

Host Community Project Number: HCSC-11-010

Date Submitted: _____

Host Communities Standing Committee Review Form

PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION:

Name: Town of Lewiston

Mailing Address: 1375 Ridge Road

State: Lewiston NY **Zip Code:** 14092

PROJECT TYPE

- Check all that apply:**
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> Land or Water Public Access |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational/Interpretive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waterfront or Land Based Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signage | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

Project Name: Tuscarora Heroes Monument: War of 1812 Bicentennial

Location: Lewiston NY

Site Address: Public park at the corner of Center Street & Portage Road

State: NY **Zip Code:** 14092

Minor Civil Divison(s): Town and Village of Lewiston

County: Niagara

Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other):

Property is owned by Village of Lewiston

AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL

Name: Steve Reiter **Title:** Town Supervisor

Business Address: 1375 Ridge Road

State: Lewiston NY **Zip Code:** 14092

Telephone Number: 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** ~

Fax Number: 716-754-2821

E-Mail Address: supervisor@townoflewiston.us

PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT

Name: Lee Simonson **Title:** Volunteer Director, 1812 Centennial

Business Address: Historical Association of Lewiston, PO Box 43

State: Lewiston NY **Zip Code:** 14092

Telephone Number: 716-754-8414 **Cell Number:** _____

Fax Number: _____

E-Mail Address: lee@simonson.com

If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 716-278-8760 for assistance.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Please attach material which responds to the follow five items in the order that they are presented.

1. In a brief paragraph, describe the project and its purpose, how and when it will be accomplished, and why it is important.

Tuscarora Heroes Monument

Purpose

The Tuscarora Heroes Monument will be a permanent symbol of thanksgiving to the Tuscarora Nation from a grateful nation for heroically saving the lives of dozens of white settlers from a British attack during the War of 1812. It will be approximately 110% lifesize and cast in bronze.



When

The Tuscarora Heroes Monument will be unveiled on the morning of December 19, 2013, the 200th anniversary of the British attack and the heroic actions

This is a clay model of the Tuscarora Heroes Monument that will be constructed in thanksgiving to the Tuscarora Nation for saving the lives of Western New York residents during the War of 1812 British attack -- a rare moment in American history when Native Americans came to the rescue of white settlers.

It will be unveiled on the 200th Anniversary of the attack on the morning of December 13, 2013. It depicts a Lewiston woman, holding her baby, running from British attackers into the arms of a Tuscarora man who rescued her. The scene really happened and dozens of Lewiston residents were saved from the conflagration.

Importance

The Tuscaroras were one of a handful of Native American nations which supported the United States in BOTH the American Revolution and the War of 1812, and yet the Tuscaroras have **never** been recognized or thanked by the United States or the State of New York for its actions in defending us.

The Historical Association of Lewiston has worked closely and diligently with the official Tuscarora Council and leadership in designing a Monument that both Lewiston and the



Here is an artist conception of what the Tuscarora Heroes Monument will look like. The Tuscaroras intervened during the British attack on Lewiston on December 19, 1813, and saved dozens Lewiston residents from a bloody massacre. Finally, after 200 years, the Tuscarora Nation will receive the thanks and recognition it deserves.

Tuscarora Nation will be proud of. Nothing has progressed without the complete knowledge and consent of the Tuscarora Nation.

The Monument will stand as a testament of the gratitude and appreciation Lewiston, and indeed the entire country, has for the bravery and courageousness that was shown on that fateful morning.

This will become a landmark destination, attracting thousands of visitors throughout the United States and Canada who have a keen interest in how the Tuscaroras shaped our region and helped save our nation's democracy.

The Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc, in cooperation with the Town and Village of Lewiston, will be the lead agency in organizing and promoting the Tuscarora Heroes Monument project which is part of the unique history of the Niagara River.

The Tuscarora Heroes Story

In the early morning of December 19, 1813, the citizens of Lewiston, New York, awoke to unimaginable horrors. The small frontier village, situated on the Niagara River on the border between the United States and Canada, suddenly found itself on the front line of a vicious international war.

Hours earlier, in the middle of the night, British-Canadian troops had invaded the United States and captured Fort Niagara without firing a shot. And now, they were about to unleash an assault on Lewiston that could only be compared with today's "shock and awe" campaigns.

