

Relocate Ninian Edwards Statue

To: Edwardsville (IL) City Council

We call on the City of Edwardsville to remove the name and statue of Ninian Edwards from the Ninian Edwards Plaza.

Why is this important?

Ninian Edwards was a founding political leader and governor of Illinois in the 1800s. He was also a slave owner who actively encouraged the continuation of slavery in Illinois when the North West Ordinance of Illinois outlawed it. Edwards also participated and encouraged the removal and genocide of Native Americans in Illinois. In 2007, a statue of Edwards was erected and a plaza was named after him, right in downtown Edwardsville.

Our downtown public spaces should celebrate our community's values and identity. The statue and plaza perpetuate negative messages about who is and is not welcome in our city, about who we revere and who we value. Edwardsville should demonstrate its commitment to equality and its opposition to racism by taking a straightforward action - removing the statue and renaming the plaza.

We believe this is the right action because of our history. We must learn about Edwards - who he was and what we did - but we should be doing so in a way that is appropriate for learning history, rather than revering him in the heart of our city. The statue can be rehomed to an educational/historical setting.

Please join us as we work to achieve the following:

- 1) The removal of the statue of Ninian Edwards from the downtown Ninian Edwards Plaza.
- 2) The relocation of the statue to a museum or less public city space, to be displayed alongside plaques which describe the harmful historical actions of Ninian Edwards against Black Americans and Native Americans.
- 3) The renaming of the Ninian Edwards Plaza

Signed by 189 people:

Name	Zip code
Ezra Temko	62025
Asher Denkyirah	62034
annie gianaris	62025
Eryn Coppersmith	62025
Blake Bamper	62025
Candace Elrod	62034
Karen Alhelwani	61822
Kayla Smith	63110
Hannah Warren	62034

Name	Zip code
Gaby Renteria-Poepsel	62025
Amanda Wickman	62025
Sarah Kirkpatrick	62067
Aaron Johnson	62034
Noah Manibusan	62025
Elliott Gianaris	62025
Jayme McCormick	62025
Mark Poepsel	62025
BethAnne Havis	62025
Drew Temko	62025
Beth Browne	62025
Isabella Divine	62025
Donna Charleston	62034
Sarah Ulloa	62034
Jane Floyd-Hendey	62025
Maddie L	62034
Danielle Freeman	62025
Arthur Maurer	62025
Cheyenne Slack	62685
Erin Vigneau-Dimick	62025
Autumn Santoni	62025
Bridget Followell	62025
Emma Lazerson	62025
Laura Hollingsworth	62025
Aryn Bailey	62034
Shane Overton	62025
Samantha Meeker	63116
Dawn Determan	62025
James Krapf	62025
Linda Markowitz	62025

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Gary Matson	62025
Guy Russo	62025
Gillian Murphey	62034
Alexis Maestre-Saborit	33901
Savanah Signorello	62025
ellie elson	62025
Tom OHara	13209
Rachel Rodriguez	62025
Jace Cook	62034
Katelyn Bertels	62034
Emily Ash	62025
Nekisha Omotola	62034
Anna Schuh	62025
Zachary Standig	07751
Dzifa Kraka	62025
Megan Knobloch	62034
jim lemons	80011
Leslie Lederman	98075
Lea Amtag	79312
Lauren McAlmont	62025
Brianna Pierson	62025
Anna Wilson	62025
Lily Grieve	62025
Dirk Beetner	62025
annie brock	82072
Patrick Haggerty	03104
Tessa Rife	94109
Gemma Heilmer	62025
Carolyn Tidball	62025
Samantha Calderon	90623
Emma Lipe	62025

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Dr. Courtney Boddie, Associate Dean & Director	62026
Lenesha Moyegun	62025
Mikhaela Romoser	62025
Grant Claunch	62025
Caleb Romoser	62025
Karagan Romoser	62025
Brittany Mead	62025
Jami Curley	62294
Melissa Lovell	62025
Jessica Fagan	62258-1118
Chad Garrett	62025
Kelsi Huffman	62258
Ash Jenkins	62025
Jaron Davis	62025
Lauren Waight	62226
Hope Gunderson	62025
Amy Morby	62025
Matthew Huelsmann	62025
Brandan Phillips	90015
Pat Rausch	62025
Amy Morby	62025
Alexa Huelsmann	62025
Gwen Den Houter	62025
Emily Klingensmith	62025
Mary Wehking	62025
Lynn Beaumont	62025
Crystal Zieu	85132
Suzanne BeDell	62025
Chelsea Burdge	62025
Evan Johnson	62025

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Eileen Shellhouse	77339
Jeff Corbin	62034
Anita Runge	62025
Brad Blumenstock	62034
Julia Goren	62025
Corey Stevens	62234
Zach Rosenthal	62294
Kiera Deskin	62298
Alice Yerby	63011
Madeline May	62025
Gloria Lewis	37027
J.T. Snipes	63104
Kody Scott	62025
Rachel Parnell	37127
Ingrid Alpha	47933-7908
Shellie Berwick	92592-1123
Denise Lytle	07095
Sue McGuey	85215
Abigail Kinnard	62269
Mary Grose	62025
Trina High	60620
Jane Yang	17112
Esan Fullington	20010
Emily Love	62025
Theresa Morrison	62025
Kris Miller	01862
Larry Gallagher	62025
Alexander Zielonko	62025
Steve Tamari	62034
Nancy Ruff	62025

Name	Zip code
Pamella Gronemeyer	62034
jenn courtney	62025
Alma Carver	62025
Trish Oberweis	62025
Katrina Knebel	62025
Laurie Puchner	62025
Pamela Decoteau	62025
Rachael Underhill	62034
Allison Funk	62025
Jack Decoteau	62025
Carolyn Tidball	62025
Kathleen Mendez	62025
Jennifer Miller	62025
Eileen Sackett	62025
Brigham Dimick	62035
Stephen Hartman	62025-7703
JOHN STURLEY	62034
Maggie Puchner-Hardman	62025
Jeffrey Skoblow	62025
Joel Hardman	62025
Jeanne Heitman	63130
Julie Zimmermann	62025
Charles Silvey	62025-3024
lauren karrick	62626
Colleen McCracken	62025
Max Gricevich	62025
Natalie Casey	62025
Jane Hicks	62025
Justin Gibson	62040
Darla Hoffmann	62025

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Michael Woody	62025
Colin Kremitzki	62025
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Jahna Schadt	62025
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Danielle Macdonald	62025
Lauren Lai	46250
Toni Oplt	620251435
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Leslie Wagner	62025
Steven Moiles	62025
Elizabeth McKenney	62025
Jenny Hanson	62025
Alan Black	62034
Eva Sedjo	62234
Jean O'Brien	62025
Kimberly Coppersmith	62025
John Abbott	60304
Rowena McClinton	62025
Connie Gordon	62025
Isaiah Smithson	62025
Mary Ellen DeClue	62056
Darla Andree	62025
LaTrice Lott	62025