

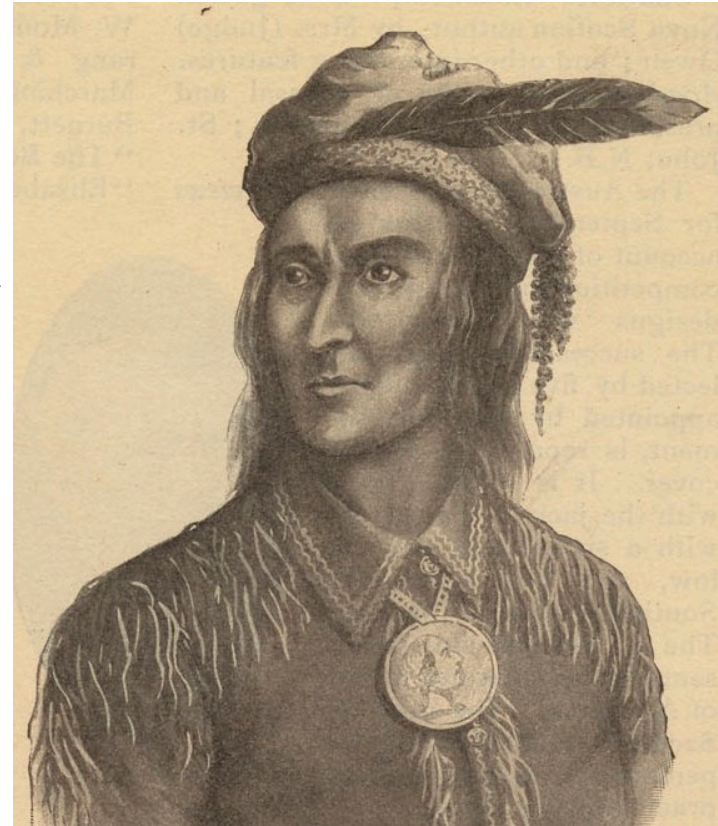


*The many faces of Chief Tecumseh ...*



No white man was allowed to paint Tecumseh, but a young French fur trader, Pierre Le Dru made a furtive pencil sketch from life at Vincennes in 1808.

While no fully authenticated portrait of Tecumseh exists, this is believed to be the only accurate depiction.



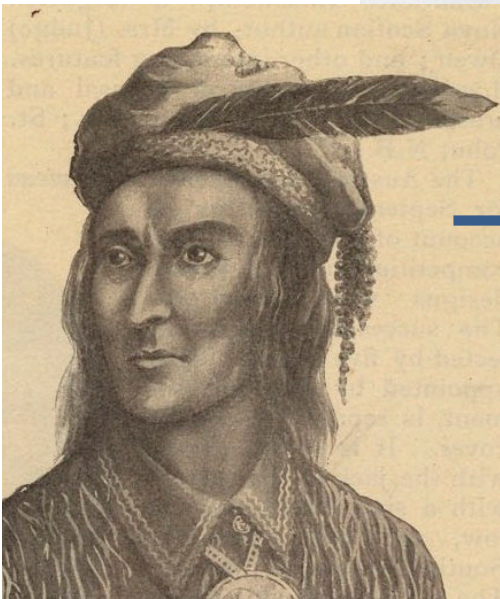
National Archives of  
Canada, Ottawa (C-319)

