Reference Material

Bibliographies and recommended reading for interpreters and visitors who often want good books for their children's school reports. Also, see Erie Maritime Museum Library (join Flagship Niagara League for use) and Blasco Memorial Library Heritage Room for much, much more!

Battle of Lake Erie/ War of 1812

Altoff, Gerard. *Amongst My Best Men: African American Sailors and the War of 1812*. The best resource on this topic, also good on the war overall.
--Best for High School

--excellent for high school.

Oliver Hazard Perry and the Battle of Lake Erie.
--Concise, good for Middle and High School


--Thin paperback, with illustrations, excellent for students, especially middle school.


Dobbins, Daniel. *Battle of Lake Erie and reminiscences of the Flagships "Lawrence" and "Niagara."


Hickey, Donald. *War of 1812: The Forgotten Conflict*. The War of 1812: A Short History (digest of above)

Robert Ilisevich, Daniel Dobbins, Frontier Mariner.

--Absolutely wonderful for all students (and adults), particularly with the supporting educational packet. Composed entirely of reenactment scenes and interviews with living history characters.


--Elementary and middle school

Merry Hearts Make Light Days: A War of 1812 Journal.


History and Culture of Sailing Ships

--paperback, excellent for middle school students, quick read for high school.
--Heavily and accurately illustrated, excellent for all students
Pirates and Patriots of the Revolution. Revolutionary Medicine, 1700-1800.

Native Americans/Women in the 19th Century America

Connell, Kate. These Lands Are Ours: Tecumseh’s Fight for the Old Northwest. New York: Steck-Vaughn, 1993. --nice thin paperback, illustrated, excellent for middle school, high school
Ulrich, Laurel Thatcher. A Midwife’s Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Based on Her Diary, 1785-1812. --Pulitzer Prize winner, provides a rare window on life for women in early America. Adult, but high school students could enjoy this.

Erie Bayfront and Maritime History in the Nineteenth (Post-1813) and Tenetiethe Century: A Bibliography

NOTE: JES denotes Journal of Erie Studies, available at Erie County Historical Society or Blasco Memorial Erie County Public Library

General History

Frew, David and Dave Stone, Waters of Repose: The Lake Erie Quadrangle (Erie County Historical Society, 1996).
MacDonald, Robert J., and David Frew, Home Port Erie: Voices of Silent Images (Erie County Historical Society, 1996).

Industry and Labor

"Following History Through the Erie Extension Canal," JES (vol. XII, no. 2): 1-17.
Lechner, C. Erie: Link to the Great Lakes (Erie County Historical Society)

**Recreation/Tourism/Entertainment**

Callahane, Thomas P. Fishes of Erie County (Allegheny Press, 1993).
Brandon, Loretta A. Lightkeeper’s Legacy: A Personal History of Presque Isle (Erie County Historical Society, 1997).
"Recreation in Erie from 1860 to 1910," JES (vol. XIII, no. 2): 30-47.

**Waterfront Development**

Land Design/Research and Morton Hoffman and Company, for the City of Erie, Waterfront Comprehensive Plan (1986).
John Nolen and Co. (Urban Planners/Landscape Architects, Boston), Plans and Recommendations for the Expansion and Improvement for the City of Erie (Erie Chamber Of Commerce and Board of Trade, 1913).

**Environmental/Landscape History**

Ashworth, William. The Late, Great Lakes: An Environmental History (Random House, 1986).
Freshwater Seas (Between the Lines publisher, 1990).
Lake Erie Promise (Produced by CFPL-TV, London, Ontario, 1989; videotape, 47 minutes)—overview of environmental changes in Lake Erie from late 1960 through the 1980s.
Too Much Mussel (Ohio Sea Grant Program, 5-minute video tape)

**Ethnicity and Gender**

"Sava (Sam Lee) and Anna Legenzoff, Pioneer Russian Settlers," JES (vol. XX, no. 2): 36-68.

Archival Collections

Undoubtedly the finest collection of nineteenth and twentieth-century Erie maritime documents and photographs is the Robert J. MacDonald Collection located at the Erie County Historical Society. Photographs and archival documents related to the fishing industry, shipwrecks and general maritime lore fill the collection. Also of importance are the Ken Pfirman Archives at the Erie Historical Museum and Planetarium. The Presque Isle Interpretive Center is in the process of making its archival files accessible to the public.

The Erie Maritime Museum has a modest but growing collection of the secondary sources noted above.