

The War of 1812

Causes of the War of 1812

The War Begins

The Effects of the War on America

The Presidency of James Madison

- Elected in 1808
- Virginian lawyer and student of history
- Wrote a large part of the U.S. Constitution
- Stood barely 5'4" and 120 pounds but, an intellectual ahead of his time



Causes for the War of 1812

- The British Navy is taking American sailors from American ships to sail on British ships. This is called impressment.
- British sailors leave British ships to sail on American ships because they are treated better and get paid very well



Causes for the War of 1812

- The British army is supporting Native American resistance to Anglo expansion on their land.



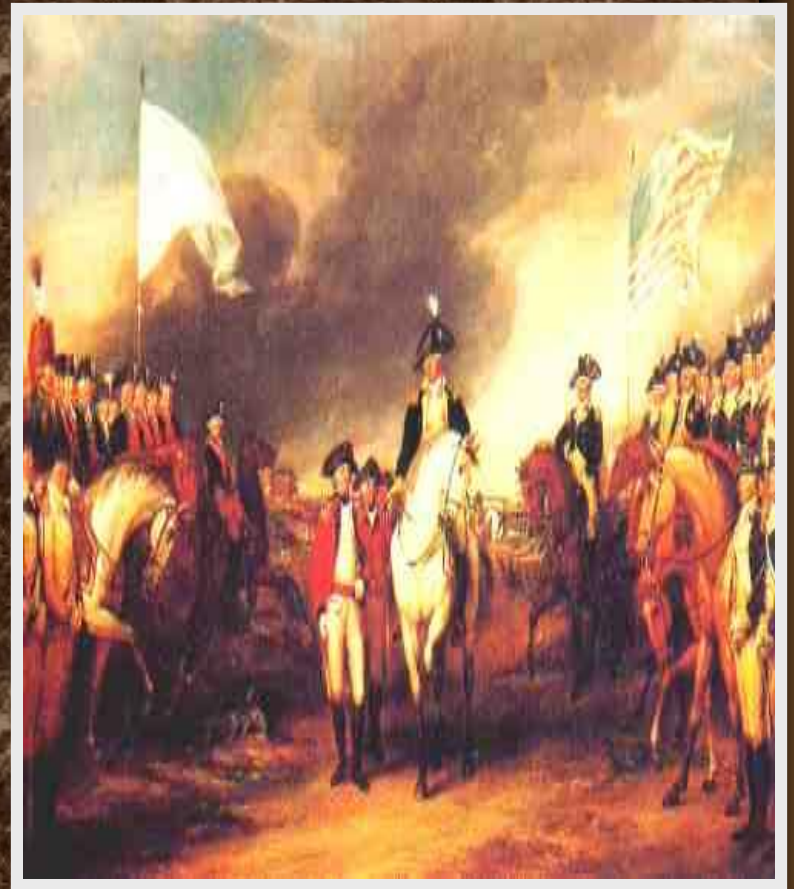
Causes for the War of 1812

- The United States has a desire to expand into more territory like British Canada
- The real cause for this land grab is because of a poor transportation system and effects from the Embargo Act
- Americans believe that seizing more land will end the depression



Causes for the War of 1812

- The United States wants to prove to Britain that the victory of the American Revolution was not luck.
- Americans demand respect from the world.



Tecumseh and Indian Nationalism

- Tecumseh, a Shawnee chief attempts to unify Indian tribes that have been removed from the Ohio River Valley
- His brother, the Prophet preached that Indians should reject White ways and embrace their heritage
- The brothers have a large following but their hopes are destroyed at the battle of fallen Timbers



American Shortcomings in The War of 1812

- The military is poorly trained and led
- The U.S. navy is no match for the British navy
- American forces attempt to seize Canada but are poorly led and militia forces
- Americans are forced to fight a defensive war against an invading professional army

The Battle of Thames

- October 5, 1813, British and Indian forces are defeated by American forces in Canada
- Tecumseh's death ends Indian resistance in the Ohio River Valley

