



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Arlington House, The Robert
E. Lee Memorial

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Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial News Release

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Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial Commemorates the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War with a Special Evening Program “The Seizure of Arlington and The Homeless Lees” October 29, 2011, 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Join the National Park Service as it commemorates the United States Army’s seizure of Arlington during the Civil War with a special evening program at the historic Lee home in Arlington National Cemetery. **The program includes lectures at 7:15pm and 8:15pm by author historian Anthony Gaughan**, whose new book, “The Last Battle of the Civil War,” chronicles the confiscation of the estate and the lengthy legal battle for justice fought after the war by the Lee family. **Program highlights include: living history, military drills, and musket demonstrations between 6pm and 7pm.** Arlington House will be transformed into an army encampment. Be prepared to demonstrate your loyalty to the Union! **Period music from Mrs. Lee’s songbook will be performed all evening by “Civil War Comrades.” Guided walking tours throughout the evening will highlight the Arlington House grounds and the surrounding graves. Craft and military drilling activities for children will also be available.** Which side will your sons and daughters choose?

At the beginning of the Civil War, Arlington, VA was one of the most important properties in the country. The home of Confederate General Robert E. Lee was within cannon shot of many of the government buildings across the Potomac. Whichever army controlled Arlington, controlled the fate of the nation’s capital. For that reason, the United States Army occupied the estate and converted it into a military installation. For the Lee family it was the beginning of the end of their lives in their beloved home.

The event is free but reservations are required. Entry times are: 6:00pm, 6:30pm, 7:00pm, 7:30pm, and 8:00pm. Arlington House is located in the center of Arlington National Cemetery. Vehicle access to Arlington House will only be granted with a reservation. For reservations and more information, call: (703) 235-1530.

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial is a unit of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Additional information is available on the internet at www.nps.gov/arho.

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