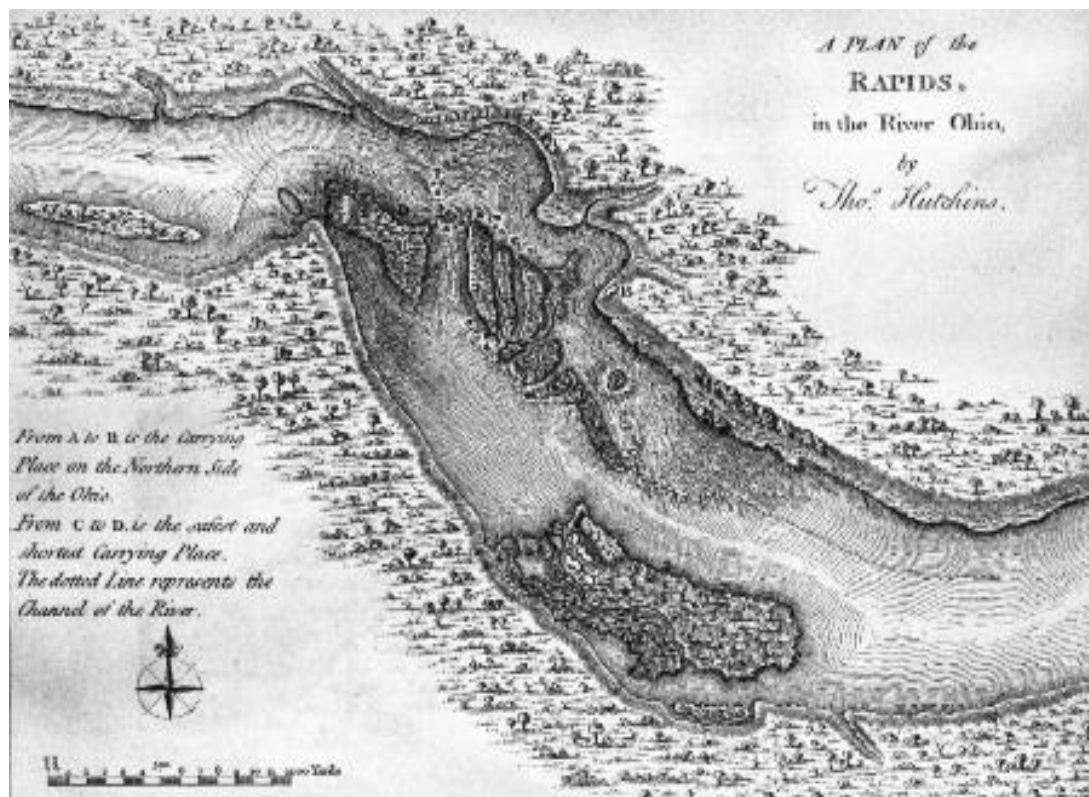


Buffalo Trace Story Map

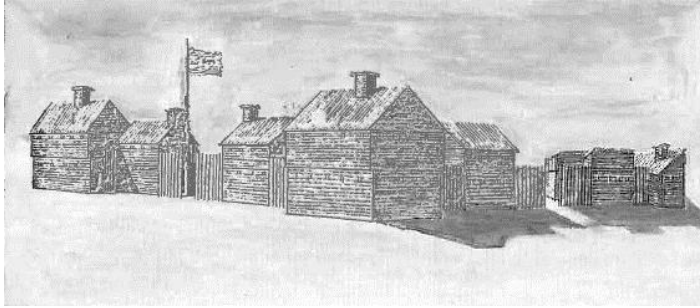
Sites listed as having limited access are private sites with specific areas or times that they are accessible to the public.

Clark County



2) A Plan of the Rapids, in the River Ohio. Photo courtesy of Indiana Historical Society.

