

LOCAL HISTORY

Happy 222nd, Onondaga County!

Each week, the Onondaga Historical Association looks back at important events:

222 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 one-fifteenth 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), but did not include 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 while the day was dominated by an enormous parade and numerous speeches by prominent citizens. In 1994, the official anniversary of Onondaga County was observed with a Bicentennial Birthday Party at



From left, Aisha Mitchell, County Executive Nick Pirro and centenarian Ed Sauer cut a birthday cake in the shape of Onondaga County during the bicentennial celebration at OHA in 1994.

the Onondaga Historical Association Museum on Montgomery Street.

— Dan Connors for the OHA