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We salute the "Fort Erie Jaycees." This splendid brochure is the product of a fine effort to support our industry and commercial establishments and to provide a guide to our many churches, service clubs, etc., for our visitors. Fort Erie has a long and eventful history: established first by the British almost two centuries ago, and now, in this the Centennial of Canada's Confederation, Fort Erie has planned many celebrations which will be interesting to all our visitors. We are proud to be Fort Erieans and the many churches, clubs, hotels, motels, and service clubs, together with our commercial establishments will welcome every opportunity to extend the warmth of our hospitality.

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Fort Erie . . . the Meeting of the Ways

From the earliest days of Indian canoes on the water to the present motor car on the highway, what is now Fort Erie has been the Meeting of the Ways of two nations.

In distant prehistoric ages the nomadic "American Stone Age" people here fashioned their crude artifacts of self-preservation, hunted and fished, and later gathered into communities and built villages. This was to become the homeland of the great Neutral Indian Nation which, even in those days, was an important area with the finding of the prized flint in the Quarry of the Neutrals near the present Peace Bridge.

It was not until the early 1600's that the "couriers de bois" became the first white man in the area, and not until 1763, with the building of the fortress "Fort Erie," did he leave his first enduring mark.

With the influx of the Empire Loyalists in 1776 came the first non-military settlement of a few scattered rough-hewn houses surrounding the fort. In the succeeding years the history of this settlement - called variously Fort Erie Mills, Fort Erie Rapids, and Waterloo after the Napoleonic War - was to be linked very closely with navigation on Lake Erie.

Prior to 1825 Fort Erie was an important commercial area due mainly to its strategic location on the water route however, this importance waned severely in 1825 with the openings of the Welland and Erie Canals. Fort Erie was now bypassed and what was once a tremendously potential metropolis became almost utterly dormant.

The community did progress sufficiently to achieve incorporation as the Village of Fort Erie on July 13th, 1857.

The advent of a car ferry to facilitate the flourishing railways gave Fort Erie a short lease on life which was terminated by the building of the International Bridge in 1873. Almost overnight there evolved all those enterprises which accompany a great undertaking. Soon there grew a rival sister village called Victoria, which, in 1895, was incorporated as Bridgeburg. Located about two miles to the north of Fort Erie, the new village flourished immediately as a railroad and customs port while Fort Erie, with the opening of the Peace Bridge, became a port of entry for vehicular traffic.

So Fort Erie and Bridgeburg were to remain separate entities until, with the duplication of services and facilities making amalgamation seem inevitable, they were formally joined on January 1st, 1932, retaining the historic name of Fort Erie.

From sail to rail and automobile this community has ranked high in the annals of transportation on this continent. Fort Erie ranks as one of the leading freight entry-points in Canada, and the passing of some 5 million motor vehicles annually establishes it as one of the busiest tourist points on the international boundary.

Today Fort Erie, with the Peace Bridge serving as a memorial to a century of peace, stands as the Gateway to Canada and truly a meeting of the ways of two countries.

