



Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

**CARROLL
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HAMPSTEAD
MANCHESTER
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UNION BRIDGE
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NEW WINDSOR

**FREDERICK
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**WASHINGTON
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WILLIAMSPORT

APPENDIX

Media Kit

1865 Commemorations

Contains press releases about the following events:

- Civil War Trails marker at Gathland State Park (April 7)
- Bells Across the Land (April 9)
- Illuminating Frederick: From Celebration to Grief (April 10)
- Bell and History Day (April 11)
- Handbell Festival at Seton Shrine (April 11)
- Reenactment at Carroll County Farm Museum (May 2-3)
- Washington County Museum Ramble (Weekends in May)
- 2015 Special Events at Monocacy National Battlefield



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WILLIAMSPORT

Date: March 11, 2015

Contact: Elizabeth Scott Shatto, Executive Director

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area | ishatto@fredco-md.net, 301-600-4042

Web: www.heartofthecivilwar.org

New Civil War Trails marker to be dedicated at Gathland State Park

Frederick, MD - The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA), a certified heritage area encompassing parts of Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties, announces the dedication of a new historic marker at Gathland State Park on Tuesday, April 7. The event begins at 1 p.m., starting at the Civil War Trail markers near the park pavilion. Gathland State Park is located at 900 Arnoldstown Road in Burkittsville, Maryland.

This marker will add a new, discontinuous stop on the popular Civil War Trails route, "**John Wilkes Booth: Escape of an Assassin.**" It tells the story of Civil War correspondent George Alfred Townsend, who reported on the April 1865 assassination of President Abraham Lincoln and published the bestselling book, *The Life, Crime, and Capture of John Wilkes Booth*. Townsend made his home at this South Mountain estate, which became a state park in 1949, in the late 19th and early 20th century.

The ceremony will kick off Gathland's 150th anniversary commemorations of the Lincoln assassination and the end of the Civil War. This spring, the park will launch enhanced exhibits, family-friendly Park Quest activities, and special programs for Bell & History Day (April 11 in Frederick County), and the Washington County Museum Ramble (weekends in May). The ceremony—which is free and open to the public—will include remarks by Park manager Mary Ironside and the tourism directors in Frederick and Washington Counties, John Fieseler and Dan Spedden, respectively. It will be followed by a reception in the park pavilion.

This marker is made possible through funding from the Tourism Council of Frederick County and the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau. This program is funded in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of Frederick County.

To learn more about this special event, see www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th or contact the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area at info@heartofthecivilwar.org or (301) 600-4031. Information about the 2015 Park Quest program will be released online around April 10. Photos are available upon request.

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Date: February 12, 2015

Contact: Elizabeth Scott Shatto, Executive Director

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area | ishatto@fredco-md.net, 301-600-4042

Web: www.heartofthecivilwar.org

Join the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area in “Bells Across the Land: A Nation Remembers Appomattox” on April 9

Frederick, MD - The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA), a certified heritage area encompassing parts of Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties, invites churches, schools, government units, fire halls, and historic sites across the Heritage Area to participate in “Bells Across the Land: A Nation Remembers Appomattox.”

This commemorative bell ringing, led by the National Park Service, will mark the 150th anniversary of Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia—which ultimately led to the end the American Civil War. Bells will toll across the nation at 3:15 PM on Thursday, April 9, for four minutes (each minute symbolic of a year of war).

Participants will ring bells to mark the end of the bloody conflict in which more than 750,000 Americans perished. Some communities may ring their bells in celebration of freedom or a restored Union, others as an expression of mourning and a moment of silence for the fallen. Sites may ring bells to mark the beginning of reconciliation and Reconstruction, or as the next step in the continuing struggle for civil rights. Curriculum materials are available for schools interested in participating.

The April 9 ceremony will kick off other end-of-war commemorations across the Heritage Area. In Frederick, bestselling author James Swanson will speak at City Hall followed by a memorial illumination on the evening of April 10. The annual Bell and History Day on April 11 will include 150th anniversary programming at museums across Frederick County. On May 2-3, the Carroll County Farm Museum’s annual living history reenactment will examine the theme of “Homecoming – Soldiers Return From War” and a special exhibit at the Historical Society of Carroll County will explore Civil War veterans and the Civil War in memory. Programming as part of the Washington County Museum Ramble, held every weekend throughout May, will also touch upon this sesquicentennial anniversary. See a calendar of events at heartofthecivilwar.org.

