



True or False in AMC's *TURN*

Episode 1: *Pilot*

1. Abraham Woodhull was a dirt-poor farmer, who grew cabbages for a living.
2. Abraham Woodhull grew corn and wheat, ground in the local gristmill, and may have grown a few cabbages, though not as his primary crop.
3. The king's soldiers, assigned to Setauket, would have mostly worn red uniforms.
4. Robert Rogers first offered his services to George Washington (and the Continental Congress).
5. Robert Rogers gained his fame in the French & Indian (Seven Years') War.
6. Robert Rogers captured Nathan Hale.
7. As stated in *TURN*, Robert Rogers was not a Tory.
8. Richard Hewlett was a regular officer of the British Army, in command of troops from Britain.
9. Benjamin Tallmadge was the "lone ranger" of a massacre of American dragoons.
10. An American submarine is depicted in the opening illustrations of *TURN*.
11. The vessel was named the "Egg", due to its shape.
12. The community of Setauket had divided loyalties, but shared predominantly patriot-leanings.
13. Richard Woodhull was a loyalist.
14. Setauket's Presbyterian Church was used as a stable.
15. Setauket's Caroline Church was used as a stable.
16. Caleb Brewster – in beard & dress – anticipated Walt Whitman's appearance, by 7 decades.
17. Selah Strong was a tavern owner.
18. Selah Strong was landed gentry, and a judge.
19. Selah Strong was arrested in 1776, following a tavern brawl with a British officer.
20. Selah Strong was arrested in 1778, on suspicion of correspondence with the enemy.
21. After his arrest, Selah Strong was confined in the notorious prison ship, "Jersey".
22. John Graves Simcoe was a sadistic, driven, homicidal psychopath.
23. Abraham Woodhull was married, with an infant son, in 1776.

24. Abraham Woodhull married Mary in 1784, following the war.
25. Anna Smith Strong married Selah Strong in 1760 and, by 1776, was a middle aged matron with six children, and remained happily married to Selah.
26. Anna Smith Strong was a decade older than Abraham Woodhull.
27. Anna Smith Strong was a barmaid (in her husband's tavern).
28. Anna Smith Strong, Selah Strong, and Abraham Woodhull all came from prominent Long Island families, and were comfortably well off, at the onset of the Revolution.
29. Benjamin Tallmadge, Caleb Brewster, and Abraham Woodhull had all served as officers of the local patriot militia.
30. The name of the American one-man submarine, designed by David Bushnell, depicted in the opening illustrations of TURN, was the "The Turtle" or "The American Turtle", which attempted to attach a torpedo to the hull of a British man-of-war in New York harbor, and sink the ship.

Answers: 1. F; 2. T. 3. F; 4. T; 5. T; 6. T; 7. F; 8. F; 9. F; 10. T; 11. F; 12. T; 13. F; 14. T; 15. F.; 16. F; 17. F.; 18. T; 19. F; 20. T; 21. T; 22. F; 23. F; 24. T; 25. T; 26. T; 27. F; 28. T.; 29. T.; 30. T.

Episode 2: *Who by Fire*

1. Tallmadge and Brewster routinely beat and tortured prisoners.
2. Abraham Woodhull's cabbage barn was burned down by Tories wearing Guy Fawkes masks, who suspected him of murdering a British officer.
3. Guy Fawkes Day was celebrated on Long Island, during the American Revolution.
4. In New York Colonial practice, in 1776, proven homosexuals were routinely sentenced to death.
5. Captain Joyce's murder, the investigation that followed, the people involved, and the circumstances of the murder, are all historically accurate.
6. Capt. John Graves Simcoe was captured in Connecticut in 1776, "lone ranger" (sole survivor) of an ambush, and nearly lost his life.
7. Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe was captured in New Jersey in 1779, was alternately rescued and ill treated, but not tortured, and nearly lost his life, feigned insanity, and was soon after exchanged, resuming command of the Queens American Rangers.

