



Friends of Saratoga Battlefield

Newsletter



Gen. Burgoyne October 17, 1777

Spring Summer 2022



Saratoga Surrender Site August 2020

Volume 30 Issue 1

President’s Message: Tim Holmes, President

It is with gratitude that I serve as President for the coming year, especially for the opportunity to serve with an exceptionally talented and dedicated Board.

A big Thank You to predecessors who steered this organization to high levels of achievement - most recently Brian Mumford, who brought exceptional talents to the job. There is a distinguished chain of command of those who came before.

We mark the great accomplishment of completing the **Saratoga Surrender Site** and contributing it to the National Park Service. Essential for the Friends were Brian Mumford, Larry Arnold, and special benefactor Mr. Thomas Hagen, a leader in all he undertakes. The result was possible only with cooperation of capable organizations. Key team included the Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership and the Open Space Institute.

Paramount in this success is a strong base of Friends members and donors, Board and community members. All gave generously of volunteer time and dollars to make the historic memorial possible. Thanks are due to all.

Some valued long term relationships developed from this project. They will be seen again in upcoming Friends activity.(Continued on page 2)

Please welcome the *Newsletter*.

FOSB is dropping “Battlements”. Beginning with the current edition, you will be receiving *Friends of Saratoga Battlefield Newsletter*.

For a time, there has been a curiosity as to what thinking led to the use of “Battlements” in the masthead of FOSB’s newsletter. Inquiries were made of longstanding members of FOSB as well as recognized Saratoga Battle historians without success in answering the question.

Convinced that there must have been a relation between the history of the Battlefield and the use of “Battlements,” we pursued etymological studies of the word. Again, without any answer.

A search of the word disclose that it dates to the 14th century and refers to a low defensive wall along the edge of the roof of a fort or castle.

Unable to find any reference to defending a castle in the history of the Battle of Saratoga, the decision was reached to drop “Battlements.” We hope you agree with the decision and enjoy the *Newsletter*.

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An encouraging note for the future was the engagement of Children of the American Revolution. They dedicated a year of nationwide fundraising for the Surrender Site. This bodes well for the next generations' appreciation of American history.

Plans for 2022

Now begins our look at commemorating and celebrating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. We will work with core groups, organizations that share our purposes: Old Saratoga-based organizations, and others state and national. These include commemorative historical, and educational associations.

We plan to expand the range of Friends' publications. Much of this as we know is by internet today. Nevertheless, our emphasis remains bringing visitors to the Saratoga Battlefield to experience the sense of place that can only be experienced there.

We will keep building on the reasons people come to the Park, of ever-increasing significance:
History, military and social.

Nature ~ we note the successful response to the ornithology article in the recent newsletter.

Recreation ~ we plan for fair weather coming. Many visitors come to enjoy the outdoors at the Battlefield and learn more about the importance of the battles that took place here.

We are fortunate to have the dynamic Superintendent Leslie Morlock and seasoned, expert personnel at Saratoga National Historical Park. Great progress is occurring at the Battlefield. We shall keep pace to be of every assistance to Superintendent Morlock and her team.

Respectfully,

Tim Holmes

President 2022



Please Welcome Garrett Cloer, Program Manager for Interpretation and Visitor Experience

Garrett Cloer started in that position in late October. Garrett started working for the NPS in 2008 as an intern at Minuteman NHP in Concord, MA. He has since worked at Independence NHP in Philadelphia, and Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters NHS in Cambridge, MA. For the past two years, Garrett worked in the 20th century at Herbert Hoover NHS in West Branch, IA and is very happy to return to the 18th century here at Saratoga! Prior to joining the NPS, Garrett earned a M.A. in History from Central Michigan University where he focused on Colonial America. He is looking to forward to getting to know everyone and to work together in preparing for the upcoming 250th anniversary commemorations of the Revolution and American Independence. Garrett has settled in Malta with his wife Jessica and their cat, Sebastian.



Superintendent's Message

As Spring keeps us shoveling and plowing snow, Saratoga National Historical Park is busy getting ready for summer. There are a lot of exciting changes underway at the Park. Construction work has begun on the Tour Stop rehabilitation project. This \$6+ Million project funded through the Great American Outdoors Act is focusing on accessibility and wayside interpretation at the tour stops along the Tour Road. The work will mean disruptions to visitor access over the next year, but the updates will be well worth it. The new waysides are scheduled to be installed in 2023. We have been working closing with our Partners at the Erie Canalway National Heritage Area on waysides to interpret the Champlain Canal and 360° Virtual Tours of some of the park sites and historic buildings. Stay tuned for these exciting opportunities.

