

# THE CAPTURE OF FORT TICONDEROGA



*Drawing of Ethan Allen demanding the surrender of Fort Ticonderoga from Captain William Delaplace, commander of Fort Ticonderoga.*

Fort Ticonderoga was a military fort on Lake Champlain in New York. Once known as Fort Carillon, Fort Ticonderoga was the location of several battles during the French and Indian War (1754-1763).

When the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, Fort Ticonderoga became very important. Besides its valuable location, the fort had many guns and cannons. The American forces were also concerned that the British would use the fort as a way to attack the American troops from behind.

Both Ethan Allen, colonel of the Vermont militia group called the Green Mountain Boys, and Benedict Arnold, colonel in the Massachusetts militia, were determined

to take Fort Ticonderoga. At dawn on May 10, 1775, 83 of the Green Mountain Boys with Colonel Allen and Colonel Arnold crossed from Vermont to Fort Ticonderoga by boat. They awoke the sleeping British troops and captured the fort. Only one person was injured.

Many of the guns and cannons from the fort were removed in the winter of 1775-1776 by the American forces. The fort was later taken by the British in July 1777, but was surrendered back to the Americans after the Battle of Saratoga in the autumn of 1777.



*Fort Ticonderoga as it appears today.*

## QUICK QUIZ

What state is Fort Ticonderoga in?

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Who were the Green Mountain Boys?

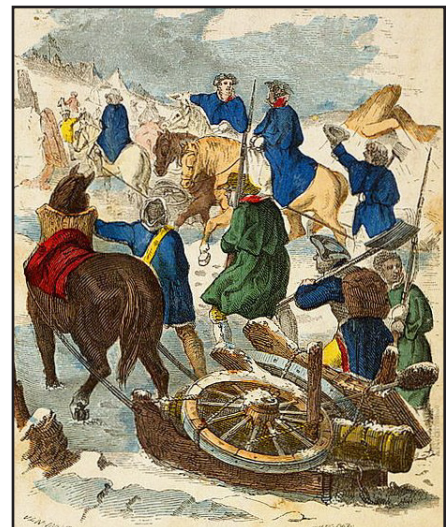
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When did the American forces capture Fort Ticonderoga?

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How many were injured at the Capture of Fort Ticonderoga?

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*Engraving of Colonel Henry Knox and his troops taking the guns from Fort Ticonderoga.*