

*Twenty-First Annual
Fort Ticonderoga
Seminar on the
American Revolution*



 FORT
TICONDEROGA

SEMINAR ON THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

*Friday-Sunday,
September 19-21, 2025*

Friday, September 19, 2025

8:00am-4:00pm “The Battle of Valcour Island: Benedict Arnold Defends Lake Champlain—America’s History, LLC will again partner with Fort Ticonderoga to offer a one-day Revolutionary War bus tour led Chris Sabick and Bruce Venter. Chris was appointed executive director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in 2023. A nautical archaeologist by training, Sabick has spent his entire professional career working on the lake and surrounding waterways with the LCMM. A complete tour description will be on the America’s History web site. The cost is \$175 per person (includes bus, a boat tour on Lake Champlain, lunch, materials and refreshments.) There are 2 ways to register: call 703-785-4373 or go online to AmericasHistoryLLC.com and click the register for tours page.

5:30-6:30pm Opening Reception—Join seminar faculty and museum staff at an opening reception at the Pavilion and King’s Garden with light refreshments and cash bar.

7:00-7:45pm Between the Wars: Ticonderoga at Peace, Part 2—For nearly 15 years, Fort Ticonderoga was a small but vital post between the colony of New York and the new British province of Québec. This period, the longest any power held the fort, ended dramatically in 1775 as the Revolution began. Fort Ticonderoga’s Curator **Dr. Matthew Keagle** traces this final period of British occupation from a major shift in imperial strategy in 1768, the arrival of the last British troops in 1772, the catastrophic fire at Crown Point that prompted a major shift in garrisoning the Champlain Valley, through to the last hours of British control 250 years ago in 1775.

Saturday, September 20, 2025

9:00am Welcome—Beth Hill, President and CEO, Fort Ticonderoga.

9:15-9:45am A New York militia experience at Fort Ticonderoga in the winter of 1777: Captain Alexander Baldwin’s Ranger Company—Captain Baldwin’s company of rangers were a New York militia unit that primarily operated in the Albany area. Due to the shortage of troops at Fort Ticonderoga in the winter of 1777, this unit was sent north to assist

in the dwindling troop strength at Ticonderoga. The company was only at the fort for a short time and on the return trip was captured and taken to Canada as prisoners. This presentation will cover the history of the unit, its typical operations, and its travels to Ticonderoga, Canada, and back to New York on parole. Highlighting the complexities of militia units will provide a perspective on the many different units being used in the Continental Army at Ticonderoga. **Brian Gerring** has conducted two Fellowships at Fort Ticonderoga and lives in Indiana.

10:00-10:30am The New England Officer Corps of the Continental Army on the Expedition to Canada 1775-1776—In the early stages of the Revolutionary War, the free, consensus-building leadership style of Connecticut’s officer corps stood in stark contrast to that of the more disciplined, class-conscious approach of New York and Mid-Atlantic officers. At Fort Ticonderoga, cultural differences and historical rivalries between colonies led to an atmosphere of wariness and created friction between Major General Philip Schuyler of the Hudson Valley’s landed gentry and the freeholder officers of Connecticut and the Green Mountain Boys serving under him on the 1775-1776 expedition to Canada. **Paul B. Elmore** is an independent historian living in Kensington, California.

10:45-11:15am General Richard Montgomery: “the citizen moved by the melancholy necessity of taking up arms for the public safety”—While leading the 1775 Canadian invasion, Richard Montgomery represented the complex interactions between subjects, citizens, and service during the American Revolution. Although deeply devoted to the American cause, the former British officer had qualms about fighting against his homeland and hoped for political reconciliation not independence. This presentation examines Montgomery’s divided loyalties and how he attempted to reconcile these conflicting interests. **Dr. Michael P. Gabriel**, the author of *Major General Richard Montgomery: The Making of an American Hero*, is Chair of the Department of History at Kutztown University.

11:30am-1:45pm Lunch Break (Box lunch from America’s Fort Café included).

2:00-2:30pm “An Exceedingly Active Man”: The Life, Legacy, and Material Culture of Colonel Elisha Porter (1742-1796)—Born in Western Massachusetts, Elisha Porter served as the High Sheriff of Hampshire County, trained as a lawyer and served as Colonel of the

Regiment of the Militia in the County of Hampshire. In 1775, Colonel Porter made the decision after being chased down by an angry mob to stop collecting taxes for the English and join the Continental Army - a decision that changed his life and challenged his personal honor. This presentation explores the life and legacy of Colonel Porter by telling his story through recent discoveries of material objects that once belonged to him. **Haley Wrye** is the Assistant Curator at Historic Trappe and an independent researcher focusing on Colonel Elisha Porter.

2:45-3:15pm New Opportunities for a Professional Soldier: John Armstrong's Military Career in Revolutionary America—Raised on a small frontier farm in Pennsylvania, John Armstrong (1755-1816) had little chance at a prosperous military career in British-America, but the Revolutionary War and formation of the Continental Army provided an avenue to attain an officer's commission along with the connections to secure desirable civil service positions. This presentation argues that John Armstrong embodied the upward social mobility the Revolutionary War unlocked for citizens through military service that was not accessible to them as British subjects. **Zachary Distel** is the Curator & Director of Collections for the Sons of the American Revolution headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.