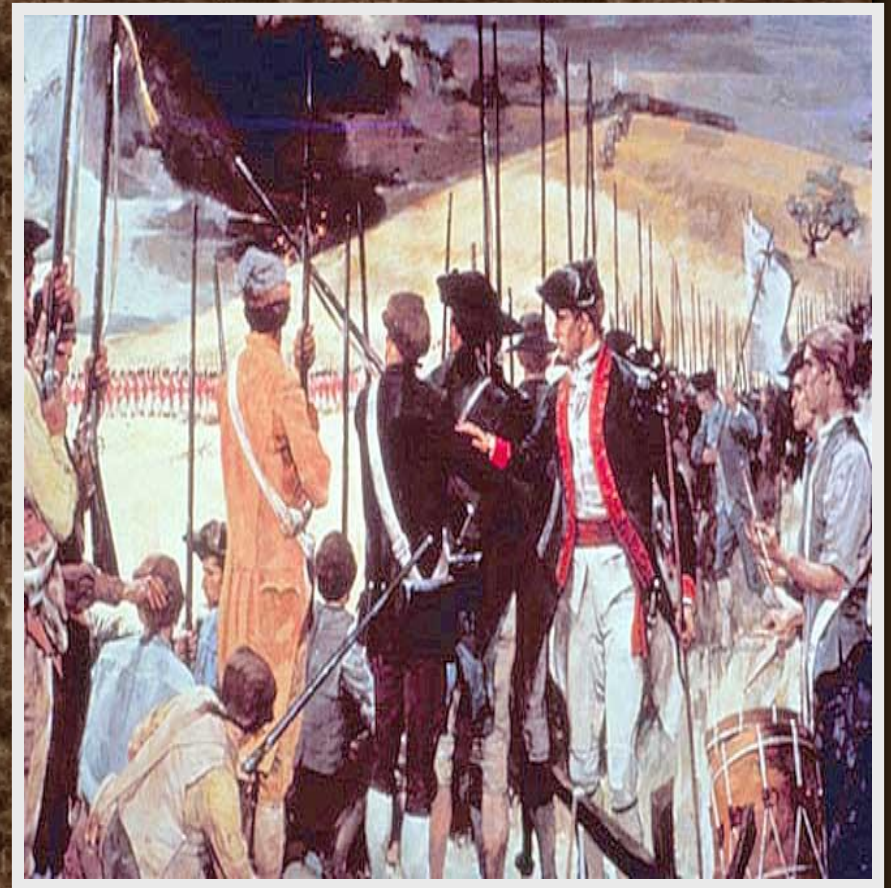


The Death of Tecumseh



The British Burn the Capital

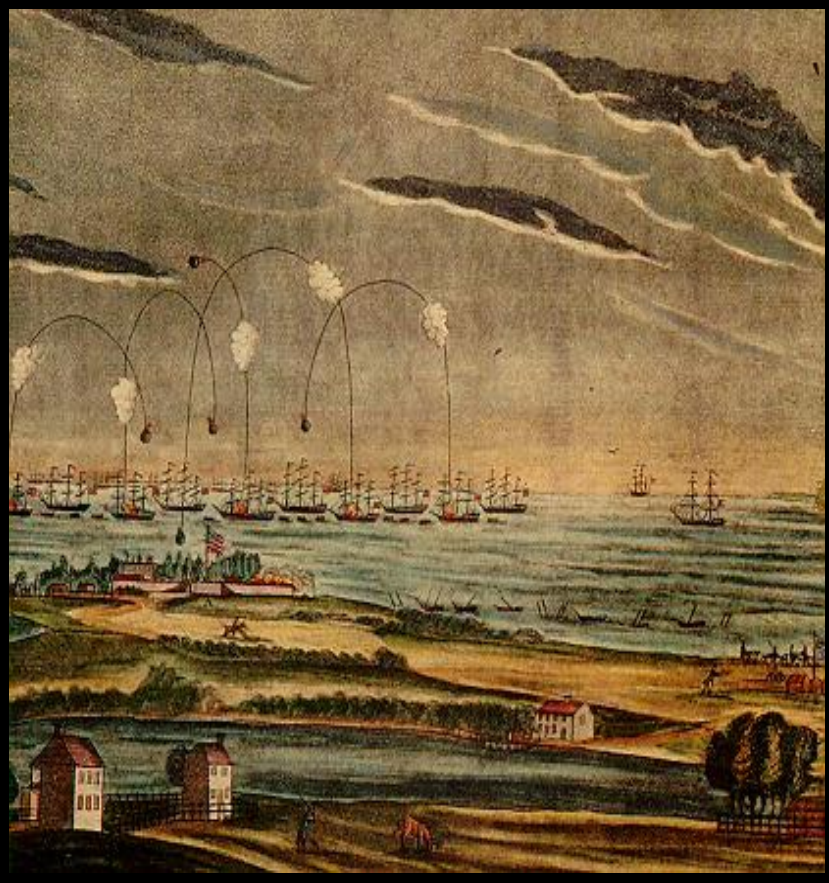
- August 1814, the British Army invades the United States and marches on Washington D.C.
- After a brief fight the city surrenders and nearly all government buildings are razed by fire
- Madison rallies the American public after this defeat



“The Star Spangled Banner”

- Francis Scott Key, a prisoner on a British barge witnessed the British bombardment of Fort McHenry, near Baltimore for 12 hours
- In the morning he observed that the American flag still flew over the fort and writes a poem called *“The Defence of Ft McHenry”* it eventually becomes a song *“The Star Spangled Banner”*
- Americans rally to the war effort after the capital is burnt down

“The Star Spangled Banner”



