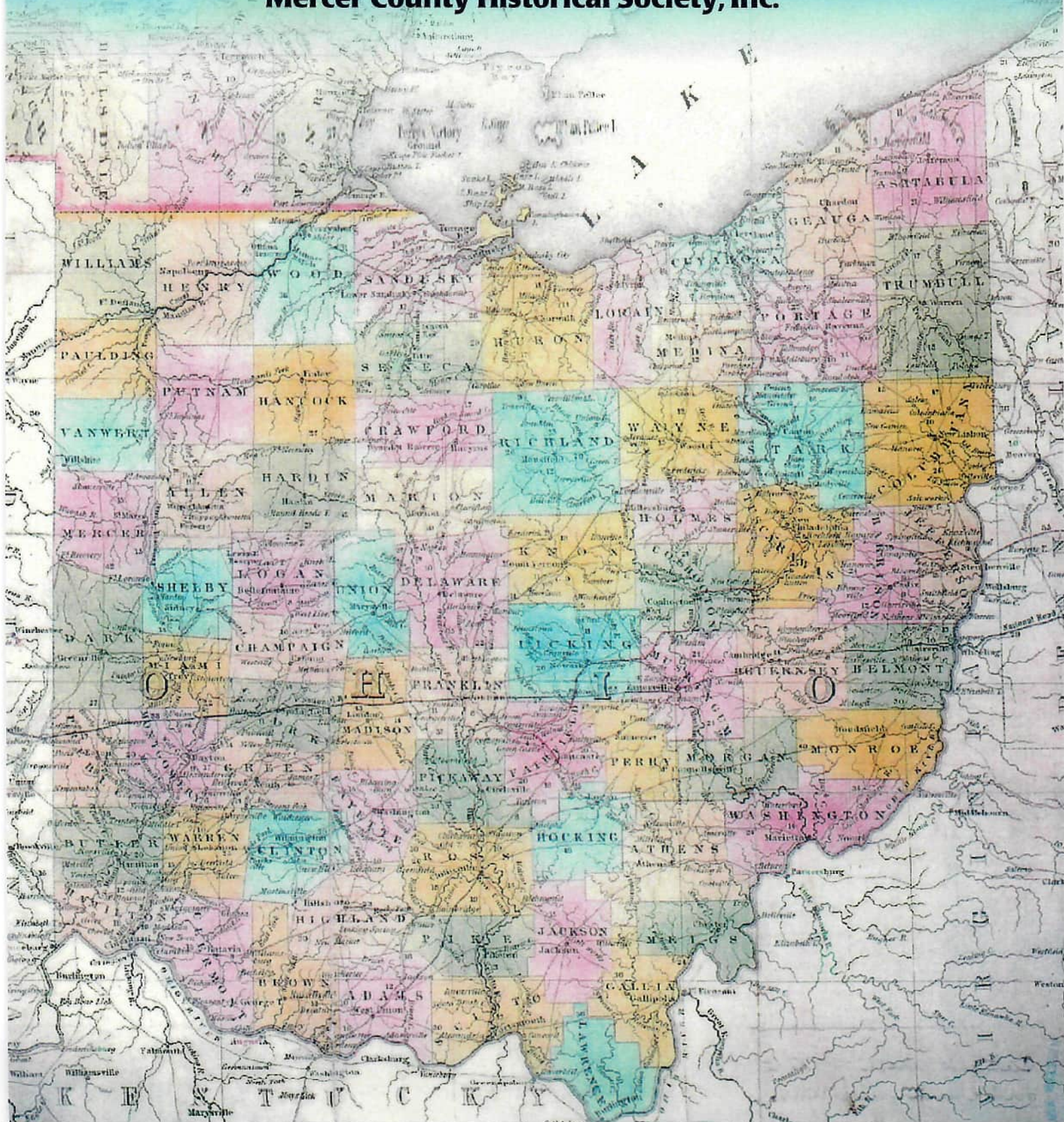


# MERCER COUNTY OHIO

## HISTORY OF MAPS, BEGINNING IN 1755

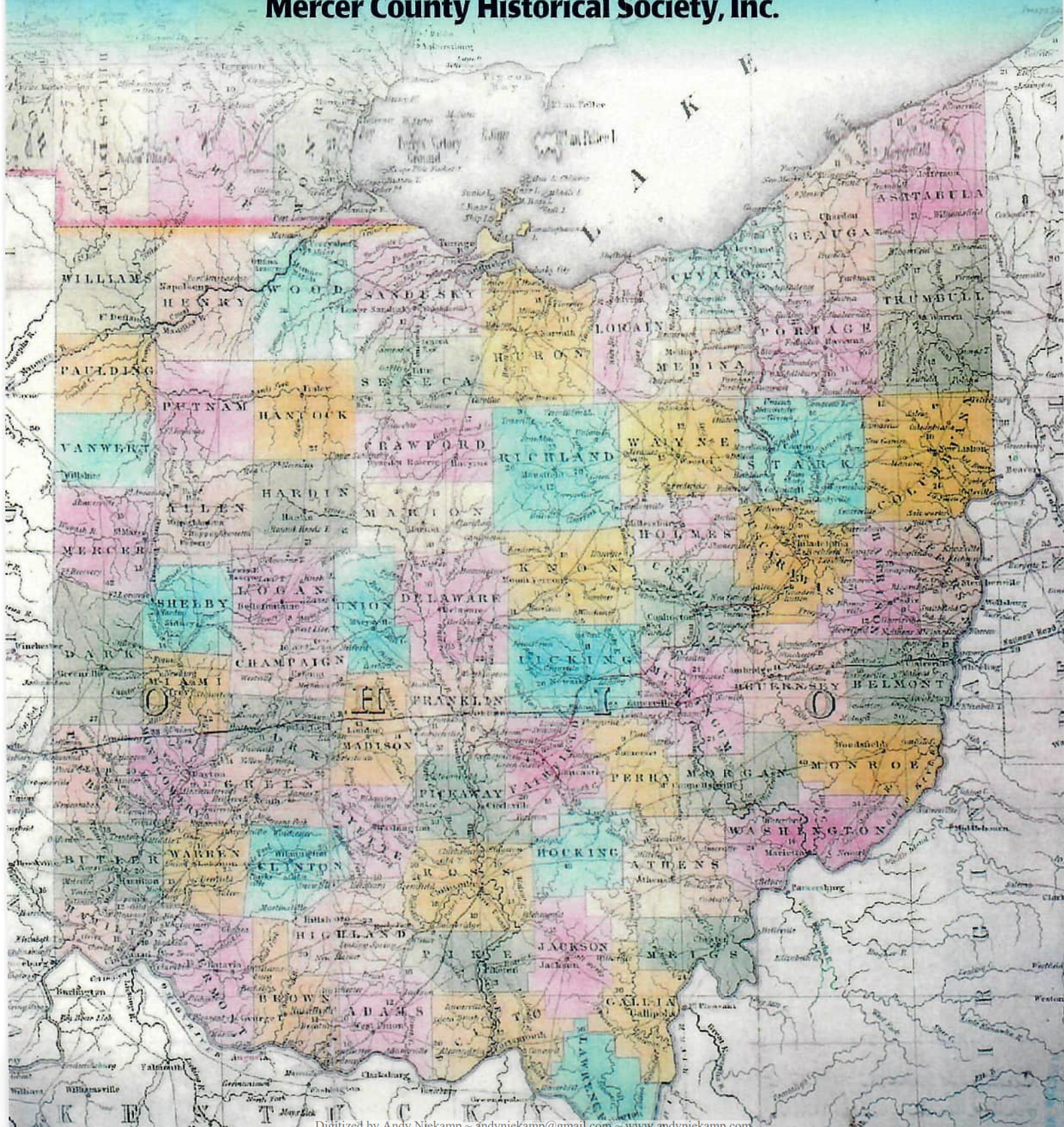
Joyce L. Alig, Editor  
Mercer County Historical Society, Inc.



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## HISTORY OF MAPS, BEGINNING IN 1755

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# MERCER COUNTY, OHIO

***“History of the Land Between the  
Saint Marys & Wabash River Valleys  
Illustrated by Early Maps  
1755 - 2000”***



1803  2003

**In Commemoration of  
The Ohio Bicentennial Celebration  
1803 - 2003**

**Joyce L. Alig, Editor**

**Andrew R. L. Cayton  
and Harrison Frech,  
Essays on Maps**

***Passport to History Series, Book VI  
Mercer County Historical Society, Inc.  
April 2000***

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# Preface

By Joyce L. Alig

Mercer County, Ohio; History of the Land Between the Saint Marys and Wabash Rivers Valleys, Illustrated by Early Maps, 1755-2000, Book VI, The Passport to History Series, is an invitation to join this unique journey through Mercer County's Landmarks of the Past, in preparation for the commemoration of the Ohio Bicentennial Celebration, 1803-2003.

This project began as an idea when I realized many people do not understand, when Ohio became a State in 1803, that the counties in northwest Ohio were not formed; not until after 1820. I planned a public program, made possible in part by the Ohio Humanities Council and the State of Ohio. The program included: "The Indians Versus the Regulars: The Tactics of Frontier War," by Dr. G. Michael Pratt; "A Man of Distinction Among Them, Alexander McKee and the Ohio Frontier," by Dr. Larry Nelson; "Picking Up the Pieces after the Indian Wars," by David Simmons, and "Treaties of Fort Meigs & St. Marys; the Opening of Northwest Ohio," by Harrison Frech. I went to the Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan; The Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio; and the Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, Indiana, to request copies of maps for the Map Exhibit. I asked Dr. Andrew Cayton to write essays for the Map Exhibit. When I began planning these programs, I prepared a chronological outline on dates of history, which influenced the settlement and establishment of boundary lines for Mercer County, to assist in determining which maps to exhibit. The Board of Directors of the Mercer County Historical Society suggested I print the outline. I asked Dr. Cayton for permission to include his map essays in this outline. I asked Harrison Frech to write the essay about the Indian Reserves in Mercer County.

No matter how you travel in history, you are in for a great trip with the Mercer County Historical Society. The first step of this itinerary is the map site of crossing the Saint Marys River in 1755, when the Native Americans called the site, "Half Way Cross." Following the Saint Marys River upstream, you will pass the map site of the 1794 Anthony Wayne fort, known as Fort Adams, of the Indian Wars and of the War of 1812. The other map site of the Indian Wars is on the Wabash River, identifying the 1791 battlefield, (the present site of Fort Recovery), followed by maps of the fort sites in the Ohio Country. The Indian Wars concluded with the 1795 Treaty. The Treaty provided the Greenville Treaty Line, which served as the southern boundary of Mercer County from 1820 until 1848. Mercer County's boundary lines were altered the last time in 1848, when Auglaize County was founded. You, the reader, can journey, via maps, through the time of Ohio's Statehood in 1803 and Mercer County's founding in 1820, through the years to the Twentieth Century.

The Mercer County Historical Society, Inc., has taken the traveler into the past, across Mercer County, via local history books: 1978 Mercer County History Book, Celina Sesquicentennial, 1834-1984, Saint Henry Sesquicentennial, 1837-1987, Coldwater at 150, 1838-1988. The 1990's *Passport to History Series* included Native Americans and Early Settlers, Book I; Those Magnificent Big Barns of Mercer County, Ohio, Book II; Mercer County, Ohio Centennial Buildings, Book III; Ohio's Last Frontiersman, Connecticut Mariner, Captain James Riley, Book IV, and Mercer County's Courthouses, Celina, Ohio, 1824-1998, Book V. Mercer County, Ohio; History of the Land Between the Saint Marys & Wabash River Valleys, Illustrated by Early Maps, 1755-2000, Book VI brings the reader home to Mercer County. This is local history at its very best!

## Introduction

### Maps and the Creation of Ohio, 1755-1834

by Andrew R. L. Cayton

Most people think of maps as directional guides that help us find our way through unfamiliar territory. But maps do more than show locations; they also impart meanings. Maps tell us about the assumptions of the people who draw them and their sense of the relationships between the places they identify. The combination of lines and words graphically represent the mapmaker's understanding of what is important. When he gives names to places or indicates the size of a river or village, he is interpreting its significance for the viewers of his map. Taken together, a series of maps tell a coherent story about how some people have the power to define, or give meaning, to a landscape.

The series of maps in this exhibition vividly illustrate the ways in which maps reveal the relationship between power and meaning. These maps narrate the story of the American conquest and settlement of what citizens of the United States would call the State of Ohio. Dating from the 1750s through the 1830s, they illustrate the triumph of Anglo-Americans over Indians, French, and British officials. True, the maps do not show us the contents of treaties, the events of battles, the exchange of goods, or the stuff of everyday life. But they do trace the rapid transformation of the land between the Great Lakes and the Ohio River from a world of French traders and Indians into the domain of Anglo-American farmers and small town residents.

Remember that the perspective in these drawings is entirely that of Americans, with the exception of the British creator, John Mitchell and his 1755 map of North America. A Frenchman might have seen the same places differently; his map might, from our point of view, have been upside-down, in fact, because he would have seen the point of entry into this world as the St. Lawrence rather than the Ohio River. Certainly, Indians would have represented the world in very different ways, not as lines on a page perhaps but as a collection of images.

When Americans drew these maps, they thought they were imposing order on chaos, bringing the regularity and refinement of civilization to a savage frontier. What they did not realize was that the order they imagined was only their notion of how the world of the Ohio Country should be structured. Other people would have seen the place from alternative perspectives.

These maps, in sum, represent not just the triumph of the United States and the values of its citizens but the loss of Miami, Potawatomi, Shawnee, and Wyandot as well as French and British visions of the region. The American order they make seem so certain and inevitable, we should remember, involved making other peoples' interpretations invisible.

## Editor and Authors

### Joyce L. Alig, Editor, & Chronology of Dates in History

Joyce L. Alig has served as President of the Mercer County Historical Society, Inc., and Director of the Mercer County Historical Museum since January 1973. Prior to Museum Administration, she was an Elementary School Teacher at Saint Henry Schools. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Education at Wright State University. In spite of the fact, that there is no graduate degree in "County Museum Administration," she completed two years of graduate studies in history, administration, and education. She has authored and/or edited over a dozen history books; ( they are listed in the Preface, with the Mercer County Historical Society). She has traveled across the United States and Europe, in her quest for historic research for Mercer County's history. She collects rare books, and shares her time with her family, and in community service. She is Mercer County Historian for the Mercer County, Ohio Bicentennial Commission. Her husband Alvin is a Process Engineer at Coldwater Machine Company. Alvin and Joyce Alig have three daughters: Lorna Teeter, Brenda Soldatis and Colleen Linhart.

### Andrew R. L. Cayton, Map Essays

Andrew R. L. Cayton is Professor of History at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Born in Cincinnati and raised in Marietta, he graduated with high honors from the University of Virginia in 1976 and received a M.A. in History in 1977 and a Ph.D. in History in 1981 from Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Dr. Cayton is the author of several books and articles dealing with the settlement of the Old Northwest. They include *The Frontier Republic: Ideology and Politics in the Ohio Country, 1780-1825* (1986); (with Peter S. Onuf), *The Midwest and the Nation: Rethinking the History of an American region* (1900); and *Frontier Indiana* (1996). He is also co-editor with Fredrika J. Teute of *Contact Points: American Frontiers from the Mohawk Valley to the Mississippi, 1750-1830*. Dr. Cayton is a member of the Ohio Bicentennial Commission.

### Harrison Frech, Indian Reserves Essay

Harrison Frech is the Social Studies Teacher at Parkway Schools, Rockford, Ohio. He earned his B.S. in Education at Bowling Green State University in 1969, M.A. in History at Youngstown State University in 1991, and is a Ph.D. Candidate in History, A.B.D. at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. Harrison Frech is author of "A Bridge Between Two Cultures: Anthony Shane, Metis Interpreter," for his Degree of Master of Arts in the History Program at Youngstown State University in 1991. Harrison Frech is Shanes Crossing Historian for the Mercer County, Ohio Bicentennial Commission.

# **Mercer County, Ohio. History of the Land Between the Saint Marys & Wabash River Valleys**

*Where Mercer County was to be Established*

## **- Timeline of Historical Dates in Local History -**

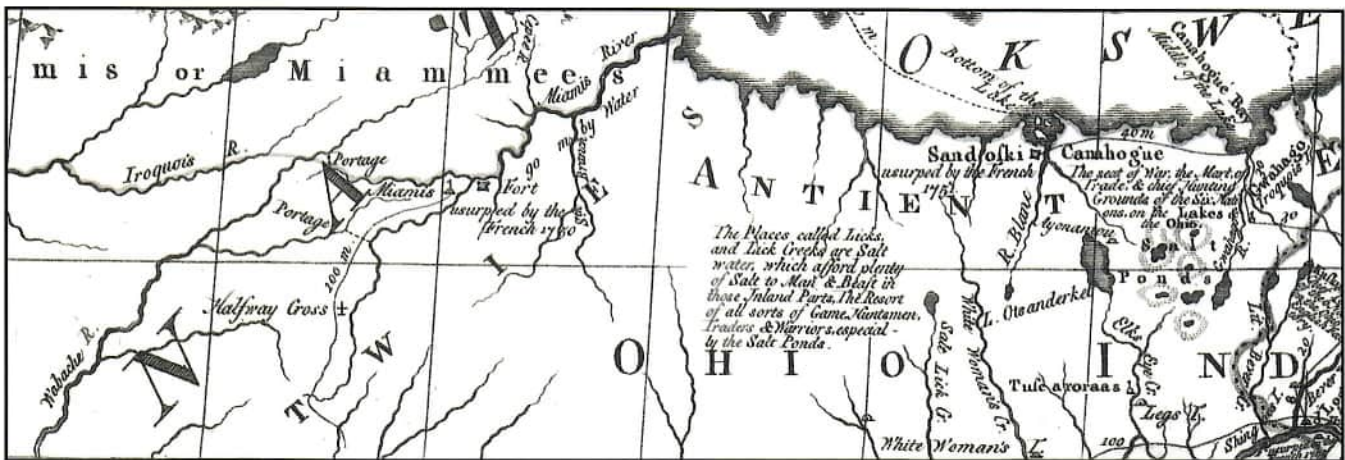
**1700's**

Native Americans occupied the land which became the Northwest quarter of the State of Ohio. Among the tribes in that area were the Ottawas, Shawnees, Wyandots, Senecas, Miamis, Weas, Delaware, Shawanese, Potawatomees, and Chippeway. (They were named in the 1817 Treaties at the foot of the rapids and 1818 Treaties at Saint Marys, Ohio.) European Countries of England, France and Spain were in contest, not only for world leadership, but also for this land which became known as the "Ohio Country." They based their land claims upon early exploration in this country.