Registration is not required to participate in the bell ringing. To learn more about this historic commemoration, see www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th or contact the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area at info@heartofthecivilwar.org or (301) 600-4031. Use the hashtag #BellsAcrossTheLand15 for social media.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 11, 2015

Contact: Elizabeth Scott Shatto, Executive Director, Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area
info@heartofthecivilwar.org, 301-600-4042

Web: www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th

Illuminating Frederick 1865: from Celebration to Grief to **commemorate 150th anniversary of Civil War's end**

Frederick, MD - Frederick, MD — On Friday, April 10 at 7 p.m., the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA) will partner with the City of Frederick, the National Medicine of Civil War Medicine, and the Historical Society of Frederick County to commemorate the ending of the Civil War with a free program for all ages. The event, *Illuminating Frederick 1865: from Celebration to Grief*, will be held at City Hall (101 North Court Street). The evening has three components: a presentation by author James Swanson, an illumination in the square in front of City Hall, and a living history walking tour.

Presentation by James Swanson

Swanson, the best-selling author of *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer*, will discuss President Lincoln's assassination and the role of correspondent George Alfred Townsend. "The evening will be a fitting way to recognize partners that have joined together the last five years to commemorate the Civil War sesquicentennial in Frederick County," said Elizabeth Scott Shatto, Executive Director of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. "Mr. Swanson is an accomplished historian about the events that unfolded in April 1865, and we enthusiastically welcome him to Frederick to share his research and narratives." Seats for the presentation must be reserved online: bit.ly/jamesswanson.

Commemorative Illumination

Guests will be invited to participate in a ceremonial illumination to commemorate the end of the Civil War following Mr. Swanson's presentation. On April 13, 1865, Frederick homes and businesses placed candles in their windows to mark the war's end. Mayor and resident diarist Jacob Engelbrecht described the scene, "Our city last night was illuminated to its fullest extent. Every dwelling was illuminated with perhaps two or three exceptions. The military had a general turn out with two bands of music and paraded nearly the entire city. The streets were crowded with people – a large number from the country. On the whole it passed of peaceably and quiet. The liquor shops had been ordered to be closed all day by Provost Marshal Baugher."



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Kyle Wichtendahl, program coordinator and historian at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, said, "We hope to recreate the feeling of that night. In the 1860s, it was a rare and special occasion to have candles and bonfires illuminating the streets. During that time an illumination very much signaled a celebration." A music performance and brief presentation is also planned during the illumination. Wichtendahl said, "After Mr. Swanson's program, guests will be given candles to fill City Hall Park with glorious light. We will also have torches to illuminate the evening." He continued, "It is important to note that less than 48 hours later, on April 15 word spread through the country about President Lincoln's assassination, shifting the mood from celebration to mourning the loss of a beloved president. This event will ceremonially commemorate both." This portion of the event is free and open to the public.

Living History

After the brief ceremony guests will be invited to carry their candles on a brief, two-block walking tour of several of Frederick's most significant Civil War sites, including churches that were used as hospitals, locations visited by Abraham Lincoln, and the place where Maryland's General Assembly voted not to secede from the Union in 1861. Living historians in period dress will deliver brief vignettes at each site, explaining their importance to Frederick's Civil War history. This portion of the event is free and open to the public. For more information about the illumination and living history portions of the event, contact Kyle Wichtendahl at 301-695-1864 x 1013.

The social media hashtags are #BellAndHistory, #IlluminatingFrederick, and #cw150. Images are available upon request.

This program is funded in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of Frederick County. Arrangements for the appearance of James Swanson made through HarperCollins Speakers Bureau, NY, NY.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2015

Contact: Kari Saavedra, Frederick Historic Sites Consortium, 301-600-2743, ksaavedra@frederickcountymd.gov

Frederick County Welcomes Museum Season with Bell & History Day, April 11

Frederick, MD -- Saturday, April 11, 2015, is Bell & History Day, marking the official opening of Frederick County's museum season. Across the county, more than 20 participating museums and historic sites offer complimentary entry along with special programs. Enjoy period demonstrations, living history vignettes, hands-on crafts, refreshments, tours, music, and various bell-themed activities from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

During Bell & History Day, the Passport to History program encourages event-goers to collect passport stamps at each location visited. Participants receive a souvenir bell and a chance to win a grand prize. Passports are available at the Frederick Visitor Center, 151 S. East Street in Frederick.

