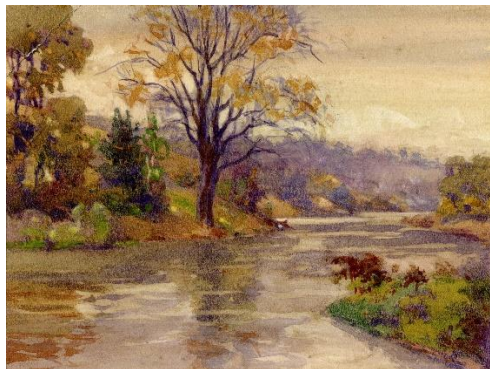


Day 2 - Laura Secord StoryMap Details

Step one:



Twelve Mile Creek painting, 1913 by John Wesley Cotton

<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMD-PICTURES-R-873&R=DC-PICTURES-R-873>

Title: "Walking Laura's Way"

Subtitle: "a story about Laura Secord"

Quote: "Laura had no choice but to go herself." Alun Hughes,

Step Two:

Header: Introduction



Image (float) – LauraSecordStamp.jpg

"Laura Secord, Legendary Patriot; From Library and Archives Canada, 1992

Text: On the 22nd of June, 1813, Laura was busy tending to the militia bunking at her homestead in the small town of Queenston. Being a woman, she was not suspected of espionage and so she learned of a sneak attack the Americans were planning later that week in Thorold. With her husband unwell, Laura resolutely decided to make the treacherous journey on her own to warn Lt. Fitzgibbon and save Upper Canada.

Step Three:

Header: Queenston to St. Davids

It was early in the morning on June 22nd, 1813 when Laura headed out to save her country. Being a woman wouldn't cause suspicion in her travels and some say that she brought her cow along for the journey... at least part of it. No doubt, she hurried to her relatives' home in St. Davids where she would've sought the help of her half-brother, Charles. However, Charles was sick and so Laura's niece, Elizabeth offered to accompany her. And off they went to Homer.

<insert map; turning off all layers but the route and the Queenston 1818 historical map; zoom to Queenston>

Step Four:

Header: St. Davids to Homer

Image: trail.jpg (Sharon Janzen, 2021)

Text: Historical maps show the most direct route would've been via Queenston Rd although some would argue that York Rd was the more popular link. At any rate, this segment of the journey included reference to the "Black Swamp". The map below depicts the region in 1818 with labels and symbols for swamp landcover. Although the landscape has changed significantly, it is a fact that there were many streams and rivers indicative of low-lying land and perhaps 'swamp-like' terrain.

<insert map; turn off all layers but the route and the Niagara 1818 Hall et-al map, zoom out>

Step Five:

Header: Homer to Shipman's Corners

Text: Having lost her travel companions (documents indicate that Elizabeth turned back at Homer and likely brought the cow with her), Laura continued over Ten Mile Creek toward St. Catharines and Shipman's Corners (modern day Ontario St and St Paul St). At this point, she would face crossing Twelve Mile Creek and likely used a 'low level' bridge.

<insert map; turn off all layers but the route and Niagara 1862, NMC map number 26837>

Step Six:

Header: Shipman's Corners to Power Glen

Text: Having descended the banks of the Twelve and crossed over to the southwest side, Laura likely ascended the embankment to follow the trail (Pelham Rd) to Power Glen. Although this route is indeed circuitous, there is no doubt she consulted her husband and brother regarding the journey. At first glance, we may wonder why she didn't take a more direct route, but there were enemy troops to consider.

<insert map; turn off all layers but route and Niagara 1815 Public Archives Canada, NMC Map number 21587>

Step Seven:

Header: Power Glen to Decew House

Image (float): Crossing-the-Twelve.jpg

Text: The final leg of her journey would've been arduous, to say the least. The terrain would've been hilly and forested with another crossing of the Twelve Mile Creek, this time by a fallen tree, rather than a sturdy bridge! And then to face the Indians! After describing her plight, she was escorted to Decew House and shared her intel with Lt. Fitzgibbon. Imagine the exhaustion! And how did she get back home?

<insert map scene; Search in Organization for: A Perspective Display of Laura's Journey>

Step Eight:

Image: MeetingWithFitzgibbon.jpg

Step Nine:

Text: Learn more about Laura and her famous walk

Button: Friends of Laura Secord

Link: <https://www.friendsoflaurasecord.com/>

Step Ten:

Credits:

Twelve Mile Creek Painting | <https://bit.ly/3eBkc7Q>

Alun Hughes | <https://bit.ly/3gKtYXP>

Laura Secord's Famous walk | <https://bit.ly/3eGtsr0>

Laura Secord, Legendary Patriot | <https://bit.ly/3xxujmM>

Crossing the Twelve | <https://bit.ly/3t02gZN>

Talking with Fitzgibbon Painting | Lorne Kidd Smith

Friends of Laura Secord | <https://bit.ly/3eBlhfU>