**1689-1763**

Four European wars were fought, during this contest for North America:

<b>1689-1697</b>	<b>King William's War</b>
<b>1702-1713</b>	<b>Queen Ann's War</b>
<b>1744-1748</b>	<b>King George's War</b>
<b>1754-1763</b>	<b>French and Indian War</b>



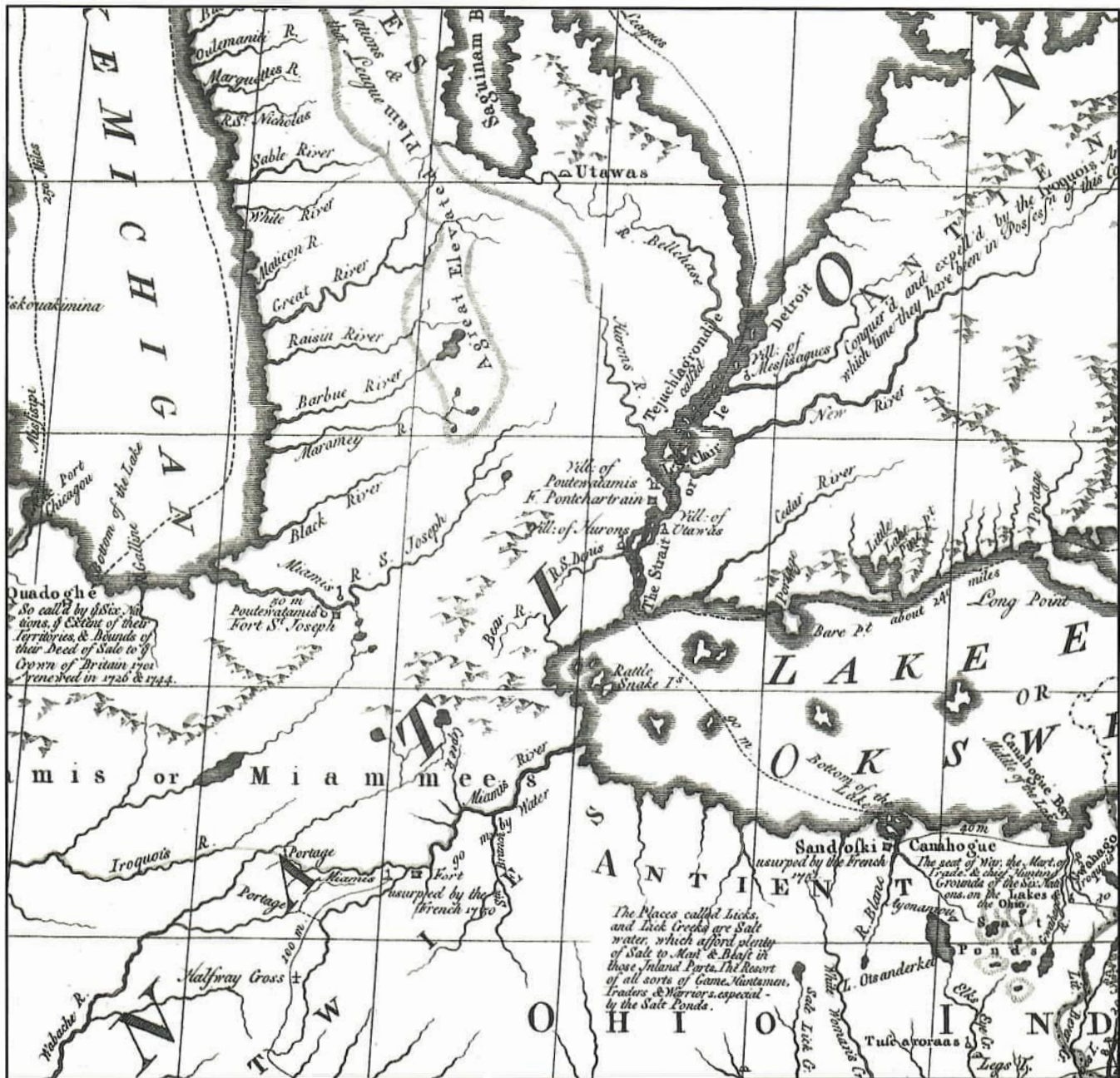
**1755**

(detail) Mitchell, John. A map of the British and French dominions in North America with the roads, distances, limits, and extent of the settlements by Jno. Mitchell. . . at Amsterdam printed for I. Covens and C. Mortier. 1755.  
Courtesy: The Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Mitchell's 1755 map was used by the Commissioners in preparing the Treaty of Paris of 1783. The 1755 map was also used in Ohio's border dispute with Michigan in 1836. Mitchell's map was one of the earliest maps to identify a site in Mercer County, near the site of Rockford, or Shane's Crossing, as "Half Way Cross." "Half-Way Cross" is indicated as a site on the Saint Marys River, identifying the crossing of the Saint Marys River, "half way between" Pickawillany on the Great Miami River and the Native American village Kekionga at the confluence of the Saint Marys, and Saint Joseph River (site of present Fort Wayne, Indiana) .

The land between the Saint Marys River and the Wabash River Valleys was the land where Mercer County, Ohio was to be established.

## Land Between the Saint Marys & Wabash River Valleys, 1755



Mitchell, John. A map of the British and French dominions in North America with roads, distances, limits, and extent of the settlements, by Jno. Mitchell. . . at Amsterdam printed for I. Covens and C. Mortier. 1755.

Courtesy: The Clements Library, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The Saint Marys and Wabash Rivers' courses are not exact, but the 1755 Map is most extraordinary for its time period in history. (See Detail on page 7.)

**John Mitchell, "Map of North America," 1755.**

**By Andrew R. L. Cayton**

**In the middle of the eighteenth century, the area that would become the state of Ohio was contested terrain. No particular group of people dominated it. Native Americans and Europeans had been living along the rivers of the region for several decades. The Miami, Potawatomi, and other Indians had migrated from the western shores of Lake Michigan, where they had been pushed by the Iroquois in the Seventeenth Century. Soon, Shawnee and Delaware would arrive from the east in advance of the spreading settlements of British Americans.**

**Since the early Eighteenth Century, the Indians had had important relationships with the few hundred French traders and soldiers who had established small commercial outposts at places such as Detroit, Kekionga, Ouiatenon, and Vincennes. At the core of the relationship between Indians and Europeans was the exchange of furs and pelts for manufactured goods, such as cloth, guns, and glass. The Great Lakes region, what the French called the *pays d'en haut*, was at the center of a vast commercial network that stretched from the Mississippi Valley to Paris, France, and beyond. This was an unstable world. Misunderstandings would often flare into episodes of violence and the presence of Europeans and the attractions of trade disrupted native societies. But it was in the long-term mutual interests of everyone to find ways to get along most of the time.**

**The delicate balance of this world had begun to crumble by the time John Mitchell drew this map in 1755. British colonists in Pennsylvania and Virginia had become interested in the Ohio Valley. Philadelphia merchants wanted to capture as much of the Indian trade as possible. In the late 1740's, they began to trade with Miami and other Indians established in a new village at Pickawillany (near present day Piqua, Ohio). Meanwhile, Virginia planters organized themselves into the Ohio Company of Virginia in 1747 in order to secure land in the trans-Appalachian West. The British were eager to increase their presence in the Ohio Country and the French wanted to keep them out. Nine years of war, known in North America as the French and Indian War ( 1754-1763), resulted in the defeat of the French and the British acquisition of Canada. In the Great Lakes Region, some Indians under the leadership of the Ottawa, Pontiac, upset by the prospects of British rule, rebelled in 1763 and destroyed several British posts before they were suppressed. After the end of the French and Indian War, the major contestants for control of the Ohio Country were Indians, the British empire, and their colonists in eastern North America. The French remained a presence but not a power in the region.**

**Mitchell's map reveals the state of British knowledge of the Great Lakes region in 1755, one year after the outbreak of war. While far from accurate, the map conveys a good sense of what the British imagined the area to be like, as well as the possibilities for commerce and settlement. Note the depiction of wide rivers, easy portages (at what is now known as Fort Wayne, Indiana, for example), and the captions detailing British claims to certain lands. While Indian villages and French names predominate, the mapmaker conveys the strong sense that the British are beginning to make this world their own.**

- 1763**      **Treaty of Paris; France surrendered her claims to the mainland of North America. Great Britain claimed control of land, including "The Ohio Country."**
- 1774**      **The Coercive or Intolerable Acts included the Quebec Act, which extended the province of Quebec to the Ohio River and the Mississippi River. (The "Ohio Country," was marked as a part of Quebec.) This included Great Britain's control of the fur trade of the interior lands. The events preceded the resistance which resulted in the American Revolutionary War.**
- July 4, 1776**      **The Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress.**
- 1776-1783**      **The Revolutionary War occurred between Colonies and Great Britain.**
- 1782**      **While the Revolutionary War was being waged in the west, the closest battle to present Mercer County, Ohio, took place in 1782. George Rogers Clark led 1050 riflemen up the valley of the Miami River against the Shawnee towns. In November of 1782, one detachment made a raid on Lorimier's Store in the absence of Pierre Lorimier (*Peter Loramie*), site of present Fort Loramie. (Both names, *Lorimier* and *Loramie*, are used in texts.) Eugene Roseboom and Francis Weisenburger, in A History of Ohio, (Columbus, Ohio 1964), called Lorimier's Store, "a British trading post at the head of the Miami." This raid on Lorimier's Store marked the close of the Revolution in the West, the "*last battle of the Revolution*." Herbert K. Skinner, in Historic Fort Loramie, (Indiana: Unigraphic, Inc. 1975) stated Peter Loramie established a trading post at the portage, in 1769, and that Loramie was a great friend of the Indians, and reportedly a bitter enemy of the English. Skinner stated that in the 1782 attack, General George Rogers Clark designated Col. Benjamin Logan to carry out the attack on the Loramie Trading Post, and that the store was plundered and burned. The site of Lorimier's Store is named as a Boundary point on the 1795 Treaty Line, separating northwest Ohio, from the rest of Ohio.**
- 1783**      **September 3, 1783, the Treaty of Paris was signed between United States and Great Britain, concluding the Revolutionary War, and establishing American Independence. Great Britain ceded its land west of the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi River, to the United States of America. The U.S.A. gained in area of land, as well as in growth in power and importance.**
- 1781**      **The Articles of Confederation became effective. Under the Articles of Confederation the Colonies in quest of a central government worked for cooperation in defense against Great Britain. New States ceded their western lands to the central government:**  
           **1780**      **-New York ceded her claims to western lands**  
           **1784**      **-Virginia ceded her claims to western lands**  
           **1784**      **-Ordinance of 1784, involving western lands, never became effective.**  
           **1784**      **-Massachusetts and Connecticut ceded their claims to their western lands to the government.**
- 1784-1786**      **A series of treaties occurred whereby some lands north and west of the Ohio River were surrendered to the United States by Native Americans. (Land in northwest Ohio, was not surrendered by the Native Americans until the 1817 Treaties and 1818 Treaties with the U. S. Government.)**

- May 20, 1785**      **The United States Congress passed the Ordinance of 1785, known as the 1785 "Land Ordinance," which provided for the sale of lands north and west of the Ohio River.**
- July 13, 1787**      **The Confederation Congress of the United States enacted the Northwest Ordinance, initiating territorial government in the land Northwest of the Ohio River.**
- July 15, 1787**      **Territorial Governor Arthur St. Clair inaugurated civil government in the Northwest Territory.**
- 1780's**      **Conflicts arose between Native Americans and settlers, when settlers entered the "Ohio Country." European nations were still in conflict. The local and the international conflicts led to the "Indian Wars of the 1790's."**
- 1790's**      **"Indian Wars" of the western lands continued until 1795:  
 1790-General Josiah Harmer led U.S. Army troops against Native Americans and was defeated near the site of present Fort Wayne, Indiana.  
 1791-Governor Arthur St. Clair led the U.S. Army and suffered a disastrous defeat, November 4, 1791, on the banks of Wabash River near the present site of Fort Recovery, at the hands of the Native Americans.  
 1793-Fort Recovery was constructed by the U.S. Army (in present Mercer County, Ohio).  
 1794-Fort Adams was constructed by the U.S. Army (in present Mercer County, Ohio).  
 1794-General Anthony Wayne led U.S. Army against Native Americans, and was victorious at the battle of Fallen Timbers, (near present Maumee).  
 1795-The Treaty at Fort Greene Ville was signed.**

**In 1989, the Mercer County Historical Society held a series of scholarly programs, with support from the Ohio Humanities Council, and the Ohio Northwest Ordinance and United States Constitution Bicentennial Commission. The Society hosted presentations about this time period in American History and Ohio History and Mercer County History. Six scholars not only gave their presentations, but also provided their written papers, accompanied by detailed bibliographies of their research, for publication. The Account of Arthur St. Clair, November 9, 1791, is from this publication.**

**For more information about this time period, please see the following publication:**

**Shriver, Dr. Phillip, Miami Nation Chief Floyd Leonard, Dr. Joseph Leonard, Dr. Dwight Smith, Professor Randall Buchman, and Dr. George Knepper. Project Director Joyce Alig. Native Americans and Early Settlers: The Meeting of Cultures, 1780's - 1890's. Passport to History Series, Book I. The Mercer County Historical Society, Inc. Carthage, Ohio: Messenger Press. 1989.**

**Since this project is directed to the maps of Mercer County, Ohio, maps of Fort Recovery and Fort Adams are included in this study. The following pages are illustrations of the 1791 battle ground on the Banks of the Wabash (near present Fort Recovery, Mercer County, Ohio), and an illustration of the fort site at Fort Adams, on the Saint Marys River, ( also, in present Mercer County, Ohio).**

## **United States Army under Major General Arthur St. Clair, November 4, 1791**

**By Andrew R. L. Cayton**

**In the 1783 Treaty of Paris, which ended the American War for Independence, Great Britain acknowledged the authority of the United States in the Ohio Country. But a piece of paper signed in Europe did not begin to reflect the realities of power in the region itself. Not only did thousands of Indians, including Delaware, Shawnee, Wyandot, and Miami, continue to live along the Muskingum, Tuscarawas, Scioto, Wabash, Sandusky, and Maumee rivers, the British continued to occupy forts at Detroit and along the Maumee and to encourage the Indians to resist the advancing Americans. Native Americans recognized the dangers posed by the waves of English-speaking settlers who were pouring across the Appalachian Mountains in the late Eighteenth Century. Despite serious divisions, they insisted on the Ohio River as a barrier to American settlement.**

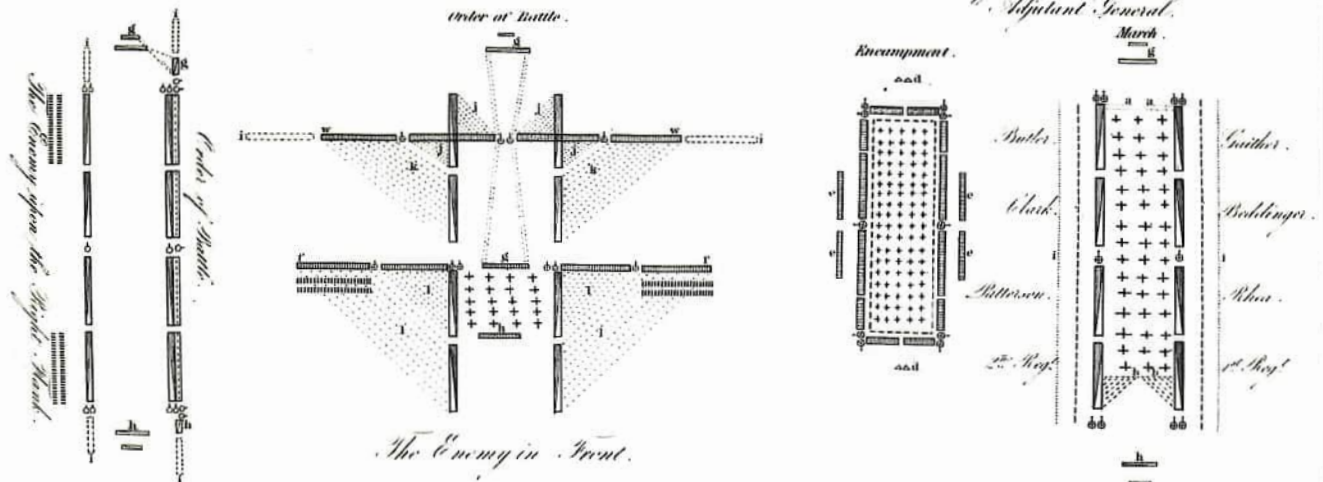
**The government of the new United States, on the other hand, was determined to demonstrate its authority over the Ohio Country. In part, the government hoped to make money off land sales to speculators and settlers. Just as important, officials in the 1780s and 1790s understood the importance of making the United States government the most powerful force in the region. Whatever treaties said, American authority would not truly be established north of the Ohio River until the government demonstrated its power to both the Indians and whites. In 1787, Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance, which provided for the organization and development of what would become the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and parts of Minnesota. With settlements established at Marietta and Cincinnati, the government decided to demonstrate its power to protect and advance American interests with expeditions against the extensive Indian settlements in the Maumee Valley. Unfortunately, for the United States, the first effort, led by General Josiah Harmer in the fall of 1790, was largely unsuccessful. While federal troops and militia destroyed hundreds of acres of corn as well as buildings at the place where the Maumee originates (now Fort Wayne), the Miami and other Indians soundly defeated Harmer's troops and drove them back toward the United States' headquarters at Cincinnati.**

**Charged with restoring the honor to the United States, Major-General Arthur St. Clair led more than a thousand men north from Cincinnati in the fall of 1791. The second map is Adjutant-General Winthrop Sargent's rendering of the conventional plans for the organization of the march and their encampments. There is an emphasis on order and hierarchy, which reflected not only military discipline, but also the effort to make the forces of the United State impressive.**

**In early November, St. Clair and his men stopped at a position along the Wabash River (later named Fort Recovery when the American regained control of the position). St. Clair, who was not an effective leader in or out of the military, laid out his troops along the contours of the land. Early in the morning of November 4, Indians under the leadership of the Miami Little Turtle, surprised the Americans and routed St. Clair's men. The United States army quickly fell part under the efficient attacks of the Native Americans. St. Clair, who was ill with the gout, narrowly escaped. But hundreds of his men and most of his officers, including his second-in-command General Butler, did not.**

**Fleeing to Cincinnati with women, children and other people who had followed them on their expedition, the American soldiers did not know that they had been participants in the greatest defeat ever suffered by an American army on the North American continent, excepting only the battles of the Civil War. Of the approximately 1400 men involved on the American side, 918 were killed or wounded. St. Clair's Defeat, as the Americans called it, was blamed on poor leadership and the lack of discipline among the militia. Without denying the importance of these factors, more recent historians give great credit to the leadership of Little Turtle who, along with his allies, planned and carried out one of the most successful military engagements in the history of North America. Perhaps we should call the battle "Little Turtle's Victory," rather than "St. Clair's Defeat?"**

*Order of Battle, March and Encampment of the Army of the United States under  
Major General Arthur St. Clair, during the Campaign of 1791.*  
Winthrop Sargent  
Adjutant General.



