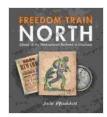
# **Unveiling the Hidden Narrative: Stories of the Underground Railroad in Wisconsin**

Nestled in the heart of the Midwest, Wisconsin played a pivotal role in the Underground Railroad, a clandestine network that guided enslaved people seeking freedom in the 19th century. This article delves into the captivating stories of individuals who risked their lives to aid those fleeing from the shackles of bondage.

#### The Secret Paths of Wisconsin

Wisconsin's location on the northern bFree Download of free states and its proximity to Canada made it a strategic point for the Underground Railroad. Routes extended from Milwaukee, through the Kettle Moraine, and northward to Green Bay and Sheboygan. These paths often followed natural features like rivers and forests, providing cover for those escaping to freedom.



# Freedom Train North: Stories of the Underground Railroad in Wisconsin by Julia Pferdehirt

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 13621 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 136 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



#### **Heroes of the Underground**

Numerous individuals emerged as valiant figures in Wisconsin's Underground Railroad network. Among them was Dr. Josiah Favill of Madison, who established a secret hospital within his home to care for escaped slaves. His wife, Eliza Favill, also played a pivotal role, using her position as a teacher to provide safe houses for individuals seeking refuge.

In Milwaukee, two heroic women, Cordelia Harvey and Hannah Holmes, became prominent conductors. Harvey, a Quaker abolitionist, provided shelter and guidance to hundreds of escaped slaves. Holmes, an African American woman, risked her own freedom to assist those seeking a better life.



#### The Escape of Bessie Wilson

One of the most compelling stories of the Underground Railroad in Wisconsin is that of Bessie Wilson. Born into slavery in Tennessee, Wilson escaped to freedom in 1859 at the age of 22. With the help of conductors in Kentucky and Wisconsin, she traveled a treacherous journey of nearly 700 miles.

Wilson's escape route took her through Milwaukee, where she was sheltered by Cordelia Harvey. She eventually settled in Sheboygan, where she became an active member of the local community and raised a family. Wilson's story exemplifies the resilience and determination of escaped slaves.



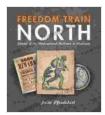
#### **Legacy and Impact**

The Underground Railroad in Wisconsin not only provided a pathway to freedom for enslaved individuals but also fostered a culture of resistance against slavery. The state served as a sanctuary for those seeking a better life and contributed to the growing abolitionist movement.

Today, Wisconsin's Underground Railroad history is preserved through historical markers, museums, and educational programs. The state remains committed to honoring the legacy of those who fought for freedom and equality.

The stories of the Underground Railroad in Wisconsin are a testament to the courage and resilience of those who sought freedom and those who risked everything to help them. From the hidden paths to the heroic individuals involved, this chapter of Wisconsin's history serves as a reminder of the indomitable spirit of those who fought against oppression.

As we continue to navigate the challenges of our own time, the lessons learned from the Underground Railroad can inspire us to work towards a more just and equitable society for all.



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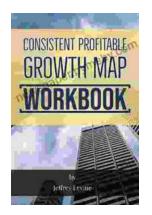
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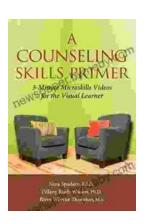
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