



Jonathan Jennings was the President of the Constitutional Convention of 1816

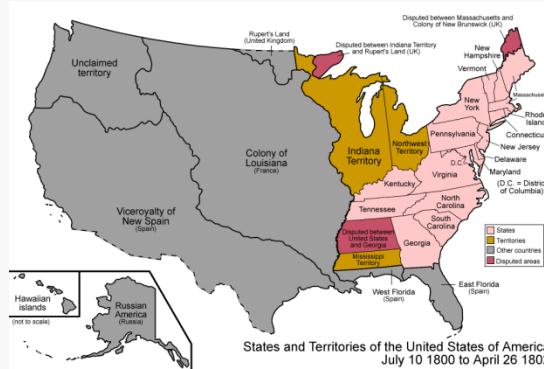
THE PREAMBLE OF THE INDIANA CONSTITUTION READS:

"TO THE END, THAT JUSTICE BE ESTABLISHED, PUBLIC ORDER MAINTAINED, AND LIBERTY PERPETUATED, WE THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF INDIANA, GRATEFUL TO ALMIGHTY GOD FOR THE FREE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE OUR OWN FORM OF GOVERNMENT, DO ORDAIN THIS CONSTITUTION



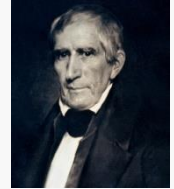
Constitutional Elm of Corydon

Indiana History



States and Territories of the United States of America July 10 1800 to April 26 1802

Before Indiana was officially a state, it was a part of a large portion of land called the **Indiana Territory**



From 1800 - 1812, **William Henry Harrison**

Served as the first governor of the Indiana Territory and later was elected President of the United States.

With the increasing importance of joining the union, **Jonathan Jennings** became a leader in the pursuit of Indiana's statehood. As a congressman representing the **Indiana Territory**, his efforts led to the **Indiana Enabling Act**. This legislation allowed Indiana to become a state. The Indiana Enabling Act required Indiana's leaders to meet and write a state constitution. In the summer of 1816, Jonathan Jennings was chosen as the president of the **Constitutional Convention**. The Constitutional Convention was a group of 43 men who worked together to write Indiana's first constitution.

The Constitution of 1816 outlined the three parts of state government that we still use today. The **Legislative** office would have a **General Assembly** to make laws.

The **Judicial** office would have a **Supreme Court** to decide if the laws were constitutional.

The **Executive** office would be led by a state **governor** to make sure that the laws were followed by the people of Indiana

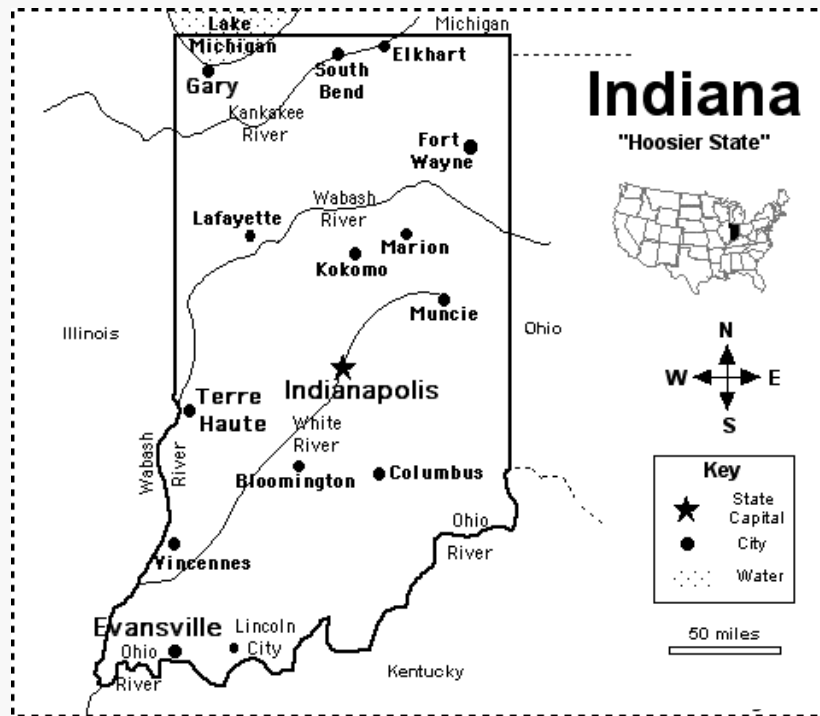
IT'S A FACT

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1816 WAS WRITTEN IN THE HEAT OF SUMMER UNDER THE SHADE OF A GIANT ELM TREE. THIS TREE WOULD LATER BE NAMED THE CONSTITUTIONAL ELM

In December of 1816, Indiana became the 19th state to join the Union. Jonathan Jennings was then appointed as its first governor, Corydon would be Indiana's original state capital.



