



Prince Edward, Duke of Kent visits John Graves Simcoe, Governor of Upper Canada, in Newark (Niagara), 1792. acrylic and graphite on canvas, 36 x 60 in. © Charles Pachter, 2012

Local Impact of the American Revolution

- The American rebels were successful in severing their ties with the British Crown.
- Not all of the American colonists wanted to sever ties with the British Crown, causing large numbers (called “Loyalists”) to flee north into the remaining British territory of North America.
- In 1791 the province of Quebec was divided into Upper and Lower Canada, with the former intended to become a new, English-speaking, region.
- With the creation of Upper Canada, John Graves Simcoe was appointed its first Lieutenant Governor (representative of the British Crown).
- Like many British officials working in Canada, Simcoe had been active during the American Revolution from 1776, commanding the Queen’s Rangers (famous for their green tunics) in the service of the Crown.
 - Rangers learned to speak the Indigenous languages and adopted their techniques in waging guerrilla warfare.

- Upper Canada was visited by His Royal Highness Prince Edward Augustus (son of King George III) the same year it was established (visiting every Loyalist settlement and most Forts, as well as meeting with First Nations representatives).

Captain Joseph Brant

- AKA Thayendanegea of the Mohawk Nation (Mohawk Valley)
- In 1776 Joseph Brant allied himself with the British Crown during the American Revolution, and earned the rank of Captain (the highest that could be achieved by a native at this time). Brant and his warriors fought side-by-side with British Rangers.
- Brant was a brilliant military leader, directing guerilla-type raids throughout the Ohio valley.
- Born in what is now the United States (Ohio), Brant fled during the American War of Independence because he wanted to stay allied to the British Crown (The United Empire Loyalists claim him as a fellow “Loyalist”).



- The British Crown, through the dubious *Between the Lakes Purchase (Treaty 3)*, granted six miles on either side of the Grand River (from its source to its mouth) to the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. This grant of land is referred to as the *Haldimand Tract* (Sir Frederick Haldimand was the Governor General that made the grant). Joseph Brant did not live along the Grand River, instead choosing for his home a section of land at the north end of Burlington Beach.

- Brant brought with him servants, as well as 30 enslaved people, including Sophia Pooley.
- Author Jane Mulkewich makes the interesting point that **Sophia Pooley lived in the Hamilton area with Brant before any European settlers arrived, making her the region's first non-Indigenous resident.**
- In *The Refugee: or the Narratives of the Fugitive Slaves in Canada (1856)*, Pooley recounted:

While I lived with old Brant we caught the deer. It was at Dundas at the outlet. We would let the hounds loose, and when we heard them bark we would run for the canoe – Peggy, and Mary, and Katy, Brant's daughters and I. Brant's sons, Joseph and Jacob, would wait on the shore to kill the deer when we fetched him in. I had a tomahawk, and would hit the deer on the head - then the [women] would take it by the horns and paddle ashore

- England promised land to the Loyalists, but forgot her Indigenous Allies – Joseph Brant strived to remind them.
- Brant traveled to England in this quest – even meeting, and refusing to kiss the hand of, King George III (who he viewed as a fellow king). Befriended the Prince of Wales (Future George IV).
- Entertained the extra-ordinary journal-keeper/artist Elizabeth Simcoe (wife of John Simcoe) at his home in fine English Style.
- Brant encouraged a sharing relationship between the British settlers and Indigenous Peoples – he himself lived in both worlds – this proved very controversial.
- Joseph Brant built his house on the north shore of Burlington Beach – along the shore of Brant's Pond (now filled in). A replica of the house now stands near the site of the original Brant home.



- Brant had nine children and was married three times (Christine, Susannah, and Catherine): John & Elizabeth have streets named after them in present-day downtown Burlington.
- The village of “Wellington Square” was founded east of Brant’s House. This would become modern-day downtown Burlington.
- Joseph Brant died in 1807, and was buried in the Grand River Six Nations’ Reserve (not St. Luke’s Graveyard in Burlington as local legend maintains).
- His son, John Brant will become famous in his own right during the War of 1812.

Places that carry the Brant name: Brant County, Brant Street, Joseph Brant Hospital, and Brantford.

Flamborough and Waterdown History

- Representing the Crown, Colonel Butler entered into the dubious *Between the Lakes Purchase (Treaty 3)* with the Mississaugas of the Credit (the Nation that moved into the area after the Neutral Nation was dispersed and the Seneca Nations had left) on May 22nd, 1784. This agreement was officialized as Treaty No. 3 (1792) by Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe. The area was divided into East and West Flamborough around 1798 (Waterdown & WDHS are in East Flamborough).

- Flamborough is named by Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe, after a walk along Burlington Beach. The name comes from Flamborough Head, Yorkshire, England.
- Arriving in 1787, widow Anne Morden and her sons (John, Ralph, Moses and James) are among the first non-Indigenous People to settle atop the escarpment in what is now called West Flamborough (then called “Mountain Top”). Included with them were Black People forced to relocate with the Morden’s due to their enslavement in Pennsylvania.
 - Displaced Loyalists, the Mordens squatted on the land around Rock Chapel before it had been surveyed (this was common in the very early days of settlers arriving in the area). The major stream of the area, Morden Creek—now Spencer Creek—was named by local settlers for them.
- Waterdown’s original site, lot 7 on the 3rd Concession of Flamborough Township, was originally granted by the Crown to Colonel Alexander McDonell of the Butler's Rangers August 23rd, 1796. Lot 7, covered with oak, maple and great stands of pine, failed to interest McDonell, and it was sold to Alexander Brown on March 29th, 1805. Brown was a retired official of the North West Fur Company¹⁹, who first had his home at the top of Waterdown’s Great Falls.