

TEACHING COUNTY HISTORY: DUBOIS COUNTY, INDIANA

By Janet Kluemper

GRADE LEVEL: Elementary

Prepared in partial fulfillment of requirements for
"INDIANA AND THE NEW NATION, 1776-1876"
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of the University of Southern Indiana
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Sample Lesson Plan
on Teaching County History

"Dubois County, Indiana"
by Janet Kluemper

January, 1991
Historic Southern Indiana Project
Funded by NEH

Day One:

Purpose: Becoming Familiar With Early County Historical Data

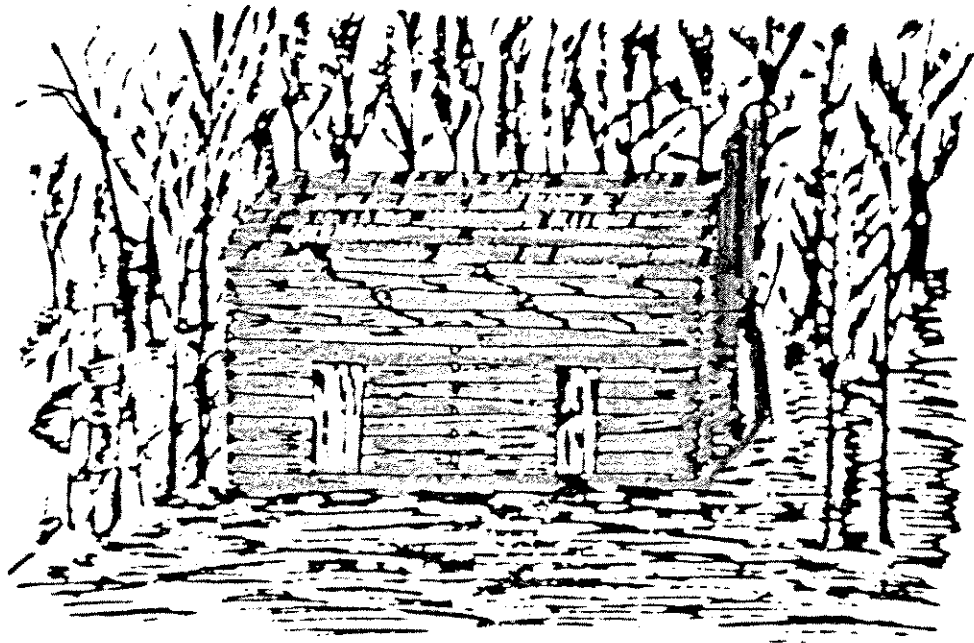
Materials: All available historical books/booklets (see research paper developed for Summer Institute II, Janet Kluemper, for references)

Lesson may also include use of photos and memorabilia

Attached sketches may be shown on overhead transparencies and can later be used as examples for settings in skits.

Student notebooks

Procedure: Invited guest speaker from historical bureau or teacher presentation; record significant information for next day onto chalkboard; adhere strictly to data you want to be remembered; students can take notes in notebooks, if desired.



