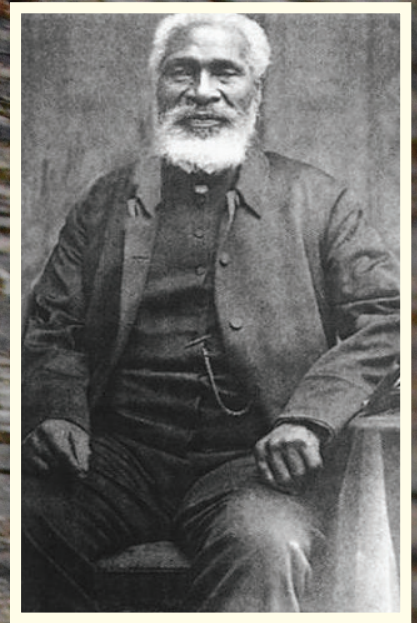


Josiah Henson Park

MUSEUM AND
EDUCATION
CENTER



Montgomery County
Maryland

*Preserving the story for
the next generation.*



Montgomery Parks
FOUNDATION



The story begins here...



1789 - 1883

A Nationally Significant Historic Site

Josiah Henson Park is the only site in the United States with a direct association to Reverend Josiah Henson's life. Here, the enslaved Josiah grew from a child into adulthood. Henson's autobiography clearly describes the house and plantation landscape.

Josiah Henson Park is a part of the National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program. The Riley/Bolten house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in December, 2011 for its historic and architectural significance. It has irreplaceable cultural, material, and aesthetic value.

In August 2012, *Time Team America's* archaeological exploration uncovered three layers of flooring in the kitchen under the existing floor, further indicating the space is indeed the kitchen described in Henson's memoirs.

A Space to Learn and Gain New Understanding of Our Shared History

The vision for Josiah Henson Park includes a new center to welcome and orient visitors to the site. The historic house will be converted to a public museum that tells the story of Josiah Henson.

Interactive exhibits throughout the building and outdoor exhibits along the paths and grounds will tell the broader story of slavery and complement local elementary and middle-school curricula. Soon the park will become a beloved destination for historic education, national and international visitors.

A Center for National Educational Resources and Scholarship

The long term vision for Josiah Henson Park is to reach a national and international education community.

A National Academic Advisory Council will engage leaders and professional colleagues in the historic and academic communities to encourage the exchange of scholarship and objectives for educational and interpretive programs.

The Josiah Henson Park website, www.historyintheparks.org, will be expanded with in-depth education activities for educators and students, building on museum exhibit themes.

The park's interpretive and educational content will be developed by museum professionals with decades of experience researching, interpreting and sharing historic and cultural resources.



Josiah Henson Park



“Josiah Henson’s remarkable story offers so much to inspire us in today’s complex world. Montgomery County is incredibly fortunate to have this national treasure among our local historic sites. The expanded Josiah Henson Park will provide an important new range of experiences for our families and our teachers, as lessons from the past enrich our lives today.”

CATHERINE LEGGETT
 Campaign Chair
 First Lady of Montgomery County



Forging Strong Values

The story of Reverend Josiah Henson is one of character, integrity, honesty and courage. These values were forged during his years as an enslaved youth, by his mother and through his discovery of the church community.

As he grew into adulthood, increasingly trusted with responsibility for other enslaved people, perseverance, difficult choices and survival characterized his daily journey.

After experiencing heartbreaking disappointments and unthinkable abuse, his actions grew determined and redemptive. He turned regret into action and became an important leader of the Underground Railroad.

“Our school has a large Hispanic and African American population, and sometimes friction emerges between the two cultures. As part of our unit on the Civil War, our class read Josiah Henson’s autobiography. One day one of my Hispanic students read Henson’s joyful description of arriving in Canada after his long journey north. She looked up from her book, and said, ‘Now I understand! This is the way my uncle felt when he arrived in the US!’”

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TEACHER, WASHINGTON, DC

A Story to Inspire Generations to Come

Reverend Henson’s character, values, and ultimate freedom offer a powerful role model for schoolchildren.

Expanded education and visitor facilities will position Josiah Henson Park to be a valuable resource for the national educational community. Even now, education programs and curriculum are available, designed for use in classrooms and on site visits.

