

FORT GEORGE ADVICE

The Newsletter of the Lake George Battlefield Park (Fort George) Alliance

PO BOX 26, LAKE GEORGE, NEW YORK 12845

SPRING 2005

President's Message

By Herman C. Brown, President

Welcome to the year 2005. The first year, here in the northeast, of the multi-year (2004-2010) celebration commemorating the 250th anniversary of the French and Indian War and the 225th anniversary of the "Great Burnings" that occurred in Washington and Warren Counties, New York during the Revolutionary War in 1780.

During 2005, the Alliance is dedicating its efforts to giving LASTING homage to the national historic significance of the site that we know as the Lake George Battlefield Park by completing its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and by joining with other French and Indian War historic sites in the region in the joint pursuit of the development of a French and Indian War Trail through a Lake to Locks Passage grant initiative. We celebrate the Anniversary of the "Great Burning" by holding a Revolutionary War Encampment and Reenactment in commemoration of the 225th Anniversary of Carleton's October 11, 1780 Raid on Fort George, this coming fall.

The fourth annual DEC/Alliance Site Management Review conference was held at the Department's Region 5 Offices in Warrensburg this past December. Projects to be completed at the park this year are: (1) replacement of the lower park men's and women's comfort stations; (2) re-pavement of the pathways to make them compliant with the provisions of the American Disabilities Act; and (3) removal of a safety hazard, the old rusty (page) wire fencing that lies west of the Warren County Bicycle Path. The Department's Historic Preservation Officer was tasked

with drafting and promulgating a Park (Site) interpretation Plan for inclusion in the next revision to the Park's Unit Management Plan. Three historic themes are to be addressed in the plan: the Colonial Wars (17th and 18th Centuries), The Revolutionary War and

budget of \$10,846 for fiscal year 2005-2006. Major goals for the year include continuing the funding of the professional conservation of the various artifacts excavated in the park in 2000 and completing the park's nomination to the National Register of



FRENCH & INDIAN WAR COMMEMORATION

250 years

War of 1812, and a commemoration period (the 19th and 20th Centuries).

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes to C. R. Bard, the Glens Falls National Bank and our annual Sponsor Members the Fort William Henry Corporation and Stelfer Steel & Pipe, LLC of Norwalk, CT for their generous financial support during the past fiscal year. Through their special assistance and the contributions of all our continuing and new members, we have met our financial goals that enables us to complete the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, finance the professional conservation of the significant historic artifacts that were excavated at the Park in 2000 (to date we have provide \$10,525 to that \$14,860 project), and bring this educational publication to you twice a year. **THANK YOU ALL!**

The Alliance Board of Trustees met on March 5th and adopted an operating

Historic Places. The Alliance's new fiscal and membership year began on April 1st. If you have not yet remitted this year's dues to the Secretary please do so at your earliest convenience. A copy of the budget and last year's financial report will be presented at this year's annual membership meeting. Advance copies are available by request from the Secretary.

Our fourth annual membership meeting and picnic will be held on Saturday, August 27, 2005 at the pavilion at Lake George Battlefield Park, Lake George, NY. The Revolutionary War Encampment and Reenactment to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of Carleton's October 11, 1780 Raid on Fort George will be held at the Park over Columbus Day Weekend (Oct. 8 & 9, 2005) Please mark your calendars now. I hope to see you all there. ■

The Alliance supports the historic preservation, conservation, interpretation and associated maintenance, improvement and development of the Lake George Battlefield Park at Lake George, New York.

Archaeological Trivia From the Test Pit

By Andrew Farry, Archaeologist

Archaeology is about telling time. To be sure, knowledge of the spatial or formal properties of the sites we excavate is important, but

if you can't account for time, you can't do archaeology. Historical archaeologists infer time with a number of methods, but it really all comes down to careful artifact inspection and identification. If the various materials from a given site can be correctly identified and their diagnostic attributes recorded, historical archaeologists can almost always determine occupation periods.

