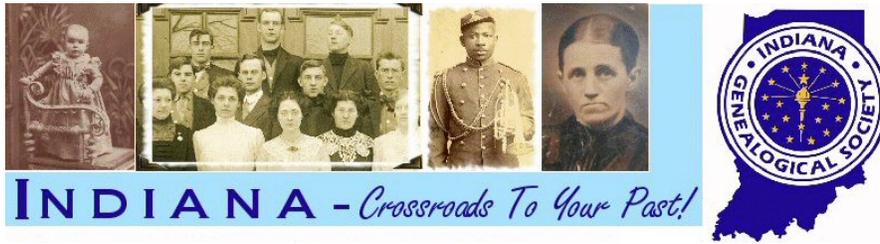


Indiana is at the crossroads to your genealogy past.



INDIANA - *Crossroads To Your Past!*

Visit Our Website

Indiana News - September 2016

Welcome to the September 2016 edition of Indiana News! This e-mail is sent out once a month to members of the Indiana Genealogical Society, as well as to the public who sign up to receive it. It focuses on news relating to Indiana genealogy and history. Past issues going back to 2010 are available for [download](#) in PDF format.

In this issue, find out about upcoming genealogy fairs, Irish vital record indexes now online, and tools to help you map the location of land in Indiana.

IGS offers portable scanning kits to Indiana non-profits

There is a wide variety of small record collections in our state - items like booklets, directories, programs and group photos. But these valuable records may be kept in hard-to-reach locations, like museums, churches or even private homes. That's why the Indiana Genealogical Society has launched a Genealogy Digitization Project, to supply qualified Indiana non-profit groups (including genealogical societies, historical societies and public libraries) with a portable scanning kit and the training they need to digitize these records.



The portable scanning kits (valued at \$500) will include a Windows laptop computer and a scanner that can scan documents up to 8.5 inches x 11 inches. In return for accepting this scanning kit, the non-profit organization agrees to supply IGS with 5 databases of any size, which will be made available to the public for free on the IGS website. The non-profit organization gets to keep the scanning kit when they're done, and they can also publish these 5 databases anywhere else they wish.

Scanning kits will be awarded on a rolling basis - for the application form and other details, please visit the [Genealogy Digitization Project](#) page on the IGS website.

This project is being partially funded by a \$2,000 grant that IGS received from the Kahle Family Foundation in 2015.

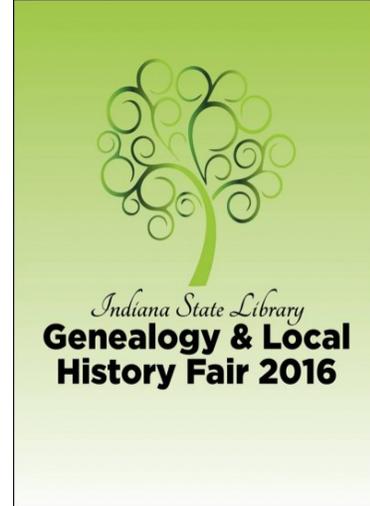
Indiana State Library to hold Genealogy Fair

The Indiana State Library will hold their annual [Indiana Genealogy and Local History Fair](#) on Saturday, October 22 from 10 am to 4 pm in Indianapolis. The theme is "200 Years of

My Indiana Home." Local libraries and societies will have information and vendor tables, and there will be speakers:

- Jill Morelli will speak on house histories - using architectural details, land records and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps to find out about the "genealogy" of your house.
- Ann Staley will speak on the everyday lives of our ancestors as well as how to use city directories in your research.

Indiana librarians can receive LEU credits for attending. Attendance is free; a \$5 parking voucher can be downloaded from their website.



County Roundup

Here are some genealogy and history-related news items from around the state. NOTE: Items on other websites often change or are removed without notice - we apologize if you encounter a link that no longer works.

ALLEN COUNTY

Contractors preparing to demolish a house in Fort Wayne recently discovered a mysterious [tunnel](#) in the basement. By searching records, officials discovered the house was a brewery back in the 1800's.