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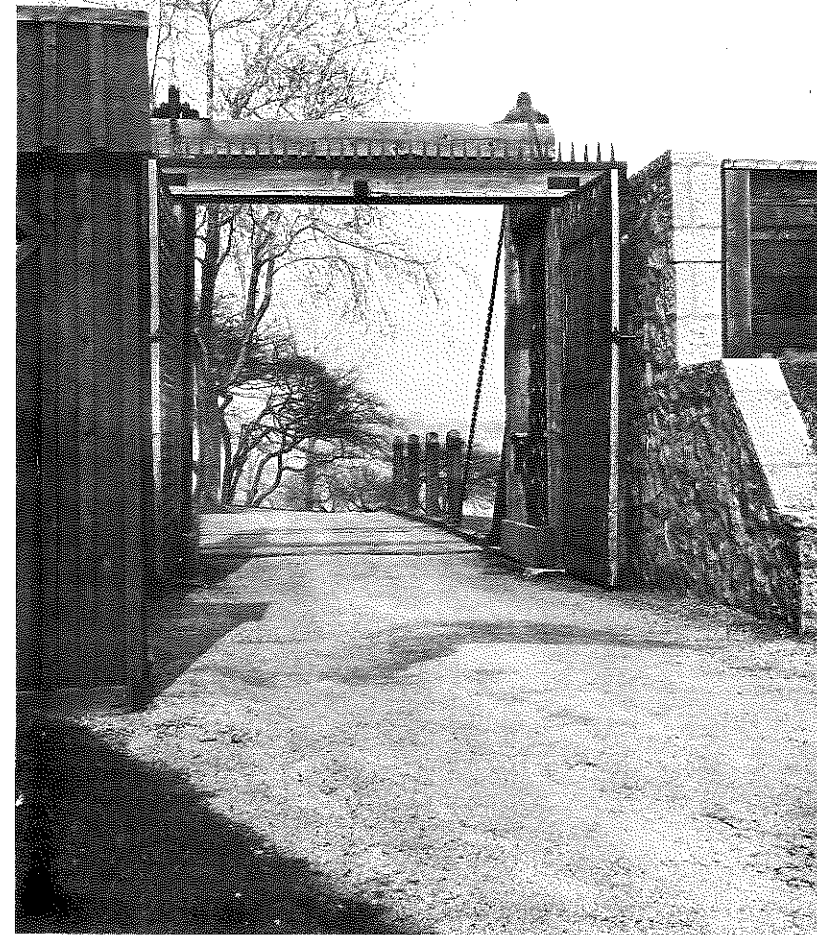
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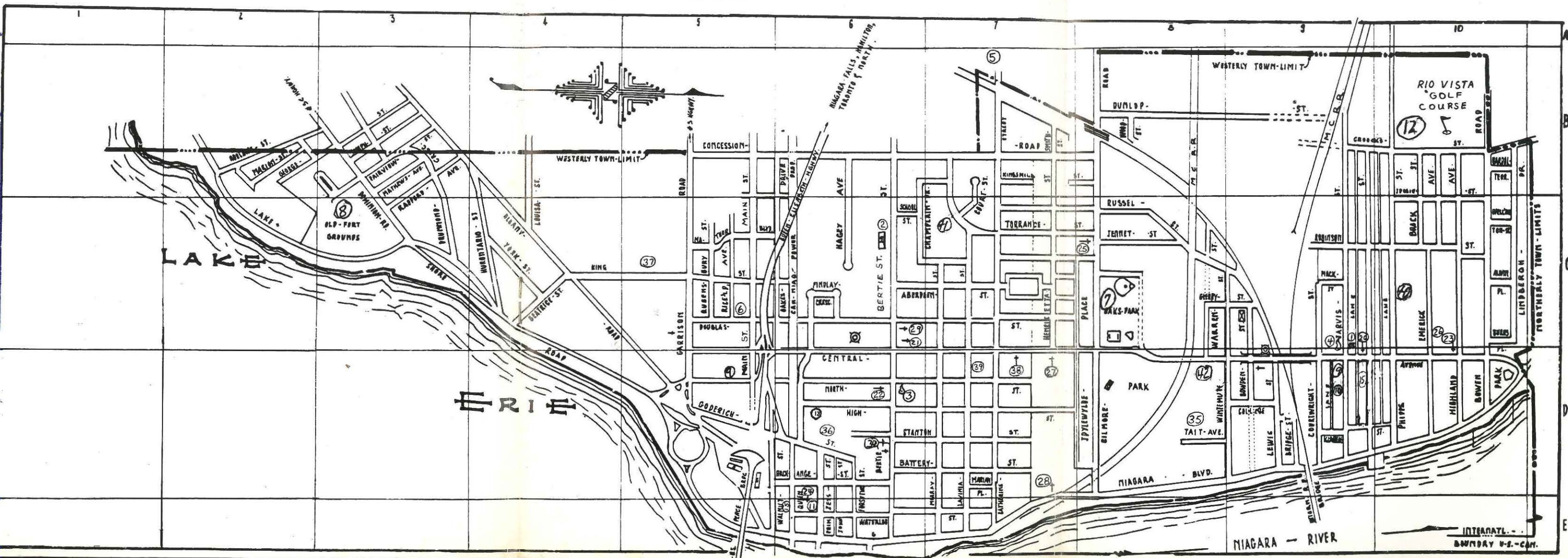
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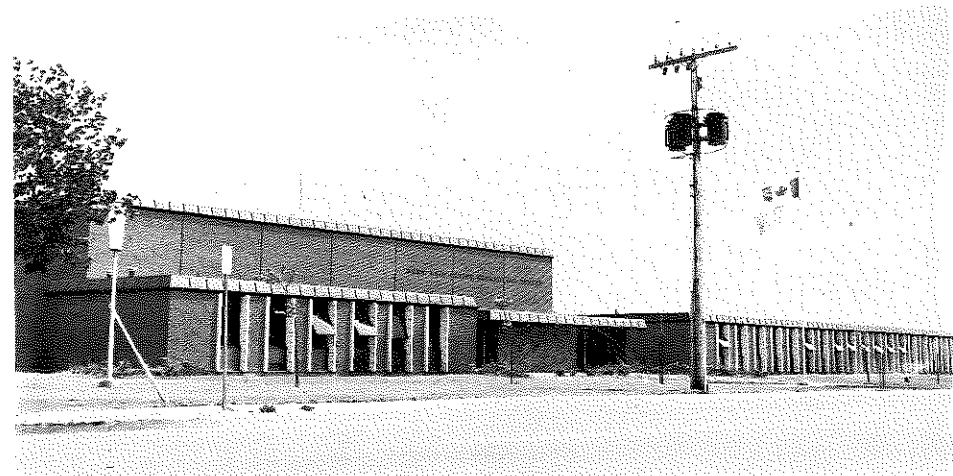


