

HISTORY OF SCIENCE

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ABSTRACT

Charles Lyell's Geologic Observations in Indiana, 1846. R. WILLIAM ORR, Department of Geography and Geology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306.—Sir Charles Lyell visited Indiana in the Spring of 1846 during his second trip to North America. He traversed the southern edge of the state along the Ohio River first stopping at Mount Vernon from where he traveled overland to New Harmony. Here, accompanied by David Dale Owen, Lyell examined exposures of Pennsylvanian rocks and studied *in situ* stumps of *Sigillaria* nearby at Blairsville. He continued his journey from Evansville and traveled to New Albany where he examined the classic exposures of Devonian coralline limestone at the Falls of the Ohio. Lyell's concepts and understanding of the origin of coal, nature and distribution of coal swamp vegetation, intercontinental correlation by means of fossils, construction of ancient "reefs," and the nature of loess deposits all were influenced by his studies of Indiana geology.