Bell & History Day will kick off with the ringing of the Frederick County History Bell at the Frederick Visitor Center, 151 S. East Street. Everyone present is invited to ring the bell, starting at 10 a.m. Afterwards, stay to see the exhibits and the visitor orientation film.

At 7 p.m. the day concludes with the Bell & History Handbell Festival at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Hundreds of bells and chimes will perform with the theme "Gladness of Heart," recalling President Abraham Lincoln's last public address of which his opening statement was, "We meet this evening, not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart." The concert falls on the same day as Lincoln's last address, 150 years ago. There is no charge, no reservations are necessary, and the public is invited. The concert will last approximately one hour.

In lieu of the traditional, collective Bell & History Day bell ringing throughout Frederick, bells throughout Frederick County will ring on April 9 at 3:15 p.m. as part of *Bells Across the Land: A Nation Remembers Appomattox*. The National Park Service has invited partners across the country to ring bells for four minutes – one minute for each year of the war – to commemorate Confederate General Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. Bells will ring throughout the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area – at churches, fire halls, and public buildings.

Bell and History Day is hosted by the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium with support from Plamondon Hospitality Partners. Detailed program information, participating sites, and activities can be found on the [Bell & History page](#).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 21, 2015

Contact: Frederick Historic Sites Consortium

Bell & History Handbell Festival “Gladness of Heart” Saturday, April 11

FREDERICK, MD: Bells and chimes will open the 2015 museum season in Frederick County during the Bell & History Handbell Concert on Saturday, April 11 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The 7 p.m. concert will include bell ensembles playing solo selections and performances, including all of the amassed handbell choirs performing three selections together. There is no charge, no reservations are necessary, and the public is invited. The concert will last about an hour.

“This year the concert will have the theme, ‘Gladness of Heart,’ recalling President Abraham Lincoln’s last public address of which his opening statement was *‘We meet this evening, not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart’*,” said Bridgett Bassler, Discovery Coordinator at the Shrine. “We continue to honor the history surrounding the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War as it comes to a close and we are reminded once again time of peace, healing, and hope. And this year’s concert will fall on the same day of Lincoln’s last address 150 years ago.”

The mass selections are *Glorius Celebration*, by Cynthia Dobrinski; *Festive Praise: St. Anne*, arranged by D. Linda McKechnie; and *Fantasy on Terra Beata*, arranged by H. Dean Wagner. The conductor of the mass ring selections is Dr. Linda Franklin, who is a member of Westminster Ringers and began ringing handbells in the mid-1970's with the Graceham Moravian Handbell Choir, which she now directs. A graduate of Western Maryland (now McDaniel) College and Duke University, her career as a marine biologist led her around the world and back home to Maryland. A registered yoga instructor, she has taught ringing-related yoga classes for the Handbell Musicians of America (formerly AGEHR), Area 3 festivals. In her spare time, she is busy restoring her mid-19th century family home and gardening. “I am thrilled to be working with so many talented musicians in such a beautiful and sacred space,” she said of being selected to conduct the Bell and History Handbell Concert.

In addition to the mass selections, each participating group will play a solo selection. A diverse repertoire will be presented, including secular and sacred music. Choirs from Frederick County will participate such as St. Peter’s Church Handbell Choir, Grace Notes Handbell Choir from Mt. Airy Presbyterian, Grace Moravian Church Handbell Choir to name a few.

The handbell concert is made possible by presenting sponsor, Frederick County Bank, with additional support from the Tourism Council of Frederick County. Bell and History Day: Passport to History is an activity of the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium, a program of the Tourism Council.

Detailed information about Bell and History Day on April 11, and the Bell and History Day Handbell Concert is available at www.visitfrederick.org. For more information, call the Frederick Visitor Center at (301) 600-4047 or visit www.visitfrederick.org.

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2015 Civil War Living History Reenactment

The long road to the 150th anniversary of the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia is approaching. The history that has been portrayed over the past four years hasn't yet come to culmination -- the story is unfinished.

The Carroll County Farm Museum recognizes this unfinished chapter and will bring the closing events and emotions to life in a surrender scenario of the Confederacy, portraying the events surrounding that day in April at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.

The Carroll County Farm Museum will host this year's Civil War Living History Reenactment from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday May 2, 2015 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday May 3, 2015. A special candlelight tour of the camp will be offered Saturday evening.