The Park team is putting together operational plans for the upcoming summer season, hiring seasonal staff, and prepping the visitor center and Schuyler House to accept visitors. As we ease into having indoor operations and hosting a few events, we are excited to show off some of the work being done to enhance the visitor experience and interpretation at the Schuyler House. We look forward to welcoming back all of our amazing volunteers and continuing coordination with our partners and the surrounding communities to promote all this area has to offer and plan for the upcoming 250th Anniversary Commemorations.

Thank you

Leslie Morlock
Superintendent, Saratoga National Historical Park

Memory Keepers

by Tim Holmes, President

Memorials and Commemorations

In his recent presentation *In Memoriam: Casualties of the Battles of Saratoga*, Battlefield Ranger Eric Schnitzer noted that the installing of monuments at Saratoga National Historic Park is effectively over; it now takes a determination from the Secretary of the Interior to put one up. In the history of the Battlefield as a Park – from 1927 a New York State Park, then as a National Park – a diverse array of memorials has been added to the landscape.

We are approaching another milestone in the history of our country – the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, in 2026 and years to follow. What will be the ways in which we note the important events, their dates, and their meaning? A look back may help us plan. There are a number of principal ways in which Americans remember their past.

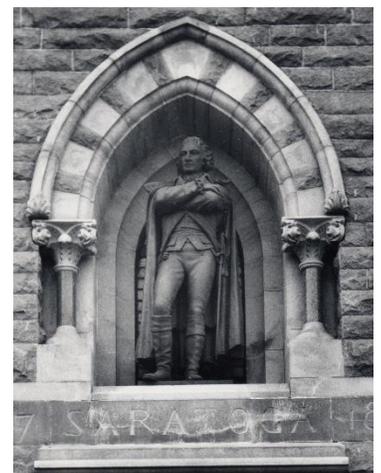
I. Monuments

II. Preserving the land of important sites

III. Events - Reliving the history and telling the story where it happened

IV. Signposts – informing and bringing in travelers from nearby places, highways and byways

V. Publication – history, imagery, data and drama



Philip Schuyler niche on the Saratoga Monument
Courtesy Saratoga Springs History Museum

VI. Currencies common and uncommon, souvenirs and collectibles - official recognition by government authority on stamps and coins for massive distribution

VII. Namesakes - the name carries the story

Monuments came first for Saratoga's commemorations. The remembrance movement sprang up in the 1850s as Americans began to realize the importance of knowing their history. In the rising national debates before the civil war, revisiting founding principles was vitally important for all viewpoints. The leading persons and places of the Revolutionary War were brought to mind.

The Saratoga Monument Association (founded 1856) proposed building an obelisk on the site of Burgoyne's last stand. This concept reflected and ran parallel to the national movement. A similar structure was being proposed to honor George Washington in the nation's capital.

The Civil War disrupted all plans. Following its profound impacts, the initiatives for remembrance were deemed even more significant as the United States moved towards its 100th year. On October 17, 1877 a grand set of events was held in Schuylerville (originally 'Saratoga') – marking the Centennial and with the laying of the cornerstone for the obelisk.

Monuments as conceived at the time were enormous propositions. The capstone was placed in 1882 and interior memorials in 1887. The SMA ran out funds and disbanded but gave the site and project to New York State in 1895. Fortunately, before this consequence the right person showed up. Ellen Hardin Walworth of Saratoga Springs had become a member of the SMA in 1880. She had all the capacities to push forward the memory-keeping project. She had fervent belief in the significance of the battlefields of Saratoga. New organization and energy went into the effort.

It is noteworthy that the Washington Monument was completed only in 1888. Formal dedication of the Saratoga Monument was dedicated in 1912, 56 years after it was first proposed.

At the time, the sites of the major Saratoga battles were continuing in use as private farms. Tours of the area were organized by locals on an intermittent basis. It would take until the 1920s for the idea of assembling the properties as a historic place to mature.

Along with the capital challenge of building huge obelisks comes the technical burden of maintaining them. By 1970 the Saratoga Monument was closed.

