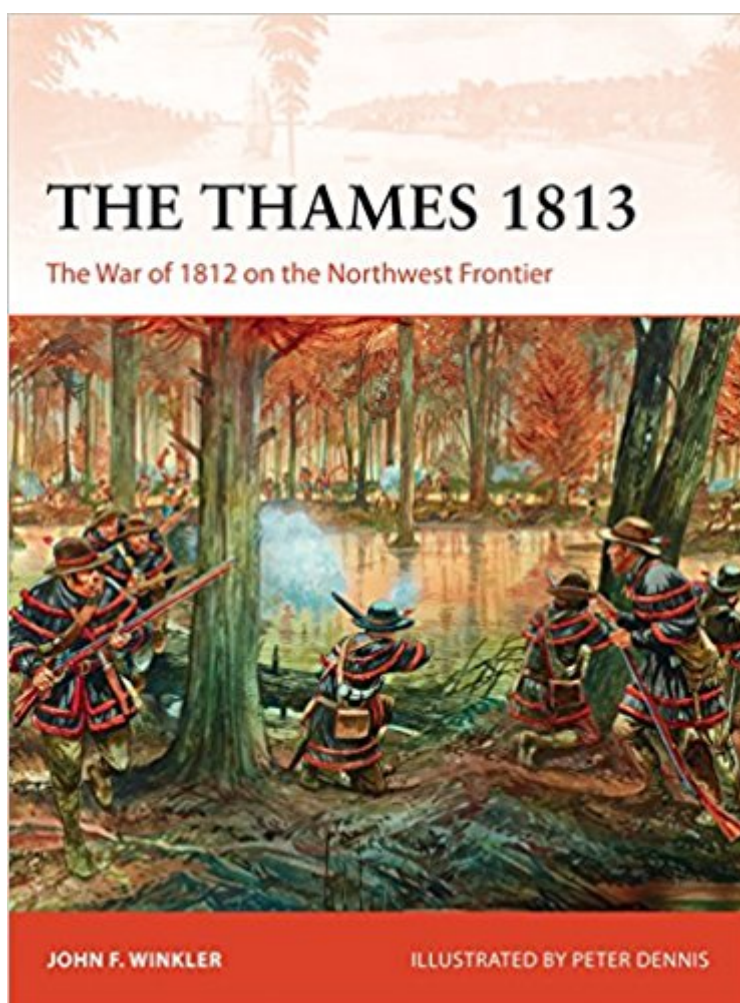


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The Thames 1813: The War Of 1812 On The Northwest Frontier (Campaign)



Synopsis

The battle of the Thames was the culmination of a bloody campaign that saw American forces clash with the British and their Native American allies on multiple occasions. In a battle that included the future US president William Henry Harrison, American naval hero Oliver Hazard Perry, and the legendary Shawnee leader Tecumseh, the Americans prevailed, due in part to their imaginative use of Kentucky mounted riflemen to charge British regular infantry and artillery. Their victory allowed them to secure the Northwest frontier, a crucial strategic gain in the War of 1812. Drawing on his expertise of US–Native American conflicts, historian John F. Winkler investigates the battle of the Thames, bringing the conflict to life through detailed analysis, combat reports and stunning, specially commissioned illustrations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John F. Winkler lives in Columbus, Ohio with his wife. They have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. He has written many works on the history of Roman, English, and American law. He also explores forgotten historical sites in Ohio and neighboring states. Peter Dennis studied illustration at Liverpool Art College. Peter has since contributed to hundreds of books, predominantly on historical subjects, including many Osprey titles. A keen wargamer and modelmaker, he is based in Nottinghamshire, UK.

The War of 1812 presents a mixed record for American arms. The Northwest Frontier was no

exception. An initial invasion of Upper Canada was followed by the shameful surrender of Fort Detroit to a smaller British-led force. It took the appointment of an experienced and determined commander, William Henry Harrison, to turn the tide to U.S. advantage against British troops and their Indian allies..."The Thames 1813" is an Osprey Campaign Series book, written by John F. Winkler, who also authored an excellent account of the 1774 Battle of Point Pleasant. Illustrations are by Peter Dennis. The author spends the first third of the book summarizing the War of 1812 well into 1813 while introducing the respective commanders and their forces and plans. The heart of the book is the account of Harrison's campaign to carry the war into Upper Canada. The narrative culminates with the decisive Battle of the Thames and the dramatic charge of several hundred mounted Kentucky riflemen against a mixed force of British regulars and Indians. Of note, the author does not divert from the campaign narrative to resolve the historical controversy of who actually killed the Indian leader Tecumseh during the battle. The narrative makes the excellent point that both sides were fighting at the limits of their respective supply lines; victory might go to the commander who could best feed and arm his forces in his opponent's territory. Commodore Perry's stunning Lake Erie naval victory thus became a key enabler of Harrison's amphibious thrust into Upper Canada. "The Thames 1813" is a very readable introduction to a key campaign of the War of 1812; highly recommended.

In this Osprey Campaign #302 "The Thames 1813: The War of 1812 on the Northwest Frontier", author John Winkler gives us an excellent and concise treatment of the battles in Ohio and the Indiana Territory. The author begins with an explanation of the strategic situation in the region as the War of 1812 begins and how the British and their Indian allies, through bluff and bluster, manage to take Fort Detroit when William Hull surrendered despite having more men and guns than the British and their Indian allies! The infant United States lost Fort Mackinac and other small posts and things looked grim after the early blunders. The United States had an excellent commander in William Henry Harrison, hero of Tippecanoe, who was more than capable of arresting the situation and reversing it. Winkler does an excellent job of showing the campaign as a whole, looking at the immense logistics arrangements Harrison made that set the stage for his victory at the Thames as well as the recruitment of Kentucky militia, the naval course of events on the Great Lakes and smaller engagements that led up to the culmination of the campaign. The author does a good job of not only giving the reader an eminently readable account of the campaign, but also introducing the reader to many of the characters who would impact the course of events such as Private Patrick Russell, Tecumseh and other Indian chiefs, Isaac Shelby, William Whitley. Winkler made it an


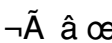

interesting read. The battle, as most battles are, becomes confusing to a reader as no plan ever survives contact with the enemy, so there are step-by-step maps of the course of the battle that make the battle understandable for the reader. Indeed, there are good maps throughout the book. As always, there are lots of good pictures, illustrations and color plates we are used to in an Osprey title. This is a good addition to your library and is an excellent summary of the campaign and course of the final battle. Another good title on the Old Northwest from Winkler. Five stars.

An excellent short history of the War of 1812 in the west. For most of us what occurred in the west is almost totally unknown. Following the standard of Osprey Campaign Series. The book lays out the background of the conflict. Highlights the major players in the conflict and set out the terrain and composition of the armies. The battle itself is well presented and interesting. Well illustrated with maps, drawings, and photos. This is a must have for any student of the War of 1812. Also any Kentuckian out there who is a history buff. Reading just how bad our forefathers were is eye opening

Good campaign analysis and excellent maps and narrative.

This is one of the very important battles of the war of 1812.

thank you

As Advertised  -  -  Good Condition

Great book, especially if you are into frontier history. Being from Detroit, I was excited to learn of the local history in that area. Good maps and photos of memorials and artifacts still standing.

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