# CHRONOLOGY

1) Le Dru pencil sketch  
1808

2) B.J. Lossing engraving  
1858

3) Coloured, modified image  
(late 1800's), used most  
often today

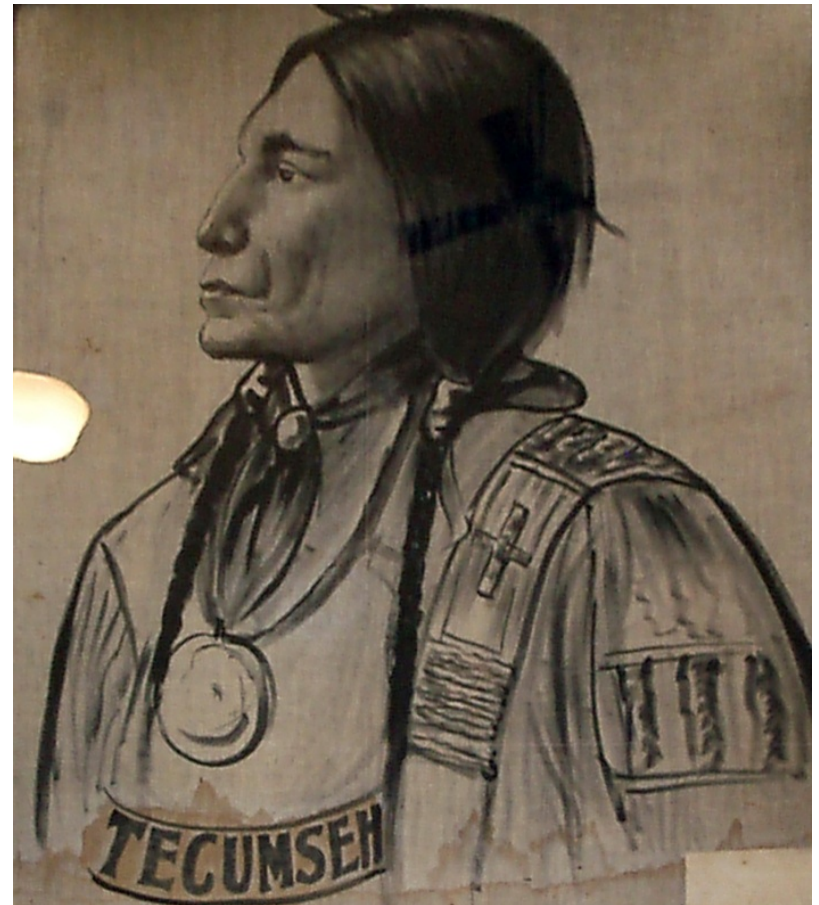


## General Brock's aid-de-camp description of Tecumseh...

"Captain J. B. Glegg, Brock's aid-de-camp, has left on record the following description of Tecumtha at that interview: "Tecumseh's appearance was very prepossessing: his figure light, and finely proportioned; his age I imagined to be about five-and-thirty [he was about forty]; in height, five feet nine or ten inches; his complexion light copper; countenance oval, with bright hazel eyes, bearing cheerfulness, energy, and decision. Three small silver crosses or coronets were suspended from the lower cartilage of his aquiline nose, and a large silver medallion of George the Third, which I believe his ancestor had received from Lord Dorchester when Governor General of Canada, was attached to a mixed-colored wampum string and hung round his neck. His dress consisted of a plain, neat uniform, tanned deer-skin jacket, with long trowsers of the same material, the seams of both being covered with neatly-cut fringe, and he had on his feet leather moccasins, much ornamented with work made from the dyed quills of the porcupine."

A “legend” in a small Michigan town says that Tecumseh was sketched as he passed on his way to Bois Blanc Island before his death in the final battle of 1813.

The robe with markings are similar designs to museum artifacts on display that were worn by Tecumseh.



