The summary piece views the United States Constitution broadly. In it David Papke stresses nicely three particular notions of the document—the Constitution as icon, as text, and as law—and draws a series of perceptive distinctions regarding the complexity of the document, its role, its purpose, and its function. As a lawyer, he is particularly interested in issues of strict and loose construction, the way the framers understood the Constitution as a “social contract,” and the way the Constitution has emerged as a guide to those looking at the nation’s interests broadly and generally. He correctly sees all three concepts as empowering the document. He ends on a note stressing the Constitution’s openendedness and fluidity and its role as a device for actualizing the preamble’s values in American life.

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Geography, like history, is a point of view, an approach to understanding our changing world. Geography with its focus on the spatial dimension and history with its focus on the temporal dimension together give a sense of order among places and events. Many good volumes have been published on the history of the state of Indiana, and many of these have incorporated some geographic perspectives. Only two or three books on the geography of Indiana ever have been published. *Indiana: The American Heartland* (1986) is the most recent; sadly, it is but a reprint of *Indiana: Crossroads of America* (1978) by geographers at Ball State University. The only significant changes in this brief text are in the title, the reversed order of the two editors’ names, a new publisher, and three new appendixes: 1) “The Setting”—two pages of locational facts that belong in Chapter One; 2) “The Glossary” containing only terms in physical geography; and 3) “The Types of Farming” based on 1969 data and belonging in Chapter Eight on “The Agriculture.” Unfortunately, dozens of typographical and writing style errors are continued from the 1978 text. No statistical data, no maps, no pictures, no topics have been updated or revised. The bibliography remains unchanged except for eleven new references given under a new heading called “General.”

The original publisher (Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co.) of this geography of Indiana as well as of other states essentially left organization, content, style, editing, and marketing up to the authors, editors, and sponsors. The Illinois volume (1977) with a single editor sponsored by the Illinois Geographical Society and the Michigan volume (1977) with a single author each express the geogra-
pher's point of view more fully than does the Indiana volume but still suffer marketing problems and will not be revised.

In neither content nor style does Indiana: The American Heartland measure up to Ohio: An American Heartland, which was published by the Ohio Geological Survey in 1975 and contains strong sections on cultural and economic geography within a historical perspective. Although attempts have been made in every state to produce a state atlas and/or a state geography, such volumes rarely have been "best sellers," no doubt in part because of public misunderstanding of geography and maps as well as because of the failure to teach much geography in school and college.

The lonely Indiana geography reviewed here does offer an invitation to geographers to assemble a colorful atlas with historical-geographical interpretations in text and maps. The state has had no atlas since Robert C. Kingsbury's underfunded but effective Atlas of Indiana (1970). Usually funded by a state agency and/or by a state university, geographers in the 1970s and 1980s have prepared some excellent state atlases; e.g., Oregon, California, Nebraska, Alabama, Florida, Hawaii, Minnesota, Michigan, and Kentucky.

Geographers like those who prepared the geographies of Ohio and Illinois and most of the state atlases have long been involved in physical and cultural geography, including settlement geography similar to what certain historians have termed "above ground archeology." Perhaps with the assistance of historians, geographers can remedy the Indiana situation soon so that the diverse natural and cultural landscapes of the Hoosier state may be portrayed innovatively—especially on maps but also in pictorial and narrative form.

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John V. Bergen


This small volume by Hester Anne Hale, a teacher and local historian, is a revision of a work originally written for high school students. In its rambling character and determined optimism it resembles more the traditional city biography than the tightly written, analytical studies favored by academic historians of urban life. It furnishes little insight into the essential dynamics of development in early Indianapolis. On the other hand, Hale's book also demonstrates some of the merits of the city narrative, particularly as a stage on which to present characters and characteristics of interest to the general reader.

Four scattered chapters record the expansion of Indianapolis from its beginnings as a planned frontier capital on a minor river