



**J. FOSTER  
HISTORIC SIGNS**

*Handcrafted signs  
in the style of  
18th & 19th  
century artisans.*

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## BUNKER HILL FLAG

History has claimed the Bunker Hill Flag, also known as the Blue Ensign of New England, was flown by continental forces at the Battle of Bunker Hill, on June 17, 1775. However, historians disagree about whether or not this flag actually was present in the battle. And if the flag was used, there is also disagreement about what it looked like. Eyewitness accounts of the battle recall that no flags were used by colonial soldiers. This is disputed by John Trumbull, an American artist who witnessed the battle from afar, and painted *The Death of General Warren* at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775 a decade later. Trumbull, an eyewitness to the battle, was known for historical accuracy.

The flag has a dark blue background, with a St. George's Cross (the English flag) in the canton. The pine tree in the upper left corner of the flag was used as a symbol of freedom, strength, and independence of the colony of New England. Defacing the British Blue Ensign with this symbol was an act of defiance and a statement of rebellion against the crown.

Colonists often modified British flags with pine trees to show they were loyal to the British Crown, but were going to defend their liberties. The Bunker Hill Flag, Continental Flag, and Washington Cruisers Flag, a flag created for a squadron of ships commissioned by George Washington, all used the pine tree.

Apparently, a book published in the 1800s erred concerning the background color of the flag. Supposedly, the flag was originally red, making it match the color of the English Red Ensign.



*This sign was painted on a reclaimed panel board (from most likely a cabinet) using water-soluble oils. The reverse side treated with sealing oils. The size is 10' wide by 14" high. Please message for pricing.*

*Note: the photo contains a watermark for artwork rights protection. To receive an image of the sign minus the watermark, please message us.*