

Gettysburg National Military Park and the Gettysburg Foundation present this walking tour of President Lincoln's Historic Gettysburg.

The Gettysburg Foundation is the non-profit partner to the National Park Service at Gettysburg dedicated to preservation, education and the legacy and heritage of the national parks at Gettysburg.

JOIN US IN PRESERVING GETTYSBURG'S LEGACY

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he three-day battle at Gettysburg from July 1 to 3, 1863 had caused 51,000 casualties. By August, it was decided the Union dead would be buried in a national cemetery funded by the states whose men were to be buried there. The burials began in October 1863 and continued until March 1864. David Wills, a prominent Gettysburg attorney, was put in charge of organizing the dedication ceremony for the cemetery. On November 2, he formally invited President Abraham Lincoln to speak at the dedication, asking him "to make a few appropriate remarks." He also invited the President to stay at his home on York Street in Gettysburg.

In spite of discouragement from many members of his cabinet and his wife, President Lincoln was determined to go to Gettysburg for the dedication of the cemetery and had known about the cemetery and the dedication since August when he was informally invited by Pennsylvania Governor Andrew G. Curtin. On November 17, 1863 President Lincoln met with William Saunders (1822-1900), who designed the cemetery, in Washington, DC. Saunders remarked that the President had a good grasp of the battle and the terrain at Gettysburg. He also commented on the interest Lincoln had in the cemetery and his approval of the concept for burying the dead without regard to rank. When urged to wait until

November 19 to travel to Gettysburg, Lincoln refused. He was afraid something would happen to prevent him from getting to Gettysburg on time, so he began his journey November 18 to ensure he would be present for the dedication.

The Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg self-guided walking tour will lead you through the streets where these historic events took place 150 years ago. This walking tour will take approximately one hour to complete and is one mile long. As Gettysburg is still an active community today, please use caution when crossing streets and alley ways.

FOUR SCORE and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.

The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Alraham Lincoln

TRANSPORTATION TIPS

30 SECOND WALK

Parking is limited and metered in downtown Gettysburg.

Visitors may park at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center and take a free shuttle to any of the stops on this walking tour.

BEGIN YOUR WALKING TOUR

START at the platform to the rear of the

historic Gettysburg Railroad Station.

35 CARLISLE STREET

DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG

Metered street parking is available,

Parking Garage (fee) next to the

as well as the Racehorse Alley

Gettysburg Railroad Station.

The Lincoln Line shuttle to downtown departs from the Museum & Visitor Center's parking lot No. 2.



THE GETTYSBURG RAILROAD STATION

35 CARLISLE ST. DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG

The Gettysburg Railroad Station is open to the public and contains exhibits and visitor information provided by the Gettysburg Convention and Visitors Bureau. Tickets are not required.

Hours

JUNE-NOVEMBER Sunday-Thursday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

DECEMBER-FEBRUARY Monday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



THE DAVID WILLS HOUSE

8 LINCOLN SQUARE DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG

The David Wills House is a National Park Service museum in downtown Gettysburg that tells the story of David Wills, Abraham Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address. Tickets may be purchased at the door or online at www.gettysburgfoundation.org.

Hours

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER Saturday & Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



THE TOWN SQUARE "THE DIAMOND"

DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG

The Town Square in downtown Gettysburg, known as "The Diamond" at the time of Abraham Lincoln's visit, continues to be an active and thriving part of Gettysburg.

During your visit downtown, please use caution when crossing streets.



THE GETTYSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

208 BALTIMORE ST. DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG

The Gettysburg Presbyterian Church houses an active congregation and holds regular services. The original pew that Lincoln sat in is marked with a plaque as is the pew that President Dwight D. Eisenhower sat in while attending services.

Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday Mornings

For more information visit www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org or call (717) 334-1235.



SOLDIERS' NATIONAL CEMETERY

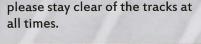
791 BALTIMORE ST. GETTYSBURG

Soldiers' National Cemetery is part of Gettysburg National Military Park. Parking for the cemetery is located between Taneytown Road and Steinwehr Avenue (Business Route 15).

While visiting the National Cemetery, we ask that you respect this hallowed ground. Please, do not climb or sit on the graves, monuments, markers, or cannons. Please do not run or shout in the cemetery. Pets are not allowed in the cemetery but service animals are welcome.

Hours

Daily: Dawn - Sunset



This railroad line is still active, so

SEE TOUR MAP ON REVERSE

-STOP 1-GETTYSBURG RAILROAD STATION

35 CARLISLE STREET GETTYSBURG, PA

Proceed towards the platform in the rear of the building.

On November 18, 1863, President Lincoln, his two secretaries John Nicolay and John Hay, his valet William Johnson and several guests left the White House and began their journey to Gettysburg. The president's train left the New Jersey Street station in Washington, DC, at noon and arrived in Baltimore, Maryland a little after 1 p.m.

