



Harriet Tubman National Historical Park and Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park



Location: Maryland and New York

Establishment/Expansion Legislation:
S. 247/Ben Cardin and H.R. 664/Dan Maffei

Background: A nurse, spy, and conductor on the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman exemplified courage and determination. Born into slavery in Dorchester County, Maryland, she was subjected to whippings as a small child. In her late 20's, Harriet fled up the Eastern seaboard to Philadelphia, but continued to return to Maryland by way of the Underground Railroad.

Following the Civil War, Tubman moved to Auburn, New York, where she advocated for women's suffrage, working alongside Susan B. Anthony. In 1896, she founded the Harriet

Tubman Home for the Aged in Auburn, where she would dedicate the rest of her life to charity. Passage of S. 247 and HR 664 establish the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical park within the Harriet Tubman National Monument on Maryland's Eastern Shore and add sites in Auburn New York that were critically important to Tubman in her later years.

The Harriet Tubman national parks will increase public knowledge about a beloved American icon and hero while also increasing the number of units in the National Park System to directly commemorate women's contributions to the development of this nation.

NPCA Support:

- NPCA has advocated for adding Harriet Tubman's story to the National Park System since 2007, first supporting the legislation to authorize the Secretary of the Department of Interior to conduct a special resource study there, leading up to the national monument designation in 2013 by President Obama.

Alan Spears, Cultural Resources Director for the National Parks Conservation Association:

"Tubman devoted her life to helping others. The Tubman sites, along with the national monument that bears her name, provide long overdue recognition for this selfless American hero at the national level that her legacy deserves."

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