



News from White Haven

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site, dedicated to Civil War General and 18th President Ulysses S. Grant and his wife, Julia Dent Grant, is located in south St. Louis County, Missouri.

News from White Haven is a quarterly publication of Ulysses S. Grant NHS. It is also available online by visiting www.nps.gov/ulsg/.

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Change of address? Going green?

Let us know about any updates to your contact information by e-mailing ulsg_interpretation@nps.gov or calling 314-842-1867.

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Changes Overhead and Underfoot



This spring saw many park improvement projects. In June, we reroofed White Haven using cedar shingles. The old roof was 15 years old and in need of replacement. The shingles and flashing represent the materials and appearance of the roof in the 1860s. In 1816, when White Haven was built, every shingle would have been cut from a bolt of wood using a mallet and froe (ax). Toward the middle of the 19th century, sawmills began mechanizing the process, increasing production. Wood shingles soon became a popular choice for siding and roofing projects.

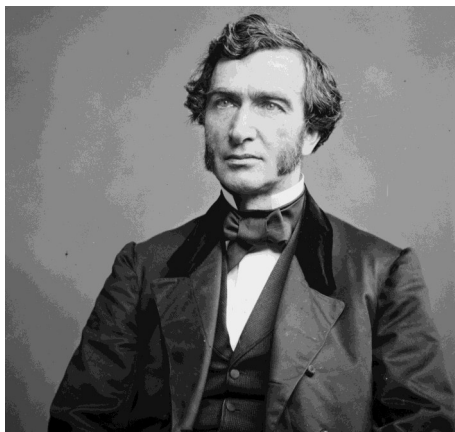
In February and March, we remodeled the visitor center, moving the front desk so it faces the front door and replacing worn carpet. Come see our updates the next time you're in the neighborhood.



Land-Grant Colleges: Education as a Democratic Ideal

On July 2, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Land-Grant College Act, commonly known as the Morrill Act after the bill's sponsor, Congressman Justin Smith Morrill of Vermont. Under the law, states received 30,000 acres of federal lands for each Senator and Representative in Congress for that state. States could then sell those lands, using the funds for "the endowment, support, and maintenance of at least one college" for military, agricultural and mechanical arts.

Similar bills had been introduced earlier, but Southern states had blocked legislation that they felt brought the federal government into state affairs. After secession, Northern congressmen supported reformers who saw public higher education as a



Justin Smith Morrill served as U.S. Representative (1855-1867) and as U.S. Senator (1867-1898). In addition to the Land-Grant College Act, he is known for the Morrill Anti-Bigamy Act of 1862.

democratic ideal that provided opportunities for those unable to afford tuition at private schools. After the war, Southern states created their own land-grant colleges, but in many states (North and South) they were restricted to whites. In Missouri, the University of Missouri became a land-grant college in 1870 and Lincoln Institute, established in

Jefferson City for African Americans in 1866, became a land-grant college in 1890.

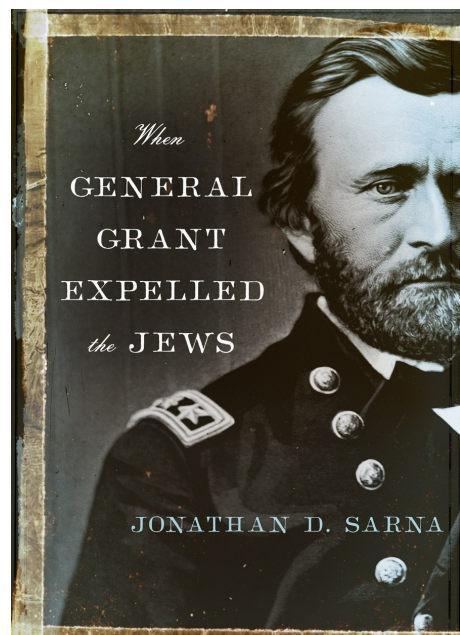
Proponents expected that schools would see large enrollment increases after the war, especially in the west. They soon realized, however, that there were too few public grade and high schools that could feed into the colleges—enlightened reformers had put the cart before the horse. As president, Ulysses S. Grant sought to rectify the situation, arguing that Federal and/or state governments should "support institutions of learning... sufficient to afford to every child... the opportunity of a good common school education."

By the early 20th century, land-grant colleges had achieved not only large student populations, but status equal to many private institutions.

