

THE FIRST WHITE VISITOR TO INDIANA COUNTY – WEISER’S MISSION – HIS  
JOURNAL – DISTANCES WESTWARD ACCORDING TO JOHN  
HARRIS – HART’S SLEEPING PLACE

The first notice we obtain of the territory now embrace in the county of Indiana is seen in the journal of Conrad Weiser, whose mission to Logstown, in 1748, and the journal of that trip are presented below. He was undoubtedly *among the first, if not the first*, white man to pass down the Conemaugh,\* and his simple journal, limited as it is, will give the reader some idea of the nature of the country through which he traveled, and the sparsely settled countries even as far east as Old Berks.

The result of his mission is seen in the treaty and purchase of the following year, which are detailed at length in the article upon “Land Titles.”

Conrad Weiser, was no common man. Under a plain and unassuming exterior there was concealed a mind to plan and will to execute schemes which embraced much good for the settlers, as well as the Indians, but no self aggrandizement for himself.

While his councils prevailed there was peace on the frontier, and there seemed to be an era of good feeling between the aborigines and the government.

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\* “In the fall of 1744, Governor Thomas employed Peter Shaver, a trader among the Indians, to carry letters of the Shawnese Indians on the Ohio, inviting them to come to Philadelphia.” Votes of Assembly, Vol IV. We know nothing about his route, but Shaver’s creek is frequently mentioned in our articles. Shaver’s Sleeping Place was near of at the “Two Lick,” in what is now Indiana county.