

American Revolutionary War and Its Impact on the West

How did the Revolutionary War impact the West?

George Rogers Clark was an American general in the Revolutionary War whose military successes against American Indians and the British in the Ohio River Valley are credited as a major factor in treaty negotiations that established the original boundaries of the United States.

By a treaty between the French and British that ended the French and Indian War in 1763, the British agreed to prohibit American settlers from crossing the Allegheny Mountains to settle in the Ohio River Valley. It had little impact on settlers, however, as colonists began arriving to stake claims to live there or hold them as speculators.

George Rogers Clark

Born in 1752, George Rogers Clark was the second of 10 children, including his younger brother William, who was a leader of the Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Missouri River in 1804. In his late teens, George learned surveying from his grandfather. At age 20, Clark led a survey expedition into Kentucky, relocated his family there and became a local leader as a guide for fellow Virginia arrivals.

American Indians who lived in the region resented and resisted the intrusion into their hunting lands. Frontier conflicts occurred when Shawnee, Mingo and Delaware tribes pushed back against growing numbers of settlers. Governor Dunsmore of Virginia raised a force against the Shawnee and drove them into central Ohio.

When the American Revolution began in 1776, Clark secured a commission from Virginia to raise an army and march against British forts and their American Indian allies. He routed the British from several small forts and earned a reputation as a successful American Indian fighter. The British launched a counter campaign later in the war and temporarily reclaimed some outposts, but Clark countered with an offensive that captured the British commander. Clark also continued to engage American Indians in battle and drive them westward in combat in order to make the territory safe for American settlers.

Clark's Impact on the West

His successes established an American military presence in the region. When the Treaty of Paris in 1783 officially ended the Revolution, the United States successfully claimed the territory from the Alleghenies to the Mississippi River in part pointing to Clark's successful "occupation." American Indians were never included in those treaty discussions. In recognition of his military achievements, Clark was named as a principal surveyor of the region and was consulted on American Indian affairs, because he had shown an ability to fight and kill American Indians and colonize their land.

Supporting Questions

How did the war in the West influence the outcome of the Revolution?

- [Letter from Thomas Jefferson to George Washington about George Rogers Clark and the Illinois Expedition, June 17, 1779 \(Document\)](#)
- [Treaty of Paris, 1783 \(Document\)](#)
- [Boundaries of the United States according to the 1783 Treaty of Paris, 1784 \(Map\)](#)
- [Excerpt from Benjamin Franklin's Memoir about Peace Negotiations, 1818-1819 \(Document\)](#)

What leadership skills did military leaders like George Rogers Clark exhibit during the Revolutionary War that led to military and diplomatic successes?

- [Letter from Patrick Henry to Virginia Delegates in Congress, November 14, 1778 \(Document\)](#)
- [Letter from George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry, April 29, 1779 \(Document\)](#)
- [Letter from George Rogers Clark to George Mason, November 19, 1779 \(Document\)](#)
- [Part I: "Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," March 30, 1816 \(Document\)](#)
- [Part II: "Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," March 30, 1816 \(Document\)](#)

How is the success of Americans in the West during the Revolution related to the acquisition of land?

- [British and French Dominions of North America, 1763 \(Map\)](#)
- [United States of America, 1783 \(Map\)](#)
- [Louisiana Purchase, 1805 \(Map\)](#)
- [Settled Part of Wisconsin Territory, 1838 \(Map\)](#)

[*Printable Image and Document Guide](#)

Additional Resources

*Links to additional resources available in the [American Revolutionary War and Its Impact on the West Primary Source Set](#).

***George Rogers Clark: "I Glory in War"* by William R. Nester**

This 2012 biography tells the story of George Rogers Clark (1752–1818), who led four victorious campaigns in the Ohio Valley during the American Revolution. Author William R. Nester resurrects the story of Clark's triumphs and failures.

***George Rogers Clark and the War in the West* by Lowell H. Harrison**

This biography about George Rogers Clark focuses on how he was one of the few people who saw the importance of the West as part of the American Revolutionary War effort as a whole, and he persuaded Virginia's government to lend support to his efforts.

