

Executive Board of Directors

President:
Barbara O'Keefe

First Vice President:
Fred Hanss

2nd Vice President:
Tim Cryderman

Secretary:
Judith Cree Ryan

Treasurer:
Eric Brunet

Events

Because of Covid
19 Restrictions and
border closures our
2022 events are
being evaluated on
a month to month
basis.

For the most cur-
rent information
go to our website.



www.fort1749.org

August 30th, 1760 General Amherst to Major Henry Gladwin

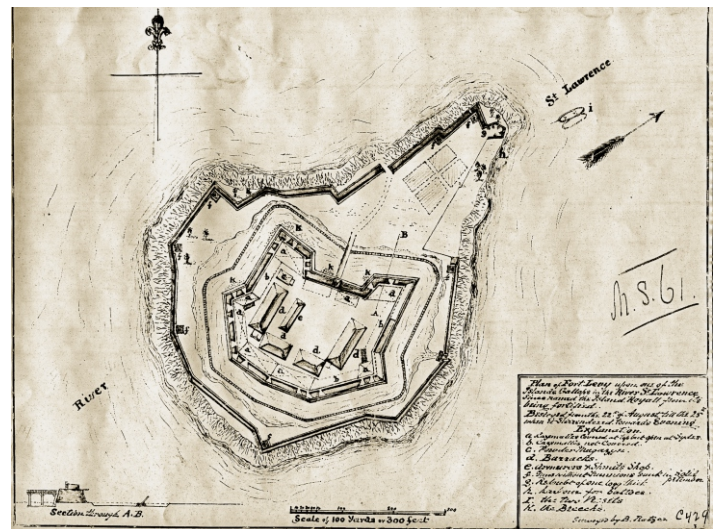
*Sir - You will, tomorrow morning, take upon you the command
of Fort William Augustus; As also the Detachment of 200 men
which I leave for the Defense of said Fort, the carrying
of its Works*

By Dennis & Kathi McCarthy

On August 30th, 1760
General Jeffrey
Amherst issued
orders to Major Henry
Gladwin, 80th Regiment
to take command of Fort
William Augustus. This fort
was the remains of the
French Fort Lévis that had
been under siege only days
before.

In 1759, after the
fall of Fort Niagara, Major-
General the Chevalier de
Levis was sent to the upper
Saint Lawrence to put the
defenses there in order in
case the British moved on Montreal.

Lévis decided that the island of
Oracononton, a strategically located
island three miles below La Presentation,
was the best place for a fort. Lévis
changed its name to Isle Royal. Fort
construction progressed throughout the
winter of 1759-1760. Governor-General
of New France, named the new post Fort
Lévis. In the spring of 1760 Captain Pierre
Pouchot of the Regiment de Bearn was put
in charge of the defense of Fort Lévis.



Plan of Fort Lévis" 1760 by Bernard Ratzer WO-MS61 National Archives UK



By Unknown author - Archives nationales d#039;outre-mer (France), Public Domain,

Fort Lévis was an irregular hexagon shape with a perimeter of 650 feet. It occupied about half of Isle Royal.

It has a water-filled ditch 30 feet wide that surrounded the fort's 11 feet high and eighteen-foot wide wood-faced parapet. Built upon it was a second wooden parapet seven feet high and 9 feet wide. Both were filled with stone and earth. A platform of timbers was built just inside the first parapet, near the top. Here the cannons were placed. Around the island, there was a bank of four feet in thickness. It was made of earth and stone, with an abattis of branches placed outside in the water. At the lowest point of the island was a redoubt of timbers pierced for five cannon.

The barracks, magazines, soldiers' quarters, and other structures in the fort were finished of wood, piece upon piece, and covered with planks. A palisade of pointed stakes surrounded the fort, placed in the parapet and ditch. Large numbers of fascins or bundles of sticks bound together added further protection to the fortifications.

Fort Lévis presented a formidable image for any invading army. The reality was its protection was made of wood and its defenders lacked supplies, cannons, and manpower.

The reduction of Fort Lévis and its capture is well documented. Not commonly known is that out of the ashes Fort Lévis, rose Fort William Augustus by order of Sir Jeffery Amherst on August 28, 1760. Fort William Augustus would become one of the most important transshipment points to supply Britain's western forts for the rest of the Seven Years War and some time after that.

Online

https://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_c1_2846/1852?r=0&s=2

https://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_c1_2846/1853?r=0&s=2

https://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_c1_2846/1854?r=0&s=2

Reference:

François-Gaston de Lévis (1719 - 1787) Second-in-command to General Montcalm in the defense of New France.