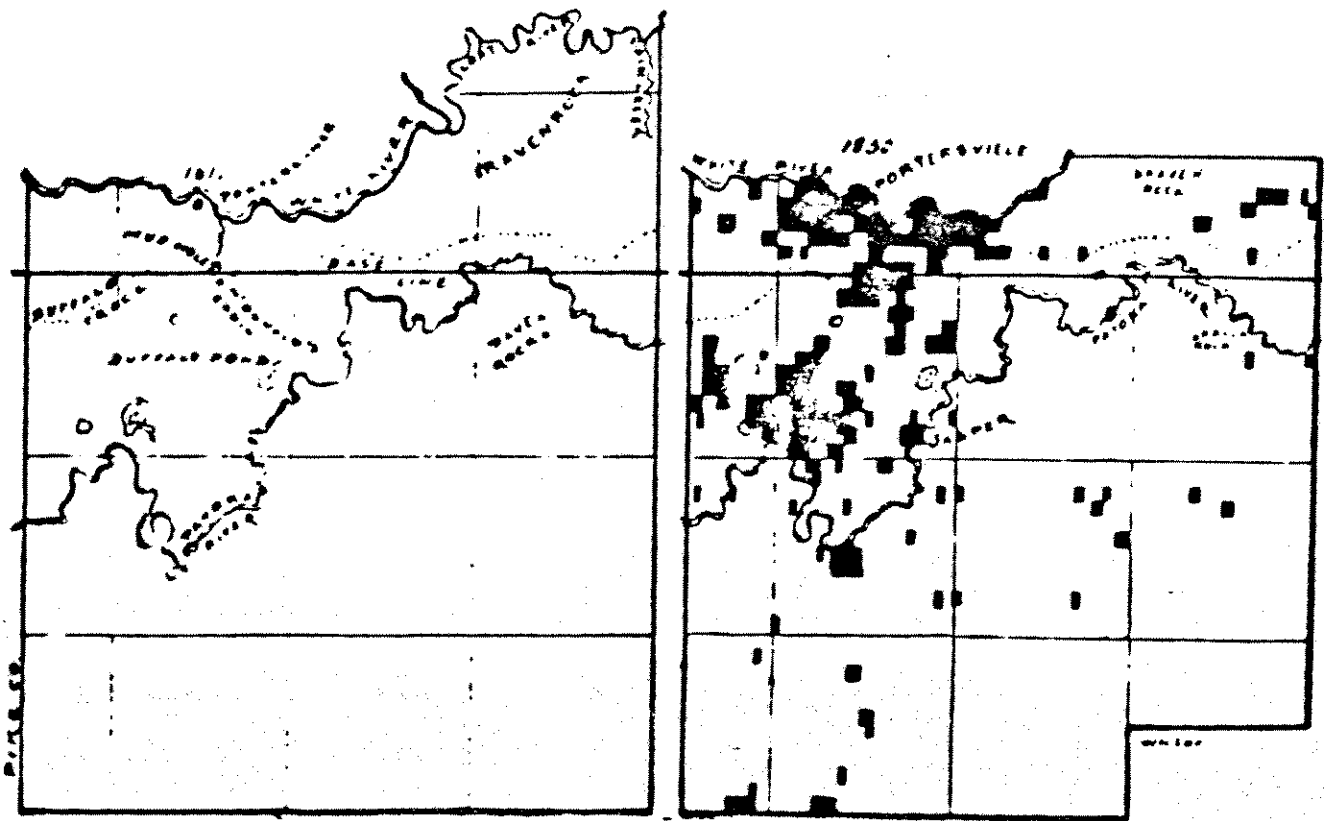
Fort McDonald.



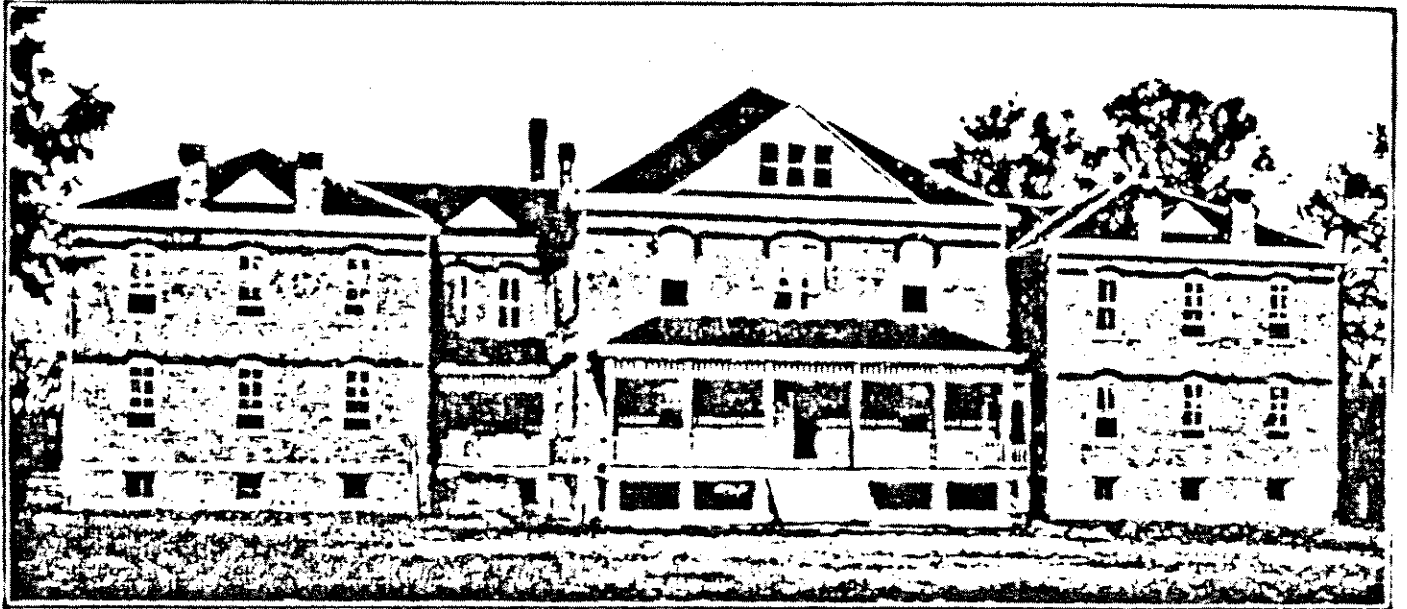
CAPTAIN DUBOIS.