*A tunnel discovered underneath a Fort Wayne house
(image courtesy WANE)*

BOONE COUNTY

The website address of the Boone County Genealogical Society has changed - it is now www.bcgstin.org

CLAY COUNTY

A how-to cemetery restoration workshop that the Clay County Genealogical Society held recently was [such a hit](#) (with over 50 in attendance) that they are considering holding a second workshop in spring 2017. If you would be interested in attending this spring workshop, please contact the society via their [website](#), or by phone - (812) 835-5005.

DUBOIS COUNTY

[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added issues from the *Jasper Weekly Courier* (1858-1922).

HANCOCK COUNTY

[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added issues from the *Greenfield Republican* (1889-1896 and 1910-1915). As we reported in our [June 2016](#) issue, this digitizing was done by the Hancock County Public Library, thanks to a \$6,500 grant from the Indiana State Library.

JOHNSON COUNTY

In our [April 2016](#), [May 2016](#) and [June 2016](#) issues, we told you about work on the "grave in the middle of the road" in Amity. During this work, archaeologists found remains for not only Nancy Kerlin Barnett (who died in 1831), but 6 other individuals. This month, the 7 sets of remains [were returned](#) to the roadside grave in a special ceremony. The grave has been reinforced and enhanced with historical markers. DNA analysis of all of the remains is in progress.

LAKE COUNTY

--[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, has added issues from the *Lake County Times/Hammond Times* (1910-1922).

--The caretaker of [Historic Maplewood Cemetery](#) in Crown Point recently asked the city council

to consider [using adjacent land](#) to expand the cemetery in future. The cemetery dates back to 1871 and is owned and maintained by the city government.

MARION COUNTY

--[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added issues from the Indianapolis newspaper *Indiana State Sentinel* (1874-1894).

--Indiana University history professor Wendy Gamber has written a book, *The Notorious Mrs. Clem: Murder and Money in the Gilded Age*, about a double-murder committed in Indianapolis in 1868. An *Indianapolis Star* [article](#) recounts the history of the murder suspect, Nancy Clem, and the 5 trials that ultimately ended without a conviction.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added issues from the *Crawfordsville Daily Journal* (1890-1894), *Crawfordsville Weekly Journal* (1853-1902) and the *Crawfordsville Review* (1853-1899). As we reported in our [June 2016](#) issue, this digitizing was done by the Crawfordsville District Public Library, thanks to a \$16,000 grant from the Indiana State Library. The Indiana State Library also digitized on its own some issues of the *Crawfordsville Record* (1834-1836).

VANDEBURGH COUNTY

--According to an article in an Evansville newspaper, the remains of Evansville soldier Lawrence Edward Lander, who went missing in Korea in 1950, [may be positively identified](#) someday. He is believed to have died in a prisoner of war camp in 1951. His younger sister, 86-year-old Elizabeth Lander Outlaw, hopes to live long enough to see his remains come home.

--Historians have been [gathering evidence](#) about a "lost" cemetery that may have existed in downtown Evansville as early as 1818. An Evansville newspaper has a YouTube [video](#) on the story.

VIGO COUNTY

[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added issues from several Terre Haute newspapers: *Daily Wabash Express* (1861-1890), *Semi-Weekly Express* (1896-1897) and *Weekly Express* (1867-1872).

WAYNE COUNTY

[Hoosier State Chronicles](#), the Indiana State Library's free site for digitized newspapers, recently added issues from the *Richmond Palladium* (1922-1923). These issues were digitized with the support of the Wayne County Foundation, in cooperation with the Morrisson-Reeves Library in Richmond.

National Archives to hold Virtual Genealogy Fair

The National Archives will hold their [Virtual Genealogy Fair](#) on Wednesday, October 26 and Thursday, October 27 from 10 am to 4 pm Eastern. All of the sessions will be streamed online live via YouTube, and kept online afterward for later viewing.

Topics will include the non-population federal censuses (agricultural, manufacturing and social statistics) and State Department records.



