

Fort Vancouver

National Historic Site

Vancouver National Historic Reserve

175th Anniversary

Dedicated in 1825 to serve the Hudson's Bay Company;

Dedicated in 2000 to share the stories.



2000 Calendar of Events

Fort Vancouver

MARCH

Thursday, March 9 - 7:00 PM Evening Program. Noted Northwest author and historian James Delgado presents “*Fort Vancouver and the Development of the Pacific Northwest.*” Presented at Vancouver Community Library in cooperation with the Center for the Columbia River History and the Library. Free.

Saturday, March 25 - 2:00 PM 175th Anniversary of the Dedication of Fort Vancouver. Join us for a reenactment of the original dedication of the fort in 1825.

APRIL

Tuesday, April 25 - 7:00 PM Evening Program. Author Arthur Ray presents “*Indians in the Fur Trade.*” Presented at Vancouver Community Library in cooperation with the Center for Columbia River History and the Library. Free.

MAY

Sunday, May 21 - 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Queen Victoria's Birthday. The loyal subjects of the Honorable Hudson's Bay Company invite you to join in the celebration honoring the birthday of the renowned Queen of the British Empire.

JUNE THROUGH MID-SEPTEMBER

Cultural Demonstrations - A series of presentations that highlight the cultural and ethnic diversity of the Fort's History will be presented on weekend afternoons.

Evening Living History Programs - Several special evening programs will occur at various locations throughout the park.

Call for more information on these programs.

JULY

Saturday and Sunday July 15 & 16 - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Brigade Encampment. Experience the annual return of the trapping brigades and witness their adventurous way of life. (Fort open 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.)

AUGUST

Friday, August 25 - 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Celebrate the **84th Anniversary** of the founding of the U.S. National Park Service. Free admission to the fort.

SEPTEMBER

Friday and Saturday, September 22 & 23 - 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM Candlelight Tour. The fort is illuminated by candles to allow you to experience the night life and activities of 1845. (Fort hours on these two days are 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and reopens at 7:00 PM.)

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 10 - 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM Christmas at Fort Vancouver. Experience the festive traditional sights, smells, and sounds of the holiday season. Free.

Howard House Visitor Center

APRIL

Saturday, April 1 School of the Soldier. Witness life in an 1860's military encampment and the drill of the First Oregon Volunteers and other reenactment groups.

MAY

Saturday, May 13 The Anniversary of the Arrival of the US Army at Vancouver Barracks. Join us for special programs throughout the day to celebrate 151 years of the Army's presence at Vancouver Barracks.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 11 General O.O. Howard's Birthday. Special programs invite you to learn about Howard's controversial life and celebrate the birthday of the “Christian General.”

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 9 Christmas at Vancouver Barracks. Enjoy the Barracks and learn of Christmas past at this Army post.



For Information Call (360) 696-7655 or 1-800-832-3599

Visit our website at www.nps.gov/fova

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and the Howard House Visitor Center for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve are open daily, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM from Nov. thru Feb. (with the exceptions of July 4, open 11 to 8; and Sept. 22 & 23, open 1 to 5 PM.) They are closed on Thanksgiving Day, December 24 and 25. An entrance fee (\$2 per adult, \$4 maximum per family) is charged for entry into the Fort during the summer months, approximately May through September. Entrance fee subject to change.



Fort Vancouver was home to what was described as the “prettiest congregation of nations.” Included were Hawaiians, Scots, English, French Canadians, Mètis, Iroquois, as well as Chinook Indians.

Dr. John McLoughlin - Chief Factor of Fort Vancouver, 1825-1846. His help to American immigrants arriving across the Oregon Trail earned him the title “Father of Oregon”



Today, history comes alive at the Fort. Special events, living history and demonstrations of period crafts, enable the visitor to experience their cultural heritage.

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site is a part of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve. This congressionally authorized partnership of the US Army, City of Vancouver, State of Washington, and the National Park Service is committed to cooperatively preserve and manage the historic resources of the area for public education and benefit.

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site
612 East Reserve Street
Vancouver, WA 98661-3811



“At sunrise mustered all the people to hoist the Flag Staff of the new Establishment and in presence of the Gentlemen, Servants, Chiefs & Indians Baptised it by breaking a Bottle of Rum on the Flag Staff and repeating the following words in a loud voice, ‘In behalf of the Ho`nble Hudsons Bay Còy I hereby name this establishment Fort Vancouver God Save King George the 4th’ with three cheers.’

**Governor George Simpson
19 March 1825**

When George Simpson and Dr. John McLoughlin dedicated Fort Vancouver 175 years ago, they probably did not know the impact this newest post of the Hudson’s Bay Company would have on the history of the Pacific Northwest. At Fort Vancouver, one finds a crucial turning point of our history. The establishment of Fort Vancouver gave rise to many important changes in the Pacific Northwest.

Euro-America relations with the Indians of the Northwest were changed forever. The people of Fort Vancouver, from many different lands, developed a complex society under the Union Jack of Great Britain, not the Stars and Stripes of the United States. Large scale agriculture took root in the fields surrounding the fort. The timber industry of the Northwest traces its birth to the Fort Vancouver mills. Trappers charting new lands brought back a wealth in furs. American immigrants, fresh from the Oregon Trail, found aid from the Company. The land was changed. The people were changed.

The National Park Service is proud to announce this schedule of events to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the establishment of Fort Vancouver. The staff of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and the Howard House Visitor Center for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve invite you to participate in these activities and gain first-hand experience of your rich heritage.



Governor George Simpson
presided over the establishment
of Fort Vancouver in 1825.