The Falls at the Ohio River between what is now Louisville and Clarksville made a rapid descent over a series of ledges formed by Devonian rock rich in fossils. In high stages of water, the falls disappeared completely. During low water times, the whole width of the river had the appearance of a series of waterfalls with great flats of rock beds. There is now a state park in the location where the buffalo and the historic trace crossed from Kentucky into Indiana. This site is open to the public. [Falls of the Ohio State Park website](#)



3) Sketch of Fort Finney, later Fort Steuben, located on the Ohio River bank near present-day Fort Street in Jeffersonville. Photo courtesy of Indiana Historical Society, M0367.

Fort Finney was constructed in 1786. Captain Walter Finney oversaw construction of a square earth and timber work with blockhouses near present-day Fort Street in Jeffersonville. The post was garrisoned by US troops until 1793 but then remained a militia station until about 1800. It was renamed Fort Steuben in 1787 after Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, Revolutionary War hero. It was a magnet for settlers, who formed a village immediately around it and were the first residents of the town of Jeffersonville. A historic marker is all that exists at this site. This site is open to the public. [Clark County Community Portal - Jeffersonville](#)



4) Trading Post in the 1800s. Photo in Public Domain.

Tully's Trading Post opened in 1799. The village of Springville, named after a good spring nearby, was platted around it the next year. The trading post was run by an unknown Frenchman and attracted Indians who traded furs for goods. One of the more active traders was a man named Tully, prompting the Indians to call the village Tullytown. The town was the first county seat when Clark County was established in 1801, but was replaced by Jeffersonville in 1802 and declined soon after. No parts of the trading post are still in existence. This site is located on private land with no public access.



5) Delaware Indian. Photo courtesy of New York Historical Society; Smithsonian Institution Photo No. 3439.

Killbuck's Village, named after a tribal leader, stood at this site in 1812. The Killbuck family originated from the eldest son of Chief Netawatwees who is considered to be the principal chief of the Delaware Tribe during their 18th century settlement of eastern Ohio. The eldest son, Killbuck, had at least two sons and a daughter named Helena. Helena was the mother of Chief William Anderson who emerged as the principal Chief of the Delaware Tribe during their early 19th century settlement of the White River in Indiana. He later negotiated the treaties that would eventually move the main body of Delaware from Indiana to Missouri and later to the Delaware Reservation in Kansas in 1829. No remnants of the village exist. This site is located on private land with no public access.



6) George Rogers Clark Home site. Photo courtesy Tom Mosely.

The reconstructed cabin for George Rogers Clark's home site is located at the lower end of the Falls of the Ohio. It is on a sharp curve in the river, with a spectacular view of the falls and surrounding area. It is no surprise that George Rogers Clark selected this site as his retirement home. Today, the seven-acre tract is part of the Falls of the Ohio State Park and within the boundaries of the 1404-acre National Wildlife Conservation Area, allowing this historic site additional federal protection. This site is open to the public. [Falls of the Ohio State Park website](#)

Floyd County



7) Culbertson Mansion. Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library.

The Culbertson Mansion was built in 1867 at a cost of \$120,000 by William Culbertson, who was once the richest man in Indiana. He worked as a dry goods clerk, store owner and investor. The mansion is 20,000 square feet with 25 rooms. It was designed by James T. Banes, a local architect, and features hand-painted ceilings and walls, a carved rosewood-grained staircase and marble fireplaces. The home stayed in the Culbertson family until 1899, when it was auctioned off for a mere \$7,100. In 1964, Historic New Albany purchased the home, and it was registered as a State Historic Site in 1976. This site is open to the public. [Culbertson Mansion State Historic Site website](#)



8) Third Floyd County Courthouse-now demolished. Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library.

The first Floyd County Courthouse was built in 1824 after the gentlemen meeting at a tavern decided they needed a dedicated space for business of the county. Built on the corner of Spring and State Streets, the first courthouse was a two-story brick structure with a four-sided roof, and a cupola was added around 1830. It served as the place for all county and town business.

This photograph illustrates the third Floyd County Courthouse built in 1866. It was torn down in 1963 and a bank is now located on the site. Indiana's first combined city-county building that is still in use was built a couple blocks away. This site is on private land with limited access.



