

Historical Marker - L1860 - Elizabeth Denison Forth (Marker ID#:L1860)



Front - Title/Description

Elizabeth Denison Forth

In 1825 Elizabeth Denison, "a woman of colour," purchased 48.5 acres of land from Pontiac's founder, Stephen Mack, agent of the Pontiac Company. She became Pontiac's first black property owner, but never lived on the property. In 1827 she and her husband, Scipio Forth, leased the land to her brother Scipio Denison. In 1836 and 1837 Mrs. Forth sold the land for \$930. Elizabeth Denison was born in the 1780s as a slave in present-day Macomb County. In 1807 she fled to Canada, returning to Detroit around 1812 as a free woman. At her death in 1866, she donated money used toward the construction of Saint James Episcopal Chapel on Grosse Ile. She is buried in Detroit's Elmwood Cemetery. Part of Oak Hill Cemetery now occupies Elizabeth Denison Forth's property.

Significant Date:

Revolution and War (1760-1815)

Registry Year: 1992 **Erected Date:** 1992

Marker Location

Address: 216 University Drive

City: Pontiac

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Oakland

Township: Pontiac

Lat: 42.64380300 / **Long:** -83.28201200

Web URL:

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