Joseph Brant: Lewiston’s most famous resident of all time

Passionate and adventurous Mohawk leader lived in Lewiston from 1779 to 1785

His Lewiston farm was located on the southeast corner of Ridge and Creek Roads
decorner of Ridge and Creek Roads. Behind his home was a fresh water spring which still exists and is called Brant’s Spring Park. The park is difficult to access and has been called the “smallest park in the United States.”

Brant was a devout Anglican and even built a log church near his home on Ridge Road. A bell that was given to the Mohawks in the early 1700s by Queen Anne of England, was brought to this church. However, the bell has been lost to history.

Moved to Ontario After the War

He was “completely bowed down with grief” when he found out that Britain had lost the war with America. But the British were grateful for his services and gave the Mohawks 760,000 acres of land in Southern Ontario known today as the Grand River Reserve. He and his fellow Mohawks moved there in 1785.

Brant had a colorful and influential personality and left a respected legacy. He always put his loyalty to the Iroquois Six Nations above his relationships with Britain or the U.S. and continuously struggled to improve the lives of the people of the First Nations.

Joseph Brant (1743-1807)

Brant was a Native American who was a political and military leader during the American Revolution. He sided with the British. After the U.S. won the Revolution, he moved from Lewiston and settled in Canada to the Six Nations Reserve, just south of Brantford, Ontario which was named after him.