Convening Our Community

for conversations around ethical dilemmas of our time

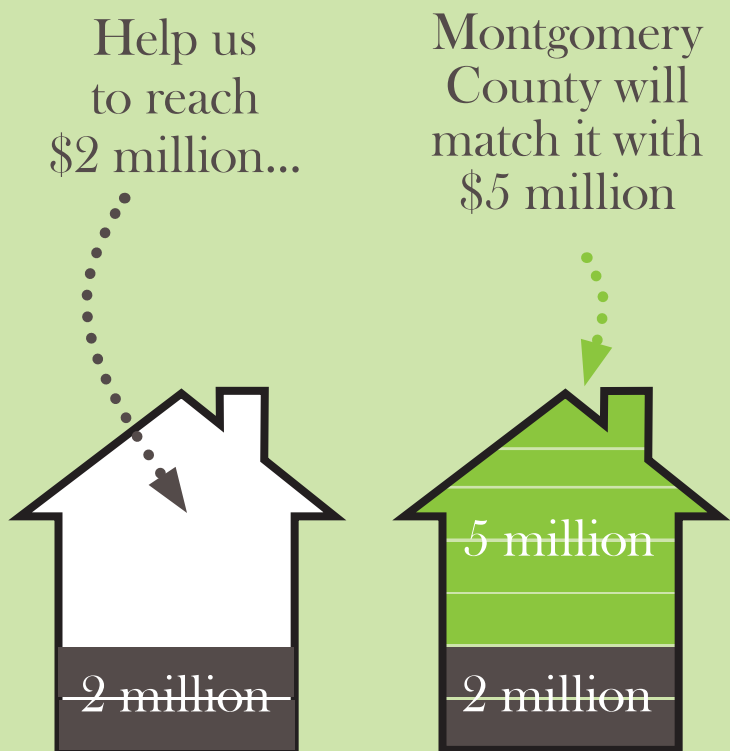
Reverend Henson is well known for his autobiography, first published in 1837, which inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe to write *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.

We now recognize his life as a journey of conscience that can inspire, inform, and help us to address difficult issues that still confront us.

become part of the story...

Creating a historic destination that reminds and teaches us 21st century lessons about freedom, character and values will require the support of many who recognize the significance and impact of this African American sacred ground.

People like you will help fund the exhibits and video in the state-of-the-art Visitor's Center and within the historic house. Education features throughout the park, including an amphitheater and outdoor exhibits and ongoing operations depend on your participation.



Your gift will be matched 2.5:1

The Montgomery Parks Foundation has established a goal of \$2 million dollars to make the project a reality. Funds will be used to install and implement interpretive programs and provide a source of startup operating support.

The \$2 million raised through the Montgomery Parks Foundation will be matched by \$5 million approved by Montgomery County for Josiah Henson Park.

Project Costs

Total construction and start-up costs are estimated to be \$7 million.

Foundation Campaign Goal

The Montgomery Parks Foundation is committed to securing \$2 million to fund:

- Exhibits , interpretive displays, and furnishings for the visitors center and museum
- Outdoor exhibits, site amenities, and amphitheater
- Start-up operating costs

TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL \$2,000,000

Ways to Give

Gifts may be made with cash, credit card, appreciated stock or through your donor advised fund.

Choose from the enclosed naming or tribute opportunities. Named gifts pay tribute to—or memorialize—individuals, organizations or a cause. Opportunities are available in a wide range of gift levels.

You may make an outright gift or, for gifts of \$10,000 and above, spread payments over three years. Your gift is essential.

Make your gift or pledge today!



Montgomery Parks
FOUNDATION

9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

info@montgomeryparksfoundation.org
301-495-2490

MontgomeryParksFoundation.org

The Montgomery Parks Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization with a mission to champion the values and benefits of the Montgomery County park system by inspiring and cultivating private support and activism.

The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is a bi- county agency overseeing planning and parks in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks oversees the acquisition, development and management of over 34,000 acres of land and 420 parks.

M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks' purpose is to improve the quality of life by conserving and enhancing the natural and developed environment for current and future generations. M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks is committed to the stewardship of natural resources, including over 460 miles of stream that run through park land.

It will take a village...

Without your gift, Reverend Josiah Henson's lessons for future generations--and the reminder to treasure freedom above all--could be lost forever. The exhibits, education materials, space to convene and staff to manage it all will simply not be possible.

donate today!

Josiah Henson Park Campaign Leadership

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Josiah Henson Park

MUSEUM AND
EDUCATION
CENTER

Giving, Naming and Dedication Opportunities

Your gift is essential to help tell the 21st century lessons of freedom, character and values. Make your gift or pledge today!

Named gifts strengthen the bonds of our community and transform a material building into a place of personal significance. Named gifts may be dedicated to—or memorialize—individuals, organizations or a cause. Opportunities are available in a wide range of gift levels. Choose from the opportunities listed.

