

Collection #  
M 1509

**CARL C. WILSON UNDERGROUND RAILROAD  
RESEARCH COLLECTION, 1997-2010**

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Processed by

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 2 printed items

COLLECTION DATES: 1997-2010

PROVENANCE: Gloria Wilson, 2012

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: The underground railroad and the antislavery movement in Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana (E450 .Q56 2001)

Walkin' the Wabash : an exploration into the Underground Railroad in west central Indiana (E450 .L8 2001);

Et al.

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2012.0117

NOTES:

## **HISTORICAL SKETCH**

In 1998, Congress passed the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act (HR 1635), creating a program to facilitate and fund the research and identification of Underground Railroad sites and trails throughout the country.

Indiana's statewide effort was called Indiana Freedom Trails. Indiana received \$6,000 in discretionary funding from the National Park Service (NPS) and approximately \$10,000 from the Historic Preservation Fund program. The Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) offered these funds through research assistantships to identify and document Underground Railroad sites around Indiana. Funding levels were between \$500 and \$3,000. There were twelve proposals submitted, with a total request of \$34,500.

In 1999, the Northeast Indiana Underground Railroad group was formed with the intention of further researching the known Underground Railroad history in Steuben, DeKalb, Noble, and LaGrange Counties. The regional coordinator for this project was Carl C. Wilson of Fort Wayne. The project director was Cindy Bevington. Lee Sauer was selected as a researcher and writer. The application submitted by the Northeast Indiana Underground Railroad group requested the maximum funding (\$3,000) to research Steuben County sites.

A selection committee made up of DHPA and NPS staff selected eight proposals, two of which were combined to collaborate on the Indianapolis area. The final seven projects represented each region of Indiana Freedom Trails that applied for funding. No applications were received from the northwest region.

The application submitted by Wilson and Bevington's group was not among those selected for funding. A project from another group, focusing on Allen County sites, was selected to represent the northeast region (See Related Holdings).

### Sources:

Email correspondence with DHPA Grants Manager Malia Vanaman, 19 January 2023

Materials in the collection

Memorandum, DHPA director Jon Charles Smith to DNR Deputy Director Jack Costello, dated 5 April 2000 [provided by Vanaman]

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains materials collected by Carl Wilson leading up to and including the Northeast Indiana Underground Railroad group's application for funding through the Indiana Freedom Trails project. The administrative material related to the application, which includes details about Carl's meetings at Fox Lake, Lee Sauer's application for researcher, and Cindy Bevington's application forms, have been arranged chronologically. The research, which Carl collected before the grants were announced, has been arranged by the county. Also included is some correspondence and research from Hurley C. Goodall, project director for *The Underground Railroad in the State of Indiana: An Invisible Road to Freedom*.

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Administrative Files, 1997	Box 1, Folder 1
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Administrative Files, 1999	Box 1, Folder 3
Administrative Files, 2000	Box 1, Folder 4
Hurley Goodall documents, 2000-2001	Box 1, Folder 5
<i>The Underground Railroad in the State of Indiana: An Invisible Road to Freedom</i>	General Collection: rr E450 .U62 2000
Allen County (copy of Samuel Hanna letter)	Box 1, Folder 6
DeKalb County	Box 1, Folder 7
Delaware County (Snodgrass Family)	Box 1, Folder 8
Grant County	Box 1, Folder 9
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Steuben County (1 of 2)	Box 1, Folder 12
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Steuben County research sent to Congressman Mark Souder, 1998	Box 1, Folder 14
Wayne County (Levi Coffin House)	Box 1, Folder 15
Wells County	Box 1, Folder 16
Sojourner Truth monument dedication (Mich.), 1999	Box 1, Folder 17
Souvenir copy of Emancipation Proclamation	Box 1, Folder 18
<i>Runaway Slave: The Story of Harriet Tubman</i>	General Collection:
Carl C. Wilson funeral program, 2010	Box 1, Folder 19