

The Indiana County Historian Program

Training Module # 3:
Primary and Secondary Source Analysis



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Indiana Historical Bureau

- Finding and Evaluating Sources
- Making Your County History Relevant to All Hoosiers
- Dr. Michella Marino, Deputy Director
- Jill Weiss Simins, Historian



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Story: Buckingham's Baseline



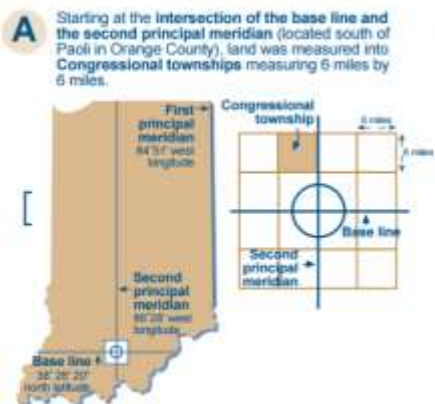
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"Drawing of George Washington as Surveyor" in "Surveyor's Compass" in Andrew G. Gardner, "How Did Washington Make His Millions?" Colonial Williamsburg Journal (Winter 2013) accessed <http://www.history.org/foundation/journal/winter13/washington.cfm>

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Story: Buckingham's Baseline



B Congressional townships were divided further into 36 sections measuring 1 mile square. Each section contained approximately 640 acres of land.

Congressional township

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

C Sections were often divided into half-sections (320 acres), quarter-sections (160 acres), half-quarter sections (80 acres), and quarter-quarter sections (40 acres).

Section 29



Sources: George R. Wilson, *Early Indiana Trails and Surveys* (Indianapolis, 1919), 363, 382, 403-4, 414, 417; J. G. Henderson, *Indiana: The Public Domain and Its Survey* (Indianapolis, 1952), 8, 9.

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Story: Buckingham's Baseline



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Source: Indiana Archives and Records Administration

<https://www.in.gov/iara/>



- Land records
- Surveyor field notes

<https://www.in.gov/iara/3197.htm>

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Source: National Archives

<https://catalog.archives.gov/>

The screenshot shows the National Archives Catalog interface. The top navigation bar includes links for ARCHIVES.GOV, LOGIN, REGISTER, VETERANS' SERVICE RECORDS, HELP, API, and CONTACT US. A search bar contains the text 'Buckingham Indiana field notes'. Below the search bar, the record hierarchy is displayed: Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management, 1689-2006; Series: Public Land Survey Township Plats, 1789-1946; File Unit: Indiana 2nd Principal Meridian. The main content area shows a thumbnail of a handwritten survey document titled 'Inventory of the 2nd South of the Dear River Township Plat'. The document contains a table with columns for 'Poles', 'Bearing', 'Distance', 'Remarks', 'Line', and 'Quality of the Land'. The table lists several survey points with bearings and distances. The bottom of the page shows the URL <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/45273715>.

Digitized
surveyor field
notes –
Including
Indiana

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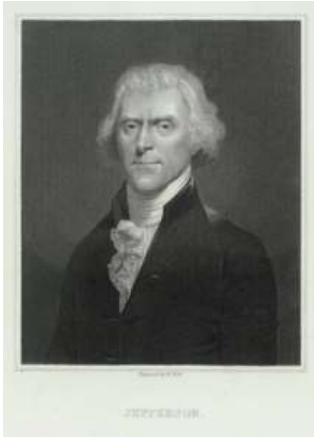
Source: HathiTrust

<https://www.hathitrust.org/>

The screenshot shows the HathiTrust digital library interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, About, Collections, Help, and Feedback. A search bar contains the text 'Search HathiTrust'. Below the search bar, the book record is displayed. The title is 'ESSAYS, Mathematical and Physical: THEORIES AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF SOME VERY Important and Difficult Subjects'. The book is available in PDF format. The interface includes a sidebar with links to 'Back to "in this item" results', 'Back to catalog record', 'About this Book', 'View full catalog record', 'Rights', 'Get this Book', 'Find in a library', 'Download this issue (PDF)', 'Download whole book (PDF)', 'Text Only Views', and 'Go to the text-only view of this item'. The main content area shows a thumbnail of the book cover. The bottom of the page shows the URL <https://www.hathitrust.org/>.