3:30-4:00pm Bayou Patriots?: Bernardo Galvez and the Louisiana Militia during the American Revolution—Spanish commander Bernardo Galvez's often-overlooked campaign against British positions on the Gulf Coast forced the British military to expend manpower and resources away from the rebellious thirteen colonies. As part of this effort, Galvez mobilized Spanish Louisiana's militia forces that included Spanish, Creole French, Acadian, German, and Free Black soldiers. The long-term legacy of these events remained with the militia as it eventually came under American authority in the early 19th century and its members transitioned from royal subjects to Citizen Soldiers of a new republic. **Rhett Breerwood** currently serves as the command historian of the Louisiana National Guard.

5:00pm Dinner at America's Fort Café (pre-registration only).

Sunday, September 21, 2025

9:00-9:30am George Washington's Relations with French Officers, 1781: Overcoming Friction to Secure Victory at Yorktown—Working

with French army and navy officers—most notably lieutenant generals Rochambeau and de Grasse as well as Captain Destouches and Rear Admiral Barras—in a manner that secured their cooperation and did not alienate his subordinates in the Continental army challenged Gen. George Washington in the several months preceding the great victory at Yorktown in October 1781. Understanding how Washington mediated and persuaded increases his stature as a general and augments his well-deserved reputation for leadership. **Dr. William M. Ferraro** is Managing Editor of The Papers of George Washington and a Research Associate Professor at the University of Virginia.

9:45-10:15am Who were the Hessians buried at Red Bank?—On October 22, 1777, almost 100 Hessian officers and Grenadier rank and file lost their lives in an attack on Fort Redbank. Archaeological work in the summer of 2022 discovered some of their remains. Information gleaned from military and civilian sources such as enlistment records, mortgage protocols, tax and church records unveil their familial and socio-economic backgrounds and recreate the humanity of the Hessians buried in the trenches around the fort. **Dr. Robert A. Selig** is an independent historian and historical consultant living in Holland, Michigan.

10:30-11:00am 9 Days in July: The Conference that Led to the Treaty of Watertown—Just 6 days after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in July 1776, a curious collection of people descended upon the Edmund Fowle II House in Watertown, Massachusetts. United in service to the fledgling United States of America, indigenous leaders from the Wolastoqiyik and Mi'kmaq indigenous nations and the Governors of the Massachusetts General Court convened for a series of negotiations and discussions where they ultimately pledged mutual defense and aid toward one another in a document referred to today as the Treaty of Watertown. This presentation argues that this is the first treaty signed by an independent United States of America, with lasting implications for all nations involved in the treaty. **Robert Smith-MacDonald** is a high school history teacher, James Madison Memorial Foundation Fellow, and Providence College alumnus from Mansfield, Massachusetts.

11:30am Lunch (Box lunch from America's Fort Café included).

Meals and Reception

Friday Evening Reception

Plan to join us Friday evening from 5:30-6:30 at the Pavilion and King's Garden for a reception with Seminar faculty and staff. Light refreshments and a cash bar with beer, cider, and wine will be available. Included in registration.

Lunch Saturday and Sunday

Box lunches from America's Fort Café are included in the registration fee both days. A vegetarian option is available upon request.

Roast Turkey Dinner Saturday Evening

Roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, roll, and dessert at America's Fort Café. A vegetarian alternative is available. \$25 per person. By pre-registration only.

Fort Ticonderoga Museum and Museum Store

Registration includes complimentary admission to Fort Ticonderoga Friday through Sunday of the Seminar. The Museum Store in the Log House will be open 9:30am-5:00pm, with extended evening hours on Saturday during dinner. Several members of the Seminar faculty will be signing their books at the Museum Store on Saturday at 1:00pm, where copies of their books will be for sale.

	<h3>Ticonderoga 250th</h3> <p>Keep up-to-date with Fort Ticonderoga's plans to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution!</p> <p>https://www.fortticonderoga.org/learn</p>
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Become a Seminar Patron!

For those who wish to support the Seminar and teacher scholarships as patrons, three levels are available:

\$350 Patron

Includes the registration fee; recognition in the Seminar program; and an invitation to a private dinner with members of the Seminar faculty and teacher scholarship winners Saturday evening.

\$500 Patron

In addition to all of the above, patrons at this level receive a copy of *Major General Richard Montgomery: The Making of an American Hero*, by speaker Michael Gabriel.

\$750 Patron

In addition to all of the above, the first patron at this level receives accommodations for Friday & Saturday night at Best Western Plus Ticonderoga Inn and Suites.

Become a Member of Fort Ticonderoga

When registering, it's easy to become a member or renew your current membership!

