

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
812 Illinois Building
Indianapolis, Indiana

May 5, 1936

National Park Service,
Branch of Planning and State Cooperation,
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. R. F. Lee

Subject: Historic Sites Associated with
Wayne's Expedition.

Gentlemen:

The following memorandum is submitted in response to your request received by wire April 28, 1936 asking for a field report with pictures and brief descriptions of the historic sites that are associated with Anthony Wayne's expedition to western Ohio in 1794-95, and more especially with the negotiation of the Treaty of Greenville, in July and August 1795.

It has been thought wise to include in this report not only the site of Wayne's base on the Ohio, Fort Washington, the battle-field at Fallen Timbers, where he decisively defeated the Indian warriors under Little Turtle, and Fort Greenville, where the famous treaty of 1795 was concluded, but also the other links in the chain of fortified posts built or used by Wayne--Fort Hamilton, Ft. St. Clair, Ft. Jefferson, Ft. Recovery, Ft. Defiance, and Ft. Wayne. All these sites were visited by the regional historian May 1 and 2, 1936.

Fort Washington (Cincinnati)

The maintenance of this post was of the greatest importance to General Wayne, since all the upper posts were based upon it. The site of the old fort is now in the heart of the downtown section of Cincinnati, between Broadway and Ludlow at Third Street. The district is built up mainly with old brick apartment houses, except for a very small triangle at the intersection of Third and Ludlow where a monument marking the site has been erected by the patriotic societies of the state. There is little or no opportunity of expanding the memorial development at the site itself. Nearby, at the junction of Ludlow and Lawrence Streets, is situated the Guilford Public School on the front wall of which are bronze

tablets calling attention to the fort and to the home of Stephen Foster, 1846-50. A full block at Lawrence and Third Streets is a municipal park, part of which is green, the remainder, public playground. Presumably, any further development would be carried out either at the school or at the park.



The Square at Third and Ludlow

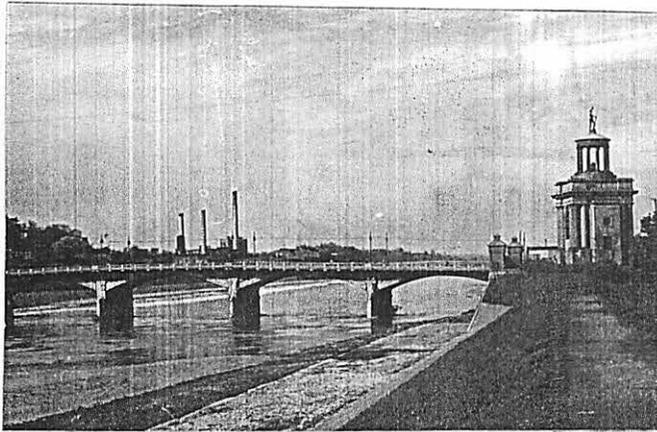


Monument Marking Site of
Ft. Washington

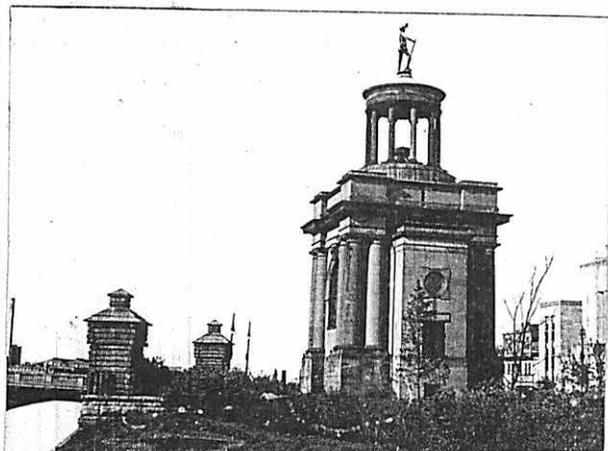
Fort Hamilton (Hamilton)

Fort Hamilton, situated on the east bank of the Great Miami River some twenty miles north from Ft. Washington, has given its name to the present city of Hamilton which has grown up on the site. The Soldiers', Sailors', and Pioneers' Monument erected by state appropriation at the end of the principal bridge marks the location. It stands on the main street of the town and is flanked on one side by the Anthony Wayne Hotel and on the other by the new municipal office building. There is little possibility of further development of this area save for a narrow strip along the river bank. While it is true that all the links in a chain are supposed to be of equal importance, it is not felt that Forts Hamilton, St. Clair, and

Jefferson are of outstanding historical interest in connection with Wayne's victory or the signing of the treaty at Greenville.