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Fort Erie Race Track

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Fort Erie Race Track. It is situated on the Queen Elizabeth Highway about three minutes from the Peace Bridge. The track offers the finest thoroughbred horse racing found on the North American continent, along with its picturesque beauty and its intriguing atmosphere.

This year the doors will open for twenty days starting April 17th to May 13th excluding Tuesdays. Then again for the summer meet the action will take place July 3rd through August 12th, 1967. There are eight races daily commencing at 2 p.m. Also offered to the public during the summer meet, is the breakfast club where horse enthusiasts can watch the early morning workouts and enjoy breakfast from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

During the week, the results of each race can be reached through the broadcast and television media. On Saturdays the complete eight races are televised on Channel 11.

The Fort Erie Race Track is truly an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon and should be included in everyone's summer.

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- BERTIE SPCA** — Pres. Nelson Miller, Garrison Road, Ridgeway 869-2162
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as called
- FORT ERIE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION** —
Pres. Mrs. C. Hesser, 42 Riceland Avenue 871-4353
Meetings: third Thursday
Anglo-American Hotel
- FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES** — Pres. Charles Eber, 18 Drummond Road 871-1493
Meetings: second and fourth Wednesday
Eagle Hall, Princess Street
- LADIES AUXILIARY FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES** —
Pres. Mrs. Rose Collie, 87 Gilmore Road 871-0828
Meetings: first and third Tuesdays
Eagle Hall, Princess Street
- HISTORICAL SOCIETY** — Pres. C. N. Glenny, 218 Phipps Street 871-2056
Meetings: as called
- ITALO CANADIAN** — Pres. J. Maulucci, 20 Dufferin Street 871-4444
Meetings: first Thursday
Italo Canadian Hall, Bertie Township
- JAYCEES** — Pres. J. Turner, 244 North Street 871-6550
Meetings: every other Tuesday
Leo's Restaurant
- JAYCETTES** — Pres. Mrs. L. Barkely, 1205 Spears Road 871-2864
- JARVIS STREET BUSINESSMEN** — Pres. J. Butchart, 152 Champlain Drive 871-3658
Meetings: first Tuesday
Leo's Restaurant