Continuing the second leg of the journey, the train made several brief stops, during which time the President stepped out of the railcar and waved to gathered crowds. At one stop, a little girl stepped forward and presented a bouquet of flowers to Mr. Lincoln. He bent down, took the flowers, and proclaimed: "You're a sweet little rosebud yourself." Lincoln wished the little girl a life of "goodness and beauty." Not all stops were such pleasant ones, however. At another stop, President Lincoln met a man who had lost his only son at Gettysburg. Lincoln, in speaking of the sacrifices yet to be made, felt "at times like hiding in deep darkness."

Lincoln arrived in Gettysburg at about 6 p.m. on November 18, 1863. At the station to meet him were Gettysburg's leading citizens, including David Wills and Gettysburg College president Henry Baugher, and townspeople eager to catch a glimpse of the President. Edward Everett, regarded as the nation's greatest orator at the time and present to deliver the keynote address at the dedication ceremony, and Ward Hill Lamon, the chief marshal for the ceremonies and a close friend of Lincoln, were there as well, having arrived several days earlier. The dignitaries and the Invalid Corps - soldiers who had been disabled for active service by wounds - escorted Mr. Lincoln to the David Wills House on the square where the President was to spend the night.

-STOP 2-THE DAVID WILLS HOUSE

8 LINCOLN SQUARE GETTYSBURG, PA

Upon arrival at the home of David Wills, Mrs. Catherine Wills and the couple's young daughters eagerly awaited the opportunity to meet the President. Mrs. Wills was prepared to serve a lavish meal to 38 people, including President Lincoln, Mr. Everett, three cabinet members, three former governors, one governor-elect, five major generals, three foreign ministers and other notables.

Following the meal, an impromptu reception took place in the parlor. William A. McIlhenny, a sergeant in the Union Army who had been wounded and was on furlough, said that he, his sister, and the girl he would later marry "shook hands with Mr. Lincoln...in the Wills house...I had my right hand in a sling at the time, and of course, had to give the President my left hand. I felt a little like thanking the Rebel that shot me for giving me this opportunity of meeting this great man." According to Wills family lore, the President also held two of the Wills daughters "on his lap and in the age old custom rode them horse back on his foot," Eventually, the President asked to be excused and retired to his private room.

David Wills remembered, "between nine and ten o'clock the President sent his servant to request me to come to his room. I went and found him with paper prepared to write, and he said that he had just seated himself to put upon paper a few thoughts for the tomorrow's exercises, and had sent for me to ascertain what part he was to take in them, and what was expected of him. After a full talk on the subject, I left him." There, the President continued to work on his thoughts for the following day, and after Mr. Wills escorted the President to the house next door for a quick visit with Secretary of State William Seward, the occupants of the Wills house finally tried to settle down for some rest.

-STOP 3-THE TOWN SQUARE

8 LINCOLN SQUARE GETTYSBURG, PA

In contrast to the quiet elegance inside the Wills House, a rowdy boisterous atmosphere reined outside in the town square, known as the Diamond in 1863. Crowds roamed the streets, bands played music, and singing groups serenaded the visiting celebrities. Several times, the crowd called for President Lincoln to speak to them. Finally he appeared. "I appear before you, fellow-citizens merely to thank you for this compliment," Lincoln said. The President did not speak to the crowds

that evening, saying to them that he was saving his remarks for the following day.

As those in the Wills house turned in for the evening, many of the other visitors to Gettysburg were still looking for a place to stay and catch some sleep. A Baltimore correspondent sought refuge in one of the churches in town among "sleepers, whose loud breathing and nasal accompaniments made a most inharmonious Iullaby." One woman from Ohio wrote to her husband, "There was so many people that there was no comfort." Visitors to town slept in all manner of places and many just wandered the town all night waiting for the dedication ceremonies to begin the next morning.

By 9 a.m. on November 19, the parade began to form. Using the Diamond as the center, the military formed on Carlisle Street to the north; civic organizations, which included college and seminary students, town leaders, and local organizations, formed on York Street to the east; and the state delegations formed to the west on Chambersburg Street with Pennsylvania in the lead. Assistant marshals formed in the square. At about 10 a.m., President Lincoln came out of the Wills house and mounted his horse. It was almost 11 a.m. before the procession got under way.

-STOP 4-THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

208 BALTIMORE STREET GETTYSBURG, PA

Following the dedication ceremony, President Lincoln, David Wills, and numerous other dignitaries returned to the David Wills House for a reception. It was here the President waited for the "Hero of Gettysburg" John Burns, whom Lincoln hoped to meet with before leaving Gettysburg. Burns, a Gettysburg citizen, had fought with Union troops on July 1 and been wounded several times. His actions made him a celebrity. Once Burns arrived, he

and the President headed towards the Presbyterian Church for a political rally hosted by the Ohio Republican delegates. When Lincoln and Burns arrived at the Presbyterian Church, it "was crowded to its utmost capacity, and for each one within there were ten without unable to gain admission." President Lincoln and John Burns sat down in a pew and the rally began. Lieutenant-Governor-elect of Ohio Charles Anderson, brother of Maj. Robert Anderson of Fort Sumter fame, was the main orator for the gathering. Alice Powers, one of the few who had managed to get a seat inside, said that as the speeches commenced, "drowsiness claimed" John Burns and before long he "nodded and slept 'the sleep of the just' until the stir of

the departing audience and the cheers of the crowd that had surrounded the church aroused him

As President Lincoln left the church, again the people sought to shake his hand. Young Albertus McCreary, 15 years old at the time, stuck out his hand and requested the President to shake it. He did so, and Albertus was thrilled, claiming to "shake hands with the greatest man in our nation" was one of the most memorable moments of his life. The political rally had marked President Lincoln's last official duty before boarding the train back to Washington.