EXPLANATIONS.

- Artillery.
- Baggage, Pack Horses and Cattle.
- Cavalry.
- a. The leading Batt<sup>n</sup> of the Columns wheeling by Files to form the camp.
- b. The Right Wing of the rear Battalion of the right Column forming upon the Head File of that Wing by marching obliquely to the Left, and the Left Wing of the Rear Batt<sup>n</sup> of the Left Column forming upon the Head file of that Wing by marching obliquely to the Right.
- d. Camp Guards.
- e. Camp of the Riflemen.

EXPLANATIONS.

- w. Front Line.
- f. Second Line.
- Cavalry.
- g. Advanced Guard.
- h. Rear Guard.
- i. Rifle Corps.
- j. The leading Batt<sup>n</sup> of each Column marching obliquely to the Right and Left to form upon their Centre Files.
- k. The succeeding Batt<sup>n</sup> in each Column marching obliquely to the Right and to the Left to form the Front Line.
- l. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> in the two Columns marching obliquely to their Right and Left to form the 2<sup>nd</sup> Line.

OF FORMING THE LINE, AGREEABLY TO THE ORDERS OF THIS DAY.

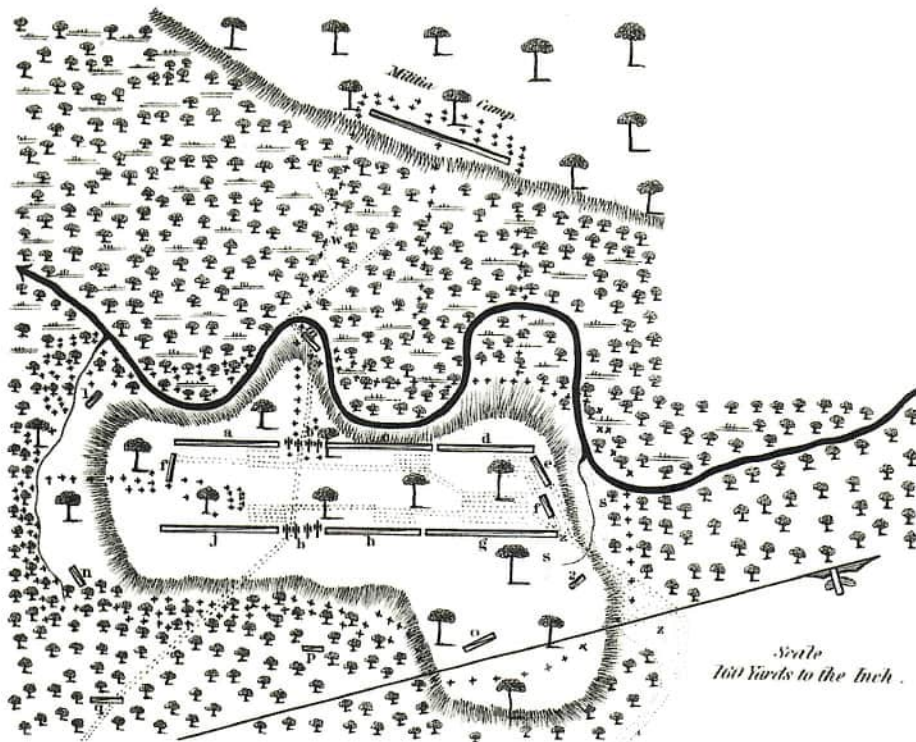
The leading Wing of the leading Battalion in each Column faces to the Left and to the Right: that of the Right Wing marching obliquely to the Left, and that of the Left Wing, to the Right; dressing with the centre File, and facing to the Front. The second Battalions in each Wing march obliquely to the right and Left upon the Flanks of the preceding Battalions.

FOR THE SECOND LINE. The Head Files of the third Battalion in each Column stand list; the remaining part of those two Battalions and the whole of the fourth Battalion of each Column march obliquely to the Right and Left: the Right and Left Flanks being covered by the Rifle Corps, as in the Plan: the Artillery disposed of in the First and Second Lines, and the Cavalry in the Rear of the Plank Battalions of the latter. The Baggage, cattle, etc. falling in the Rear of the Second Line, to be sent off if necessary.

Engraved by W. B. Rogers for George W. Winthrop & Co.

**Sargent, Winthrop, Adjutant General. Order of Battle, March and Encampment of the Army of the United States under Major General Arthur St. Clair, during the Campaign of 1791. Published in Sargent, Winthrop, Diary of Winthrop Sargent. . . 1851, p. 8**  
Courtesy: The Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

*A Plan of the Encampment  
and Sketch of the Action, Retreat & Capture Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 1791.  
By W. Sargent  
Adj. Genl*



*Explanation.*

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| a. Bricker's Battalion.   | l. n. p. 2. Hank Guards.               |
| b. Artillery.             | o. f. Piquets.                         |
| h. Gauthier's Battalion.  | s. Swamps.                             |
| d. Patterson's Battalion. | m. Camp Guard.                         |
| e. Faulkner's Company.    | φ φ Cannon.                            |
| f. Cavalry.               | +++ Enemy.                             |
| g. Second Regiment.       | n. Troops Retreating.                  |
| c. Clark's Battalion.     | w. Continuation of an old Indian Road. |
| j. Beddingers.            |  |

**Sargent, Winthrop. A Plan of the Encampment of the United States Army under General Arthur St. Clair, on the Banks of the Wabash River, November 4, 1791. Gen. Published in Sargent, Winthrop, Diary of Winthrop Sargent. . . 1851, p. 30.**

**This encampment was located near the present day site of Fort Recovery, Mercer County, Ohio.**

**Courtesy: The Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan**

*Action between General St. Clair's Army & that of the American Indians  
Nov. 4, 1791. Collected from his public letter.*

- (1) Attack of the Americans on the Militia which in a few minutes was extended
- (2) round the whole of Genl. St. Clairs Camp which was attacked on all quarters.
- (3) flight of the militia who rushed thro Butlers Batt.n (B) and part of Clarkes (C) & irrecoverably disordered them.
- (4) Col. Dark with part of the second line charging the American Indians to turn their left flank who
- (5) retreated three or four hundred yards but reconnoitered
- (6) & drove back Col. Dark in his turn.
- (7) at this moment the American Indians
- (8) forced the left flank of the Camp.

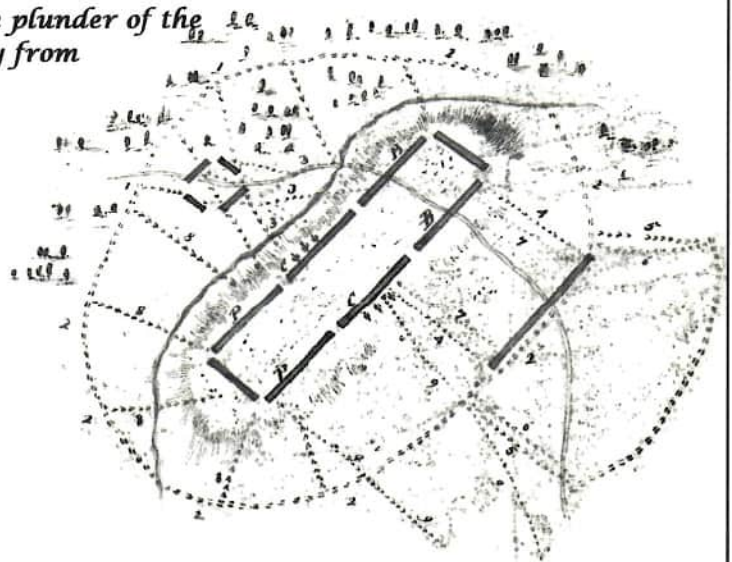
They were repeatedly charged by Butler and Clarkes Batt.n.s without effect. Gen'l. St. Clairs Artillery were silenced. He had suffered considerable loss of Officers & then was cut off from the road; to regain this, the remains of the Army were formed to the right as circumstances would permit; & the second line made a charge

- (9) upon the Enemy, apparently to turn their right flank, but really, to regain the road which being effected the Militia took along it followed by the troops.

Major Clark with his Batt.n covering the rear.

The Retreat became a flight. It is probable the plunder of the camp saved the whole of Gen'l. St. Clairs Army from destruction.

The right wing commanded by Gen'l. Butler was composed of Butlers, Clarkes, Pettersons Batt.n.s. The left wing commanded by Col Dark was composed of Bedinger's & Gaithers Batt.n.s & the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment. The Right flank covered by the Riflemen. The Left by Cavalry. Gen'l. St. Clairs Army encamped relatively to their order of March in two Columns. The Right wing composing the left Column & marching by its left, the left wing, vice versa. The whole when halted faced outwards.



**Action between General St. Clair's Army and the American Indians on November 4, 1791, collected from his Public Letter. Manuscript map from the papers of Sir Henry Clinton (Clinton map 346).**

**Courtesy: The Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan**

## St. Clair's Defeat, November 4, 1791

### Arthur St. Clair's report to Henry Knox, Secretary of War, November 9, 1791. Fort Washington.

American State Papers, Indian Affairs (Washington, 1832) Volume 1. pp. 137-138.  
(also "Native Americans and Early Settlers," by Mercer County Historical Society. 1989)

Fort Washington, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 1791

Sta:

*Yesterday afternoon, the remains of the army under my command got back to this place, and I have now the painful task to give you an account of as warm and as unfortunate an action as almost any that has been fought, in which every corps was engaged and worsted, except the first regiment. That had been detached upon a service I had the honor to inform you of in my last despatch, and had not joined me.*

*On the 8d instant, the army had reached a creek about twelve yards wide, running to the southward of west, which I believe to have been the river St. Mary, that empties itself into the Miami of the lake at Miami village, about four o'clock in the afternoon, having marched near nine miles, and were immediately encamped upon a very commanding piece of ground, in two lines, having the above mentioned creek in front. The right wing, composed of Butler's Clarke's and Paterson's battalions, commanded by Major General Butler, formed the first line, and one left wing, consisting of Bedinger's and Gaither's battalions, and the second regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Dark, formed the second line, with an interval between them of about seventy yards, which was all the ground would allow. The right flank was pretty well secured by the creek; a steep bank, and Faulkner's corps, some of the cavalry, and their picquets, covered the left flank. The militia were thrown over the creek, and advanced about one quarter of a mile, and encamped in the same order. There were a few Indians who appeared on the opposite side of the creek, but fled with the utmost precipitation, on the advance of the militia. At this place, which I judged to be about fifteen miles from the Miami village, I had determined to throw a slight work; the plan of which was concerted that evening with Major Ferguson, wherein to have deposited the men's knapsacks, and every thing else that was not absolute necessity, and to have moved on to attack the enemy as soon as the first regiment was come up. But they did not permit me to execute either; for, on the fourth, about half an hour before sun rise, and when the men had been just dismissed from the parade, (for it was constant practice to have them all under arms a considerable time before day-light) an attack was made upon the militia. Those gave way in a very little time, and rushed into camp through Major Butler's battalion, which, together with part of Clark's, they threw into considerable disorder, and which notwithstanding the exertions of both those officers, was never altogether remedied, the Indians following close at their heels. The fire, however, of the front line, checked them, but almost instantly a very heavy attack began upon that line, and in a few minutes it was extended to the second like-wave. The great weight of it was directed against the centre of each, where the artillery was placed, and from which the men were repeatedly driven with great slaughter.*

*Finding no great effect from our fire, and confusion beginning to spread from the great number of men who were falling in all quarters, it became necessary to try what could be done by the bayonet. Lieutenant Colonel Dark was accordingly ordered to make a charge with part of the second line, and to turn the left flank of the enemy. This was executed with great spirit.*

*The Indians instantly gave way, and were driven back three or four hundred yards; but for want of a sufficient number of riflemen to pursue this advantage, they soon returned, and the troops were obliged to give back in their turn. At this moment they had entered our camp by the left flank, having pushed back the troops that were posted there. Another charge was made here by the second regiment, Butler's and Clarke's battalions, with equal effect, and it was repeated several times, and always with success; but in all of them, many men were lost, and particularly the officers, which, with so raw troops, was a loss altogether irremediable. In that I just spoke of, made by the second regiment and Butler's battalion, Major Butler was dangerously wounded, and every officer of the second regiment fell except three, one of which, Mr. Greateon, was shot through the body. Our artillery being now silenced, and all the officers killed except Captain Ford, who was very badly wounded, and more than half of the army fallen, being cut off from the road, it became necessary to attempt the regaining it, and to make a retreat, if possible.*

*To this purpose, the remains of the army was formed as well as circumstances would admit, towards the right of the encampment, from which, by the way of the second line, another charge was made upon the enemy, as if with the design to turn their right flank, but in fact, to gain the road. This was effected, and as soon as it was open, the militia took along it, followed by the troops; Major Clarke, with his battalion, covering the rear. The retreat, in those circumstances, was, you may be sure, a very precipitate one. It was, in fact, a flight. The camp and the artillery were abandoned; but that was unavoidable; for not a horse was left alive to have drawn it off, had it otherwise been practicable. But the most disgraceful part of the business is, that the greatest part of the men threw away their arms and accoutrements, even after the pursuit, which continued about four miles, had ceased. I found the road strewed with them for many miles, but was not able to remedy it; for, having had all my horses killed, and being mounted upon one that could not be pricked out of a walk, I could not get forward myself; and the orders I sent forward, either to halt the front, or prevent the men from parting with their arms, were unattended to.*

*The rout continued quite to fort Jefferson, twenty-nine miles, which was reached a little after sun-setting. The action began about half an hour before sunrise, and the retreat was attempted at a half an hour after nine o'clock. I have not yet been able to get returns of the killed and wounded; but Major General Butler, Lieutenant Colonel Oldham, of the militia, Major Ferguson, Major Heart, and Major Clarke, are among the former; Colonel Sargent, my Adjutant General, Lieutenant Colonel Dark, Lieutenant Colonel Gibson, Major Butler, and the Viscount Malartie, who served me as an aid-de-camp, are among the latter, and a great number of captains and subalterns in both.*

*I have now, sir, finished my melancholy tale - a tale that will be felt sensibly by every one that has sympathy for private distress, or for public misfortune. I have nothing, sir, to lay to the charge of the troops, but their want of discipline, which from the short time they had been in service, it was impossible they should have acquired, and which rendered it very difficult, when they were thrown into confusion, to reduce them again to order, and is one reason why the loss has fallen so heavy upon the officers, who did every thing in their power to effect it. Neither were my own exertions wanting, but, worn down with illness, and suffering under a painful disease, unable either to mount or dismount a horse without assistance, they were not so great as they otherwise would, and perhaps, ought to have been. We were overpowered by numbers; but it is no more than justice to observe, that, though composed of so many different species of troops, the utmost harmony prevailed through the whole army during the campaign.*

At Fort Jefferson, I found the first regiment, which had returned from the service they had been sent upon, without either overtaking the deserters, or meeting the convoy of provisions. I am not certain, sir, whether I ought to consider the absence of this regiment from the field of action, as fortunate or otherwise. I incline to think it was fortunate: for, I very much doubt whether, had it been in the action, the fortune of the day had been turned; and if it had not, the triumph of the enemy would have been more complete, and the country would have been destitute of every means of defence.

Taking a view of the situation of our broken troops at Fort Jefferson, and that there was no provision in the fort, I called upon the field officers, viz. Lieutenant Colonel Clark, Major Hamtramck, Major Zeigler, and Major Gaither, together with the adjutant general, for their advice what would be proper further to be done; and it was their unanimous opinion, that the addition of the first regiment, unbroken as it was, did not put the army on so respectable a foot as it was in the morning, because a great part of it was now unarmed; that it had been then found unequal to the enemy, and should they come on, which was probable, would be found so again. That the troops could not be thrown into the fort, both because it was too small, and that there were no provisions in it. That provisions were known to be upon the road, at the distance of one or at more two marches, that, therefore, it would be proper to move, without loss of time, to meet the provisions, when the men might have the sooner an opportunity of some refreshment, and that a proper detachment might be sent back with it, to have it safely deposited at the fort. This advice was accepted, and the army was put in motion again at ten o'clock, and marched all night, and the succeeding day met with a quantity of flour. Part of it was distributed immediately, part taken back to supply the army on the march to fort Hamilton and the remainder, about fifty horse loads, sent forward to fort Jefferson. The next day, a drove of cattle was met with for the same place, and I have information that both got in. the wounded who had been left at that place, were ordered to be brought here by the return horses.