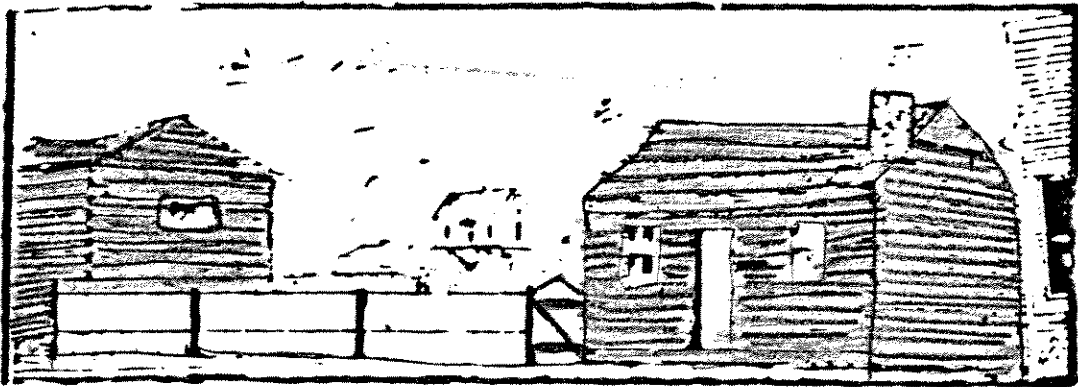
Col. Jacob Geiger.



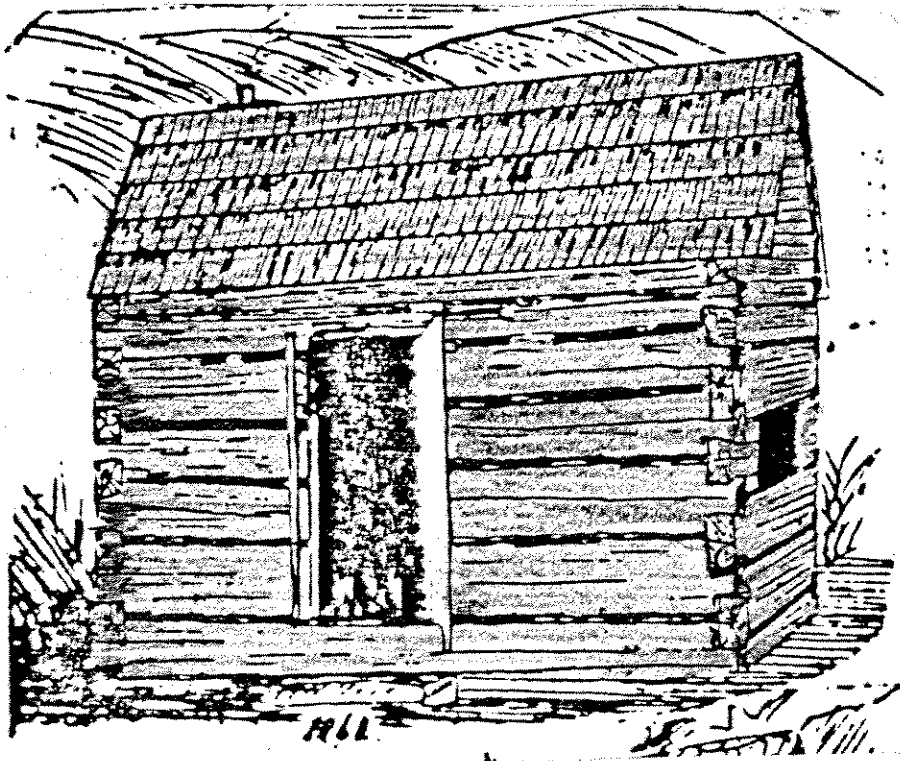
1817—First Maps of Dubois County—1830.



