



Indiana Historical Bureau

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NEWS

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“Sheriff’s Residence and Jail” state historical marker will be dedicated in Evansville, Indiana

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker is scheduled for November 13, 2007. The state historical marker recognizing Evansville’s historic sheriff’s residence and jail will be dedicated at 208 Northwest 4th Street, Evansville. The dedication ceremony will begin at 11:00 A.M. Central Standard Time.

The text follows for the state marker entitled “Sheriff’s Residence and Jail”:

Vanderburgh County formed, Evansville named county seat 1818. This castle-like structure was completed 1890 for county’s fourth jail and second sheriff’s residence. Stone exterior has step-gables, projecting turrets, crenellated roof lines, simulated portcullis, and central, rounded tower. Tunnel connects the jail to the 1890 courthouse. Jail and residence were the focal point of a race riot July 1903, which lasted several days; twelve people were killed and many more injured. County functions moved out 1969. Listed in National Register of Historic Places 1970. County jails were first established 1792 under territorial laws and were included in state constitutions of 1816 and 1851.

Everyone is invited to attend this dedication ceremony for a state historical marker that commemorates this building’s impressive architecture and its role as the focal point of a 1903 race riot.

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 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 website at www.IN.gov/history or call 317-232-2537.

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