Indiana...On the Map



1. What is the capital of Indiana? _____
2. Which Great Lake is north of Gary, Indiana? _____
3. Which state borders Indiana to the north? _____
4. Which state forms most of Indiana's eastern border? _____
5. Which state borders Indiana to the south? _____
6. Which state borders Indiana to the west? _____
7. What river separates Indiana and Kentucky? _____
8. Which river crosses Indiana from east to west and is recognized as its state river? _____
9. Which river runs through Indiana's capital city? _____
10. The Tippecanoe Battlefield is close to which Indiana city? _____

 **IT'S A FACT:** 



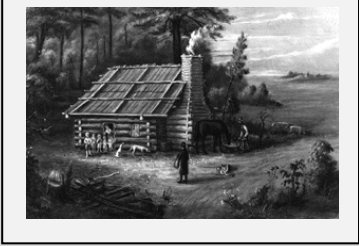
INDIANAPOLIS WAS NOT INDIANA'S CAPITAL CITY UNTIL 1825. IN 1816, WHEN CONGRESS



The Hoosier State



Indiana is widely known as the "The Hoosier State."



Painting by Marcus Mote illustrating the poem, "The Hoosier's Nest," written by John Finley



SELECTION FROM FAMOUS POEM "THE HOOSIER'S NEST" PUBLISHED IN 1833

"... IN HOOSIER LIFE INITIATED: ERECTS A CABIN IN THE WOODS, WHEREIN HE STOWS HIS HOUSEHOLD GOODS, AT FIRST, ROUND LOGS AND CLAPBOARD ROOF, WITH PUNCHEON FLOOR, QUITE CARPET PROOF, AND PAPER WINDOWS, OILED AND NEAT, HIS EDIFICE IS THEN COMPLETE..."



Portrait of John Finley

Since the mid-1830's, there has been a debate about the reason that people from Indiana are nicknamed "Hoosiers."

Some suggest that the term began as a pioneer greeting, "Who's yere?"



IT'S A FACT:

THE STATE OF INDIANA ADOPTED THE NICKNAME "HOOSIER STATE" MORE THAN 150 YEARS AGO.



Others believe the name was originally used by a contractor named Sam Hoosier. He hired men from Indiana to work on the Louisville and Portland Canal. His employees were called "Hoosier's Men" and finally just "Hoosiers."

A few think that "Hoosier comes from the word "husher."

Hushers were Indiana riverboat workers who were so tough and bold that they "hushed" all who challenged them

What do you think would be a good nickname for the state of Indiana? Why?



INDIANA STATE FLAG

Indiana's State Flag was adopted in 1917

This flag was designed by Paul Hadley as part of a contest to obtain a design for the states 100th birthday in 1916.

The torch stands for liberty and enlightenment. The rays mean that freedom and knowledge are available to everyone.

The large star represents Indiana and the eighteen smaller stars represents the eighteen states in the union before Indiana.

Thirteen outer stars are for the original thirteen states and the remaining five stars are for the five states added before Indiana



INDIANA STATE SEAL

The Indiana constitutions of 1816 and 1851 both provided for a state seal. The design for the current state seal is based on designs used since Indiana was a territory. It was approved as the official state seal design by the 1963 General Assembly.

Indiana's state seal depicts scene from the pioneer era of the territory and state. There are three hills in the background. A setting sun is beginning to disappear behind the hills. On the right of the seal are two sycamore trees and a woodsman with his ax is nearby. He has begun to cut a notch in one of the trees. A buffalo in the foreground is jumping over a log and facing to the left. The ground near the woodsman and buffalo is sprouting shoots of blue grass

(Indiana Historical Society)



INDIANA STATE BIRD

In 1933, the Indiana General Assembly chose the cardinal to be the state bird of Indiana. Also known as the redbird, the cardinal is the state bird of seven states: Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, North Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia. The bright red males are easily spotted, especially in the winter. Female cardinals are brown with a dusty red crest. Cardinals build nest in bushes and brushy areas and are frequent visitors to bird feeders

(Indiana Historical Society)



INDIANA STATE TREE

The tulip tree, also known as the tulip poplar and yellow poplar, became Indiana's state tree in 1931. The tree usually grows to be 100 feet tall or more. The flowers, which bloom in the summer, are yellow in color and look like tulips. The tulip tree can be found throughout the state. Wood from the tree is soft white in color and can be used to make furniture, trim and cabinets.

(Indiana Historical Society)



INDIANA STATE FLOWER

The 1957 Indiana General Assembly adopted the peony as the state flower. The zinnia was the state flower from 1931 to 1957. The peony blooms in late spring and is usually red or pink but can be white. The peony is grown all over the state and is a popular decoration at cemeteries for Memorial Day.

(Indiana Historical Society)

Indiana State River

Wabash River



Indiana designated the Wabash River as the official state River in 1996. The Wabash river is also the theme of Indiana's state song, is mentioned in the state poem, and on Indiana's honorary award The Sagamore of the Wabash.

INDIANA STATE STONE

Limestone



Indiana designated Salem limestone (quarried in south and central Indiana) as the official state stone in 1971.

Bedford, Indiana is known as the "Limestone Capital of the World." Limestone quarried and carved in Bedford is featured on famous buildings across America, including the Pentagon and the Empire State Building. Indiana's State House in Indianapolis is also built with southern Indiana Limestone.

Indiana State Motto

(1937 General Assembly resolution)



The Crossroads of America is the official motto of Indiana. The nickname began as the nickname for the city of Indianapolis, which is the hub for several major Interstate highways that criss-cross the state, connecting Hoosiers to the rest of the United States.

Indiana State Nickname



Indiana is nicknamed *The Hoosier State*. The origin of the word *Hoosier* is rooted deep in the history of Indiana and the original meaning has been lost. Historians, folklorists, politicians, and everyday Hoosiers offer many colorful theories on the origin of the term, but no one has a definitive answer.