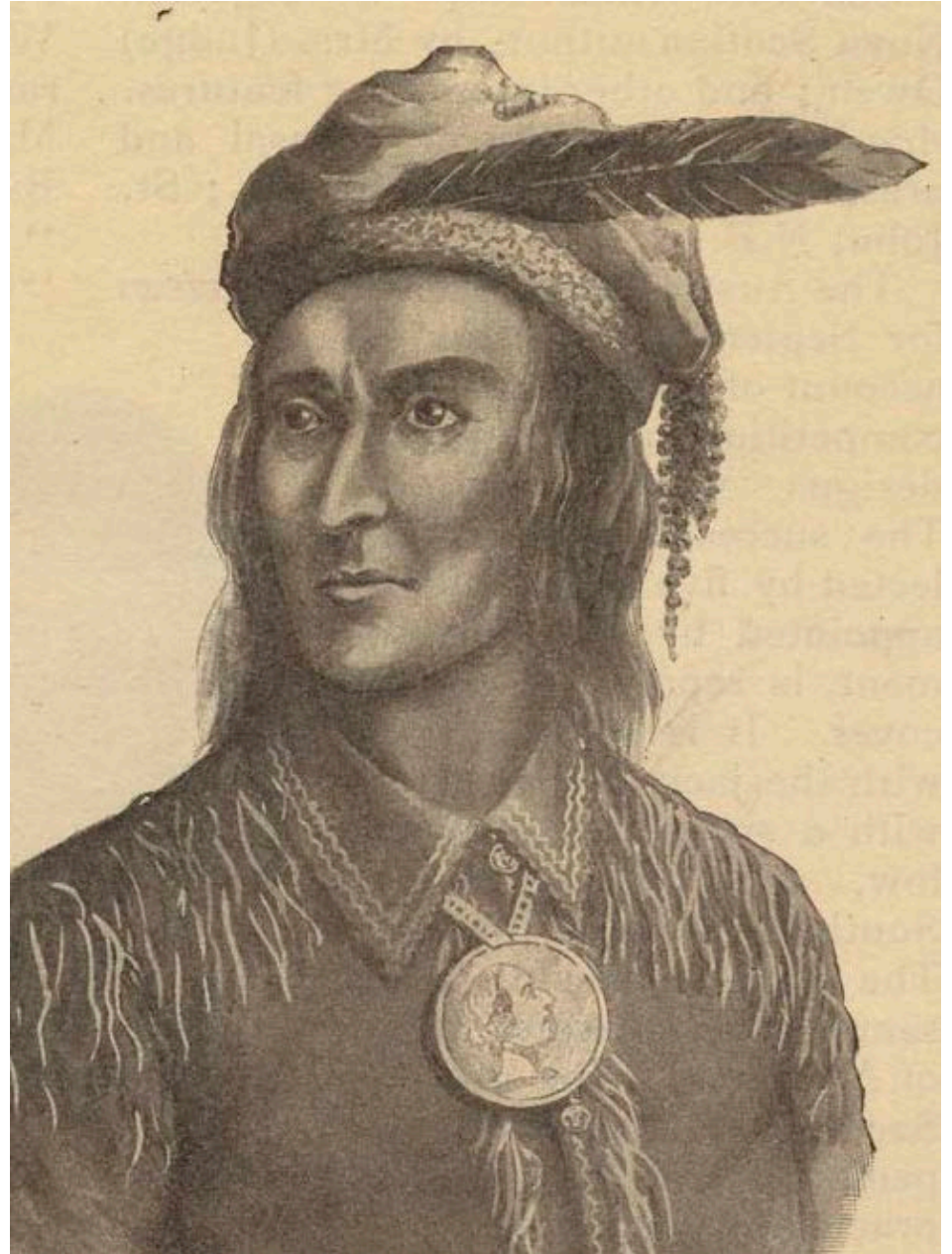
Merging the Le Dru sketch (1808) with the Michigan sketch (1813), possibly drawn from the same person?



Le Dru portrayed  
Tecumseh with French-  
looking facial features.

Leonardo Da Vinci  
noticed that whether  
or not he wished to, an  
artist was bound to  
reproduce his own  
racial type.

(own race bias)

