



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park,
National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom

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Join the National Park Service for “Find Your Freedom”

An Event to Explore Slavery and the Underground Railroad on the Delmarva

CAMBRIDGE – The National Park Service (NPS) announces a three day event to commemorate Harriet Tubman Day. “Find Your Freedom: Exploring Slavery and the Underground Railroad on the Delmarva” also celebrates the Centennial of the NPS by highlighting under told stories of enslavement and resistance. Passport™ Cancellation Stamps for sites and programs recognized in the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom (NTF) will be debuted at sites around the region.

Three important entities are now established in Dorchester County to honor the heritage of enslavement and resistance: the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park, and the NTF. All will be co-located at the new Maryland State Park visitor center, opening spring 2017. On March 10, 2016, the new partnership will host a symposium, “Re-examining the Meaning of Freedom: Harriet Tubman’s Fervent Quest to Return” from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. NPS Superintendent Robert Parker noted that the panelists will “discuss the meaning of freedom for enslaved people who self-liberated as a backdrop for the modern Civil Rights movement.”

Across the Mason-Dixon Line in Dover, the Delaware Old State House will host a public event in honor of Harriet Tubman Day on March 10 at 6:00 pm. Mr. Ron Rucker will discuss the developments of the Delaware Harriet Tubman Byway. Nena Todd, Historic Sites Supervisor, said “as the focal point in the state’s civic life for over two centuries, the Old State House is a fitting location to honor the sacrifices of Harriet Tubman and other Underground Railroad figures such as Samuel D. Burris, who risked his freedom and his family’s welfare to ensure enslaved people reached freedom.”

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“Find Your Freedom” will carry the Harriet Tubman Day celebration into the community. This special weekend will highlight places associated with Harriet Tubman and other Underground Railroad figures in Dorchester and Caroline Counties, Maryland, as well as Delaware. Both states have designated Harriet Tubman byways and a number of sites, programs, and facilities in the region have been authenticated by the NTF. NTF Program Manager Diane Miller said “The Network to Freedom is delighted to connect these stories, help to preserve the locations where they happened, and assist in providing the public opportunities to explore them.” Many of these locations will be open with special hours or tours. See the attached list for details.

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