The Vigo County, Indiana, War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee: Supporting Community Engagement through Public Programming

The Other Side of the Northwest Frontier:
The Native People of the Great Lakes Region and the War of 1812 Lecture Series

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Indiana State University (ISU) library faculty support the campus mission of fostering experiential learning and community engagement by creating public programming for the academic and local communities. As part of this initiative two faculty from the library and one faculty from the department of history are members of the Vigo County, Indiana, War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee. This group is committed to the presentation of informative public events in observance of the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.

The events which occurred in Vigo County, Indiana, specifically, and in the Great Lakes Region in general during this conflict are an integral part of the national narrative of the westward expansion of the United States. The national commemoration of the War of 1812 is spearheaded by the National Park Service and is composed of numerous local events from June 2010 through 2015, in key places that relate to the conduct of the War of 1812.

Lecture Series

The ISU Library and Department of History have established a lecture series as part of the local bicentennial observance titled, "The Other Side of the Northwest Frontier: The Native Peoples of the Great Lakes Region and the War of 1812," scheduled for late January-early February each year from 2011-2013.

These lectures are intended to expand public awareness and understanding of the war as it occurred in "our own backyard"; to explore of the war's underlying issues and outcomes, and to learn about the people residing in the Wabash Valley in the early Nineteenth Century. The goal is to provide a thought-provoking experience for all participants and attendees that foster knowledge of and compassion for people living during a complex period of United States cultural and political history.

The first of these lectures took place on February II and 12, 2011 with a Friday evening reception at the Native American Museum in Dobbs Park and a Saturday morning lecture panel composed of Roger Laybourn, Ministre de la Culture et de la Communication, United Métis Tribe; Dawn Marsh, Purdue University; and Karim Tiro, Xavier University.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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