

# Remembering Speedy

The H.M.S. Speedy was a two masted schooner approximately 80 feet long (24 metres). The ship was constructed in 1796 as a gun boat and was later modified in order to carry cargo. The Speedy was built of green timber and it was widely known around Lake Ontario that the ship was in poor repair.

As the Speedy began her final voyage, she ran aground while leaving York (Toronto) harbour. The captain, Thomas Paxton was reluctant to complete

the journey due to the ship's condition, but was ordered to do so by Lieutenant Governor Hunter.

The Speedy reportedly stopped at Oshawa en route from York in order to collect witnesses for a trial. It was claimed that the Speedy was seen, briefly, off High Bluff Island on October 8, 1804 before it disappeared. The wreck of the Speedy has yet to be recovered.

*The H.M.S. Speedy fighting the storm on October 8, 1804.*



Colour painting by P. Rindlsbacher

*The H.M.S. Speedy was a two masted schooner approximately 80 feet long.*



C.H.J. Snider

*The route of the H.M.S. Speedy from Toronto to the proposed district town of Newcastle for the trial.*

