

Fort Meigs

Overview:

Jim Emch presented his lecture "Dudley's Massacre" at Fort Meigs. He covers the important components of the groups involved in a lesser known battle near Ohio's Maumee River.

Summary:

In the excerpt, "Fort Meigs," author and historian Jim Emch speaks about Dudley's Massacre, an Ohio battle in 1813. Emch highlights the motives of Native Americans, Americans and British. He explains how these differing views led to the construction of Fort Meigs. Emch provides historical insights on a significant time of local history that helped to shape communities in the Maumee Valley.

ODE 9-12 STANDARD 1: Social Studies; Course, Modern World History; Topic 1, Historical Thinking and Skills; Topic 2, Age of Revolutions; Topic 3, Imperialism

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why did Native Americans want ally or unite with the British?
- 2. How did the Ohio Act function as a buffer zone between the British and the Americans?
- 3. What motivated General Harrison to build Fort Meigs?
- 4. What important lessons can events like those at Fort Meigs teach about international relations today?

Activity:

Instruct students to visit this history website and to read an overview of The Siege of Fort Meigs: https://worldhistory.us/american-history/war-of-1812-the-siege-of-fort-meigs-may-1-1813.php

After they read, ask students to create a list of motives for each side (British, Native Americans, Americans). Discuss the findings with the class with the following prompts:

- 1. What is the significance of this battle?
- 2. Why do you think this battle may not be as memorable compared to other battles around the same time?
- 3. In what specific ways did this battle impact Americans, Native Americans, and British?

Resources:

Fort Meigs's Website: http://www.fortmeigs.org/history/

Dudley's Defeat: http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Dudley%27s_Defeat?rec=3077

Knowledge Stream teacher support materials were developed with funds from an Educational Technology Grant through the State of Ohio.