The unrestrained British-Canadians, along with their allies from the First Nations, including the Mohawks, ran down River Road toward Lewiston, armed with torches, guns and tomahawks -- intent on retribution and turning Lewiston into a pile of ashes.

But what happened that cold winter morning turned out to be much worse. Poorly defended, Lewiston citizens were on their own. They could only run for their lives through the snow and mud in hopes of escaping the atrocities. Civilians were murdered in the rampage and tormented parents found themselves helpless in trying to save their children -- one 7-year-old was shot and scalped in front of his mother's eyes.

At the moment when Lewiston citizens had lost hope and thought they would all become victims of a bloody and merciless massacre, the local Tuscarora men ran down from their village atop the Escarpment and offered the first resistance the enemy had seen. Their ingenious and diversionary tactics gave the impression that "their numbers were legion." Fearing a trap, the enemy stopped in its tracks.

Despite being outnumbered 30 to 1, the Tuscaroras were able to buy the escaping residents enough time to get out of harm's way.

In a unique example of Native Americans risking their lives to save white settlers, the Tuscarora heroes took their courageous stand against their Iroquois blood brothers, the Mohawks, and came to the aid of their Lewiston friends and neighbors -- saving the lives of Lewiston's grateful citizens.

ADVANCING THE NIAGARA RIVER GREENWAY VISION

Referring to the Niagara River Greenway Plan, clearly document and describe how the proposed project will advance the Niagara River Greenway vision including the goals, principles, and criteria that define that vision.

“The Niagara River Greenway is a world-class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, recreational, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.”

The soul of the American culture rests within and about the Niagara River. In particular, the Niagara River was “ground zero” for the War of 1812 – a war that not only saved our democracy but defined our nation and its borders on the frontier.

This Greenway Application is for the Tuscarora Heroes project which is one of two signature events/projects that will take place in Lewiston, New York, during the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, marking Western New York’s role in saving American democracy during the War of 1812.

This War chronicles one of the most important historical and cultural aspects of the Niagara River, since the river also served as a political boundary between the Americans and British forces during what is known as the “Second American Revolution.”

Historian Michael Stretch says, “The War of 1812 demonstrated that the United States had the resolve and the ability as a nation to defend itself. American determination not only proved that a national spirit existed, but showed Britain and Europe that the United States was a viable power. Even in Federalist New England any lingering thoughts of secession were eradicated. The War of 1812 demonstrated that American independence was real. It legitimized all earlier attempts to draw distinctions between Britain and a people that called themselves “Americans.” Americans reinvented their identities as a unique and separate people, called by providential forces to create an egalitarian Utopia. This was the most significant change brought about by the War of 1812 and the start of the so-called era of good feeling.”

Over half of the nation’s casualties that took place during the entire War occurred within a 30 miles radius of Niagara Falls, and the most intense battles took place on both sides of the Niagara River. A number of historic battles took place throughout the region and invasions took place on both sides of the border.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to commemorate, celebrate and capitalize on a moment in history that propelled the Niagara River and bordering communities to international prominence. It is not an exaggeration to say that what happened here changed the course of world history.

We all know the river's history involving the birth of alternating current electricity which changed the world, its importance in shaping commerce on the Great Lakes, and its role in the Underground Railroad which changed American culture forever -- but just as important is how the river impacted the military operations in a life-or-death struggle for a fledgling democracy.

The Bicentennial offers us a rare and unique chance to recognize and promote the Niagara River as a focal point in American history -- a heritage shaped by the sacrifices of our forefathers who spilled blood to protect a fragile country that was still considered something of fluke in the European spheres of influence.

What better way than to include this critical aspect of our nation's history as part of the Niagara River Greenway program?

Lewiston's projects, particularly the Tuscarora Heroes project, fit perfectly with the Niagara River Greenway vision as we continue to share our heritage resources with the world. Our future will be determined by our past. And the unique value of our historical assets will become a centerpiece in the Greenway design.

BUDGET

3. Identify all sources of funding and the amount of funding expected from each source. Identify and quantify funds that are already on hand or have been allocated for the proposed project. Explain how the project will be operated and maintained. Define the budget for the proposed project and include costs for the following:

Tuscarora Heroes Monument

Planning \$ _____

Construction \$ 350,000

Acquisition \$ _____

Administration \$ _____

Operation and
Maintenance/Year \$ _____

TOTAL PROJECT COST \$ 350,000 (\$300,000 from Greenway)

\$300,000 in anticipated Greenway funds, and \$50,000 in private donations.