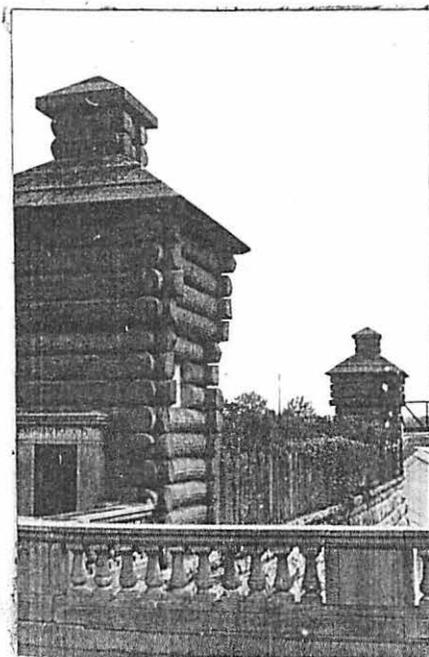


The Bridge and Monument at Hamilton



Monument and Blockhouses

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Closeup of Blockhouses

Fort St. Clair (Eaton)

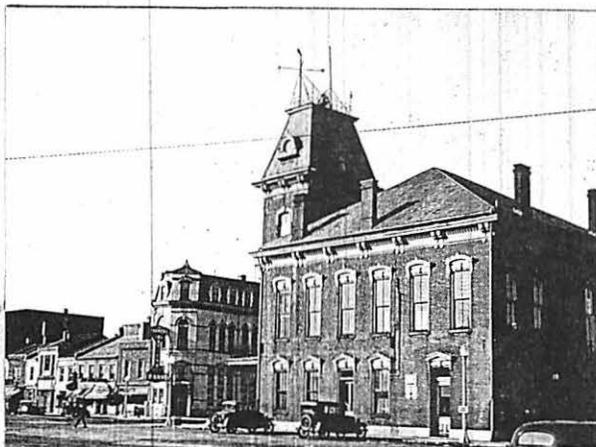
Eighty-five acres of land including the site of Ft. St. Clair, near the town of Eaton, Ohio, is now administered by the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society as a state park. It is a very attractive spot and has recently been well developed as a recreation area, although the memorial development has received comparatively little attention. The location of the stockade has been indicated and that part of the park is kept as a well seeded lawn. A small cemetery is preserved and two monuments have been erected. This site is associated primarily with General James Wilkinson, St. Clair's successor, rather than with Wayne, and it is not recommended that it be developed further in commemoration of the latter's successes.

Fort Jefferson (Ft. Jefferson)

A small tract of land has been set aside by the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society to preserve the site on which the post stood. Some excavations have been made in an attempt to determine the outline of the stockade and the exact positions of the structures within the enclosure. This project was not carried through to completion, save for a simple monument, and no memorial development has been undertaken. Ft. Jefferson is only a few miles south of Greenville, and its principal associations are with St. Clair; Wayne passed it by, preferring the Greenville location for his principal establishment. Greenville is therefore to be preferred to Ft. Jefferson as a National Historic Site.

Fort Greenville (Greenville)

The site of this old post is now occupied by some six blocks of urban development in the city of Greenville. A small marker calling attention to the treaty negotiations has been erected on Main Street, but there is no room for expansion at that point. The present proposal is to erect a memorial building in the open square at the intersection of Main Street and Broadway, the western half of which lay within the fort enclosure. The town office building now stands in this square and would be razed to make room for the new structure. Mayor Frazer Wilson spoke vaguely of a stipulation in the deed transferring the tract to the city which provides that the land shall be used for the town offices. The writer was not able to check up on this point, but the Greenville people do not take it as a serious obstacle to the construction of the memorial.



The Square from the Northeast



City Hall Looking up Broadway

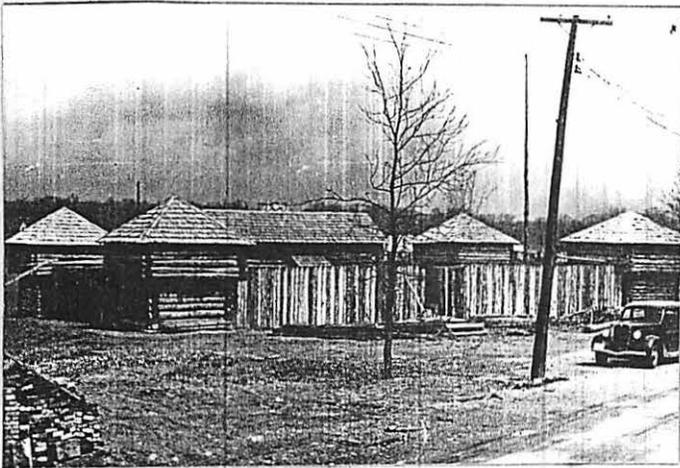
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The location of the square is suitable since the building would stand at the head of Broadway, which is now the main street of the business district, and would be situated on the north-south automobile routes passing through town.

