



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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News Release

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NPS Seeks Public Comment for Harriet Tubman Study

The National Park Service (NPS) will hold public meetings concerning its special resource study of sites associated with Harriet Tubman. The public meetings will be held on:

- Tuesday, July 16, 2002, in Auburn, New York, 7:00 –9:00 p.m. at City Hall, 24 South Street; and
- Thursday, July 18, 2002, in Cambridge, Maryland, 7:00 –9:00 p.m. at Dorchester County Public Library, 303 Gay Street.

Congress requested the NPS to look at options for protecting nationally significant resources related to Harriet Tubman. Tubman is known mainly as a “conductor” of former slaves through the Underground Railroad. She is less well-known as a Civil War nurse, a scout, and a spy, and in her later years, she established and operated a home for the aged in Auburn, New York.

The study team, led by planners at the Boston Support Office, has begun collecting information on historic and archeological sites and landscapes significant to the history of Harriet Tubman. Of immediate consideration will be sites in the county where she was born, Dorchester County, Maryland, and in Auburn, New York, where she lived for more than 40 years before she died in 1913. The NPS team is also seeking information about other sites related to Tubman. Additional public meetings in other locations will be scheduled as information regarding other Tubman-related sites is forthcoming. Documenting Harriet Tubman’s exploits is a challenge since she was illiterate and careful to avoid capture during her trips back to Maryland to rescue bondspeople, and during her service as a scout and a spy.

The public is invited to attend the meetings and offer comments to the team. Further information is available by calling 617-223-5138.

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