An initiative to reopen the Monument was the germination of the Friends of Saratoga Battlefield. In 1984 a group of citizens in 'Old Saratoga' (Schuylerville) and Saratoga Springs convened a 'kitchen cabinet' at the Empress Motel in Schuylerville. Their purposes were 'Rehabilitation of the Saratoga Battle Monument and Vitalization of Saratoga National Historical Park and Surrounding Areas'. Wide support was received. The Friends group was developed and incorporated in 1990 with a wider array of objectives and the Monument was eventually reopened.

The building of monuments continues to be valid. In 2019, the National Park Service accepted the Saratoga Surrender Site, the result of a combined development effort of the Friends, Historic Hudson Hoosic Rivers Partnership and Open Space Institute. The historic site features a sculpture depicting the famous Trumbull painting on display in the U. S. Capitol and additional interpretation. The site has received praise from donors and public alike.

Notes

Ranger Eric Schnitzer: *In Memoriam: Casualties of the Battles of Saratoga*. Courtesy of Eric Schnitzer and Saratoga County History Center. Viewed as Heritage Hunters program October 18, 2022.

Battlefield dates. New York State Park 1927. It became the first National Park in New York State when transferred to the federal government. 75th Congress Bill PL 576 1938; NY State administration for transfer completed 1941.

Future issues of the Friends newsletter will feature articles about the other forms of commemoration relating to the Battles of Saratoga.



Painting by Ernest Hass. Used by permission of the Mount Independence Coalition All rights reserved.

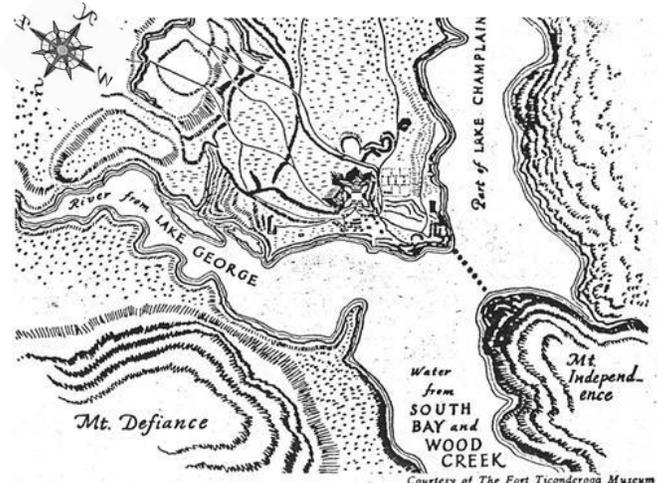
Floating Bridges at the Battle of Saratoga

By Brian Mumford, Past President

When writing of the Battle of Saratoga, a favorite subject is Burgoyne's bridge of boats on the Hudson River. Assembled in August 1777 north of the Battenkill, the bridge carried the British troops with their supplies and artillery to the west side of the river to continue their planned march to Albany. The writing is often accompanied by a copy of an elegant painting by John Forbes portraying what Burgoyne's bridge might have looked like, together with praise of Burgoyne for his creative solution to meet the challenge of getting his troops to the other side. Laudatory language implying original thought is often seen, such as "ingenuity is born out of necessity."

This depiction ignores the fact that by 1777 use of a floating bridge was not an original strategy. Floating (or pontoon) bridges had been used in military settings for centuries. Use of Roman-designed pontoon bridges was a favored plan of Julius Caesar, who in 55 B.C. built a floating bridge that was 1,311 yards long (thirteen football fields) to send his army across the Rhine River during the Gallic War. In fact, Burgoyne during his capture of Fort Ticonderoga only a month prior to his deployment of a bridge of boats had used a floating bridge which had been constructed by the American army.

Ticonderoga floating bridge: The American army gained control of Fort Ticonderoga in May 1775 when it was captured by Benedict Arnold and the Green Mountain Boys led by Ethan Allen. After the failure of the 1775-76 American invasion of Canada and at the Battle of Valcour Island, commander of the Northern Department, General Philip Schuyler, anticipated the Campaign of 1777 and the renewal of the British invasion from the north. Realizing the need for extensive fortification of Fort Ticonderoga and Mount Independence, he ordered engineer Colonel Jeduthan Baldwin to Ticonderoga to work with engineer General Thaddeus Kosciuszko supervising construction of the defense. Baldwin, who was from Massachusetts, had served as an engineer in the Continental Army developing fortification during the Siege of Boston (April 19, 1775 to March 17, 1776 and also at the Battle of Brooklyn Heights. (August 27-29, 1776) ^{1 and 2}



Ticonderoga Terrain with Fort in Center. After a map drawn by General Burgoyne's engineers.

