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Georgetown Historical Marker Dedication

A public dedication ceremony for the Indiana historical marker to commemorate Georgetown will be held on Saturday, October 30 at 11:00 a.m. E.S.T. in the Windle Auditorium, 101 E. Third Street, Madison. The unveiling of the marker is part of the Cornelius O'Brien/Indiana Main Street conference being held in Madison. Everyone is invited to the dedication to help celebrate the significance of this African-American community and the honor of receiving a Underground Railroad/Indiana Freedom Trails historical marker.

The text on the marker follows:

Free blacks settled in Madison as early as 1820. The growing black community began businesses and organized churches and schools in this area, later called Georgetown. Risking their own freedom, some free black residents here actively aided slaves seeking freedom. A few of these residents had to flee from Madison themselves in the late 1840s. Despite the danger, after the late 1840s some free blacks in Madison continued to aid freedom seekers. 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> or call 317-232-2535.