Follow Baltimore Street south, on the east side of the street, until the sidewalk ends, cross the street, and enter the gates of Soldiers' National Cemetery, walk left where the path forks until you reach the Soldiers' National Monument in the center of the cemetery.

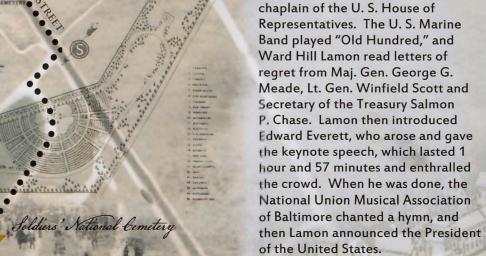
DRIVING

Follow Baltimore Street, to Steinwher Avenue. Take a left on Taneytown Road (Route 137 South) and park in the Cemetery parking lot, just past the Cemetery entrance on the right side of the road.

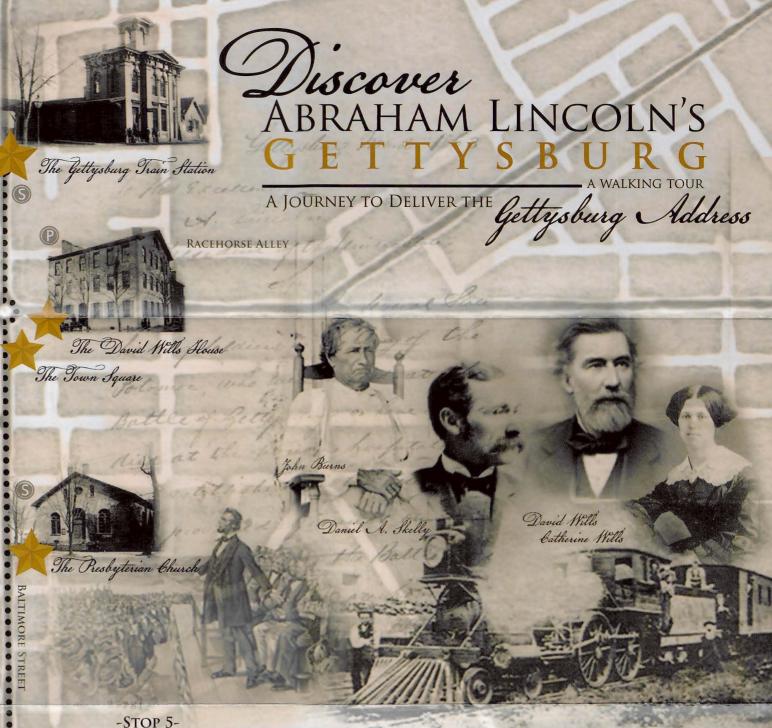
The ceremony began with a dirge by Birgfield's Band from Philadelphia, followed by an invocation by Reverend Thomas H. Stockton,

President Abraham Lincoln stepped forward and delivered his "few appropriate remarks." Gettysburg youth Daniel Skelly said, "I was too young to judge the character of Lincoln's brief address... but what impressed me most was its delivery. The words seemed to come from the soul of the man, from a heart torn by anguish. He spoke in a quiet, forcible, and earnest manner with no attempt at oratory...and the scene with all its accompaniments marked itself so unmistakenly on my mind that I have never forgotten it."

Then a local mixed choir presented a dirge, Pennsylvania College President Reverend Henry Louis Baugher gave a benediction and Lamon announced that the ceremonies were concluded. The 5th New York Artillery fired a salute of eight rounds while their band played a lively number. President Lincoln made his way off of the platform to shake the hands of the wounded veterans who were there, commenting to the group's chaplain: "The men upon their crutches were orators; their very appearance spoke louder than tongues." As the dignitaries returned to town, the artillery fired 32 rounds of blank cartridges in salute.



SOLDIERS' NATIONAL CEMETERY Following the procession through



town, the dignitaries mounted the

speaker's platform, which measured

platform around 11:15 a.m. The

12 feet by 20 feet and was 3 feet

private cemetery, the Evergreen

Soldiers' National Cemetery.

Surrounding the platform was a

crowd of over 10,000, and, further

away, numerous re-interments of

Union dead from the battlefield.

Organized by state and buried equally

with no regard to rank, the cemetery,

when completed, took on the shape

of a semi-circular arch with room at

the center for a monument to honor

the fallen.

high, was located near the present

day fence line separating the town's

Cemetery, and the newly established



www.gettysburgfoundation.org os of Daniel Skelly and David and Catherine Wills courtesy of Adam's County Historical
Photo of John Burns and sketch of Lincoln courtesy of Library of C