Mount Independence is a peninsula located in what is now Vermont on the east side of Lake Champlain across from Fort Ticonderoga, where the lake is only a quarter-mile wide. The two engineers designed and supervised the construction at Mount Independence of a star-shaped picket fort having extensive breastwork with a battery of 28 cannons. They also built eight barrack buildings within the stockade capable of housing 12,500 soldiers. Baldwin kept a journal which was published in 1906, titled *Revolutionary Journal*, which is a recognized source of the details of the Campaign of 1777

To facilitate movement of the troops and communication between Mount Independence and the Fort, Baldwin designed and built a 1,300-foot floating bridge to cross Lake Champlain. The bridge was constructed using logs for ballast and a deck of wooden planks. The structure was strong enough to support columns of troops with equipment moving across the planks.¹

In early July 1777 Burgoyne, with a force of 8,000, began the Campaign of 1777 moving south down Lake Champlain towards Fort Ticonderoga. General Arthur St. Clair, commander of the Fort, ordered his army of 3,000 to evacuate Ticonderoga. He directed 200 boats carrying troops and equipment to advance south down Lake Champlain to Skenesborough (currently Whitehall.) Other troops were ordered to march east across Lake Champlain on the pontoon bridge to Mount Independence in Vermont and then to continue east along the road leading to Hubbardton.

Burgoyne, after pursuing and engaging the Americans at Hubbardton and Skenesborough, continued with his orders to march south to Albany. He left 1,000 British troops to garrison Ticonderoga as he moved south. The garrison troops made use of the pontoon bridge as they guarded Mount Independence and the Fort. The British gave up control of Ticonderoga three months later in October after Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga (now Schuylerville.)

Burgoyne's floating bridge on the Hudson: While moving south, the British traveled over Lake George and the Hudson River. In the area of Fort Miller, Burgoyne decided to cut communications back to Canada in order to avoid delays while waiting for supplies. He halted at the Duer House to allow time to accumulate sufficient supplies to carry his army to Albany.

On September 13 at this location about 15 miles north of Bemis Heights, Burgoyne had a floating bridge constructed to cross the Hudson to the west side to put his troops on the same side of the river as Albany. The bridge was constructed using the army's boats for ballast which were overlaid with planks of wood. The army

of 7,000 with arms and equipment crossed the river on the planks and began the marched south towards Saratoga.

American floating bridges on the Hudson: In July Baldwin and Kosciusko were ordered to work together again to oversee development of defenses at the Hudson River sites in anticipation of the British approaching.

On August 19, 1777, the command of the Northern Department was transferred from Schuyler to General Horatio Gates. In early September, Gates undertook to move the Northern Army's main defense position from its location at Van Schaick Island near Albany at the juncture of the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers. The troops marched north to a position at Stillwater on the west shore of the Hudson River.

On September 9, Baldwin constructed a floating bridge at Stillwater which crossed to Schaghticoke on the east side. Baldwin's journal reflects that the bridge, which took one day to construct, was put into service within days. General John Stark and 800 New Hampshire militia troops arrived on the east side of the Hudson and crossed the bridge to encamp at Stillwater.

Within days, Gates ordered his men to move north from Stillwater four miles to a strategic location known as Bemis Heights, which was ten miles south of Saratoga (present day Schuylerville.) The new location derived its name from its proximity to the tavern owned by Jotham Bemis near the present-day junction of U.S. Route 4 and N.Y. Route 32. The newly constructed floating bridge at Stillwater was also moved north. It is not clear whether the bridge was dismantled and transported by wagon or was floated up the river.

The Bemis Heights location was selected in counsel with Kosciusko who ingeniously planned and developed the battlefield defenses. The intended purposed of the design was to impede the British's plan to march south towards Albany using the only road to Albany along the western shore of the Hudson. Instead, Kosciusko's plan was to force Burgoyne to advance through deep ravines running through difficult wooded terrain inland from the well-traveled road. This setting would be advantageous to the American defense.