I have said, sir, in a former part of this letter, that we were overpowered by numbers. Of that, however, I have no other evidence but the weight of the fire, which was always a most deadly one, and generally delivered from the ground - few of the enemy shewing themselves afoot, except when they were charged; and that, in a few minutes, our whole camp, which extended above three hundred and fifty yards in length, was entirely surrounded, and attacked on all quarters.

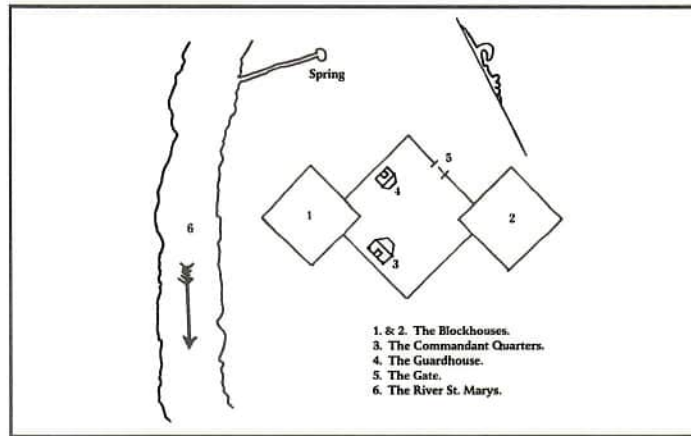
The loss, sir, the public has sustained by the fall of so many officers, particularly General Butler and Major Ferguson, cannot be too much regretted; but it is a circumstance that will alleviate the misfortune in some measure, that all of them fell most gallantly doing their duty. I have had very particular obligations to many of them, as well as to the survivors, but to none more than to Colonel Sargent. He has discharged the various duties of his office with zeal, with exactness, and with intelligence, and on all occasions, afforded me every assistance in his power, which I have also experienced from my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant Denny, and Viscount Malartie, who served with me in the station as a volunteer.

With every sentiment of respect and regard, I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant.

AR. ST. CLAIR

The Honorable Major General Knox, Secretary of War.

P.S. Some orders that had been given to Colonel Oldham over night, and which were of much consequence, were not executed; and some very material intelligence was communicated by Captain Hough to General Butler, in the course of the night, before the action, which was never imparted to me, nor did I hear of it until after my arrival here.



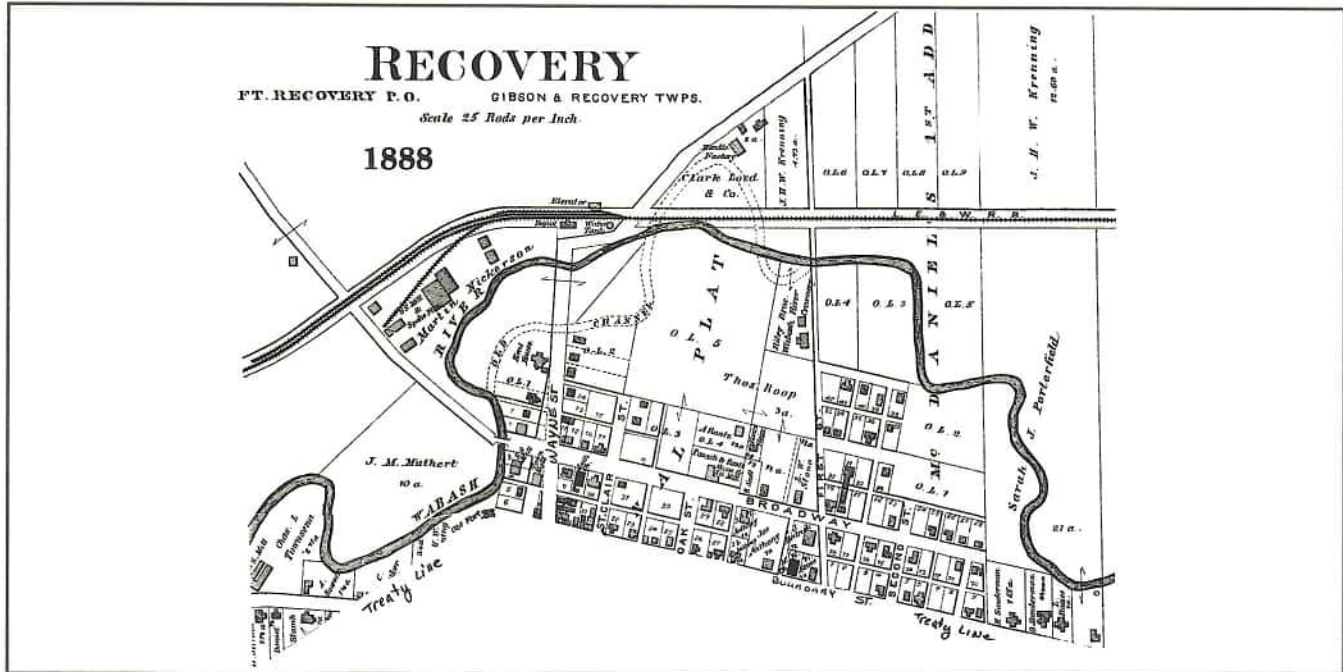
### Plan of Fort Adams on the Saint Marys River, 1794-1796.

General Anthony Wayne led the U.S. Army into the Indian Territory and continued his march toward Lake Erie in the summer of 1794. By the first of August, the troops arrived at the Saint Marys River. Many of the diaries kept by the men contained notations about the large and bountiful prairie. Some noted that it was the first time the men could see the entire command at one time, after having marched in the forest. On August 2, the legion was detained for the purpose of erecting a garrison, which would take three days. On August 3, an accident took place when a large beech tree fell on Anthony Wayne's tent. The direct weight of the tree was deflected as it hit a tree stump, instead of hitting Wayne directly. Wayne survived the accident, and the men rode out the next day.

Lieutenant James Underhill was assigned to this fort, with forty men who were too ill to march. They feared the enemy would return and attack the fort, but that did not happen. Anthony Wayne named the fort, Fort Randolph, but later changed the name to Fort Adams in honor of Vice President John Adams. Two years later, in the early summer of 1796, it was abandoned by its garrison of 56 United States troops. The site was used as a supply depot during the War of 1812, and after the war, was used as a trading post.

David Simmons, in *"The Forts of Anthony Wayne,"* Historic Fort Wayne, Inc. 1977, wrote, "Fort Adams was a relatively small square post, when finally completed. The curtains of pickets were about twenty-four feet in length, and the two blockhouses at diagonal corners were eighteen feet square. The interior contained two buildings with hipped roofs; the commandant's quarters, and a guardhouse. Since there was little room for storage, the fort was intended mainly as a strong point for troops on the vital supply line. Its location on the St. Marys River also permitted the control of traffic on that waterway." Simmons gave reference to Richard C. Knopf, ed., *"A Precise Journal of General Wayne's Last Campaign,"* *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, 64 (1954), 283; *"Benjamin Van Cleve's Biographical Memorandum from 1773-1821,"* Library of Congress.

Fort Adams was located on the Saint Marys River, nearly four miles upriver from the site known as Shanes Crossing, and later Rockford. The George Wilson family owns this property in 2000. Joyce Alig and Members of Mercer County Historical Society and Shanes Crossing Historical Association volunteered with Dr. G. Michael Pratt, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for Historic and Military Archaeology, Heidelberg College; Dr. Larry Nelson, Site Manager, Fort Meigs State Memorial, Ohio Historical Society; Larry Street, St. Marys; Members of the Mercer County Indian Relic Collections and Amateur Archaeologists from Toledo, in Test Excavations of this site in the 1980's and 1990's.



In the Village of Recovery, north of Boundary Street (which runs along the 1795 Boundary Line) the land was Indian Land until the Treaties of 1817 and 1818. The land was not open for settlement until after 1820.

August 3,  
1795

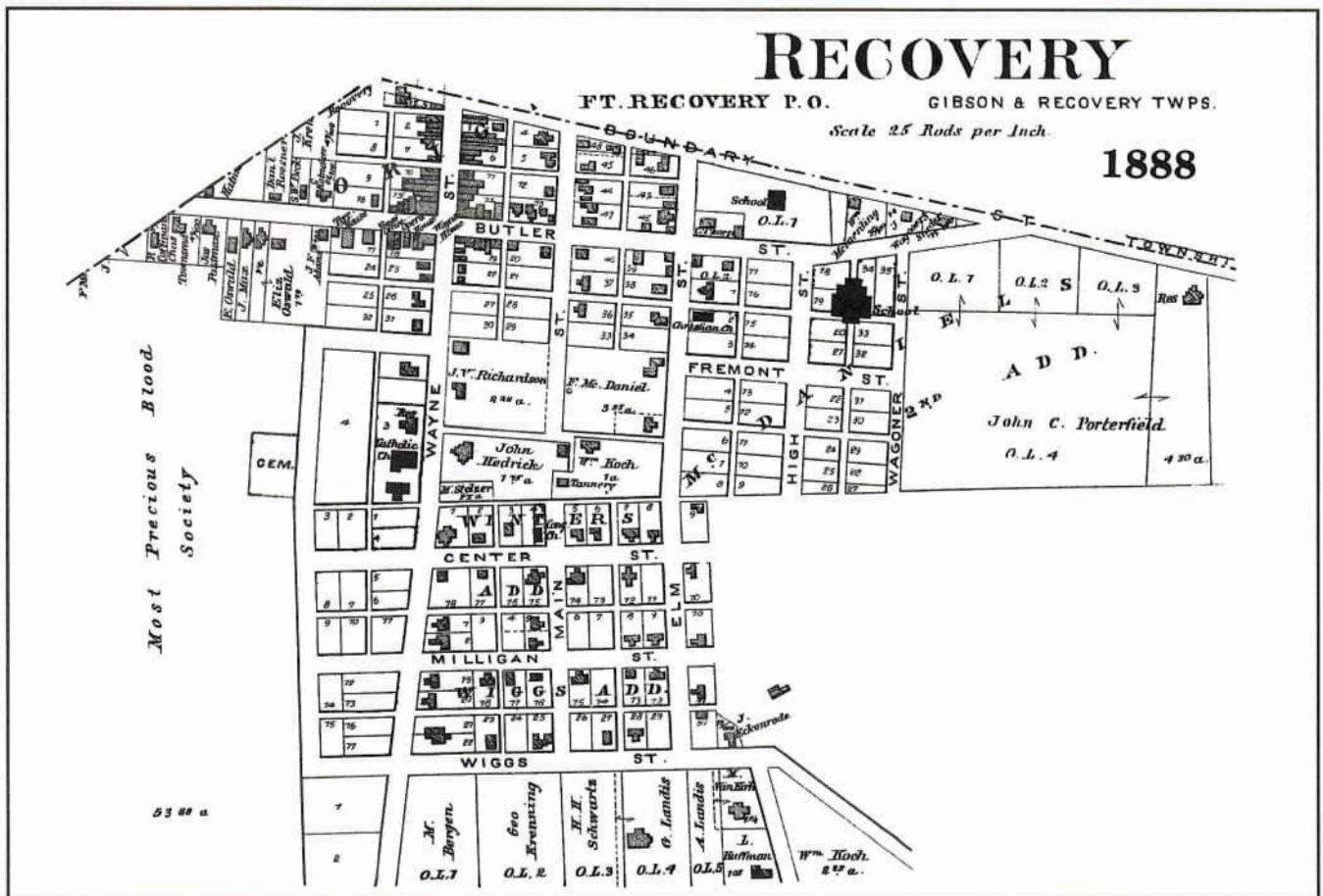
The Treaty at Fort Greene Ville was signed in August of 1795. Article III defined the general boundary line between the lands of the United States and the lands of Wyandot, Delaware, Shawnee, Ottawa, Chippewa, Potawatomi, Miami, Eel River, Wea, Kickapoo, Piankishaw, and Kaskaska as follows:

*"Beginning at the mouth of Cuyahoga River and run thence up the same to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas crossing place above Fort Lawrence; thence westerly to a fork of that branch of the Great Miami river running into the Ohio at or near which fork stood Loramie's store and where commences the portage between the Miami of the Ohio and St. Marys river, which is a branch of the Miami (Maumee) which runs into Lake Erie; thence a westerly course to Fort Recovery, which stands on a branch of the Wabash; then southwesterly in a direct line to the Ohio, so as to intersect that river opposite the mouth of Kentucky or Cuttawab river; and the said Indian tribes cede and relinquish forever all claim to lands lying eastwardly and southwardly of said general boundary line.*

*The Indians also cede to the U.S. a number of small tracts of land within the general limits of the territory reserved. The tract herein ceded to the United States Government comprised the eastern and southern portions of Ohio; embracing nearly two-thirds of the state, and a triangular piece in southeastern Indiana."*

Royce, Charles C. Indian Land Cessions in the United States.

Washington: Government Printing Office, 1900. Page 654-657



In the Village of Recovery, the land south of the Boundary Street (which runs along the 1795 Boundary Line) was open for settlement to the new settlers following the 1795 Treaty at Fort Greene Ville.

**1795** The Treaty between the U.S. Government and the Native Americans at Fort Greene Ville was signed by Major General Anthony Wayne and Members of the twelve Native American tribes. The Treaty secured almost two-thirds of the present State of Ohio for settlement. Since most of Mercer County (today) is north of the Treaty Line, that land still was in possession of the Native Americans until the 1817 and 1818 Treaties.

For Mercer County, Ohio, that meant that settlers could settle as far north as "Boundary Line" at Fort Recovery, which is Boundary Street today. North of the Boundary Line was in possession of the Native Americans and was not open for settlement until 1820. Thus, the original Village of Recovery was platted two separate times, one plat south of the Treaty Line and the second plat north of the Treaty Line on Boundary.

Therefore, when Ohio became a State in 1803, Native Americans had the position of living and/or hunting on most of the land which became Mercer County, north of the 1795 Treaty Line, also known as the Indian Boundary Line. This line, in the Village of Recovery, is known as Boundary Street.

## **Ohio Country**

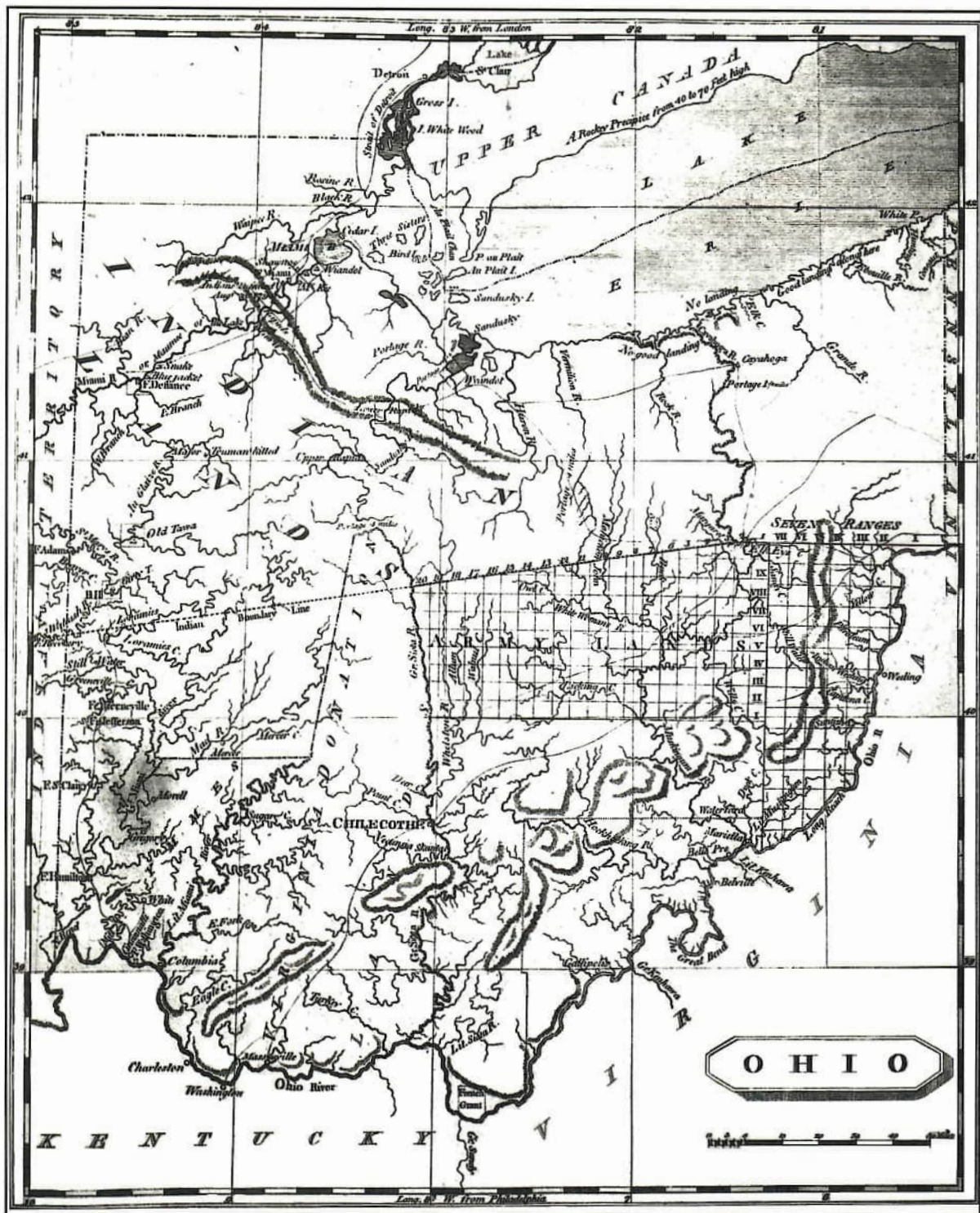
**By Andrew R. L. Cayton**

**For all the brilliance displayed in the defeat of St. Clair's army, the Indians of the Ohio Country were no match for the superior numbers and resources of the United States. A chagrined President George Washington and Congress responded to the news of the humiliation of St. Clair by creating a Legion of the United States. Under the command of the tenacious Pennsylvania, Anthony Wayne carefully organized, drilled, and supplied the several thousand men of the Legion. They pressed northward from Cincinnati in 1793.**

