Fort Malden Walking Tour Points of Interest

1 Visitor Centre, 1939

Constructed in "old French chateau" style, this building was the original Fort Malden museum when the fort became a National Historic Park in 1939.

- Military Pensioner's Cottage, circa 1851 (Restoration) After the regular's left the fort, they were replaced by enrolled pensioners. These men and their families were settled on the military reserve around the fort, where 86 cottages were constructed to house them.
- 3 Earthworks, 1813 & 1838-40 (Remnants)

 The raised hilltop defensive structure, or bastion, located on the fort's north-west corner, was constructed by American forces when they seized control of the fort in 1813. New ditches were dug and a wooden palisade was installed at the bottom of the ditch.

After the War of 1812, a time of peace ensued and the defenses fell into disrepair. However, the fort was reinforced in 1838-1840 and the earthworks were built up once again.

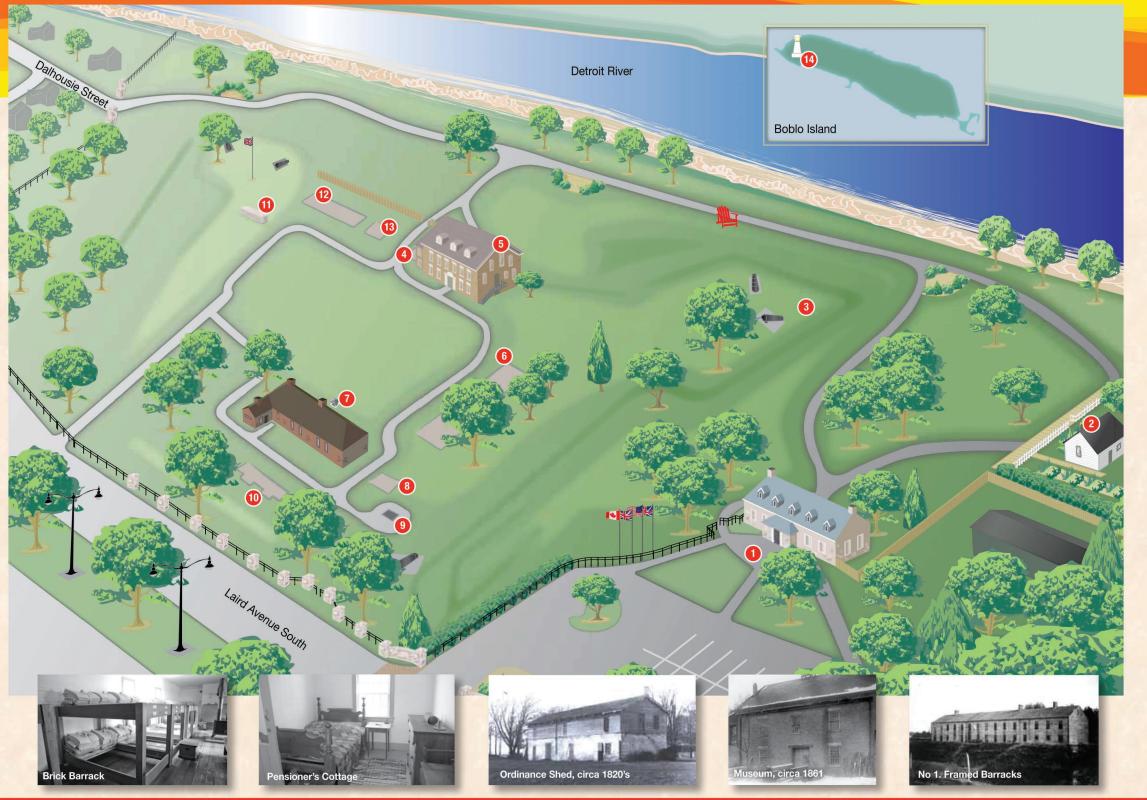
Brick Guardhouse, circa 1821

This framed brick building contained two cells, a room for on-duty soldiers and a cellar used for solitary confinement. (The guardhouse was demolished in the 1850's and its outline is mostly obscured by the asylum-era cookhouse and laundry)

6 Museum, circa 1861

Originally a laundry and baking facility for the insane asylum established in 1859. After the asylum closed, the structure became a planing mill and was eventually converted into a private family residence in 1918. Acquired in 1946, the building now contains Fort Malden's exhibits.

6 No 1. Framed Barracks, 1839 (Foundation Outline)
This two-story, wooden-frame barrack was built to help house the
expanded Rebellion garrison. Together with a similar structure (No 2.
Frame Barrack) these building were meant to house 400 soldiers and
their dependents. The barrack survived until the early 1900's when it
was divided and rebuilt near the fort as three private residences.



Brick Barrack, circa 1819 (Restoration)

The last remaining building from those constructed after the reoccupation of Fort Malden by the British. This single story barrack has three rooms and was designed to accommodate 66 soldier's. In the 1840's, the barrack was converted into the fort's hospital and a kitchen was added to its southeast corner.

Brick Cookhouse, circa 1820 (Foundation Outline)

The cookhouse provided facilities for the preparation of daily rations and was separate from the sleeping quarters in case of cooking fire. Allowed to fall into disrepair, the cookhouse was demolished in 1853.

Oceanity (September 1998)

This was a junction for the fort's draining system. A brick drain from the privies can be seen at the bottom of the pit. From here, waste waster was carried through the fort's north wall and into an open drain at the bottom of the north ditch.

Privies, 1820 (Excavation)

The wooden frame privies (latrines) provided sanity facilities for the soldiers and their families. The weather boarded structure was surrounded by a wooden fence that obscured the outdoor urinals. Relocated in 1841, all that remains is the excavated stone foundation.

1 Ordnance Shed, circa 1820's (Remnants)

Originally erected as a gun shed, this structure was gradually expanded and upgraded. It held stores, supplies and ordnance (cannon and their related equipment). The shed was used for a number of purposes before being demolished early in the 20th century. Remnants of the west-end wall are still visible.

12 Officer's Brick Barrack, 1839

Constructed during the Rebellion, the officers' barrack was a two-story building with eight rooms on the ground floor and four above. Unlike the troops, each officer had his own room with a fireplace. The second floor provided living quarters for the officers' servants.

Brick Officer's Guardroom and Staff Sergeants' Quarters, 1839 (Foundation Outline)

Located just south of the fort's gate, this one-story brick building offered quarters for the duty officer and for the staff sergeants with storage space in the attic.

1 Bois Blanc Island Lighthouse National Historic Site

The lighthouse, constructed in 1837, played an important role in navigation of the Detroit River. The island itself was strategically important in defense of Fort Malden at Amherstburg, Ontario in 1837-38 during a period of border raids from the United States by Canadian rebel sympathizers.