

Colonel Thomas Knowlton (1740-1776)

Artist: Enoch Smith Woods (1846-1919)

1895 Bronze

Conceived as a companion piece to the statue of Nathan Hale which is located in the East Atrium of the Capitol, this statue was commissioned by the General Assembly of 1893.

Knowlton was born in West Boxford, Massachusetts and spent his youth in Ashford, Connecticut.

Thomas Knowlton served as a scout under the command of Israel Putnam and later obtained the rank of Colonel.

The soldiers he led were known as "Knowlton's Rangers" and eventually earned the nickname "Congress's Own".



One member of this group, Nathan Hale, would later volunteer his services as the country's first spy.

Knowlton commanded nearly 200 Connecticut troops at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The group, known as a fatigue party, were ordered to come equipped with packs, blankets, and a day's rations.

When the Continental Army was forced back by the British, Knowlton and Colonel John Stark protected the line of retreat.

Thomas Knowlton was fatally wounded at the Battle of Harlem Heights, September 16, 1776.



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Courtesy of the League of Women Voters of Connecticut, Inc.