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## **LOCAL HISTORY**



The "French fort" on Onondaga Lake Parkway. OHA photo

**84 Years Ago:** In a large ceremony on Aug. 16, 1933, Onondaga Lake Park's "Sainte Marie de Ganentaa," which became commonly known as the French Fort, and the Jesuit Well were dedicated. These sites and others in the park were the works of thousands of laborers who were employed through the Onondaga County Work Relief Bureau. Over 33,000 people attended the ceremony on the east shore of Onondaga Lake. WFBL and WSYR radio stations were on hand to broadcast the day's events. The afternoon kicked off with a symbolic arrival of canoes and a flag raising in the fort. Next was the dedication of the Jesuit Well, just on the other side of the railroad bridge from the fort. Finally, the festivities moved to Griffin Field, where there was a parade, chorus, and presentation of awards and medals. — Dan Connors for the Onondaga Historical Association