Events of the weekend include:

- Drilling demonstrations of Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry units
- Period Artisan Demonstrations including blacksmithing, tinsmithing, open hearth and campfire cooking, spinning and weaving.
- Surrender scenario
- Visualization: Company 1861-1865
- Children's Activities including school lessons and games
- Period Dance
- Troop Engagements

Farmhouse tours will be available and all Museum buildings will be open. Our Farmhouse showcase will display period clothing and antique hat pins.

The Museum will also offer Tea and Croquet on the Lawn June 4 through 6, 2015. This three-course tea will feature a Civil War Fashion Show. Reservations are required as seating is limited. The \$20 admission includes a tour of the Farmhouse. Reservations close May 27, 2015.

To make a reservation or for additional information, please contact the Carroll County Farm Museum at 800-654-4654 or www.carrollcountyfarmmuseum.org. Re-enactors who would like information about the event may email ccfmcivilwarevent@verizon.net.



MEDIA RELEASE

Contact for Additional Information:
Joyce Stanley, President
Washington County Association of Museums and Historical Sites
(717) 597-1841 | stanley4@earthliink.net

Mark Your Calendars: Twelfth Annual Museum Ramble to Commence in May, 25 Museums Participating

(HAGERSTOWN, Md.) -- Washington County's Twelfth Annual Museum Ramble is scheduled for the month of May, 2015, with special events taking place at various museums on selected weekends through the month. The Museum Ramble, sponsored by the Washington County Association of Museums and Historical Sites (WCAMHS) and the Visit Hagerstown-Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB), includes 24 local museums and historic sites. Most of the participating museums are opening their doors free of charge and many have special offerings planned for the weekend. For some of the museums, this event marks their grand opening weekend for the season.

The Museum Ramble brochure, compiled by WCAMHS and the CVB, with the design expertise of Icon Graphics, includes a list of participating sites, the hours for each site, and a map that shows where each site is located for the self-guided tour. The printed guide is available at the Visitor Welcome Center in downtown Hagerstown and at the various museum sites. It is also available online at <http://museumramble.marylandmemories.org>. The web site includes all the participating museums' and historic sites' phone numbers, addresses, and exhibit and special event descriptions.

"No matter what your interests are -- fine arts, rural heritage, American history, black history, geology, or trains -- you're sure to enjoy a ramble through this year's selection of Washington County museums," said Museum Association President Joyce Stanley. "We welcome visitors and residents to take a trip through our county and see some of our wonderful museums. Look for surprises at all the museums along the way!" According to Stanley, more museums are participating this year than ever before.

"Our county has an extremely rich history to tell, and visitors and residents alike love the Museum Ramble," said Visit Hagerstown CVB President Dan Spedden. "We're happy to be celebrating the Ramble's 12th year!" The CVB assists the event with the design and printing of the Museum Ramble brochure, the banners around which are placed throughout the county, the event web site, and with some promotion for the annual event.


"This is an important annual event for Washington County," said Spedden. "The first full week of May is annually recognized as National Travel and Tourism Week, a tradition first celebrated in 1984. Washington County and Maryland also are celebrating, recognizing that museums are important attractions for visitors, and wonderful amenities for residents. The Annual Museum Ramble kicks off Washington County Tourism Week!"

Of Maryland's 300-plus museums, more than ten percent are located in Washington County. The Museum Ramble makes the most of this by welcoming residents and visitors to the county's museums, many of which are private and typically open by appointment only. New this year to the Museum Ramble is the Hagerstown Fire Museum, located in the City Centre of Hagerstown.

The Visit Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization whose mission is to help attract visitors to Hagerstown and Washington County. The CVB helps to create vibrant growth for the local economy by promoting, developing, and expanding the local visitor industry. Washington County is part of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (www.heartofthecivilwar.org), and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area (<http://hallowedground.org>).

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2015 Special Events

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 ([http://www.nps.gov/javascript:void\(0\)](http://www.nps.gov/javascript:void(0)))

Date: February 14, 2015

Contact: Tracy Evans (<http://www.nps.gov/common/utilities/sendmail/sendemail.cfm?o=37Y%3F%3AN%283LJJ5Mo%22%2F%5DP%3EXXT%2624%20%20%20%0A&r=/mono/learn/news/2015-special-events.htm>), 301-662-3515

March 28: 17th Annual Park Day Cleanup

Help preserve your battlefield and the environment! Participate in this annual cleanup sponsored by the Civil War Trust and Monocacy National Battlefield. YOU can make a difference by volunteering.

