EVENTS
at President Lincoln’s Cottage
THE CRADLE OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

Located on a picturesque hilltop on the grounds of the historic Soldiers’ Home in Northwest Washington, D.C., President Lincoln’s Cottage offers a unique, historic, and award-winning setting for special events. This beloved home was used by the Lincoln family and served as an important entertaining venue during the Civil War. While in residence, Lincoln visited with wounded soldiers, spent time with self-emancipated men, women, and children, and developed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Today, the Cottage, its surrounding grounds, and an array of adjacent historic buildings are available to the public for the first time. Proceeds from your event help preserve this National Monument and National Historic Landmark.

Our offerings include ample free parking, handicap accessibility, museum staff/event coordination, and discounts for nonprofit and government groups. Rental blocks include two hours of setup and one hour of breakdown time.
PRESIDENT LINCOLN’S COTTAGE

Built in 1842 by wealthy banker George Washington Riggs, this 34-room Gothic Revival-style mansion became a sanctuary for sitting U.S. Presidents in the 19th century. At the Cottage, Lincoln made some of the momentous decisions that defined his presidency and developed the Emancipation Proclamation during his first year in residence. Perfect for seated dinners, cocktail receptions, programs, and important meetings, this inspiring home features handsome woodwork, marble fireplaces, a charming verandah, and an inviting lawn shaded by an age-old magnolia.

EMANCIPATION EXPERIENCE

President Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation while living at the Cottage. Connect your event with this defining moment in history by picking the Emancipation Experience. Your guests will discover Lincoln’s private life, Presidency, and path to Emancipation through an innovative and engaging tour of President Lincoln’s Cottage with our history guides. After enjoying a cocktail reception on the second floor, guests will enjoy a private tour of the first floor. Dinner is served on the second floor in the largest room, where people have historically noted Lincoln toiled over the Emancipation Proclamation.

Capacity: 60 guests
8-hour Rental: $6,500
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $5,950
**THE VERANDAH**

Perfect for outdoor gatherings, the verandah provides a memorable setting for intimate events. The majestic lawn, mature trees, and verdant garden lends an air of enchantment, while the Cottage makes for a striking backdrop. The lawn can accommodate receptions, ceremonies, picnics, and a favorite pastime that has been enjoyed here for generations — lawn games!

Capacity: 50 Guests
6-hour Rental: $1,500
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $1,350

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**EXCLUSIVE RENTAL**

This option will provide your group with EXCLUSIVE use of the historic site. The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center, President Lincoln’s Cottage, and the lush surrounding landscape available for tenting will be CLOSED to the public for the duration of your event. History guides will be available to share little-known stories about Lincoln, his family, and the important time they spent here. Tents may be reserved separately by our exclusive tenting provider.

8-hour Rental: up to 300 Guests:
$15,000
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $13,500

10-hour Rental: up to 750 Guests:
$25,000
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $22,250
TENTING

For larger outdoor events, a tent may be erected on the lawn of the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center or an approved area adjacent to President Lincoln's Cottage. The pastoral grounds make for a charming backdrop while restrooms are conveniently located in nearby Beaux Arts-style Visitor Education Center. Tents may be reserved separately by our exclusive tenting provider.

Capacity: 300 Guests
6-hour rental: $3,000 for up to 200 Guests / $4,000 for up to 300 Guests

COTTAGE FIRST & SECOND FLOORS

It may be called a “Cottage”, but this spacious Gothic Revival home is a true Presidential retreat and features high ceilings, beautiful wood paneling, and period-style lighting. We suggest starting the evening with a cocktail reception on the first floor. Guests will be welcomed and invited to take a seat in the Drawing Room, enjoy drinks, and converse with our history guides. At the conclusion of the reception, guests may enjoy a seated dinner on the second floor.

Capacity: 250 Standing Reception/120 Cocktail Reception & Seated Dinner
6-hour Rental: $9,950
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $8,950

THE FIRST FLOOR

Perfect for receptions and dinners, the first floor features a collection of inviting drawing rooms and parlors and their adjoining outdoor spaces. The mature magnolia, lush garden, and historic views provide a backdrop that even Mary Lincoln would approve of! Guests may enjoy drinks on the verandah, roam the period-furnished rooms, converse with one of our history guides, and enjoy dinner in the same spaces used by the Lincolns.

