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Indiana Day December 11

The Seventy-fourth General Assembly, by an act approved February 10, 1925, provided for the designation of December 11 as Indiana Day (Indiana Code 1-1-10).

The resolution of admission was approved by President James Madison on December 11, 1816, and culminated a long process of development from territory to statehood for Indiana. The Constitution of 1816, written as a part of the statehood process, governed the state until 1851. Documents integral to the history of the territorial period are available in a booklet from the Historical Bureau, *Indiana's Road to Statehood: A Documentary Record*, compiled by Hubert H. Hawkins (Indianapolis, 1969). All of this material appears on the Historical Bureau Web site.

Northwest Ordinance Day July 13

The One hundred and fifth General Assembly, by an act approved March 2, 1988, provided for the designation of July 13 as Northwest Ordinance Day (Indiana Code 1-1-14).

The act requires the governor to "issue a proclamation each year designating July 13 as 'Northwest Ordinance Day' and exhorting the Indiana Historical Bureau, the educational, historic, and patriotic organizations of Indiana, and the citizens of Indiana to celebrate the anniversary of the adoption of the Northwest Ordinance by holding suitable exercises in fitting and patriotic observance of this great document and its contributions to freedom and democracy."

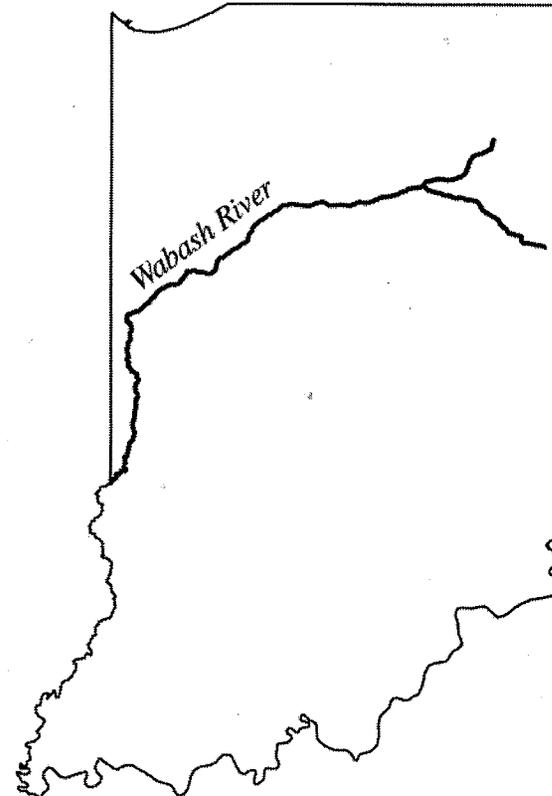
Resources

- Issues of *The Indiana Historian*:
 - "Introducing Indiana—Past and Present"
 - "The Fall of Fort Sackville"
 - "Indiana Territory"
 - "Indiana Statehood"
 - "Indiana Constitution of 1851"
- Indiana Historical Bureau Web site: www.IN.gov/history

Emblems

of the

State of Indiana



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The Indiana General Assembly must pass legislation, and the Governor must approve the legislation, in order to designate official emblems.

Indiana State River

Effective July 1, 1996, the Wabash River became the official state river. Indiana Code 1-2-11 reads: “The river commonly known as the Wabash River is adopted and designated as the official river of the state of Indiana.”

Indiana State Language

Effective July 1, 1984, English became the official state language. Indiana Code 1-2-10-1 states: “The English language is adopted as the official language of the state of Indiana.”

George Rogers Clark Day February 25

George Rogers Clark Day was established by the General Assembly by an act approved February 25, 1975 (Indiana Code 1-1-13).