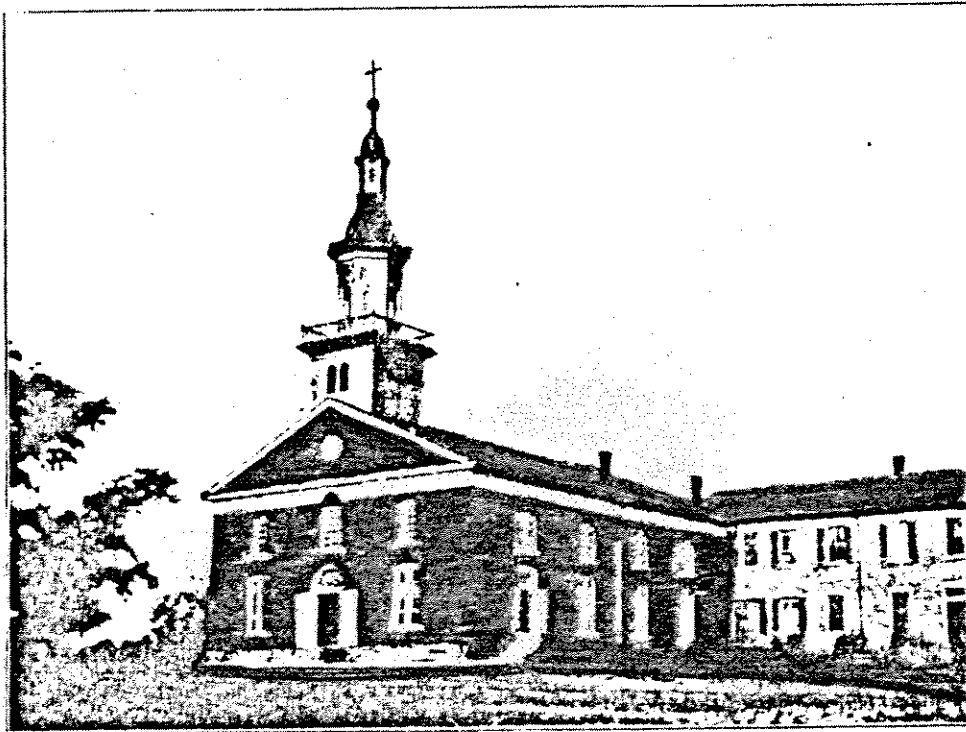
County Poor Asylum, near Ireland.



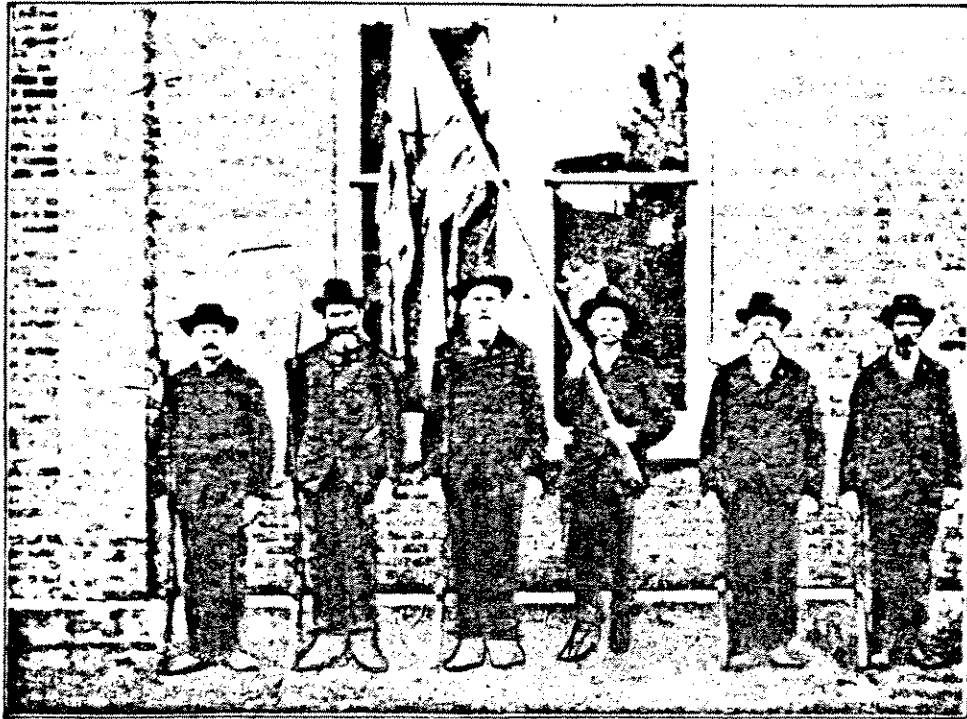
Portersville Court House (1818.)