For most, the venerated guidebook on correctly identifying and dating historic-period artifacts is Ivor Noel Hume's (1969) classic *A Guide to Artifacts of Colonial America*. Republished many times, Hume's *Guide* is probably the one artifact reference book every practicing historical archaeologist has on his or her shelf. In it he describes an important dating technique that, unfortunately, continues to be underutilized by historical archaeologists. The concept of the terminus post quem (TPQ) refers to the date after which an artifact, feature, or soil layer must have been deposited. The most recently dated artifact within a soil layer, therefore, is that layer's TPQ, with all layers and artifacts above being of a more recent date. Beyond its use in inferring chronology, the TPQ also has practical applications in the field. Anyone who has dug a shovel test or a 1x1 knows all too well that soil layer transitions can be deceiving, which in turn can often confuse the true location of artifacts. When peeling away the bottom of a soil layer that is mottled with the one below, for example, how is one to know accurately which artifacts go with which layer? This is not an infrequent or even innocuous concern while excavating, but by thinking about the TPQ concept, the issue is easily resolved. Hume's dictum is that "when in doubt, put transitional artifacts in the soil layer above." The reasoning is simple: earlier artifacts mixed into later contexts will have no effect on that context's TPQ date, but later artifacts mixed into earlier contexts will. The

latter situation can seriously compromise the chronology of a site.

The desire to get more archaeologists to implement the TPQ concept has resulted in a recent publication that is no doubt destined to be as useful as Hume's *Guide*. George Miller's "Telling Time For Archaeologists" (*Northeast Historical Archaeology* 2000 29:1-22) provides a comprehensive list of TPQ dates for a wide range of artifacts. The list includes pretty much any artifact type one might expect to find on eighteenth and nineteenth century American sites, including such things as rim-fired cartridges (post 1866), Victorian Majolica (post 1851), or the steel springs used in wooden clothes pins (post 1887). Bringing together TPQ dates for such a wide range of items represents a considerable achievement for Miller and his colleagues. Even casual perusals of printed and online dating sources reveal the often-widespread use of inaccurate dates, a pattern that is reinforced by publications that do not cite the source of their artifact dates. Miller's list includes citations for every date given, thereby providing a standardized TPQ list that is still flexible enough for additions or changes.

Incorporating the use of TPQ dates to interpret chronology has no doubt been hampered by the lack of consistency in the dates used. Miller's article remedies this situation by compiling and condensing TPQ dates and ranges. The list provides a powerful dating tool to the historical archaeologist, and it will no doubt make its way on to all those shelves, hopefully next to Hume's *Guide*. ■

Note: For an abbreviated poster version of Miller's article, check out the website of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology at (<http://www.smc.edu/Academics/soan/cneha/PUBL.HTM>)

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Conservation of Cupreous Fort George Artifacts

By Christopher R. Sabick, Director of Conservation Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

In the Fall 2004 issue of the *Fort George Advice* I discussed the treatment of iron artifacts like many of those recovered from the excavations at the Lake George Battlefield Park excavations. In this issue I will discuss the conservation of cupreous items. Cupreous artifacts are those that are made from copper or one of its alloys, such as brass or bronze. These alloys were used in the manufacture of many artifact types in the 18th century. One of the most common uses was in the production of buttons. A number of brass buttons are represented in the artifact collection from Fort George and I will use one of these as an example artifact for the discussion of the treatment process (Figure 1).

Much like the treatment of iron artifacts the conservation of cupreous metals consists of two primary phases: corrosion removal, and corrosion prevention. The removal of existing corrosion can be carried out in a number of ways including electrolytic reduction (ER), mechanical cleaning, and chemical cleaning. While ER (see last issue for a complete description of ER) can be used to clean cupreous metals it does have some draw backs including the tendency for impurities present in the copper alloy to plate onto the surface of the artifact. In the Conservation Laboratory here at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum we typically use a combination of chemical and mechanical cleaning in

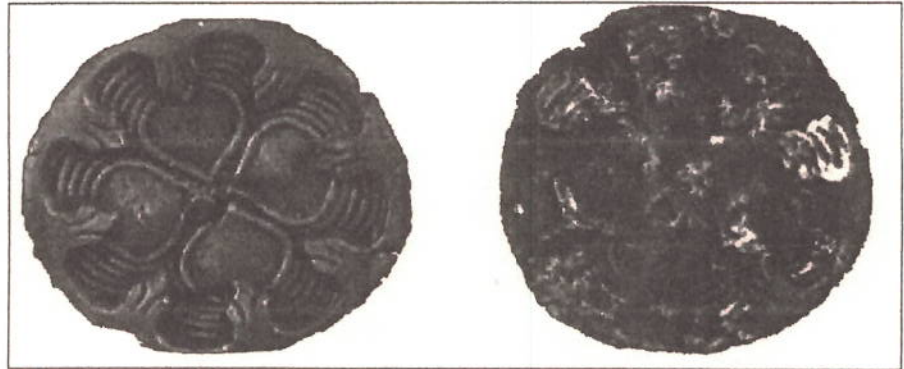


Figure 1: Copper button A2000.41B.149.04 before (right) and after (left) treatment (photography by Chris Sabick)

order to avoid the problems associated with ER.