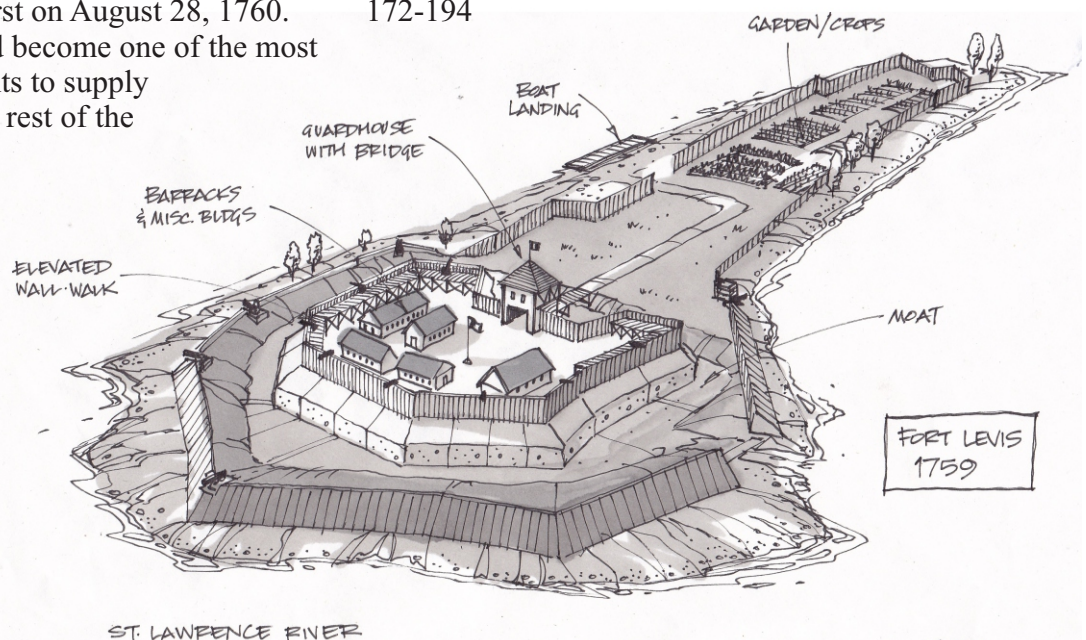
Captain Pierre Pouchot (1712 – 1769) French military engineer and officer in the French regular army.

Amherst Papers, W.O. 34, Vol. 54 F55

Andrews R 2015, The Journals of Jeffery Amherst, 1757-1763, Volume 1 & 2, Michigan State University Press

Dunnigan B 1994, (ed.), translated by Michael Cardy, Memoirs on the Late War in North America between France and England by Pierre Pouchot, Youngstown, NY

ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY Vol 58 (1966) Fight at the West Gate, 1760, by Malcolm MacLeod. 172-194



ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

VSA



Amherst's order issued from his Camp of Fort William Augustus, 30th Aug.

Sir

You will, tomorrow morning, take upon you the command of Fort William Augustus;

As also the Detachment of 200 men which I leave for the Defense of said Fort, the carrying of its Works, and as a Guard over the Fort & Sick at Oswegatchie, which latter consists of one Officer, one Sergeant and Twenty four men of Colonel Whiting's Regt. who are already stationed there for that purpose, and the Officer commanding them is informed that he & his detachment are under your command. and that he is to report to you everything Extraordinary that may happen at his post.

You will therefore, as his Sick Recover, order him to send them to you, that you may whenever they are able, set them to work, and as they have got them camp necessities with them, You will Encamp them on the point of the Island or in the Garden of the Fort, as you shall see best: and altho all the sick should recover, and join You before You are relieved. You will continue to keep a small Guard at Oswegatchie for the safety of the Fort & buildings within or depending on the same.

With the remainder of Your Garrison, You will see the repairs of Fort William Augustus and its works Carried on with punctuality & dispatch, to which end you will lead all the aid and Assistance that Your Garrison will admit of, furnishing Capt. Hitchcock, who is to have the Direction of the Works, with as many men as the other Duties will permit; and as among Your Garrison, there are no less than twenty carpenters, I am hopefull every thing will go brisk and well.

At the Same time that You perform these services you are like wise to have a due Attention to the Defense and protection of the fort: indeed it is next to an Impossibility that the Enemy can make any Attack on it; but still better to Ensure your post in safety, I

have ordered the Onondaga & Mohawk Snows to be stationed at the Post and that they are upon all occasions to give you every and assistance, you may stand in need of.

I have ordered the Missassago Sloop, and the Anson Schooner, to keep constantly plying between this & Oswego. to Fetch provisions & every thing else required for the use of the Army, which they are ordered upon their Arrival with you, to deliver over into your Care; you will accordingly cause the Same to be landed & put under proper Cover within the Fort, where they are to remain till you receive orders from me for forwarding them to the Army.