- FORT ERIE I.O.D.E. (Col. Kerby)** — Regent Mrs. R. G. Niell, Niagara Boulevard 871-3607
Meetings: first Wednesday as called
- FORT ERIE I.O.D.E. (Lady Maitland)**
— Regent Mrs. Margaret Butters, 21 Emrick Avenue 871-3793
Meetings: second Wednesday as called
- KINSMEN** — Pres. W. Brunton, 212 Main Street 871-2835
Meetings: first and third Thursday 7:00
Michele's
- KINETTES** — Pres. Mrs. G. Tompkins, 333 Dufferin Street 871-1805
Meetings: second Thursday
Leo's Restaurant at 8:00
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** — Pres. D. Andrews, 385 Garrison Road 871-3981
Meetings: second and fourth Tuesday
Knights of Columbus Hall
- LEGION Branch 71** — Pres. J. E. Penlington, 92 Bertie Street 871-3495
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- LADIES AUXILIARY CANADIAN LEGION** —
Pres. Mrs. W. Nunn, 1249 Orchard Drive 871-2093
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- MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION** — W. Hunter
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- MASONIC (Palmer) No. 372** — Master A. R. Fast, 12 Wintemute Street 871-2234
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- MASONIC (Fort Erie)** — Master N. McCarley, 169 Gilmore Road 871-0626
Meetings: third Tuesday
Masonic Temple
- POWER SQUADRON** — Commander S. Bishop, 546 Lakeshore Road 871-1271
Meetings: as called
- RED CROSS** — Pres. V. Miller, 309 Highland Avenue 871-2455
Meetings: as called
- ROTARY CLUB** — Pres. F. Farrell
Meetings: Wednesday 12:15
Hotel Fort Erie
- ROTARY ANNS** — Pres. Mrs. Anne Armstrong, 629 Central Avenue 871-3078
Meetings: first Monday 6:30
Alternated between Hotel Fort Erie and Anglo-American Hotel
- SENIOR CITIZENS** — President R. Whitehead, 50 Waterloo Street 871-1534
Meetings: second Tuesday 7:00
St. Mary's Parish Hall
- SOUTH END BUSINESSMEN** — Pres. J. Yeo, 165 Gilmore Road 871-1415
Meetings: as called
- Y'S MEN CLUB** — Pres. Dr. P. Healey, 25 Bowen Road 871-2211
Meetings: second and fourth Monday 6:30
Hotel Fort Erie
- Y'S MENETTES** — Pres. Mrs. D. Davis, 144 Catherine Street 871-5625
Meetings: third Monday as called
- Y.M.C.A.** — Pres. J. Collingridge, 75 Robinson Street 871-2324
Meetings: first Thursday 8:00
Y.M.C.A. Dufferin Street
- SCOUTS AND CUBS** — "Split Rock" District Council —
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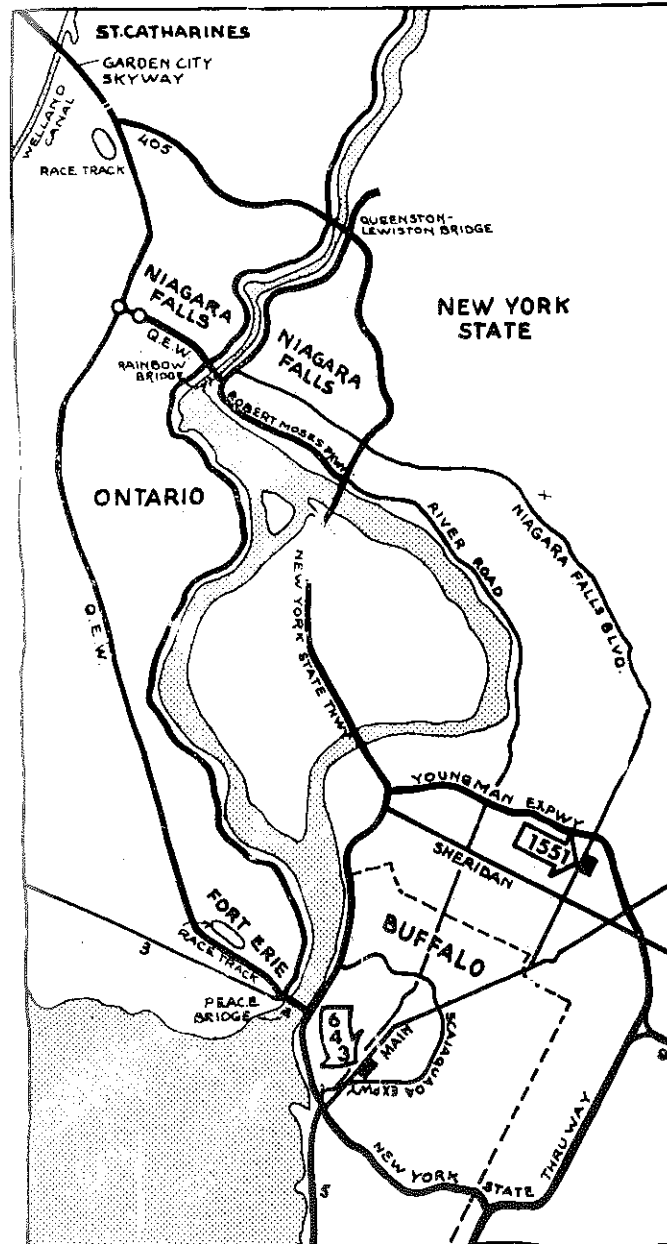
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History of a Fort Restored