After documentation the artifact is placed into a very dilute solution of citric acid. Citric acid is very effective at loosening the greenish-blue corrosion layer associated with cupreous artifacts. For fragile artifacts thiourea is added to buffer the acid and insure that no damage is done to the surface of the item being treated. Periodically the artifact is removed from the acid solution and carefully brushed to remove loose corrosion. In order to thoroughly rinse the acid from the artifact it is placed in three baths of isopropyl alcohol.

The second phase of copper conservation, prevention of future

corrosion, is accomplished by coating the metal with a sealant that will isolate the copper from oxygen and moisture in the atmosphere which might facilitate the reoccurrence of corrosion. This is accomplished by applying several thin layers of a chemical called Inccralac. Inccralac contains several chemical stabilizers as well as a sealant coat to protect the metal. Once coated with Inccralac and stored in climate controlled facility cupreous artifacts should remain stable for years to come. As you can see from the before and after treatment photos of the sample button the careful cleaning of cupreous artifacts often reveals numerous details that were not visible. ■

Fourth Annual Membership Meeting & Agenda

WHEN: Saturday, August 27, 2005.

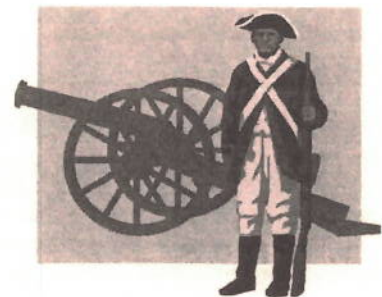
WHERE: Lake George Battlefield Park Picnic Pavilion.

Schedule of Activities:

- ♦ **10:00 to 11:15 AM:** An interpreted tour of the Fort George Garrison Grounds (open to the public).
- ♦ **11:30 AM to Noon:** The Lake George Battlefield Park (Fort

George) Alliance membership business meeting (members and invited guests only).

- ♦ **Noon to 1:00 PM:** Picnic lunch catered by the East Cove Restaurant. Guest Speaker TBA. (members and invited guests only).
- ♦ **1:30 PM:** Semi-annual Board of Trustees Meeting.



The Battle of Lake George- 8 September 1755 &

By Edward J. Dodge, Author & Historian

The Battle of Lake George to the French and Indian War enthusiast and military historian is worth discussion, possibly debate. At the time it was the largest battle fought in New England, possibly North America.

Numerous articles have been written about the battle with a multitude of fiction and error that one wonders where all the misinformation came from. The most accurate telling of events on that date is found in "A Prospectus - Plan of the Battle near Lake George on the Eighth Day of September 1755. With an Explanation thereof, containing a full, though short, History of That Important Affair, by Samuel Blodget occasionally at the Camp, when the Battle was fought."

Samuel Blodget was born 1 April 1724. During the battle he was a sutler to a New Hampshire regiment. When not doing that he was a farmer, manufacturer and canal builder. He built the canal around Amoskeag Falls on the Merrimac River in New Hampshire. He served as a sutler during the Revolutionary War. He died in September 1807. His Battle near Lake George perspective was published in Boston by E. B. O'Callahan in late 1755 and a year later in London.

To bring some form of focus to the numerous articles on the subject, one major writer has indicated that Baron Dieskau was killed during the battle, which is complete fiction. Writers and historians also miss the fact that this was just one battle in a world war as England was fighting in India, the West Indies and North America at the same time. The battle had its origin in Europe.

Baron Dieskau, the French Commander during the battle, was born Baron Ludwig August Dieskau in Saxony in 1701. There is some argument as to whether he was Polish or German. This is a moot point as Saxony was claimed by both countries at one time or another.

He chose to join the French army and was apparently known as Jean Armand Baron de Dieskau to the French. He was a protégé of Marshal de Saxe, serving as an Aide de Camp until 1744 when he

was promoted to Colonel of Cavalry. By 1747 he was a Major General and military Governor of Brest, France. One writer has stated that Dieskau was an aide to Napoleon, who was born two years after Dieskau died.

