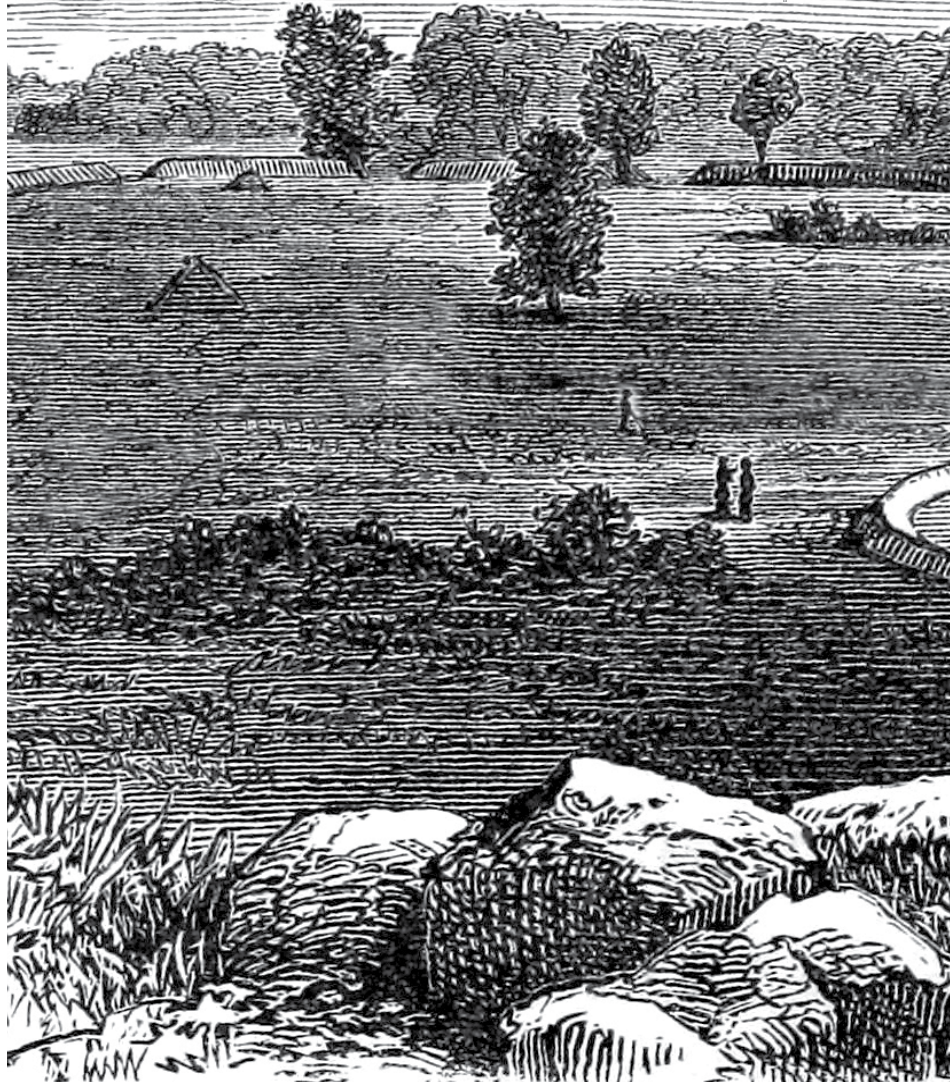


Map of
Frontier
Spirit
1801

Frontier
Spirit 1801



FRONTIER SPIRIT

Frontier Spirit
Frontier Players Association
2805 Old Logan Rd SE
Lancaster, OH 43130
www.frontierspirit.org



Hours of operation Saturday and Sunday: 10:00am-5:00pm



Welcome to the 43rd Annual Frontier Spirit! **We're so glad you're here.**

If you've visited us before, you know that there usually are two separate elements in our production:

- 1) The drama trail.
- 2) The village.

However, this year, both those elements will be combined into a single, immersive experience of what life was like here on the Fairfield County frontier. When you enter the gate, you'll be crossing into the year 1801. The actors that would usually be seen on the drama trail, will appear in what we are calling 'the encampment' at Captain Joseph Hunter's homestead.

You'll be hearing about an important town meeting that is going to happen here at the homestead. As 'settlers' yourselves, you'll want to keep informed about what this will mean for you and your family. Here is more:

Today's date in history: September 26 & 27, 1801

Joseph Hunter Homestead

Captain Joseph Hunter has graciously offered his homestead to host a Town Meeting for the purpose of discussing:

- The rejection of the petition (p.3)
- Its impact on current and future settlers, merchants and businesses
- Options as to where to go from here, including a potential effort to re-petition Congress.

Captain William Smoots has been asked to moderate the Town Meeting.

People have traveled significant distances to attend the meeting. Many are new arrivals from out east. Campsites have been set up by the travelers. Merchants and artisans have traveled to provide needed supplies and to apply their trades.

Those already settled in the area will be helping the newcomers in showing them what they have learned in their short time on the frontier, in the true spirit of community. Friendships are being made while sharing in labor and times of enjoyment through music, good food and games.

The Town Meeting, although characterized by diverse opinions and spirited debate, will be conducted in an orderly and respectful manner in exercise of the First Amendment Rights of free speech and peaceable assembly. The various interest groups most likely to be represented in the Town Meeting will include: the petitioners, Revolutionary War Veterans/Militia, Merchants and Business owners, Land Speculators/Developers, U.S. Government Officials, Parties on both sides of the Statehood issue, Eastern Seaboard Business Association, and Native Americans.

The Town Meeting will take place at 2:00 each day. Throughout the camp, there will be build-up and excitement before the meeting as well as after the meeting.

Preemption

Preemption, also called Squatter's Rights, in U.S. History was a policy by which first settlers, or "squatters," on public Lands could purchase the property they had improved. Squatters who settled on and improved lands not surveyed, were at risk that when the land was surveyed and put up for auction speculators would capture it. Frontier settlers seldom had much cash, and, because they had no title to their land, they even risked losing their homes and farms to claim jumpers prior to government auction.

The Petition

Many of the early settlers of Fairfield County chose to exercise the First Amendment right to petition the U.S. Congress for the right of preemption regarding properties they had settled and improved. In February of 1801, Congress rejected the Petition.

This year's Frontier Spirit event is open from 10:00am-5:00pm each day There will be a 9:00am church service on Sunday held at Captain Joseph Hunter's homestead cabin.