Overlooking the point where Lake Erie spills into the Niagara River the Old Fort, from which the town of Fort Erie derives its name, epitomizes one of the most event-ridden and historical sites in Ontario.

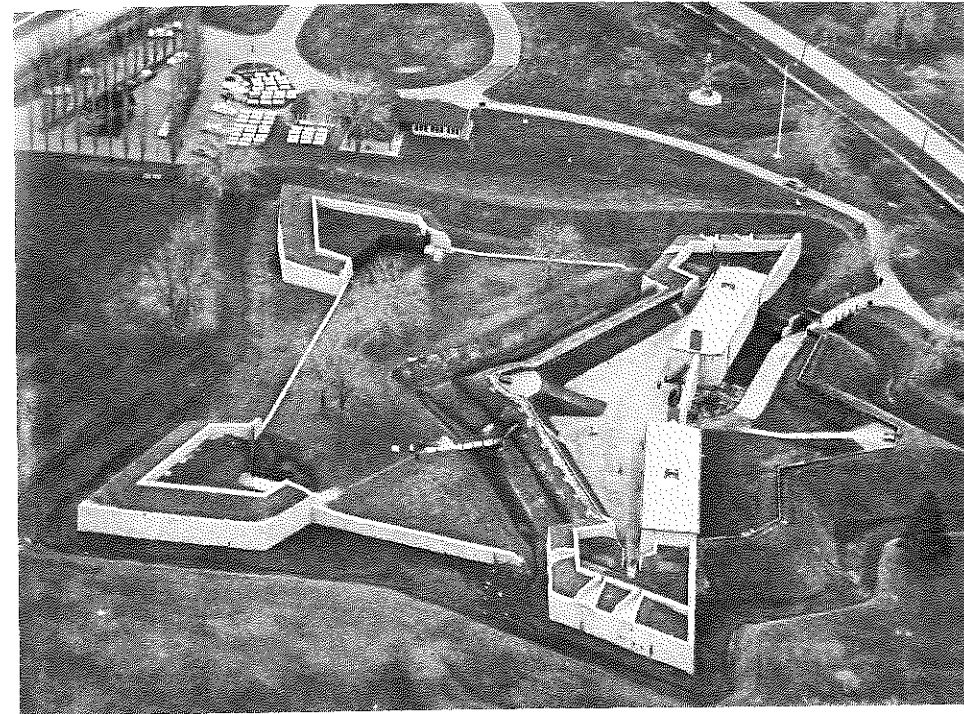
This was the first land in the province to be acquired by treaty from the Indians. Here, some 200 years ago, were established the first British military outpost and wharf to push navigation into the upper lakes. The first two forts to occupy the site succumbed to the vicissitudes of Lake Erie and the present Fort Erie was completed during the war years of 1812 to 1814. Captured by the Americans, besieged by the British, in turn abandoned and blown up by the Americans, the Old Fort today serves to emminate the veneration of two nations toward this place.

