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June 10, 2004

## **Eleutherian College Historical Marker Dedication**

A public dedication ceremony for the Indiana historical marker to commemorate Eleutherian College will be held on Saturday, June 19, 2:30 p.m. E.S.T. at 7147 West State Road 250, Lancaster in Jefferson County. Everyone is invited to the dedication to help celebrate the significance of this college in the Underground Railroad in Indiana and the honor of receiving a state historical marker. The text on the marker follows:

College developed 1854 from Eleutherian Institute, founded 1848. Thomas Craven and anti-slavery advocates in the area created and supported the institution for education of students of all races and genders. This structure, built in the 1850s for classes and a chapel, was purchased for restoration 1990. Designated National Historic Landmark 1997. Eleutherian provided one of earliest educational opportunities for women and African-Americans before Civil War. The Underground Railroad refers to a widespread network of diverse people in the nineteenth century who aided slaves escaping to freedom from the southern U.S.

Indiana heritage continues to gain attention by the placement of historical markers throughout the state commemorating significant Indiana people, places, and events. The installation of historical markers helps communities present, promote, and preserve their rich history for both citizens and visitors. Via the Internet, that history is reaching a worldwide audience.

For decades the Indiana Historical Bureau has administered the Indiana Historical Marker program. These markers have the familiar dark blue background with gold lettering and the outline of Indiana at the top. There are 450 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 317-232-2535.

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