

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC            Fallen Timbers Battlefield  
AND/OR COMMON            Fallen Timbers Battlefield

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER            Off Route 24  
CITY, TOWN            Maumee  
STATE            Ohio  
VICINITY OF             
COUNTY            Lucas  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT            9th  
CODE            39  
CODE            095

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME            State of Ohio: Administered by the Ohio Historical Society  
STREET & NUMBER            17th and Interstate 71  
CITY, TOWN            Columbus  
STATE            Ohio  
VICINITY OF           

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.            Register of Deeds  
STREET & NUMBER            Lucas Country Courthouse (Erie and Adams Streets)  
CITY, TOWN            Toledo  
STATE            Ohio 43624

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE            Ohio Landmark Survey  
DATE            1971  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS            Ohio Historical Society  
CITY, TOWN            Columbus  
STATE            Ohio  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Battle of the Fallen Timbers is presently Commemorated by a nine acre tract of land on high ground overlooking the valley of the Maumee River. Within the area there are three monuments. The center statue shows General Anthony Wayne flanked by an Indian on his right and an American soldier on his left. This monument was erected in 1929 by the then Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society (presently the Ohio Historical Society). The sculptor was by Bruce Wilder Saville. Located in close proximity to this monument, approximately 25 feet on the northwest side, is Turkey Rock. It was here, fable has it, that Chief Turkey Foot after being mortally wounded in battle ascribed his signiture, the symbol of the turkey's foot. It is more likely that a tourist placed the symbol on this rock during the time it was located on the banks of the Maumee. Directly opposite Turkey Rock is a plaque which lists the men who were a part of the American Army that fought at Fallen Timbers.

From a small hill it is possible to look out over the low grounds and the Maumee. It was in this area that the majority of the fighting occurred, though there were no large forces involved. Looking out one sees massive expanses of corn fields and other grains. The character has not changed drastically from the rustic, though, of course, the trees from which the battlefield got its name are gone.

Interpretive material is very limited. One small panel sits at the entrance of the park adjacent the parking area. Opposite this interpretive panel is another with listings of historic sites in Ohio.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1794

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battle of the Fallen Timbers was the culminating event which demonstrated the tenacity of the American people in their efforts of western expansion through the struggle for dominance in the Old Northwest Territory. General "Mad" Anthony Wayne's victory over the Indians at Fallen Timbers, August 20, 1794, asserted American sovereignty in the west and made possible the treaty of Green Ville. The battle and the treaty insured a period of peaceful settlement in the Ohio Country long enough for the new nation to consolidate its hold on the Northwest Territory. The refusal of the British to give sanctuary to the Indians defeated in the Battle of Fallen Timbers convinced the Indians that they could expect no decisive help in their resistance to American expansion. For more than a decade after Fallen Timbers white settlers poured into the fertile lands surrendered at Green Ville and gained a position from which no enemy, red nor white, would ever drive them.

### History\*

Included within the boundaries of the thirteen American Colonies which gained their independence from the mother country in the American Revolution was the territory bounded approximately by the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and the Great Lakes. It embraced the land within the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota. The conquest of George Rogers Clark and the specifications of the peace treaty of the end of the Revolutionary War were the basis of the American claim to this land which came to be known as the Northwest Territory or the Old Northwest.

There was one factor, however, that the English as well as the Americans had overlooked in the conquest and transferral of this region. The territory was inhabited by a number of Indian nations who were not recognized as having any rights to the lands they occupied. The Indians not only did not recognize American rights to their lands, they did not agree that the English had any title to it to transfer in the first place. The struggle of the infant United States to gain control of the Old Northwest from the Indians is the story of the Indian Wars which culminated in the eventual American victory on the Battlefield of Fallen Timbers in 1794 and around the council fire at Green Ville in the following year.

Neither the sword nor the olive branch was persuasive enough to bring a solution of difficulties. Many factors, chief of which were British officials and American frontiersmen, served only to complicate matters. Their former instigated intrigue and rumor, gave gifts and supplies, and held out vague

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bemis, Samuek F., Jay's Treaty: A Study in Commerce and Diplomacy, New York, 1923.  
 Boyd, Thomas A., Mad Anthony Wayne, New York, 1929.  
 Downs, R. C., Frontier Ohio, 1788-1803, Columbus, 1935.  
 Jacobs, James R., The Beginning of the U.S. Army, 1783-1812,  
 Princeton, 1947.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	27 15 10 10 10	46 10 2 4 7 10	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Battle of Fallen Timbers is a State Memorial Park which sits directly between impressive estates. Though, of course, the extent of the battle was much greater than the present nine acres, the landmark is simply dedicated to the recognition of the battle having been fought on the site and the surrounding lands.

