The Geography of History: Studying the Past Using Maps
The Hackley Reserve is the section of land surrounding the bend of the River, and outlined here with a heavy line.
Muncie in 1837.

The earliest description that we have of Muncie is one that appeared in the first issue of the Muncietonian in 1837.

Muncietown—The seat of justice of Delaware county, situated on the south bank of White river, on an elevation of about thirty feet above the bed of the river. It was laid out in 1827, by four different proprietors, in the form of an oblong square. The four principal streets are sixty feet wide, the others forty-five, all crossing each other at right angles. It contains, at present 320 inhabitants, a postoffice, a printing office, four physicians, six mercantile stores, three taverns, three groceries, one grist mill, one saw mill, one distillery, one carding machine, one cabinet-maker's shop, two tailors, two hatters, one shoemaker, six house joiners, one bricklayer, and plasterer, two chair makers, two tanners, two blacksmiths, one gunsmith, one wagon maker, one painter, one saddler's shop, four milliners, one school mistress, one minister of the gospel, one judge, four attorneys, one sheriff, one clerk of the court, two magistrates, one school commissioner, one county surveyor and recorder. A superb court house with a cupola etc., 45 feet square, and 28 feet high, is to be built, and is now under contract. The contemplated Central Canal will pass through this place, and the connecting link, either by canal or railroad, between the Central and Whitewater Canals, will in all probability terminate at this point, as the Board of Canal Commissioners have reported favorable to such termination. The State Road from the Ohio State line to Indianapolis passes through this place—a State Road from Richmond to Logansport—a State Road from New Castle, in Henry county, to Fort Wayne—all pass through this town. There is also a State Road leading to Pendleton, and Delphi. Muncietown is about 61 miles N. E. from Indianapolis N. lat. 40 deg. 7 min. W. lon. 8 deg. 9 min.
Residents of Perry Township built Delaware County's first schoolhouse (above left) in 1827, before the county itself was established. By 1879 Delaware County had 124 schoolhouses outside Muncie, including this one from Center Township (above). From T.B. Helm, History of Delaware County, Indiana, 1881.
1845: Munsey town becomes Muncie.
1865.

April 10—Glorious news from General Grant. General Lee surrendered with his North Virginia army. Great rejoicing, firing of cannon, guns, crackers, burning boxes, barrels, etc., marching in all shapes, people drunk and happy.

April 15—Abraham Lincoln, president of the United States, died this morning at . . . o’clock from pistol shot from the hand of an assassin at his private box in Ford’s theatre last night. By order the business houses were closed at one o’clock to-day. The assassin of President Lincoln is reported to be Booth.

April 19—The day appointed by governor as a day of fasting and prayer. The day very strictly observed, preaching at the church, all business houses draped in mourning.

Aug. 8—John S. Hutchings died Sunday and buried to-day by the Masons and Odd Fellows.


1866.

Oct. 3—Henry C. Wachtel died to-day.

Nov. 10—Great excitement over the robbery of George H. Baxter’s bank safe, which he found broken open and completely robbed of bonds, money, etc., loss about $16,000.

1867.

Jan. 8—O. S. Fowler, the phrenologist, in town.

Feb. 22—Last day of free school.

Mar. 11—Dramatics to-night (probably one of the early private theatricals mentioned elsewhere in this work; these “dramatics” continued, in the Universalist church, to be mentioned, and they were probably rehearsals).

April 3—(Judge) Joseph Anthony died yesterday.

May 22—Jeremiah Wilson died yesterday.

May 25—Barnum, Van Amberg and Frost menagerie here.

F.E. Putnam diary
The National Bank building stands behind this rare scene on Walnut Street north of Main on the east side of the courthouse square. Although the photograph was made in the 1870s, the scene was virtually unchanged from the mid-1850s. The Bacon Clothing Store is at right in a building that dates to the 1830s. Courtesy, Nation-Robinson Printers
1882 advertisement: Neely produced 6,000-8,000 skates/year in 1881, and by 1885 was the second-largest roller skate manufacturer in the nation. Muncie had five skate factories.
1886 roller polo team

R. L. Wachtell, Manager.
Harry Wolfe, Half Back.
Harry Ellis, Substitute.
Chas. Beeson, Captain.
Charles Smith, Second Rush.
Natchez's Royals.
M. Harris, Goal Tnder.
Frank Buchanan, First Rush.
January, 1885.

Friday 29.

The weather was fair but cold this morning followed by a slight snow storm with local winds.

Wladimir, Sue, Walter and I went to the gym and I went to the gym and if living chess and I was wat is called I was wat is called a castle and they taught me because I was so little.

Mama and Papa went to the Literary Fireside which met at Mrs. Smith's and didn't get home till after 10 o'clock. Mama made me 2 new pairs of shoes and they are nice.

There was a alarm fire sent in today it caused some damage done. Telephone.

Mother died today and were out of school.

October, 1885.

