

For Immediate Release

March 28, 2001

### **Three Indiana sites and an interpreter are recognized for excellence**

An Indiana museum, a historical society, a historic site interpreter, and the Hoosier National Forest were recognized for excellence in interpretation in March by Historic Southern Indiana, a community outreach program of the University of Southern Indiana.

The Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum in Battle Ground, Indiana, received the Best Overall Services award. The museum is a National Historic Landmark that interprets the conflict between Native American Indians and white settlers. It has been featured on C-Span's "American Presidents: Life Portraits" series.

The Best Program/Event award recognized the Sassafras Tea Festival and the Civil War Living History program of Our Heritage, Inc., the Jennings County Historical Society. Jennings County was one of the stops of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan in his swing through Indiana during the Civil War. This event includes Civil War re-enactors, performing arts, and arts and crafts demonstrations.

Linda Limer, an interpreter at the Lanier Mansion State Historic Site in Madison, received the Interpreter of the Year Award for 2000. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of State Historic Sites also named her the Historic Sites Intermittent Employee of the Year for 2000. Limer, a resident of Madison, has been at the mansion since 1995.

The Hoosier National Forest won in The Best Information Media category for its Teaching With Historic Places curriculum featuring the James Rickenbaugh House, located in Perry County. Built in 1874, the Rickenbaugh House is built in the Late Greek Revival Style. Teaching with Historic Places is a program of the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Places that encourages teachers to expand the classroom into their community by involving local landmarks. Lesson plans focus on history, literature, science, math, and social studies.

Award-winning sites received cash prizes and certificates. Limer received a certificate and the opportunity to attend a professional development workshop in 2001.

The Excellence in Interpretation awards are presented annually as a way to strengthen and recognize interpretive services in the state.

Perry County News, Times-Mail in Bedford, North Vernon Plain Dealer, Madison Courier, Ben Fronczek at Madison Roundabout, Indianapolis Star, Indiana Journal of Commerce, Owensboro Messenger Inquirer, Web