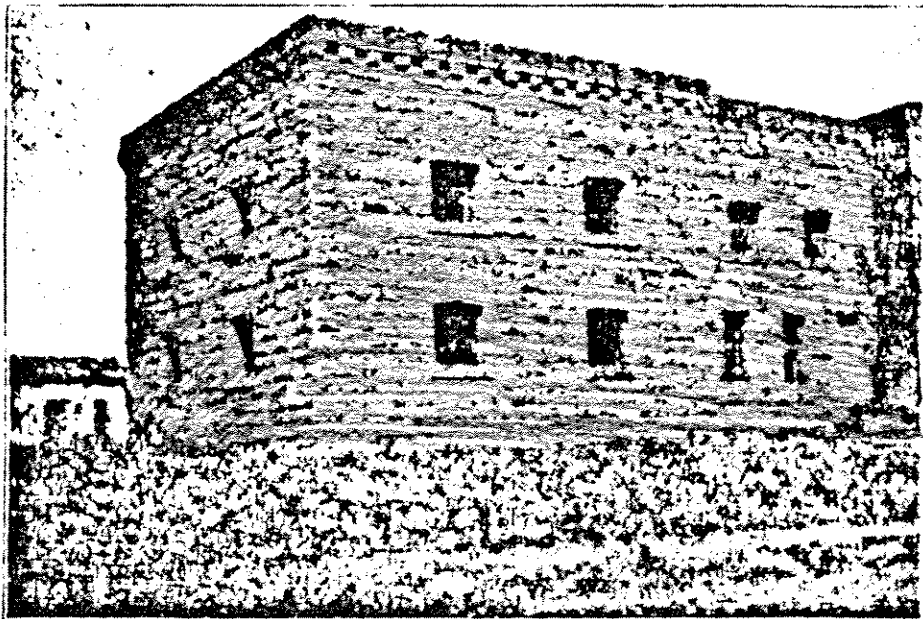
Beatty Log School-house



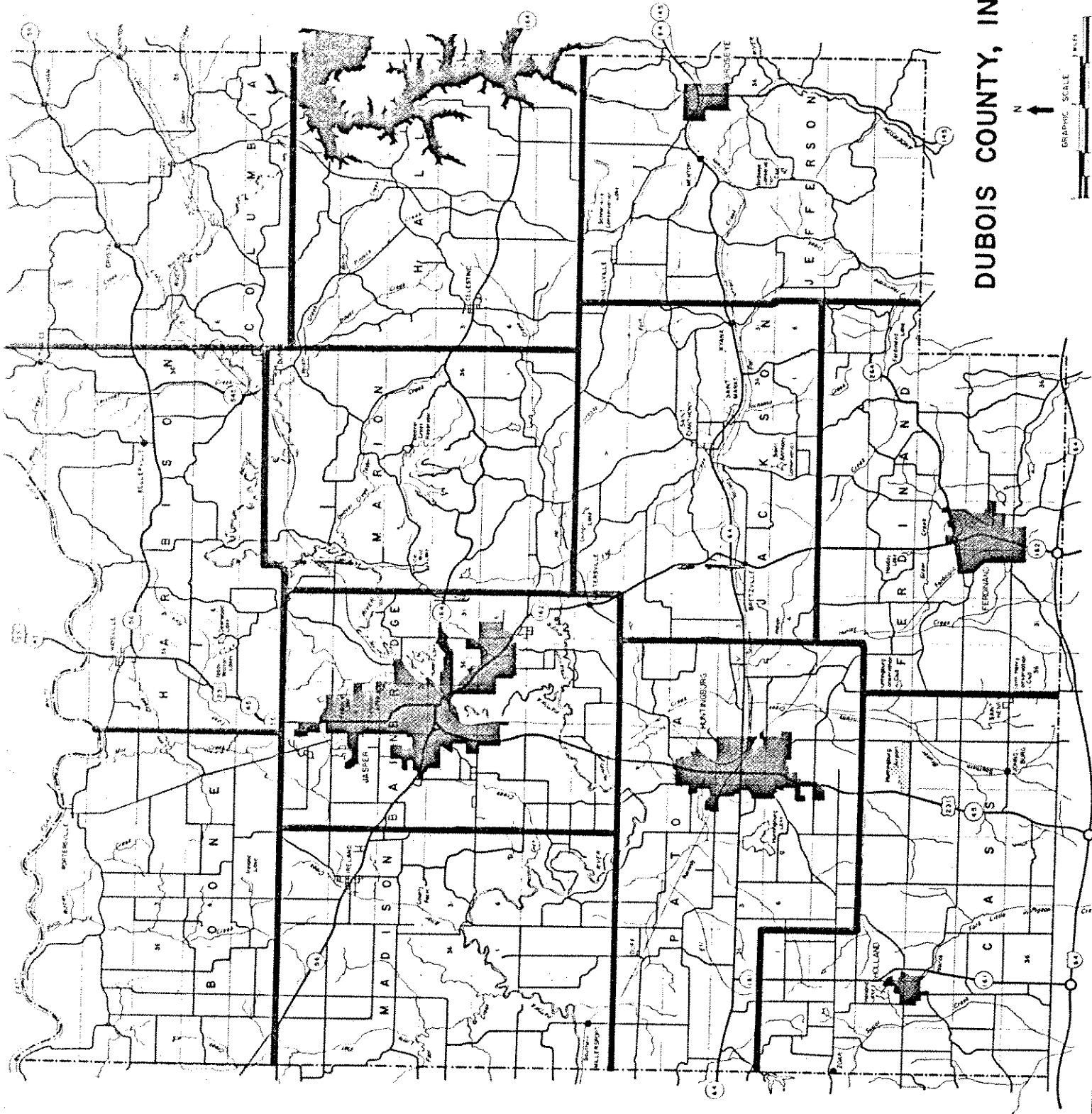
Old St. Joseph's Church, at Jasper.