April 11: Bell & History Day

Monocacy National Battlefield will join with other members of the Frederick County Historic Sites Consortium to open the spring tourism season with programs emphasizing Frederick, Maryland's unique contributions to local and national history. Through a special temporary exhibit and program at Monocacy NB, we will follow the route of the train that carried President Lincoln on his final journey home 150 years ago.

April 18 - 26: National Park Week

Throughout the week you can participate in a "Find Your Park" activity as the National Park Service kicks off our centennial celebration. On Saturday, April 25, children of all ages can play the same games children played 150 years ago. The day will conclude with a night sky program.

April 18: The Final Shots of the War

Special programs will focus on two pivotal events of 1865. The first will look at how the people of Maryland reacted to, and were affected by, President Lincoln's assassination. The second will examine how the Confederate surrender at Appomattox Court House was not the end of the Civil War. Both programs will be presented the Thomas House. Registration begins March 18 –call 301-662-3515.

May 23 - 25: Last Full Measure of Devotion

Monocacy National Battlefield will host a memorial flag display in honor of the casualties at the Battle of Monocacy. Special programs will focus on the history of Memorial Day. On Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, visitors are encouraged to participate in a National Moment of Remembrance.

June 13: Trial of the Lincoln Conspirators

Join our volunteer (and retired lawyer) as he discusses General Lew Wallace's role in the Military Commission that tried the Lincoln conspirators. As the only lawyer on the Commission, Wallace was tasked with deciphering the legal facts of the trial through a military lens to determine their fates. This program will be presented at the Thomas House. Registration begins May 13 –call 301-662-3515.

July 11 - 12: 151st Battle of Monocacy Commemoration

Monocacy National Battlefield will commemorate the event with living history encampments and demonstrations including artillery, infantry and cavalry. Special activities include hikes, programs, and a musical concert held at various locations throughout the battlefield.

August 8 - 9: If These Walls Could Talk

Historic houses, period music, and an exhibit of artifacts found through archeological digs will round out a weekend full of learning more about the historic architecture found at Monocacy National Battlefield and the people who lived here.

August 25: Happy 99th Birthday National Park Service

The National Park Service was established by Congress on August 25, 1916 to care for one of America's best ideas, the National Park system. There are over 400 National Park areas in all fifty states, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Five of these National Parks are located in Frederick County, Maryland. As we approach the Park Service's

centennial, come learn more about these special places and people who have dedicated their lives to caring for the parks. Join us for birthday cake.

September 12 - 13: The 27th Indiana and Lee's Lost Orders

On September 13, 1862, soldiers of the 27th Indiana found an envelope containing a copy of Special Orders 191. This find was a game changer in the 1862 Maryland Campaign and led to many myths surrounding the Orders post-war. Living history volunteers will bring this event to life through programs and firing demonstrations. There will also be a special exhibit and program on the Special Orders 191. Registration for the program at the Thomas House begins August 12 –call 301-662-3515.

September 26: National Public Lands Day

Make a difference in your national park by helping with a service project on National Public Lands Day. This is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands for America's enjoyment. Join us and make a difference by volunteering.

October 3: Lew Wallace, Benito Juarez, and the Republican Cause in Mexico

Immediately after the Civil War, the US and Mexico's legitimate president, Benito Juarez, joined together to eject French puppet emperor Maximilian and his foreign army from Mexican soil. Lew Wallace biographer Gail Stephens will discuss this little-known episode in US-Mexican relations and Wallace's role in it at the Frederick Visitor Center at 1:00 p.m. Registration begins September 3 –call 301-662-3515.

October 24: Battlefield Hikes (9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 2:00 p.m.)

National Park Service rangers will conduct three hikes in different areas of the battlefield to highlight tactics and troop movements that shaped the July 9, 1864 battle. Each hike covers a distance of less than two miles and will last approximately two hours. Meet at the visitor center.

November 7: The Trial of Henry Wirz, Commandant of Andersonville Prison

Confederate Captain Henry Wirz commanded one of the most infamous prisons in American history. Some historians believe his 1865 trial, presided over by Lew Wallace, marked the true end of the Civil War. Lew Wallace biographer Gail Stephens will discuss this controversial trial at 1:00 p.m. at the Frederick Visitor Center. Registration begins October 7 –call 301-662-3515.

All programs are free to the public. For more information, please visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/mono, see us on Facebook, or call the visitor center at 301-662-3515. The visitor center is located at 5201 Urbana Pike, Frederick, MD 21704. Operating hours are daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 pm.

(<http://www.doi.gov/>)

Last Updated: 03/11/2015