

## THE WEEK IN HISTORY

### **The birth of Onondaga County**

The Onondaga Historical Association looks back at the week in local history:

220 Years Ago: On March 5, 1794, Onondaga County officially became the 21st of New York state's present 62 counties.

It was originally comprised of 1.75 million acres, roughly 1/15th the size of present-day New York state. It included townships of the Military Tract (bounty land for soldiers who fought in the American Revolution), excluding the reservation for the Onondaga Nation and the Salt Reservation.

In 1894, the centennial celebration kicked off with the firing of 100 guns in Armory Park at 4:30 a.m., with the day dominated by an enormous parade and numerous speeches.

In 1994, the anniversary of Onondaga County was observed with a Bicentennial Birthday Party at the Onondaga Historical Association Museum.

—*Daniel Connors of the OHA*