9) Scribner House. Photo courtesy of Piankeshaw Chapter, NSDAR.

The Scribner House, located on the southeast corner of State and Main Streets is the oldest building in New Albany, Indiana. Built in 1814 by Joel Scribner, it was the first frame building built in the city. The rooms on the first floor were used mainly for dining and entertaining. The second floor was devoted to bedrooms and a nursery for children. In 1916, the Piankeshaw Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) purchased the Scribner home from Miss Hattie Scribner to use as a chapter house. They periodically hold open houses and fundraisers in the historic home. This site is on private land with limited access. [Piankeshaw Chapter of the DAR - Scribner House website](#)



10) Commercial House/Hale's Tavern (1819). Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library.

Built in 1819, Hale's Tavern (also known as High Street House) was a well-known and beloved tavern in Floyd County and a hub of political life. All prominent men who were visiting New Albany or who were in route to the early State Capital in Corydon were entertained here. The stage lines between Louisville and Vincennes always made stops here. Its owners, Dr. David Hale and Esther Scribner Hale, were prestigious and known for their refinement and dignified manner. The building was somewhat of an oddity as it had twelve dormer windows and five front doors. The building is now gone. This site is on private land. [Indiana Magazine of History - A Society Develops in New Albany](#)



11) William Young House/Padgett Museum. Photo courtesy of Floyd County Historical Society.

The William Young House at 509 W. Market Street is better known today as the Padgett Museum and the home of the Floyd County Historical Society. The two-story brick structure was built by Nathaniel Web in 1837 in the Federal style that was popular during the time and included some Greek Revival influences. This site is open to the public. [Visit Floyd County Indiana](#)



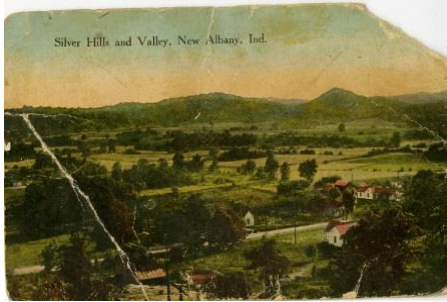
12) Fairview Cemetery (1841). Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library

As New Albany grew and developed, a new burial ground was needed. On July 30, 1841, five and a half acres located on (what is now) 6th Street were sold to the city for \$500. The first burial recorded is of “a Hatton Child” on July 31, 1841. The cemetery was first known as Northern Burial Ground, but in 1896 at the suggestion of the Board of Regents, the City Council changed the name of the cemetery to Fairview. Cemetery records show there are over 500 soldiers and sailors buried here from all American wars since the Revolution. This site is open to the public. Fairview Cemetery Historical Marker



13) Monon Railroad. Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library.

The Monon Railroad was first organized in 1847 as the New Albany and Salem Railroad by James Brooks. It stretched from the Ohio River (at New Albany) to the Great Lakes (at Michigan City). The Monon Railroad went through many different name changes such as the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railroad to the Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville Railroad. Finally in 1956, the railway became known as the Monon Railroad. In 1971, the Monon merged with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad (L&N). This site is located on private land with no public access. New Albany and Salem Railroad (The Monon) Historical Marker



14) Silver Hills (1850s). Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library.

Towering 200 feet above and west of New Albany is a large stone known as the “Knob.” George W. Morrison, a famous portrait and landscape artist, purchased land on the knob in May of 1851. He painted a well-known (and large) landscape he called “View from Silver Hills” that overlooked New Albany. Silver Hills was named such because the trees on top of the knob cast a silvery reflection at various times throughout the year. This site is located on private land with no public access. [Silver Hills Historical Society](#)



15) Georgetown Historic District. Photo courtesy Photo courtesy of Stuart B. Wrege Indiana History Room - New Albany-Floyd County Public Library.