Answers: 1. F; 2. F; 3. Unknown*; 4. F; 5. F; 6. F; 7. T.

*3. Uncertain. Washington banned and condemned it, in army general orders to the Continental Army, on 11-5-1775, outside Boston. He was courting largely Catholic French Canadian participation in the Revolution, as allies. Guy Fawkes Day/Night, a popular celebration in New England, was there known as Pope Day. It may or may not have been celebrated on Long Island. The British and some Tories are likely to have celebrated it, esp. in New York City, though Catholics would have stayed away, due to its clearly offensive anti-pope (burned in effigy), anti-Catholic message.

Episode 3: *Of Cabbages and Kings*

1. The General Scott was shot and nearly captured by renegade American militia
2. He was saved only by the quick thinking of Benjamin Tallmadge, and all of the renegades were killed.
3. Espionage in 1776 was the exclusive preserve of men, as Caleb Brewster, asserts.
4. Col. Cook is emblematic of purveyors of corruption within the British military establishment.
5. Abraham (and Richard) Woodhull's profit-making suggestion is emblematic of suppliers' prevalent corruption, collusion with, or cheating authorities.
6. Kings College (which much later became Columbia University), ceased educating by the Revolution, had its library looted by the British, and had been taken over as a military hospital by *both* sides.

Answers: 1. F; 2. F; 3. F; 4. T; 5. T; 6. T.

Episode 4: *Eternity How Long*

1. Flogging for dereliction of duty was a common punishment in 18th century European and American armies.
2. The events depicted actually took place in Setauket, NY.
3. The events depicted are more characteristic of what actually took place in Huntington, NY.
4. Col. Richard Hewlett was responsible for the outrage.
5. Col. Benjamin Thompson was responsible for the outrage.
6. The tombstones from the graveyard were used to create fortified artillery embrasures.
7. The fort at Setauket was too squat and poorly prepared to be effective.
8. The Presbyterian Church (near the graveyard where the affront took place) remained intact.
9. The tombstone desecration took place in 1776, in the early days of the British occupation.
10. The tombstone desecration took place in 1782, in the late days of the British occupation.
11. The fort was built around the graveyard, its palisades being provided for by wood from the destruction of the church.
12. The outrage was performed, under duress, by local villagers.
13. The outrage was performed by British regulars.
14. The outrage was performed by Tories, who knew that they were about to lose the war.
15. The fort created became known as Ft. Golgotha (after the name, in Hebrew, for Calvary).
16. Some cemetery desecration did take place in Setauket. But the church was not destroyed in the process of creating the local fort.

Answers: 1. T; 2. F; 3. T; 4. F; 5. T; 6. F; 7. F.; 8. F; 9. F; 10. T; 11. F; 12. F; 13. F; 14. T.; 15. T.; 16. T.

Episode 5: *Epiphany*

1. Benjamin Tallmadge and Caleb Brewster crossed the Delaware on the evening of December 25, 1776.
2. Benjamin Tallmadge fell overboard, during the crossing, nearly froze to death, and was nursed back to health by Caleb Brewster, by January 2, 1777.
3. Benjamin Tallmadge and Caleb Brewster were east of the Hudson River, and did not participate in the Trenton-Princeton Campaign.
4. The British offered incentives and the promise of freedom to slaves (of rebel owners) who enlisted in the British army.
5. 18th century society would have accepted a slave-owning woman begging forgiveness of a slave.
6. Slaveowners could often find it in their hearts to break up slave families, their property, if it meant profit, or avoided financial ruin.
7. During the Revolution, British propaganda often decried the hypocrisy of slaveowners' demands for liberty and freedom from British rule.
8. A confirmed or imprisoned rebel's property (including slaves, livestock, fences, crops, and household goods) was considered fair game for pillage and confiscation by British and Tories; and their houses could be occupied by troops or sold to Loyalists.
9. The same often applied to Loyalists' (Tories') property under patriot administration or occupation.