The nine acre tract is located within a fence which completely encompasses the  
**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Joseph Scott Mendinghall, Historian

ORGANIZATION	DATE
<u>National Park Service-Historic Sites Survey</u>	<u>Oct. 14, 1975</u>
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
<u>1100 L St. N.W.</u>	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
<u>Washington</u>	<u>DC</u>

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

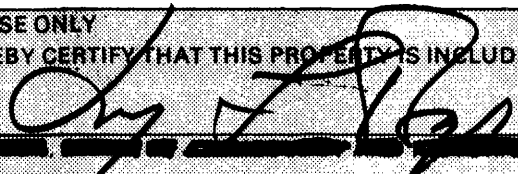
NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE <u>9/28/83</u>
ATTEST	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

(NATIONAL HISTORIC  
 LANDMARKS)

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promises to the Indians hoping to retain and strengthen the British control over them and to prevent American victory. Impetuous American frontiersmen in the spirit of revenge and retaliation stirred up more animosity and anger on the part of the Indians by raids on their villages and lands. They made it virtually impossible to maintain control over the area.

The Ordinance of 1787 and several land grants which followed encouraged organized settlement of the Old Northwest. An increasing stream of Americans moved along the Ohio River and into Indian lands to the north. This movement into the West brought more determined resistance by the Indians. General Josiah Harmar was sent, in 1790, to the heart of the Indian settlements on the upper Maumee River, near present-day Fort Wayne, but suffered defeat in two skirmishes. General Arthur St. Clair fared worse the following year when his army was routed in humiliation before it was able to penetrate far into the Indian region.

For the safety of the frontier and for the prestige of the United States army, a victory over the Indians had to be gained. General "Mad Anthony" Wayne was chosen to accomplish this mission. With military precision and determination he trained his men continuously from his original headquarters at Pittsburgh, down the Ohio River, at Cincinnati, and northward into the Indian country. In August 1794, having constructed a chain of supporting forts, he was at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee Rivers not far from the British Fort Miami and headquarters of the Indian confederation on the lower Maumee.

On Wednesday, August 20th, 1794, rain prevented the United States army from taking up the line of march from Fort Deposit on the Maumee River until about eight o'clock. Steep ravines and heavily timbered areas made progress rather difficult and slow. A select battalion of mounted volunteers marched in advance of the army so as to be able to give sufficient notice for the troops to form in case of action. There was still some question as to whether the Indians would make peace or were determined for war.

It was this advanced guard that made the first contact with the enemy forces. About five miles down the river from Fort Deposit they were fired upon by the Indians hiding in the natural coverings, behind trees and in the high grass. Though their loss was not great, they were compelled to retreat back to the main forces. Battle formation was called immediately and Wayne's men shifted their position into two lines extending from the river to the thick woods on their left. So vigorous was the action by the American front line that the Indians were driven from cover and overwhelmed before most of the second line was able to close the gap to support the charge. The action continued for more than an hour and the enemy was driven back for nearly two miles.

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After an encounter with the British, in which only diatribes were the weapons, Wayne instituted a scorched earth tactic, burning Indian villages and huts, trader's houses, haystacks, cornfields, and gardens for a considerable distance then he returned to Fort Defiance.

After putting Fort Defiance in a more defensive condition, the American forces marched up the Maumee to the Miami towns. Determined that this area should never again be used as a base of operations against United States, Wayne's army destroyed Indian villages and property and erected a fort named in honor of the hero of Fallen Timbers. In late October the army moved from Fort Wayne and arrived a few days later at Fort Green Ville where it went into winter quarters.

Military defeat at Fallen Timbers, British refusal to aid the Indians and lack of unity within their own ranks led the Indians of the Old Northwest to approach Green Ville with offers of peace. After negotiations were completed at the summer peace council of 1795, the treaty of Green Ville was agreed now the State of Ohio, the tribes gave up control of the most strategic locations and routes to access thereto in the remainder of the Northwest Territory. The Indian Wars had been successfully terminated and American superiority recognized. Hereafter American settlement safely and rapidly penetrated into the rich lands north of the Ohio River, and the Old Northwest assumed an important place in the history of the United States.

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★ History taken from the Special Project of Dr. Dwight L. Smith, Battle of Fallen Timbers", Landmark Files, n.p., n.d.

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property on the east, south, and west sides. State Route 24 is the boundary on the north side. A short access road parallels the state highway.