**In August of 1794, the Americans defeated hundreds of Indian warriors in a relatively brief encounter along the Maumee now called the Battle of Fallen Timbers. Little Turtle, understanding the futility of the cause, refused to participate. And the British demonstrated the limits of their support when they refused to open the gates of Fort Miami to fleeing Indians. The next year, with the British having agreed as part of the Jay Treaty to abandon their posts in the Northwest Territory, the Indians and Americans signed the Treaty of Greenville. This 1795 document recognized the claim of the United States to approximately two-thirds of what is now Ohio. The map shows the northern limits of the Greenville line, referred to as the "Indian Boundary Line." American forts, moving northward from Cincinnati, are named: Hamilton, St. Clair, Greenville, Recovery, Adams, and Defiance. Indian villages are named along the Maumee River and near Sandusky.**

**In the immediate aftermath of the Treaty of Greenville, thousands of Americans began to settle along the river valleys of southern Ohio. The United States government was trying to organize the development of the region. In the southwestern corner of the map is the Symmes Purchase, which Congress had sold to the New Jersey speculator John Cleves Symmes in 1787. To the east of it is the Virginia Military Lands, which had been set aside for Virginia's veterans of the War for Independence in exchange for the state surrendering its claim to the land north of the Ohio River. Much further to the east, in the area around Marietta, is the Ohio Company Purchase, another huge parcel of land sold to speculators.**

**Most impressive is the "Seven Ranges" in the southeastern corner of the Northwest Territory. The regular lines of this distorted checkerboard show the extent to which the American government hoped to bring order to the lands of the Ohio Country. Surveyed and sold at public auction, the land would be conveyed in regular units formed with little respect for the lay of the land and a great deal of respect for the ability of men in Philadelphia and New York to identify specific plots of land from a distance. The Seven Ranges established the model for developing landscapes throughout the Northwest Territory.**



Arrowsmith, Aaron and Samuel Lewis. "Ohio" **A New and Elegant General Atlas.**  
 Map No. 48. Boston: Thomas & Andrews. May 1812.  
 Courtesy: The Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio

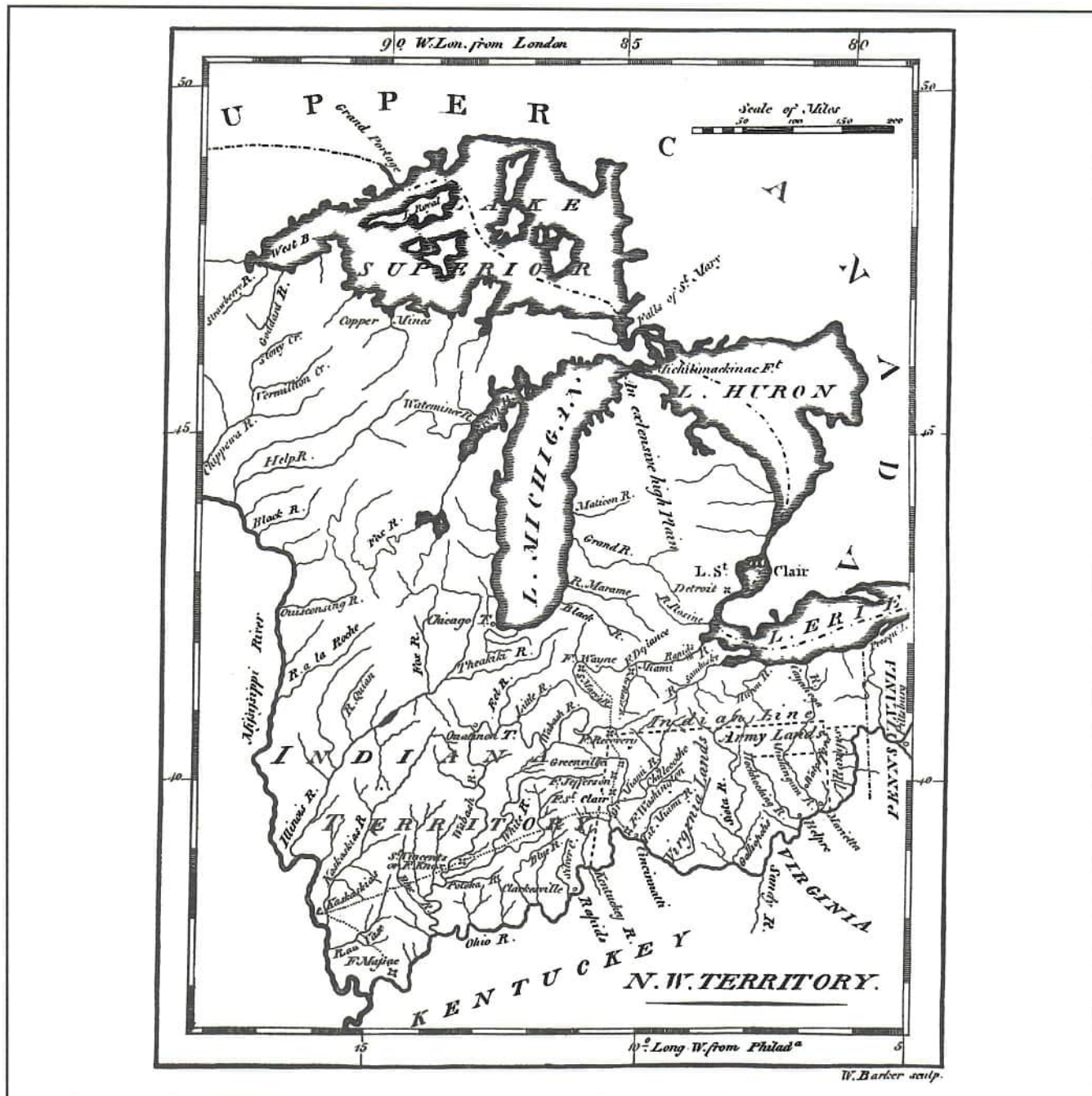
## **Northwest Territory**

**By Andrew R. L. Cayton**

**Matthew Carey's map, is an 1801 depiction of the Northwest Territory, which had been created by Congress in 1787. The map reflects the success of the United States in establishing its authority north of the Ohio River. Kentucky, which was now a state, was largely an extension of Virginia. But the Northwest Territory was something different, a region whose development was planned by the national government. The actual history of the territory involved negotiation among Indians, settlers (French as well as American) and federal officials.**

**By 1801, as the map shows, the Americans' sense of the topography of the region, while improved, was still rudimentary. Even in the Ohio Country, which was rapidly filling with settlers, the map incorrectly locates Chillicothe and Gallipolis. Nonetheless, the mapmaker has included the Greenville Treaty Line (called "Indian Line") and the Virginia Military District as well as the American forts, which no doubt served to reassure nervous eastern speculators. The major innovation is the inclusion of the Indiana Territory (now Indiana and Illinois), which had been created in 1800 after much debate about where to draw the line between it and what would become Ohio. Some people felt that the line should be east of Cincinnati, but those who wanted to include the city won out.**

**Like many maps, this one informs as much by what it leaves out as by what it includes. American claims to the territory are secured by the inclusion of American forts and political divisions. Just as significant is the absence of Indian villages or locations. In essence, the mapmaker ratified the American victory in the struggle for control of the region by erasing the Indian presence, which had been a prominent part of the previous maps in this series. French settlements (at Kaskaskia, for example) remain as do French names of rivers. But with the exception of the name of the Indiana Territory, Native Americans who still inhabited much of this territory are no longer portrayed as important players - or even residents - of the region.**



**1801 Map of Northwest Territory. Published by Mathew Carey. Philadelphia. 1801.**  
**Courtesy: William Henry Smith Library. Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, Indiana**

In an effort to direct land settlement north and west of the Ohio River, Congress passed the Land Ordinance of 1785. Two years later, Congress enacted the Northwest Ordinance for the purpose of establishing government in the Territory. In 1787 Arthur St. Clair was appointed Governor of the Northwest Territory. The 1795 Treaty Line at Fort Recovery was indicated on this map, separating Indian lands and Army Lands.

## **"Rufus Putnam's Map of the State of Ohio, January 1804"**

**by Andrew R. L. Cayton**

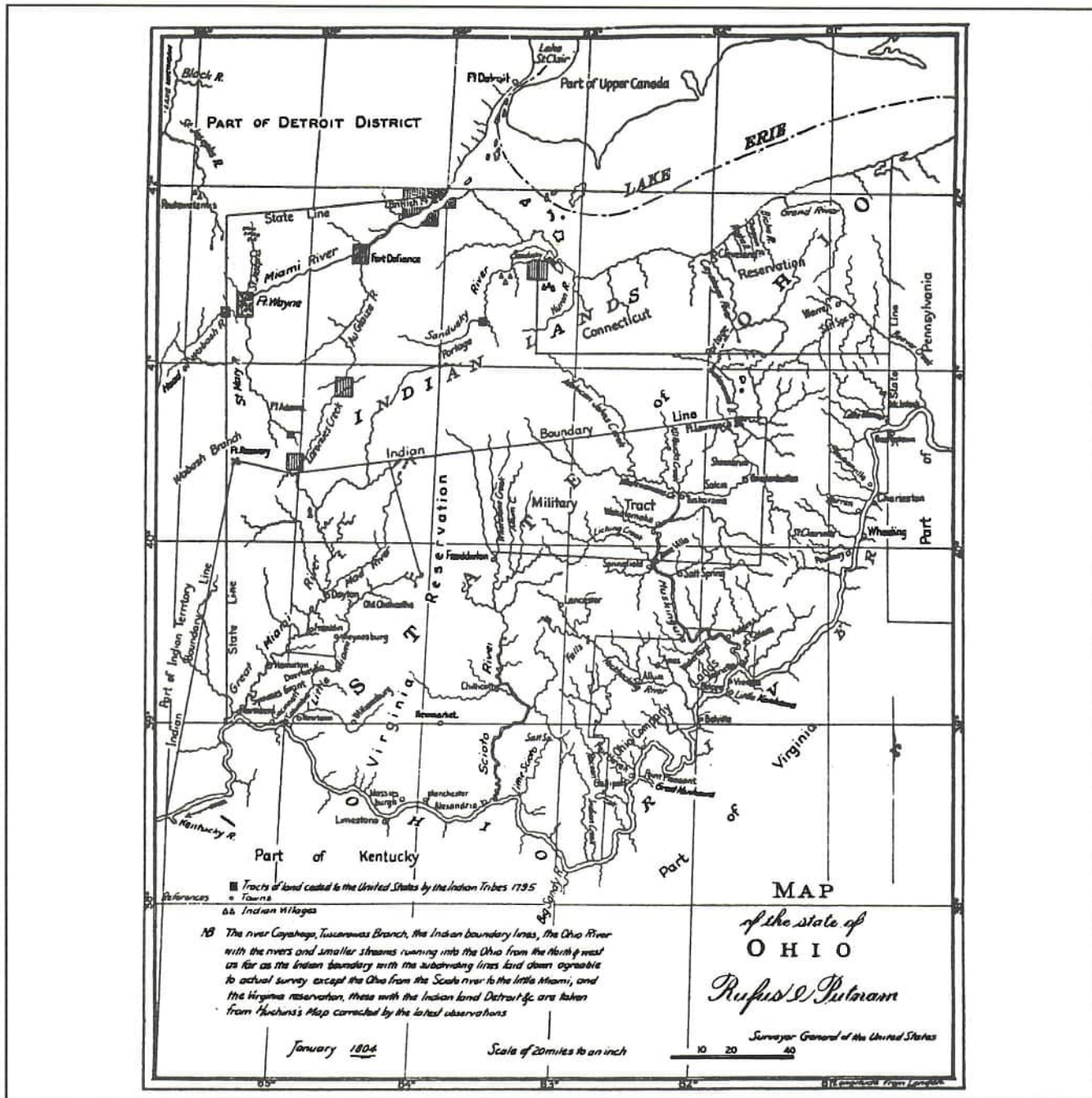
**Ohio became the seventeenth state in the American Union in March of 1803 with borders established by an act of Congress. This map, drawn by Rufus Putnam, one of the leading founders of Marietta and a Surveyor-General of the United States, depicts the contours of Ohio less than a year after its admission to the American Union. The overall message of the map is that much of the state remained unfinished, its future uncertain.**

**Putnam's presentation of the southern part of the state is as precise as his rendering of the northwestern section of the state is vague. Note that Putnam places Fort Wayne within the boundaries of Ohio, and that the border between Ohio and the Detroit District is not the modern one. These features reflect not only the limited extent of Putnam's familiarity with the land in the northwestern section of the new state, but with the uncertain nature of the American presence in that region. The "state lines" depicted on Putnam's map define theory more than reality.**

**Putnam set the title "State of Ohio" running from Cincinnati to the east and north to what would become Geauga and Ashtabula counties in the far northeast. In so doing, he gave the name Ohio to the parts of the state over which the United States now exercised undisputed authority. Where the area south of the Indian Boundary (or Treaty of Greenville) Line has all the marks of development, including English or anglicized names of towns and rivers, the region north and west of the Greenville Line is labeled "Indian Lands." The physical placement of the two titles "State of Ohio" and "Indian Lands" highlights the still unresolved nature of Ohio's boundaries.**

**If Putnam has eliminated all signs of Indian villages, the title "Indian Lands" and the fact that the American locations in the northwestern part of Ohio are forts warn viewers that Indians continue to be a significant presence in the area. No one migrating to the northern Ohio, in other words, should feel as secure as they would in the southern half of the state.**

**Putnam also sends the message that northern Ohio is still contested terrain by having the names of the "Indian Lands" and the "Connecticut Reservation" directly overlap with each other. The Connecticut Western Reserve was land set aside by Congress to satisfy Connecticut's claims to western lands. Settlement of the area began in the late 1790's but was hampered initially by the lack of easy access. It was not until the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, linking the Hudson River in New York with Lake Erie, that the population of this area would begin to grow as rapidly as the southern parts of Ohio. Rufus Putnam marks the early settlements at Cleveland and Warren, but they appear as relatively isolated places compared with the burgeoning number of locations in the Miami and Muskingum valleys.**



**Map of the State of Ohio, by Rufus Putnam, Surveyor General of the United States. January 1804. North of the 1795 "Indian Boundary Line," was noted as "Indian Lands." Fort Recovery, on the Wabash River and Fort Adams on the Saint Marys River were noted. An error placed Fort Wayne too far east and in Ohio instead of Indiana.**

**March 1, 1803, Ohio became the 17<sup>th</sup> State, the first to be created from the Northwest Territory. Note that Northwest Ohio was noted as "Indian Lands" in 1804 and continued to be so, until the 1817 Treaties at the "foot of the rapids" and 1818 Treaties at Saint Marys.**

**"SHANE GRANT"**

**President of the United States  
to Anthony Shane**

James Monroe, President of the United States of America to all to whom these presents. Is all come Greeting:

Know Ye that in pursuance of an Act of Congress passed the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 1815, entitled an act for granting and securing to Anthony Shane, the right of the United States to a tract of Land in the State of Ohio, the said Anthony Shane is confirmed in his Grant, to a tract of land on the River St. Marys, containing Three hundred and twenty acres situate in Township Four (South) in Range Two (East), of the first meridian line and being part of section 16, 17, 20, and 21, according to the returns of the Surveyor General for Piqua district. There is therefore granted by the United States to the said Anthony Shane, the tract of Land above described: To have and to hold, the said Tract, with the appurtenances unto the said Anthony Shane, his heirs, and his assigns forever.

In Testimony whereof, I have cause to these letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the twenty-sixth of day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the forty fifth.

**By the President**  
James Monroe

Josiah Meigs,  
Commissioner of the General Land Office  
Recorded Volume 2, page 348 on Donation Patents

Entered for Record, Recorded July 10, 1835  
J.W. Riley, Recorder

[This record is found in Volume C, Page 345,  
in the Mercer County Recorder's Office,  
Mercer County Courthouse, Celina, Ohio.]

