

late years for rifle-practice, as relics of the fort. The spot however on which the sketcher represents himself as sitting, is really a portion of the site of which he was in quest. It may be added that it was the intention of General Dearborn, the United States commander of the expedition against York, (Toronto,) in 1813, to land his forces at the clearing round the Old French Fort, but, as his despatch reports, "an easterly wind blowing with violence, drove the small boats in which the men left the fleet, half a mile farther westward, and beyond an effectual covering by the guns of the navy."

The site of the trading establishment which was thus destined to be the initial germ of the present city of Toronto is now enclosed within the bounds of the park, appertaining to the permanent Exhibition Buildings of the City. The spot where the post stood is exactly in the southwest angle of the enclosure, overlooking the lake, and here, commemorative of the fact, a cairn has been erected. It bears the following inscription :

THIS CAIRN

marks the exact site of

FORT ROUILLÉ

commonly known as

FORT TORONTO;

An Indian trading-post and stockade

Established, A.D. 1749,

By order of the Government of Louis XV  
in accordance

with the recommendations of

The Count de la Gallsonnière

Administrator of New France, 1747—1749.

Erected by the Corporation of the  
City of Toronto,

A.D. 1878.