KeyBank Foundation has become the first private sponsor. Other potential sponsors are being contacted now.

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

4. Describe the measures taken at the local level to gain community and government support for this project (hearings, petitions, public surveys, resolutions of support or other methods). If this project has been cited or described in a local planning document or some equivalent thereof, attach copies of that documentation highlighting the sections that are relevant to the proposed project. Describe the role of municipal agencies, stakeholder groups, consultants, volunteers or others who will be involved in the proposed project.

Support for the Tuscarora Heroes Monument is coming in from all sectors of the local, regional and international community.

The Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc., representing the residents of Lewiston and its members, is governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees composed of community leaders who are keenly in tune with the thoughts and feelings of Lewistonians. Please see the resolution that was passed and signed unanimously by the Board supporting this Greenway application.

The Town of Lewiston unanimously supported the projects and Greenway funding on March 14, 2011. The Village of Lewiston Board of Trustees unanimously passed two resolutions, one as recently as March 7, 2011, stating, "the Board of Trustees strongly supports the 1812 Bicentennial plans, and encourages the Niagara River Greenway Commission to approve Lewiston's application with a strong endorsement."

A number of groups, including two local Rotary Clubs have stepped up to the plate and have offered their assistance and support. The Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation (NTCC) has also called meetings to help organize the marketing of the Monument and unveiling.

Niagara University has also offered support, and discussions are commencing with the Drama Department to help with Tuscarora Hero Reenactment programming.

The Historical Association of Lewiston has been working closely with the official Tuscarora Council, the governing authority of the Tuscarora Nation, to insure that all aspects of the project are not only acceptable to the Nation, but also that they are proud of our endeavors and anticipated project outcomes.

Town of Lewiston Support Resolution

Town of Lewiston
RESOLUTION - 2011-4

For the Town of Lewiston War of 1812 Bicentennial: battle of Queenston Heights
Commemoration and Reenactment & Tuscarora Heroes Monument

I, Carole Schroeder, Deputy Town Clerk of the Town of Lewiston located at 1375 Ridge
Road, Lewiston, New York 14092, do hereby certify that the following resolution was
adopted at a regular meeting of the Town of Lewiston held on March 14th, 2011, and is
incorporated in the original minutes of said meeting and that said resolution has not been
altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

Resolved:

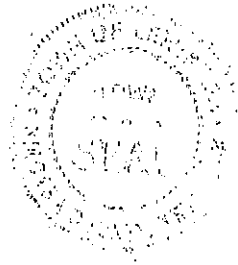
That the Town of Lewiston will submit to the Niagara River Greenway Commission a
proposal for recommendation of the Town of Lewiston's; War of 1812 Bicentennial:
battle of Queenston Heights Commemoration and Reenactment & Tuscarora Heroes
Monument

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE:

- Supervisor Reiter - yes
- Councilman Bax - yes
- Councilman Marra - yes
- Councilman Palmer - yes
- Councilman Winkley - yes

This motion was carried

Carole Schroeder
Carole Schroeder, Deputy Town Clerk



Village of
LEWISTON

145 North Fourth Street • P.O. Box 325
Lewiston, New York 14092
(716) 754-8271 • FAX (716) 754-2703



RESOLUTION

VILLAGE OF LEWISTON SUPPORTS 1812 BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

Whereas: The Bicentennial of the War of 1812 Commemoration and Celebration provides Lewiston and Western New York an ideal and unique opportunity to capitalize on our rich heritage, and

Whereas: The Bicentennial will be an international event, attracting visitors from all over the United States and Canada, who will come to the area to learn about the first major battle of the war, the Battle of Queenston Heights, which was an invasion of Canada launched from Lewiston, and

Whereas: The Town of Lewiston and the The Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc., are jointly applying for Greenway funding to prepare and execute two Bicentennial projects that will honor our important role in the "Second American Revolution," and

Whereas: The Historical Association plans to host a Reenactment on the weekend of October 12-14, 2012, which will take place from Academy Park to the Lewiston Landing; along with the construction and dedication of the Tuscarora Heroes Monument which will be unveiled on the morning of December 19, 2013, to give thanks and gratitude to the Tuscarora Nation for saving the lives of Lewiston's white settlers during a brutal British attack, exactly 200 years earlier.

