

54a. The Cannon Place

This was the site where a fine swivel gun of the type which was probably used by Benedict Arnold during the Battle of Valcour Island was found about twenty years ago. A town of Johnsburg road crew planning to straighten a "dog leg" on the Johnsburg-Garnet Lake Road was removing some ancient corduroy logs which once carried the road across the swamp. One of the workers noticed the little cannon as one of the logs was removed. It was eighteen inches long, 4 inches in diameter at the large end of the taper, was made of cast iron and had a bore of one inch. It was in perfect condition except for the brackets which presumably had been destroyed when the gun was "killed" as it was abandoned. This was done by pointing the gun vertically and shooting a charge. The recoil effectively broke off the brackets. The gun had a black patina and was not at all rusty. It is now in the possession of a grandson of the finder.

