

Walk 1 January 14

Direction: East to West

Every bit as determined as Henry Knox 250 years earlier, Knox Walkers reported to Fort Ticonderoga at 8:30am.



Visitor Entrance, Ft. Ticonderoga



We met with Miranda Peters, VP of Museum Affairs at Fort Ticonderoga, who provided an informative tour.



Names listed (left) include Franklin, Washington, Arnold and 16 others who had passed under Ft. Ti's arch through 1929.



Built by French Forces to offset British marine attacks in 1756-57, the star-shaped building stands at the intersection of Lake Champlain and the Hudson River. We Knox Walkers had the privilege of inspecting the site unaccompanied. Miranda walked us to the entrance, then gave us free rein.

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Our tour gave us plenty of time and position to pause at every angle of the fort. Outside the walls are sharp drops to a rocky slope covered with small gangly trees – discouraging attacks.



Fort remnants built mid-18<sup>th</sup> century have held up well. Thanks to donors, the Pell family, the Fort is rock-solid today.

Views from the Fort's cannon decks underscore the fact that whichever force controlled Ticonderoga: Native Indians, French, British, or rebellious Americans, the power of holding it reverberated in every direction.

L-R: Joe, Paul inside Fort Ticonderoga.

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Looking northeast an old cannon points eastward toward Lake George.



Between the fort and the river, relative peace for the oxen prevailed. A visitors' access road running alongside their pen was closed. It was off-season.



Know Walkers, in the fort, pose at **NY state marker #2 (left)**. Earlier at NY state marker #3, Ms. Peters captured a 3KJ pose. Post-tour, we continued west from here toward the fort's gate.

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Miranda Peters emphasizes a point for us, at left. At right, on the Fort Road, at **NY state marker #4**, we're gaining momentum toward exiting and the day's trek south.

At **NY state marker #5 Mossy Point Road**, Ticonderoga, at late morning, we were finally outside the fort.

We had reached this point after covering about five miles.

It was time for a reward.



Walk 1 January 14

Direction: East to West then North to South



Walking westward with the ice bound La Chute River nestled to the north, we turned south to find the Wind Chill Factory. Immediately, we stepped inside. We came out with our respective prizes. Chief Navigator: Chocolate. Chief Engineer: Special (blended). Chief Planner: Vanilla.

Steep hills lined our two plus hours' walk above the shore of Lake George. We descended into the Hague Town Beach Park mid-afternoon. In total, we had racked up 17+ miles.

Next on the agenda was Crown Point.

There in Dec., 1775, Henry Knox moved 29 cannons by boat 15 miles to Fort Ticonderoga.

With only weather to overcome, we aimed to walk the distance between the forts tomorrow.



Walk 2 January 15

Direction: North to South



**Prime Objective** reached – **NY state marker #1** at Crown Point, N.Y. Our three-year pursuit: 61 monuments, 30 in Mass.; 31 in New York came to this successful end, 9:40am, **January 15, 2026.**



Crown Point with Lake Champlain as a backdrop is a short walk from the Historic Site Facility run by the state of New York.

Normally closed on this date the fort, except for a seagull and the swirl of a breeze, was eerily quiet.



Site Assistant Tom Meyering gave us a tour. When asked for a professional photo, he sent this one. A guess here is that he wears the garb of a local militiaman.

Walk 2 January 15

Direction: North to South



(Left) Getting ready to depart Crown Point, we headed southbound covering several hours and a dozen miles accompanied by light snow and not much else. At right, Chief Engineer eyes an on-coming van.



North of Ticonderoga hamlet were Delano Road and Middle Road, both quiet paths. Along here, we talked just enough to keep a good mental state and a good walking pace.

Walk 2 January 15

Direction: North to South



Snow started, then stopped then started again.

Nevertheless, the entire length of Middle Road was nearly traffic free: a relief for us travelers.

We stayed on it, no matter the forecast, as seen at left.

Further down, we decided to take the rails again as we had in earlier walks. The rails helped clear the snow from the bottoms of our boots but at the same time they served to chop-up our walking pace. Not too fussy, we were glad to have it relatively dry.

We knew it was a live rail, so we kept our ears open for the sound of an approaching train. None came.

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At this point, we were  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way to our day's objective and 98% of the way toward completing our journey.



