

Group Visits and School Program

To gain a deeper understanding of our county's history and how different cultures lived together, schedule a presentation of "Cultural Communities: Early Settlers and American Indians, 1770-1850" at the Barn at Stratford or your location. This program is presented by a group Delaware County Historical Society volunteers.



These early pioneers had to build their homes and farms out of materials provided

only by the local forest, earth, and stones. Drinking water was a cold stream with its temperamental or seasonal existence. Even with these challenges, these hardy pioneers continued to arrive.



George Washington was an early surveyor in Ohio.

In 1808, Township 4, Range 18 of the United States Military Survey became Delaware County. It started with Berkshire, Delaware, and Liberty Townships. Later, fifteen other townships were added. All these cultural communities merged into a progressive, industrious, and successful county.

Delaware County Historical Society

MEEKER HOMESTEAD MUSEUM
THE BARN AT STRATFORD EVENT VENUE
2690 Stratford Road, Delaware, OH 43015

CRYDER HISTORICAL CENTER:
NASH HOUSE MUSEUM
RESEARCH LIBRARY
157 East William Street, Delaware, OH 43015

MILLWORKER COTTAGE
2571 Stratford Road, Delaware, OH 43015
(Meeker Way and Stratford Road)

DelawareOhioHistory.org | 740-369-3831

For more information or to schedule a program:
programs@delawareohiohistory.org

Time: 90 minutes

Groups or Students: Grades 5-12

Program fees may apply

This program has been funded, in part, by a donation from the Charles and Betty Sheets Family Fund through the Delaware County Foundation and through a grant from the Ohio Arts Council.



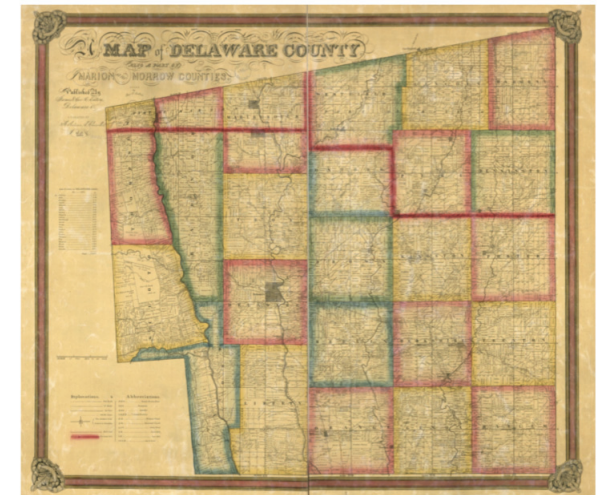
The Delaware County Historical Society is a non-profit dedicated to education and preservation of our rich history.



Delaware County Historical Society
Our History, Our Heritage

CULTURAL COMMUNITIES OF DELAWARE COUNTY

Early Settlers and American Indians 1770 - 1850



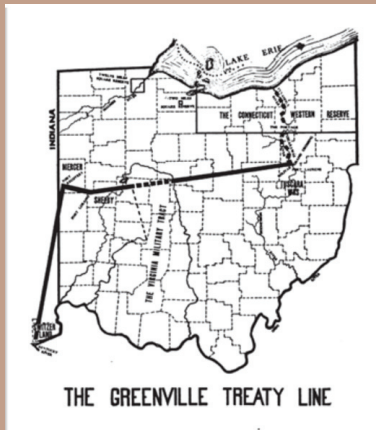
Map of 1840s Delaware County

Who established Delaware County?
How did cultures blend to form our community?

Cultural Communities: Early Settlers & American Indians, 1770-1850

For over 2,000 years, American Indians resided in the land that would become Delaware County. Beginning with the 18th century, the tribes in this region were the Shawnee, Delaware/Lenni Lenape, Wyandot, and Seneca Cayuga.

In 1794, General “Mad” Anthony Wayne defeated the Delaware and other Ohio natives at the Battle of Fallen Timbers near present day, Maumee, Ohio. In 1795, the Indians were forced to surrender most of their Ohio lands with the signing of the Greenville Treaty, including nearly 400 Delaware or Lenni Lenape living in Delaware County. They were restricted to the lands north of the Treaty Line, thus opening the territory to pioneers.



Those pioneers who set out to go westward into the Ohio Country came from many countries with many goals and had few expectations. Frightening reports from earlier inhabitants included concern about disastrous weather, confrontations with Indians, and fierce encounters with wild animals.

This program, comprised of eleven vignettes, is presented, in person or video, by Delaware County Historical Society volunteers, who reenact in costume, bringing life to the words of our early settlers. Hear the stories and words of:

William Little – Mr. Little was a resident of Delaware in 1808, when it became a town. The Little brothers owned a dry goods store. (in the center of town.)

Laura Carpenter – She was the daughter of Nathan Carpenter, Delaware County’s first colonial settler, who arrived here in 1801. Laura’s dramatic encounter with the local American Indians is portrayed in the program.

Rev. James Finley – A Methodist Episcopal Church theologian and author. He was also an activist for prison reform, temperance, and government policies dealing with American Indians.

Dolly Byxbe – The wife of Moses Byxbe, founder of Berkshire (1804) and co-founder of Delaware (1808) in Delaware County, describes the heart-wrenching forced march of the American Indians that passed by her Delaware home.



Reenactors in the presented program are all Delaware County Historical Society volunteers.

Benjamin Franklin Thomas – Owner of B.F. Thomas Wagon and Carriage Repair Shop in Delaware. He was the co-founder, with Stewart Crawford of the Crawford Brass Band in 1868. The band performed in social dance halls and political conventions across Ohio.

Africa, Ohio – Originally named East Orange, this was a stop on the Underground Railroad. So many formerly enslaved African Americans resided there to help farm that the area was nicknamed “Africa.” Ultimately, a post office established the town of Africa in 1884.

Drake’s Defeat – During the War of 1812, people of Delaware County were on edge in fear of the British and their American Indian allies. American Captain Drake tested his troops’ readiness to defend the people with an unexpected outcome.

Also see American Indian games, and dance inspired by the traditions of the Lenni Lenape.