After the victory at Bennington in mid-August and later after the stand-off at the Battle of Freeman's Farm in mid-September, the militia in New England began to respond to the pleas to march to Saratoga to support the Continental Army. Militia from Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire headed west to assemble at locations on the east side of the Hudson to await orders to cross the river to Bemis Heights and support the Continental Army.

By the end of September, nearly 2,000 Massachusetts militiamen bivouacked in the Schaghticoke area which at the time was in Albany (now Rensselaer) County, on the east shore of the Hudson opposite Stillwater. All of the militia were under the command of General John Fellows from the Massachusetts militia. The first contingent was estimated to be 500 to 800 men. The second group was about 1,000 men. Many of these men crossed the Hudson and went quickly to General Gates' camp on Bemis Heights. Others camped on hills around Schaghticoke in the places that Gates had ordered occupied to ensure that the British did not cross the river to establish batteries on high ground anywhere in the Continental Army's rear.

The development of the American defense at Bemis Heights assured that any combat with the British was going to occur on the west side of the Hudson. With the militia troops who were to be engaged amassing on the east shore, it became essential to develop means of efficient communication and transportation across the river. There was daily movement of troops with equipment and arms both ways across the river responding to orders to move to potential areas of battle. Troops crossed the river regularly to forage for food for both the soldiers and animals. In addition, supplies had to be provided for the troops assigned to guard the east side from British infiltration. Given the logistics of the increasing numbers of both Continental and militia soldiers, reliance on boats to cross the river had become impractical.

The daily journal which Baldwin kept while engaged at Bemis Heights include notes on his constructing the floating bridges. Although he noted specific dates, he recorded very few details regarding the actual bridge construction or the crews doing the work. His entries are primarily limited to dates and general references to his building a bridge.

Records regarding Baldwin's building the bridge on September 9 from Stillwater across to Schaghticoke provide details that the bridge was 924 feet long and 16.5 feet wide and took a half day on September 9th and was completed by noon on the next day. It was noted that troops drove a number of cattle and sheep over the bridge from the east side, and also that the construction was strong enough to support traffic of troops with their gear, artillery, and loaded wagons. However, the following entries from his journal show that Baldwin was far more succinct when recording his construction activity (the bold is added to highlight references to bridges; spelling is Baldwin's.)

Sept. 9 Marched in the Front with the Carpenters & pioneers. Col. Morgans 155 Riflemen the advanced party & flanks **got to Stillwater about 12 o'clock & at 2 o'clock began a bridge across the River**, afternoon a flag came in with a Doctor from Burgoin to Visit the Wounded Hessians & Regulars at Benington. a prisoner sent home.

Sept.11 **making Bridges & cutting cross Roads** to advance in Columns. orders for a March.

Sept.12 Struck tents at gun firing & marched the whole army before Sunrise, incamped upon the high Ground above Bemis's, 3 miles from Stillwater. **800 of Genl. Starks crossed the River to Stillwater** & incamped there

Sept.14 Genl. Starks came to camp from Benington, **the enemy Crossed the River at Saratoga.**

Sept.30 **made a Raft on Battoes to carry our Wagons across the River.**

Oct. 2 three prisoners taken & three hessn (Hessian) deserters came in from the Enemy, took 7 Horses from the Enemy & at Evening 24 prisoners **brought in from the east side the River** & a Capt. 2 Subs & 10 men & 40 Horses & cattle **brought in on the west side the River** taken at Saratoga, bought a Horse & a mare.

Oct.6 **prepared 5 battoes for fire Rafts.** [Note: a raft loaded with combustibles for setting fire to an enemy's waterfront]

Burgoyne began his retreat north on October 8th.

Oct.9 a Very wet Day **out a making Bridges** the *Enemy left there Camp at Gunfire & marched.* I went with Genl. Nixon to their Camp, found they had left Sick, wounded & Nurses, took 2 Ammunition wagons, one case of Medicine, found a No. of the Enemies Horses dead on the road & their baggage.

Oct.11 Took the Enemies Boats & provisions & 60 prisoners besides deserters. **Making Bridges on the Road.**

Oct.12 **building Bridges across Schuylers Creek in 2 places**, a large No. of prisoners & Deserters came in this Day.

Oct.13 **Building Bridges** rode with Genls Nixon & Glover to propose works ²

Gates led troops north from Bemis Heights in close pursuit of Burgoyne's retreat and kept pressure from the south on British troops. He established new headquarters two miles south of Saratoga. Records disclose that Baldwin was engaged in bridge construction in the area. It is conceivable that the entry in his journal for Oct 12,

above, reflects that construction. Other sources mention a floating bridge constructed across the Hudson below Fish Creek which gave easy communication with Fellows to the east.