*James Monroe*  
President of the United States  
to  
*Anthony Shane*

*James Monroe, President of the United States of America to all to whom these presents come greeting. Know Ye that in pursuance of an act of Congress passed the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 1815, entitled an act for granting and securing to Anthony Shane, the right of the United States to a tract of land in the State of Ohio, the said Anthony Shane is confirmed in his grant, to a tract of land on the River St. Marys, containing Three hundred and twenty acres situate in Township four (South) in Range Two East, of the first meridian line and being part of section 16, 17, 20, and 21, according to the returns of the Surveyor General for Piqua district.*

*There is therefore granted by the United States to the said Anthony Shane, the tract of Land above described: To have and to hold, the said Tract, with the appurtenances unto the said Anthony Shane, his heirs, and assigns forever. In testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.*

*Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the twenty-sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the forty fifth.*

*By the President*  
*James Monroe.*

*Josiah Meigs*  
Commissioner of the General Land Office

*Recorded Volume 2, page 348*  
*of Donation Patents*

*Entered for Record on 7 July 1835*

*J.W. Riley Recorder*

- 1805-1808** Treaties were made with the Native Americans at Fort Industry (present Toledo, Ohio), and Detroit and Brownstown (Michigan Territory), whereby the Native Americans surrendered more land.
- 1812** June 18, 1812, War was declared against Great Britain.
- 1812-1814** The War of 1812 marked the final efforts of Great Britain and France to go to war with the United States. (In Mercer County, Ohio, the 1790's forts at Fort Recovery and Fort Adams were used as supply depots for the United States Army during the War of 1812.)
- 1815** The War of 1812 ended with the ratification of the Treaty of Ghent.
- Feb. 26, 1815** President James Monroe granted to Anthony Shane a tract of land in the State of Ohio on the River of St. Marys, containing three hundred and twenty acres situated in Township Four (South) and Range Two (East) of the first meridian line and being part of section 16, 17, 20, and 21. [Today, this site is identified as being located at the south edge of the Village plat of Rockford in Dublin Township, Mercer County, Ohio.]
- 1817** At the Treaty at the Foot of the Rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, (Maumee), Native Americans surrendered land in what is today Northwest Ohio, to the United States. Charles J. Kappler described the 1817 Treaty in Indian Affairs. Law and Treaties, Volume II, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1904, Pages 145-155:

**"1817. Articles of a Treaty made and concluded at the FOOT OF THE RAPIDS OF THE MIAMI OF LAKE ERIE. (Maumee), between Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur, commissioners of the United States, with full power and authority to hold conferences, and conclude and sign treaty or treaties with all or any of the tribes or nations of Indians within the boundaries of the state of Ohio, of and concerning all matters interesting to the United States and the said nations of Indians on the one part; and the sachems, chiefs, and warriors of the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawanese, Potawatomees, Ottawas, and Chippeway, tribes of Indians."**

**This 1817 treaty had one Article which related to land in present Mercer County. (Kappler, page 148)**

**Article VII:**

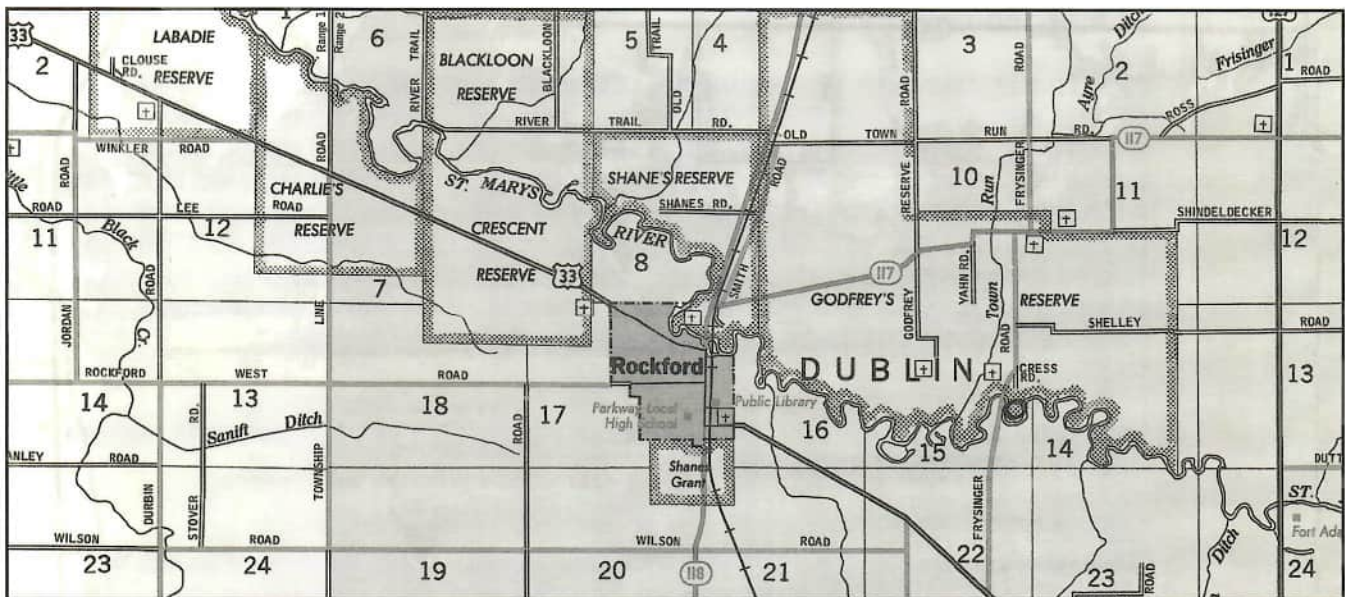
*"To Anthony Shane, a half blood Ottawas Indian, one section of land, to contain six hundred and forty acres, on the east side of the river St. Marys, and to begin opposite the house in which said Shane now lives, thence, up the river, with the meanders thereof, one hundred and sixty poles, and from the beginning down the river, with the meanders thereof, one hundred and sixty poles, and from the extremity of the said lines east for quantity."*

## "Indian Reserves"

By Harrison Frech

After the 1817 Treaty had been negotiated it came under severe criticism. The Ohio Indians felt they had surrendered too much land for too little reward. The Wyandot sent a delegation to Washington with their complaints. They met with President Monroe and other leading figures in the executive and legislative branches of the government. The treaty had to be approved by the Senate. The members of the Public Land Committee of that body, chaired by Senator Jeremiah Morrow of Ohio, had another complaint with the agreement. It included provisions that granted land fee simple to Indians, giving ownership and the right to sell land to individual tribe members. The Treaty was sent back to Commissioners Cass and McArthur for renegotiation.

At St. Marys during August, September and the beginning of October of 1818 a revised form of the Treaty of Fort Meigs was negotiated with the Ohio Indians, leading to the cession of almost all of Northwest Ohio to the United States. The size of the tribes' reservations was increased and the fee simple provision was removed. At the same site the Treaty of St. Marys was negotiated with the tribes of Indiana. It led to the cession of a large portion of the Indiana to the Americans and the removal of Indiana Delaware Indians to the west of the Mississippi. The St. Marys Treaty negotiation did include a small portion of Ohio. The Miami claimed the St. Marys River Valley. They ceded the land to the United States. Part of the payment the Miami received for the cession were reservations granted to tribal leaders, most of whom were metis of Miami and French Canadian ancestry. Examples along or near the St. Marys River, in Ohio were the reserves of LaBadie, Crescent, Black Loon, Charlie, Godfrey and Richardville.



Indian Reserves along the Saint Marys River from the 1818 Treaties were LaBadie Reserve, Charlie's Reserve, Blackloon Reserve, Crescent Reserve, and Godfrey's Reserve. Shane's Reserve was accomplished in the 1817 Treaty at the "foot of the rapids." Shane's Grant, by President James Monroe was dated February 27, 1815 (located at south edge of the Village of Rockford today).

Courtesy: Map of Mercer County, Ohio, Mercer County Engineer's Office

**1818**

**Charles Kappler, also describes the revised Fort Meigs Treaty in Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties, Volume II, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1904, Pages 145-155:**

**"1818. Articles of a treaty made and concluded at St. Mary's, in the State of Ohio, between Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur, Commissioners of the United States, with full power and authority to hold conferences, and conclude and sign a treaty or treaties, with all or any of the tribes or nations of Indians within the boundaries of the State of Ohio, of and concerning all matters interesting to the United States and the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Wyandot, Seneca, Shawnese, and Ottawas, tribes of Indians; being supplementary to the treaty made and concluded with the said tribes and the Delaware, Potawatamie, and Chippewa, tribes of Indians, at the foot of the Rapids of the Miami or Lake Erie, on the twenty-ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen."**

<b>September 17, 1818 -</b>	<b>Ottawas, Shawnees, Wyandots and Seneca signed revised Fort Miegs Treaty</b>
<b>October 2, 1818 -</b>	<b>Potawatomie and Wea signed the St. Marys Treaty</b>
<b>October 3, 1818 -</b>	<b>Delawares signed the St. Marys Treaty</b>
<b>October 6, 1818 -</b>	<b>Miami signed the St. Marys Treaty</b>

**From 1829 to 1833 the Ohio Delaware, Seneca and Shawnee were removed to the west of the Mississippi. Ohio Ottawa moved west from 1833 to 1838. The Wyandot were the last removed in 1843.**

**1819**

**After the Treaties of 1817 and 1818, the land of Northwest Ohio needed to be surveyed for two reasons. First, settlers wanted to purchase land from the United States Government. Second, Ohio's Governor Brown and Ohio's Congress were looking to New York for guidance in establishing a canal system in Ohio, so Northwest Ohio needed to be surveyed to determine potential canal routes. The land had to be surveyed, and government offices had to be established before land could be sold. Land in Mercer County was purchased (after 1824) at the Piqua Land Office and later the Lima Land Office.**

**June 23,  
1819**

**Edward Tiffin, Surveyor General, appointed Captain James Riley as Deputy Surveyor. In July, 1819, Captain Riley began his surveys of the lands purchased from the Indians in 1818. In November 1819, he was located at the "Forest, Head of Wabash river, near Fort Recovery, Ohio." Riley continued with his surveys of Northwest Ohio, and Fort Wayne, Indiana until he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1823.**

**For more information, see: Ohio's Last Frontiersman, Connecticut Mariner, Captain James Riley by Joyce Alig. Mercer County Historical Society. Celina, OH: Messenger Press, 1997. pages 85-126.**

## **"Anthony Findley's Map of Ohio and the Settled Parts of Michigan, 1834"**

**By Andrew R. L. Cayton**

**By the time Anthony Findley drew this map, American definitions of the terrain occupied by Indians and Europeans in the middle of the eighteenth century were triumphant. The development of the state along lines established by Americans was well underway. The name "OHIO" straddles the state from east to west a little south of the center. Findley indicates the names of most of the modern counties, many of them named after American heroes, including Washington, Jefferson, Ross, Hamilton, Butler (who died at St. Clair's Defeat in 1791), Crawford, Marion, and Mercer. Occasionally, an anglicized version of an Indian name appears - Miami and Seneca are examples - but they are rare. Ohio is now an American landscape.**

**The map shows us that Nineteenth Century Ohioans were heavily involved in revising the terrain of their state, seeking to improve access to markets throughout North America and beyond. At the very bottom of the map is a "Profile of the Ohio and Erie Canal," a project on which the state embarked in the mid-1820's in order to link the Ohio River and Lake Erie. This canal and others vastly reduced the time and costs of transportation until the 1840's when railroads superceded them. Roads also appear on the map, most notably the National Road (now U.S. 40) which linked the Potomac Valley with the Mississippi Valley. The names of settlements are so dense, especially in the Miami Valley and Connecticut Reserve, that they are difficult to read. This clutter reflects the extensive populations of the two most rapidly expanding parts of Ohio. The overall sense of the map is that Ohio was a very busy place. It is astounding when we remember that Ohio had only become a federal territory forty-seven years earlier and had been a state for just over three decades.**

**The only unresolved part of the map is the northern boundary with the territory of Michigan. Note that Findley has the border located below Toledo. In the 1830's, both Ohio and Michigan (which would become a state in 1837) claimed the mouth of the Maumee River. The dispute over this small but strategic bit of territory became quite heated, leading to expressions of state pride from Ohioans and a call for troops to protect the state's interests. The conflict ended when Congress gave the contested territory to Ohio and paid off disappointed Michiganders with the Upper Peninsula, an area that later proved to be rich in minerals and a bargain for Michigan.**

**The fact that this conflict took place exclusively among Americans speaks volumes about how much the region had changed in less than a century.**

**Indians have almost entirely disappeared from the map, as have the French. All that remains were anglicized versions of place names. The triumph of the United States and Americans was complete. With the forced removal of the Wyandots, Miami, and other Indians to lands west of the Mississippi River in the 1830s, their presence in Ohio had become invisible. They were not only gone, they were largely forgotten. The Ohio Country was now a thoroughly American landscape and its residents would spend the rest of the Nineteenth Century developing and improving it in ways that would suit their values and benefit their interests.**



**1834 map of Ohio and the settled parts of Michigan. Engraved by J. Young. Philadelphia, Published by Anthony Findley. 1834.**  
**Courtesy: The Western Reserve Historical Society Library, Cleveland, Ohio**

**Note that since Auglaize County had not been established, the Village of St. Marys was located in Mercer County. St. Marys served as the Mercer County seat until the County seat was moved to Celina in 1839. (Celina was platted by James Watson Riley, et. al., in 1834.) Shanesville, platted in 1820, was marked in Mercer County on this 1834 map. Mercer County judges sometimes held court at Shanesville and St. Marys in the 1820's. Shanesville is the present Village of Rockford, Ohio. Van Wert County was attached to Mercer County until 1837. Auglaize County was formed in 1848 and Villages of St. Marys, New Bremen, and Minster were no longer within the boundary of Mercer County. Darke county was diminished by parts of its northern townships, that were moved to Mercer county: Gibson, Granville and Marion.**

## Mercer County's Boundary Lines

- 1820**      **Twenty counties were established in Northwestern Ohio, north of 1795 Treaty Line**
- 1820**      **Mercer County was "Established."**
- 1824**      **Mercer County was "Organized."**
- Randolph C. Downes, in "Evolution of Ohio County Boundaries." by the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Publications, Volume 36, in 1927, on pages 341-477, described the evolution of Mercer County's Boundary lines as follows:**
- 1820**      **Mercer County was erected by virtue of an act for the erection of counties in Northwestern Ohio, and passed February 12, 1820. This act provides that "all that part of lands lately ceded by the Indians to the United States, which lies within the State of Ohio, shall be and the same is hereby erected into fourteen separate and distinct counties, to be bounded and named as follows: Van Wert, Mercer, Putnam, Allen, Hancock, Hardin, Crawford, Richland, Seneca, Sandusky, Wood, Henry, Paulding, and Williams." This same act also provided that Van Wert and Mercer Counties be attached to Darke County until otherwise ordered. O.L.L. XXII, p. 41**
- [Editor's Note: Note that Auglaize County was not named as one of the fourteen counties in the 1820 Act. Auglaize County was formed in 1848.]**
- 1824**      **Mercer County was subsequently detached in 1824. In 1824, Van Wert was detached from Darke and attached to Mercer. O.L.L., XXII, p. 41. Van Wert was organized March 18, 1837, and detached from Mercer County. O.L.L., XXXV, p. 273. (Auglaize County was not listed.)**
- 1826**      **March 1, 1826: all of Shelby County north of south boundary of T 7, south of base line, in R 4, east of First Meridian, as attached to Mercer; passed February 3, 1826. O.L.L., XXIV, p. 62**
- 1828**      **March 1, 1828: An Act by which Allen County was detached from Shelby and attached to Mercer was passed on January 5, 1828, to take effect March 1, 1828. O.G.L., XXVI, p. 1.**
- 1831**      **March 1, 1831: Allen was organized by act of February 9, 1831, to take effect on March 1, 1831, (and attached to Mercer County). O.L.L. XXIX, p. 94.**
- 1837**      **March 18, 1837, Van Wert County was organized, (and detached from Mercer County). O.L.L. XXXV, p. 273.**
- 1848**      **February 14, 1848, Mercer County was diminished by the formation of Auglaize county. Parts of Mercer County were attached to Allen and Van Wert Counties. Part of Darke County, the land south of the 1795 Treaty Line, and north of the present Mercer County Line, were attached to Mercer County. This land included Gibson township and parts of Granville and Marion Townships. This was the last time Mercer County, Ohio Boundary Lines were changed.**

## Miami & Erie Canal's Impact on Mercer County, Ohio

**1825** The opening of Erie Canal in New York influenced Ohio to initiate canals. July 4, 1825, the first spade of dirt was turned in Ohio, to initiate Ohio's canals.

**1845** Miami & Erie Canal was open from Cincinnati to Toledo, in 1845. However, people were using the M & E Canal to go north from Cincinnati, as it was open to Middletown in 1827, to Dayton in 1829, and to Piqua in 1837. [This editor has not yet found an exact date, when the M & E Canal was open to Minster, New Bremen, and Saint Marys. The Deep Cut above St. Marys was begun in 1839.]

The M & E Canal made an impact on Mercer County. The canals in Ohio opened the interior lands of Ohio, not only to settlement, but also to trade. First, the population grew. In the 1820 U.S. Census, Mercer County was still attached to Darke County. The 1830 U.S. Census of Mercer County indicated a population of 1,116. Nine Mercer County villages were platted in the 1830's (not counting St. Marys, Minster and New Bremen which later became a part of Auglaize County). The 1840 U.S. Census of Mercer County was 8,277.

**1850-1860** The 1850 U.S. Census of Mercer County was 7,712; it was lower than the 1840 Census because the villages in Auglaize County were moved from Mercer County, and not counted with Mercer County's statistics. The 1860 Census of Mercer County was 14,104.