In the summer of 1763 General Bradstreet of the British Army despatched Lieutenant Colonel John Montresor to the outlet of Lake Erie to establish a wharf and protective fortress for British vessels loading for western posts, on the upper lakes. On July 9th he marked off the site of the first fort at the mouth of the river, to be built of timber from the surrounding wood. General Bradstreet later named the site "Fort Erie" due to its strategic location on Lake Erie.

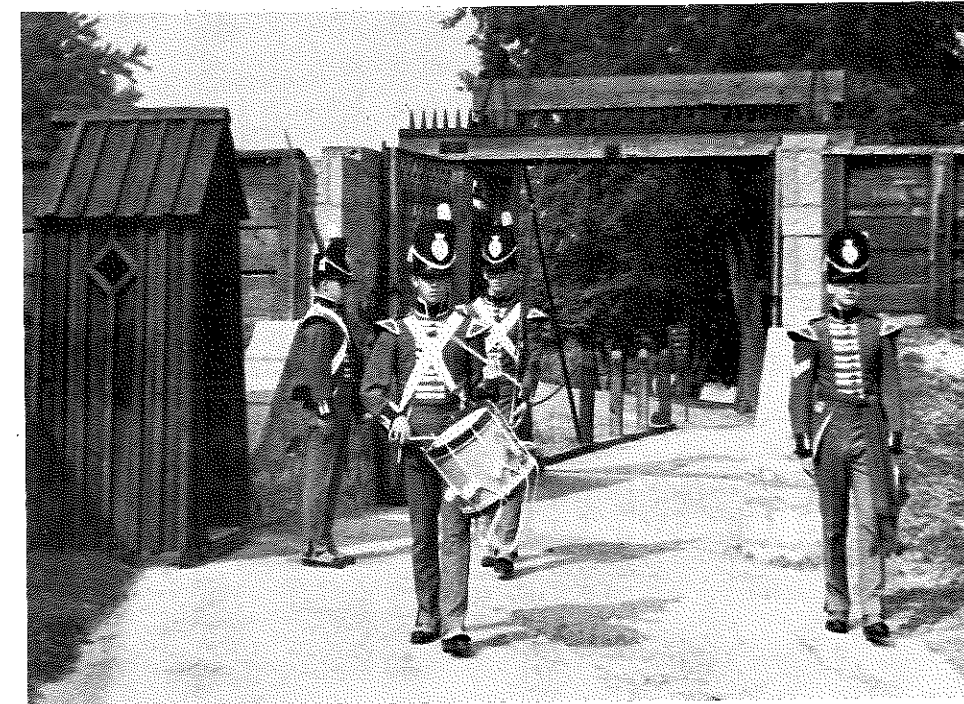
For the next quarter century the fort, exposed to the ravages of the lake, was found extremely difficult to keep in repair. During this peiod it fell before the fury of a storm and was partially destroyed in 1779. Then, in 1803, during another great storm, a wall of wind-driven ice destroyed the garrison beyond repair and led to its relocation on the site we now know. The following year preparation for a new post, to be constructed out of local stone and located away from the water, was initiated. The work, begun in 1804, was discontinued in 1808.

Work progressed intermittently until war broke out in 1812 between Canada and the United States. The fort, not nearly completed, was captured by the Americans in the Seige of Fort Erie in 1814. In 1904 a stone monument to those who fell was erected and today stands guard at the entrance to the park. The fort was abandoned later in 1814 but was almost completely destroyed by the Americans when they left.

Restoration was begun in 1937, sponsored jointly by the Provincial and Dominion governments. Completed and opened on July 1st, 1939, the fort today has taken on the appearance of an impressive fortress. However it is not in any way intended to reflect a renewed citadel and its guns, silenced forever 200 years ago, would be of no use for or against modern aggressive forces. Instead, it serves only as a center of attraction and recreation to visitors to the Niagara Frontier.



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