Monday 13.

went to school this A.M. but in the afternoon of excused and saw the Fort Worth Baptists but Oh! It was the most fitfullest proceeding I ever witnessed so I left and went home and

went for Mama but couldn't find her and so of a hunted her but at last found her up and met her and brought her home.
A Year in the Life of Magic City:

The Thomas Neely Diary, 1887-1888

Thomas Neely Diaries:
http://libx.bsu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/NlyThmsDiar
A Year in the Life of Magic City: 
The Thomas Neely Diary, 1887-1888

"One year ago this day natural gas was first found at Muncie."
~Thomas Neely, November 11, 1887

"There is a great talk of boom in Muncie at this time."
~Thomas Neely, March 31, 1887
“Queen City of the Gas Belt”
1886-1890 burned $20 million worth of gas
PEACH CANNING TIME—ON THE FARM. This exaggerated postcard is not actually of Muncie. It is included here because it features a Muncie industrial product—a Ball Brothers Co. “Sure Seal” canning jar.
Glass Boom: The Ball Brothers Factory

Sunborn Fire Insurance Maps from the Ball State University Libraries' Archives and Special Collections show the growth of the Ball Brothers Factory in Muncie from its early beginnings in 1887 to 1954.
Created in 1892 from 118 acres of land donated by George F. McCulloch, McCulloch Park hosted two professional baseball teams—the Muncie Fruit Jars and the Muncie Reds. The Pittsburgh Pirates (managed by Honus Wagner) used the park for spring training during World War II. The grandstand burned in 1952 and was never replaced.
Ball Bros. Glass Manufacturing Co.

1893
High School.

High Street M.E. Church.

(Built 1880)
Walnut Street, Looking South from Court House Square.
Wysor Grand Opera House.
1901
(1885 population was 8,282; 1895 was 16,144; 1900 was 20,942)
The Post-Democrat

GEORGE R. DALE, Editor
MUNCIE, INDIANA

January 17, 1927.

To The Public:

For nearly five years my newspaper has voiced its deadly opposition to the wave of intolerance and bigotry which has made the name of Indiana a byword in every section of our republic. Possibly you may have read in your local newspapers and in the metropolitan press, accounts of the reprisals visited upon me because of my unalterable opposition to klan domination of local and state affairs.

Nothing you have read could possibly picture in your mind the malignity of those attacks which have ranged from repeated attempts at murder to endless criminal prosecutions initiated by klan-packed juries and convictions before judges who prostituted their oaths of office by taking orders from traitorous organization which has no place in free America.

While other Indiana newspapers sought the cyclone cellar until the storm passed, mine stood alone in No Man’s land and faced a tornado of wrath and cruelty that made Cotton Mather, of Salem witchcraft fame, turn over in his grave with envy.

The storm has passed and the timid have become bold and recovered their voices, but no shell-shocked victim of the great war wears more wound-stripes than the editor who refused to surrender his convictions, renounce his Americanism, and bend the pregnant hinges of the knee to a filthy, drunken moron who mounted a tinSEL throne in Atlanta and proclaimed himself Lord of all.

I lost my advertising, most of my subscribers, my home, my liberty and every dollar I had in the world. I lost all but a few loyal friends, my devoted family, and all but lost my newspaper but thank God I retained the pearl of great price—my self-respect.

Now that the waves of intolerance are receding I hope to rehabilitate myself and make my newspaper national weekly. I hope to prove in the higher courts, where numerous cases are pending, that a man who fights in a righteous cause should not be punished for it. I am asking your help in these undertakings. It will take money—much money—to accomplish the things I have in mind. If you, and many others will help supply the ammunition, the long battle which I have made against hopeless odds will not have been in vain.

Sincerely your friend,

Geo. R. Dale
Changes in The Physical Course of the White River from 1927 to 2007
At the bottom of Muncie's social strata live Scott and Lizabelle Brandenberg. Scott is the second husband of Lizabelle, who hails from Fiat, Ky. Their home, lined with paper cartons, is a one-room clapboard shack in "Shedtown." In a homemade brooder, consisting of a wooden tray, an oil lamp and a paper box, they are raising chickens "fer eatin'," not for sale. Mrs. Brandenberg talks with the Kentucky hillbilly drawl heard in many midwest industrial towns from southerners migrated north to work in the great auto plants.
Muncie City Bowling Tournament 1955
Candle Lite Alleys
UNIVERSITY ISSUES THOUSANDS OF CITATIONS

From Jan. 1, 2013, to April 1, 2014, the university issued a total of 28,185 parking tickets. This map shows how many tickets were issued in spots throughout campus during this time period.

Violation fees for parking range from $20 to $135. A hold appears on a student’s Bursar account until they pay the ticket. Vehicles that have five or more unpaid parking tickets will be booted or towed from campus. It costs $30 to remove the vehicle’s boot.

SOURCE: Parking Services

ON GRAPHIC: MICHAEL BOYDEN, KAITJUN LAND
See the poverty profile of where you live: Scroll down to the map search box at http://www.msnbc.com/interactive/geography-of-poverty/index.html
Use the interactive map of meth lab locations:
http://www.in.gov/meth/2371.htm
Participants will make their way back to Tour HQ on their own after visiting the Washington Street Festival.
WhatWasThere ties historical photos to Google Maps, allowing you to tour familiar streets to see how they appeared in the past.

http://www.whatwaswhere.com
The Ball State University Libraries’ GIS Research and Map Collection publishes a Blog featuring maps from the Collection and other timely sources and information about maps in the news:

www.bsumaps.blogspot.com

For more information about any of the maps in this presentation, please contact Melissa Gentry at 765-285-1097 or mgentry@bsu.edu