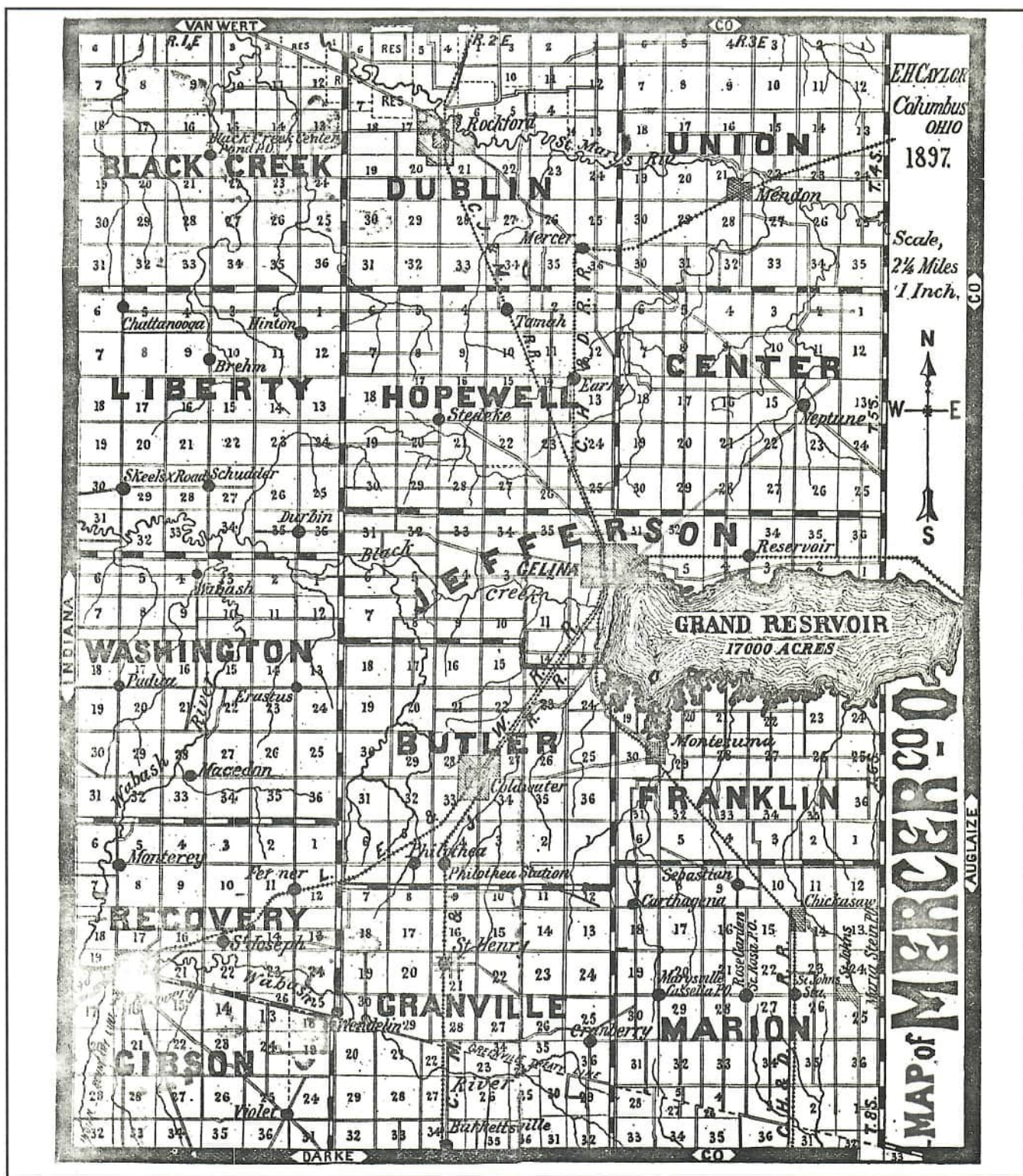
**Early Map of Ohio Canals: proposed, existing, and abandoned canals. Drawn from Map and Data prepared by Capt. Hiram. M. Chittenden, Corps of Engineers. Columbus, Ohio. 1850. Liberty Hall and Cincinnati Weekly Gazette, May 9, 1850.**

**1870-1890** The 1870 Census of Mercer County was 17,254.  
The 1880 Census of Mercer County was 21,808.  
Three Railroads crossed Mercer County, and helped increase the population, as well as improve transportation and communication. Many county newspapers originated at this time. The economy continued to improve and businesses flourished.  
**1879** L. E. & W. (Lake Erie and Western Railroad)  
**1883** C. J. & M. (Cincinnati, Jackson and Mackinaw Railroad)  
**1884** C. H. & D. (Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad)  
The 1890 Census of Mercer County was 27,220.



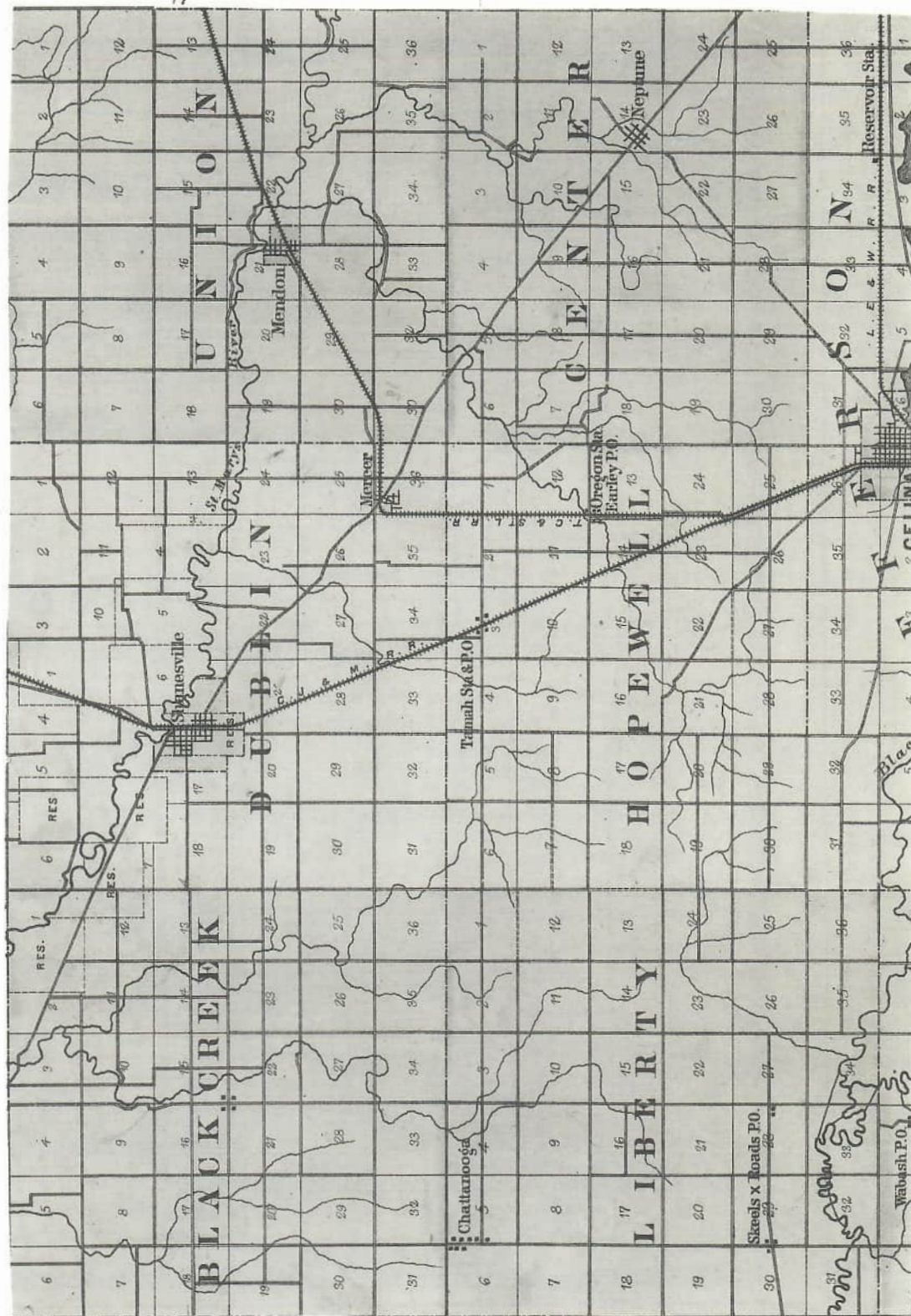
**1868 Map of Mercer County, Ohio. Atlas of State of Ohio. New York: Henry Stebbens. 1868, page 29.**

**Courtesy: Bowling Green State University Library, Bowling Green, Ohio.**



1897 Township Map, with Villages of Mercer County, Ohio.

1897 Map Mercer County, Ohio. E.H. Caylor. Columbus, Ohio  
 Courtesy: Mercer County Historical Society, Inc.



1888 Map of Mercer County, Ohio. Atlas of Mercer County, Ohio. Griffing, Gordon & Co. Philadelphia, PA. 1888.  
 Courtesy: Mercer County Historical Museum, Celina, Ohio.

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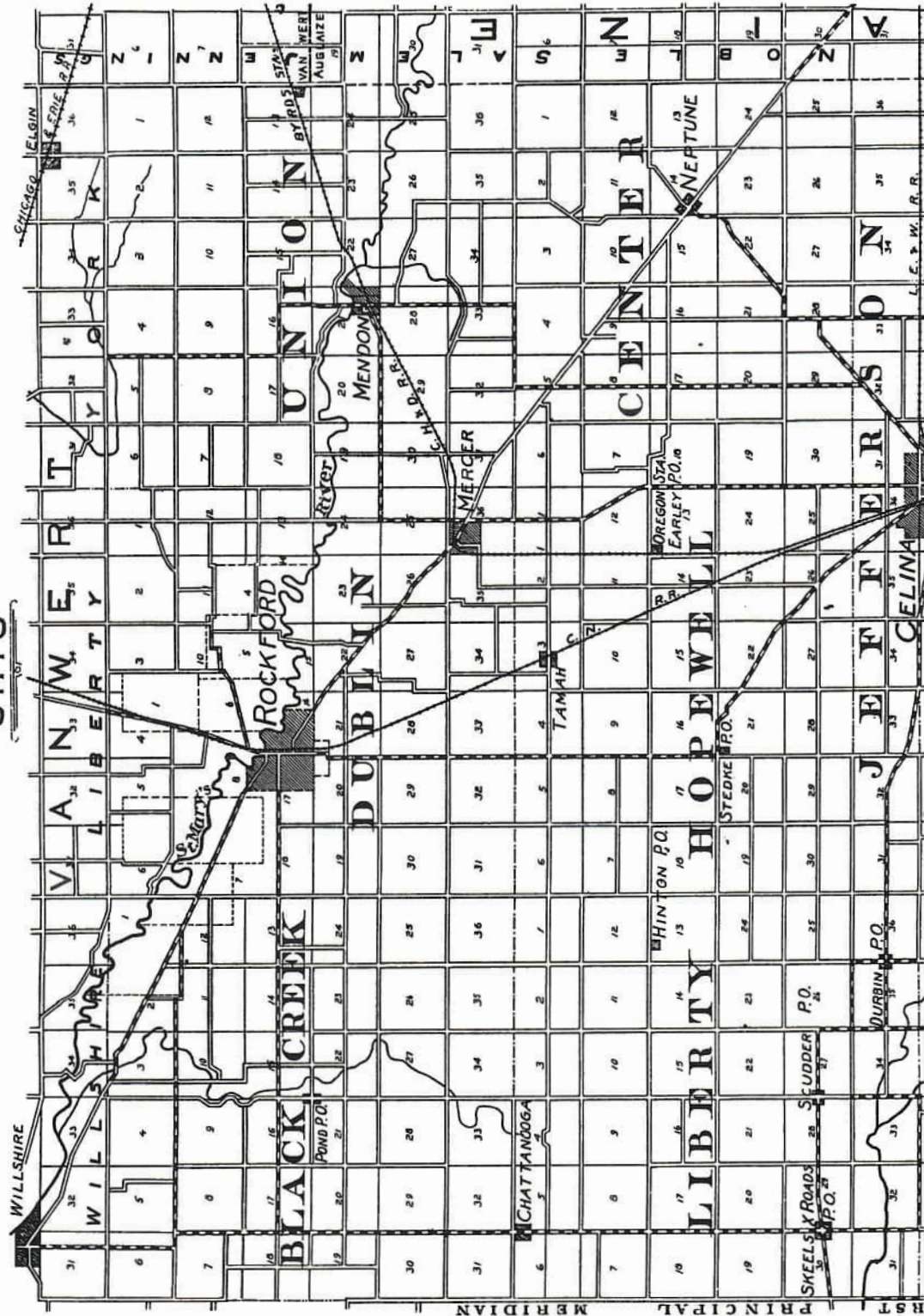
**Corner Dry Cleaning**  
**Coldwater and Celina, sponsor**

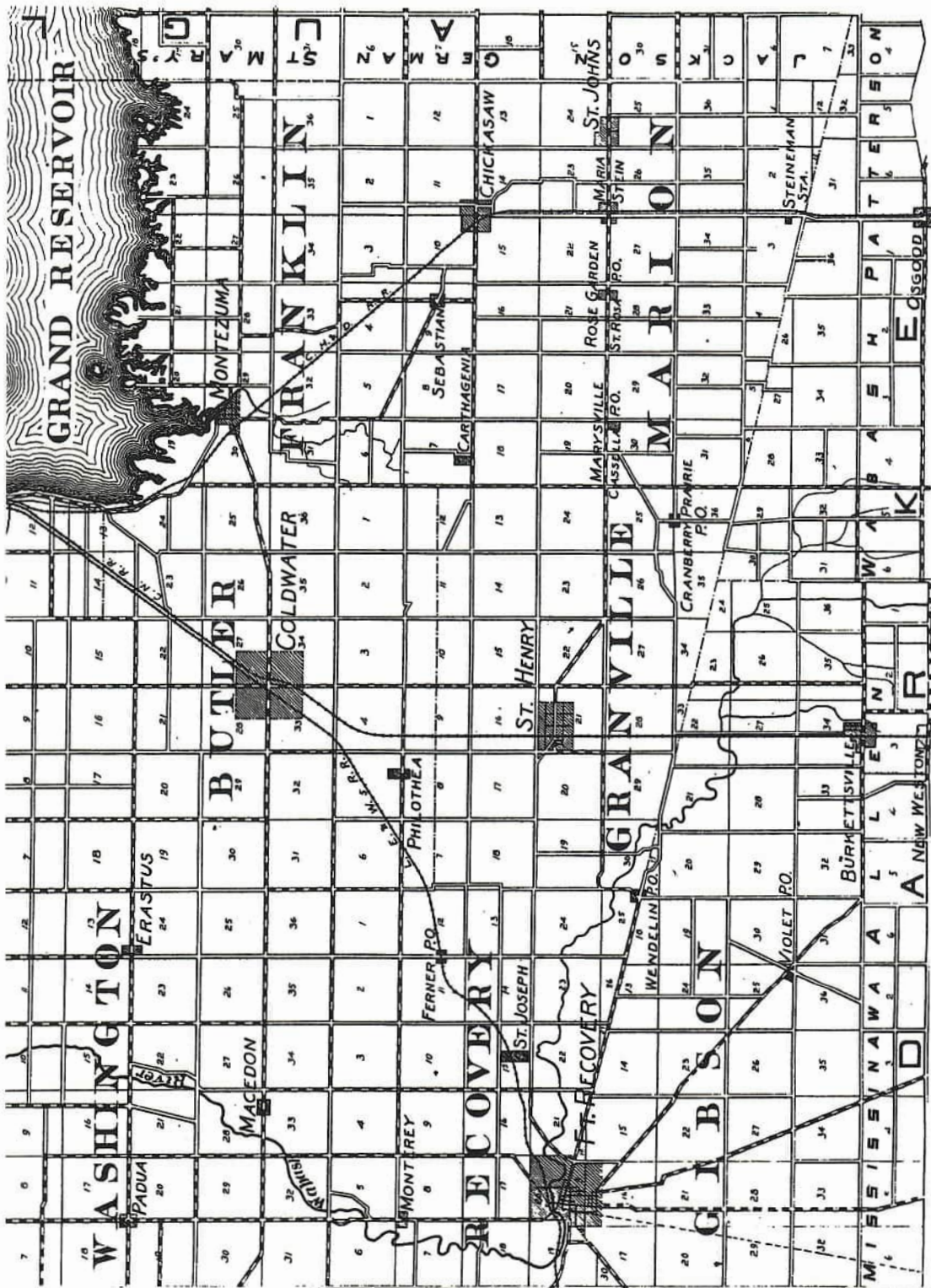


# MERCER COUNTY

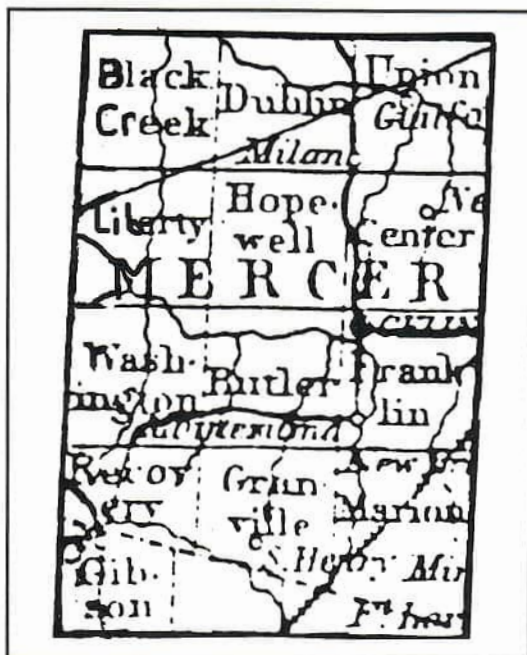
## 1900

OHIO

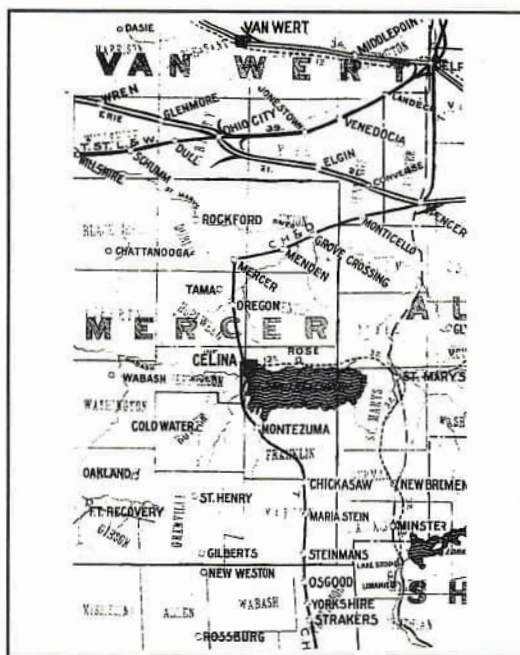




1900 Map of Mercer County, Ohio. Atlas of Mercer County, Ohio. Celina, Ohio:  
 J.E. Hamburger & Co. 1900.  
 Courtesy: Mercer County Historical Museum, Celina, Ohio.