On 1 March 1755 he was appointed Commander of French regular battalions being sent to Canada, arriving at Quebec in June 1755. By July 1755 he was at St Fredric (Crown Point). It was there that intelligence was received that the British were planning to attack St Fredric.

Two things were decided. One was to build Fort Carillon, now know as Fort Ticonderoga, and the second was to move to intercept the British force. The plan developed to move on the British was based on phony information from a British prisoner that Fort Lydus (Fort Lyman), at the Great Carrying Place on the Hudson River, was under construction and under strength. Dieskau headed south with a force of 3500 composed of Regulars, La Marine, Militia and Indians, commonly referred to as "Hurons."

By early September Dieskau was near Fort Lyman and discovered that, although it was still under construction, the fort was much larger than he had been told and well defended by cannon. His Indian allies vehemently turned down an attack on the fort in view of the cannon, which they did not like to fight against. In the same time frame his scouts captured two teamsters from whom he learned of William Johnson's camp at Lake George. Dieskau finally allowed his Indians to talk him into attacking Johnson's camp. His Indians had come for easy scalps, plunder and "the brew".

Dieskau proceeded northward along the military road from Fort Lyman to Lake George and set up camp roughly two and a half to three miles south of Lake George.

In the early a.m. of 8 September, Dieskau's scouts informed him of a British force moving south on the military

road and an ambush was set which was located some two and a half miles from the lake. According to Blodget the ambush was set with an estimated 2000 men. On one side of the road they were protected and covered by a thick growth of brush and trees and on the other by a slight rise covered with rocks, trees and shrubs about chest high.

The British force under William Johnson was in reality provincial, although Johnson himself could be considered British. He was born in County Meath, Ireland in 1715. He arrived in North America in 1738 to manage a land tract that his uncle, Admiral, Sir William Peter Warren had purchased in the Mohawk Valley. Johnson gained quick acceptance with the Mohawks as he treated them fairly and honestly and became quite fluent in their language. They adopted him, naming him "WANAGHI-YAGEY" or "The Great Brother," and eventually made him a Sachem (leader of the tribe or nation). He married a German girl who gave him two sons. She died at a young age. He later married Mary (Molly) Brant, sister of the War Chief Joseph Brant in an Indian ceremony. Johnson never acknowledged her as his lawful wife even though they had eight children together and she stayed with him until his death.

In 1755 Governor Shirley of Massachusetts appointed Johnson commander of a force to attack St Fredric. Shirley was the generally acknowledged leader of the New England colonies or plantations even though they separately had their own governor. The force was to be composed of provincials, a British officer or two and Mohawks. It was believed the Mohawks would be of invaluable service in providing scouts and hunters. The plan had the concurrence of the various governors with only one proviso, that General Phineas Lyman of Connecticut would be Johnson's Number Two.

Johnson was given the honorary title of General even though he had never been taught the art of warfare or fought in any battles.

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His command consisted of eight provincial regiments and some 250 to 300 Mohawks. It formed at Albany, New York.

He moved his command to Fort Lyman arriving on July 27th. By the 28th of August he was at Lake George preparing to move on St Fredric. His plans were thrown in disarray when his scouts informed him of the French construction at the carry between Lake Champlain and Lake George and that a large French force was near or at Fort Lyman. To this end he sent a messenger to Fort Lyman who it was later learned was killed by French Indians.

Johnson directed Colonel Ephraim Williams (see "Ephraim Williams" in the Fall 2004 newsletter) and his regiment to lay out the foundations of what would become Fort William Henry on a bluff which was separated by a particularly nasty marsh from the west end of his camp. He further directed Colonel Williams to lead a relief column of some 1200 men to the relief of Fort Lyman.

Blodget in his narrative makes a point of stating that the battle was a three-phase battle and not three separate battles.

Apparently after some confusion and ranking the relief column moved out from the camp at Lake George some two to three hours later than planned. As it proceeded down the military road the Mohawk scouts spotted the ambush and shots were fired. These shots alerted the column and a somewhat nasty fight occurred which saw the death of Chief Hendrick (see "King Hendrick" in the Spring 2004 newsletter), Colonel Williams and others.

The French had good position in that their cover was extremely good on one side and on the other, although not as good, they were on a low ridge which the provincials attempted to take in what became a hand-to-hand fight.