SO THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Village of Lewiston Board of Trustees strongly supports the 1812 Bicentennial plans, and encourages the Niagara River Greenway Commission to approve Lewiston's application with a strong endorsement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Village of Lewiston's preferred location for the proposed Tuscarora Heroes Monument is on the corner of Portage Road and Center Street, known as "Triangle Park," which is property owned by the Village and believed to be a location of honor, highly visible, and very suitable in giving praise and thanksgiving for the friendship and guardianship the Tuscarora Nation has given Lewiston for nearly 300 years.


TERRY C. COLLESANO, MAYOR

Dated 3-07-11

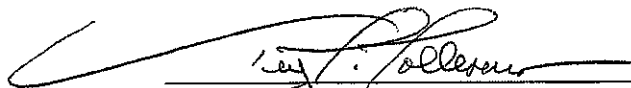
Village of
LEWISTON

145 North Fourth Street • P.O. Box 325
Lewiston, New York 14092
(716) 754-8271 • FAX (716) 754-2703



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the War of 1812 represents a seminal period in the process of nation building in both the United States and Canada; and
WHEREAS, the cross-border Niagara region was at the frontline of the War of 1812, with decisive battles both on land and lakes reporting the greatest number of casualties and the longest continual period of conflict; and
WHEREAS, the war of 1812 significantly effected civilian populations on both sides of the Niagara River, especially when the flames of war burned British-Canadian, American and Tuscarora settlements along the Niagara River in December of 1813; and
WHEREAS, this conflict involved and impacted the Native American/First Nations in both countries and throughout the Niagara region; and
WHEREAS, many citizens and soldiers acted with great gallantry and personal sacrifice to protect their homes and countries; and
WHEREAS, the Niagara region maintains many cemeteries that are final resting places for combatants and veterans of the War of 1812; and
WHEREAS, from the death and destruction of the War of 1812 was born a spirit of cooperation and a vision of Peace between the United States and Canada; and
WHEREAS, the unparalleled cooperation, prosperity and friendship that developed between the United States and Canada since the War of 1812 find their deepest roots and daily expressions in the cross-border Niagara region; and
WHEREAS, the history of Niagara is rich in stories of peace and freedom, bi-national exchange, cooperative endeavor and neighborly goodwill; and
WHEREAS, the bi-national coordination for this commemoration is being led by the Niagara 1812 Bicentennial Legacy Council; and
WHEREAS, the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 offers an exceptional opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the true and lasting legacy of 200 Years of Peace along the Niagara River between the United States and Canada; and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Lewiston Board of Trustees joins with the other Niagara 10 Legislatures to officially designate the cross-border Niagara Region as an International Corridor of Peace and Cooperation.


 TERRY C. COLLESANO, MAYOR

Dated 3-07-11

SEAL

March 9, 2011

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF LEWISTON, INC.**RESOLUTION REQUESTING
GREENWAY COMMISSION SUPPORT
FOR 1812 BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS**

WHEREAS: The Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc., has been established since 1973 and has faithfully represented the people of Lewiston and has consistently maintained its mission of preserving and protecting Lewiston's rich heritage, and

WHEREAS: The Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc., is the lead agency in commemorating and celebrating the forthcoming War of 1812 Bicentennial, and

WHEREAS: The Bicentennial offers Western New York and Lewiston a rare opportunity to shine in the eyes of millions of 1812 enthusiasts across the United States and Canada, and

WHEREAS: The Bicentennial also offers us an economic opportunity to showcase the importance of how our area, and in particular the Niagara River, played a role in shaping – and saving – our democracy during the War of 1812, and

WHEREAS: The Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc., in cooperation with the Town of Lewiston, is planning projects that fit perfectly with the Niagara River Greenway concept and philosophy, namely the Battle of Queenston Heights Commemoration and Re-enactment to be held in October 2012, and also the unveiling of the Tuscarora Heroes Monument to be dedicated on December 18, 2013,

SO THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the volunteer Board of Trustees of the Historical Association of Lewiston, Inc., strongly urges the Niagara River Greenway Commission to consider and endorse Lewiston's 1812 projects for the purposes of highlighting the Niagara River's unique role in "America's Second Revolution" and to help promote, educate, and foster appreciation for Western New York's important role in the War of 1812.