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Story: Land Survey to Spread Democracy



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"Jefferson" engraving by William Holl, The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Print Collection, New York Public Library Digital Collections; Survey Map (left) accessed Elkhart County Surveyor, <http://elkcosurveyor.org/history/>; Aerial View of Indiana (right) accessed Indiana Public Media,

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Source: American Memory, Library of Congress

The Library of Congress

Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1774-1789

An ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of lands in the Western Territory: Be it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, that the territory, being purchased of the Indian inhabitants, shall be disposed of in the following manner...

Image 1 of 2

View in image 1

[NEXT IMAGE](#)

[Back to Full Text Display](#) | [Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention](#) | [Higher Quality Image \(JPEG - 2.477K\)](#) | [Higher Q](#)



1784 and 1785
Land Ordinances

<https://memory.loc.gov/ammem/mdbnote.html>

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Source: U.S. Bureau of Land Management

The screenshot shows the 'General Land Office Records' search page. It features a navigation bar with 'Search Documents', 'Reference Center', and 'Support'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Search Documents By Type', 'Search Documents By Location', and 'Search Documents By Identifier'. The 'Search Documents By Type' tab is active, showing a search form with sections for 'Location' (State: ALABAMA, County: Loading), 'Land Description' (Township: 2, Range: 2, Meridian: Loading), and 'Miscellaneous' (Survey Type: Any Survey Type, Contract/Gross No., Survey No., Surveyor: Loading, Approved Date: 2, 10, 5). A 'Search Surveys' button is at the bottom. To the right of the form, there is a 'To search for surveys' section with four steps: 1. Start by selecting the state. 2. You do not have to fill in all fields, but provide at least one additional field. 3. Click the Search Surveys button. 4. You will be switched to the 'Search Results' page. Below this, a note states: 'You can get a brief description of what each field means by hovering your mouse over it. You can get more detailed information by checking the [Glossary](#) in the Reference Center. For more tips and help, check out our [Survey Search Overview](#).' At the bottom, a note says: 'Note: This site does not cover every state. We do have [historic data](#), though, for most states.'

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Story: American Indian Perspective



Battle of Fallen Timbers," engraving, 1846, in John Frost, Pictorial History of the United States, accessed <http://ushistoryimages.com/sources.sh> tm#F

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Story: American Indian Perspective



Detail of "Painting of Indian Treaty of Greenville," oil on canvas, 1795, Chicago History Museum, accessed <http://digitalcollection.chicagohistory.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16029coll3/id/1660>

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Source: National Archives

<https://catalog.archives.gov/>

NATIONAL ARCHIVES CATALOG

ARCHIVES.GOV LOGIN REGISTER VETERANS' SERVICE RECORDS HELP API CONTACT US

About Us Privacy Policy Accessibility FOIA USA.gov

Advanced Search Login Register

Share Export

Record Hierarchy

Record Group 11:
General Records of the United States
Government, 1778 - 2006

Series:
Indian Treaties, 1789 - 1869

Items:
Treaty of Greenville, August 3, 1795 (Ratified Indian Treaty #23, 7 STAT 49), between the Wyandot, Delaware, Shawnee, Ottawa, Chippewa, Potawatomie, Miami, Eel River, Wea, Kickapoo, Piankashaw, and Kaskaskia Tribes and signed by "Mad" Anthony Wayne, that ended the Indian War on the Northwestern Frontier, commonly called "Wayne's War."

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/299800>

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Source: National Archives

<https://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans/treaties>

The screenshot shows the National Archives website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links. The main header is 'Native American Heritage'. Below it, there is a section titled 'American Indian Treaties'. The text on the page describes the history of treaties between the U.S. and American Indian nations, from 1774 to 1887. It mentions the Treaty of Paris ending the Revolutionary War and the subsequent treaties negotiated between the U.S. and various tribes. A sidebar on the left lists various record types like 'Research Our Records', 'Veterans' Service Records', 'Educator Resources', 'Visit Us', and 'America's Founding Documents'. There is also a small image of a map of the United States.

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Source: American Memory, Library of Congress

The Library of Congress

Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1774-1789

An ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of lands in the Western Territory: Be it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, that the territory: being purchased of the Indian inhabitants, shall be disposed of in the following manner: ...