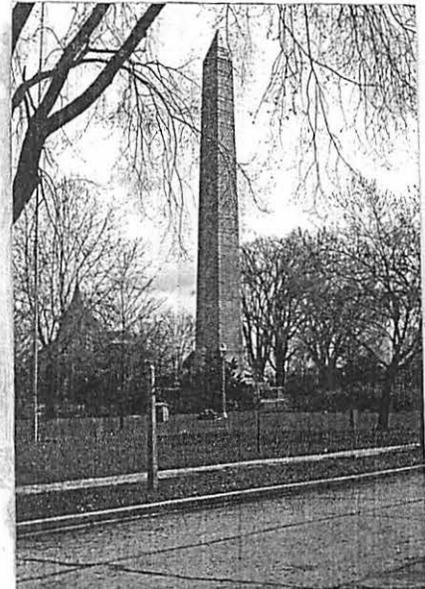
Fort Recovery (Ft. Recovery)

The post at this point was built by Anthony Wayne in December 1793 at the place where St. Clair had suffered his disastrous defeat two years previously. It was occupied until after the conclusion of the Treaty of Greenville as a constant reminder to the savages that the place was one that the American army could and would hold. The site is now a small state park, administered by the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society. A certain amount of landscaping has been done, and projects have been set up under Government work programs to reconstruct the stockade, corner block-houses, and one of the barracks buildings. Although the stockade and structures are represented in full size, the dimensions of the fort, as laid out on the ground, are shown in reduced scale.

In another part of town, at the intersection of State Routes 49 and 119, there is another park occupying a full block in which stands the memorial shaft erected by Congress in 1912. It is believed that the site has received sufficient recognition to make further development unnecessary.



Reconstruction at Ft. Recovery



The Monument

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Fort Defiance (Defiance)

This post was established by General Wayne in 1794 at the confluence of the Maumee and the Auglaize rivers, preparatory to his encounter with the Indians on the lower Maumee. The site is kept as a small park maintained by the city. It adjoins the public library. The remains of the earthworks are preserved, and a retaining wall has been built by the state along the river front on both sides of the point. The extent of park development possible is at present limited by public streets which run down into the angle from south and west. A small monument consisting of a bronze tablet on a stone boulder explains the significance of the site, and exhibits the ground plan of the fort. While the spot is attractive and historically significant, it is not felt that it is as important as those at Fallen Timbers and Greenville.



The Fort Site from the South

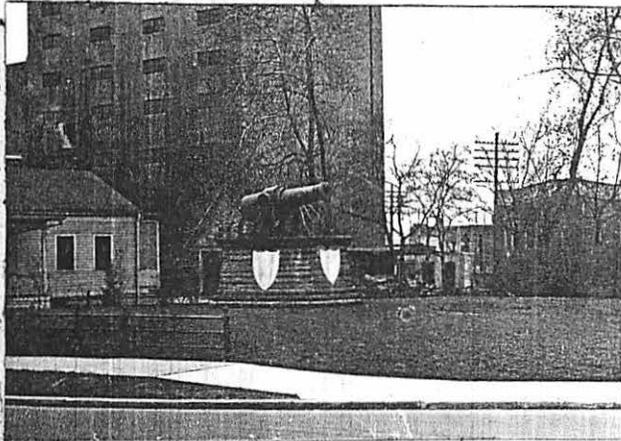


The Fort from Across the Auglaize

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Fort Wayne (Fort Wayne)

The site of the post established by General Wayne at the confluence of the St. Mary's and the St. Joseph's rivers is now a very small municipal park in the city of Fort Wayne. Its possibilities for further development are very limited, since a street confines it on one side, residences on another, and a railroad track on the third. The section is solidly built up and it is with difficulty that one finds the place. An old cannon has been set up on the lot, with a tablet in honor of Wayne. It is not impressive.



The Site of Old Ft. Wayne

Fallen Timbers (Maumee)

The site of the battle of Fallen Timbers is marked by a state park administered by the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society. A monument for which a setting has been provided by formal landscaping stands on a bluff commanding a very pleasing view of the lower valley. No further memorial development has been attempted, and since the area is small its use for recreational purposes is not encouraged. As a park it would be much improved by the acquisition of more land on all sides. In view of the fact that the critical military engagement of Wayne's campaign, 1793-95, occurred at this point August 20, 1794, the site is deserving of more than ordinary attention. It must be recognized, of course, that here, as at so many other battlefield sites, the character of timber and vegetation has changed so much that it is hard to visualize the conditions that existed at the time the battle took place. Nevertheless, the essential topography remains unchanged and the rural aspect of the landscape enables the visitor to feel something of "the lay of the land".



View of the Park from the South



The Park Grounds from the West



The Monument at
Fallen Timbers

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Conclusion

The writer is of the opinion that Greenville is the logical place to put a memorial commemorating Anthony Wayne's achievements in fixing an Indian boundary and thereby opening the southeastern part of the old northwest to occupation by white settlers. The choice should be between Fallen Timbers, the place where the decisive military encounter took place, and Greenville, the place where the final agreement was concluded. It may be admitted that the agreement would not have been possible without the preceding show of force. Nevertheless, the signing of the Treaty of Greenville was the formal acknowledgment of the new situation by the tribes of the northwest, a pledge for the future that stabilized the relations of red men and white over a large part of Ohio. The writer can not subscribe to some of the statements made in the circular literature of the Greenville Treaty Memorial Association and the preamble to joint resolution introduced into Congress, which he feels exaggerate the consequences of the treaty, but he does recommend the site at Greenville for some sort of national recognition. The cost and character of the memorial development that should be authorized is not the subject of this report.

Yours very truly,

Paul V. Brown, Regional Officer
Region Five

By:



Charles M. Gates,
Regional Historical Inspector.

CMG:JDJ