



## The Battle of Fallen Timbers

It was the final battle of the Northwest Indian War, and a victory for the United States. The Battle of Fallen Timbers took place on August 20, 1794, along the Maumee River, not far from present-day Toledo. A storm in the area had knocked down and destroyed many trees where the battle took place, which is how Fallen Timbers got its name.



**"Charge of the Dragoons at Fallen Timbers," painted by R. T. Zogbaum, ca. 1895. The painting illustrates General Anthony Wayne's campaign against the Ohio Indians in 1794.**

Courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society

President George Washington chose General "Mad" Anthony Wayne to lead the nation's new army- "The Legion of the United States." General Wayne spent months training his soldiers. During the summer of 1793, General Wayne's army of 1,700 men along with 1,500 men from the Kentucky militia began to march from Cincinnati to the Maumee River.

Battling over land ownership, the Native Americans refused to negotiate to let their territory be taken away. In August 1794, General Wayne made one last peaceful attempt to bargain with the Native Americans. Again, they refused. Instead, about 1,000

Native American warriors, including 100 Wyandots led by Chief Tarhe, lay in wait for Wayne and his men.

The battle lasted less than an hour before the Native American army fled to the British-controlled Fort Miami. Hoping to seek shelter with the British, they found the gates to the fort closed.

When the battle was over, 33 of General Wayne's men had been killed and about 100 had been wounded. The Native American casualties have been reported as low as 40 and as high as 200 killed.

The victory at the Battle of Fallen Timbers led to the signing of the Treaty of Greenville on August 3, 1795. Without this treaty, parts of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin might have become part of Canada.

Today, a monument to the battle stands in Maumee, Ohio overlooking the Maumee River. In 1995, anthropologist G. Michael Pratt discovered that the battle actually took place about 1/4 mile away from the monument.

