



# Camp Indiana Winter

## Hoosier Cabinet

Before built-in kitchen cabinetry, storage for pots and pans was limited. That is where the Hoosier cabinet came in. As a popular piece of kitchen furniture, the "Hoosier" was equipped with storage cabinets, a metal covered shelf that slid out, and offered about 48 inches of counter-space. The Hoosier cabinet was a revolutionary piece of furniture and is still sought after by collectors today.

The Hoosier cabinet got its name as you might expect, being manufactured right here in Indiana. One of the first companies to start manufacturing the Hoosier cabinet was the G.I. Sellers Company from Kokomo in 1888. By 1922, the company was producing anywhere between 75,000 to 85,000 cabinets per year. Other Hoosier companies creating Hoosier cabinets were, Campbell-Smith-Ritchie Company from Boone County, Copes Brothers and Zook from Nappanee, The Hoosier Manufacturing Co. from Albany, and McDougall from Indianapolis.

Where would you see a Hoosier cabinet today? There are some on display at the Henry Ford Museum, the Children's Museum of Indianapolis, and the Kentucky Museum. They can be found at antique stores across the country, and chances are real good that you know someone in your family that has one in their homes still!