The provincials were outnumbered roughly two to one, yet did not fall back in panic; rather they put up a spirited defense and fell back in a well-organized

retrograde maneuver orchestrated by Colonel Nathaniel Whiting, Colonel Williams' Number Two. The effect was more of the French were killed than the provincials according to a statement made by Dieskau. The ambush took place some two and a half miles from Johnson's camp at about nine in the morning. According to sources from Fort Lyman, they heard a heavy volume of firing between nine and ten in the morning even though they were roughly fourteen miles from the site of the battle. This would indicate the weather was clear, bright, sunny, with a wind blowing south off the lake.

Blodget specifically notes that Hendrick was on horseback as he was on in years and corpulent (stocky, not fat) and dressed as an Englishman,

The column retreated down the road as it was the only clear space in which they could move with order. One source has indicated that Whiting had the front rank fire and fall back, then the second rank would fire and fall back with each succeeding rank doing the same. Another source indicates that as the column came within view of the camp, some three hundred men from the camp joined them to provide additional firepower. Blodget made no mention of such an action and no other source supporting this statement could be found.

When the French were within 140 yards of the camp they brought their fire to bear on the camp. The French regulars whom Blodget estimated at somewhere between four and five hundred were in platoon on line and firing in that order.

Johnson's camp had a defense line of hastily cut trees which were cut down and added to already downed trees once the firing of the ambush was heard. It was not a continuous line and as all the undergrowth had been cleared away the only cover was the trees.

The French on their side had trees, shrubs and rocks, as well as a large

wind fallen tree some 300 feet in front of the camp and a small ridge some 250 feet in front and uphill of the camp from which they could harass and gall the camp.

Johnson had three heavy cannon and a field piece near the center of his defensive line. These did do some damage to the French regulars before they took cover in the forest; however, the heavy cannon fired only 12 to 15 rounds and the field piece no more than two rounds. Two mortars on the right of Johnson's line fired two rounds into the marsh that separated the camp and the bluff as it was thought there were Indians there. Other cannon though out the camp were never used.

The provincials laid down a deadly fire against the French. The provincials were men who could bark a squirrel at a hundred yards. Their weapons protected them, fed their families and won shooting matches.

The French held the high ground with the advantage of good cover and concealment. Yet as they were firing downhill their shots had a tendency to go high. The provincials were shooting up hill and their shots had a tendency to drop and hit the intended target with devastating impunity.

Colonel Seth Pomeroy who was apparently a staff officer to Johnson, stated, "The Canadians and Indians helter-skelter, the woods full of them, came rushing with undaunted courage right down the hill upon us, expecting us to flee."

Dr. Thomas Williams (younger brother to Colonel Ephraim Williams) would later write, "It was the most awful my eyes ever beheld. There seemed to be nothing but thunder and lightning and perpetual pillars of smoke."

An unidentified soldier wrote, "The hailstones from Heaven were never much thicker than their bullets came."

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The battle raged for some four to five hours until about four or five in the afternoon with the French finally pulling back. One writer has indicated that General Lyman who had taken over after Johnson was wounded in the leg and retired to his tent, had ordered a bayonet charge which cleared the French from the field. Blodget made no mention of this and I found no other source confirming this statement.

The battle had occurred on a line as the provincials faced the French, which was anchored at the lake's edge on the left and anchored at the marsh on the right. It was defended by some 1800 provincials and Mohawks with another 500 men spread around the camp as sentries. The total provincial force numbered about 2250. The French force numbered somewhere between 2000 and 3000 during the engagement.

Colonel Joseph Blanchard at Fort Lyman upon hearing the sounds of battle for over an hour in the morning decided to send a relief column of between two and three hundred men to assist. The column under the joint command of Captains McGinnis and Folsom arrived at the site of the French camp between four and five in the afternoon.

There they found about 500 of the French force (mostly Indians) who had deserted the battle at the lake, apparently to scalp and mutilate the dead and wounded from the morning ambush. The column attacked, driving them from the camp, with the flight of the French and Indians being so rapid many of the scalps they had taken were dropped and later recovered by the provincials. They pursued the French until twilight, killing an estimated 100 of them outright. Legend states their bodies were tossed into a pond, giving rise to the story "The Battle of Bloody Pond." Blodget made no mention of such an event, but possibly alludes to it in that the bodies of fifty French and Indians were found in one spot.