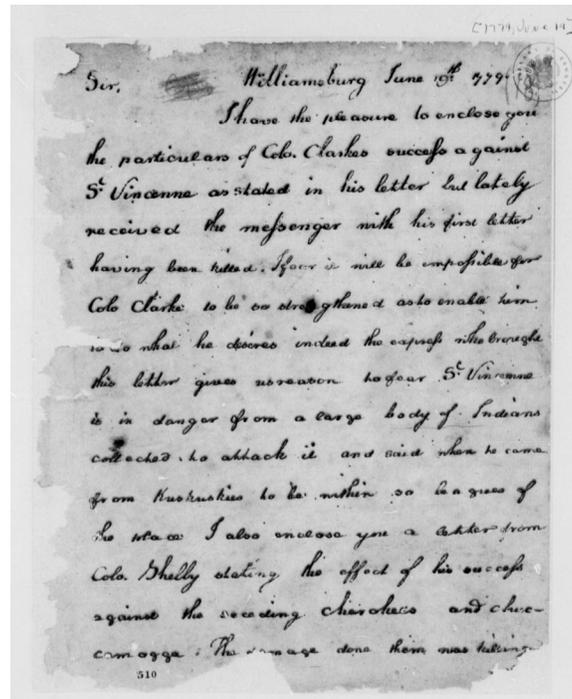
"The Old Northwest Under British Control, 1763-1783" and "Indiana A Part of the Old Northwest, 1783-1800" by George W. Geib

These chapters are featured in the 1987 book, "Indiana: A Handbook for U. S. History Teachers," which encourages more effective state citizenship through the teaching of state history. Attention is given to geographical factors, politics, government, social and economic changes and cultural development.

"General Clark — Hannibal of the West" by L.M. Grimes

This 1949 article from The Annals of Iowa focuses on the military feats of George Rogers Clark during the American Revolutionary War.

Letter from Thomas Jefferson to George Washington about George Rogers Clark and the Illinois Expedition, June 17, 1779



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Jefferson, Thomas, "Thomas Jefferson to George Washington, June 19, 1779, George Rogers Clark and Illinois Expedition; Capture of British Trading Post at Vincennes," 19 June 1779

Description

Thomas Jefferson, who was Virginia's governor at the time, wrote this letter to George Washington in June of 1779. General Washington was Commander in Chief of the United State Army and received reports of military activity from around the entire country. Jefferson's letter gave Washington an update on the activity of George Rogers Clark.

[Full Transcript of Letter from Thomas Jefferson to George Washington](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from Letter from Thomas Jefferson to George Washington](#)

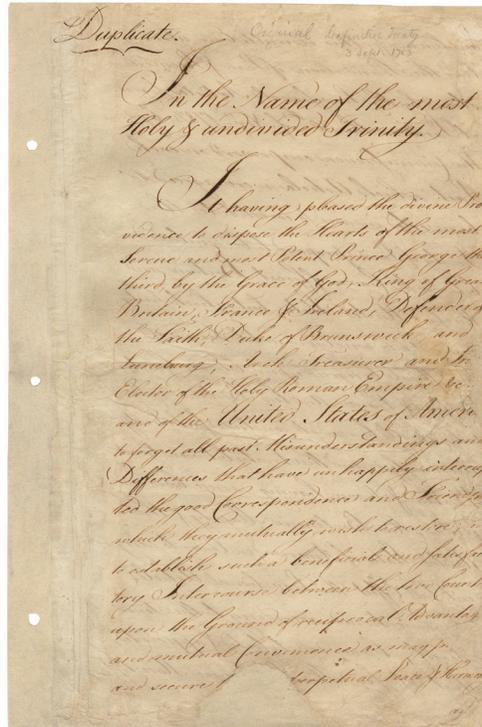
Source-Dependent Questions

- Summarize what Jefferson is telling General Washington about the progress of the Revolution in the West in a sentence or two.
- Compare Jefferson's letter with [George Rogers Clark's letter to Patrick Henry](#). On what point do these sources agree? Do these sources differ on any points? What could account for differences?
- Jefferson writes, "I fear it will be impossible for Colo. Clarke to be so strengthened as to enable him to do what he desires... [we] fear St Vincenne is in danger from a large body of Indians collected to attack it..." Why would American Indians attack this fort?

Citation Information

Jefferson, Thomas, "Thomas Jefferson to George Washington, June 19, 1779, George Rogers Clark and Illinois Expedition; Capture of British Trading Post at Vincennes," 19 June 1779. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

Treaty of Paris, 1783



Courtesy of National Archives, Treaty of Paris, 3 September 1783

Description

The Treaty of Paris was negotiated to end the American Revolution. John Adams, Ben Franklin and John Jay were the American representatives. Their discussions regarding the boundaries of the United States resulted in the western border of the United States being set at the Mississippi River. Forts captured by Col. George Rogers Clark on behalf of the United States were included in the final boundary.