The non-Code introductory portion of the act (P. L. 1, 1975) detailed the meaning of Clark for Indiana:

WHEREAS, the commemoration of great events is a means of cultivating a knowledge and appreciation of the history of our state and nation and is an asset to citizenship; and

WHEREAS, George Rogers Clark accepted the surrender of Fort Sackville at Vincennes by Colonel Henry Hamilton, Commandant of the British Forces at Detroit on February 25, 1779, which was the culmination of a campaign begun by Clark in the year 1778; and

WHEREAS, Clark with only a handful of men held the entire Northwest Territory secure for the American Colonies for more than four years following his conquest of Fort Sackville, which achievement was the basis of the cession of the entire Northwest Territory by the British Crown to the United States in the Treaty of Paris of 1783, ending the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, Clark campaigned on land which was later to be encompassed in twenty-three counties of the State of Indiana; and

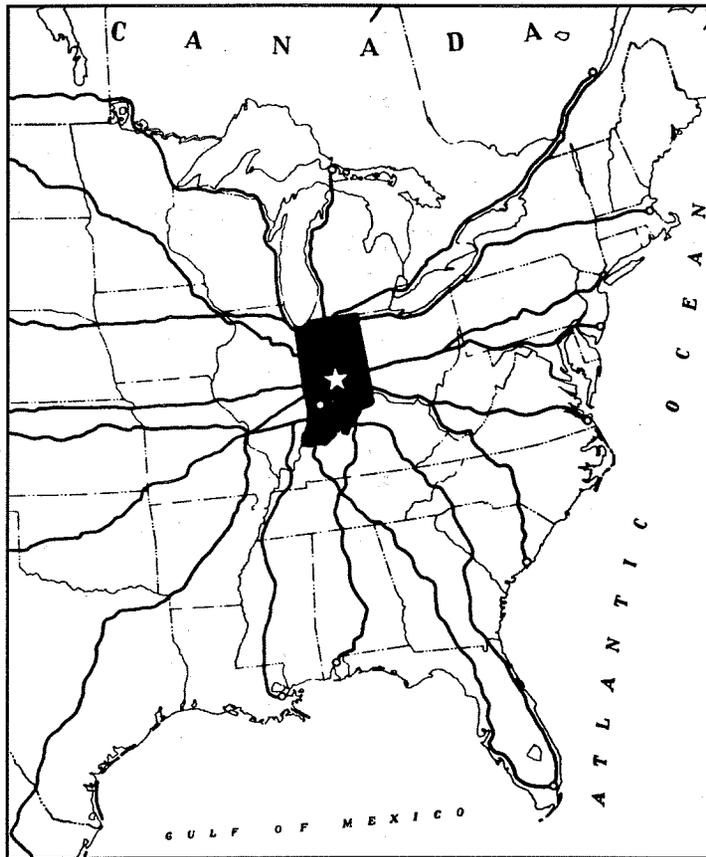
WHEREAS, the Town of Clarksville, established by Clark, is the oldest permanent American settlement in the Northwest Territory, having had platted lots and town trustees on August 2, 1784; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the people of Indiana commemorate the efforts and glory of their forebearers

The following paragraph was the conclusion to the introduction preceding and exists in the Indiana Code as Chapter 13, of Title 1, Article 1:

“The governor shall issue an annual proclamation setting apart the twenty-fifth day of February for the recognition of George Rogers Clark and designating that day as ‘George Rogers Clark Day.’ On this commemorative day, the Indiana Historical Bureau, the schools of Indiana and the citizens of Indiana are exhorted to celebrate the memory of George Rogers Clark by holding suitable exercises in fitting and patriotic observance of his great contributions to the cause of American Independence which include conquering and securing the Northwest Territory and establishing and promoting the first permanent American settlement in the Northwest Territory.”

