



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National
Historical Park

143 S. Third Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Public Affairs Office
<http://www.nps.gov/inde>

215-597-0060 phone
215-597-0042 fax

Independence National Historical Park

June 11, 2010
For Immediate Release
For more information contact:
Jane Cowley, 215- 597- 0060

The Independence Living History Center Closing

Philadelphia— On Friday June 18, 2010, the Living History Center at Independence National Historical Park will be open to the public for the last time. The National Park Service (NPS) and the National Center for the American Revolution (also known as The American Revolution Center or ARC) are preparing for the exchange of 78 acres owned by ARC within the boundary of Valley Forge National Historical Park for 0.87 acres owned by the United States of America within the boundary of Independence National Historical Park, which includes the NPS-owned Independence Living History Center at 3rd and Chestnut Streets. In preparation for this exchange, the NPS is closing the facility in order to relocate the Independence Living History Center Archeology Laboratory across the street to the First Bank of the United States.

Starting Saturday, June 19, the Independence Living History Center and the First Bank of the United States will remain closed to the public until that move is complete later this summer, at which time the First Bank of the United States will be open for public visitation. The Bank was last open to the public in 2004. The park has used the building for offices and occasional exhibitions on the first floor.

Independence National Historical Park has been discovering Philadelphia's hidden past at the Independence Living History Center Archeology Laboratory. The laboratory has been a working facility dedicated to processing materials recovered from archeological excavations conducted between 2000 and 2003 prior to, and during, construction of the National Constitution Center. Archeologists are processing approximately one million artifacts recovered from this archeological excavation that tell the diverse stories of everyday Philadelphians during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and offers glimpses of the prehistoric past as well.

The Independence Living History Center will be open Wednesday, June 16, to Friday, June 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on the land transfer visit go to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/inde>, and for more information on the Living History Center go to <http://www.nps.gov/inde/ilhc.htm>. For more information about The American Revolution Center, please visit www.AmericanRevolutionCenter.org.

- NPS -

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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