



1812...2012

Celebrating Our HISTORY

1812 WAR FACTS



The War of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain was a struggle for the control of North America. Great Britain successfully defended her North American colonies until the return of peace.

The War of 1812 is recognized as a pivotal event in Canadian history that set the country on the road to nationhood by crystallizing the will of those living in Canada to remain distinctive from the United States as part of British North America.

The communities of Bath, Kingston, Gananoque, Mallorytown Landing, Brockville, Prescott, Perth and Cornwall all bore significant roles in the War of 1812 in the Eastern Ontario region and were pivotal in defending the British Colonies.

For the St. Lawrence River residents and visitors, the 1812 Bicenennial is an opportunity to take pride in Eastern Ontario's pivotal role in this historic set of events in the development of Canada, the United States and First Nations.

Kingston was a logistical base and the major shipbuilding centre for the British Military in Canada and Point Henry was quickly identified as critical for the defence of the Royal Navy Dockyard, now the Royal Military College of Canada. Fortifications were quickly erected and expanded throughout the war, until at the declaration of peace, Fort Henry stood as a significant deterrent to American invasion at the Western opening of the St. Lawrence River.

The battle of Crysler's Farm, fought on a muddy farm field beside the St. Lawrence River on November 11, 1813, was a crucial moment in the history of Canada. It marked the end of the most serious American attempt to conquer Canada during the War of 1812. Colonel Joseph Morrison led his little army to victory, even though it was outnumbered nearly three to one by the American forces. Of Morrison's 1229 soldiers, 929 were British regulars, 270 Canadian regulars, 60 were local militiamen from Dundas County and 30 were Mohawk warriors from Tyendinaga near Kingston.

Fort Wellington in Prescott was built during the War of 1812 to defend the St. Lawrence River shipping routes between Montreal and Kingston from possible attack by the United States.

The War is perceived by many to have contributed to a key sense of Canadian identity.

Check out our website at
www.celebrate1812.com
to find out more and get involved
in these exciting celebrations

32 Wall Street, 3rd Floor, Brockville ON | K6V 4R9 | Phone: 613-272-3200
info@celebrate1812.com | www.celebrate1812.com