

Indiana Historical Bureau

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News

For Immediate Release

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Tri-State Tornado Historical Marker Dedication

A public dedication ceremony for the Indiana historical marker to commemorate the Tri-State Tornado will be held on April 23 at 1:00 p.m. C.D.T., at Main and First Streets, Griffin in Posey County. Everyone is invited to the dedication to help celebrate the significance of this event and the honor of receiving a state historical marker. The text on the marker follows:

At 4:00 p.m. on March 18, 1925, a tornado arrived in Indiana after devastating parts of Missouri and Illinois. The town of Griffin was destroyed; the Owensville area and Princeton suffered heavy losses. Hundreds were injured; 76 were killed. Within hours, help came from nearby towns, the American Red Cross, and the Indiana National Guard. Heavy rains caused the Wabash River to flood, and by March 23, 1925 the only way to reach Griffin was by boat or railroad. Within weeks, Griffin was slowly being rebuilt. After a year, much of the town was rebuilt, including a schoolhouse, one church, and a grain elevator. This tornado is still rated the deadliest in U.S. weather history.

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 or call 317-232-2535.

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