



illustrating Our natural world

INDIANA GEOLOGICAL AND WATER SURVEY

Since the days of prehistoric pictographs, illustrations have been useful to explain complex concepts, to show items that can't easily be seen in person, or to communicate ideas among people who do not have a common vocabulary. As artist-draftsmen, Robert "Bob" Judah and Wilbur "Bill" Stalions served those purposes for the Indiana Geological and Water Survey for nearly 50 years.

Judah was born and raised in Monroe County, home of Indiana University, the Survey, and the Indiana limestone industry. He joined the Survey staff in 1955. His first known published work appeared in "Let's Look at Some Rocks," a guide to the world underfoot for non-geologists, printed in 1958. He illustrated at least 40 publications in his 22-year career, some containing more than a dozen pieces of artwork each.

Stalions grew up in the Indianapolis area and joined the Survey staff in 1977, a few weeks before Judah retired. In addition to his work on Survey publications, Stalions was a frequent contributor to Outdoor Indiana magazine, illustrating articles Survey staff wrote. He also was the principal artist for Our Hoosier State Beneath Us—a series about natural resources published in newspapers—and designed dioramas which decorated the Survey's lobby until 2018.

Stalions was the final artist-draftsman the Survey would employ. When he retired in 2000, the era of computer-aided illustrating was well underway.

Survey archivists retained many originals of both artists' work, and this year, the IGWS is putting them on permanent display online at www.igws.indiana.edu.

Survey artist-draftsmen helped make scientific concepts real and tangible to ordinary people. It's important that we all understand the story of our collective past if we are to build a sustainable future together.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Wilbur "Bill" Stalions, "Oil from Troubled Waters," from "Our Hoosier State Beneath Us" series, no date (cropped), photo reproduction;

Robert "Bob" Judah, from "Pages of the Geologic Past of Marion County," ca. 1963, photo reproduction;

Judah, unused draft of an illustration for "Pages from the Geologic Past of Marion County," ca. 1962 (image rotated clockwise), ink on cardstock;

Judah, untitled, no date, ink on cardstock;

Judah, from "Adventures with Fossils," ca. 1959, graphite on cardstock overlain by ink on mylar;

Stalions, "Conodonts: Microfossils of Distinction" from "Our Hoosier State Beneath Us" series, no date, photo reproduction;

Judah, IU Geology Building, ca. 1961, ink on cardstock;

Judah, untitled, ca. 1961 (image flipped horizontally), ink on cardstock;

Judah, from "Pages of the Geologic Past of Marion County," ca. 1963, photo reproduction

2022

JANUARY

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