

2016 Historic Car Rally

Please take your time and enjoy the tour. It is not a race so don't be afraid to get out of your vehicle and explore. There is no set finish time.

Assemble at *Civic Complex* parking lot. Rally takes approximately 2 hours and will cover a distance of 82 kms.

Drive west bound towards Water St., turn left on Water St. Head west past *Cornwall Square Shopping Centre*. Notice the clock tower and the post office stones from the old post office on your left, pieces which were scattered throughout the city and were collected and reassembled.

On the right is the *Court House* designated heritage. Built in 1833 and opened in 1834, it was this site that was chosen to build a new federal prison and courthouse. It is one of the oldest judicial buildings in Ontario

1. How many cannons are in front? _____

On the left are stone abutments remnants of the swing bridge that once went over the canal.

Just past is the stone and brick house known as the *Wood House* named after the original owners. It now houses the *Cornwall Community Museum* and is also designated heritage.

Proceed west and notice the two cement piers from the old high level *Seaway International* bridge before turning right onto Cumberland Street. Head north on Cumberland past the *Royal Canadian Legion*. Note the mural and military vehicle outside. The building has been reskinned but there are original elements of the former *Stormont Mill's* supervisor home inside.

Continue north on Cumberland to 9th St. Turn left on 9th street to Brookdale Ave. where you will notice on the left the train engine *Cornwall Street Railway Light and Power Company Freight Motor #17* designated heritage. Turn right onto Brookdale and head north over the train tracks and the 401. Turn right on Cornwall Center Road and left at the lights north on Hwy 138.

Drive north to St. Andrews West. Arriving at St. Andrews West, turn left at the lights and park in front of the church.

2. What is carved in stone above the centre front entrance? _____

Also notice the oldest stone structure in the province erected as a church (~1801), it still has the original Spanish altar and was used as a hospital during the war of 1812.

Visit the Old Burying Ground across the road. Locate the headstone for Simon Fraser the explorer.

3. What color is the headstone? _____

Then locate the headstone for John Sandfield MacDonald, the first Premier of Ontario.

4. What was his wife's first and last name? _____

Near the Raisin River is a replica of the first log church built in St. Andrews.

5. What is the date the first church was built? _____

Proceed east through the intersection past *Quinn's Inn* (1865), a stagecoach stopover built by John Sandfield MacDonald. Keep heading east on County Rd 18 to Martintown. You are now travelling on the main route between Montreal, Kingston and Toronto known variously as the Line Road, The King's Road or Dundas Street. It was built back from river should the road along the St. Lawrence be taken by the Americans.

In the town of Martintown across the bridge is a stone mill on the right and a stone house on the left that was built in 1815 and recently renovated.

As you proceed east on County road 18 you will notice many stone houses on the south side of the road built by stone masons hired to build the canal in Cornwall.

Just after the intersection of County Rd 27 at McQuaig's Corners looking right off into the distance is *Fraserfield*, a privately owned house with a cupola on the roof top. At this time of year it can't be seen because of the leaves. Begun in about 1812 this house was the home of the Honorable Alexander Fraser, Quartermaster of the Canadian Fencibles during the War of 1812.

Continue on County Rd 18 to *St. Raphael's Ruins*, a National Historic Site and park your vehicle for a truly breathtaking experience. There are lots of plaques to read here.

6. What is the date on the bell? _____

Walk towards the back through the ruins. Look out the centre back window to the cemetery.

7. What is the last name on the first headstone you see? _____

Notice the metal caps on top of the walls that are there to protect from moisture penetration. Walk to the front of the ruins and see the plaque on the left side of the front centre entrance.

8. What is the name in French of the organization on the plaque?

9. What year was the fire? _____

Drive east just to the bottom of the hill and turn left into *Iona Academy*. The lane leading towards the house - which is original - slices north through the front lawn, the old parade grounds for military units, first used in 1812. Turn left in front of school and see the stone building on your right: *College of Iona* Established by the Reverend Alexander Macdonell, father

of Roman Catholic Education in Upper Canada and later Bishop of Kingston, the college was opened in 1826 in a log building near this site.

Follow the one way out towards County Rd 18 turn right and head west for 2.5 km and turn south on County Rd 19 towards Williamstown. As you enter the town of Williamstown note the sign.

