

## THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

With the European migration into the area, first as fur traders and priests, then as settlers and soldiers, there was initially a lot of conflict with the native peoples.

French and English waged war against the native peoples and each other and later the Americans waged war with the British and the native peoples.

These conflicts raged around and across the floodplain at the mouth of the Great Miami River. In 1785 (two years after the end of the Revolutionary War), the area where the power plant smokestacks rise in the distance, next to Shawnee Lookout County Park, was the site of Ft. Finney.

General George Rogers Clark and General Richard Butler presided for the Americans at the first American settlement in this region. Several hundred Indians representing several tribes were invited to this site to sign a treaty with the newly established government of the United States. They camped in the valley and hillsides surrounding the newly built fort. The resulting treaty, signed in early 1786 was taken back to Congress and became the basis for the Northwest Ordinance which among other major milestones made the new Northwest Territories slave free.

The land in this region was then plotted, divided, and given as payment for their services to Revolutionary War officers in lieu of actual cash payments which the US government did not have. Many of the first European settlers in this valley were the families of Revolutionary War officers.

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