Indiana State Motto

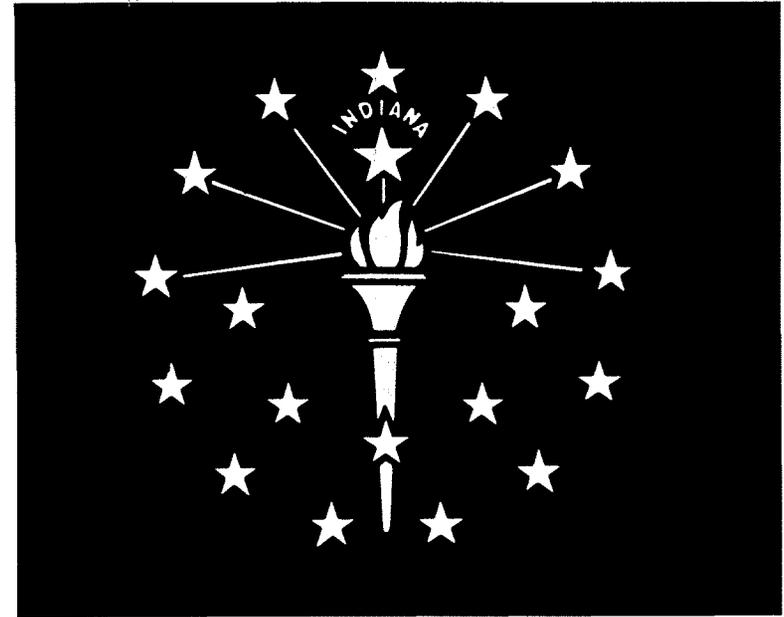


★ INDIANAPOLIS

● CENTER OF POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES 1930

“The Crossroads of America” was designated as the official slogan or motto by a resolution of the 1937 General Assembly.

Indiana State Flag



The state banner was adopted by the 1917 General Assembly as part of the commemoration of the state's 1916 Centennial celebration, after a competition sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The prize-winning design was submitted by Paul Hadley of Mooresville, Indiana.

The torch in the center stands for liberty and enlightenment; the rays represent their far-reaching influence. The official description in the Indiana Code 1-2-2 explains the rest of the Symbolism: “The field of the flag shall be blue with nineteen (19) stars and a flaming torch in gold or buff. Thirteen (13) stars shall be arranged in an outer circle, representing the original thirteen (13) states; five (5) stars shall be arranged in a half circle below the torch and inside the outer circle of stars, representing the states admitted prior to Indiana; and the nineteenth star, appreciably larger than the others and

representing Indiana shall be placed above the flame of the torch. The outer circle of stars shall be so arranged that one (1) star shall appear directly in the middle at the top of the circle, and the word "Indiana" shall be placed in a half circle over and above the star representing Indiana and midway between it and the star in the center above it. Rays shall be shown radiating from the torch to the three (3) stars on each side of the star in the upper center of the circle."

The name was changed from banner to flag by the 1955 General Assembly. The unique dimensions of Hadley's design (5' 6" fly by 4' 4" hoist as pictured here) remained part of the official description until the 1979 General Assembly amended the dimensions to conform to use forced by manufacturers. According to Indiana Code 1-2-2 (as amended in 1979) the flag shall be 3 feet fly by 2 feet hoist, 5 feet fly by 3 feet hoist, "or any size proportionate to either of those dimensions."

