Reflections on Life and Death in 19th Century Indiana

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What do you do with a body?

Cemeteries and documents permit us to reconstruct the facts of life (and death) for pioneer families and their descendents. Franklin County, Indiana, for example, was settled by a very fertile, mobile population from the eastern states combined with a wave of German immigrants. The result is a rural society with low population growth that enables us to observe how social modernization interacted with birth, disease, and death.



The Forensic Science Lecture Series (FSLS), sponsored jointly by the Indiana Medical History Museum and the University of Indianapolis Archeology & Forensics Laboratory, was established in 2004 to help educate the public in the forensic sciences and related fields as well as to spotlight the fascinating stories that scientists have to tell.



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