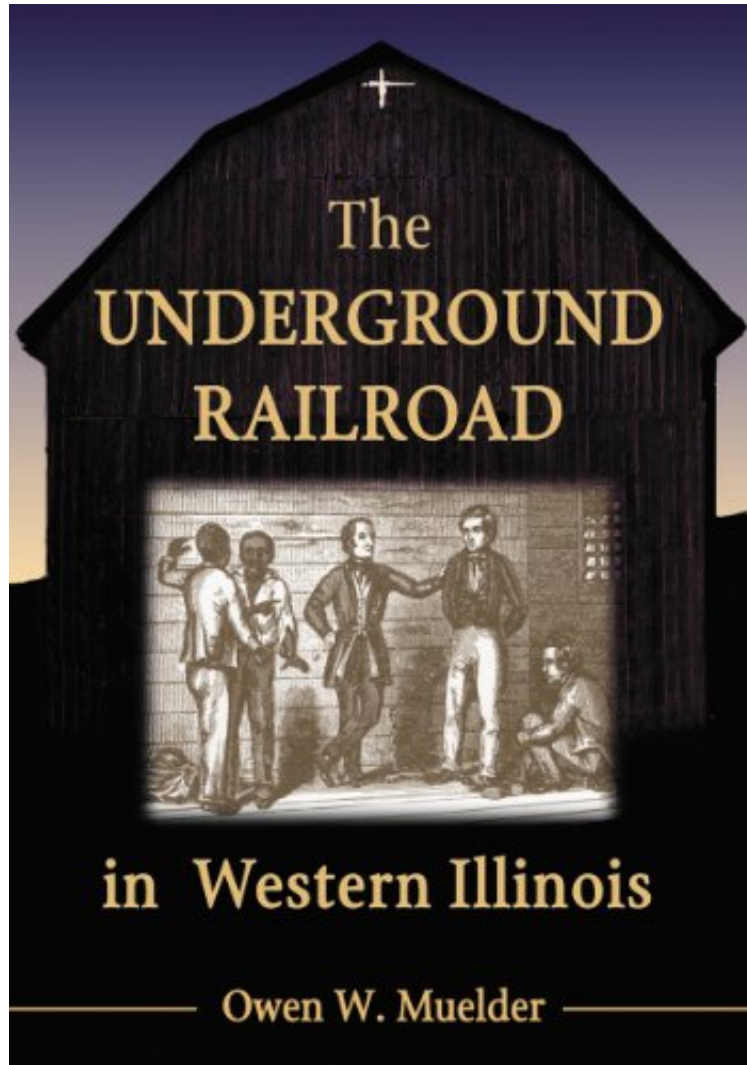


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The Underground Railroad in Western Illinois

Owen W. Muelder

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Fugitives fleeing from slavery in Kentucky, Missouri, and points farther south traversed the entire state of Illinois while moving northward. But they were most likely to receive help from Underground railroad operators if they passed through western Illinois, where a good number of Underground Railroad agents lived. This book briefly discusses the Underground Railroad throughout the United States and all of Illinois. It addresses at length the activities of Underground Railroad operators, both black and white, in western Illinois. The compelling efforts of these people have been surprisingly neglected; this book examines in detail their significant contributions to this heroic chapter in American history.

What a revelation! Owen W. Muelder's keen research casts a sharp light upon Underground Railroad activity and freedom fighters in Illinois. It is an essential text for understanding the Underground Railroad and the struggle for freedom in America's Midwest. --Naomi Nelson, Vice President of Programs, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center "A welcome addition...extensive and detailed information." --Journal of Illinois History "An informative work...highly recommend this excellent treatment." --Illinois Heritage "A wealth of material in a single volume...gives the reader opportunity to evaluate the sources and their authors' perspectives." --Missouri Historical "An excellent addition...the book's opening chapter is one of the best descriptions of the Underground Railroad in print." --Underground Railroad Free Press "An excellent addition...the book's opening chapter is one of the best descriptions of the Underground Railroad in print." --Underground Railroad Free Press "An excellent addition...the book's opening chapter is one of the best descriptions of the Underground Railroad in print." --Underground Railroad Free Press

About the Author Owen W. Muelder is director of the Galesburg Colony Underground Railroad Freedom Center at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. His work has appeared in Illinois Heritage.