

Geography and History Activity

The logo for 'networks' features the word 'networks' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' is replaced by a stylized globe icon with several lines radiating from it, suggesting a network or global connectivity.

The Federalist Era

Lesson 2 *Early Challenges*

Understanding Location: Treaties and Forts of the Northwest Territory

As a result of the Patriot victory in the Revolutionary War, the land north of the Ohio River, west of Pennsylvania, and east of the Mississippi River became part of the United States. Americans called the area the Northwest Territory.

Although the British ceded the area to the United States, Native Americans already lived there. In the late 1780s, violence broke out in the Ohio country as American settlers moved into areas promised to Native Americans by treaty. Often the settlers were illegal squatters, who simply claimed land without having any legal right to do so.

The Treaties

Arthur St. Clair, the governor of the Northwest Territory, tried to protect American settlers and establish a peaceful relationship with the Native Americans. He proposed a series of treaties aimed at convincing Native Americans to give up their claims to much of the land. The Treaty of Fort McIntosh in 1785, for example, set a boundary line between the United States and the Wyandot and Delaware nations. Many Native Americans of the region rejected the treaty, in part because they felt the Native Americans who signed it did not have the authority to do so. The Treaty of Fort Harmar in 1789 restated the terms of the Treaty of Fort McIntosh.

The Forts

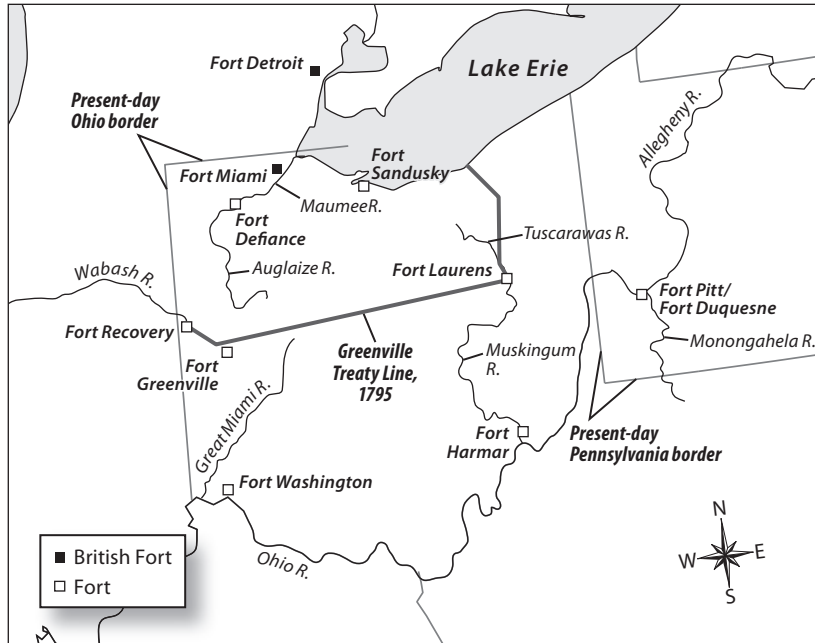
From 1778 to 1794, St. Clair established forts in the Northwest Territory, mostly in what is present-day Ohio. These forts served multiple purposes. They were meant to control and to protect the settlers, as well as to provide staging areas for military attacks against the Native Americans. Staging areas are places where soldiers and military equipment are gathered before being sent out on military campaigns.

Both sides lost many lives during the battles between settlers and the military against Native Americans. In the Battle of Fallen Timbers, the United States dealt a decisive defeat to the Native Americans of the region. Disheartened and outnumbered, Native American leaders signed the Treaty of Greenville in 1795. It required Native Americans to cede all but the northwestern corner of what is today Ohio to the United States. The line dividing the land was called the Greenville Treaty Line.

Geography and History Activity *Cont.*



The Federalist Era



Geography and History Activity *Cont.*



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Understanding the Concept

Directions: Answer the following questions.

1. Explaining What did Arthur St. Clair try to do through a series of treaties with Native Americans?

2. Defining What purposes did the forts serve for the Americans?

3. Summarizing What did the Treaty of Greenville accomplish?

Applying the Concept

4. Drawing Conclusions Why might the various forts have been built at their geographic locations?

5. Locating Which forts belonged to the British?

6. Making Inferences Why do you think the Treaty of Fort Harmar did not solve the conflict between Native Americans and American settlers?