If at any time you should stand in need of Stores or Materials for you works, you will apply for them to Capt. Stewart, or Officer Commanding at Oswego, who will supply you therewith by the return of the return of the Vessel.

Whatever expresses, or Dispatches may come for me or the Army, You will forward by whaleboats of in the safest manner possible.

You will, from time to time report to me the progress of You Works, the state of your Garrison, the Quantities of Provisions, You shall have received or anything else that shall occur to You necessary for me to be Acquainted with .

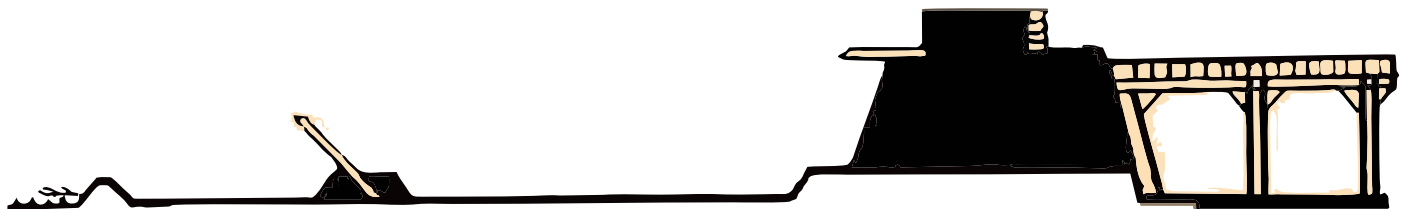
I am,

Sir,

Jeffery Amherst

To the Officer ordered for the Command pf Fort William Augustus

Amherst Papers W.O. 34 Vol 54 e55



Fort William Augustus Defensive Cross Section

Fort la Présentation Association
Post Office Box 1749
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

**PRESORT
STANDARD**
Ogdensburg, NY
13669
PERMIT NO 509

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Bridge Proposal From Clarkson Engineering Students



Left to right: Ron Buckingham,
Derrick Fouts, Barbara O'Keefe
Not Available for Photo Zoe Murray,
Donny Nadon



Photos by Tim Cryderman, Dallas Robinson

On December 17, 2021, Fort La Presentation Association President, Barbara O'Keefe was presented with a scale model of a bridge design developed by students of the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department of Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY.

For the past year and a half, the Fort Association has been working with Clarkson University undergraduate students to develop plans for a bridge to cover a span from the Northern point of land to a small island in the St. Lawrence River that at one time was attached to the Fort property.

Several designs were formulated by students from both the Mechanical and Civil Engineering Departments. Drawings were presented to the Association for input. Three of the Fall 2021 Semester mechanical engineering students; Derrick Fouts, Zoe Murray, and Donny Nadon built the 1/12 scale model of the bridge, they had helped to design to give a more striking visualization of the bridge than the drawings. They worked under the guidance of Professor Ron Buckingham.

We wish to give our thanks to Professor Buckingham, Professor Erik Backus, the Chairpersons of the two respective Departments, and most importantly all the students who have worked on this project.





Les Nouvelles du Fort End of the Year News

Fort de la Présentation Association

President's Letter

The Fort La Présentation Association Board of Directors hopes this newsletter finds you healthy and happy.

This has been a challenging year but a very productive one. We are pleased that we have been able to keep the Abbé Picquet Interpretive Trail open to the public during the pandemic but miss our friends at events.

The Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) to stabilize the Association's St. Lawrence and Oswegatchie River shorelines and to raise portions of the Trail was finished ahead of schedule and under budget. We hope you enjoy the expanded trail, enhanced landscaping, 3 new interpretive signs and the observation deck.

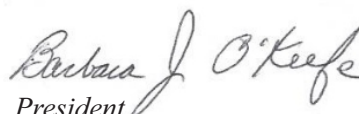
We are working with the New York State Dormitory Authority towards an additional project for the unused funds.

A major accomplishment was obtaining the original site of Fort de la Présentation, and the artifacts recovered in previous archaeological digs. The property will become an Archaeological Park rich in 18th and 19th century artifacts.

Students in Clarkson University's Civil and Environmental Engineering developed plans for a steel bridge to connect the mainland to the old Railroad Ferry Dock. Mechanical Engineering students worked on a wooden bridge. As a culminating activity they presented the Association with a scale model.

We established an additional endowment with the Northern New York Community Foundation. Our Board, thanks to Zoom technology has been able to include members from Tennessee, Ontario, South Carolina, Florida, and Monroe, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence Counties.

Please check out our website at www.fort1749.org and Facebook at Fort La Presentation Friends.


President
Fort La Présentation
Association