Answers: 1. F; 2. F; 3. T; 4. T; 5. F; 6. T; 7. T; 8. T; 9. T.

Episode 6: *Mr. Culpeper*

1. George Washington wrote letters to General Howe protesting barbaric treatment of American prisoners by their British captors.
2. George Washington permitted British and Hessian prisoners to be tortured for information.
3. George Washington forbade mistreatment of enemy prisoners.
4. Historically, Gen. Charles Scott regarded Benjamin Tallmadge with contempt, as insubordinate, and wrong-headed in his methods of gaining intelligence about the enemy.
5. Historically, relations between Scott and Tallmadge were good, and Scott recognized. Tallmadge's superior knowledge of L.I., encouraged him to take the lead in matters pertaining to the L.I. spy ring.
6. When Scott was reassigned to the Southern Theater of war, Washington approached Tallmadge to take over as his Intelligence Officer.
7. Washington knew of Abraham Woodhull, and guessed that he was Benjamin Tallmadge's chief operative in the spy ring.
8. Washington never knew, and desired not to know, the names of Tallmadge's operatives on L.I. and in New York City.

9. Washington did often issue detailed instructions, addressed to key members of the spy ring, by their code names, esp. on methods for preserving secrecy and avoiding detection.
10. Washington maintained other spies than the Culper Ring, many of whom were unaware or little aware of other spies activities.
11. At 17 years old, George Washington was appointed the first surveyor of newly created Culpeper County, Virginia.
12. Alexander Rose, author of *Washington's Spies*, on which TURN is based, said in an interview that he regarded George Washington as a natural as a spymaster, and well ahead of his time in his methods (which greatly contributed to the cause and success of American independence).

Answers: 1. T; 2. F; 3. T; 4. F; 5. F; 6. T; 7. F; 8. T; 9. T.; 10. T.; 11. T.; 12. T.

Episode 7: *Mercy Moment Murder Measure*

1. The Setauket Spies used a secret code book to encrypt, send, and interpret messages.
2. The American spies used a keyboard to text their messages.
3. William (not Samuel) Tallmadge, Benjamin Tallmadge's brother, died aboard a British prison ship.
4. Horrific conditions prevailed on British prison ships, esp. on the "Jersey"; even on hospital ship.
5. Most of the prison ships were located in Wallabout Bay, off Long Island's coast, in Kings County
6. The name of the ship "Jersey," refers to New Jersey.
7. The name of the ship "Jersey," refers to one of the Channel Islands, off the coast of Normandy.
8. Except for the prison ships, American POWs were generally humanely treated by the British.
9. Slaves and Indians were sometimes lured to British service, by the prospects or promises of freedom, dignity, pay, and revenge.

Answers: 1. T; 2. F; 3. T; 4. T; 5. T; 6. F; 7. T; 8. F.; 9. T.

Episode 8: *Challenge*

1. The drinking song sung by Abraham Woodhull, later joined by the British officers, "To Anacreon in Heaven," was well-known America, in 1777.
2. The drinking song, "To Anacreon in Heaven," was written in 1776, published in 1779, and the tune, with significantly different lyrics, became the basis of the U.S. National Anthem in 1814.
3. In British-occupied New York City the presence of numerous soldiers and the availability of hard currency, attracted a large population of prostitutes.
4. Historically, Selah Strong was listed as dead, and exchanged as Benjamin Tallmadge's brother.
5. Historically, Robert Rogers set a trap for Tallmadge, and planned to kill him.
6. Historically, Anna Smith Strong received permission to bring food to her husband, which saved his life, and obtained his release through the good offices of Tory relatives.