[Full Transcription of the Treaty of Paris](#)

[Transcribed Excerpts from the Treaty of Paris](#)

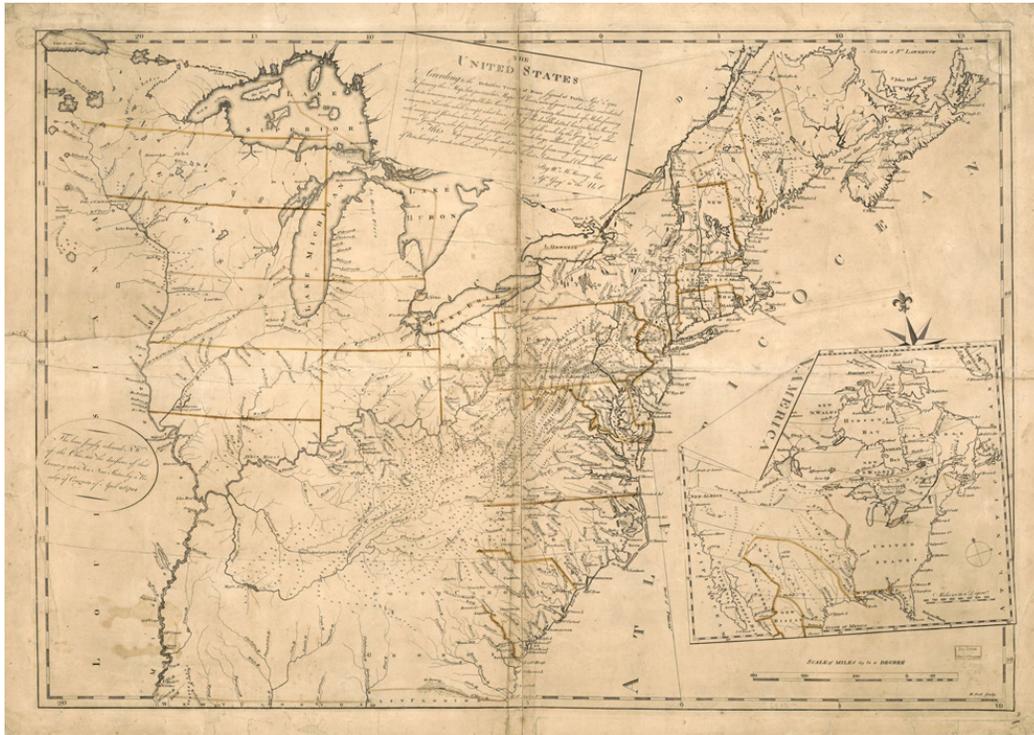
Source-Dependent Questions

- Using this [interactive tool](#) or a modern map of the United States, trace the borders of the United States as outlined in Article 2 of the Treaty of Paris. What do you observe about the location of the Kaskaskia and Cahokia in relation to the border? What can you infer about the connection between the placement of the border and the American possession of the forts?
- In Article 7, what did the British promise to do? Use your knowledge of American history to predict how well the British kept that promise.
- Using Article 2 and Article 8, assess the importance of the Mississippi River to both Great Britain and the United States. Respond using two to three sentences.

Citation Information

Treaty of Paris, 3 September 1783. [Courtesy of National Archives](#)

Boundaries of the United States according to the 1783 Treaty of Paris, 1784



Courtesy of Library of Congress, McMurray, William and Robert Scot, "The United States according to the definitive treaty of peace signed at Paris Sept. 3d. 1783," 1784

Description

This 1784 map shows the boundaries of the United States after the American Revolutionary War. Negotiations to end the war included debates about how far west the western border of the United States would be. According to the [Treaty of Paris](#), the final agreement was that the Mississippi River would be the western border of the United States.

[Transcript of U.S. Map of Boundaries defined by the 1783 Treaty of Paris](#) [Transcript of U.S. Map of Boundaries defined by the 1783 Treaty of Paris](#)

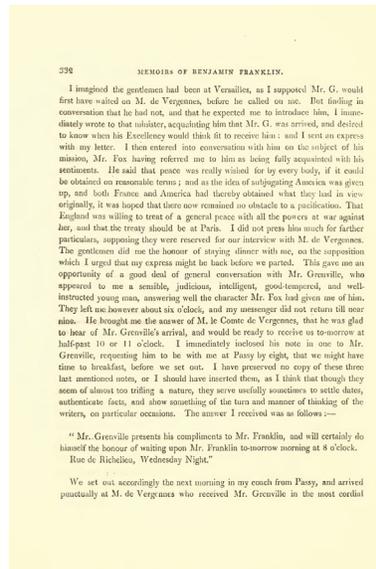
Source-Dependent Questions

- List two or three things you observe about this map as compared to a modern United States map. Pay particularly close attention to the borders.
- How does this map compare with the one you created after reading the [Treaty of Paris](#)?
- Look at the inset of this map. Notice that several countries claimed land to the west of the Mississippi River. From a British perspective, how would the presence of those other countries impact negotiations for the western border of the United States after the Revolutionary War?