The Georgetown Historic District includes the central business district and surrounding residential sections. The earliest settlers arrived in the Georgetown area around 1814. Georgetown was platted in 1833 by George Waltz, the town’s namesake, and continued to grow until the 1950s. This site is open to the public. [Georgetown Historic District](#)

Harrison County



16) Indiana's First State Capitol. Photo courtesy of Harrison County Tourism.

Indiana's first capitol was built between 1814 and 1816. The Federal-style building is located in what is now Historic Corydon. Workers quarried and hauled limestone to erect the 40-foot square walls, and logs were cut from virgin forests for the ceiling and roof supports. In November 1816, the first General Assembly and the lieutenant governor met in the building. Corydon remained the state capital until 1825, when the capital moved to Indianapolis. The building became the Harrison County courthouse until the present courthouse was completed in 1929. The old capitol building was restored and opened as a state memorial in 1930. This site is open to the public. [Corydon Capitol State Historic Site website](#)



17) The Barrens. Photo courtesy of the USFS.

‘Barrens’ and post oak/blackjack oak dry forest areas contain relatively rare plant communities. Barrens are fairly open areas with a variety of grasses and forbs, especially prairie species, such as Indian grass. Scattered, scrubby trees and rock outcroppings commonly occur there. With shallow droughty soils, abundant rocks, and many fire-dependent plants, barrens provide habitat for many rare and sensitive plant and animal species. Surveyors noted these unique areas as early as 1805. The Nature Conservancy has listed these barrens as globally imperiled. This site is located on private land with no public access. Examples of barrens on public land can be found at Mogan Ridge. What are Barrens?

Washington County



18) Becks Mill. Photo courtesy of Indiana Historical Society, M0837.

This gristmill was established by George Beck, Sr. and sons in 1808. Later a sawmill, carding machine and wool picker were added. Forts were built to protect the mill in 1812, and later a settlement was founded. It survived years of neglect and was restored in 2008 to represent a working pioneer mill operation. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is open to the public through Friends of Beck’s Mill Inc. Becks Mill website

Crawford County



19) Blue River Crossing. Photo courtesy of David Ruckman.

A gurgling spring erupts from the east bank of the Blue River at Clark's Ford. The crossing exhibits a flat stone bottom, and was used by George Rogers Clark in 1779 on his way to Vincennes. Nearby is reportedly the resting place of Chief Charlie White Eye. This site is located on private land with no public access.



20) William Hargrove, Acting Captain of Rangers, Vincennes, to Thomas Posey, Governor of Indiana Territory. Photo courtesy of Indiana Historical Society, M0364.

Letters were dispatched by runners between the Indiana Ranger Battalions and the Territorial Governors, William Henry Harrison and Thomas Posey, as well as letters of instruction and orders by the Secretary of Indiana Territory, General John Gibson. Many of the letters were kept by Captain William Hargrove, commander of the first division. In this 1813 letter Hargrove reports that, as requested by Governor Harrison the past February, he has raised a company of Rangers to defend the Territory's frontier. He states that they have not been recognized by the President and have not been paid for six months. He asks that Governor Posey intercede on their behalf. No evidence of this camp exists today. This site is located on private land with no public access.



21) William Proctor House. Photo courtesy of Crawford County Tourism.

The William Proctor House, located at 7037 State Road 64, east of Marengo, was built in 1832. It was used as a store, coach stop and post office. Owned by the Crawford County Historical Society, it is now being restored. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The house is not currently open to the public. This site is on private property with limited access. [William Proctor House National Register of Historic Places Listing](#)

Orange County



22) Lick Creek African American Settlers Martin and Almyra Scott. Photo Courtesy of Harry Hunter.