Enough ammunition, provisions and other items were recovered from the

French camp that the total filled four to five wagons.

Both forces had a great deal of military talent. Dieskau had Captain Jacques Le Gardeur de St. Pierre who was in charge of his Indians composed of Abenaki, Nippisings and Caughnawagas (Canadian Mohawks); Captain Charles Chevalier de Raymond, Captain Jean Baptiste Rene Legardeur de Repantigny and a de Vassan. All army or LaMarine.

Johnson had General Lyman, Colonel Seth Pomeroy, Colonel Ephraim Williams, Colonel Nathaniel Whiting, Colonel Harris, Colonel Cockroft, Colonel Ruggles, Colonel Titcomb and Colonel Guttridge.

The only identified British Army officer was Captain William Eyre of the 44th (Irish) Regiment of Foot. He was a trained engineer and handled the artillery for Johnson. He was also responsible for the construction of Fort Lyman (Fort Edward) and Fort William Henry.

The battle was costly in wounded, missing and dead enlisted personnel, senior officers, junior officers and Indians. The provincials lost Chief Hendrick, Colonel Williams, Colonel Titcomb, Captains McGinnis and Folsom, an unnamed major, a Lieutenant Barron and several other unnamed company grade officers. The French lost Captain St. Pierre and eight unnamed LaMarine officers. Dieskau would later relate that most of his officers were killed. Blodget estimated at least 700 French and Indians were killed. The provincials lost 126 plus 20 Mohawks killed; 60 provincial were missing and 94 provincials were wounded as well as 12 Mohawks. Given the known strength on each side, this is roughly a 10% casualty rate for each side.

French prisoners were taken, among them Dieskau. There is no recorded information that any provincials were taken prisoner. Dieskau had been deserted by his troops. He had been shot

three times in the leg and allegedly a fourth time in the groin. He directed his troops from a sitting position against a tree. Upon his capture he was taken to Johnson's tent where he was attended. In something of a turnabout, Johnson had to personally protect him from the Mohawks who were seeking revenge for Hendrick's death. Dieskau noted in his papers, which were recovered, that he was less than happy with his Indian allies. He wrote, "They drive us crazy from morning to night. There is no end to their demands. They have already eaten five oxen and as many hogs without counting the kegs of brandy they have drunk." He later told his Indians "to not take time to scalp the wounded or dead as they could kill ten men in the time it took to scalp one."

He told Johnson of his admiration of the provincials who he stated, "in the morning they fought like little boys, about noon like men and in the afternoon like devils."

Blodget stated that the battle would be recorded as the greatest battle and victory on the New England annals.

It was and is still regarded as a major victory for the British and provincials.

What happened to the Principals? Dieskau was repatriated in 1763 and died in France in 1767. Johnson became a Baron and received a cash reward from the Crown. General Lyman had the fort named after him and faded into history as did all the colonels. Fort Lyman was later renamed Fort Edward. Captain Eyre became a Major, defended Fort William Henry against a French attack in March 1757 and later died at sea when the ship he was sailing home on was lost with all hands off the coast of Ireland in 1760.

There is one tale of the battle that is both true and wrong. One source has indicated that Robert Rogers and his Rangers took part in the "Battle of Bloody Pond." Not really. The Robert Rogers at the battle was born in Scotland

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and was a Private in a New York Ranger company commanded by Captain Isaac Corsa of Westchester County, New York. The other Robert Rogers was a captain in charge of a Ranger company in Colonel Joseph Blanchard's New Hampshire regiment at Fort Lyman, out with a detachment of his men up the Hudson River at the time of the battle at the order of William Johnson.

There also has been some discussion as to the actual location of Bloody Pond. In 25 August 1761, Surveyor Archibald Campbell undertook the task of locating "the Pond called Bloody." He headed south from Fort George and located the pond some 144 chains south of the fort. A chain is 66 feet in length. Multiplying that by 144 gives a figure of 9504 feet or roughly 1.8 miles.

As battles go, the Battle of Lake George was great in its day, but no better or worse than any other. ■

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The Lakes to Locks Passage French & Indian War Trail

By Sean Kelleher, Historian

The war that shaped America's destiny was not fought at Gettysburg or Normandy. It was fought 250 years ago in the wooded mountains and river valleys of upstate New York, Quebec and Pennsylvania.