Citation Information

McMurray, William and Robert Scot, "The United States according to the definitive treaty of peace signed at Paris Sept. 3d. 1783," 1784. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

Excerpt from Benjamin Franklin's Memoir about Peace Negotiations, 1818-1819



Courtesy of University of California Libraries, Franklin, Benjamin, “Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Benjamin Franklin,” pp. 332-335, 1818-1819

Description

Benjamin Franklin was one of the representatives the United States sent to Paris to negotiate a [treaty of peace](#) between the United States and Great Britain in order to end the Revolutionary War. Franklin kept private journals, as well as public correspondence. This section of his journal references the possessions the United States held and their importance in negotiating the borders of the newly independent country.

[Full Transcript of Excerpt from Benjamin Franklin's Memoir](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from the Excerpt of Benjamin Franklin's Memoir](#)

Source-Dependent Questions

- In this account of the negotiations, how does Benjamin Franklin justify arguments about the borders of the United States? Cite evidence from the text.
- Franklin insisted that America did not need to bargain “for a thing that is our own... which we are in full possession of.” Construct an argument you might use if you were part of the negotiations team using the fact that the U.S. had control of western forts.
- Thinking about the same passage, America did not need to bargain “for a thing that is our own... which we are in full possession of.” In what ways does this discount the American Indians that were already living on the same land?
- In this writing, Franklin says, “What my memory retains of the Discourse...” Assess the credibility of Franklin's account. How much do you trust what Franklin says?

Citation Information

Franklin, Benjamin, “Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Benjamin Franklin,” pp. 332-335, 1818-1819. [Courtesy of University of California Libraries](#)

Letter from Patrick Henry to Virginia Delegates in Congress, November 14, 1778

Founders Online

PATRICK HENRY IN COUNCIL TO VIRGINIA DELEGATES IN CONGRESS, 14 NOVEMBER 1778

Patrick Henry in Council to Virginia
Delegates in Congress

GENEVA,

WASHINGTON: NOV. 14TH. 1778.

The Executive power of this State having been impressed with a strong apprehension of incursions on their Frontier Settlements from the Savages situated about the Illinois & supposing the Danger would be greatly obviated by an enterprise against the English Forts & possessions in that Country which were well known to inspire the Savages with their bloody purposes against us, sent a Detachment of Militia consisting of one hundred & seventy or eighty men commanded by Col. George Rogers Clarke on that Service sometime last Spring. By Despatches which I have just received from Col. Clarke it appears that his Success has equalled the most sanguine expectations. He has not only reduced Fort Chartres & its dependencies but has struck such a Terror into the Indian Tribes between that Settlement & the Lakes that no less than five of them viz. the Pains, Sabs, Reswick, Pointvintaines & Miamis who had received the Hatchet from the English Entrepreneurs have admitted to our Arms, surrendered all their English presents & bound themselves by Treaties and promises to be peaceable in future.

The Great Blackbird a Chippewas chief has also sent a Belt of peace to Col. Clarke influenced he supposes by the Dread of Detroit being reduced by the American Arms. This latter place according to Col. Clarke's representation is at present defended by so considerable a Garrison & so securely furnished with provisions for which they must be still more distressed by the loss of Supplies from the Illinois, that it might be reduced by any number of Men above five hundred. The Governor of that place Mr. Hamilton was exerting himself to engage the Savages to assist him in retaking the Places that had fallen into our Hands, but the favourable impressions made on the Indians in general in that Quarter the influence of the French on them & the reinforcement of their Militia Col. Clarke expected flattered him that there was little danger to be apprehended. Included in the Despatches is a Letter from Capt. Helm who commands a party posted by Col. Clarke at St. Vincents, according to this information The Wabash & upper Indians consisting of the Piankeshaw Tawags Peoria Delaware Pishkeshaw Manketans & some of the Shawanoe Chiefs had also given up all their tokens of attachment to our Enemies & pledged their fidelity to the united States. Capt. Helm adds that he was on the point of setting out with the assistance of part of the Inhabitants of St Vincent & some of the principal Wabash Chiefs with a View to retake a quantity of Merchandise seized by the English from Detroit, belonging to the people at St Vincents & on his way to them. The Captain speaks with Confidence of Success in this enterprise & extends his hopes even to the destruction of Detroit if joined on his way by the expected number of Indians & Volunteers. My reason for troubling Congress with these particulars is, that they may avail themselves of the Light they throw on the State of things in the Western Country. If the party under Col. Clarke can cooperate in any respect with the Measures Congress are pursuing or have in view I shall with pleasure give him the necessary orders. In order to improve & secure the advantages gained by Col. Clarke I propose to support him with a reinforcement of Militia. But this will depend on the pleasure of the Assembly to whose consideration the measure is submitted.

