

LOCAL HISTORY



The Onondaga County War Memorial under construction in June 1950.

Photo courtesy of the Onondaga Historical Association

68 Years Ago: On Oct. 22, 1949, ground was broken on the block surrounded by Madison, State, Harrison and Montgomery streets for a sports and entertainment building as a memorial to war veterans. It cost \$3.5 million (\$34 million today) and was completed in 1951. The names of over 60,000 military personnel who have resided, or currently reside, in Onondaga County have been added to the Veteran's Honor Wall in recognition of their service. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1988. Today the War Memorial is the home of the Syracuse Crunch and Syracuse Silver Knights as well as the host for conventions, concerts, and numerous other events. An exhibit on Onondaga County's military history is on display in the War Memorial courtesy of the Onondaga Historical Association. — *Dan Connors for the Onondaga Historical Association*