



## Indiana Historical Bureau

140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2296  
TELEPHONE 317-232-2535  
FAX 317-232-3728  
INTERNET [www.IN.gov/history](http://www.IN.gov/history)

# NEWS

For Immediate Release

August 21, 2006

## Contact:

Paula Bongen, 317-232-2536  
[pbongen@statelib.lib.in.us](mailto:pbongen@statelib.lib.in.us)

## Osgood will dedicate two state historical markers

Public dedication ceremonies for two Indiana state historical markers are scheduled for September 2, 2006. A state historical marker honoring the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad will be dedicated at 12:00 noon on O and M Avenue between Buckeye and Walnut streets. At 1:00 p.m. a state historical marker honoring James Harrison Cravens will be dedicated at Harlan St. and East Fairground Avenue, Osgood, Indiana.

The text follows for the state marker entitled "Ohio and Mississippi Railroad":

Chartered in Indiana 1848 by the General Assembly. The people of Ripley County voted March 1849 to provide local financial support for building the railroad. Surveys of the Eastern Division (Cincinnati to Vincennes) began 1852. The town of Osgood was named to honor O & M division engineer, A. L. Osgood. Railroad was completed from Cincinnati to East St. Louis 1857. Depot, freight house, engine house, turntable, stock pens, and sidings were built at Osgood, which was considered the center of transport and commerce for Ripley County. Company was taken over by Baltimore and Ohio Railroad 1899-1900.

The text follows for the state marker entitled "James Harrison Cravens":

Born 1802 in Virginia; admitted to the bar 1823. Moved to Jefferson County, Indiana 1829. Established law office in Versailles, Ripley County 1833. Served four terms in Indiana General Assembly. Elected as Whig to U.S. Congress 1841. Lost as Free Soil party candidate for Indiana governor 1849 and as Republican candidate for attorney general 1856. A well-known debater, he opposed extension of slavery, 1850 Fugitive Slave Act requiring citizens to return escaping slaves to their owners, and Article 13 of 1851 Constitution prohibiting blacks from moving into Indiana. Served briefly in Civil War. Moved to Osgood area before 1860; built home here circa 1865. Died at Osgood December 4, 1876.

Everyone is invited to attend these dedication ceremonies associated with Osgood's 150th anniversary celebration, August 31 through September 4.

Historical markers commemorate significant Indiana individuals, places, and events, and they help communities throughout Indiana promote, preserve, and present their history for the education and enjoyment of residents and tourists of all ages. Via the Internet, that history reaches a worldwide audience.

For more than 80 years the Indiana Historical Bureau, an agency of the State of Indiana, has been marking Indiana history. Since 1947, the marker format has been the large roadside marker, which has the familiar dark blue background with gold lettering and the outline of the state of Indiana at the top. There are more than 470 of these markers across the state.

For a digital version of this release and further information about this marker, the state Historical Marker Program, and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau Web site at [www.IN.gov/history](http://www.IN.gov/history) or call 317-232-2537.