A national commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the French and Indian War is being coordinated (www.frenchandindianwar250.org). Mr. Edward W. Pell, President, Fort Ticonderoga Board of Trustees is the National Co-chairman for the Northeast, the Northern Legacy. And in this region, a consortium of various historic sites including the Lake George Battlefield Park (Fort George) Alliance and communities have been gathering for three years planning activities and promotions culminating in this Lakes to Locks Passage's

French and Indian War Trail.

For those not familiar with Lakes to Locks Passage, it is a partnership of public, private and non-profit organizations working together to integrate, interpret and promote The Four Lives of Lakes to Locks Passage to residents and visitors. Lake George Battlefield Park (Fort George) Alliance is a Lake to Locks Passage partner. Lakes to Locks Passage is located in eastern Upstate New York, it is the interconnected waterway of the Upper Hudson River, Champlain Canal, Lake George and Lake Champlain. The designated roadway consists of US RT 4, NYS RT 22, US RT 9 and several additional county highways. Lakes to Locks Passage is one of 21 All-American Roads in the country (one of the best of the best). The designation represents recognition of the Lakes to Locks Pas-

sage's wealth of historic, cultural, scenic and recreational resources and potential as a tourism destination.

The *French and Indian War Trail* will tell the battle-scarred story that indelibly shapes this land along the Lakes to Locks Passage. The historic sites consortium will develop a land, rail, and water trail to link the sites where these decisive moments in American and Canadian colonial history happened. The development of a trail system will define and connect the various parts of the region. The effort is a six year plan to capitalize on the national 250th anniversary celebration for the French and Indian War by expanding the region's marketing reach and takes advantage of national publicity.

The first phase of the project will make improvements to the tourism

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Columbus Day Weekend 2005

Reenactment to Commemorate the 225th Anniversary of Carleton's 1780 Raid

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Friday, Oct. 7th:

- Noon - Individual Reenactor Registration OPEN
- 10:30 a.m. - Individual Reenactor Registration Temporarily Closed

Saturday, Oct. 8th:

- 8:00 a.m. - Individual Reenactor Registration Continues - Public Information Tent Open
- 10:00 a.m. - Reenactor Registration Closed; All Vehicles Out of Camp; Encampment open to the Public
- 11:00 a.m. - All Officers Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. - Naval Tactical Demonstration
- 1:00 p.m. - Continental Forces March to the Fort
- 1:30 p.m. - Reenactment begins with the Beach Landing of a Continental Scout
- 5:00 p.m. - Encampment Closed to the Public
- 5:30 p.m. - Public Information Tent Closed
- 7:00 p.m. - Historic Site Lantern Tour
(Start at the Toll Both Entrance to the Park)
(Reenactors, Park Staff & Alliance Members *Only*)

Sunday, Oct. 9th:

- 9:00 a.m. - Public Information Tent Open
- 10:00 a.m. - Encampment Open to the Public
- 11:00 a.m. - All Officers Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. - Naval Tactical Demonstration
- 1:00 p.m. - Continental Forces March to the Fort
- 1:30 p.m. - Reenactment begins with the Beach Landing of a Continental Scout
- TBA - Reenactment Encampment close down begins immediately after the
- 4:00 p.m. - Encampment closed to the Public
- 4:30 p.m. - Public Information Tent Closed

Monday, Oct. 10th:

- 8:00 AM - Encampment Close Down Continues (No Public Activities)
- Noon - Encampment CLOSED

The Lakes to Locks Passage French & Indian War Trail

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infrastructure and raise awareness in the region. In this phase, the project will utilize the national campaign for the 250th Anniversary of the French & Indian War to create and implement a comprehensive marketing program for the Lakes to Locks Passage *French and Indian War Trail*. The project will interpret and market the theme through a brochure/map, website content, advertising, local media press campaign, staff and volunteer training, interpretive exhibits, audio tour, signage, and improvements to access of byway information at visitor centers and regional transportation hubs along the byway.

The project will set up a series of kiosks at sites including Lake George Battlefield Park, Lake George State Beach Park and NYDEC campgrounds at Crown Point, Hearstone Point, Lake George Battleground and Rogers Rock to orient visitors to the Lakes to Locks Passage and the French and Indian Wars Trail.