10. What does it say on the sign?

Turn left after the bridge then turn right to *Sir John Johnson House* a National Historic Site of Canada. Drive around to the back of the house and read the plaques if you wish. Drive back out the way you came in and note the low stone building on the right. This was an ice house long ago, located conveniently close to the river. Williamstown is the home of the “*Quilt of Belonging*”, a magnificent textile art project comprised of 263 blocks portraying the mosaic of every world nation and all *First Peoples* living in Canada.

Wind your way back across the bridge and turn left and very shortly you will come to the *Nor’westers’ and Loyalist Museum* on your right. The Georgian style structure was originally built as a school in 1862.

Turn around and go north past the bridge on County Rd 19 then turn right on Church Ave. to visit *St. Andrews United Church*. Read the plaques and visit the cemetery.

11. Write down the words located on the plaque from the right hand gate post at the church entrance.

Continue on Church Ave. and turn left on County Rd 17 and just around the corner to Civic #19730. Turn right into laneway and proceed to *Bethune Thompson House*. A National Historic Site. This house encompasses the original 1784 “*poteaux sur sol*” cabin of Loyalist Peter Fergusson, as well as the 1804 house of Rev. John Bethune (the first Presbyterian minister in Upper Canada) and David Thompson (one of Canada’s earliest mapmakers). Drive in past the house to the garage when you can park or turn around. Resident is David Anderson.

Upon exiting the laneway continue east on County Road 17 to the town of Lancaster. Turn right onto Hwy 34 Main Street. Proceed south over the 401 overpass and turn off the main road to continue straight towards the St. Lawrence River on Cairn View Rd. Turn left on Water Street and right on King St. Park your vehicle and walk to the end of the wharf. There is a historic plaque on *Cairn Island* to the right. It has been designated as a National Historic Site but is inaccessible.

After viewing the Cairn, return to the Heritage Hwy #2 and head west towards Cornwall. After about 10 km you will see Stanley Island where the *Algonquin Hotel* once stood. This is known

as Summerstown Station where the guests of the Algonquin Hotel on Stanley Island once arrived. Stanley Island is the biggest of the islands just a little to the left.

On the right hand side of the road you will pass *Fairfield* the home of "Caribou" Cameron. His wife died in the Cariboo gold fields in British Columbia and in order to fulfill her dying wish to be buried at home, he transported her body in an alcohol-filled coffin some 8,600 miles by sea via the Isthmus of Panama to Cornwall.

Getting hungry and looking for a place to eat now or later, stop for the famous Lancaster perch rolls at the Blue Anchor Restaurant on the left in Glenwalter just past Rae Road.

Further down the No. 2 Heritage Hwy After crossing Grey's Creek on the curve slow down and look very closely between the buildings on the right to see *Inverarden Regency Cottage*, a Parks Canada National Historic Site.

Continue pass the *Nav Centre* located on the right onto Montreal Road towards Cornwall.

12. Why is this road called *Montreal Road*? _____

Enjoy the waterfront view as you proceed up Montreal Road into *LeVillage*. Notice the castle like pediments on the rooftops of the buildings. They are copied from the roof line of the *Cotton Mill* where many locals worked. Stop in front of the big church (which is designated) on right or north side of road. This is the first French Catholic church in Cornwall.

13. What is the name of the church? _____

A little further on down the street on the right side is the *Port Theatre*, an Art Deco design another one of Cornwall's designated heritage buildings. Notice the 2 wall murals on the left side of Montreal road before Marlborough.

The first one states: Unsafe working conditions prompted MP Dr. Darby Bergin to champion safety legislation.

The second one is an advertisement for Imperial Oil/Esso.

The district of *LeVillage* ends at Marlborough St.

Montreal Road now becomes Water Street. Lamoureux Park is the longest green belt in a city along the St. Lawrence. On the left is the monument to Franco-Ontarians flying their flag.

14. What are the colors of the Franco-Ontarian flag? _____

Congratulations, you have reached the end of the rally. On the web site below you will find the answers to the questions listed above. Heritage-Patrimoine Cornwall thanks you for participating and we hope it has been a wonderful learning experience.

<http://www.heritagepatrimoinecornwall.ca/>