Flag of Co. K, 27th Regiment, 1896.



Jail at Jasper, 1910.



DUBOIS COUNTY, INDIANA

Day Two:

Purpose: Learning the Data Surrounding the Establishment of the Earliest
Towns of the County

Materials: same; enough for group needs

Procedure: Students in small groups make a chart of data on settlements,
then compare charts as whole group activity.

Name of town	Dates settled, platted, or incorporated (specify which)	Founder(s)	Other Information

Day Three:

Purpose: Reinforcing Learning of Facts and Further Familiarization with Historical Materials

Materials: facts cards for game, teacher questions, previous resources for possible reference

Procedure: Review information from days one and two. Play the following game: Distribute the answer cards making sure that each student receives at least one answer card and if two cards, they are not the same. (There are 2 answer cards for each question.) Teacher reads the question. The first of the two students holding the answer cards to stand and give the answer is the winner. Both students turn in their answer cards at this time. Teacher can collect used cards or have the first students left without cards to collect. Teacher continues to read questions and students answer accordingly. Game can be played several times on successive days for quick recall.

Teacher Questions

Answer Cards

This settlement was near the large, circular patches of thick green grass on the Buffalo Trace.

Mud Holes

The year the first families arrived to settle in Dubois County.

1801

Last name of the 2 brothers and their families who first settled Dubois County.

McDonald

The first main route of travel in Dubois County

Buffalo Trace

The oldest known cemetery in Dubois County

Sherritt Cemetery

A very large stone monument near Portersville

the Settlement Stone

An old Indian trail going through Huntingburg and the Mud Holes

Yellow Banks Trail

Indiana was one of the states from this territory

Northwest Territory

The main Indian Tribe who occupied the county just before the 1800's

Piankeshaw

First name of the man in whose honor this county was named

Toussaint

Indians brought "virgin silver" to this blacksmith for ornaments

Robert Stewart

The date Dubois County was created

December 20, 1817

Dubois County was included in this county in 1816

Pike County

The first camp meeting grounds in the county

Shiloh Church

Town named after the birthplace of John Stewart

Ireland

Besides the Mud Holes, the only other pioneer settlement was the _____.

Irish Settlement

This White River town was the first county seat

Portersville

How venison, salt pork, bear meat, and bear oil was shipped down the White River

barges, flatboats, and small steamships

In 1820 this waterway was declared a public highway

White River

The first four settlements in the county were the Mudholes, Portersville, the Irish Settlement and _____.

