



Indiana Historical Bureau

140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2296
TELEPHONE 317-232-2535
FAX 317-232-3728
INTERNET www.IN.gov/history

NEWS

For Immediate Release

June 18, 2007

Contact:

Jeremy Hackerd, 317-232-2537
jhackerd@statelib.lib.in.us

“Ovid Butler” state historical marker will be dedicated in Indianapolis, Indiana

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker is scheduled for June 23, 2007. The state historical marker recognizing Ovid Butler will be dedicated at the location of his old residence, “Forest Home,” 1306 North Park Avenue, Indianapolis, at 3 P.M. Eastern Daylight Savings Time. The dedication ceremony will be part of the Old Northside Foundation’s neighborhood garden tour.

The text follows for the state marker entitled “Ovid Butler”:

Born 1801 in New York; moved to Indiana 1817. Admitted to bar 1825; became influential lawyer. Settled in Indianapolis 1836. His opposition to slavery on moral and religious grounds was reflected in his political affiliations and support of anti-slavery newspapers; his writings publicly condemned slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850. Butler wrote North Western Christian University charter 1849; founders wanted to provide “liberal and Christian education” away from slavery influences. Indiana General Assembly passed charter 1850; university opened 1855 at 13th Street and College Avenue; renamed to honor Butler 1877. He resided here in "Forest Home" until his death in 1881.

Everyone is invited to attend this dedication ceremony for the state historical marker honoring Ovid Butler, who was an influential lawyer, anti-slavery advocate, and namesake for Butler University.

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 90 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 approximately 500 of these markers across the state.

For information about the state Historical Marker Program and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau website at www.IN.gov/history or call 317-232-2537.

###