

Remains of 44 Continental Army patriots go to LG May 20; stopping in Saratoga & GF

Chronicle Managing Editor Cathy DeDe writes: The remains of 44 Continental Army soldiers and other individuals discovered seven years ago during a construction project in the Village of Lake George will return to Lake George via a motorcade this Wednesday, May 20.

The solemn procession begins at 10 a.m. at the New York State Museum in Albany, where the remains have been kept and cared for by State Archaeologists since 2019.

It begins with what event spokesman Dan Barusch of Lake George described as "a dignified transfer" of the wooden caskets from the Museum onto nine Korean War and Vietnam-era military trucks provided and driven by members of the NY-Penn Military Vehicle Collectors Club.

New York State Police will lead the convoy escorted by 50 members of the New York Patriot Guard Riders veterans motorcycle group.

They will travel through downtown Albany to Route 9, where the motorcade will make its way 60 miles north, through numerous towns along the way.

The motorcade will halt twice for brief honors: At City Hall on Broadway in Saratoga Springs at approximately 11 a.m., and in front of **the Chapman Museum on Glen Street in Glens Falls**

More on the 44 & NYS archaeologist

The remains to be interred at The Repose of the Fallen Memorial in Lake George are of 44 individuals discovered during a construction project on Courtland Street in February 2019.

"Recovery and scientific analyses led by the New York State Museum and the Department of Environmental Conservation determined that they are American soldiers or associated personnel who likely died in 1776, when a large Continental Army hospital was located near the lake's southern end," said info.

Lisa Anderson, New York State Museum Curator of Bioarcheology, was quoted, "We have spent the past seven years painstakingly working to piece together the story of the individuals whose unmarked graves were destroyed."

Lake George spokesman Dan Barusch wrote, "Although the identities of those uncovered at the Courtland Street site are unknown, several uniform buttons found with the remains indicate that at least one of them served in the 1st Pennsylvania Battalion, known to have fought in the Quebec campaign.

Ms. Anderson wrote, "As we close this chapter, it's hard to put into words the gratitude my team and I have for being part of this project. It has been a privilege to help uncover the story of these veterans and we look forward to them finally having the dignified burial they deserve."

New York State Police Superintendent Steven G. James said, in part, "We pay our deepest honor and respect as 44 Patriots embark to their final resting place, standing as a permanent tribute to their bravery and sacrifice."

'Repose of the Fallen'

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at about 11:30 a.m.

It continues **north** to arrive **in Lake George around noon.**

In Lake George, the procession will turn onto Elizabeth O'Connor Little Boulevard, then Beach and Fort George Roads to arrive at the Repose of the Fallen memorial site at Lake George Battlefield Park.

"Upon arrival, most of the caskets will be immediately interred in the memorial," Mr. Barusch writes.

Four caskets will be reinterred as part of the **dedication ceremony on Friday, May 22, beginning at 11 a.m.**

Those four will be held "for safeguarding" at a nearby church. Volunteers will serve as round-the-clock honor sentinels.

On the morning of the 22nd, they will be transported on a horse-drawn wagon to the memorial site. Federal, State and local officials are expected to attend.

"It will be a major event," says Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance President John DiNuzzo.

The 44 individuals are believed to have been associated with the Continental Army and to have died 250 years ago, in 1776, at what is believed to have been a smallpox hospital on the site of what is now Lake George Battlefield Park.

The remains were discovered during 2019 construction on private property on Courtland Street in Lake George Village.

"Construction of the reinterment

memorial began last October on a knoll along the east side of Fort George Road in Lake George Battlefield State Park," Mr. Barusch said in the release. "The design includes several secured columbaria for the final resting place of these early patriots, as well as seating, interpretive signage and a new memorial plaza.

"The nearly \$700,000 Repose of the Fallen project was funded through the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative and private donations."

"Hundreds of Continental Army soldiers who fought in the failed invasion of Canada launched in late 1775 are known to have died from smallpox in 1776 at Lake George," said the release.

"They were buried in unmarked cemeteries in and near what is now the village of Lake George.



Repose of the Fallen Procession

May 20th, 2026
10am - 12pm
Albany, NY - Lake George, NY

A procession along US Route 9 of humvees, antique military transport vehicles, and motorcycles will be escorting the remains of 44 patriots who perished in 1776 at Lake George to their final resting place. All are welcomed to observe the procession.

Estimated times:

- ★ **Route Start - NYS Museum**
222 Madison Ave, Albany, NY - 10:00am
- ★ **Latham, NY** - 10:15am
- ★ **Clifton Park, NY** - 10:30am
- ★ **Saratoga Springs, NY** - 11:00am
- ★ **Glen Falls, NY** - 11:30am
- ★ **Route End - Lake George Battlefield Park**
75 Fort George Rd, Lake George, NY - 12:00pm

The full Reinterment Ceremony will be held May 22nd at 11am in Lake George Battlefield Park, Lake George.