In 1811 free African Americans left North Carolina and traveled here with a group of Quakers led by Jonathan Lindley who established Orange County. The settlement peaked in 1860 with 260 residents across 1,920 acres. It was a racially integrated collection of farms and existed throughout the 19th century. Archaeological investigations have explored the farmstead remains of Elias Roberts, Mathew Thomas, Eli Roberts, the Union Meeting House and African Methodist Episcopal Church. A cemetery is maintained in the area. The Hoosier National Forest's Lick Creek trail winds through the area and trailhead signs interpret the settlement. Artifacts from the excavations are displayed at Indiana State Museum. This site is open to the public. [Lick Creek African American Settlement](#)



23) Reenactment of the establishment of Initial Point on the bicentennial of the setting of this significant survey point. Photo courtesy of the Initial Point Chapter of the Indiana Society of Professional Surveyors.

Ebenezer Buckingham Jr., U.S. Deputy Surveyor, established the original wooden post on September 1, 1805. The wooden post that marks the Initial Point was replaced by a corner stone in 1866. It was inscribed with an “S 31” for Section 31 by J. H. Lindley, Orange County Surveyor.

Indiana was the first state to be completely laid out under the rectangular Public Land Survey System where the State was divided into six by six mile square townships/ranges containing 36 numbered sections of 640 acres each. Townships run north-south and ranges run east-west. This site is open to the public. [U. S. Forest Service - Initial Point](#)



24) Freeman's Corner. Photo courtesy of USFS.

This point marks a corner of the Vincennes Tract. The chiefs of 12 Indian tribes ceded the Vincennes Tract to the U.S. in the Greenville Treaty in 1801. After the treaty was signed, Surveyor Thomas Freeman was sent to survey the tract. He did so with two corners of the large tract in Indiana, and two in Illinois. In 1805, when William Rector was sent to survey the Buffalo Trace he surveyed only until he intersected with Freeman's survey. Rector's survey was run so that the Indian Treaty Line could be placed well north of the trace and thus become U.S. land. There is a historic marker located along SR 37. This site is located on private land with no public access. [Freeman's Corner Historical Marker](#)



25) Paoli Town Square. From Indiana Historical Society. 1968. Maps of Indiana Counties in 1876 Together with the Plat of Indianapolis and a Sampling of Illustrations. Reprinted from 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Indiana. Baskin, Forster & Company Chicago, Illinois. Photo courtesy of Indiana Historical Society.

Paoli was laid out and platted in 1816. A post office has been in operation at Paoli since 1817. In its first decades, it was noted as a Quaker town that played a role in the Underground Railroad by transporting enslaved people from the South to Canada. The courthouse in the center of the downtown square is one of the two oldest courthouses in Indiana to have been used continuously. The other courthouse is in Rising Sun, in Ohio County. The Orange County Courthouse was built between 1847-1850. This site is open to the public. [Paoli Indiana Chamber - History of Paoli](#)



26) Trace Visible at Springs Valley. Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

This section of the Springs Valley Trail on the northeast side of Springs Valley Lake follows remnants of the original trace. The trace intersects the recreation trail from a drainage that comes in from the northeast, follows the trail for a while, then veers off and follows a ridgeline up to high ground. Trail users can distinguish the subtle dip in this section of the trail and will notice when the trace leaves the trail at each junction. This site is open to the public. [U. S. Forest Service - Springs Valley Recreation Area](#)



27) Fort at French Lick. Photo courtesy of French Lick Resort.

There was a central fort at French Lick, which stood approximately where the current French Lick Hotel stands. It served as a munitions supply and stopping point for the Indiana Rangers. No remnants of the fort exist today. This site is located on private land with limited access. Indiana Magazine of History - The French at French Lick: Fact or Fiction?



28) Native Cane, *Arundinaria gigantea*. The only species of cane native to Indiana was once prevalent in the bottomlands. Photo courtesy of Mike Homoya.

Cane Creek Settlement in Orange County was likely named for thickets of wild native cane that grew along the creek. Early travelers along the Buffalo Trace described these cane fields. George Wilson, an early historian, wrote how, "*In spring the vast herds of buffalo came north from Kentucky into Indiana and covered the plains in great armies and as winter approached, retreated to the borders of the large rivers where they sheltered in the forest and fed upon the boundless fields of wild cane.*" This site is located on private land with no public access.