Image 1 of 2

View Image

NEXT IMAGE

[Back to Full Text Display](#) | [Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention](#) | [Higher Quality Image \(JPG - 2.477K\)](#) | [Higher Q](#)



1784 and 1785
Land Ordinances

<https://memory.loc.gov/ammem/mdbnote.html>

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Sources: Oral Histories and Community Partners

<http://www.miamiindians.org/>



The Miami Nation Of Indiana



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Conclusion of story 1



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Story: Early Black Settlements



Clara Roberts, Alzadia Florence Roberts, Lester Roberts," photograph, ca. 1883, accessed <http://www.robertssettlement.org/historical-photos.html>

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Source: Free Papers; "Negro Register "

<https://indianahistory.org/explore/our-collections/archives/>
<https://www.in.gov/iara/2489.htm>

[Indiana Historical Society - Manuscripts and Archives Department](#)

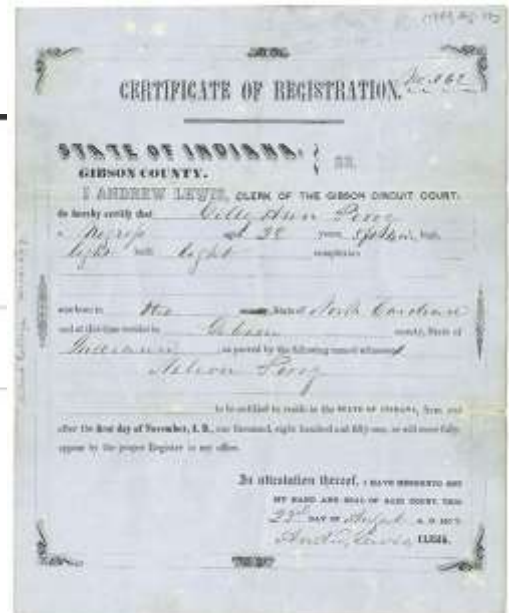
ELIJAH ROBERTS COLLECTION, 1832-1972

Collection #
M 0325

Table of Contents

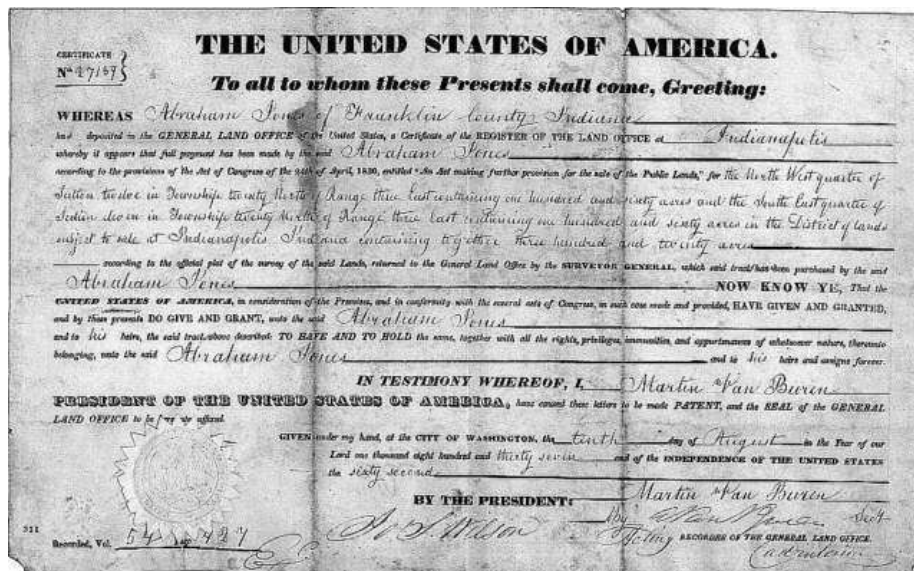
[Collection Information](#)
[Historical Sketch](#)
[Scope and Content Note](#)
[Box and Folder Listing](#)
[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by:
Wilma L. Gibbs
7 June 1994



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Sources: Land Records



Library of
Congress
U.S. Bureau
of Land
Management

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Source: IUPUI Digital Collections

<http://www.ulib.iupui.edu/resources/databases>

OneSearch IUGAT

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Resources - Guides - Services - Technologies - About Us - Need Help?

