His flax mill for the making of linen was the first one in America. He built several schooners on the Hudson River, and named the first *Saratoga*.

Schuyler began his political career as a member of the New York Assembly in 1768, he served in that body until 1775.

During this time his views came to be more opposed to the colonial government. He was particularly outspoken in matters of trade and currency. He was also made a Colonel in the militia for his support of governor Henry Moore.

## Revolutionary War



Schuyler's house during the Revolution, in Schuylerville

Schuyler was elected to the Continental Congress in 1775, and served until he was appointed a Major General of the Continental Army in June. General Schuyler took command of the Northern Department, and planned the Invasion of Canada (1775). His poor health required him to place Richard Montgomery in command of the invasion.

As department commanding General, he was active in preparing a defense against the Saratoga Campaign, part of the "Three Pronged Attack" strategy of the British to cut the American Colonies in two by invading and occupying New York State in 1777. In the summer of that year General John Burgoyne marched his British army south from Quebec over the valleys of Lakes Champlain and George. On the way he invested the small Colonial garrison occupying Fort Ticonderoga at the nexus of the two lakes. When General St. Clair abandoned Fort Ticonderoga in July, the Congress replaced Schuyler with General Horatio Gates, who had accused Schuyler of dereliction of duty.

### Battle of Saratoga

The British offensive was eventually stopped by Continental Army then under the command of Gates and Benedict Arnold in the Battle of

Saratoga. That victory, the first wholesale defeat of a large British force, marked a turning point in the revolution, for it convinced France to enter the war on the American side. When Schuyler demanded a court martial to answer Gates' charges, he was vindicated but resigned from the Army on April 19, 1779. He then served in two more sessions of the Continental Congress in 1779 and 1780.

Schuyler was an original member of the New York Society of the Cincinnati.

## Later career

He was a member of the New York State Senate from 1780 to 1784, and at the same time New York State Surveyor General from 1781 to 1784. Afterwards he returned to the State Senate from 1786 to 1790, where he actively supported the adoption of the United States Constitution.

In 1789, he was elected a U.S. Senator from New York to the First United States Congress, serving from July 27, 1789, to March 4, 1791. After losing his bid for re-election in 1791, he returned to the State Senate from 1792 to 1797. In 1797, he was elected again to the U.S. Senate and served in the 5th United States Congress

	Rensselaer Schuyler Malcolm
<b>Profession</b>	Soldier, Statesman
<b>Religion</b>	Dutch Reformed

from March 4, 1797 until his resignation because of ill health on January 3, 1798.

## Family and relatives

In September 1755, he married Catherine Van Rensselaer<sup>[2]</sup> (1734–1803) at Albany. Philip and Catherine had eleven children together, eight of whom survived to adulthood, including:

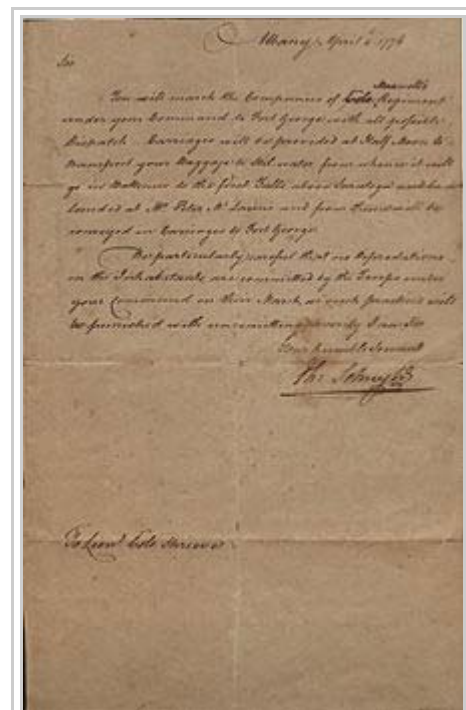
- Angelica (1756-1814), who married British MP John Barker Church.
- Elizabeth (1757-1854), married Alexander Hamilton who later was the first United States Secretary of the Treasury. Elizabeth cofounded the first orphanage in New York City.<sup>[3]</sup>
- Margarita (Margaret) (1758-1801), who married Stephen Van Rensselaer III 8th Patroon of the name.
- Cornelia (1761-1762)<sup>[4]</sup>
- John Bradstreet (1763-1764)<sup>[5]</sup>
- John Bradstreet (1765-1795), who married Elizabeth Van Rensselaer, the sister of Stephen Van Rensselaer III who married his sister Margarita.<sup>[6]</sup>
- Philip Jeremiah Schuyler (1768-1835), who served in the United States House of Representatives.
- Rensselaer (1773-1847), married Elizabeth Ten Broeck, daughter of General Abraham Ten Broeck
- Cornelia (1776-1808), married Washington Morton<sup>[7]</sup>
- Cortlandt (1778-1778)<sup>[8]</sup>
- Catherine Van Rensselaer (1781-1857), who married first Samuel Malcolm, and then James Cochran, son of Dr. John Cochran, who was married to her Aunt Gertrude (Philip Schuyler's sister).<sup>[9]</sup>

Additionally, Schuyler is related to:

- Peter Schuyler (cousin), who commanded the Jersey Blues.
- Hester Schuyler (cousin), who married William Colfax, a veteran of George Washington's Life Guards and later a general in the New Jersey militia who also commanded the Jersey Blues. (William and Hester were the grandparents of Vice President and Speaker of the House Schuyler Colfax).
- Arent Schuyler De Peyster (cousin), a noted Loyalist.
- Mary (Watts) Johnson (second cousin), loyalist and wife of Colonel Sir John Johnson.
- Dr. John Cochran (brother-in-law), Director General of the Military Hospitals of the Continental Army.<sup>[10]</sup>

Schuyler's country home had been destroyed by General John Burgoyne's forces in September, 1777. Later that year, he began rebuilding on the same site, now located in southern Schuylerville, New York. This later home is maintained by the National Park Service as part of the Saratoga National Historical Park, and is open to the public.