Ell Simonson

Patricia Collesano

Christina

Robert H. Welch

Steve T. Frey

Bruce Smith

Richard

Timothy P. Henderson

Tricia Major

Ell Angello

Pamela Smith

THE BUFFALO NEWS

Push 1812 Bicentennial

Editorial, July 8, 2010

We're having to play catch-up with our friends the Canadians, who have already poured millions of dollars into bicentennial observances of a time when they weren't exactly our friends.

The War of 1812 is probably the least-known of American wars, but in Canada ... which launched an invasion of Buffalo during that conflict ... the war has at least garnered enough attention to begin planning for its 200th anniversary. New York has done, well, almost nothing. Until now.

The State Legislature last week approved a measure to create an unpaid state commission to prepare for commemorations of the war, including re-enactments and other events to highlight notable sights and actions related to the war. We hope Gov. David A. Paterson will sign the bill promptly so planning can begin at more than just the local level. He vetoed a similar bill last summer.

We are definitely behind. Canadian government agencies and foundations already have spent more than \$19 million to plan for the bicentennial. The possibilities are not just for education but for tourism and economic development. Western New York has special interest in this war's bicentennial, given its proximity to Canada and the role it played in the war. Buffalo was invaded and burned during the war following an incursion into Canada and the burning of a settlement a few weeks earlier. Even still, among local governments, only the Niagara County Legislature has approved money for observances, authorizing \$5,000 for the purpose.

It will be 2012 in only 1.5 years, so it's past time for government to get moving on this. An educational program has been launched and a citizen, binational Niagara Bicentennial of the War of 1812 Legacy Council has been planning (www.discover1812.com), but governments should be doing more and foundations, civic groups, schools and other organizations should get in the act.

We need to ensure that Americans become better acquainted with this forgotten part of their history and, not insignificantly, take advantage of the economic opportunities it presents today.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

5. Describe and document the environmental setting and existing conditions at the proposed project site. If you are not the owner of the property include a letter(s) or resolution(s) evidencing support for the project by the owner. Provide photographs, conceptual plans and drawings that show the site as it presently exists and the how the site will change with the addition of the proposed project. Describe how your project will comply with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The existence of wetlands, significant upland and aquatic habitats, and plant or animals species that are classified as rare, threatened, or endangered should be noted. Explain how such natural resources will be protected and / or enhanced. Cite any relevant project related studies.

There are no known environmental impacts regarding the Tuscarora Heroes Monument. Resolutions of support from the Village of Lewiston, owner of all impacted properties, have been included in this application.



Preferred Tuscarora Heroes Monument site at Portage Road and Center Street in Lewiston. (View is facing south.) The Village endorses this location because it is “believed to be a location of honor, highly visible and very suitable in giving praise and thanksgiving for the friendship and guardianship the Tuscarora Nation has given Lewiston for nearly 300 years.”

**SCIENTIFIC MARKETING SURVEY FOR
WAR OF 1812 PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

December 1, 2009

Potential Economic and Tourism Development Impact
of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 for Niagara County

Summary

This short note sets out the potential economic benefits to Niagara Falls and Niagara County from investing in the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 which will last 1000 days from June 2012 to February 2015.

Citing data from the Province of Ontario's May 2009 Travel Intention Survey which surveyed Americans from 11 states (MA, NY, NJ, MD, PA, OH, MI, IN, IL, WI, MN) as well as Canadians, this note will demonstrate the huge potential tourism opportunity which the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 presents for Niagara County.

Size of potential interest in the Bi-centennial

The May 2009 travel intention survey (US sample 5,355) sized up the opportunity which the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 presents. It found the following:

History tourists

- The primary motivation of 8 to 10% of all adult travelers is to visit historical sites, battlefields or museums. This is as true for Canadians as Americans
- Another 22 to 31% of all adult travelers like to include a visit to a historical site or museum even when the primary purpose of travel is not historical
- The potential number of "history tourists" in the 11 states and Ontario is around 30 million

Familiarity with War of 1812

- 45% of Americans in the 11 states surveyed said they were familiar with the War of 1812. Another 49% said that they had heard about it but did not know much about it. The comparable percentages among Canadians surveyed are 35% and 48%. As to levels of familiarity with wars, 1812 ranks 3rd in both countries. Behind the Revolution War and Civil War in the US. Behind the American Revolutionary War and the Great War (WWI) in Canada.