**Mercer County, Ohio.  
Ohio. Published by J.H. Colton & Co.  
New York, 1855.**



**Mercer County, Ohio. Railroad Map of Ohio.  
Published by the State. Public Printing of Ohio.  
Columbus, OH: Columbus Lithograph Co. 1914.**

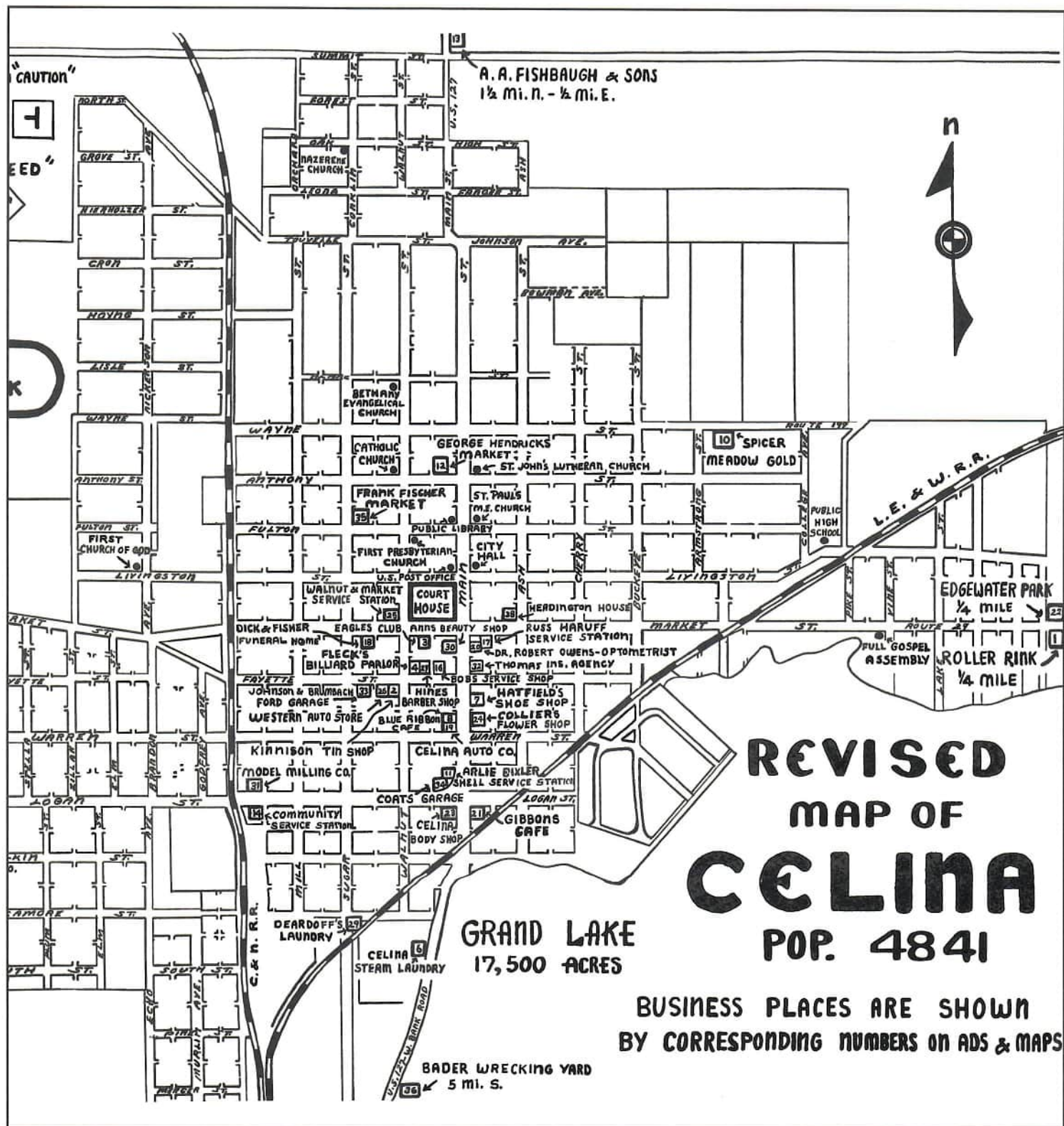


**Mercer County, Ohio.  
Hammonds Co., Map of Ohio  
C.S. Hammond & Co., 1931**

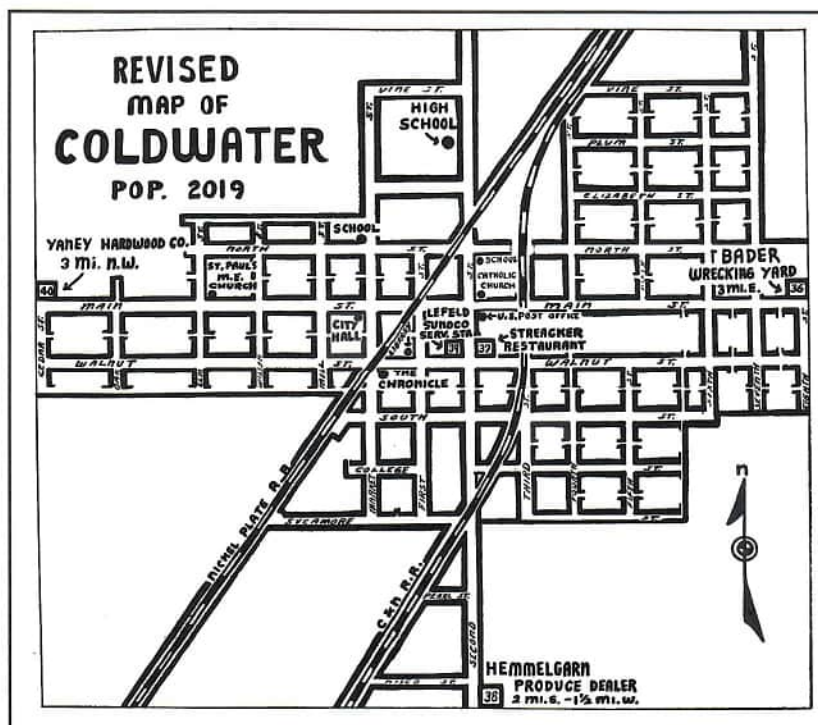
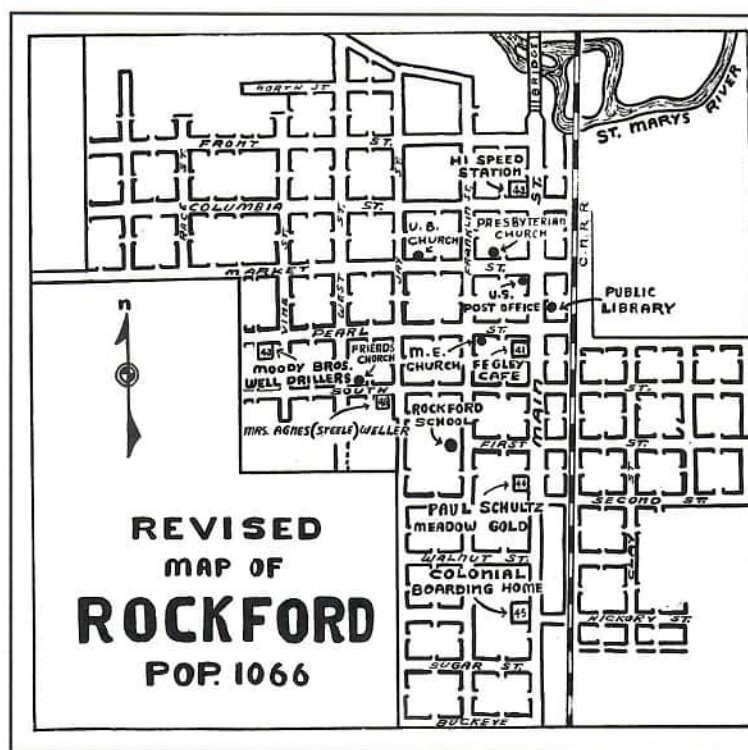
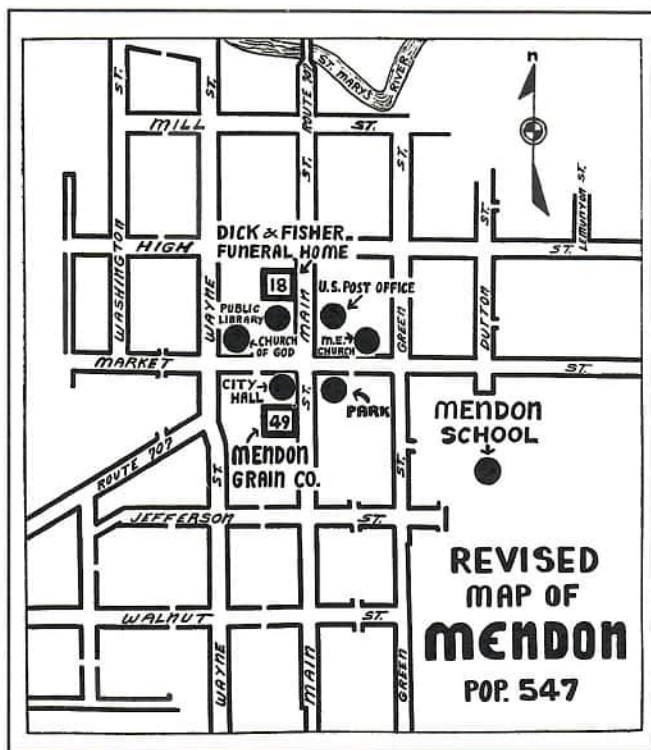


**Mercer County, Ohio  
Sohio Petroleum Products.  
Ohio. 1931.**

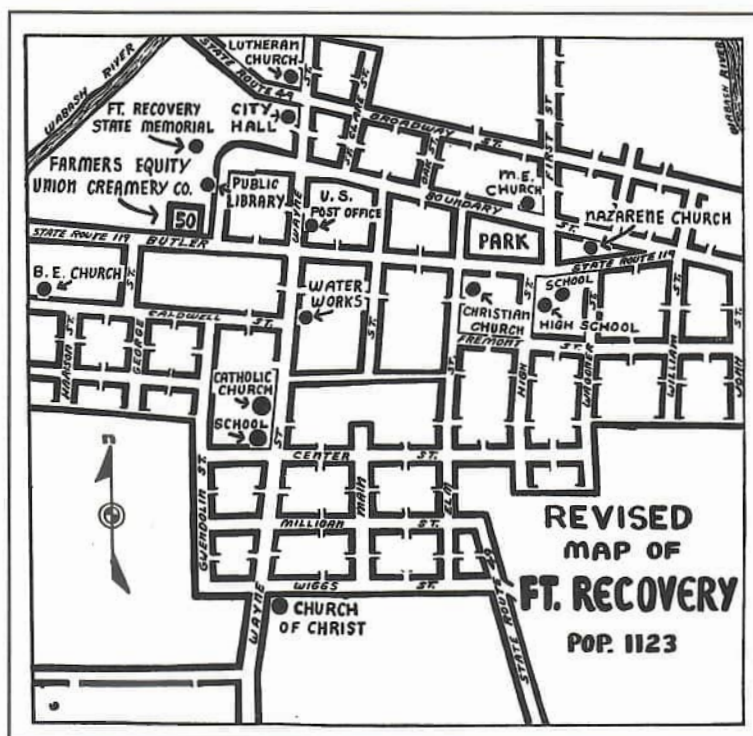
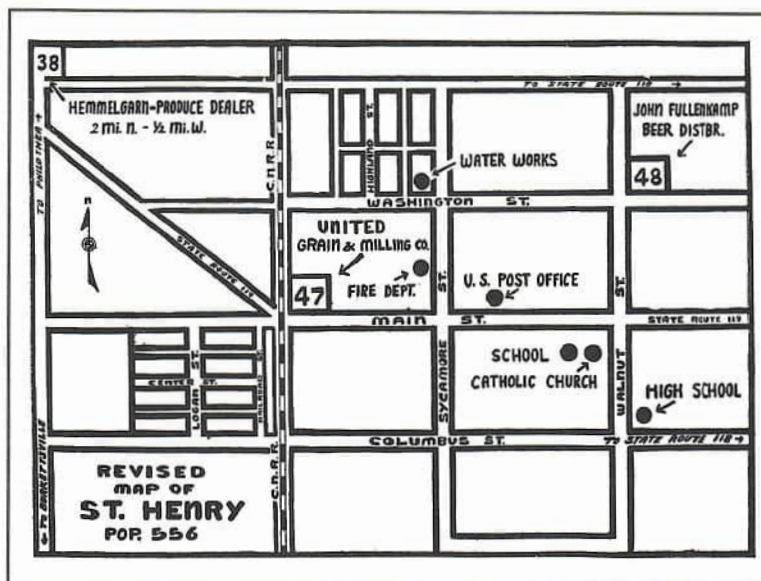
**Courtesy: Robert B. Tangeman, P.O. Box 63, Maria Stein, OH 45860**



Map of Celina, Ohio. Mercer County Buyers Guide, 1941-1942  
Courtesy: David McNeilan, Celina, Ohio



**Mercer County Village Maps. Mercer County Buyers Guide, 1941-1942**  
**Courtesy: David McNeilan, Celina, Ohio**



**Mercer County Village Maps. Mercer County Buyers Guide, 1941-1942.**  
**Courtesy: David McNeelan, Celina, Ohio**

**The Saint Henry Bank**  
**Saint Henry and Maria Stein, sponsor**

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Fort Miamis, 6	Maumee, Ohio, 11	Roseboom, 10	Wyandot, 5, 7, 12, 20, 29, 31, 32

## **MERCER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

The Mercer County Historical Society, Inc. was founded by individuals with ideas and foresight. They recognized the importance of the study and preservation of Mercer County's past, as well as using knowledge of the past to challenge individuals to set high standards in their work, recreation and community service, and to contribute to the cultural and economic development of Mercer County. This Society was founded by several hundred members in 1958. The founding officers were Roscoe Riley, Carleton Reiser and Carroll Stubbs. They opened the Mercer County Historical Museum in 1959, with the financial support of the Mercer County Commissioners and public support. Bronsart Gilberg served the first Director. In the 1960's, annual meetings were held.

The turning point in the Museum's exhibit care and public service, was the move of the Museum from the Main and Fayette Street location to The Riley Home, 130 East Market, Celina, in 1975, made possible by David and Barbara Riley and the Mercer County Commissioners.

The Museum is administered by the Mercer County Historical Society, Inc., Executive Board of Directors. The 2000 Board Members are David Riley, Frank Snyder, Donald Muhlenkamp, Harrison Frech, David McNeilan, Henry Leugers, and Emeritus Member Bradley Bubp. The 2000 Officers are President Joyce L. Alig, Vice President Philip Naumann, Secretary Marjorie Pierstorff, and Treasurer George Schroyer. Membership is open to the public.

Joyce L. Alig is Director of the Mercer County Historical Museum, having served in this position since January 1973. Donald Muhlenkamp maintains the Museum interior. The Mercer County Commissioners' Maintenance Staff maintains the building and grounds. Mercer County Historical Society Members, the Mercer County Commissioners via the Libraries, the Mercer County Civic Foundation, and the public fund the Museum through donations, estate planning, and grants.

The Mercer County Historical Society, Inc. also holds special exhibits at the Museum, including an Antique Transportation Exhibit, the Prehistoric Artifact Exhibit, and the Antique Bottle Exhibit. Volunteers at the Museum, and at the public Exhibits are an important part of the success of the Society. The Mercer County Historical Society also holds monthly public programs from September through May. The Society also contributes historical research and assistance for local communities, businesses, churches and schools celebrating historical anniversaries.

The Society has printed nine local history books: 1978 Mercer County, Ohio History; Celina Sesquicentennial, 1834-1984; Saint Henry Sesquicentennial, 1837-1987; Coldwater at 150, 1838-1988; Native Americans and Early Settlers, 1790's - 1990's; Those Magnificent Big Barns of Mercer County, Ohio; Mercer County Centennial Buildings; Ohio's Last Frontiersman, Connecticut Mariner Captain James Riley; Mercer County, Ohio's Courthouses. The newest book in 2000 is Mercer County, Ohio, History of the Land Between The Saint Marys & Wabash River Valleys, Illustrated by Early Maps, 1755-2000. Public citizens, library patrons, private businesses, school teachers, and students use these copyrighted books, for resource material, as they do research for their individual projects and for private and public publications.



## **THE MERCER COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM THE RILEY HOME**

Welcome to the Mercer County Historical Museum, The Riley Home, 130 East Market, Box 512, Celina, Ohio. This Museum is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This Museum is administered by the Executive Board of Directors of the Mercer County Historical Society, Inc. This building is owned by the Mercer County Commissioners. Joyce Alig has served as Director of this Museum from 1973 to the present.

In 1958, this Museum was founded by Roscoe Riley, Carleton Reiser, and Carroll Stubbs, as Founding Officers of the Mercer County Historical Society, Inc., with the assistance of the Mercer County Commissioners. The Museum is funded through the County, via the Libraries, Memberships, Combined Drives, private donations, public grants, and the Mercer County Civic Foundation.

This Historical Museum, a valued cultural and educational institution, serves the school systems, not only for the teachers as they extend their own academic education, but also for the university and high school students, as they use the Museum Archives for their Research Papers. Ohio History Class Students and the Gifted Class Students follow historic 'treasure hunts,' and receive lectures in local history by the Director Joyce Alig, a former teacher. The Mercer County Historical Society, Inc., sets high academic standards in the preservation of the Exhibits and Historical Archival Collections, and their public lecture series. Businesses use the Museum in quest of historic research and photographs. The public requests genealogical research assistance. The public also requests civic services from the Museum Director on many community projects. This Museum serves as a tourist site, to people across the United States and for foreign guests. Mercer Countians also use the Museum for educational recreation; families enjoy visiting the Museum.

The Museum's permanent exhibits include Victorian Architecture, period furniture, antique lamps and clocks, Fortman's General Store, military accoutrements, musical instruments, agricultural and blacksmith tools, carpenters' tools, Grandma's kitchen items, medical historical artifacts, schoolhouse exhibits, Native American prehistoric artifacts, and Mercer County historical archaeological artifacts.

Mercer Countians recognize that ideas from past inventions and services led to the present way of life in Mercer County and set the stage for future inventions and services for the public. This Historical Museum contributes to the cultural and economic development of Mercer County. The Mercer County Museum affirms the importance of values in our lives and the importance of Mercer County's heritage.

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**Jerry Laffin, Ray Cron, and Thomas Gagel  
Mercer County Commissioners, Sponsors**

# Outline Plan of **MERCER COUNTY, OHIO.**

Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$  Inch per Mile