Courtesy of National Archives, Henry, Patrick, "Patrick Henry in Council to Virginia Delegates in Congress, 14 November 1778," November 14, 1778

Description

In January 1778, Virginia Governor Patrick Henry, acting with the advice of the Council of State and the authorization of the General Assembly, directed Lieutenant Colonel George Rogers Clark to raise a force of 350 men to capture Kaskaskia and other British posts in the Illinois country, north of the Ohio River. This letter from Henry describes some of these exploits to delegates in Congress.

[Full Transcript of Patrick Henry's Letter](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from Patrick Henry's Letter](#)

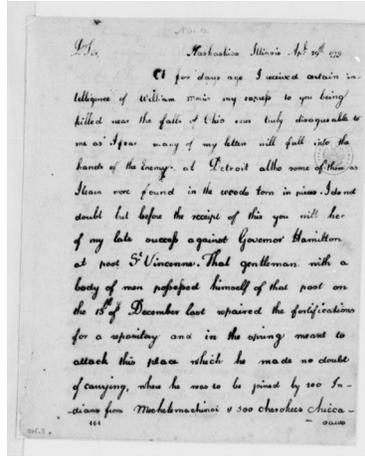
Source-Dependent Questions

- Henry writes that, "The Executive power of this State having been impressed with a strong apprehension of incursions on their Frontier Settlements from the Savages situated about ..." Discuss the meaning of the word "savages" in this passage. Why would Henry describe American Indians as such?
- Henry further writes, "By Despatches which I have just received from Col. Clarke it appears that his Success has ... not only reduced Fort Chartres & its dependencies but has struck such a Terror into the Indian Tribes ... [that some have] bound themselves by Treaties and promises to be peaceable in future..." Why would Clark want to enter into a peace treaty with the American Indians? Would a peace treaty benefit both parties? Explain your reasoning.

Citation Information

Henry, Patrick, "Patrick Henry in Council to Virginia Delegates in Congress, 14 November 1778," November 14, 1778.
[Courtesy of National Archives](#)

Letter from George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry, April 29, 1779



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Clark, George Rogers, "George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry, April 29, 1779, Illinois Expedition; Capture of British Trading Post at Vincennes," 29 April 1779

Description

George Rogers Clark wrote this letter to Governor Patrick Henry to report that he had taken the fort at Vincennes on the Wabash River from the British under the command of Henry Hamilton. Clark and his soldiers arrived at Vincennes after enduring a 200-mile march from Kaskaskia through harrowing conditions. Clark took the fort after controversially executing prisoners. This escapade made Clark famous as a leader of Americans in the West.

[Full Transcript of Letter from George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from the Letter from George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry](#)

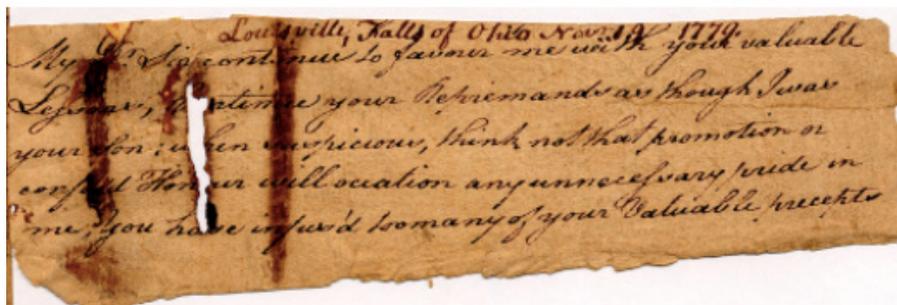
Source-Dependent Questions

- Control of the fort at Vincennes changed hands several times during 1778. The British had original control, Clark and the Americans took control, then the British regained control. When you look at a [map of British and French Dominions of North America in 1763](#), make an analysis of the locations of these forts and summarize their strategic importance on the river.
- What can you infer about Clark's leadership skills based on his response when he learned that British Governor Hamilton had "weakened himself," but was still planning to attack Vincennes?
- In this letter, Clark details a 200-mile march he took to Vincennes with 130 men. As you read about the conditions of the march, consider what leadership skills Clark possessed to motivate those men to complete the march and not give up. Describe at least three characteristics of leadership you think he would have had to possess.
- Clark wrote that, "I made all the preparations I possibly could for the attack and was necessitated to set fire to some of the houses in Town to clear them out of the way..." What does this passage indicate of the brutality of Clark's leadership?