Members receive: free admission to Fort Ticonderoga for 12 months, 10% discount in the Museum Store, a subscription to *The Haversack*, free admission to dozens of virtual events, discounts for seminars and conferences, and invitations to special events.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Corporal (individual)	\$75
Sergeant (dual)	\$100
Lieutenant	\$200
Captain	\$250
Major	\$500
Colonel	\$1,000



Registration and Travel Information

How to Register

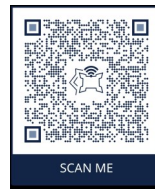
Fill out the registration form on the next page and mail with your check made payable to **Fort Ticonderoga** to:

*Seminar Registration
Fort Ticonderoga
PO Box 390
Ticonderoga, NY 12883*

Registrations with payment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Early Bird Registrations must be received by July 15th, not postmarked by that date. To pay with a credit card, please register online at the link below or call (518) 585-2821.

Register online at this link:

www.fortticonderoga.org/ft_events/twenty-first-annual-seminar-on-the-american-revolution/



Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be received by September 10. Registration fees will be refunded, less a \$25 processing charge. Refunds will be processed after the Seminar. There is a \$10 processing charge to transfer registrations to another person.

Accommodations

Numerous overnight accommodations are available throughout the Ticonderoga area and the greater Lake George-Lake Champlain region. Rooms book quickly, so make your reservation today! A list of area accommodations is available at:

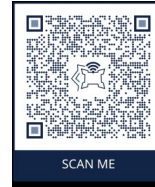
www.fortticonderoga.org/visit/adirondack-vacation/places-to-stay/

2025 SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

Save a stamp and register online at:

www.fortticonderoga.org/ft_events/twenty-first-annual-seminar-on-the-american-revolution/

or scan the QR Code on the right.



On-Site Registration Fees

(includes lunch both days)

Early Bird Registration (by July 15, 2025)

- Member, \$160
- General Public, \$180

Registration (after July 15, 2025)

- Member, \$185
- General Public, \$205

Seminar Patron Registration

- Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, \$350
- Honorary Colonel, \$500
- Honorary Brigadier General, \$750

Reception & Dinner

- Reception Friday afternoon, free but registration required
- Roast Turkey Dinner Saturday Evening, \$25

Virtual Registration Fees

Early Bird Registration (by July 15, 2025)

- Member, \$130
- General Public, \$140

Registration (after July 15, 2025)

- Member, \$155
- General Public, \$165

Membership

- I am a member of Fort Ticonderoga
- I would like to become a member or renew my membership at the level designated below:
 - Corporal (individual) \$75
 - Sergeant (dual) \$100
 - Lieutenant \$200
 - Captain, \$250
 - Major, \$500
 - Colonel, \$1,000

Registration Information

Please use one form per person. Make photocopies or print out additional forms from the Fort Ticonderoga website for additional registrants.

Name _____

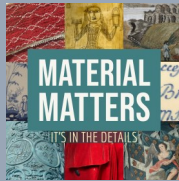
Address _____

Phone _____

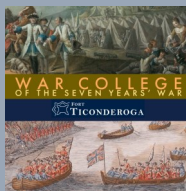
Email address _____

To use a credit card, please register online or call (518) 585-2821.

2026 Conferences



Virtual Material Matters
It's in the Details
Saturday, January 24



Thirtieth Annual
War College of the Seven Years' War
Friday-Sunday, May 15-17



Twenty-Second Annual Fort Ticonderoga
Seminar on the American Revolution
Friday-Sunday, September 25-27



Fort Ticonderoga is an independent not-for-profit educational institution and museum open to the public since 1909 and serves its mission to preserve, educate, and provoke an active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations. We foster an on-going dialogue surrounding citizens, soldiers, and nations through America's military heritage. © The Fort Ticonderoga Association. 2025 All Rights Reserved.

Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History

Those who are unable to travel to Ticonderoga for this annual program can sign up to attend the conference online through *Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History* using Zoom Webinars.

All sessions will be streamed. Online participants will be able to ask questions of presenters using the "Q&A" function.

Both in-person and online participants will have access to these recorded sessions for two weeks following the seminar.

Center for Digital History





Upcoming 2025-2026 Programs

Fort Ticonderoga
Center for Digital History

These programs are offered through Zoom and pre-registration is required.
Membership Perk! These programs are free for Fort Ticonderoga members.
For more details, and to register, visit:

www.fortticonderoga.org/ft_events/?_sft_ft_event-category+lectures-seminars-and-workshops

Fort Ticonderoga Author Series Sundays at 2:00pm ET

The Fort Ticonderoga Author Series features presentations by authors of books related to Fort Ticonderoga's history.

2025:

July 20

Michael Gabriel

*Quebec during the American Invasion, 1775-1776:
The Journal of François Baby, Gabriel Tasherau,
& Jenkin Williams*

August 17

Mark Anderson

*The Battle for the Fourteenth Colony: America's
War of Liberation in Canada, 1774-1776*

October 19

T. Cole Jones

*Captives of Liberty: Prisoners of War and the
Politics of Vengeance in the American Revolution*

November 2

Phillip Hamilton

*The Revolutionary War Lives and Letters of Lucy and
Henry Knox*

2026:

January 11

Albert Louis Zambone

Daniel Morgan: A Revolutionary Life

April 12

Mark Anderson

*Down the Warpath to the Cedars: Indians' First
Battles in the Revolution*

June 14

John U. Rees

*Don Troiani's Black Soldiers in America's Wars:
1754-1865*
