

J is for Johnson Raid. On October 17,

1780, Sir John Johnson led 700 British Regulars, Loyalists, and Six Nations warriors on a raid that destroyed the Schoharie Valley. For most of the day, Johnson laid siege to the Middle Fort before moving down the valley to attack the Lower Fort (Old Stone Fort). At the end of the day, Johnson had burned some 74 houses and 77 barns, killed barnyard animals, and destroyed over 80,000 bushels of wheat. Below is the British cannon aimed at the Lower Fort when Johnson attacked it. The small cannon was so light that it "hopped" when it was fired, so it was known as a "grasshopper"!