Willingness to attend

- 11% of Americans and 23% of Ontarians who were aware of the War said they would definitely or probably would attend 1812 Bicentennial celebrations. Another 28 to 40% said they might attend.
- Interest in attending War of 1812 events is highest in the area of Toronto to Hamilton (28% or 1.3 million adults) said they would definitely or probably attend) and New York State (15% or 2.2 million adults). Within NYS, interest is highest in WNY and NYC. This is a definite advantage for sites on both sides of the Niagara
- If even a fraction of those who said they definitely will attend or probably will attend is realized the potential tourism revenues are in the billions of dollars.
- The recent success of the July 3 to 5, 2009 French and Indian War re-enactment at Old Fort Niagara which attracted 15,000 over one week-end provides an indication of the potential tourism draw.

The Niagara Region, Ontario example

- In 2008, Niagara Region provided \$200,000 to the 1812 Bicentennial Legacy Council (the Ontario not-for-profit) to “prime the 1812 pump” - \$100,000 in each of the 2008 and 2009 Budgets
- To date, the Niagara 1812 Bicentennial Legacy Council has received \$ 195,000 from the Ontario Government in direct grants for administration and projects with the prospect of receiving a minimum of \$ 100,000 to \$ 125,000 in similar grants for each of the next five years, 2010 to 2014.
- In addition the following 1812 projects were funded in Niagara Region this year (2009) to prepare for the expect influx of tourists:
 - \$ 2.3 million from both the federal and provincial governments for the expansion and enhancement of the Lundy’s Lane Historical Museum in Niagara Falls (Of the total \$ 12 million required, \$9 million has been raised so far)
 - \$ 6 million to Parks Canada for the renewal of the infrastructure including new visitor centre and the expansion of the programs at Fort George, Niagara on the Lake
 - \$ 500,000 for new signage relating to 1812 along the Niagara River

- \$ 40,000 to a consortium of museums in Niagara Region to digitize their 1812 holdings
- More funding is expected from Canadian Heritage and Ontario Culture in 2010 for arts and culture related programs preparing for the Bicentennial

Priming the 1812 pump in Niagara County

- Funding is now being sought to accomplish the following:
 - Support advocacy efforts which put Niagara County “on the 1812 national and cross-border map” with national institutions such as the US Navy and Army which are planning 1812 events
 - Undertake a limited number of County-wide projects to stimulate volunteer involvement with the Bicentennial through city or town 1812 committees
 - Support resource-mobilization efforts to seek out further funding for Bicentennial activities from federal, state and private sources.

The implementing agency

- The New York State not-for-profit 1812 Bicentennial Legacy Council which is governed like its Ontario counterpart by a common board would be a possible umbrella implementing agency to receive, administer and flow through the funding to local 1812 groups. Its Board of Directors has an almost equal number of Americans (from both Erie and Niagara counties) and Canadians.
- The Board members who have a substantial connection with Niagara County are Mayor Paul Dyster of Niagara Falls, Thomas Schofield of the Town of Porter, the Council’s Vice-President; Prof. Bonnie Rose, Executive Vice-President, Niagara University and chair of the Council’s Education Committee; Robert Emerson, Executive Director, Old Fort Niagara and Dr. Percy Abrams, Director, Native American Art Museum, Tuscarora Nation.

This is another view of the area the committee presented to you as a viable location for some exhibits. It is, however, taken from a different angle...showing that there is a grassy area between the stone median and the new locks. This would have been the path of the original canal's second set of five locks.

Note on the stone wall that is to the left side of the grassy area, there are two indentations... one at each level. Those are where the doors would have been for two of the locks. The hardware has been removed and the holes plugged up, but it is very apparent where they were. The semi-circular stones where the doors would have been located are undisturbed. Either of those locations might present an area where a mock up of a lock's balance beams (handles) could be put to allow visitors to have the hands-on experience of opening and closing one side of a lock.



Closer view of the two indentations (plant is nested in the lower one):



This is at ground level showing the tallest of the two 'door' locations.



This is at ground level looking back from the previous view.



Close up of lower 'door' location.