Citation Information

Clark, George Rogers, "George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry, April 29, 1779, Illinois Expedition; Capture of British Trading Post at Vincennes," 29 April 1779. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

Letter from George Rogers Clark to George Mason, November 19, 1779



Courtesy of The Filson Historical Society, Clark, George Rogers letter to George Mason, 19 November 1779. The Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Ky

Description

George Rogers Clark wrote this letter to his friend, George Mason. In the letter, Clark describes his recollections of his campaign fighting in Illinois. Clark gives detailed accounts of his dealings with British Governor Hamilton and his brutality toward American Indians.

[Full Transcript of George Roger Clark's Letter to George Mason](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from George Roger Clark's Letter to George Mason](#)

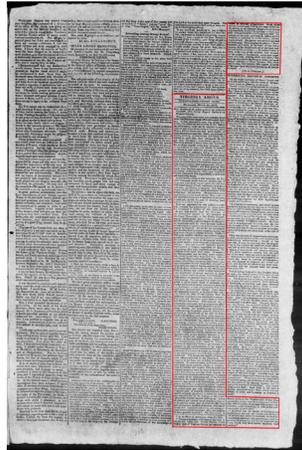
Source-Dependent Questions

- Clark says in this letter that his goal in having American-Indian prisoners executed was to show them that the English could not protect them. Clark also said that he succeeded in his goal. How would you characterize Clark's leadership based on his disregard for the life of prisoners?
- In writing about the incident involving the execution of prisoners, historian Barnard Sheehan writes, "Clark offered various accounts of the incident, all of them quite matter-of-fact. He seemed to consider the atrocity fully warranted; certainly he expressed no regret over it... he argued that it had been necessary." What should leaders take into account before they take an action that would hurt people? How should we judge or interpret the actions of leaders who have taken actions that hurt people?
- According to historian James Fisher, one of Clark's biographers, William English, "avoided the question of Clark's own barbarism." What would motivate a biographer to avoid negative aspects of their subject? Do you think biographers should only write about the positives? Why or why not?

Citation Information

Clark, George Rogers letter to George Mason, 19 November 1779. The Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Ky.
[Courtesy of The Filson Historical Society](#)

Part I: "Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," March 30, 1816



Courtesy of Library of Congress, "Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," *Virginia Argus*, pp. 3, 30 March 1816

Description

The *Virginia Argus* printed the story of George Rogers Clark and his Revolutionary War "achievements" in 1816 in two parts. Part I tells the story of Clark taking the British fort at Kaskaskia, as well as several other towns on the Mississippi River. The author praises Clark's leadership and extols his achievements in the West.

[Full Transcript of "Account of... George Rogers Clark"](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from "Account of... George Rogers Clark"](#)

[Printable Excerpt of "Account of... George Rogers Clark"](#)

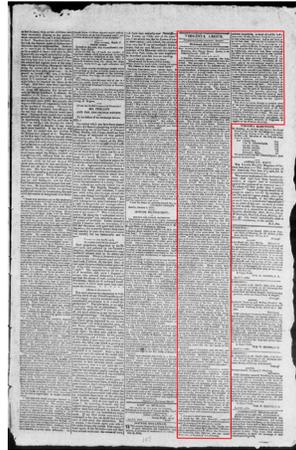
Source-Dependent Questions

- Compare the account in this newspaper of Clark's daring march to retake the fort at Vincennes with [Clark's account of the taking of Vincennes](#). What conclusions can you draw about George Rogers Clark's military leadership?
- What can you infer about the author's opinion regarding American Indians based on this article?
- The authors of this article say, "Col. George Rogers Clarke saved [Virginia's] back settlements from Indian fury." In 2012, historian William Nestor wrote, "There is certainly no question that Clark warred fiercely against the Indians. He led two campaigns that reached Indian villages, routed the defenders, and burned their homes and crops." What do these quotes suggest about Clark's treatment of American Indians? How does your conclusion inform your opinion of Clark?
- Using evidence from the text, summarize the author's opinion of Clark.
- What impact does the creation of Illinois Territory have on the eventual creation of Iowa as a territory?

Citation Information

"Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," *Virginia Argus*, pp. 3, 30 March 1816. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

Part II: "Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," March 30, 1816



Courtesy of Library of Congress, "Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," *Virginia Argus*, pp. 3, 30 March 1816

Description

This article is the second part of the story of George Rogers Clark in the Revolutionary War. It tells of the journey made by Clark and the men under his command from Kaskaskia near St. Louis to Vincennes on the Wabash River.

