

Name: Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea)

Years: 1743- 1807

Residence: Canajoharie, NY

Biography: Brant was born in Ohio, to two Native American parents. His father died at a young age and shortly after his passing his family moved to Canajoharie, NY. Brant was educated in Western history and literature at Moor's Charity School for Indians in Connecticut. His older sister married the British superintendent for northern Indian affairs, Sir William Johnson. Brant followed Johnson into the French and Indian War on the side of the British, at the mere age of 13. This led to him being appointed secretary to Johnson in 1774. During the American Revolution, he also fought on the side of the British. He successfully launched the Battle of Oriskany in 1777. After the war, he remained in the British Army and was awarded a piece of land in Ontario. While in Ontario, he helped establish the first Episcopal Church in Upper Canada.

Major Accomplishments: Brant was a Mohawk chief, a Christian Missionary and a British officer during the American Revolution. He led four of the six Iroquois nations on the British side of the American Revolution.

More Information: "Joseph Brant" by Thomas S. Abler and "Thayendanegea" by Barbara Graymont

Resources: The Quebec History Encyclopedia, Marianopolis College, http://faculty.marianopolis.edu/c.belanger/quebechistory/encyclopedia/Thayendanadea-JosephBrant.htm

By Elizabeth Wasserman