From *History of Lawrence, Orange, and Washington Counties, Indiana* 1884, page 398, 540.

Dubois County



29) Nicholson Spring near the Cuzco Ranger Camp. Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

The Rangers had a camp near the village of Cuzco on high ground between two good springs: Nicholson and Milburn. This early camp served both rangers and early travelers for protection and was equidistance between the Falls of the Ohio River and Vincennes. Two hundred years later, the springs continue to discharge clear cold water.

North of Cuzco is a farm that reportedly contains the graves of six rangers. Sadly, their unmarked headstones were used as a foundation for a later outbuilding. This site is located on private land with no public access.

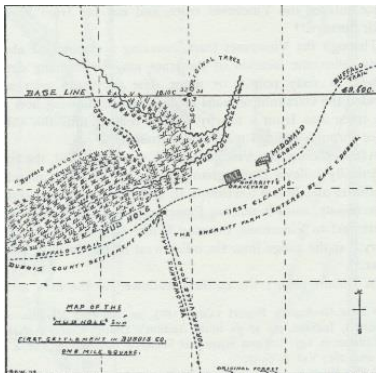
30) Haysville.

Haysville was settled in 1816 by the Kelso family and was platted as a town in 1835. It is located on the White River and just to the north of the Buffalo Trace. Along with Portersville, this community provided access to the river for important commerce, and was a stopover for early settlers and travelers. This site is open to the public. [Short History of Dubois County](#)



31) White River. Photo in the public domain.

The White River, as well as the Patoka River, was very important to early settlers. It was declared a navigable river in 1820, and was the primary outlet for goods produced in the county. Flatboats and later steamboats plied this river daily, bringing goods from as far as New Orleans and St. Louis, as well as transporting local pork, venison and grains for sale. This river, like all navigable rivers in Indiana, is held in public trust.



32) McDonald's Cabin and the Walls. From George R. Wilson. 1986. Early Indiana Trails and Surveys. Indiana Historical Society. Indianapolis. Photo courtesy of Indiana Historical Society.

This was the oldest white settlement in Dubois County. The McDonald family settled here in 1801. This family was known to early settlers in the county and their cabin was a popular way station on the trace. When land became available for sale in early 1809, one of General Harrison's militia captains, Toussaint Dubois, purchased the land where the McDonalds had "squatted." The family then moved north and constructed a new cabin and blockhouse, "McDonalds Fort," to offer settlers protection. A ranger camp was also established at this same site. From here, the Rangers patrolled the trace and other trails. Court was also held here until 1818, when a new courthouse was constructed in Portersville. No remnants remain. This site is located on private land with no public access. [Short History of Dubois County](#)



33) Buffalo Wallows. Photo courtesy of US Geological Survey.

The mud holes were large buffalo wallows close to White Oak Springs, present day Petersburg. Historic writings mention groups staying near “the mudhole,” and speak of all the paths that radiated out from the wallows and how easy it was to get lost when you left to continue down the trace. They remarked that the woods around the area were quite bare. Many heads and skeletons of buffalo were to be found where they had been shot or died. Buffalo often wallowed in muddy areas to coat their fur with a protective layer of mud to keep off flies and other insects. This site is located on private land with no public access. [Buffalo Trace Trail - George Wilson's Writings](#)

34) Portersville.

Founded in 1816, Portersville was the first county seat of Dubois County. It was selected due to its location on the White River and its proximity to the Yellow Banks and Buffalo Trace Trails. The first county courthouse and jail were constructed in 1818. They continued to administer county business until 1830, when the county seat was moved to a new town called “Jasper,” located on the banks of the Patoka River. Portersville served as an important shipping hub for early residents until roads became improved in the later 1800’s. This site is open to the public. [Short History of Dubois County](#)



35) Yellow Banks Trace Crosses the Buffalo Trace. Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

As to whether it would be safe to survey the land between the Ohio and White Rivers, John Fuquay, a scout to Secretary of State for Indiana Territory General Gibson, said in 1802: *“There is an old Indian Trace running from the yellow banks to the headwaters of the Little Pigeon, where there has been a large Indian town, then in a northwesterly direction to a large spring, then along the spring branch to little Patoka and it crosses the large Patoka at a good ford and continues to the forks of the White River.”* This site is located on private land with no public access. Buffalo Trace Trail - Human Transportation

From *Pioneer History of Indiana* by William Monroe Cockrum 1907, pages 176-177.