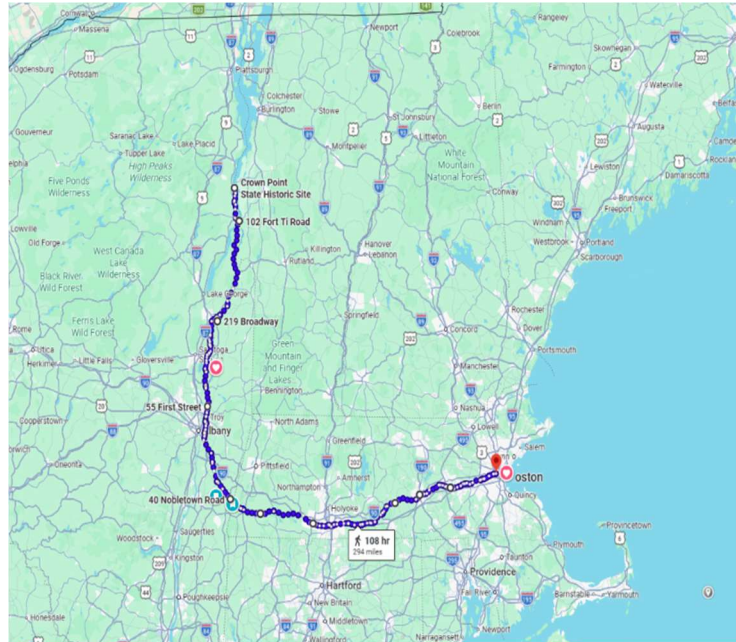
Walk 2 January 15

Direction: North to South

In what amounted to 15-plus miles, the walk from Crown Point to Fort Ticonderoga was our 28<sup>th</sup>.

From upper New York state, Henry Knox's 1775-76 route, north to south then west to east, consisted of 300 miles. Knox and his team brought artillery to General Washington in six weeks. The guns liberated Boston.

Our **Knox Walks** began where Henry Knox finished his task. In each, we retraced Knox's progress toward his objective. **Starting points** for us kept going back in space and time, to the west then north recapping the route marked by monuments erected in 1927, a 150-year salute by the states of New York and Massachusetts.



Henry Knox's starting point was Crown Point. Crown Point was our last; then on to the Fort.

January 15 A Finish at the Fort

View due north as the crow flies over Fort Ticonderoga



Taken by an unidentified photographer, 2021. Straight ahead: Lake Champlain with connection to Lake George to the right.

We were satisfied to complete a three-year epic. Generous facilitators, Miranda Peters at Fort Ticonderoga and Tom Meyering at Crown Point, brought our two-day finale to life.

Imagine yourself a newly minted American soldier guarding the cannon at these forts. Suddenly you are ordered to develop the means and bring them to Boston. In walking his path, we could now join in that soldier's chant, after much push and pull, "**WE DID IT!**"

**Washington's HQ – February 27**



Washington's Cambridge, MA Headquarters  
Photo by P.J. Dwyer

Skilled National Park Service tour guide, Beth provided riveting domicile history for us (below).



Samuel and John Adams and other architects of the revolution could well have leaned on this fireplace mantle during one-on-one talks, to coalesce plans.

Imagine sweeping down the hall (left) into the Writing Room (right) to join rebel counsels, charged with corresponding with Philadelphia, nervously pacing the floor trying to find the right words.



Photo by P.J. Dwyer



**Washington's HQ – February 27**

This portrait and a Longfellow poem beneath it describe the newly appointed general as “weary both in heart and head”.

During eight of his nine months here, the General saw Boston occupied by Redcoats while his own troops were dug in at the city's border.

Loyalist John Vassall built this house in 1759 and from it hurriedly escaped to his Boston property when tensions arose in the colony.



