

C O P Y

State of New York  
Department of Health  
Albany

Thomas Parran, Jr., M. D.  
Commissioner

October 31, 1931.

Water Power and Control Commission,  
Albany, N. Y.

Gentlemen:-

Att: Russell Suter, Executive Engineer.

As you know, at your request a further investigation was made on October 13, 1931 by Engineer R. D. Bates of this Department of Rock Pond, one of the proposed sources of public water supply for Ticonderoga. At the time of this investigation samples of water were collected from the pond and from a tributary to it which drains an abandoned lead mine, and delivered to the Division of Laboratories and Research of this Department for examination. The results of these examinations will be found appended.

Rock Pond is one of the proposed sources of public water supply included in the Water Supply Application of the Village of Ticonderoga, submitted by your Commission to this Department on August 7, 1931 for approval as to sanitary features. Based upon the results of the examination of samples of water collected by a representative of this Division from this pond in June, which showed a moderately alkaline, soft water of good sanitary quality quite typical of that region, the use of the Rock Pond was approved by this Department. As you will note, the results of the examination of the samples recently collected present quite a different picture and showed the water was then decidedly acid and had a lead content of 0.43 parts per million, which is well above the maximum allowable lead content for a water to be used for human consumption. The presence of the abandoned lead mine, from which water impregnated with lead in large amounts is discharged steadily into the lake, was not known when the previous samples were collected and no test for lead was made at that time. It is difficult to explain the marked difference in the alkalinity of the two sets of samples, but it is probably related to the varying amounts of surface water which were reaching the pond at the times when the samples were collected.

In view of the information obtained at the time of this investigation, which shows the water to contain a dangerously high lead content and to be extremely acid at least part of the time, I wish to modify our approval of the Water Supply Application of the Village of Ticonderoga, which was forwarded to you under date of August 15, 1931, and to recommend that the use of the water from Rock Pond be not permitted.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) Paul B. Brooks

Deputy Commissioner of Health.

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C O P Y

October 30, 1931.

Mr. Wachter

Mr. Holmquist

Results of the examinations of water from Rock Pond and its tributary. The drainage from lead mine collected by Mr. Bates, October 13, 1931.

Mine Drainage

C 369

The following is reported in parts per million:

Lead	2.8
Total Iron	27.0
Acidity (sulfuric acid)	36.0
P. H.	5.1

The following is reported in parts per million:

Manganese	0.8
Lead	0.43
Total Iron	0.20
Acidity (sulfuric acid)	12.00
P. H.	3.8

Rock Pond

C 367

The data available suggests the presence of sulfides in the rocks and soil that have been oxidized and thus converted to sulfuric acid. The presence of this and of lead does not suggest that the water is satisfactory for a domestic purpose.

WD:EAE

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