New IGS databases

Here are all the databases for IGS members that we've added since last month:

[College Records](#)

- Purdue University - graduates (1943)
- University of Southern Indiana - graduates of Indiana State University Evansville (1977)

[NOTE: In 1985 Indiana State University Evansville became the University of Southern Indiana]

- Valparaiso University - graduates (1908)

County Records

- DeKalb County - students & teachers of Butler High School (1926)
- Fayette County - index to 1870 mortality schedule
- Gibson County - index to 1870 mortality schedule
- Lake County - graduates & teachers of Lew Wallace High School, Gary (1932)
- Pike County - enumeration of adult males in Jefferson Township (1889)
- St. Joseph County - graduates of high schools (1928); teachers (1928)
- Union County - index to 1870 mortality schedule
- Vermillion County - index to 1870 mortality schedule

Statewide Records

- Coal miners injured in Indiana (1881)
- Indiana State Prison North, Michigan City - prisoners escaped & pardoned (1861)

Not an IGS member? We also added a FREE database, courtesy of Randi Richardson:

- Owen County - index of records of [West, Parrish & Pedigo Funeral Home, Spencer \(1925-1928\)](#)

Ireland vital records available online

If you are researching an ancestor from Ireland, you'll want to check out [IrishGenealogy.ie](#), a free website run by the Irish government. Earlier this month they added free indexes of historical vital records (births more than 100 years old, marriages more than 75 years old, and deaths more than 50 years old), all from their General Register Office:



- Births: 1864 to 1915
- Marriages: 1882 to 1940
- Deaths: 1891 to 1965

The site also includes [instructions](#) on how to purchase photocopies or digital images of these records.

NOTE: This site also includes church records for some Catholic and Christian parishes in Ireland.

Legal terms explained: Administrator with will annexed



In an estate case, if someone dies and leaves a will, the will usually names a person (called an "executor") who is responsible for carrying out their wishes. If the deceased did not leave a will, the court will appoint someone (called an "administrator") to pay off any debts they had and then distribute any assets among their legal heirs.

However, there are instances where a will does not name an executor, or it does name an executor but they refuse to perform this responsibility (or they cannot perform it because they themselves have died since it was written). In these instances, the court will appoint an administrator, but with the notation that they are "administrator with will annexed". Sometimes this is abbreviated as "administrator WWA" or "administrator CTA". CTA is short for "cum testament annexo," which is Latin for "with will annexed".

NOTE: See our previous issues for an explanation of some other kinds of administrators and executors:

- Administrator de bonis non ([March 2013](#))
- Ancillary administrator ([June 2016](#))
- Executor de son tort ([November 2015](#))

Research Tip: Mapping the location of Indiana land

In our [December 2015](#) issue, we listed online sources for Indiana digitized plat maps. Plat maps are helpful because they show exactly where your ancestor's land was, who their neighbors were and what else was near it. But what if you're not that lucky? What if you only have the legal description of the land (e.g. "the northeast 1/4 of the southeast 1/4 of Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 1 East"), as found in a property tax list, deed, or [General Land Office](#) records back when the land was first purchased from the federal government?

If the land you're interested in is in one of the 18 states (including Kentucky) that used the metes and bounds system to survey their land, mapping the location of that land (also known as "platting" it) is easy. Platting software for metes and bounds locations is widely available - some examples are [DeedPlatter](#) and [DeedMapper](#). But if you're interested in land that's in Indiana or one of the other 31 states that used the rectangular survey system, the options are a little different:

Enter USA Legal Land Description

Convert PLSS to Latitude and Longitude

Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr	Qtr/Lot	Section	Fraction	Clear
NE 1/4	SE 1/4					16		Calc
Township	Fraction	N/S	Range	Fraction	E/W			
16		North	1		East			
State		Indiana						
Meridian		Second Principal		County		92 possible		

Note: Only a Meridian or a County is required, not both.

