

Ancient Fortification of Oswego.

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Ancient Fortifications of Oswego.

According to a tradition long current among the people of Oswego, the Fort built upon the high ground on the West side of the River, near the present junction of Van Buren and Sixth streets, the ruins of which have, within a few years, been effaced by the march of improvement, has been called the "Old French Fort," and generally supposed to have been built by the French. This tradition, which never had the sanction of history, is entirely upset by the publication of the London and Paris documents relating to the Colonial History of New York.— The French, who established themselves at Quebec in 1603, soon after explored the St. Lawrence and the Lake regions through to the Mississippi, and established trading posts at various points, but not at Oswego.

At the commencement of the last century, the English discovered Oswego, and its importance as a trading and military post, and in 1721 the Colonial Government of New York authorized the erection of a trading house, which was commenced in 1722, on the West side of the River. In 1723 an active fur trade was carried on between Oswego and Albany. In 1727 the English built Fort Oswego, a work of considerable strength, on the west side of the river, near

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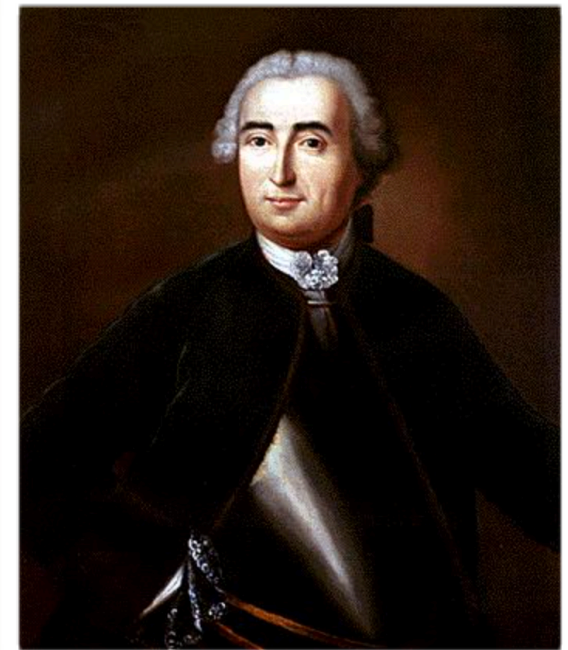
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The Oswego Palladium, September 2, 1857

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Louis-Joseph de Montcalm,
Painting by Theophile Hamel, Canadian
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Questions for further research and discussion:

1. Create a map and designate the spots where the forts were located as described by this article.
2. The London and Paris documents were discussed in this article. Research information about these documents and explain their significance in history.
3. Research, and create a chart for the chronology of events between the English and French around 1753-1755.