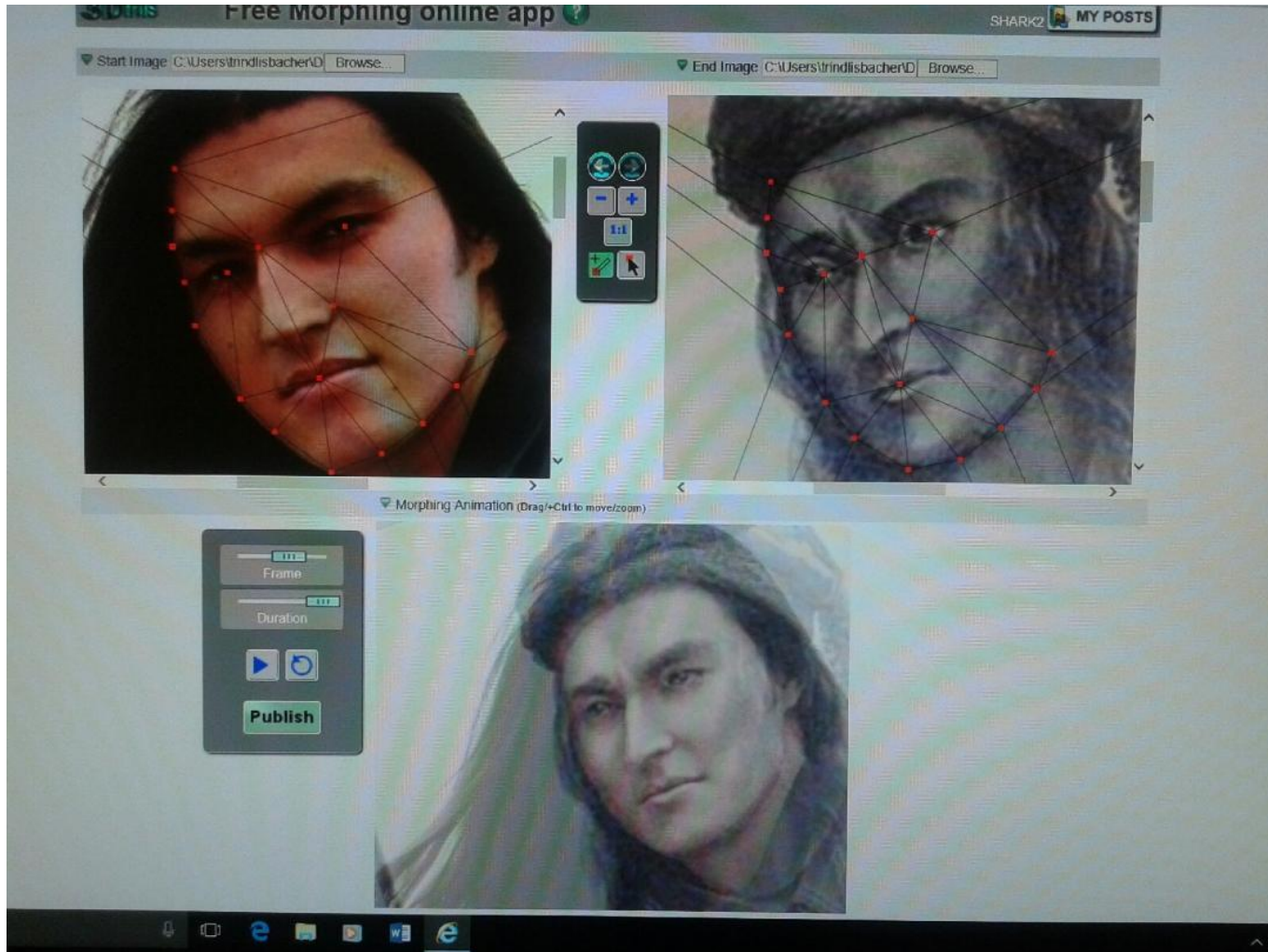


## Facts about Tecumseh

- Tribe: Shawnee
- Born : March (?), 1768
- Place of birth: Scioto River, near Chillicothe, Ohio
- Name of mother: Methoataske  
(Shawnee)
- Name of father: Puckshinwa  
(Shawnee or Muskogee/Creek)



Early morphing attempt with a young Shawnee face using several points of reference:



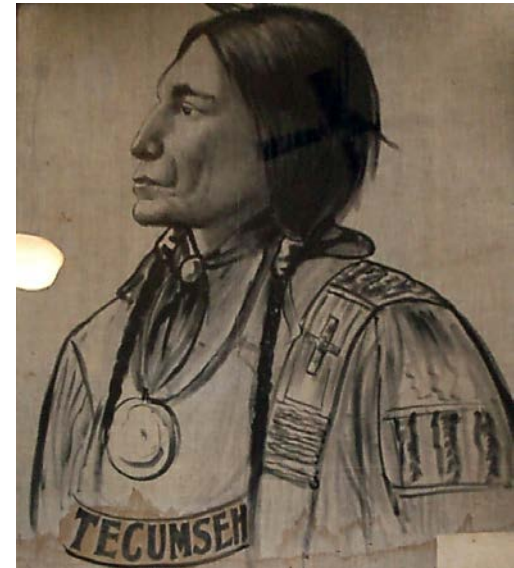
This morphed face, now with actual photo-based Shawnee features, was chosen as the foundation to redo Tecumseh's portrait. (Aging was required as the target was 40-45.)



The artist worked with the image below (left) as a template, painting the new portrait, using the 1813 Michigan side view as a guide for the aquiline nose and for aging lines in his face. Captain Glegg's eye witness description was referenced also.