Capacity: 120 Guests / 55 Seated Indoors
8-hour Rental: $5,500
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $4,950
**THE GOVERNOR’S MANSION**

Affectionately called “The Governor’s Mansion,” Quarters 1 was built as the residence for the military governors of the Soldiers’ Home. However, when President Buchanan first arrived at the Soldiers’ Home in 1857, he chose this impressive home as his summer residence and commented that he “slept much better than at the White House,” thus beginning the 19th century presidential tradition of relocating to the Soldiers’ Home. Now available to the public for the first time, this stately home features intricate moldings, carved marble mantelpieces, airy parlors, and a massive wrap-around porch. Guests will enjoy conversing in the period-appointed rooms, taking in panoramic views, and reading the engraved names of dozens of famous generals who once called this place home. Guided tours of President Lincoln's Cottage can be added for an additional fee.

Capacity: 100 Standing/60 Seated  
6-hour Rental: $2,850  
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $2,500

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**ROBERT H. SMITH VISITOR EDUCATION CENTER**

Built in 1905 as the administration building for the Soldiers’ Home, this magnificent Beaux Arts-style structure features an impressive atrium, beautiful turn-of-the-century tile floors, and hand-carved oak woodwork. Ideal for standing receptions, this space includes access to the adjoining exhibit galleries, interactive community space, and museum store. Guided tours of President Lincoln’s Cottage can be added for an additional fee.

Capacity: 100 Guests  
6-hour Rental: $3,250  
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $2,950
STANLEY HALL

For the very first time, this striking marble structure is available to the public for musical and theatrical performances, panel discussions, lectures, ceremonies, and memorial services. Originally built as the concert and recreation hall for the Soldiers’ Home, the building was lovingly restored and converted into a church in the 20th century. The building features a mammoth vaulted wooden ceiling, illuminated stained glass windows depicting military scenes, pew-style seating, and a towering 1860s pipe organ bearing dozens of 19th century signatures carved into its woodwork.

Capacity: 250 Theater Style
5-hour rental: $3,000

ROSE CHAPEL

Built in 1870, Rose Chapel is constructed of beautifully crafted Seneca sandstone and features a large vaulted ceiling and intricate stained glass. For the first time, the church is now available for ceremonies, musical performances, lectures, and memorial services.

Capacity: 110 Theater Style
5-hour rental: $1,500

THE BANDSTAND

This charming structure was built at the turn of the 20th century as a performance space for the Soldiers’ Home band and their weekly concerts. Today, the cast iron bandstand offers a shaded outdoor area with views of our historic campus, perfect for small luncheons and social events. Most of our guests enjoy pairing this with a private tour of the Cottage.

Capacity: 25 Guests
4-hour Rental: $400
DAYTIME MEETINGS & RETREATS

GROUP PROGRAM ROOM
Located on the garden level of our Visitor Education Center, the Group Program Room is an ideal space for comfortable meetings, classroom style workshops, working lunches, and leadership retreats. The room features private restrooms, Wi-Fi, and a Promethean board, perfect for various types of presentations. The space opens to the north lawn, which has an intimate outdoor amphitheater, mature trees, and several picnic tables. A guided tour of President Lincoln's Cottage may be added for an additional fee. A perfect way to get your attendees inspired!

Capacity: 36 Guests

4-hour rental: $550
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $500
8-hour rental: $950

THE GOVERNOR’S MANSION
Located adjacent to President Lincoln’s Cottage, the historic Governor’s Mansion provides a collection of gracious and elegant spaces for private meetings and retreats. Whether you’re hosting a teambuilding retreat or a formal luncheon, the grand drawing room allows for a variety of setups based on your needs. Several parlors offer intimate breakout spaces, appointed with beautiful antique furniture. The large wrap around porch complete with rocking chairs is a guest favorite! Wi-Fi access and presentation capabilities are included.

Capacity: 50 Guests

4-hour rental: $850
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $750
8-hour rental: $1,500
Nonprofit/Government Rate: $1,200
STANLEY CONFERENCE ROOM

Located on the garden level of Stanley Hall, this space offers a comfortable and casual setting for lunches and meetings with minimal A/V needs. Conveniently located adjacent to visitor parking, the space is our most popular for group tours who would like to have lunch onsite.

Capacity: 55

2-hour rental: $250
4-hour rental: $400
8-hour rental: $600

TOUR OPTIONS

SIGNATURE TOUR
$12.50 per person
(for groups of 10 or more)

The Signature Cottage Tour is an innovative guided tour of President Lincoln’s Cottage in which a professional guide uses “historical voices” and images through multimedia technology to bring the stories of Abraham Lincoln and his family to life.

PREMIUM TOUR
$30 per person
(for groups of 10 or more)

Designed for visitors seeking a private and personalized experience at President Lincoln’s Cottage, the group is welcomed by the Director, followed by a signature tour with one of our museum educators. At the conclusion of the tour, guests enjoy an exclusive behind-the-scenes experience.
For additional information about spaces, availability, rates and amenities, please contact our events department at:

Events@lincolncottage.org
or 202-688-3732