

*A Lincoln*

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE  
AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME



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## **President Lincoln's Cottage Anti-Slavery Exhibit Wins Design Award**

*Second award for exhibit on human trafficking at the Cradle of the Emancipation Proclamation.*

**Washington, D.C.** – “Can You Walk Away? Modern Slavery: Human Trafficking in the United States”, the current special exhibit at President Lincoln’s Cottage, received the award of merit from the Society for Environmental Graphic Design. Howard + Revis Design provided exceptional design services for the exhibit, which examines slavery in the United States 150 years after Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation. The exhibit has also received a leadership award from the American Association for State and Local History. Admission to “Can You Walk Away?” is free and the exhibit has been extended through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Learn more about the exhibit and how to visit at <http://lincolncottage.org/canyouwalkaway.html>.

The modest but gripping exhibit, located in a gallery of the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center at President Lincoln’s Cottage, is a vivid depiction of modern slavery in the United States. One juror from the Society for Environmental Graphic Design observed that the exhibit was, “[A] stark and somber presentation fitting the subject matter. The hands-on, tactile aspect of this exhibit creates a visceral connection.” Visitors are empowered to learn more and take action against slavery today by taking call-to-action postcards off the gallery wall.

“Can You Walk Away?” bridges the gap between historical and modern slavery, and challenges visitors to recognize what slavery looks like in their communities in 2013,” says Erin Carlson Mast, Executive Director of President Lincoln’s Cottage. “We greatly appreciated Howard+Revis’s bold and respectful approach to design on this exhibit. And of course we couldn’t have created this exhibit without Polaris Project, our content advisors. We wanted to know the state of slavery in the U.S. on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, and what we learned from our friends at Polaris Project was deeply troubling. An estimated 27 million people are currently enslaved worldwide. Exhibits like this one raise awareness of human trafficking among the general public, and inspire people to continue the fight for freedom.”

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Pictured: A visitor reading in the “Can You Walk Away?” exhibit. Credit: Santosh Dhamat, Howard+Revis Design.

President Lincoln’s Cottage, “the Cradle of the Emancipation Proclamation,” is located on the grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. While living here for more than a quarter of his presidency, Abraham Lincoln bonded with soldiers and veterans, made crucial decisions about the Civil War, and, most notably, developed the Emancipation Proclamation his first summer in residence. His daily commute put him in regular contact with wounded soldiers and self-emancipated men, women, and children. Today, the site offers an intimate, never-before-seen view of Abraham Lincoln’s presidency and private life, and new perspectives on the influential ideas Lincoln developed while living here. Hours of operation: The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center is open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday and 10:30am-4:30pm Sunday. Cottage tours on the hour, 7 days a week. For more information on President Lincoln’s Cottage, visit: [www.lincolncottage.org](http://www.lincolncottage.org) or call 202-829-0436.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America’s historic places. President Lincoln’s Cottage is a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For more information, visit: [www.preservationnation.org](http://www.preservationnation.org).

For more on Howard+Revis Design, which provided design services for this exhibit, please visit: <http://www.howardrevis.com/>.

To report a tip in the United States or connect with U.S. anti-trafficking services, community members can call The National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at: 1-888-373-7888.

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