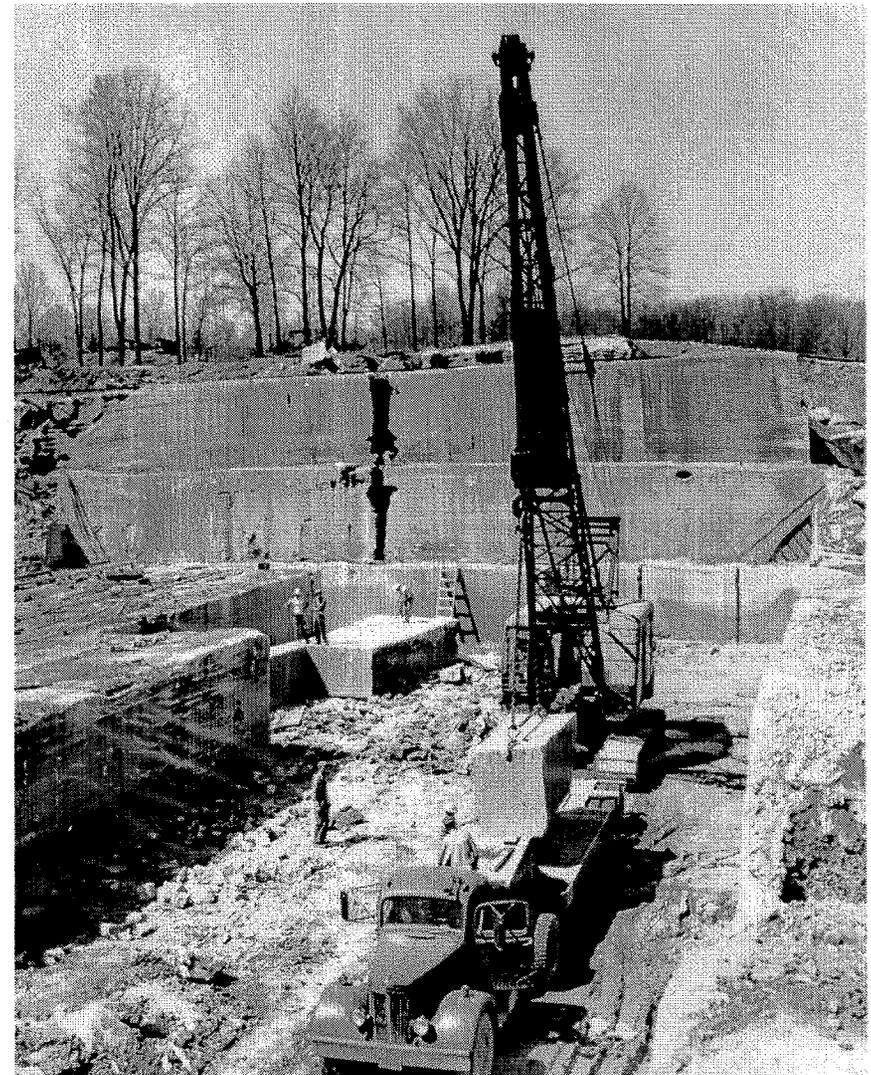
The state flag is "regulation, in addition to the American flag, with all of the militia forces of the state of Indiana, and in all public functions in which the state may or shall officially appear" (Indiana Code 1-2-2-2). The state flag is always carried or displayed on the observer's right of the American flag.

"Township trustees, boards of school trustees and boards of school commissioners of the various school corporations of this state, and board of county commissioners of the several counties of the state, may procure a state flag for each school and for each courthouse under their respective supervision and cause the same to be placed conspicuously in the principal room or assembly hall and any courtroom of any such building or courthouse" (Indiana Code 1-2-2-1).

According to an amendment of the law by the 1979 General Assembly, "A new and different Indiana state flag shall be displayed at the state capitol building on each and every day whenever practicable and feasible" (Indiana Code 1-2-3-1). Two such flags may be requested by each legislator for delivery to constituents in each year (Indiana Code 1-2-3-2 and 3).

"Each and every institution supported in whole or in part by state funds shall display the state flag in a prominent place upon its property" (Indiana Code 1-2-3-5).

Indiana State Stone



Indiana Limestone Company, Inc., Bedford. From: Indiana Division, Indiana State Library.

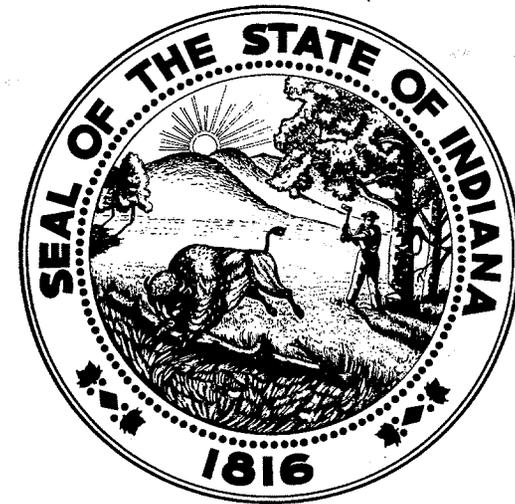
"The regal type rock 'Limestone' which is found and quarried in south and central Indiana from the geologic formation named the Salem Limestone" was adopted as the state stone by the 1971 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-9).

