



Two hundred years of peace
makes it easy to forget a war

How will you remember?



toronto.ca/1812





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Why commemorate the War of 1812?

- To recognize its most significant outcome: the continuing evolution of two distinct neighbouring nations who transformed an adversarial relationship into two centuries of peaceful and fruitful co-existence
- To honour those who fulfilled their duties in that long ago conflict —British, First Nations, voluntary local militia and Americans—making it possible for our nations to exist today
- To understand its transformational effect on the growth of our city from a town of 700 people in 1812 to more than 2.8 million today



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Goals of the Bicentennial

- Contribute to City's goal of making Toronto a cultural and heritage gateway to Ontario by creating memorable experiences, programs and events
- Inspire community and school arts and history projects for all ages to engage residents of Toronto of all backgrounds in their city's story and encourage them to understand how their personal stories can be woven into our collective story





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Goals of the Bicentennial (cont'd)

- Encourage residents to have a greater sense of the place they call home and the civic pride associated with this sense of belonging
- Attract new audiences to Toronto's historic museums and other historic sites of interest—most notably Fort York National Historic Site—the City's birth place and only authentic 1812-era fort in Canada
- Engage recreational hikers and cyclists in a new heritage trails network





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Bicentennial legacy projects

How did we do in 2012?

Fort York Pedestrian/Cycling Bridge

- Re-designed and in planning process

Toronto Heritage Trail Network

- Completed

Fort York Visitor Centre and revitalization of entire national historic site

- Visitor Centre is under construction slated for completion and fully installed by 2014
- Garrison Common tree nursery removed and generous grant from the W. Garfield Weston Family Foundation will launch garrison revitalization
- New interpretative signage installed



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration



Honouring the past;
revitalizing our future ...



YOU ARE STANDING near the site where Col. Simcoe established a garrison of his Queen's Rangers on 29 July 1793 – the first act in the founding of the City of Toronto. During the Battle of York (1813) the area west of Fort York was an open field-of-fire. The final actions of the battle occurred on what is now Garrison Common, exposed to British artillery from the Fort as well as to United States Army guns from the western woods and from U.S. warships on the lake.

**Toronto began here.
What became Toronto is becoming more ...**

ON THE OCCASION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE WAR OF 1812, we honour the British, American, First Nations and Canadian combatants in the Battle of York. Fort York National Historic Site with its original floor of the buildings, earthworks, common, firing grounds and artillery is about to be recognized and revitalized in the city it once defended.

In 2012 the Fort York Visitor Centre will open along the south-edge of Garrison Common. Designed by the award-winning Canadian firm of Hubbs Architects Inc./Fuernsberg Architects Inc., and supported by the Government of Canada,

the Province of Ontario, and the City of Toronto, this centre will help the Fort tell its story and orient visitors to this 43-acre National Historic Site.

Thanks to a lead gift by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation, Garrison Common will be enlarged, its landscape rehabilitated, and its connection to Fort York and the city reinforced. New interpretation of Garrison Common's historic features will include the original shoreline of Lake Ontario, the 400m Garrison Road, and the 300m Avebury Burial Ground. This rehabilitation is being led by landscape architects at work.

The Fort York Visitor Centre
about 2012
The Garrison
about 2012
The Garrison
about 2012
The Garrison
about 2012
The Garrison
about 2012
The Garrison
about 2012

The City of Toronto and the Fort York Foundation gratefully acknowledge the valuable support of The W. Garfield Weston Foundation in making this project possible.



toronto.ca/1812



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Toronto in Time mobile app and web site

- Phase one of a virtual heritage trail network that includes a thematic history of our city
- A free mobile app for iOS and Android
- All content and downloads also available at www.citiesintime.ca/toronto
- A partnership of the City of Toronto's Museum Services, the Historical-Dominion Institute, and Heritage Toronto
- Also funded by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports, and the Department of Canadian Heritage
- To date more than 5,000 downloads

Saving Old Houses Inspires Preservation



Before Yonge Street There Was Carrying Place Trail





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Toronto In Time launched October 17th, 2012



Themes

Use THEMES to find the stories of Toronto that share a common focus. You'll find stories of crime, discovery, construction, entertainment and more.

toronto.ca/1812



Areas

Check out what happened in the different AREAS of the city. Toronto's many neighborhoods have their distinct stories to tell.



Trails

Take a stroll through TO history on TRAILS that guide you through important sites. Each trail has its particular focus on life in Toronto.



Map

Click on MAP in the top menu to see where all of the stories happened. You can select any story from the map to learn more.





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Programming and community engagement

Toronto's Bicentennial represents partnerships with many community, corporate, cultural, heritage, media and military organizations, supported by the governments of Canada and Ontario and the private sector. This investment in our history leaves a valuable dividend of knowledge to all Canadians.