Schuyler died at the Schuyler Mansion in Albany on November 18, 1804, and is buried in the Albany Rural Cemetery at Menands, New York.



Letter from Philip Schuyler to Israel Shreve, 1776

## Legacy

- Schuyler County, Illinois, Schuyler County, Missouri and Schuyler County, New York were named in his honor.
- Fort Schuyler, constructed 1833-56, at the tip of Throggs Neck (a narrow spit of land in the southeastern portion of the borough of the Bronx in New York City) was named in his honor. The fort, built to defend the passage between the East River and Long Island Sound from sea invasion, now houses the Maritime Industry Museum and the State University of New York Maritime College.
- The Philip Schuyler Achievement Academy in Albany, New York is named in his and his son's honor.
- A statue of Schuyler, created by sculptor J. Massey Rhind in 1925 stands on the grounds of Albany's city hall.
- A Service Area on the New York State Thruway is presumably named after him as well.



Statue outside Albany City Hall

## Notes

1. NYSM: Philip Schuyler (<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/bios/s/phschuyler1750.html>)
2. Catherine Van Rensselaer (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=7275660>) Find A Grave
3. "Republican Court: Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton (1757-1854)". *www.librarycompany.org*. Retrieved 2015-09-30.
4. "Cornelia Schuyler (1761-1762)". *FindAGrave*. Retrieved 8 April 2016.
5. "John Bradstreet Schuyler". *FindAGrave*. Retrieved 8 April 2016.
6. Schuyler, George W. (1885). *Colonial New York: Philip Schuyler and His Family, Volume 2*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. p. 282.
7. "This Day in History: Cornelia Schuyler and Washington Morton are married!". *Facebook: Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site*. October 7, 2015. Retrieved 8 April 2016.
8. "Philip Schuyler". *Ancestry.com*. Retrieved 8 April 2016.
9. Schuyler, George W. (1885). *Colonial New York: Philip Schuyler and His Family, Volume 2*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. p. 283.
10. John Cochran (<http://history.amedd.army.mil/tsgs/Cochran.htm>) Office of Medical History

## References

- Barbagallo, Tricia (March 10, 2007). "Fellow Citizens Read a Horrid Tale" (PDF). Retrieved 2008-06-04.
- *Revolutionary Enigma; A Re-Appraisal of General Philip Schuyler of New York* by Martin H. Bush; 1969; (ISBN 0-87198-080-0).
- *Life of General Philip Schuyler, 1733-1804* by Bayard Tuckerman; 1903; (1969 reprint ISBN 0-8369-5031-3).
- *Proud Patriot: Philip Schuyler and the War of Independence, 1775-1783* by Don Gerlach; 1987; Syracuse University Press; (ISBN 0-8156-2373-9).
- *The New York Civil List* compiled by Franklin Benjamin Hough (pages 37f; Weed, Parsons and Co., 1858) (<https://books.google.com/books?id=E3sFAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA37>)
- *The Real George Washington* by the National Center for Constitutional Studies; 1991; 2009 reprint ISBN 0-88080-014-3

## External links

- United States Congress. "Philip Schuyler (id: S000154)". *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*.
- Co-Planner of the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign Against the Iroquois (<http://www.sullivanclinton.com>)
- Collection of Letters from Philip Schuyler (<http://www.familytales.org/results.php?tla=pjs>)
- Philip Schuyler Achievement Academy (<http://saa.albany.k12.ny.us>)
- Finding Aid to Schuyler Family Collection, 1679-1823 (<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/msscfa/sc19811.htm>) at the New York State Library

Political offices		
Preceded by <b>new office</b>	<b>New York State Surveyor General</b> 1781–1784	Succeeded by <b>Simeon De Witt</b>
United States Senate		
Preceded by <b>None</b>	<b>U.S. Senator (Class 1) from New York</b> 1789–1791 Served alongside: <b>Rufus King</b>	Succeeded by <b>Aaron Burr</b>
Preceded by <b>Aaron Burr</b>	<b>U.S. Senator (Class 1) from New York</b> 1797–1798 Served alongside: <b>John Laurance</b>	Succeeded by <b>John Sloss Hobart</b>

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Philip\_Schuyler&oldid=726602627"

Categories: Schuyler family | 1733 births | 1804 deaths | Continental Army generals | Continental Army officers from New York | Continental Congressmen from New York | American people of Dutch descent | New York Federalists | New York gubernatorial candidates | United States Senators from New York | People from Albany, New York | People from New Rochelle, New York | Burials at Albany Rural Cemetery | Members of the New York Provincial Assembly | Members of the New York State Assembly | New York State Senators | Reformed Church in America Christians | New York State Engineers and Surveyors | Federalist Party United States Senators

- This page was last modified on 23 June 2016, at 05:40.
- Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.