Indiana State Bird



The cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis cardinalis*) was adopted as the state bird by the 1933 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-8). The male (shown above) is bright red; the female is brown with dull red crest, wings and tail. They remain in Indiana year round and nest in thickets of brambles or low saplings. The eggs, 2 to 4, are bluish-white with brown markings.

Indiana State Seal



Versions of the pioneer scene have been used on Indiana seals since territorial days. They are found on official papers as early as 1801. Both the 1816 and the 1851 Constitutions provide that "There shall be a Seal of State, kept by the Governor for official purposes, which shall be called the Seal of the State of Indiana" (1851 Constitution, Article 15, Section 5). The 1963 General Assembly gave legal sanction to the design and provided an official description. The description from the Indiana Code 1-2-4 follows: "A perfect circle, two and five eighths ($2\frac{5}{8}$) inches in diameter, inclosed by a plain line. Another circle within the first, two and three eighths ($2\frac{3}{8}$) inches in diameter inclosed by a beaded line, leaving a margin of one quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) of an inch. In the top half of this margin are the words 'Seal of the State of Indiana'.

"At the bottom center, 1816, flanked on either side by a diamond, with two (2) dots and a leaf of the tulip tree (*liriodendron tulipifera*), at both ends of the diamond. The inner circle has two (2) trees in the left background, three (3) hills in the center background with nearly a full sun setting behind and between the first and second hill from the left.

"There are fourteen (14) rays from the sun, starting with two (2) short ones on the left, the third being longer and then alternating, short and long. There are two (2) sycamore trees on the right, the larger one being nearer the center and having a notch cut nearly half way through, from the left side, a short distance above the ground. The woodsman is wearing a hat and holding his ax nearly perpendicular on his right. The ax blade is turned away from him and is even with his hat.

"The buffalo is in the foreground, facing to the left of front. His tail is up, front feet on the ground with back feet in the air - as he jumps over a log.

"The ground has shoots of blue grass, in the area of the buffalo and woodsman."

