

**SIGN #13: "began the works at 3 places on Mt. Independence."**

Study the land and the stone wall remains in front of you and below you. Use your trusty telescope!

What are you looking at?

Why would the engineers and soldiers build here?

**SIGN #15: "Our men built huts out of boards to protect themselves..."**

Archeologists study the artifacts they find at a site to help them tell a story. The artifacts help tell who was there and what they were doing at that spot. Look at the small depression next to the trail. Archeologists have found evidence that people lived there.



What artifacts (personal belongings of the soldiers) found here would tell us that this was a hut site?

You have completed your detective work for Mount Independence! We now have a better understanding of what happened here during the Revolutionary War in 1776 and 1777.

*Thank you for your excellent detective work and have a safe journey!*

**Respect Our History.**

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**Take Only Photographs.**



**Mount Independence State Historic Site**  
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# Mount Independence State Historic Site

## History Detectives Scavenger Hunt



The people of Mount Independence need your help to solve the mystery of what happened here during the Revolutionary War. Will you help us learn about the lives of the soldiers and what activities happened here at the Mount?

**Good! Thank you!**

**Y**ou will be a Mount Independence detective for the day. A detective, especially a history detective, needs his or her special tools to do a good job. They include a quill pen since you are writing about history, a telescope to see all the details of the historic ruins and archeological sites, and a hat from the past, to keep the bugs away..., oops, we mean to help you feel like a colonial fighting for your country's independence.

The information you seek can be found on the Baldwin Trail. Follow the trail map and the trail signs to help you on your journey. Please return **ALL** materials to the front desk when finished. You may keep the telescope, the hat, and the memories of the soldiers who fought to give us the freedom we have today.

*Good luck on your journey! Huzzah!*

### Instructions

As you head out on the trail, keep a lookout for clues that might help. Use your telescope to find stone foundations, batteries, and anything else that will tell you about the lives of the soldiers. On the Baldwin Trail, go to the left at the trailhead kiosk and travel to sign #1.



**SIGN #1: “the possession of everything here...”**

Lake Champlain was a very important waterway for the colonials as well as the Native Americans who were here before them. Those who controlled the lake controlled the transportation and communication of this whole area—the Northern colonies.

Find one Native American name for Lake Champlain:

\_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name one kind of boat used on the lake:

\_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture of it:

**SIGN #3: “Our Army, especially the Continental Troops...”**

At Mount Independence in 1776 the enemy of the soldiers often was not the British but sickness and disease. Surgeon Lewis Beebe of the 8<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire Continentals declared that the hospitals here were “enough to kill well men.”

If a Revolution soldier had “Tussis,” what would we call it today?

\_\_\_\_\_

If the soldier had the “itch,” what would we call it today?

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN #4: “...some of the officers have good framed houses.”**

When American soldiers arrived at Mount Independence, many needed to build huts to live in. This 15-foot square stone foundation is an officer’s hut foundation.

Name one artifact that would be found at an **officer’s hut**, but probably not in the hut of a regular soldier:

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN #5: “...a perfect mouse-trap.”**

Use your telescope to look directly across Lake Champlain. What is the name of the height of land you are looking at?

\_\_\_\_\_

The British put men and a cannon atop that height of land. What two advantages did this give them over the Americans at Mount Independence and Fort Ticonderoga?

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN #6: “...the new hospital... 250 long & 24 wide.”**

The boardwalk part of the trail is nearly as long as the hospital that was located here (notice the line of stones). There are four evenly spaced stone mounds inside this long foundation. What were these stone mounds?

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN #10: “ordered a large Store-House to be built...”**

An army needs supplies to feed the soldiers and tools and weapons to work with. Name two items a soldier at Mount Independence would need that would have been issued to soldiers here in 1776:

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN #12: “we are building a Large & Long Brest work...”**

With the natural defenses of this land, high cliffs and water on three sides, Mount Independence was a natural place to build a fort to defend against the British. Much more defense work was needed, such as blockhouses and batteries. The army needed a good engineer to design these fortifications.

Name the chief engineer:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name his assistant (a Polish engineer):

\_\_\_\_\_