Things that make you go hmmm

- The Treaty of Ghent on December 24, 1814 ends the War of 1812. The war is considered *Staus quo ante bellum*
- The Hartford Convention, several New England states fear that the war is lost and actually talk about becoming another country



The Battle of New Orleans

- The American forces are a multicultural motley band of experienced soldiers and warriors
- The British, a trained army are virtually mauled by American forces hiding behind earthworks and cannons

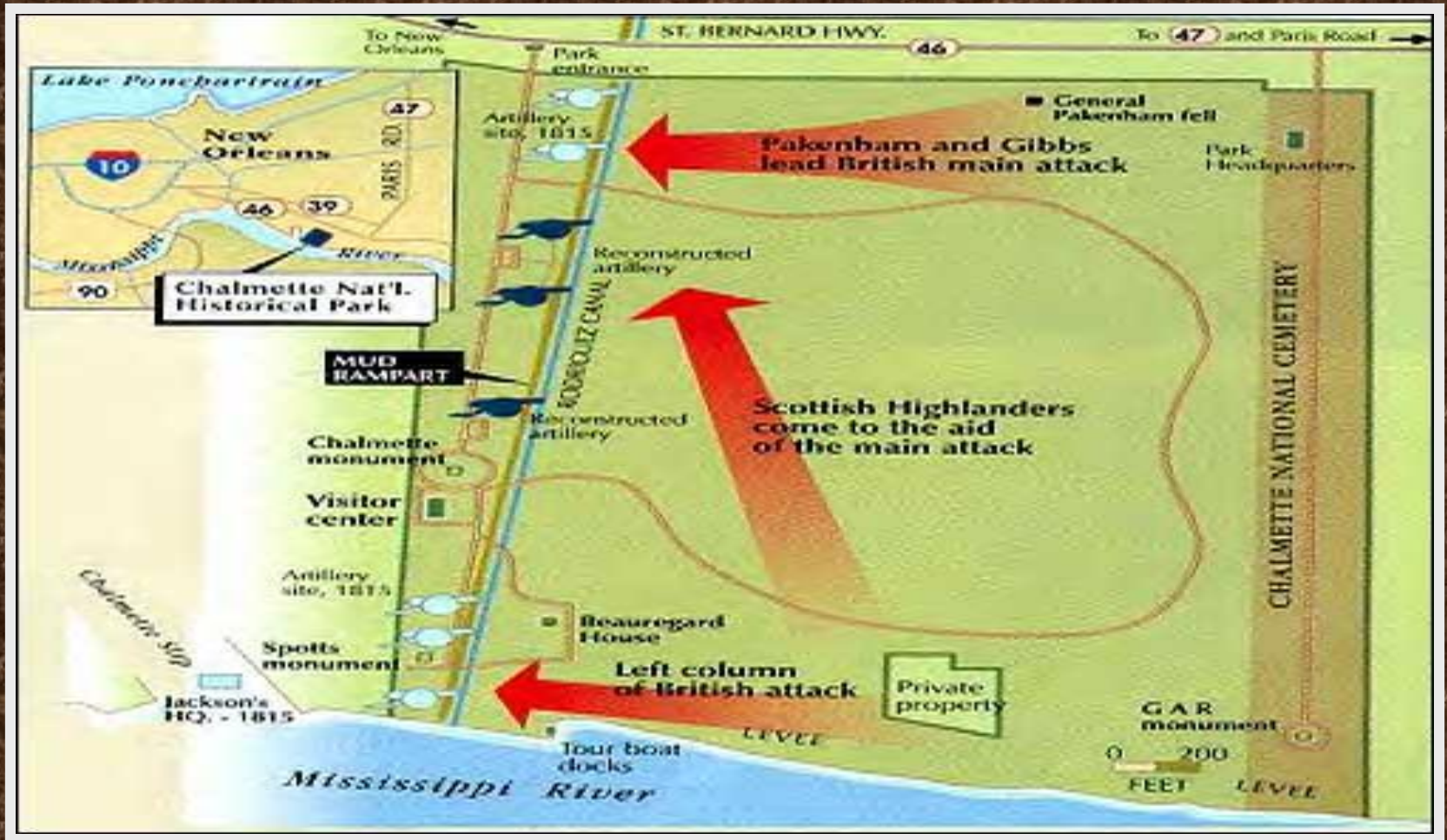


The Battle of New Orleans

- American forces at New Orleans are led by General Andrew Jackson whose army inflicts great casualties on the British army
- Andrew Jackson will be associated with winning the war. People assume that this victory is responsible for ending the war.



A map of the Battle of New Orleans



The Battle of New Orleans



The Impact of the War of 1812

1. A sense of nationalism sweeps America. Nationalism is a belief and sense of pride in one's country based on its achievements.
2. The nation will embark on foreign trade and begin to build a transportation system in the United States.
3. Native American resistance will be removed from the Ohio River Valley permanently opening the Midwest for expansion.