Scholar Speaks on Grant and the Jews

On June 20, Ulysses S. Grant NHS welcomed Dr. Jonathan D. Sarna as a guest lecturer to speak on his new book, When General Grant Expelled the Jews. The book explores General Ulysses S. Grant's General Orders No. 11, which in 1862 expelled all Jewish people in the territory under his command in an effort to stop illegal trade with Confederates. This order was quickly rescinded by President Abraham Lincoln, but the

fallout shaped the future of Grant's political and personal life. As a result, Sarna argues, President Grant was intentionally inclusive of Jewish people, appointing more Jews to public office than all of his predecessors combined. This book, published by Schoken Books, is an interesting addition to the Grant lexicon, and explores not just General Orders No. 11, but the aftermath and the legacy of the decision.



Spotlight on the Park: Julia's Fan, Restored

In 1992, the James F. Casey family donated a collection of Grant items to the park, including a silk fan that belonged to Julia Dent Grant in the 1870s. While beautiful, the fan had sustained damage over the years.



Julia's fan before the restoration.

We sent the fan to the National Park Service object conservation laboratory in Harper's Ferry, WV, to be fixed and stabilized for display. Recently, the fan reentered our collection. The restored fan, now mended, cleaned, and stabilized, is ready for exhibition.



Julia's fan after the restoration.

Fans, while an extremely useful accessory, also allowed the owner to display her (or on occasion, his) personality. Julia's fan, an insight into her personal style, will be on exhibit at our park in the coming months.

Evening Program Explores Soldiers' Experience



Come enjoy the park after hours! On August 3 and 4, Ulysses S. Grant NHS invites you to a special program called An Evening at White Haven. This event starts at 6:30 p.m., and is suitable for visitors ages 5-105. Activities will take visitors indoors and out, and show various perspectives of the life of a Civil War soldier. Participants will explore the

experience of the Civil War soldier through living history interpreters, interactive hands-on activities, discussions, exhibits, and more. Don't miss this opportunity to step back in time as we commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. To make reservations for this free event, call 314-842-1867 x230 during business hours after July 9.

Kids' Corner: NPS Civil War Trading Cards

Families who visit NPS sites throughout the Civil War Sesquicentennial will have opportunities to earn brand-new Civil War to Civil Rights trading cards when they visit parks. Parks that explore the Civil War and its legacies have a variety of cards to give away.

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site has five trading cards:

- Slavery as the Cause of the Civil War
- Freeing William Jones
- Education at Last
- Receiving the Right to Vote
- Nellie Grant, Aiding Soldiers and Freedmen

These cards can be earned by kids who ask rangers great questions and participate in activities at our park. Although the cards cannot officially be



purchased through the NPS, you can see our park's cards at <http://www.nps.gov/ulsg/forkids/tradingcards.htm/> You can see all of the participating parks' trading cards online at: www.flickr.com/photos/tradingcardsnpsyahoom/.



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Upcoming Events

- Now-July 20: “Impressions of the Civil War in Missouri” exhibition by local artist Dan Woodward at Ulysses S. Grant NHS visitor center.
- July 21: Wreath-laying ceremony and commemoration of the 127th anniversary of Ulysses S. Grant’s death, 10 a.m.
- August 3-4: An Evening at White Haven, a family event with hands-on history experiences and costumed interpreters. Call 314-842-1867 x230 for reservations to this free event.
- August 17-November 4: Grant’s Farm open only Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- September 22: The Girl Scouts’ BIG Day at Soldiers’ Memorial will involve a parade, exhibitors, and a celebrity concert.
- October 6: Annual Ulysses S. Grant Lecture and John Y. Simon Day with featured guest speaker Ronald C. White, author of [A. Lincoln: A Biography](#) and an upcoming biography of Ulysses S. Grant.

Did you know?

St. Louis was a volatile place during the Civil War. In August 1861, General John C. Fremont declared the city under martial law. He shut down southern-leaning newspapers, suspended the right to assemble in the streets, and closed many

entertainment venues, such as saloons and theaters. The new law also required citizens to swear a loyalty oath to the Union in order to move freely within the city or travel outside the area. In south St. Louis County, some residents, such as Sebastian Sappington,

swore the oath and received their pass. Others, such as Ulysses S. Grant’s father-in-law, Frederick Dent, refused to swear the oath, claiming it would be like signing his death warrant. He retreated to White Haven until the law was lifted.