



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

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Contact:

Dani Pfaff, 317-232-6276
dpfaff@statelib.lib.in.us

Underground Railroad state historical marker will be dedicated near Madison, Indiana

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker is scheduled for September 17, 2006 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm EDT. The state historical marker honoring the John H. and Sarah Tibbets will be dedicated at the site of the Tibbets home at 6810 North Boyd Road, Madison, Indiana.

The text follows for the state marker entitled "John H. and Sarah Tibbets":

The Tibbets provided assistance to fugitive slaves here in their home (now part of National Park Service, Network to Freedom); John piloted them to the next safe haven. Both were members of Neil's Creek Anti-Slavery Society and Anti-Slavery Regular Baptist Church at College Hill. John served as a trustee for the church and Eleutherian College. Free blacks from Madison and surrounding area and white abolitionists helped fugitive slaves. 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.

Everyone is invited to attend this dedication recognizing the significant contributions of John and Sarah Tibbets in assisting fugitive slaves escaping to freedom.

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 or call 317-232-2537.

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