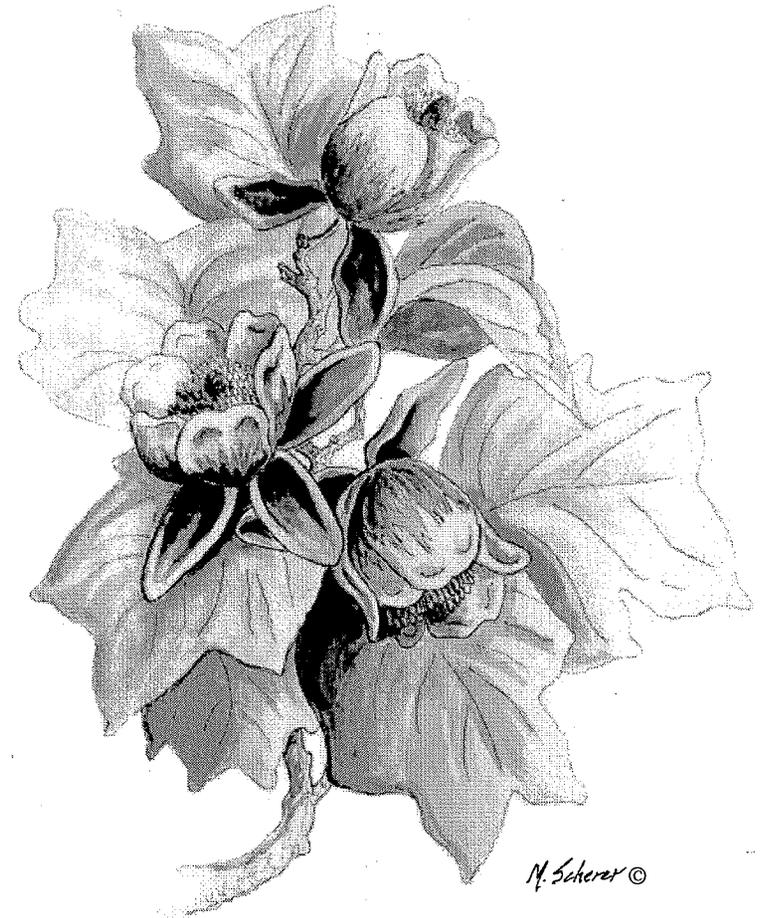
Indiana State Poem

I n d i a n a

God crowned her hills with beauty,
Gave her lakes and winding streams,
Then He edged them all with woodlands
As the settings for our dreams.
Lovely are her moonlit rivers,
Shadowed by the sycamores,
Where the fragrant winds of Summer
Play along the willowed shores.
I must roam those wooded hillsides,
I must heed the native call,
For a Pagan voice within me
Seems to answer to it all.
I must walk where squirrels scamper
Down a rustic old rail fence,
Where a choir of birds is singing
In the woodland . . . green and dense.
I must learn more of my homeland
For it's paradise to me,
There's no haven quite as peaceful,
There's no place I'd rather be.
Indiana . . . is a garden
Where the seeds of peace have grown,
Where each tree, and vine, and flower
Has a beauty . . . all its own.
Lovely are the fields and meadows,
That reach out to hills that rise
Where the dreamy Wabash River
Wanders on . . . through paradise.

The poem "Indiana" by Arthur Franklin Mapes of Kendallville, Indiana, was adopted as the state poem by the 1963 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-5).

Indiana State Tree



The tulip tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*), known also as yellow poplar, was adopted by the 1931 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-7). It attains great height and can be found throughout the state. The leaf is distinctive (it appears in the border of the state seal), and the lovely bell-shaped greenish-yellow flowers appear in May or June. The soft white wood has many uses.

Indiana State Flower



The peony (*Paeonia*) was adopted as the state flower by the 1957 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-7). From 1931 to 1957 the zinnia was the state flower. The peony blooms the last of May and early June in various shades of red and pink and also in white; it occurs in single and double forms. No particular variety or color was designated by the General Assembly. It is cultivated widely throughout the state and is extremely popular for decorating gravesites for Memorial Day.

Indiana State Song

Paul Dresser's "On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away" was adopted as the state song by the 1913 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-6).

On The Banks Of The Wabash, Far Away

Words and Music by
PAUL DRESSER

Andante espressivo

Round my In - di - an - a home - stead wave the corn - field, In the
Ma - ny years have passed since I strolled by the riv - er, Arm in

dis - tance loom the wood - lands clear and cool. Of - ten
arm with sweet - heart Ma - ry by my side. It was

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times my thoughts re-vert to scenes of child-hood, Where I first re-ceived my les-sons, na-ture's
there I tried to tell her that I loved her, It was there I begged of her to be my

school. But one thing there is mis-sing in the pic-ture, With-
bride. Long years have passed since I strolled thro' the church-yard, She's

-out her face it seems so in-com-plete. I long to see my moth-er in the
sleep-ing there my an-gel Ma-ry, dear. I loved her but she thought I did-nt

door-way, As she stood there years a-go, her boy to greet!
mean it, Still Id give my fu-ture were she on-ly here.

REFRAIN

Oh, the moon-light's fair to-night a-long the Wa-bash, From the

fields there comes the breath of new mown hay. Thro' the

syc-a-mores the can-die lights are gleam-ing, On the

banks of the Wa-bash, far a-way.