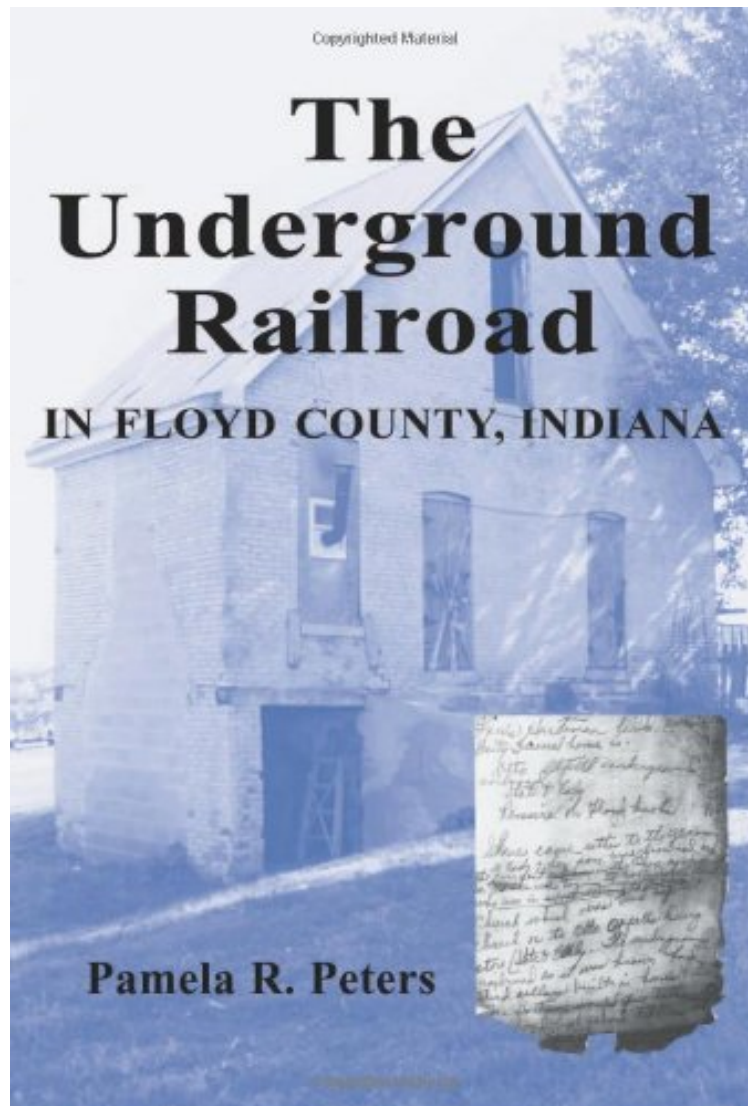


[Get free] The Underground Railroad in Floyd County, Indiana

The Underground Railroad in Floyd County, Indiana

Pamela R Peters

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Pamela R Peters : The Underground Railroad in Floyd County, Indiana before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Underground Railroad in Floyd County, Indiana:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Underground Railroad UnmaskedBy Robert UrekewArmed guards are stationed at ferry terminals on both shores of the wide river, carefully inspecting the travel documents of selected persons, insensitive to the fear and humiliation they inflict on these targets of their scrutiny. A scenario from a modern totalitarian government in the years just prior to the fall of Communism in Europe? Hardly. The ferry terminals are in Louisville, Kentucky and New Albany, Indiana, and the time frame is just prior to and including the

American Civil War. With honesty, precision and determination, Pamela Peters presents her readers with a glimpse of what it must have been like to be a slave in a Southern state who had the hope of freedom and the means to attain it: The Underground Railroad. Peters paints a brutally frank picture of the stark realities that faced slaves who attempted to cross the Ohio River into a "free" state like Indiana. Degradation and vilification did not cease on the other shore. Humiliating legislation denied both runaways and free blacks the rights and privileges enjoyed by the white majority, forced them to live in isolated designated areas, required them to register as aliens and even to pay a bond against the likelihood that they might lack gainful employment. She makes it quite clear that crossing over into "free" territory could not be the final goal for runaway slaves. For complete security, the destination had to be Canada, since federal law permitted owners of escaped slaves to arrest and detain them anywhere in the United States. With painstaking precision, the author documents her findings. She employs every available resource, from gravestones to courthouse records to personal interviews with descendants. In addition to correcting the mistaken popular view that there was freedom and security for runaways in the North, Peters also demonstrates the complicity of most of the mainstream churches in the odious institution that was slavery. As if that were not enough, perhaps one of her most significant contributions is the clear and compelling evidence that the Underground Railroad's conductors were not mostly well-intentioned white folks. Rather, those who risked so much to bring freedom to others in this unique clandestine network were free and recently-freed African-Americans, as well as other runaway slaves. After Pamela Peters, the popular textbook version of the Underground Railroad's conductors being principled, church-going white people is no longer tenable. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Underground Railroad in Floyd County, Indiana. By Gilbert Garner. Having been born in Floyd County, Indiana, I often wondered what role Indiana, being a border state, played during the unfortunate period of civil war in America. This treatise so eloquently presented, answered many of the questions I often asked myself before I was able to sink deeply into this discourse. Thank you Pam Peters, for I now know many of my ancestors aligned themselves with good and fought diligently on the side of freedom and against the evils of human bondage. And, were able to accomplish much, despite the transgressions and oppression that were visited upon them. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Ground-Breaking Work on Underground RR Discoveries. By A Customer. This book contains extensive and thorough research to back up and debunk certain claims about the Underground Railroad in Indiana. This is a fascinating look at what happened right along the border of the North and the South. The author does a good job of revealing the truths often imbedded in the legends regarding the Underground Railroad.

Floyd County, Indiana, and its county seat, New Albany, are located directly across the Ohio River from Louisville, Kentucky. Louisville was a major slave-trade center, and Indiana was a free state. Many slaves fled to Floyd County via the Underground Railroad, but their fight for freedom did not end once they reached Indiana. Sufficient information on slaves coming to and through this important area may be found in court records, newspaper stories, oral history accounts, and other materials that a full and fascinating history is possible, one detailing the struggles that runaway slaves faced in Floyd County, such as local, state, and federal laws working together to keep them from advancing socially, politically, and economically. This work also discusses the attitudes, people, and places that help in explaining the successes and heartaches of escaping slaves in Floyd County. Included are a number of freedom and manumission papers, which provided court certification of the freedom of former slaves.

"this work is highly recommended"--Colorado Libraries; "uncovers a complex web of information...brings new understanding to this greatest of all American liberation movements...a detailed bibliography...extensive chapter notes...offers new directions"--Indiana Magazine of History; "sturdy research and writing...stands as a model for others"--The Civil War Courier; "adds significantly to our understanding of an enterprise that became the first sustained human rights movement in history...compelling...a fine job of detailing the little-known individuals, churches and lodges...an exemplary piece of research...tells a story that until now was lost"--Louisville Eccentric Observer; "honest and well-researched"--The Courier-Journal. About the Author Pamela R. Peters is a former legal secretary. She lives in New Albany, Indiana.