

# Handbook of Upper Canadian Chronology



revised edition  
Frederick H. Armstrong

# **Handbook of Upper Canadian Chronology**

revised edition

Frederick H. Armstrong

**Dundurn Press**  
Toronto and London  
1985

## Acknowledgements

The publication of this book was made possible by support from several sources. The author and publisher wish to acknowledge the generous assistance and ongoing support of the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council. We wish to acknowledge as well the assistance from the Smallman Foundation, The University of Western Ontario, and the Ontario Heritage Foundation, an agency of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

*J. Kirk Howard, Publisher*

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Design and Production: Ron and Ron Design Photography  
Printing and Binding: Marquis Printing Limited, Canada

Dundurn Press Limited  
P.O. Box 245, Station F  
Toronto, Canada  
M4Y 2L5

## Canadian Cataloguing in Publication Data

Armstrong, F. H. (Frederick Henry), 1926-  
Handbook of Upper Canada chronology

(Dundurn Canadian historical document series ;  
publication no. 3)

First published: Handbook of Upper Canadian  
chronology and territorial legislation. London,  
Ont. : Lawson Memorial Library, The University of  
Western Ontario, 1967.

ISBN 1-55002-543-0

1. Ontario - History - Chronology. 2. Ontario -  
Politics and government - Registers. I. Title.  
II. Title: Handbook of Upper Canadian chronology  
and territorial legislation. III. Series.

FC440.A75 1985

917.3'02

C85-098840-3

F1032.A75 1985

# **Handbook of Upper Canadian Chronology**

revised edition

Frederick H. Armstrong

First Great Seal of Upper Canada Royal Warrant, 28  
March 1792



Obverse (back cover): Anchor or Sword within cornucopiae Inscription from Horace

Inner Band

IMPERII: PORRECTA • MAJESTAS • RERUM  
• CAESARE

"The greatness of the Empire is advanced by the guardianship of the Caesar/Sovereign"

Outer Band

SIGIL [LUM] • PROV [INCIAE] • NOS [TRAE] • CAN  
[ADAE] • SUP [ERIORIS]

"The Seal of Our Province of Upper Canada"



Reverse (front cover): Royal Arms as used 1714–1801  
 GEORGIUS • III • D[EI] • G[RATIA] •  
 MAG[NAE] • BRI[TANNIAE] • FR[ANCIAE] • ET •  
 HIB[ERNIAE] • REX • F[IDEI] • D[EFENSOR] •  
 BRUN[SVCENSIS] • ET • LUN[EBURGENSIS] •  
 DUX • S[ACRI] • R[OMANI] •  
 I[MPERII] • AR[CHIE] • THES[AURARIUS] • ET •  
 EL[ECTOR]

"George III by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain,  
 France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Duke of  
 Brunswick and Luneburg, Arch-Treasurer of the Holy  
 Roman Empire, and Elector"

To  
**Fred Landon**  
(1880-1969)

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## Foreword

In 1967, on behalf of The University Library system which sponsored the first edition of this work as a centennial publication, I wrote:

"We in the University of Western Ontario Library system are happy to have had a small part in bringing out Dr. Fred Armstrong's work on Upper Canadian Chronology and Territorial Legislation. This publication should prove to be an invaluable time saver for all students working in Upper Canadian history. The undersigned has used and knows well the value of such references as N.O. Coté *Political Appointments and Elections in Canada 1841-60*, Quebec, 1860, and similar works by the same compiler. Unfortunately, until now, there have been no comparable volumes dealing with Upper Canada. Now the need has been filled thanks to the indefatigable exertions of Dr. Armstrong.

"One cannot believe that a work as large as this covering such a diversity of topics should not have gaps. Readers will undoubtedly think of additional facts to be included. This work therefore may be considered as a preliminary document. After a few years in the hands of scholars it will probably bear reprinting. We thank Dr. Armstrong for all that he has done in the service of scholarship."

The work, long out of print, has saved scholars incalculable hours. Dr. Armstrong's meticulous research was evidenced by the small number of errors which came to light. Those students who used the first edition will welcome this second edition with its revised, amplified and additional tables. Deeply in debt to Dr. Armstrong, as we already are, we are now in greater debt than ever.

James J. Talman

## Preface to The First Edition

The following tables are intended to be useful rather than definitive; hopefully they will stimulate still further research and bring in additional data. An extended illness has prevented the writer from examining certain documents in other cities as he would have wished, but he believes that the major sources have been consulted. All suggestions for amplifications, further tables, additional sources of information and corrections of fact will be most welcome.

Miss Julia Jarvis has been good enough to let me use the material she and Miss Alison Ewart prepared on the Family Compact which appeared in the *Canadian Historical Review* for 1926. The Royal Society of Canada, Ottawa, have given kind permission for me to use W.W. Campbell's work on the Legislative Assembly which appeared in their 1911 *Transactions*, and the Royal Historical Society and Dr. Edmund Fryde have allowed me to copy sections of some tables in the new edition *The Handbook of British Chronology*.

The Centennial Commission provided a research grant to enable me to free time for this work, and Dean Robert N. Shervill of Middlesex College and Dean John G. Rowe of Talbot College made additional funds available for research assistance and other needs. Professor James J. Talman, Librarian of the University of Western Ontario, not only arranged publication by the Library as their 1967 Centennial project; but also he has always given me the benefit of his advice based on so many years of writing and teaching Ontario history.

Many other individuals were of great assistance; the late Dr. Fred Landon, Miss Edith G. Firth, Keeper for the Manuscripts at the Toronto Public Libraries, Professor J.M.S. Careless, former Chairman of the Department of History at the University of Toronto, Professor Graeme Patterson, and my colleagues, Professors F.A. Dreyer, A.M.J. Hyatt and P.F. Neary, all read parts of the manuscript and made many useful emendations. Helpful suggestions have also been made by Professor C.F.J. Whebell of the UWO Department of Geography, the late Rev. John L.H. Henderson of Huron College, Professor J. Donald Wilson, The University of British Columbia, Professor M. Zaslow, and Mr. Edward C.H. Phelps of this University, Dr. W.I. Smith of the Public Archives of Ottawa, Mr. Daniel J. Brock, of London and my research assistants, Mr. Gary J. Phillips and Mr. John L. Henderson Jr.

Municipal officials were most considerate with their time and assistance, including the clerks of Belleville, Brockville, Cobourg, Dundas, Kingston, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ottawa, Picton, Port Hope, Prescott, and St. Catharines. The city clerk of Hamilton went to particular trouble to obtain information from the early manuscript records. Assistance was also obtained from the Hamilton Public Library and the editor of the *Picton Gazette*.