Digital Collections

Title	Subject	Type
500 Festival	- Art -	- Art -
Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here Coalition		

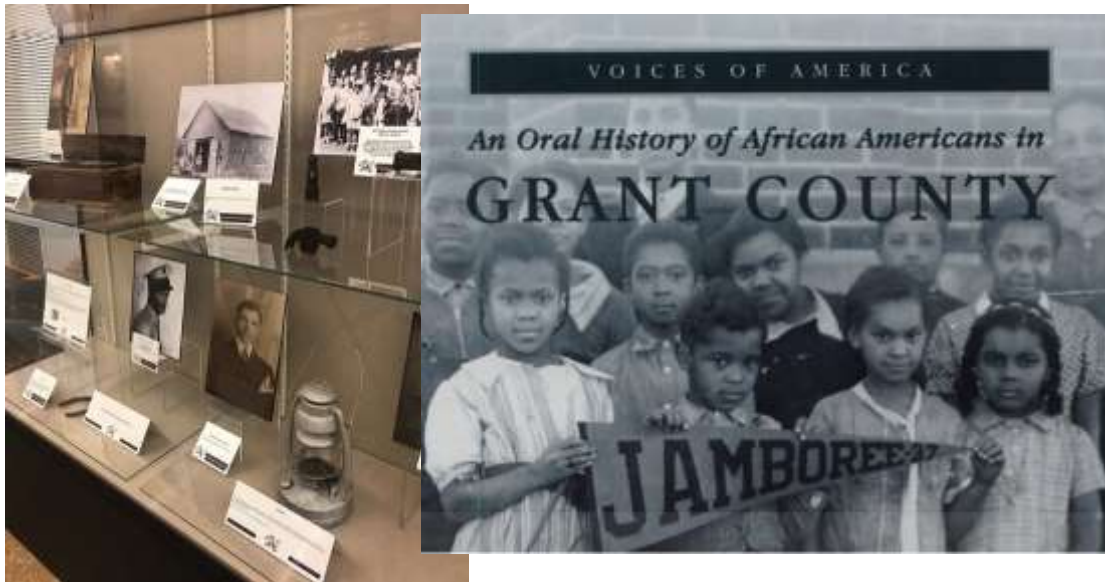
The 500 Festival archival collection is held by the organization in Indianapolis. This digital Festival events and traditions with the community. The online collection includes photos, Festival events and programs.

This collection supports and promotes awareness to the important mission and framework. Coalition's focus on the lasting power of the written word and the arts in support of the shared cultural spaces, and the importance of responding to attacks, both overt and subtle, working under oppressive regimes or in zones of conflict despite the destruction of their shared cultural of West Branchville and downtown.

- Historic Indiana Atlases
- Historic Indiana Maps
- Historic Indiana Plat Books
- Indiana Historic • Architecture Slide Collection
- Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory
- Theses and dissertations

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Oral Histories & Nontraditional Sources



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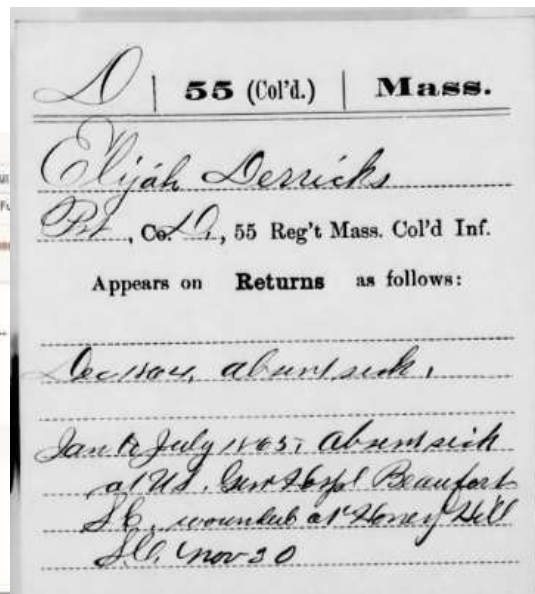
Story: U.S. Colored Troops



Harper's Weekly, March 18, 1865.
Wood Engraving. Colonel Charles
Fox Leading the 55th
Massachusetts Infantry Regiment
into Charleston, S.C. when the City
Surrenders to Union Forces on
February 21, 1865," accessed
[Black Past](#).

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Source: Military Records (Ancestry; Fold3; Report of Adjutant General @ HathiTrust)



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Source: Graves



Find-A-Grave
SHAARD Database
Death records, Ancestry
Cemetery Records, ISL, local
libraries
Church Records

http://eagleproject.homestead.com/Thorntown_colored_cemetery.pdf

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Story: Sugar Creek & Political Power



Thomas Kelly, "The Fifteenth Amendment," 1870, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, https://www.loc.gov/resourcel/pmsca_34808/

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Story: Sugar Creek & Political Power



James Sidney Hinton, 1880, Division of Manuscripts and Rare Books, [Indiana State Library](https://www.indiana.gov/).

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Source: Hoosier State Chronicles, ISL

<https://newspapers.library.in.gov/>

Over one million pages of Indiana Newspapers



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Source: More Newspapers



Chronicling America, Library of Congress

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

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Source: More Newspapers

Databases with pay walls / accessible via ISL and other libraries

- Newspapers.com
- NewspaperArchive

The image shows two search interfaces side-by-side. On the left is the NewspaperArchive search page, featuring fields for 'Names' (First Name, Last Name), 'Keywords', 'Narrow by Location' (Country), and 'Narrow by Date' (Year). On the right is the Newspapers.com search page, showing a 'Search' bar and tabs for 'Search', 'Browse', 'Papers', and 'Clippings'. Overlaid on the right is a historical newspaper clipping from the Daily Republican, dated 1880, which reports on Elias Schadd, a Black man, being impaneled as a petit juror in Sugar Creek township. The clipping also mentions the year 1880 being peculiar in some instances.

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Conclusion of Story 2

The image shows the Indiana Historical Bureau (IHB) website. The main content area is titled 'Sugar Creek Community' and features two photographs of historical markers. The left marker is a blue plaque with white text, and the right marker is a black plaque with white text. Both markers describe the history of the Sugar Creek Community, including its establishment in 1880 and its significance as a Black settlement. Below the markers, the location is given as 'Colored Cemetery location, 6770 North 825 West, Thorntown, Indiana 46071'.

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Primary and Secondary Sources

- Definitions
- Source reliability and evaluation
 - Popular vs. Academic
 - Just because they are old doesn't mean they are trustworthy!
 - Understanding source context
- Revisionism

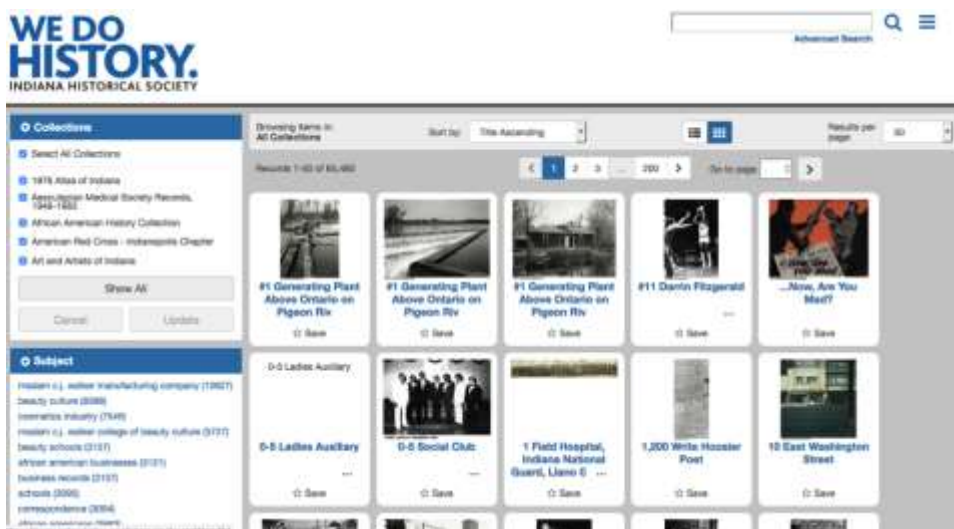
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Resources at Indiana Historical Society

<https://images.indianahistory.org/digital/search>



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Resources at the Indiana State Library



ISL Digital Collections

<https://digitalcollections.library.in.gov/>

- Indiana Memory
- Hoosier State Chronicles
- Subscription Databases
- Newspapers on microfilm
- When in doubt . . .

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Indiana State Library

<https://www.in.gov/library/ask.htm>



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Indiana Historical Bureau, Division of the Indiana State Library



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Questions?

Indiana Historical Bureau (IHB)

Division of the Indiana State Library, a state agency.

Dr. Michella M. Marino

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Indiana Historical Society (IHS)

A private nonprofit organization.

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