The maps and tables in this publication were prepared using PCensus 7.06 for MapInfo and MapInfo Professional 7.0.
3. Geographic and Historical Notes

Vermillion County is located in West Central Indiana bordered by the State of Illinois and the Indiana counties of Warren to the north, Fountain to the east and northeast, Parke to the east and southeast, and Vigo to the south and southeast. U.S. Highway 36 and State Highways 63 and 71 cross the county. Elevation is 450 to 650 feet.

Most of the landscape is either moderately or steeply sloping, except for some scattered nearly flat areas. The landscape features hickory and oak trees. The county pertains to the Indiana and Ohio Till Plain land resource area except for the southeastern tip, which is part of the Central Mississippi Valley Wooded Slopes land resource area.

Vermillion county is in the Eastern Time Zone and observes DST. Average daily temperatures are $15\,^\circ C / 36\,^\circ F$ in January and $62\,^\circ C / 88\,^\circ F$ in July. Annual precipitation is about 39 and snowfall about 15-30 inches. The first freeze comes in the north between October 10-15, and a little later (October 15-20) across the rest of the county. The last freeze happens first (April 20-25) in the southern fourth of the area, and a little later (April 25-30) elsewhere. The growing season lasts 163-183 days.

Agricultural activity is mainly in corn for grain and soybeans. Additional crops include hay and winter wheat. Livestock are mainly cattle/calves and hogs/pigs. Popcorn is a special crop. About three-quarters of the land is in farms and about three-quarters of that land is in cash crops. Important natural resources include coal, construction sand and gravel, common clay, and forestland. Water resources include Collet Pond and the Wabash, Little Vermilion and Vermilion Rivers.

Communities include the city of Clinton, and the towns of Cayuga, Dana, Fairview Park, Perrysville, Universal, and Newport, which is the county seat.

Sources: Map from PCensus for MapInfo; Geographic Notes from Indiana Facts: Flying the Colors by John Clements, 1995.
Vermillion County is not a tobacco-producing county, according to the Strategic Development Group’s “Alternative Agricultural Strategy” (Bloomington, March 15, 2001) report, which is part of Governor Joseph E. Kernan’s “Recipient Final Reports for Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture Grant Programs” (http://www.in.gov/oca/grants/valueadd/VAFinalReports.html):