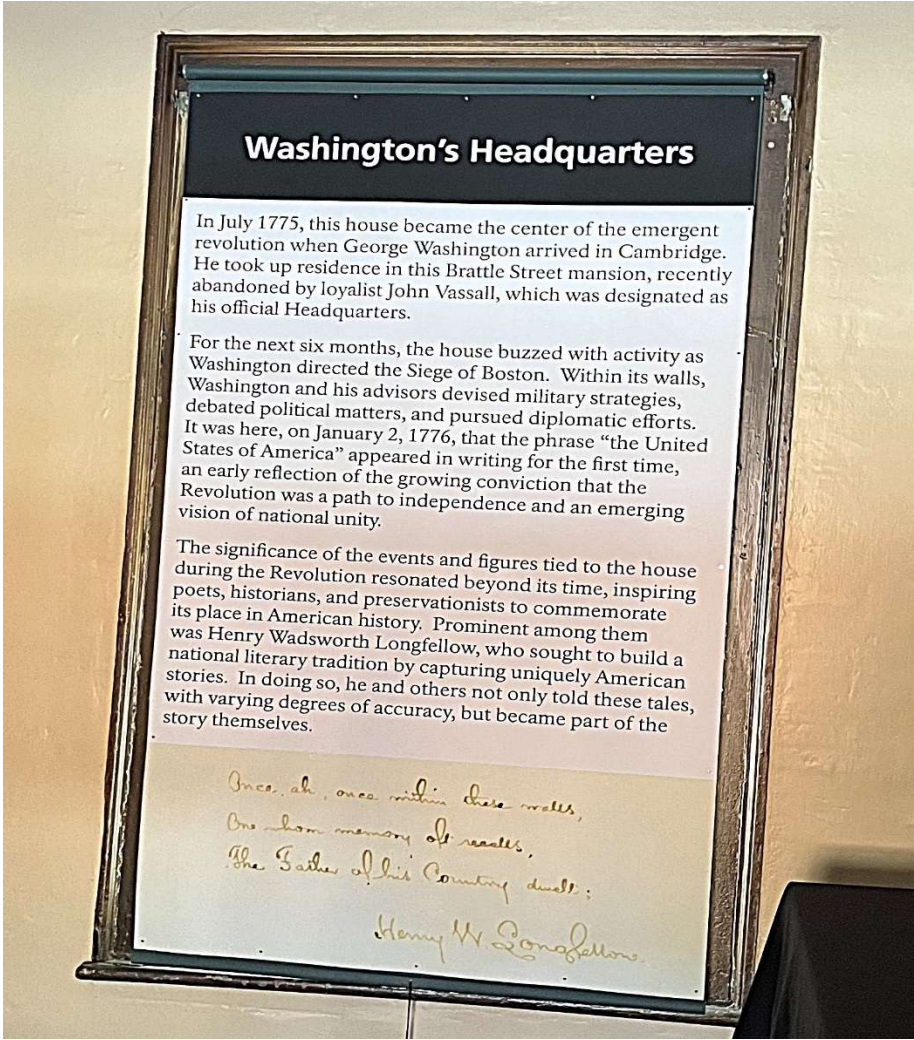
Martha Washington joined George here in Cambridge in December, 1775 and remained until they both left in May, 1776.

Dual portraits displayed in a Longfellow guest room probably made the temporary residence feel more like home.



**Washington's HQ – February 27**

We saw this in a storage room in the back of Longfellow's house, evidently meant for visitors to read when it's busy and tour lines are crowded.



It was a splendid morning at The Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and George Washington Headquarters Museum on February 27.

Just as troops and officers had to tend to their tasks and get out of the General's way, so too we KJ's had business to attend to. We were off by 11 am to meet the day, and the next time - at Dorchester Heights.

**Dorchester Heights** – March 17

At Telegraph Hill, a sharp wind chill kept us moving.

Dignitaries gathered in tents with canvas covers flapping.

Speeches, prepared and delivered to mixed reviews, added a lot of hot air, but had no measurable effect.



We waited from 9:45 for the official start of the program scheduled for 11.

Militia and fife + drum bands threaded around and up the hill and waited too.

A cannon blast went off to start proceedings that began late, about 11:20.



Looking back at the city from Dorchester Heights, a Yankee reenactor (left in the photo) holds onto his tricorn like everybody else today.

The 250<sup>th</sup> Evacuation Day reenactment went into South Boston history without a noticeable flaw. Except one chilly huzzah!



**Dorchester Heights – March 17**



Photo by P.J. Dwyer

Then and now – impressively outfitted in colors and arms, British soldiers try to coordinate their next move. It didn't pan out for them.

**Dorchester Heights – March 17**

A Consequence of Henry Knox and his Noble Train of Artillery



Photo by P.J. Dwyer

As Henry Knox worked to execute General Wahington's order, the fate of his home, his colony, his liberty hung in the balance. At water's edge, Knox stood here with fellow colonial soldiers to enforce **The Evacuation.**



A glorious morning it was for Knox Jocks. More to come.