



PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE
AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

President Lincoln's Cottage Opens Exhibit on Wartime Washington

"Seat of War" is on view at the Cottage through January 15, 2012

Washington, D.C. – President Lincoln's Cottage opened *Seat of War: A Panoramic View of Civil War Washington Through Historic Prints* early this month in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center. This exhibit illuminates President Lincoln's Civil War Washington through historic prints from our collection. It will run through the new year and close on January 15, 2012.

The Civil War had arguably the greatest impact on Washington, DC of any single event in American history. Almost overnight, the seat of our nation's government was transformed from a sleepy, southern town to the hub of the northern war effort, and was often referred to as the "Seat of War." From views of the half finished Capitol dome to Lincoln's intimate Soldiers' Home retreat, this exhibit features our beautiful collection of prints, some of which are rarely displayed.

President Lincoln lived in the Cottage at the Soldiers' Home from June–November of 1862, '63 and '64—totaling one quarter of his presidency. He was living here when he drafted the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation and deliberated critical issues of the Civil War. Lincoln commuted three miles daily by horseback or coach to and from the White House, last visiting the Cottage the day before his assassination.

Opened to the public for the first time in 2008, the Cottage offers intimate, guided tours providing an in-depth, media-enhanced experience highlighting Lincoln's ideas and actions through historical images and voices. The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center, adjacent to the Cottage, houses thematic galleries and changing exhibitions providing visitors of all ages opportunities for in-depth exploration of Lincoln's life and times. Hours of operation: Tours on the hour 10:00am-3:00pm Mon-Sat; 11:00pm-3:00pm Sun. Visitor Center open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday, 10:30am-4:30pm Sunday. The site will be closed on December 25 and January 1. For more information on President Lincoln's Cottage, go to: www.lincolncottage.org

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. With headquarters in Washington, DC, 9 regional and field offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in all 50 states, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories. For more information, visit www.PreservationNation.org.

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