Note: Fractions are Rare. If in doubt, Leave Fractions Blank

Example:
S2 T35N R21W Chisago County
Fourth Principal Extended
Minnesota

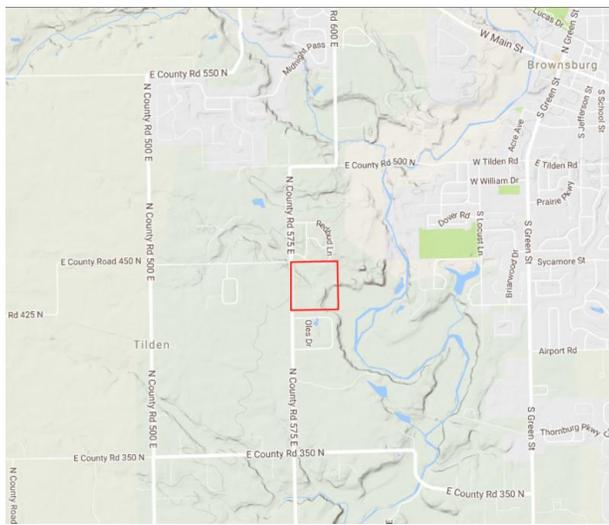
*Inputting the land description details
(see [full-sized PDF](#))*

--A Canadian website has a [converter](#) (shown above) that charges \$0.10 per land conversion (credits can be purchased from PayPal for as little as \$1 at a time). You enter the details from the legal description you have and it then tells you exactly where that land is, including its latitude and longitude (see example below).

NE¼ SE¼ S16 T16N R1E		Hendricks County Indiana	
Second Principal			
Latitude & Longitude		Real Estate Map	
39.82644	-86.42256	Google	Road Satellite
39° 49.586' N 86° 25.353' W		Driving Maps	
39° 49' 35.17" N 86° 25' 21.21" W		Google	Road Satellite
		Bing	Road Satellite
		MapQuest	Road Satellite
State	FIPS	County	FIPS
Indiana (IN)	18	Hendricks	18063
MGRS/USNG		UTM	
16S EK 49414 08653		16S 549415 4408653	

*Results of the land conversion
(see [full-sized PDF](#))*

The conversion it generates also has links to see the location on Google Maps and other major mapping sites, so you can see exactly where it is on a modern map. In the legal description we mentioned above ("the northeast 1/4 of the southeast 1/4 of Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 1 East"), this converter shows that the land is in Hendricks County, and a red box highlights where it is on Google Maps.



Land conversion result shown on Google Maps
(see [full-sized PDF](#))

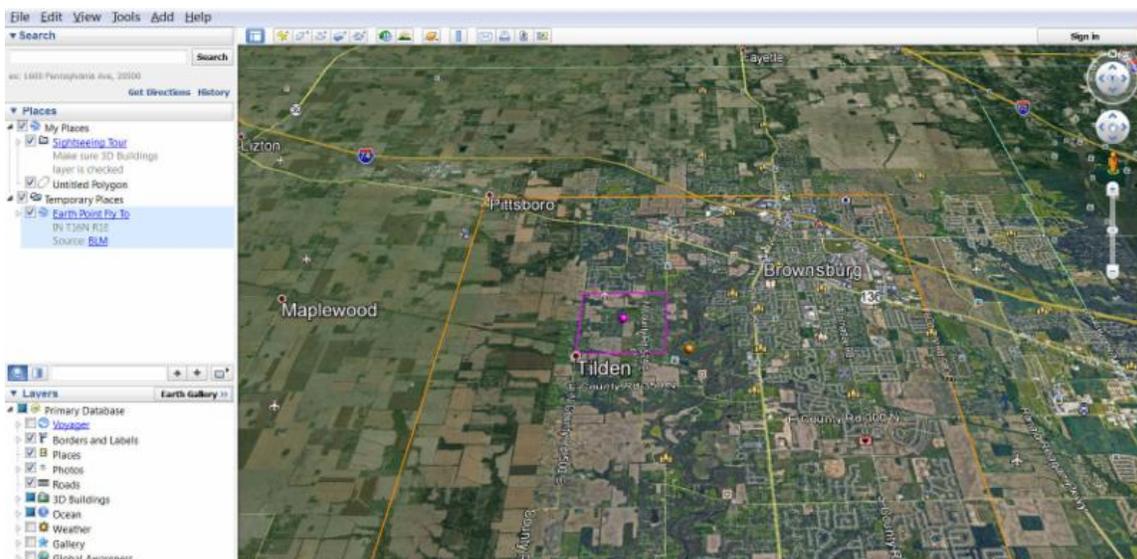
--[Google Earth](#) is a free program, available either in a desktop version, mobile version or as a plug-in for your web browser. It combines satellite imagery and maps to create a virtual 3-dimensional view of Earth's geographical features. Bill Clark has developed [Earth Point](#), a tool that can be used to convert land descriptions into locations that are displayed on Google Earth:

Earth Point Tools for Google Earth

[Sign In / Buy Subscription](#) [Contact](#)

Earth Point	Township and Range - Search By Description.															
Home	A user account is not needed for the features on this web page.															
Sign In / Buy Subscription	Enter Township and Range. Optionally enter Section. Google Earth flies you there using BLM data. Hint: pause for a moment after choosing each of the criteria. This allows the data to be loaded into the drop-down boxes.															
Worldwide Utilities	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="border: none;">State</td> <td style="border: none;">Indiana</td> <td style="border: none;">▼</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Principal Meridian</td> <td style="border: none;">Second</td> <td style="border: none;">▼</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Township</td> <td style="border: none;">016 N</td> <td style="border: none;">▼</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Range</td> <td style="border: none;">001 E</td> <td style="border: none;">▼</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Section</td> <td style="border: none;">016</td> <td style="border: none;">▼ (optional)</td> </tr> </table>	State	Indiana	▼	Principal Meridian	Second	▼	Township	016 N	▼	Range	001 E	▼	Section	016	▼ (optional)
State	Indiana	▼														
Principal Meridian	Second	▼														
Township	016 N	▼														
Range	001 E	▼														
Section	016	▼ (optional)														
Excel To Google Earth	<input type="button" value="View"/> Free. User account is not needed.															
Coordinate Grids	<input type="button" value="Fly To On Google Earth"/> If you want to see the surrounding townships, then once you have clicked the "Fly To" button, come back and click the BLM or National Atlas "View on Google Earth" button. Free. User account is not needed.															
Polygon Area																
Convert Coordinates																
Batch Convert																
USA Utilities																
Township & Range																
BLM Grid																
Search By Description																
Search by Lat Long																
Alternate Grid																

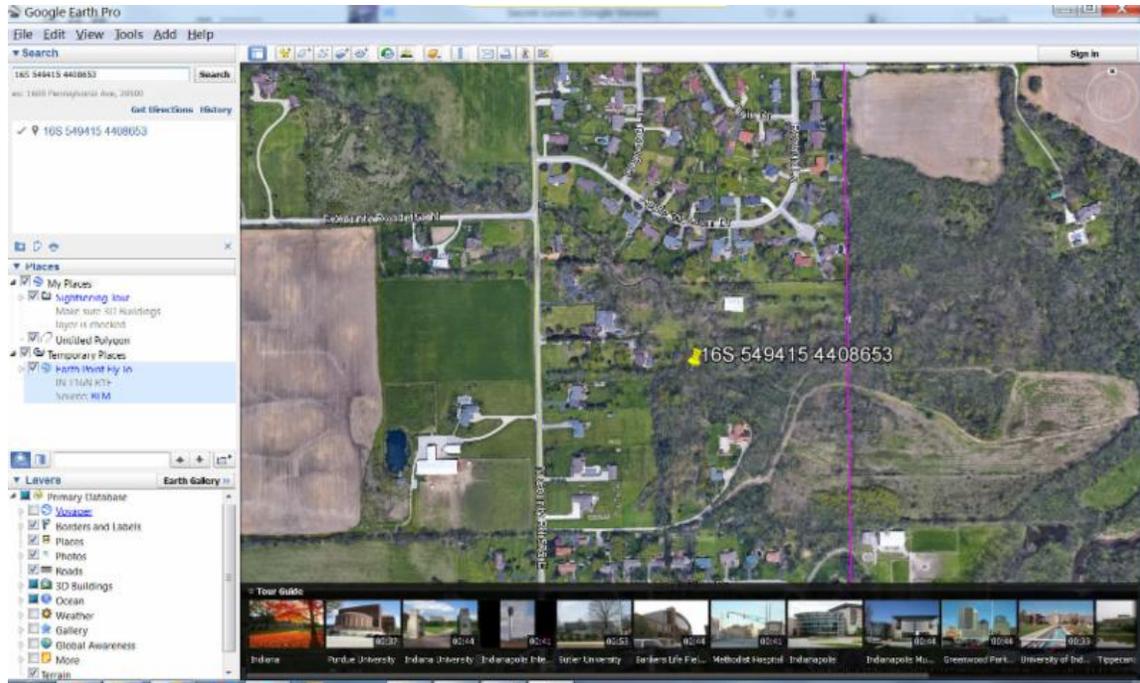
Earth Point land converter
(see [full-sized PDF](#))



