



For Immediate Release: Tuesday, September 10, 2019

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Lincoln's Slippers at President Lincoln's Cottage

16th President's original slippers on view at President Lincoln's Cottage through January 2020; recreations by Stubbs and Wootton available for purchase.

Washington, DC – While Abraham Lincoln's public image was defined by his signature stovepipe hat, his private, more casual nature is highlighted in a display of his slippers at President Lincoln's Cottage in Washington, DC. Meetings at the Cottage were often impromptu and informal, and Lincoln was known to greet guests while wearing carpet slippers. An original pair of Lincoln's own slippers is on public display at President Lincoln's Cottage through January 2020; the slippers are on loan from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, OH.

"One Lincoln story that we share on public tours is an authentic recollection from a visiting Englishman in 1864, who described the exhausted president as having ruffled hair, sleepy eyes, and 'feet enveloped in carpet slippers,'" notes Erin Carlson Mast, CEO and Executive Director of President Lincoln's Cottage. "In this surprise visit, President Lincoln charmed his visitor and articulated his vision for what the country could and should be. The Cottage served as the setting for some of Lincoln's most important decision making – most notably the development of the Emancipation Proclamation – but it also became a home and a place of respite for Lincoln and his family. Today, the Cottage allows visitors to walk in Lincoln's slipper-covered footsteps to better understand Abraham Lincoln, the private man and the president."

The slippers return to President Lincoln's Cottage, after being displayed in 2014, to speak to the importance and complexity of the Lincoln story and to relate directly to Lincoln's time here at the Soldiers' Home.

In addition to the original Lincoln slippers, President Lincoln's Cottage has partnered with Stubbs and Wootton, purveyors of luxury slippers, to recreate the iconic slippers for purchase.

In a February 13, 2019 story from GQ Style titled "Damn, I Love Abraham Lincoln's Carpet Slippers," GQ requested that "Someone needs to recreate these needlepoint goat-embroidered shoes ASAP." President Lincoln's Cottage reached out to Stubbs and Wootton to answer the call.

"We at Stubbs & Wootton, are honored to partner with Lincoln's Cottage to recreate President Lincoln's famed slippers," says Frank Steinhart, VP of Stubbs & Wootton. "The original needlepoint slippers worn by the former President are immediately recognizable for their delicate needlework and notable animal motif. In an attempt to modernize these timeless slippers, we have focused on what made them great and created an embroidery that celebrates the originals."

"The Lincoln" – created by Stubbs and Wootton and available exclusively for purchase at President Lincoln's Cottage – features an embroidered animal, inspired by Lincoln's original slippers, on linen in natural or flax colors or on black velvet and include both women's and men's sizes. Pricing starts at \$500 for these exclusive custom-made slippers with proceeds benefiting President Lincoln's Cottage, a private, independent 501(c)3 nonprofit, which does not receive government operating support.

Orders can be placed through President Lincoln's Cottage online store or via phone at 202-829-0436 extension 0.



The original Lincoln Slippers on display



The recreated Stubbs and Wootton Slippers for Purchase

LINKS:

Lincoln Slipper Exhibit:

<https://www.lincolncottage.org/exhibit-lincolns-slippers/>

Recreated Lincoln Slippers for Purchase:

<https://www.lincolncottage.org/store/>

GQ Article on Lincoln Slippers:

<https://www.gq.com/story/abraham-lincoln-incredible-slippers>

Stubbs and Wootton:

<https://stubbsandwootton.com>

About President Lincoln's Cottage:

About President Lincoln's Cottage: For over a quarter of Abraham Lincoln's presidency, he lived at the Cottage on an uplifting hilltop in Northwest Washington, D.C. While in residence, President Lincoln made some of his most crucial decisions of the Civil War, visited with wounded soldiers, spent time with self-emancipated men, women and children, and developed the Emancipation Proclamation. His experience of being surrounded by the human cost of war here undoubtedly impacted his thinking and strengthened his resolve to challenge the status quo. Through innovative guided tours, exhibits and programs, we use Lincoln's example to inspire visitors to take their own path to greatness, and preserve this place as an authentic, tangible connection to the past and a beacon of hope for all who take up Lincoln's unfinished work.

President Lincoln's Cottage is a private independent 501(c)3 located on the grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home. The Cottage is recognized as a National Historic Landmark, National Monument, and site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Hours of operation: The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center is open daily, 9:30am-4:30pm. Cottage tours are on the hour, seven days a week. For more information, visit: www.lincolncottage.org or call 202-829-0436.

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