On October 12, John Stark, recently appointed a Continental brigadier general, led his New Hampshire troops to block the British retreat to the north. He moved to the east side of the Hudson at Fort Edward where he crossed to the west. The troops moved south to intercept Burgoyne by establishing a position at an area currently known as Stark's Knob north of present-day Schuylerville. The "Knob" refers to a high lava elevation from which Stark directed his troops to positions along the narrow road that Burgoyne would have to travel in order to retreat north to Fort Ticonderoga, which was still under British control. American forces already had blocked the British on the east, south and west, which lead historian John Brandow to refer to Stark's strategy to block the north as "the corking of the bottle."

October 17, 1777 Burgoyne surrendered

Blocked from a northern retreat by Stark and surrounded on all sides by Continental and militia troops, Burgoyne soon entered into surrender negotiations with Gates. On October 17, 1777, Burgoyne surrendered to Gates, which was the first occasion ever that a British army surrendered to the enemy on an open battlefield. The location of the historic surrender currently is a park in Schuylerville, the Saratoga Surrender Site, which is now part of the Saratoga National Historic Park.³

After the British surrender, Baldwin's final entry in his journal regarding his bridges at Saratoga was made on Oct 25, "**Genl. Burgoyne's baggage Sent over the River.**" It is not clear whether the baggage was being sent to Albany where Burgoyne was a guest of Schuyler or sent to Boston which was his ultimate destination as a prisoner under the terms of the Convention. On the day of the surrender, Burgoyne had accepted Schuyler's offer to be his guest at his Albany home. Burgoyne left Saratoga on October 17th under a guard of 200 men led by Colonel Quackenbush of the Albany militia; after two days they reached Albany. Burgoyne remained for about two weeks and then traveled to Boston, where he remained a prisoner until May 1778 when he was paroled and permitted to return to London.⁴

The numerous floating bridges built by Baldwin on the Hudson (the exact number is not known) played a crucial role in bringing about the victory at Saratoga. They provided a vital link of communication to move troops into effective positions. They provide teamsters access across the river as they brought wagon-loads of military supplies from Albany. Under the command of Fellows and Stark, the troops were able to effect rapid movement in both directions over the river to block any attempts by the British to cross to the east.

A military victory is the result of countless decisions made while developing strategies and battle plans, as well as choices made during the conflict in the fog-of-war dealing with the unexpected. When considering how a victory was achieved many factors must be studied. It often becomes clear how one factor worked to strengthen the importance and effectiveness of another.

Over the years engineer General Thaddeus Kosciuszko has received well deserved recognition for his engineering prowess in selecting and developing Bemus Heights for the American defense. When considering this engineering accomplishment, it seems clear that the wave of New England militia arriving on the east shore of the Hudson strengthened the importance of Kosciuszko's selection of Bemis Heights. What also seems clear is that Baldwin's design and construction of the floating bridges was essential to effectively move those militia troops across the river to provide the defense at Bemis Height. Colonel Jeduthan Baldwin is one more person to add to the list of those deserving credit for the Saratoga victory that became the turning point of the American Revolutionary War.

Footnotes

The footnotes imbedded in the article are intended to guide the reader to relevant articles appearing in prior issues of the FOSB's newsletter which the reader may find interesting.

1. Article regarding Henry Knox at Ticonderoga moving cannons across Lake Champaign in the vicinity of the floating bridge built by Gen. Baldwin. Also, regarding the Siege of Boston April 19, 1775 to March 17, 1776. Mumford, *Knox's Noble Trail of Artillery*, Fall-Winter 2021, <http://www.friendsofsb.org/assets/files/Spring-Summer2021.pdf>.
2. Article regarding the importance of the fortification during the Battle of Long Island and also regarding Generals Nixon and Glover crossing Fish Creek in pursuit of the British retreat on Oct 11, 1777, in the vicinity of Baldwin's bridge construction. Mumford, *Fog of War*, Fall-Winter 2020, <http://www.friendsofsb.org/assets/files/FOSB-FALL-WINTER-2020.pdf>
3. Article regarding the dedication ceremony on October 17, 2021, during which Friends of Saratoga Battlefield presented the Saratoga Surrender Site to the Saratoga NHP and National Park Service after years of raising community funds and developing the Site. *Surrender Site Transfer to SNHP*, Spring-Summer 2021, <http://www.friendsofsb.org/assets/files/Spring-Summer2021.pdf>
4. Article regarding Burgoyne's parole as a Convention prisoner and his return to London to present during a Parliament hearing persuasive proof that the King and his ministers, and not Burgoyne, were responsible for developing the disastrous strategy of the British Campaign of 1777. Mumford, *In Burgoyne's Defense*, Summer-Spring 2021, <http://www.friendsofsb.org/assets/files/Spring-Summer2021.pdf>

