

Historian to dive into the mystery of British lord's local burial

POST-STAR STAFF REPORT

LAKE GEORGE – Renowned French and Indian War historian George A. Bray III will present “Lord Howe: ‘The Soul of General Abercromby’s Army,’” a talk on the life, death, and perhaps controversial final resting place, of one of Britain’s finest army leaders beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Holiday Inn Resort Lake George.

“Accounts of Lord Howe’s death in battle will be included, along with a new finding uncovered related to the details of his burial,” read in part a release announcing the event.

Lord George Augustus Viscount Howe was killed near Trout Brook in a skirmish with the French, on his way to take Fort

Carillon (Ticonderoga) on July 6, 1758. Official accounts say that his body was taken to St. Peter’s church in Albany and his remains were moved along with the church twice. However, in the town of Ticonderoga there is a marker which tells a different story. In 1889 a workman digging a trench discovered a grave containing a human skeleton. At the body’s head lay a stone with the words, “Mem of Lo Howe Killed Trout Brook,” etched into it. A marker erected in 1911 along The Portage Street states that the remains were reinterred underneath “the boulder placed in memory of the military heroes of Ticonderoga.”

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PROVIDED IMAGE

French and Indian War historian George A. Bray III.

Burial

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Bray will discuss Lord Howe's life and his untimely death during the French and Indian War. Howe was the oldest of three famous military brothers. Bray's talk will focus on Lord Howe's coming to North America and service during the two years he spent in the New York colony. He will discuss the adjustments Howe made among British troops to adapt to wilderness warfare and his association with Rogers's Rangers.

Howe served under General James Abercromby as a brigadier general, and a peer. Lord Howe was a military leader who was well regarded by both regular British and provincial forces. He was one of the highest ranking officers to be killed in the French and Indian

War. He was "universally beloved and respected throughout the Army," Abercomby is noted as saying of him.

General James Wolfe, who also fought against the French in Quebec, said of Howe after his death, "He was the very best officer in the King's service" and his loss was "one of the greatest that could befall a nation."

The talk is free to the public. The Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance, which is sponsoring the event, will video record the presentation for later viewing on its YouTube channel.

Those planning to attend are requested to reserve their seats in advance by registering at info@lakegeorgebattlefield.org.

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The marker in the town of Ticonderoga, which also claims to be the interment site of Lord George Augustus Viscount Howe.

**IMAGE PROVIDED
BY BILL COUGHLIN,
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MARKER DATABASE**