



# Safe Houses and the Underground Railroad in East Central Ohio

By Janice VanHorne-Lane

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## Safe Houses and the Underground Railroad in East Central Ohio By Janice VanHorne-Lane

For slaves fleeing captivity, the Underground Railroad was the most viable means of escape, and with over three thousand miles of clandestine routes and secret trails, Ohio had the country's most extensive network of safe houses. A great number of these passageways were concentrated throughout the state's east central region, particularly the inland channels of Coshocton, Holmes and Guernsey Counties and the now-famous canal route, a major conduit winding through Tuscarawas and Stark Counties. Similarly, runaways sought refuge in the hills and valleys of Harrison County, as well as in the Quaker stronghold of Columbiana County. Using the letters of Wilbur H. Seibert, along with contemporary photographs of area safe houses, Janice VanHorne-Lane provides an intimate account of east central Ohio's profound contributions to the Underground Railroad and its mission, freedom for all.

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### **Bibliography**

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **About the Author**

Janice VanHorne-Lane is a freelance writer and historian in Carroll County. She has previously written Carroll County: A Place to Call Home and Carrollton. Besides freelance writing, Janice volunteers with the Carroll County Genealogical Society and the Carroll County Historical Society. She is the mother of two girls and is happily married to Nathan S. Lane. When she's not writing, Janice is a Tastefully Simple consultant, a quilter and an avid scrapbooker. The Lanes have made Carrollton their home for nearly twenty years.

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