Haysville

The woman responsible for naming Jasper

Elandor Enlow

This person laid out the towns of Ferdinand and Celestine

Father Joseph Kundeck

This person was fond of hunting in the groves, hills, and valleys that became Huntingburg

Colonel Jacob Geiger

The first steam mill in this part of the state was in this town

Huntingburg

In 1840 a clapboard sign announced this town

Ferdinand

This town was platted in 1843 and named after a bishop

Celestine

Henry Kunz settled here and named the place after his
homeland

Holland

Days Four - Six:

Purpose: Creating dramatization of important events in early county history

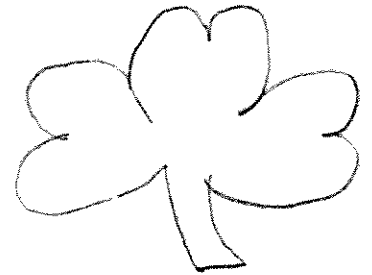
Materials: Same reference sources as previous lessons, costumes if possible, props if desired, teacher - prepared suggestions for scenes

Procedure: Divide students into groups of 4 to 7 persons. They will be assigned or choose a particular event to dramatize, according to teacher suggestions. Students must research event for historical accuracy as much as possible. They will choose characters from among those living at that period. Students can then create a dialogue. Costumes, programs, and settings will greatly enhance the drama but may require extra days of preparation. See the following example.

Other evaluation suggestions:

1. Students write a brief report on one topic from the materials covered. A photo essay or sketches made by students could be included.
2. Students make a picture book for younger children, illustrating and telling the story of the county's history.
3. Instead of a picture book as in #2 above, tape the pictures in a series on a large roll which fits inside a TV screen. Students roll the pictures while they narrate the scenes. Tape record the presentations, using special sound effects.

A



Visit to
Ireland,

Indiana

1801-1899

THE CAST

Scene 1....

Sitting Bull.....Shawn Matheis
Running Bull.....Dave Hoffman
Little Turtle.....Tony Hoffman
Little Squirt.....Kelley Mehringer
Prophet.....Gary Seifrig
Running Woman.....Stephanie Weisman

Scene 2....

William McDonald.....Jason Lents
Jane McDonald.....Jill Schmitt
John McDonald.....Tom Weyer
Marie McDonald.....Ann Seifert

Scene 3....

Cecilia.....Kim Stenftenagel
Caroline.....Becky Welp
Philamena.....Arlene Hopf
Rebecca.....Jeanette Schnaus

Scene 4....

Mary.....Karen Neukam
Elizabeth.....Shannon Erny
Jonathon.....Gary Oeding
Miss Johnson.....Lynette Knies

Scene 5....

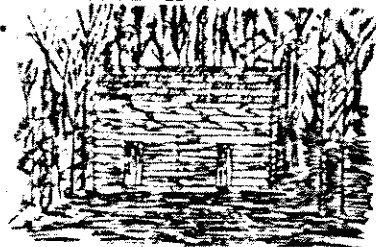
Adam Alexander.....Chris Edwards
Jacob Alexander.....Mark Hochgesang
Isaac Alexander.....Kurt Hurst
Elizabeth Alexander.....Vicki Keusch
Charlotte Alexander.....Kerry Klem
Pastor Jay.....Mark Witte

Scene 6....

Jake.....Jason Small
Elizabeth.....Dana Rasche
David.....Bret Sermersheim
Gertrude.....Courtney Heichelbech
Bartholomew.....Bart Schmitt
Caroline.....Deanna Jones

Scene 1 opens with a look at some of the Piankishaw Indians from this area discussing the white men. Most of the Indians are being influenced to fight us for their hunting grounds by the great Tecumseh and, his brother, the Prophet.

Scene 2 shifts to a basically historical event in which the first white settlers, the McDonalds, have their horses stolen. Having arrived in 1801, the McDonalds, Tom, John, and their wives, have built Fort McDonald as a protection against the Piankishaw Indians who probably really own the land. John and William are both "rangers" or "scouts" who guide settlers along the routes from one fort or settlement to another.

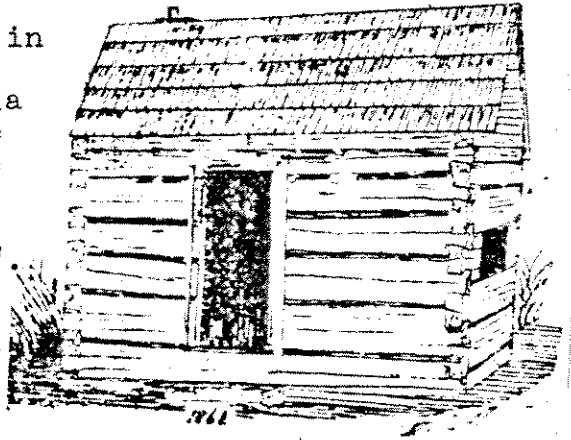


Scene 3 takes place in 1849 at the old Portersville Court House no longer used as a court house since the county seat was moved to Jasper in 1830. Indiana has now been a state for 33 years, and Vincennes is already 118 years old. Twenty years ago Abe Lincoln was living here. Ten years ago the Indians had all been forced to leave.