Pike County

36) Delaware Indian town.

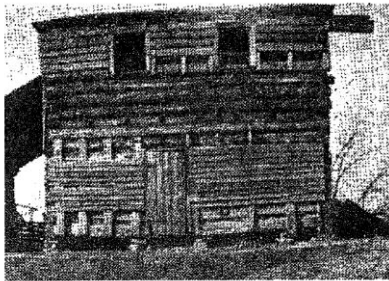
At the time of European contact, the Delaware (Lenape) people lived near the Atlantic seaboard along the Delaware River in what are now the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. By the mid 1700's they began to settle in what is today the state of Indiana. Their occupation was short as they were removed west of the Mississippi in 1821.

At the forks of the White River stood Missinquimeschan, a large and scattered village of about 20 families. The village was destroyed, along with several hunting camps, in 1779 by George Rogers Clark during the Indian Wars. There are no remnants of the village at this location. This site is located on private land with no public access.



37) Rome Trace crosses Buffalo Trace. Photo courtesy of Dave Drake

The "Rome" Trace, a secondary route which the buffalo and others used, crossed the Ohio River at present day Rome, Indiana. The town did not exist when the trail was located by surveyors in 1805, so they referred to it by various names: Road to Vincennes, White River Trace, and Sinking Creek Trace (KY). From Rome the trail ran northwest some 40-50 miles through Perry, Spencer and Warrick Counties where it joined the "Yellow Banks" Trace near Selvin in Pike County. Present day towns it would have passed through or near include Fulda, Mariah Hill, and Dale. This site is located on private land with no public access. [Buffalo Trace Trail - Human Transportation](#)



38) White Oak Springs. Photo courtesy of Terry R. Beadles, part of his report titled Resurrecting Pride's Fort.

From 1807 to 1814, White Oak Springs was the most populous and important settlement on the Buffalo Trace. It contained a stockaded fort on high ground next to the trace about one day's travel from Vincennes. The fort's location was ideal as a way station for travelers to and from the capital, and also functioned as a military outpost. The town of Petersburg began here. Nothing exists on the site today. This site is located on private land with no public access. [Indiana Magazine of History - The First Families of White Oak Springs, 1810 to 1817](#)



39) Morrison's Ferry (later N. Harlan's ferry). Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

This ferry is believed to be one of the oldest ferries on the White River, established before 1805. Orders given to the Rangers on April 20, 1807 from Vincennes, directed the Rangers to “*portal the old Indian Trace that leads from this place (Vincennes) to Clarksville, on the Ohio River, from a point where this old road crosses White River and going as far as thirty-five miles east of the mudholes.*” The crossing of the White River was N. Harlan's Ferry. It is thought that in 1830, Abraham Lincoln crossed the White River at this ferry. This site is located on private land with no public access.

From *Early Indiana Trails and Surveys* by George R. Wilson 1919, page 350-375.

Knox County



40) Pyramid Mound. Photo in the public domain.

Pyramid Mound is a locally important archaeological site in the city of Vincennes. Located on the city's edge, this substantial loess hill bears evidence of prehistoric occupation, and is a landmark to the city's contemporary residents. The mound is in a county park. This site is open to the public.



