The Articles of Confederation 1781-1787

- First government of the United States
- Formed under the philosophy that the national government should be weak and that control belonged to the individual states
- Successfully prosecuted the war and subsequent peace with Britain
 - Treaty of Paris, 1783

The Northwest Ordinance, 1787

- Established orderly plan for organization of new territories and admission of new states
- First legislation to outlaw slavery on a national level
 - Northwest Territory

Land Ordinance, 1785, **Northwest Ordinance, 1787** with final state boundaries with final sectional division The Seven Ranges First Area Survey Baseline CANADA MINNESOTA L. Superior **PENNSYLVANIA** Ft. Michilimackinac Mississippi R. WISCONSIN MICHIGAN NORTHWEST **Detail of Township Ft. Detroit 36 sq. miles TERRITORY ILLINOIS INDIANA Missouri R. 1/2 section (320 acres) 1/4 section 80 acres 40 acres each (160 acres) Detail of Section 1 sq. mile (640 acres) Farms in a rectangular survey area: Farms in an old eastern survey area: **Muskingum County, Ohio** Baltimore County, Md. 2 miles 2 miles 2 kilometers 2 kilometers

Map 6.4 Land Division in the Northwest Territory Chapter 6, America: A Concise History, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2010 by Bedford/St. Martin's Page 180

Problems with the A of C

- WEAK CENTRAL GOV'T
- ECONOMIC ISSUES LOSS OF TRADE
 WITH BRITISH
- NO POWER TO TAX
 - Debt from War
- NO NATIONAL CURRENCY
- NO STANDING ARMY
- TO PASS LAW 9 OF 13 STATES
 - Very difficult
- One Branch Legislative
- EACH STATE GOT ONE VOTE



Turning Point: Shays' Rebellion

- Western Mass. Farmers protest against foreclosures and government in Boston
- Seen by some leaders that the revolution had gotten out of control
- Led to Annapolis Convention, which led to Constitutional Convention
- Jefferson "a little revolution is a good thing"