Land location shown on Google Earth (see [full-sized PDF](#))

The orange line represents the township and range; the purple line represents the section

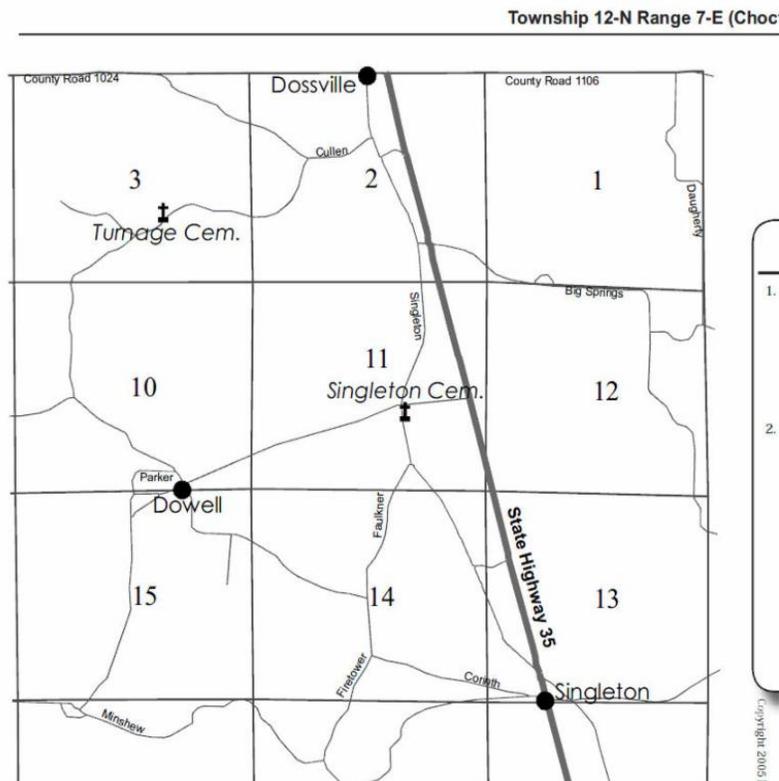
Earth Point does not allow you to input the quarter sections that are included in our legal description, but if you input the specific coordinates that are included in the Canadian website's land converter, you can zoom in on Google Earth even further (as indicated by the yellow pushpin displayed on the map):



The result of entering the land coordinates in Google Earth
(see [full-sized PDF](#))

NOTE: EarthPoint has a free version, which has some limits; a subscription is \$10 for a pre-paid account or \$5 a month/\$50 a year.

—[Arphax Publishing](#) has published a series of books, called "Family Maps", where they took the data from the General Land Office records of the original purchasers from the federal government, and made it into plat maps for each county. But even if your ancestor didn't purchase their land from the federal government, these books can be helpful, because they also include maps showing the townships, ranges and sections and what roads are in that area today:



*An example from the Family Maps for Leake County, Mississippi,
showing part of Township 12 North, Range 7 East and the roads that
overlay it (see [full-sized PDF](#))*

NOTE: Many libraries have these Family Maps books in their collections. The books are available for purchase directly from the publisher, and are also available for purchase through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and other major booksellers. The publisher also has a separate website, HistoryGeo.com, where you can view the data from all of their Family Maps books if you purchase a subscription.

Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc. | P.O. Box 10507 | Fort Wayne, IN 46852-0507
www.indgensoc.org

STAY CONNECTED:

