

Hamilton War of 1812 Bicentennial
100th Anniversary of the Opening of the Battlefield Monument

Historical Background

- The year 2013 marks the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Stoney Creek, one of the most important events in Canada's history.
- On June 5, 1813, approximately 3,500 American forces advanced as far as the Gage family homestead in Stoney Creek, now Battlefield House Museum & Park, and established camp for the night.
- A surprise night attack by the British was initiated in the early morning hours of June 6, 1813 from Burlington Heights (where Dundurn Castle now stands).
- The British victory at the Battle of Stoney Creek was crucial in preventing the Americans from seizing Upper Canada.

Monument Information

- Between 1899 and 1908, the Women's Wentworth Historical Society and the Wentworth Historical Society corresponded with the Federal Minister responsible for monuments on where the proposed location of the Battlefield Monument.
- The construction of the monument began at Battlefield House Museum & Park on May 28, 1909, and the corner stone was laid by General French in a ceremony on May 26, 1910.
- On the centennial of the Battle of Stoney Creek, June 6, 1913, the completed monument was unveiled by Queen Mary in London, by means of a transatlantic cable.
- Approximately 15,000 people were in attendance for the monument unveiling, including local military forces.
- The Battlefield Monument stands as a symbol of peace and commemorates those soldiers who died on June 6, 1813.
- The National Historic Sites and Monuments Board acknowledge that... *"The Stoney Creek monument is by far the most impressive of the contemporary monuments erected to commemorate a battle of the War of 1812 and is arguably the most successful monument to address the broader loyalist theme as understood at the end of the century".*

SPECIAL EVENT: 100th Anniversary of the Opening of the Battlefield Monument

Location: Battlefield House Museum & Park
Date: Friday, May 31, 2013
Time: 1pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$0.25 per person. 1913 prices!
Contact: 905-662-8458
battlefield@hamilton.ca
www.battlefieldhouse.ca

Hamilton War of 1812 Bicentennial Signature Events Series

- Re-enactment of the Battle of Stoney Creek (June 1-2, 2013)
- Canadian International Military Tattoo (June 8-9, 2013)
- TALL SHIPS® Hamilton (June 28-30, 2013)
- Hamilton & Scourge Memorial (September 4 and 21, 2013)

More Information

Website: www.1812hamilton.com
Twitter: [@1812Hamilton](https://twitter.com/1812Hamilton)
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