List of programming partners

Arts and Festivals

Luminato
Toronto Arts Council
Harbourfront Centre
Toronto Operetta Theatre
Toronto Symphony Orchestra
Water's Edge Festival

Aboriginal

Miziwe Biik
Mississaugas of the New Credit
Lakes Huron and Simcoe
Chippewas

Heritage and Community

CBC
Crown Forces North America
Daughters of the War of 1812
Fort York Foundation
Friends of Fort York
History
Historica Dominion
Heritage Toronto
Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire
Institute for Cdn Citizenship
Manifesto Community Project

Heritage and Community cont'd

Royal Ontario Museum
Sacket's Harbor
St. James Cathedral
Toronto District School Board
Toronto Public Library
WNED
Yap Films
York Pioneers

Military

Canadian Forces

Business Community and Tourism

Canadian International Airshow
Canadian National Exhibition
Entertainment District BIA
Exhibition Place
Islington Village BIA
Town of York Historical Society
State of Maryland
St. Lawrence Market Residents Association
St. Lawrence Market BIA
Waterfront BIA
Waterfront Regeneration Trust



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Programming achievements

- Mixed traditional approaches with new and innovative programming to attract diverse audiences from across the city
- Juxtaposed historic and modern perspectives. Audiences found personal connections
- Built new awareness of Fort York National Historic Site
- Built far greater awareness of City's history and heritage



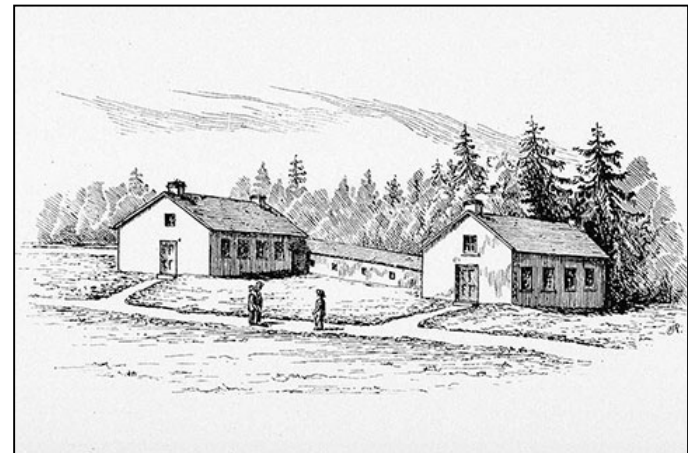
**THE ART OF
HISTORY**



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

The Battle of York: What happened on April 27, 1813?

- The first successful US joint marine and land offensive—14 ships, at least 1,400 soldiers and sailors against 1/3 the number of British troops, First Nations warriors and militia
- Approx 500 casualties, with more than 170 dead
- The destruction of the Fort, occupation of the Town of York for 6 days and burning of the Parliament buildings
- The only time that Toronto (York) has been attacked by a foreign power





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Why commemorate the Battle in 2013?

It is Toronto's story

- Our story is rooted in our military past
- We may have lost the Battle, but we won the war
- Our location, chosen for defence, was also a perfect place for a city to grow—700 in 1812; 2.8 million today





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

How will we commemorate on April 27, 2013?

2012 was the “context” year

In 2013

- Maintain a balance of historical and contemporary perspectives
- A major partnership with the Canadian Forces
- Department of National Defence considers the Battle of York parade to be their “1812” signature event of 2013
- Debut a legacy partnership with the Mississaugas and Chippewas, descendants of the warriors who fought in the battle



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Program for April 27, 2013 from sunrise to sunset

First Light First Nations Sunrise Ceremony 6 to 7:30 am
Palais Royale (near American landing site)

- Led by the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation with the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Georgina Island and Rama first nations
- Descendants of the warriors from the Battle of York



Chippewas of RAMA
First Nation



Georgina Island First Nations
Sutton West, Ontario



Beausoleil First Nation
Christian Island, ON



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Program for April 27, 2013 from sunrise to sunset

Walking In Their Footsteps 10 am to 12:15 pm

Assemble at Palais Royale (near American landing site)

- Walk to retrace the original battle route with five stops to interpret events along the way
- At landing site of American ground troops, Heritage Toronto plaque dedication, near the Boulevard Club



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

**Program for April 27, 2013 from
sunrise to sunset**

**Presentation of new Colour to Royal
Canadian Regiment 10 am to 11 am
Legislative Assembly, Queen's Park**

- Presentation by Royal Patron
- Preceded by a dynamic display
(weather permitting)





War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Program for April 27, 2013 from sunrise to sunset

Battle of York Parade 11:30 am to 1 pm

- One of the largest military parades ever organized in Toronto
- Remembers those who died in 1813 and creates awareness of the continuing military presence in Toronto
- Route begins at Legislative Assembly, Queen's Park and ends at the Fort York Armoury
- Includes 1000 plus soldiers and sailors with 13 marching bands
- 9 salutes to Police and Firefighters, military and 1812 memorials



War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

Program for April 27, 2013 from sunrise to sunset

Commemoration ceremonies at Fort York NHS 1:30 to 4 pm

- Military-style service of remembrance 1:30 to 2:30 pm
In the presence of vice-regal representative and all orders of government, four first nations, 100 member military honour guard and band, and re-enactment regiments representing those who fought in the battle
- Memorial Plaques Dedication 3 to 4 pm
(First Nations, US Daughters of the War of 1812 and IODE)

Evening events April 27 and daytime events April 28 organized by partners

- St. James Cathedral
- St. Lawrence Market BIA
- Toronto Public Library

Coming in June....

toronto.ca/1812

