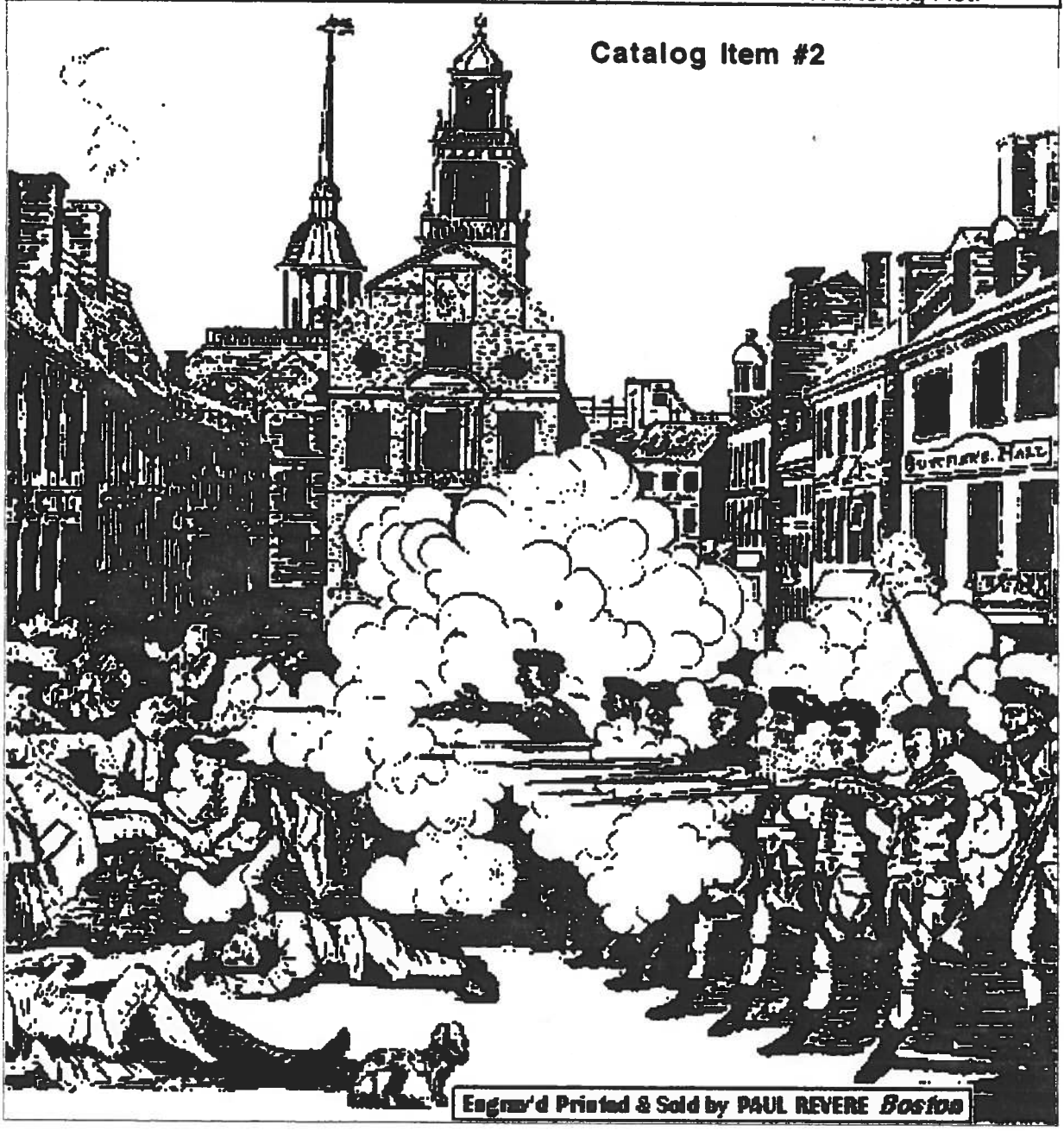


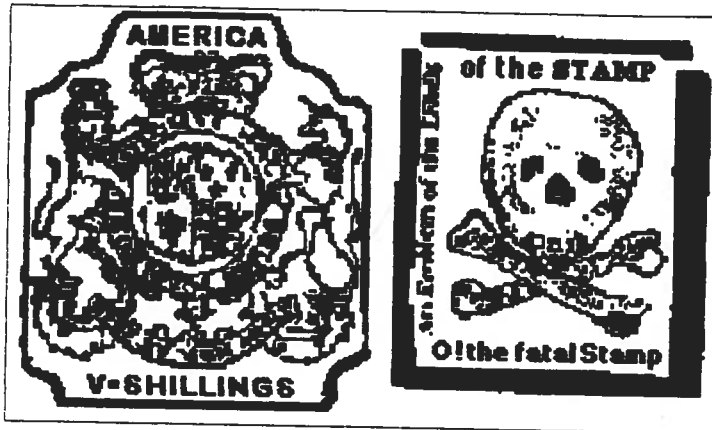
Museum Shipment

This scene which shows the Boston Massacre of 1770, was engraved and printed by Paul Revere, a Boston silversmith. This picture was circulated widely in the colonies and helped to stir up anger against Britain. Revere shows Captain Thomas Preston, at far right, ordering his troops to fire on the colonists. British headquarters is located behind Preston and is labeled "Butcher's Hall". The incident took place in front of the Customs House where money collected from taxes (Townshend Acts) on imported goods was kept. Colonists also resented the presence of so many British soldiers in their city ever since the Quartering Act.