[Full Transcript of "Account of... George Rogers Clark"](#)

[Transcribed Excerpt from "Account of... George Rogers Clark"](#)

[Printable Excerpt of "Account of... George Rogers Clark"](#)

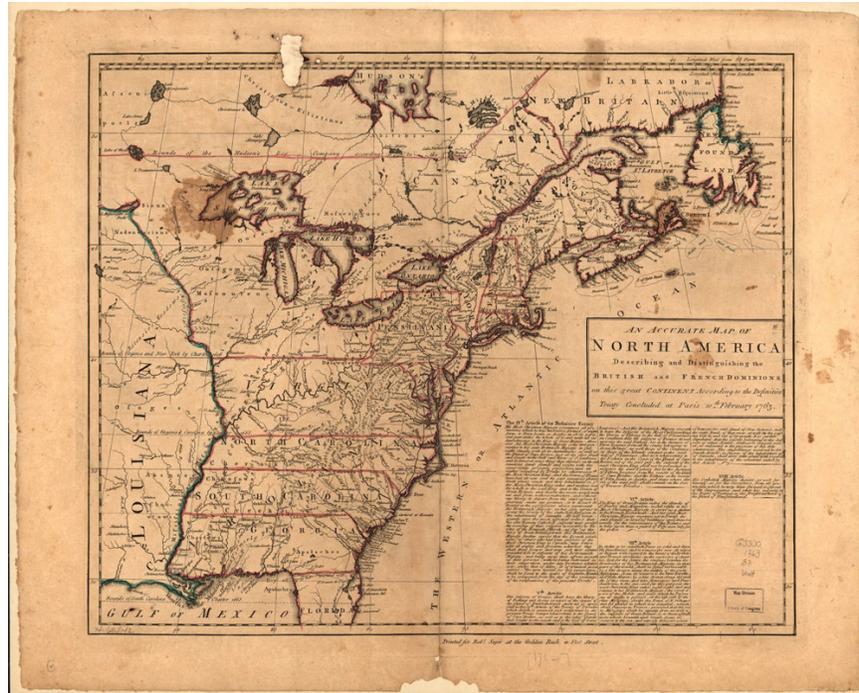
Source-Dependent Questions

- What impression of British Governor Hamilton is painted by the words in this article?
- What leadership qualities does Hamilton possess? Compare those qualities to adjectives you used to describe Clark in the [letter from George Rogers Clark to Patrick Henry](#). Summarize in a sentence or two how these two men were alike and different, or create a Venn diagram to show your thoughts.

Citation Information

"Some Account of the Achievements of the Celebrated Virginian Hero, George Rogers Clark, in the Western Country," *Virginia Argus*, pp. 3, 30 March 1816. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

British and French Dominions of North America, 1763



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Sayer, Robert, "An accurate map of North America describing and distinguishing the British and French dominions on this great continent according to the definitive treaty concluded at Paris 10th February 1763," 1763

Description

The 1763 map defines the borders between French and British land claims at the end of the French and Indian War (Seven Years War). It shows British land claims extending to the Mississippi River and the French in control of Louisiana, to the west of the Mississippi. It also shows the claims of British colonies in North America extending to the Mississippi.

Source-Dependent Questions

- At the end of the French and Indian War, the British claimed land up to the Mississippi River, as shown on this map including the forts at Kaskaskia and Cahokia. As you observe this [map of the U.S. in 1783](#), what conclusions can you draw about the strategic importance of these forts over time.
- Observe the boundaries of the colonies as they are drawn on this map. Compare them to modern state boundaries and form a hypothesis to explain the similarities and the differences.

Citation Information

Sayer, Robert, "An accurate map of North America describing and distinguishing the British and French dominions on this great continent according to the definitive treaty concluded at Paris 10th February 1763," 1763. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

United States of America, 1783



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Fielding, John, "A map of the United States of America, as settled by the peace of 1783," 1783

Description

This 1783 map shows the boundaries of the United States as settled by the Treaty of Paris after the Revolutionary War. The map distinctly shows the territory of Louisiana to the west of the United States, separated from the United States by the Mississippi River. One of the forts captured by Clark, Cahokia, is shown clearly on the map.

