The United States gained a huge new area after the Revolutionary War.

Now had to decide how to divide it up into existing states or new ones.

The Northwest Territory was surveyed into organized sections.

A TOWNSHIP was a 36 square mile area.

1 TOWNSHIP = 36 SQUARE MILES

Section #16 was usually reserved for the public school of the township.
The **NORTHWEST ORDINANCE** (1787) described how the Northwest Territory was to be governed. As the territory grew in population, it would gain the rights to self-government. When there were **5,000** free males in an area, men who owned at least **50** acres of land could elect an assembly. When they were **60,000** people, they could apply to become a new state.

The organization of the Northwest Territory was important because it created an orderly plan to settle a new area of the United States.

**SHAYS' REBELLION**

**WHEN:**
January of 1787
**SHAYS' REBELLION**

**WHERE:**
Massachusetts

**WHY:**
Farmers were upset about high taxes – if they could not pay taxes they were put in jail

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Every state was having economic trouble in the mid 1780’s

An average family paid $200 a year in taxes – more than most people made in a year

**DANIEL SHAYS** leads a rebellion of about 1,500 men, mostly farmers

They are upset about paying high taxes and want debt relief from the government

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Government does not help them

They gather and march on a federal arsenal – a storage place for weapons

**About 900 state militia men** stop the uprising

The general public sides with the farmers

Very close to having chaos because of taxes
SHAYS’ REBELLION

RESULT:
The uprising is stopped
Shays is pardoned years later

SHAYS’ REBELLION

LASTING EFFECT:
America realizes they need a stronger national government if they are to survive as a country.

THE END