Catalog Item #2



Engr'd Printed & Sold by PAUL REVERE Boston



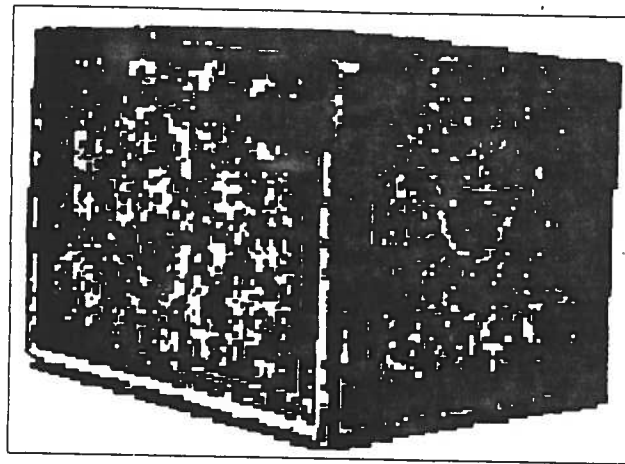
Catalog Item #1:

This stamp on the left was used on wills and insurance policies to show that a five-shilling tax had been paid. The British prime minister, George Grenville, had urged England's Parliament to pass the Stamp Act in 1765 as a way to raise taxes fairly in the American colonies.

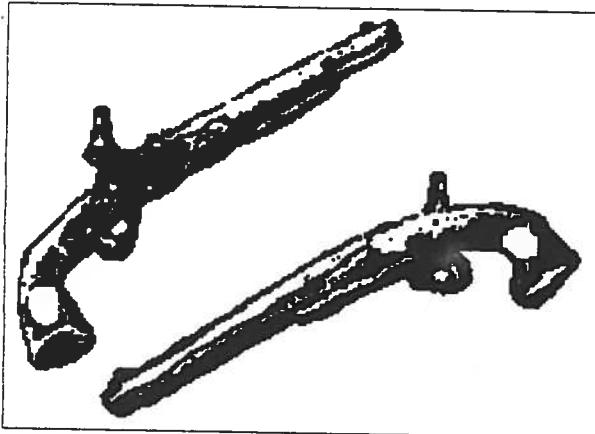
The stamp on the right was used by the colonists to express their feelings about the new tax.

Catalog Item #3

This rare chest with red Chinese lacquer work was pulled out of Boston Harbor by a young boy the day after the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773). During the Boston Tea Party, colonists dressed as Indians boarded English ships and dumped 342 chests of fine, but taxable tea to avoid having to pay the Tea Tax.



Catalog Item #5



In the early morning hours of April 19, 1775, colonists in Lexington were awakened by a scout's alarm that the British were coming. At the village green they met the British and heard the order "Throw down your arms, ye villains, ye rebels," perhaps from Maj. John Pitcairn who led the advance unit of redcoats. He always insisted that the "peasants" shot first. Later, retreating from Concord, Maj. Pitcairn lost these silver-mounted pistols when his horse threw him and bolted.



Catalog Item #4

This drawing by a British artist shows colonists pouring tea down the throat of a tax collector who has been tarred and feathered. A hangman's noose is ready for the next victim on the Liberty Tree. A poster showing the Stamp Act is turned upside down. Finally, colonists are shown at the left dumping tea into the sea.

Catalog Item #6

Excerpt from a speech given by Patrick Henry to a group of Virginians in March of 1775.

Gentlemen may cry, peace, peace but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? ... I, know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. What "important historical event" resulted from the events represented by all of the items in this museum shipment?
 - A. War of 1812
 - B. American Revolution
 - C. Constitutional Convention
 - D. Civil War

2. As you unpacked the museum items, you noticed that two of the items reflected incidents in Boston. That city must have been an important focal point of activity related to the important event. Why?
 - A. It was a major sea port where British goods and soldiers entered.
 - B. Colonists in that city were more heavily taxed than in other cities.
 - C. Boston had a higher population than any other colonial city.
 - D. That was where most of the rebel leaders lived.

3. What seems to be a major concern Americans had during that period of time as indicated by the types of items found in the museum shipment?
 - A. They believed that the government was not doing enough to control crime.
 - B. They worried that the British would not sell them needed goods.
 - C. They believed that the king was not a strong leader.
 - D. They felt that new laws passed by the government were not fair.

4. Look at "Catalog Item #4". What message is the artist trying to give?
 - A. Tax collectors are evil and should be tortured
 - B. Colonists are criminals who are breaking laws in the name of liberty
 - C. British officials enjoy making colonists suffer
 - D. Americans are innocent victims just trying to change unjust laws

5. Many of the items reveal conflicts over taxes. Why was England passing so many different tax laws at that time?
 - A. England needed money to pay debts owed from the French and Indian War
 - B. King George of England wanted money to expand his empire beyond the Appalachian Mountains all the way to the Pacific Ocean
 - C. England's Parliament wanted to provide increased wages and health benefits for their citizens
 - D. England wanted to prevent the colonists from becoming too wealthy and independent

6. Why were American colonists upset about paying taxes?
 - A. No colonist was elected to represent colonial interests in Parliament.
 - B. Colonists had to pay more taxes than did people in England.
 - C. The power to tax was not a legal right of governments.
 - D. Money collected in taxes was never used to run colonial government

Short Answer

You are now ready to arrange the items in your display case. Which item should be in the center of the display? **Select one** item and explain why it should go in the center -- that is, why it should be the focal point of the display. Your answer should be at least one paragraph long.

Extended Response

Give your display a title and write a description (up to one page long) for people to read who come to see your display case. In your description explain how all six of the items fit together to tell the story of this important period in American History.

DISPLAY TITLE: _____