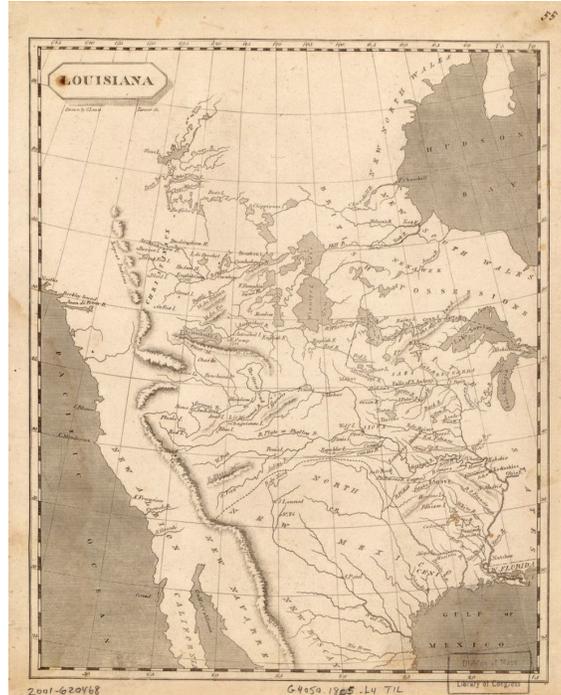
Source-Dependent Questions

- Observe the boundaries of the states as they are drawn on this map. Compare them to the boundaries and how they are drawn on a [map distinguishing the British and French dominions in North America](#). What differences and/or similarities do you notice?
- At the end of the Revolutionary War, the United States was in possession of the fort at Cahokia (spelled Cahokies on the map). You are one of the representatives negotiating a treaty to end the war. Construct an argument you could make to persuade the British to give up their claims to the land on the Mississippi.

Citation Information

Fielding, John, "A map of the United States of America, as settled by the peace of 1783," 1783. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

Louisiana Purchase, 1805



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Lewis, Samuel and Aaron Arrowsmith, "Louisiana," 1805

Description

This 1805 map shows the Louisiana Territory. On the map, the forts of Kaskaskia and Cahokia can be seen on the east side of the Mississippi River. George Rogers Clark led Americans to capture both forts during the Revolutionary War, leaving the United States in possession of them when the Treaty of Paris was negotiated.

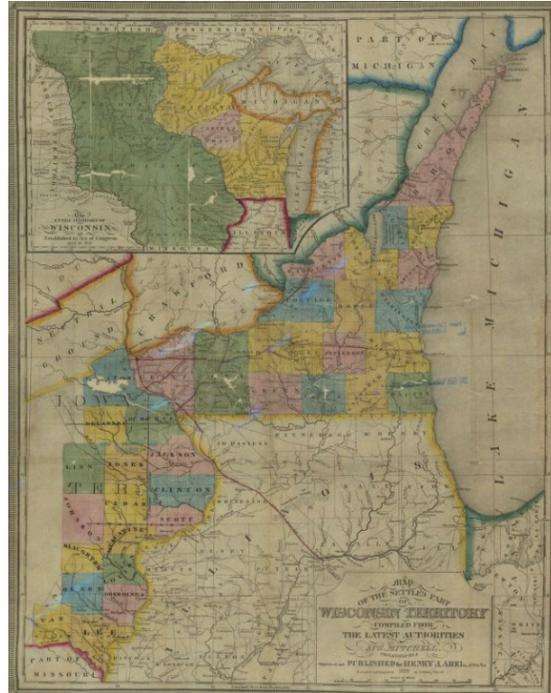
Source-Dependent Questions

- On this 1805 map, find the Des Moines River and the point at which it empties into the Mississippi River. What do you notice about its proximity to the forts Kaskaskia (Kaskaskias) and Cahokia (Kahokia) which George Rogers Clark captured during the American Revolution?
- When the French were looking to sell Louisiana, how might the proximity of the American held forts to the Louisiana Territory have impacted who the French were willing to sell it to? What is the significance of this proximity?

Citation Information

Lewis, Samuel and Aaron Arrowsmith, "Louisiana," 1805. [Courtesy of Library of Congress](#)

Settled Part of Wisconsin Territory, 1838



Courtesy of University of Iowa Libraries and Archives, Young, J. H., "Map of the settled part of Wisconsin Territory," 1838

Description

This 1838 map shows the territory labeled Wisconsin. The map shows the Wisconsin Territory existing on both sides of the Mississippi River, including territory that had been part of the [Louisiana Purchase](#) and would become the State of Iowa

Source-Dependent Questions

- This 1838 map shows the Wisconsin Territory. Summarize what you observe about this map related to Iowa.
- Iowa was part of the Louisiana Purchase. Look at where the Des Moines River empties into the Mississippi River. Compare it to the same point on the [1805 map of Louisiana](#).
- What was the effect of George Rogers Clark and his military success at forts on the east side of the Mississippi River?

Citation Information

Young, J. H., "Map of the settled part of Wisconsin Territory," 1838. [Courtesy of University of Iowa Libraries and Archives](#)