41) Sugar Loaf Mound. Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

On October 10, 1811 Mrs. Lydia Bacon wrote to her family of Vincennes that, *“It is perfectly level, with the exception of three Mounds, situated in the back of the Village, supposed to be raised by the Indians some Centuries ago, they are quit Ornamental, the Center one is the highest & ease of access, having a smooth foot path at the Back of it. I rode to the top on horseback.”*

We now know that Sugar Loaf Mound is a natural feature that Late Woodland Indians used as a burial mound around 900 A.D. It was used as a landmark for travelers along the Buffalo Trace and later by those seeking freedom in the North along the Underground Railroad. This site is open to the public. [Vincennes State Historic Site](#)

From *Indiana Magazine of History*, 40 (1944) 367-86 and 41 (1945): 57-79.



42) Great Marsh. Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

Buffalo migrating through the area had to traverse a “Great Marsh” of cypress in present southern Knox County. In June 1786 John Filson “The First Historian of Kentucky” described his departure from Vincennes to the Falls of the Ohio, “*Although every step was disagreeable through brushy woods and swampy ground, yet safety from savages afforded us some pleasure: next day rafted over White river...*”

Unfortunately the River Deshee (also known as the River Du Chein) was channeled to drain the area providing for fertile farmland with almost no marshland remaining. This site is located on private land with no public access.

From *The Life and Writings of John Filson, The First Historian of Kentucky* by Reuben T Durrett, 1884, page 65.



43) Fort Knox II. Photo in the public domain.

Fort Knox II was built in 1803, three miles north of Vincennes on the Wabash River. Now a free public park, the fort's location is outlined with short posts and interpretive markers which tell the story of the site. [Vincennes - Fort Knox II website](#)



44) George Rogers Clark Memorial. Photo courtesy of George Rogers Clark National Historical Park.

George Rogers Clark was 25 years old when he conceived of the idea of leading a group of frontiersmen in an attack on Fort Sackville in Vincennes in winter, when the enemy would least expect it. On February 25, 1779, there would be no British flag raised above Fort Sackville. The garrison surrendered to American Colonel George Rogers Clark. His American army, aided by French residents of the Illinois country, had marched through freezing floodwaters to gain this victory. The fort's capture assured United States claims to the frontier, an area nearly as large as the original 13 states. The walls of the memorial rotunda have seven murals which tell the story of Clark's expedition. This National Historical Park, a unit of the National Park Service, is open to the public. [George Rogers Clark National Historic Park website](#)



45) The French House. Photo in the public domain.

The Old French House is an example of French Creole architecture. Built in 1809, it was the home of Michael Brouillet, and today is furnished much as it would have been in that period. The Old French House is owned & operated by the Old Northwest Corporation. The Vincennes State Historic Sites provide the interpretative displays and events. This site is open to the public. [Vincennes - Old French House and Indian Museum website](#)



46) Governor Harrison's house. Photo courtesy of Tom Mosley.

William Henry Harrison built his 17-room brick house in 1804 while serving as governor of the Indiana Territory. The two and one-half story Federal style house on 300 acres was named Grouseland due to the numerous grouse in the area.

In 1810, Harrison and the Shawnee Chief Tecumseh met in the Walnut Grove nearby, and in 1811 Harrison marched up the Wabash River to meet with the Indians. After an ill-fated ambush at night, led by Tecumseh's brother, the Americans claimed a victory at the Battle of Tippecanoe.

Harrison's son, John, father of 23rd President of the United States Benjamin Harrison, lived at Grouseland in the 1820s. In 1909, the Francis Vigo Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution saved the house from demolition. This site is open to the public. [Grouseland Foundation website](#)



47) Indiana Territorial Capital. Photo courtesy of Vincennes State Historic Sites.

Indiana's Territorial Capitol at 1 W. Harrison Street was also known as the Red House. The two-story frame structure, held together by wooden pegs, was built around 1805. It housed a series of businesses before it became the home of the General Assembly between 1811 and 1813. This site is open to the public. [Vincennes State Historic Site](#)

Acknowledgements

Buffalo Trace Story Map Acknowledgements

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- 14) Kaitlyn Tinsdale – New Albany-Floyd County Public Library Archivist