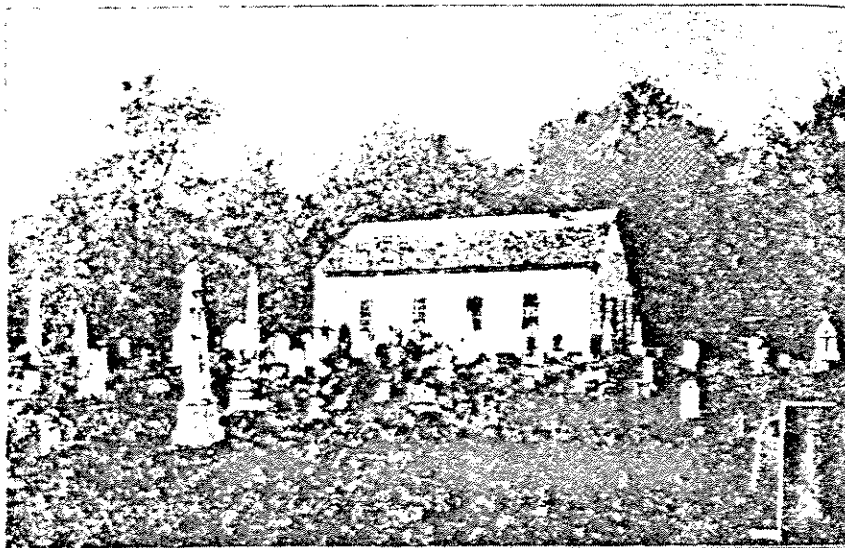


Portersville Court House (1818.)

Scene 4 happens in the 1860's. Abraham Lincoln had received 301 votes and his opponent Stephen A. Douglas received 1,347 from Dubois County. However, the people here believed in preserving the union, and Dubois County had 1,492 men in the militia during the Civil War. While these soldiers were away fighting, those who remained also organized into companies such as the "Ireland Guards" and the "Anderson Rangers". The repeated raids by the Confederation across the Ohio into southern Indiana caused much alarm in Dubois County.

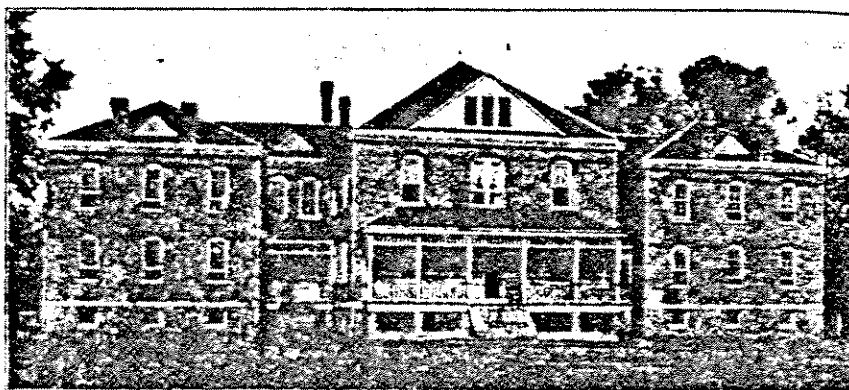


Scene 5 occurs in the 1870's. The village of Ireland had a population 139 in the 1870 census and has circulated a petition for a graded school. The scene opens near Shiloh Church which had been a campgrounds for many years before the meeting house was built. One of the leading citizens of Ireland, Isaac Alexander, has just passed away.



Shiloh Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Scene 6 takes place at the poor farm built in 1861. The time is the 1890's. The players are discussing the news events of that day.



County Poor Asylum, near Ireland.

We wish to thank our parents for helping us
in the many ways which parents help.

Credit is given to Mr. George R. Wilson without
whose book, Wilson's History of Dubois County,
this play could not have been produced.

Although the play is based on true historical
events and places, we apologize for the liberty
we have taken in dealing with some of the
historical events. (We're still learning).