7. Robert Rogers and Benjamin Tallmadge historically had a personal feud.
8. Robert Rogers would be relieved of command in January 1777, for firing on Americans during a prisoner of war exchange, while under a flag of truce.
9. Robert Rogers would be relieved of command in January 1777, due to his totally inappropriate and unacceptable choice of officers, according to Gen. Howe's Inspector General.
10. Robert Rogers would then spend the war seeking vengeance on Benjamin Tallmadge.
11. Robert Rogers would spend time in Britain, return and raise the Kings Rangers and be stationed at remote Ft. Michilimackinac, in the Revolution's far western theater, where he drank himself into oblivion, and frittered away his finances, while his brother effectively assumed command, until Rogers was again relieved of command, in disgrace.

Answers: 1. F; 2. T; 3. T; 4. F; 5. F; 6. T; 7. F; 8. F; 9. T; 10. F; 11. T.

Episode 9: *Against Thy Neighbor*

1. Historically, Richard Woodhull was shot.
2. Rebel sympathizers were not disarmed until spring 1777, as a direct result of this shooting.
3. Bleeding an already-bleeding patient with a gunshot wound was common 18th century medical practice. The circle of leeches however, would have been considered superfluous to the opening of veins.
4. During the Revolution, sterilization and anesthesia hadn't been invented yet, and operations were conducted quickly, to limit the period of excruciating pain. Sanitation also had a very long way to go, so serious infections often followed operations, and sometimes death ensued.
5. There were more deaths from disease than from battlefield wounds, and more American deaths in New York prisons and prison-ships than on all the battlefields of the Revolution combined.
6. The roundup and show-trial of suspected rebel sympathizers took place, as indicated.
7. Rev. Benjamin Tallmadge's father was the pastor of Setauket Presbyterian Church.
8. Setauket also had an Anglican church, on an adjacent side of the village green, to the Presbyterian Church. The Caroline Church, named in honor of Queen Wilhelmina Karoline von Brandenburg-Anspach, consort of George II of England (who provided the congregation with an altar cloth and a silver communion service), became the favored British/Tory place of worship. So it was largely left alone.
9. The Petition, with its signatures, so eagerly sought by the British, in TURN, is probably a misnomer for signatures on The Association (the local reflection of an extra-legal framework to replace British with American government, transferring allegiance to the First Continental Congress, also known as the Association). As Brookhaven Town had voted unanimously to sign, the British and Tories were not about to try to hang or send everyone in all the villages of the town to the prison ships.
10. The story of Benedict Arnold being pinned by his horse, and nearly bayoneted, in the spring of 1777 (at Ridgefield, during the Danbury Raid) is accurate. Arnold was still a great American

hero, at this point, and his roles at Quebec, Valcour Island, and at Saratoga, later that September and October were legendary, and soon to be pivotal, to the Revolution.

Answers: 1. F; 2. F.; 3. T; 4. T; 5. T; 6. F; 7. T; 8. T.; 9. T; 10. T.

Episode 10: *The Battle of Setauket*

1. Benjamin Tallmadge led the raid and attack on Fort Setauket, which was little more than a personal vendetta, conducted without Gen. Washington's knowledge.
2. Benjamin Tallmadge and Selah Strong were the chief commanders at the battle, with Tallmadge as overall commander, Strong commanding a militia contingent.
3. Gen. Samuel Parsons led the raid, and brought an artillery piece.
4. American forces had no artillery.
5. The forces in the fort were actually Tories, and are wearing the wrong color uniforms and head gear in TURN's version.
6. The British held hostages in the fort.
7. Tories had built barracks in Setauket, before the time of the battle.
8. Hewlett had to race, in his nightshirt, from the house in which he was staying, to the fort, arriving just ahead of the American troops, close the gates, dress, and take command there.
9. Hewlett consulted his troops, and determined to fight to the last man, and not surrender.
10. There were negotiations under a flag of truce.
11. Siege negotiations were prolonged, civil, polite, and not about release of prisoners, as depicted in TURN, but directly about surrender of the fort.
12. The power of 18th century British field artillery was such that a powder house, hit by the first round of shot (even if it wasn't preheated "hot shot"), would routinely have burst into flames.
13. The Americans placed a cannon next to (and partially protected by), Patriot Rock.
14. Simcoe was present at the battle (was, as usual, a thoroughly out of control, disruptive force).
15. The altercation between Hewlett and Simcoe took place.
16. Simcoe murdered the elder Brewster, and had to be subdued, by brute force.
17. Hewlett's prisoners were to be hanged that day.
18. The fort was not asked to surrender, only to exchange prisoners.
19. The nearest reinforcements for Hewlett were in Sag Harbor, on the South Fork of Long Island.
20. Reinforcements from Sag Harbor could easily have made it to nearby Setauket, by sea, in the time that the battle took, using motorboats and high-speed ferries.
21. The nearest reinforcements for Hewlett were in located in Smithtown, to the west, which is the direction from which they arrived, after American forces had withdrawn.
22. The Battle of Setauket was actually a skirmish that took place across Setauket Green, which was then larger than it is today.

23. The fort was protected by a tall surrounding palisade and abatis (sharpened, outward pointing branches), and a ditch; and tombstones were not used as artillery embrasures.
24. Patriot Rock, a glacial erratic, did not figure in the battle of Setauket.
25. On two sides of Setauket Green are two churches. The Caroline Church (Anglican) still bears the marks of the Battle of Setauket. The adjacent Setauket Presbyterian Church, on another side of the village green, was in the center of Fort Setauket and received its share of American firepower. Yet the building seems pristine, since the original was struck by lightning in the post-Revolutionary era, burned down, and was replaced by the present structure. just in time for the second war with Britain, in 1812.
26. The Anna Strong swim sequence actually took place.
27. Selah Strong was present at the Battle of Setauket.
28. Mary Woodhull burned Abraham Woodhull's code book, so we have no record of it today.
29. Abraham Woodhull killed a British soldier, living in his house, because he overheard an argument with Mary, that revealed Abraham Woodhull's identity as a spy, which Mary helped him cover up, by burning down their house. She was good with matches.
30. The Abraham Woodhull house burned down in 1931, not during the Revolutionary War. An historical site marker and bricks surrounding Abraham Woodhull's tombstone serve as the sole visible reminders of the house.
31. Mary was married to Abraham Woodhull at the time of the Battle of Setauket.
32. There were other Revolutionary war engagements in Setauket, on land and sea; and patriots often hid in the woods to the south.
33. Gen. Howe dismissed Robert Rogers from command of the Queens Rangers for his poor selection of officers (on the advice of his Inspector General, rather than John Andre). Most of them would be sacked and replaced by more acceptable men, by their next commander, John Graves Simcoe.
34. Gen. Washington was aware of, and approved plans for, the raid on Fort Setauket.
35. The American forces retreated reluctantly, having spotted Tory reinforcements marching to Hewlett's relief. In the end, Hewlett held the field, but the Americans had contributed to keeping the British off guard, and their hold on eastern L.I. tenuous at best, in this and a series of raids on L.I. north (and south) shore forts, ports, and cantonments.
36. The Culper Spy Ring is believed to have provided advanced intelligence for the Setauket raid and battle, as well as for other raids, some quite successful. They would also save a French fleet, by planting disinformation with the British.
37. The British Fleet, already in L.I. Sound was en route to attack the French fleet at Newport, when convincingly planted information (by the Culper Ring) that Washington was preparing to attack New York City, led to the recall of the British Fleet, saving the French fleet.

Answers: 1. F; 2. F; 3. T; 4. F; 5. T; 6. F; 7. T; 8. T; 9. T; 10. T; 11. T; 12. F; 13. T; 14. F; 15. F; 16. F; 17. F; 18. F; 19. F; 20. F; 21. T; 22. T; 23. T; 24. F; 25. T; 26. F; 27. F; 28. F; 29. F; 30. T; 31. F; 32. T.; 33. T; 34. T; 35. T; 36. T; 37. T.

– MR, rev. 1/6/15