

## Fort Niagara Viewed from Niagara-on-the-Lake

On my almost-yearly visits to the George Bernard Shaw Theatre Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, I got into the habit a while ago of taking photos of Fort Niagara, now in New York, USA, just across from Niagara-on-the-Lake at the place where the Niagara River flows down into Lake Ontario. I stand there looking across the expanse of water and greet the spirits of the voyageurs and their women companions who voyaged in canoes both up river toward Fort Pontchartrain at Le Détroit and back down river to Montréal. Brian Leigh Dunnigan, describing the fort during an imaginary tour of it as it would have been in 1781, says: “Dominating all, however, is the ‘Castle’. This building was the first to be constructed by the French (1726) and now serves as officers’ quarters.” The original stone buildings still survive.<sup>1</sup> See this web site for a History of Old Fort Niagara and a description of the 1726 “French Castle” at <http://www.oldfortniagara.org/history>

Here is my 2014 photo of Fort Niagara taken 25 June. You can be sure that I tell its story to anyone who happens to be enjoying the view at the water's edge. Earlier photos follow.



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<sup>1</sup> “Fort Niagara in 1781,” *Bicentennial Stories of Niagara-on-the-Lake*, edited by John L. Field, Published by the Bicentennial Committee, Lincoln, Ontario: Rannie Publications, 1981, p. 4. See also See Frank Severance, *An old frontier of France; the Niagara region and adjacent lakes under French control* (Volume 1), New York Dodd, Mead and Company, 1917. Read on-line at The Cornell Library New York State Historical Literature. And Frank Hayward Severance, *The story of Joncaire, his life and times on the Niagara*. Digital file copyright by Cornell University Library 1993, for Severance's account of the story of Joncaire and the building of the "trade house" and the "stone" house at Niagara, but keep in mind the original publication date of 1906. Citation URL: <http://historical.library.cornell.edu:80/Dienst/UI/1.0/Display/cul.nys/nys271>



2013



2012



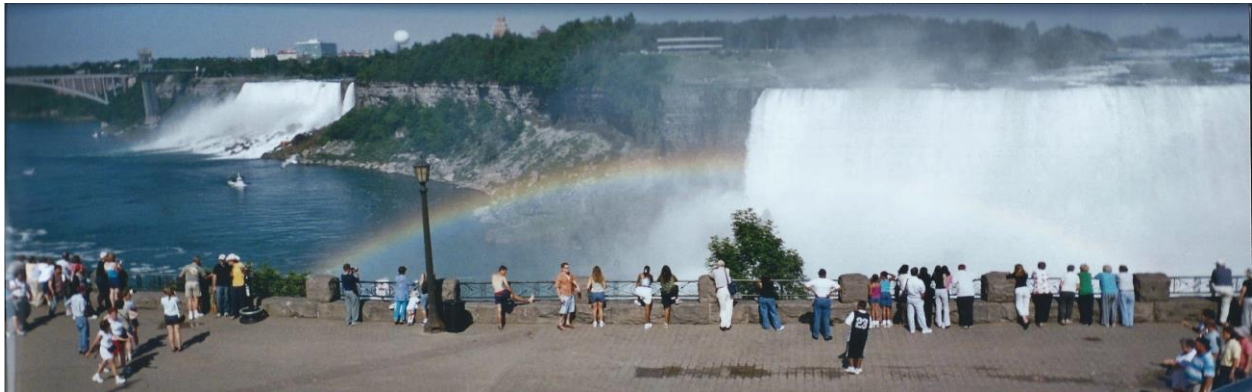
2011



2010



2007 (Thanks to Al Trudeau for cropping this photo)



Niagara Falls, upriver from Fort Niagara, 2001



Niagara River flowing toward Lake Ontario, 2001

All photos taken by me.