

Sample Outreach Email: Alice's Garden Underground Railroad Celebration!

SAMPLE OUTREACH EMAIL FOR THE PROJECT AS PART OF GRANT REPORT

Alice's Garden Fieldhands and Foodways Project
UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CELEBRATION!
SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2pm-5pm
2136 N. 21st Street, Milwaukee, 53205
Potluck Celebration

Between 1842 and 1861 more than 100 escaping slaves appear to have been helped to freedom in Canada by Wisconsin residents. But because both the slaves and their helpers had to conceal their work, details of how fugitives passed through Wisconsin are scarce. We've tried to give here the basic facts about the best-known escapes, along with links to the original sources that document them.

Slavery had been prohibited in Wisconsin under the 1787 Northwest Ordinance, according to which our state and territory were formed. But in 1850 the federal government passed the [Fugitive Slave Act](#), which forced all citizens to help return any escaping slaves to their owners. Anyone who refused to assist the authorities, or who helped slaves to escape, was subject to heavy penalties. The Fugitive Slave Act became a rallying point for abolitionists, who felt morally compelled to disobey it and so become criminals in the eyes of the law.

The earliest escape of which we have record is that of 16-year-old [Caroline Quarlls](#), who arrived in Milwaukee in early August 1842 and was secretly helped by Wisconsin abolitionists around Chicago, through Indiana, across Michigan and into Canada.

When Deacon Samuel Brown gave Caroline refuge, and as she moved from house to house, the Underground Railroad in Wisconsin came alive! Alice's Garden sits on a portion of Samuel Brown's farm.

The state's most famous incident was the liberation of [Joshua Glover](#) in March 1854 from a Milwaukee jail; he was conveyed out of the city by much the same route but boarded a steamer in Racine and landed in Canada. Also in 1854, an unnamed father and two children passed through Chilton to safety among the Stockbridge Indians; after repulsing their pursuers, the Stockbridge got them safely to Green Bay and then by ship to Canada.

Please join us as we celebrate this important history! There will be historical learning for all ages. Please bring a dish to share.

Venice R. Williams
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The unfinished work of the ancestors is the blueprint for my life.