This project also includes developing plans for the Lake George Battlefield Park. This plan will develop architecture drawings and cost estimates for a walking interpretive trail with overlooks and interpretive signage that allows the visitors to access important historic French & Indian War sites at the Battlefield Park.

This project benefits the traveler by creating a 250th Anniversary of the French and Indian War thematic trail that connects the historic sites, battlefields, visitor centers, and transportation hubs along Lakes to Locks Passage. Travelers will have a themed map/guide, a series of interconnected exhibits and outdoor kiosk signage, and an audio tour to tell the story of the war, while visiting the many sites including Lake George Battlefield Park throughout the corridor. Cross

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Fort Ticonderoga War College of the Seven Years' War &

By Rich Strum, Fort Ticonderoga

Fort Ticonderoga hosts its Tenth Annual War College of the Seven Years' War on May 21 & 22, 2005. Several presentations at this year's War College are related to the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Lake George on September 8, 2005.

On Friday evening, Christopher D. Fox, Curator of Collections at Fort Ticonderoga, will give a presentation on "The Battle of Lake George: Selections from Fort Ticonderoga's Archival and Artifact Collections." The opening session on Saturday morning by Robert Andrews will provide an overview of the events of 1755 in North America. Three other sessions of interest are Thomas Nesbitt's presentation on "The Military Road from Fort Edward to Lake

George," Wade Wells' talk on "Sir William Johnson in the Scene of War: the Making of a Military Career," and René Chartrand's biography "Baron Dieskau: the Unknown French Commander-in-Chief in 1755."

The College closes on Sunday with a two-hour luncheon cruise on northern Lake George (Lac du St. Sacrement) on board the MV Mohican. Author and lake expert Russell P. Bellico will narrate the cruise.

Attendance at the War College of the Seven Years' War is by pre-registration only. Contact Karl Crannell, at karl@fort-ticonderoga.org or (518) 585-2821 for more information. ■

The Lakes to Locks Passage French & Indian War Trail

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training among the staff and volunteers at the sites will augment the print and audio material, marketing efforts will take advantage of the national media campaign, enticing byway visitors to the region by car, bike, rail, and boat.

Partners in the project include Adirondack Regional Chambers of Commerce, Champlain Valley Heritage Network, Crown Point State Historic Site, Fort Ticonderoga, Fort William Henry, Lake Champlain - Lake George Regional Planning Board, Lake George Battlefield Park (Fort George) Alliance, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Fort Edward Historical Association / Old Fort House Museum, Rogers Island Visitor Center, Saratoga National Historical Park, the Towns of Fort Edward, Saratoga, and Stillwater, the Villages of Lake George, Schuylerville, and

Stillwater and The Stillwater Blockhouse.

Lakes to Locks Passage has requested money over \$200,000 from FHWA National Scenic Byways Program for phase one of this project. Project awards will be announced in July. In addition, other funding sources will be pursued to make this project a reality.

French and Indian War Trail will provide to the traveler a unique experience for the national 250th anniversary commemoration for the French and Indian War. Visitors will have an unparalleled opportunity to see where history happened during the French and Indian War in this region. ■

Welcome New Members!

By Nadine Battaglia,
Alliance Membership Chair

Each and every member of the Fort George Alliance is cherished for they are the life-force within the engine of our mission to secure and publicize the historical significance of Fort George for posterity.

Beneath the branches of every tall pine and massive rock that stand on Fort George at the head of Lake George are the echoes of the lives and events which marked pivotal changes in the course of American history during our colonial era. To our membership, which is credited with carrying on this marvelously rich heritage, we gratefully add the names of our new friends:

- ♦ The Fort Ticonderoga Research Center
- ♦ Captain John Warner's Company, Herrick's Regiment of Rangers
- ♦ Larry J. Arnold, Clifton Park, New York
- ♦ Sharon Borgos, Queensbury, New York
- ♦ Richard Buckridge, Queensbury, New York
- ♦ Rodney H. Congdon, Lake George, New York
- ♦ Robert Dembrosky, Berwyn, Pennsylvania
- ♦ Larry Francis, Granville, New York
- ♦ Marisa R. Muratori, Lake George, New York
- ♦ Ken Murray, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
- ♦ Dodi Robinson, Queensbury, New York
- ♦ John Tompkins III, Elizabethtown, New York
- ♦ Lake George Mirror, Lake George, New York
- ♦ Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, New York

Thank you, and as ever, tell your friends near and far about our beautiful Fort George.