Works Consulted

1. Baldwin, Thomas Williams, ed. *The Revolutionary Journal of Col. Jeduthan Baldwin 1775-1778*. De Burians, 1906, Google Books, play.google.com/books/reader?id=7-HUFSwyqzC&pg=GBS.PP2&hl=en.
2. Hickman, Kennedy. *American Revolution: Major General John Stark*, 2017, ThoughtCo, thoughtco.com/major-general-john-stark-2360615.
3. Strach, Stephen G. *Baldwin's Floating Bridge, a Report on the Identity of the Type and Composition of the American Structure Built Across the Hudson River September and October 1777*, 1960. National Park Service History eLibrary. <http://npshistory.com/publications/sara/baldwin-floating-bridge.pdf>
4. Neilson, Charles. *An Original, Compiled and Collected Account of Burgoyne's Campaign*, J Munsell publisher, Reprinted by Hamilton Printing Co, Albany, 1844, (NB: Author's family owned Neilson House located at the Saratoga National Historic Park.)
5. Elting, John. *The Battles of Saratoga*, Philip Freneau Press, Monmouth Beach, NJ, 1977.
6. Schnitzer, Eric & Don Troiani. *Campaign to Saratoga---1777: The Turning Point of the Revolutionary War in Paintings, Artifacts, and Historical Narrative*. Stackpole Press, Guilford, CT, 2019.



Kosciuszko Monument

Location: located at Tour Road Stop 2

Description: The octagonal granite obelisk designed by Brython Jones is 17 feet high and sits on a smooth granite plinth.

Placed: erected in 1936 by Polish-American citizens of six Capital District communities **Inscription** "1746 1817 In memory of the noble son of Poland. Brig. General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, military engineer, soldier of the War of Independence who, under command of General Gates, selected and fortified these fields for the great Battle of Saratoga in which the invader was vanquished and American freedom was assured. Erected by his compatriots, A.D. 1936."

A Polish-Lithuanian military engineer, statesman, and military leader, Thaddeus Kosciuszko became a national hero in Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, and the United States. He volunteered his services and, unlike many Europeans who aided our fight for independence, did not demand high military rank. Trained in France, he designed many of the fortifications in the Hudson highlands south of Albany, and selected sites for them as well as those here at Saratoga. After the Revolutionary War he returned to Poland to fight for Polish independence, unfortunately unsuccessfully. Poland would cease to exist as a nation until restored by the Treaty of Versailles after World War I.



Sources: Saratoga National Historical Park – Facebook; Park's National Historical Register Application; Wikipedia

Friends of the Saratoga Battlefield Board of Directors

Tim Holmes	President	Carl Anderson	Board Member
Debbie Murphy	Vice-President and Secretary	Chris Hacker	Board Member
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Reminder:

The Friends membership process changed In January 2021, from a rolling month annual membership to a calendar year term.

No individual membership renewal notices will be sent.

<p align="center">Become a Friend of Saratoga Battlefield</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>E-mail _____</p> <p align="center">FRIENDS OF SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION INCORPORATED UNDER THE N.Y.S EDUCATION LAW.</p>	<p>Choose your membership level:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Enlisted Personnel</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Noncommissioned Officer (Noncom)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Commissioned Officer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$100: Field Grade Officer “Battlefield Club”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (>\$100 also Battlefield Club)</p> <p align="center">Make checks payable to: FRIENDS OF SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD and mail this form to:</p> <p align="center">Friends of Saratoga Battlefield 648 Route 32 Stillwater, NY 12170</p>
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Membership renewal and donations may be completed on-line at www.friendsofsb.org



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**Friends of the Saratoga Battlefield
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Stillwater NY 12170**