



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 Native 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 the United States (Ohio), fled during the American War of Independence because he wanted to stay loyal to the British Crown (this made him a United Empire Loyalist).
- Lead his people to the Grand River Valley, and chose for his home a section of land at the north end of Burlington Beach.
 - England promised land to the Loyalists, but forgot her Indigenous Allies – 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).



Picture showing "Brant's Pond," Burlington.

- When Brant arrived in the area he brought with him Sophia Pooley – a black slave that he purchased in New York state in 1778. Pooley was the first non-Indigenous Person to live in this area, and remained so a number of years.
- 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 Treaty with the Mississaugas (the Nation that moved into the area after the Chonnonton Nation was dispersed) 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.
- Loyalist Anne Morden settled with her sons near Rock Chapel, West Flamborough, in 1787.
- Waterdown's original site was originally granted to Colonel Alexander McDonnell of Butler's Rangers in 1796 for services to the Crown during the American Revolutionary War.
- In 1805 Alexander Brown purchased most of Alexander McDonnell's land and built a log cabin and mill near the Great Falls of Smokey Hollow in Waterdown. Eventually, a road was cut from Waterdown all the way down to the waterfront (roughly following modern day Waterdown Road).
- That same year the Mississaugas lost their last tract of Lake Ontario shoreline to the Crown. This parcel of land comprised modern day Halton region (the Milborough Line in East Flamborough was the boundary line between European and Native worlds until 1805).
- The road connected to "Brown's Wharf," which was located on the site of present-day LaSalle Park (Alexander Brown eventually moved here – his house was where the pavilion is today).
- The "Village of Waterdown" plan is laid out by Ebenezer Culver Griffin in 1830, subdividing the land he purchased from Alexander Brown (Brown had by this point moved to a house he built where the Lasalle Park Pavillion now stands).



Brown's Wharf (aka Port Flamborough), ca. 1910

(Remember that East Flamborough originally stretched all the way down into Aldershot and the waterfront. Burlington annexed Aldershot in 1958).