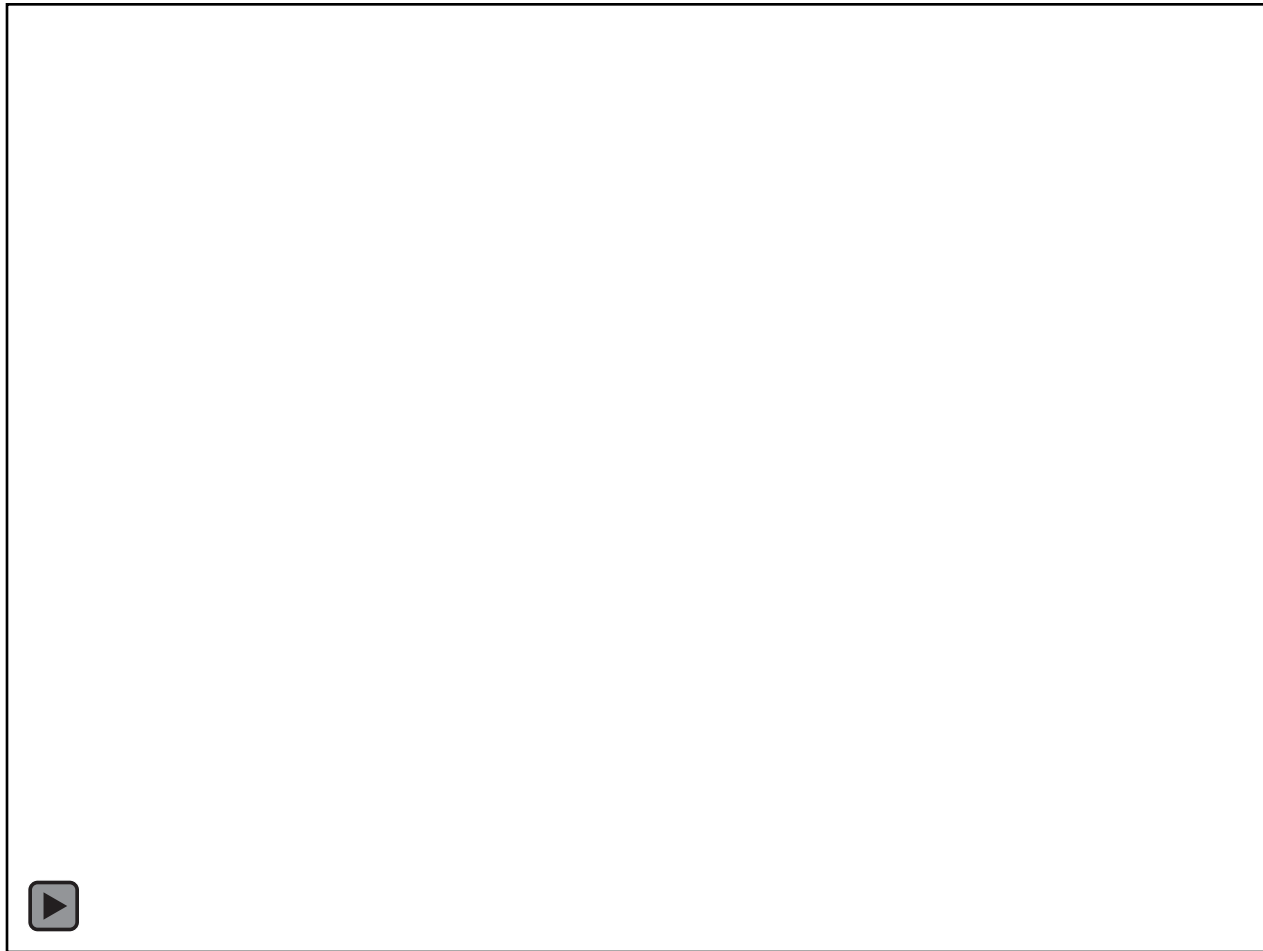
+



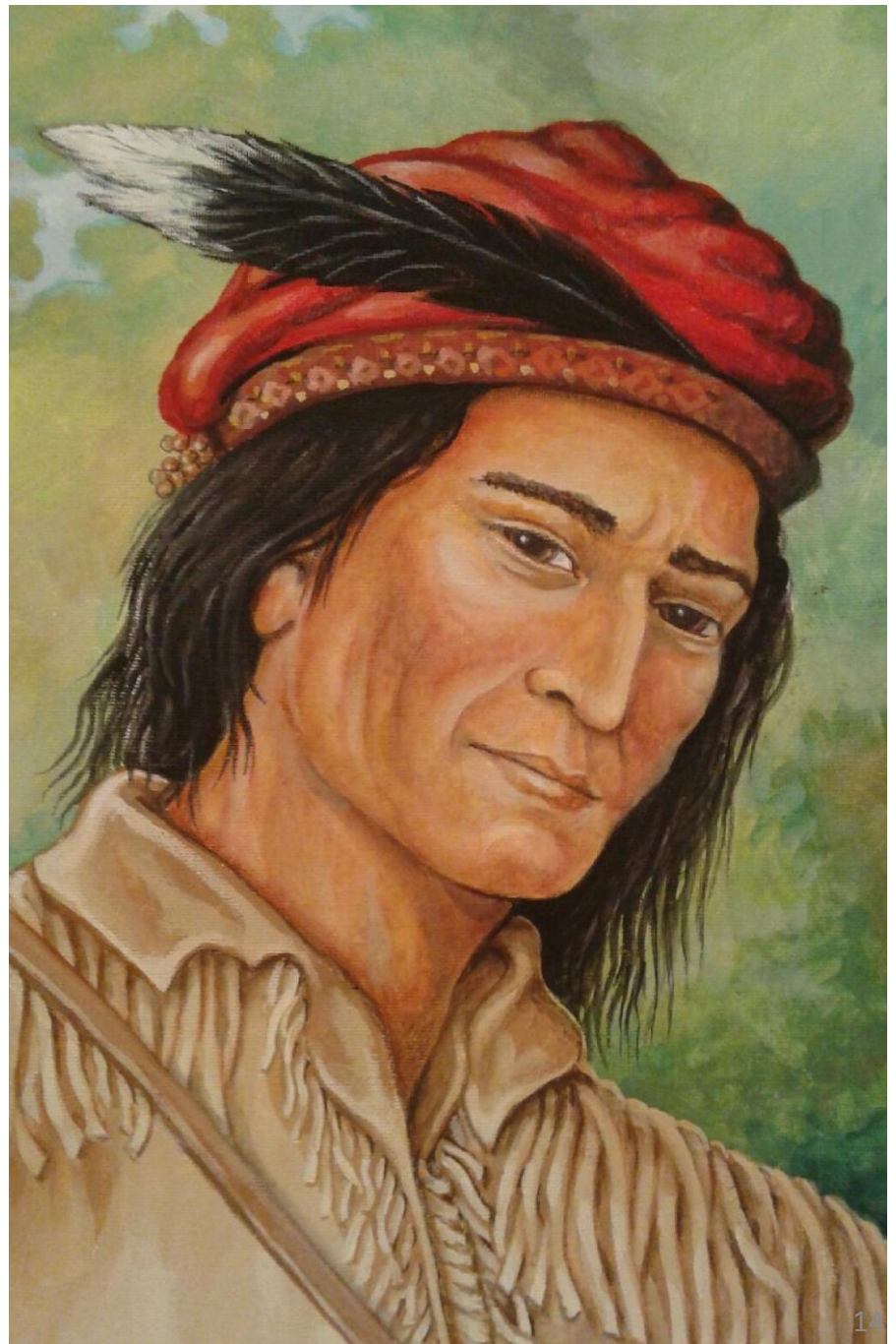
Morphing software allowed comparison back to the original 1808 pencil sketch, to show the tight control of facial lines while correcting some features.



Compared with Tecumseh's brother?  
(painted from life, 1830's by Charles Bird King)



Updated image of  
Chief Tecumseh



## **About the artist:**

- Eleanor has lived on the waterfront of Lake St. Clair for more than 50 years
- In 1991, she worked with son Peter to complete “Retreat along the St. Clair Shoreline 48” x 36” oil on canvas
- She attended the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Retreat in 2013, where she was introduced to an honoured guest, Patricia Shawnoo, a direct descendant of Chief Tecumseh

# Brief resume of Eleanor Rindlisbacher

- Born in Windsor, Ontario 1933
- Moved to St. Clair Beach/Tecumseh in 1966
- Started drawing and illustrating at 11-12 years old
- As a teenager, she fixed statues, painted ceramics and doll faces in a doll factory
- Education: University of Windsor, lab technician
- Eleanor illustrated 12 children's books and Olympic medalist Barbara Ann Scott's" book "Skating for Beginners"
- She worked in commercial art for 49 years helping in the family business designing logos, brochures, menus etc.
- Since 2006 she has freelanced completing signs, banners, portraits etc. and many painted rocks