You may make an outright gift or, for gifts of \$10,000 or above, spread payments over three years. Gifts may be made with cash, credit card, appreciated stock or through your donor advised fund.



Montgomery Parks
FOUNDATION

Visitor Center

Theater

Naming/Dedication | \$200,000

Guests will be able to sit or stand and view a 5-10 minute introductory film that will use animated stills or short film graphics, motion graphics and brief segments of narrated script and music presenting an overview about Josiah Henson.

Exhibits

Naming/Dedication | \$80,000

The Visitor's Center is where visitors start the journey through the Josiah Henson Park. This is a place to discover the man who lived here on the Riley Plantation, for most of his life as an enslaved person, who raised a family, escaped to freedom, helped others escape to freedom and become an important figure in North American history in both the United States and Canada.

Gift Shop

Naming/Dedication | \$100,000

The Gift Shop will provide books and resources to support those interested in learning more about the Rev. Josiah Henson and the fictional story of Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Green Roof

Naming/Dedication | \$27,000

The new visitor center has a flat roof over the central corridor running through the building. This is an ideal location for a vegetated roof that will provide habitat for birds, reduce the heat island impact of the new building, and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from the roof. These combined benefits will provide a reduced impact on the historic and environmental setting.



Artist rendering of future Visitor's Center

Park Grounds

Portal

Naming/Dedication | \$200,000

Visitors will exit the Visitor's Center and follow the meandering paths winding through the former Riley plantation. As a transition from indoors to outdoors, a "portal" offers a walk-through experience which creates an emotional and palpable connection to the story line. The portal is built to be reminiscent of a small slave quarters where many families would have lived with few, if any, furnishings.



Outdoor Amphitheater

Naming/Dedication | \$100,000

An outdoor amphitheater made of timbers and beams will provide a venue for lectures, performances, salons and will serve as a general gathering spot on the property.

*Become part
of the story...*

Park and Museum Exhibits

Indoor

Naming/Dedications | \$100,000- \$50,000 *7 available*

As guests reach the Riley house, they will step inside to discover a variety of exhibits. Together these seven exhibits will create an experience that offer a powerful and lasting impression of Josiah Henson's life. Topics covered will include:

- Introduction and overview of Henson's life
- His earliest recollections of life, work and spirituality
- The Riley farm and home
- Henson as overseer, caretaker, and travel responsibilities
- Henson's escape followed by conducting on the underground railroad
- Literature, Harriet Beecher Stowe and *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- Log Kitchen and Archeology

Research Library

Naming/Dedication | \$26,000

A small research library is planned to make archival documents and historic volumes available for public access. Dedicated to African American History and slavery in Montgomery County, the library is designed for student and scholar use. The library will be located in the historic house.

Outdoor

Naming/Dedications | \$100,000- \$50,000 *3 available*

After moving along the walking path, beyond the portal, guests find a series of outdoor exhibit clusters, each set in the landscape. Exhibits and stories present kitchen gardens and farming as well

as archaeological evidence from the past. History of the Riley house architecture and visits Henson made to the house as a free man, in his later years will be included.

- **Archaeological**- Archeology goes beyond verifying documents or oral histories. It provides real evidence of people who came before us.
- **Outdoor Garden**- A working kitchen garden will demonstrate what foods were grown to supply the Riley family needs and cooking practices of the era.
- **Farming**- Which crops and where they were grown on the plantation will be reviewed, along with an exploration of how slave holding affected the economy and the owner family's wealth.

Education Program Support

Education Fund | \$5,000- \$25,000

To help fund transportation, admission, and education materials for students of underserved schools and school districts.

Additional Opportunities

Bench Dedications | \$1,000 *10 available*

Benches in this historic park will include bronze plaques acknowledging donors.

Tree Dedications | \$5,000 *30 available*

Water Fountain Dedications | \$5,000 *2 available*

Bike Rack Dedications | \$3,000 *2 available*

Picnic Table Dedications | \$2,000 *2 available*

Josiah Henson Park

Gift Commitment Form

Yes! You can count on me/us to help ensure the story is told...

My/Our check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed

I/we wish to contribute \$ _____ now (enclosed) and the balance of the gift over two to three years.

Year 1 _____ Year 2 _____ Year 3 _____

Signature _____ Date _____

I/We would like to honor _____ with my/our gift.

I/We would like to contribute stock or securities. Contact me/us for the information required.

I/We would like to give by credit card

VISA Master Card American Express Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____
Security Code: (required) _____

Authorization Signature _____

The Josiah Henson Park Museum and Center for Education qualifies for gifts from your donor advised fund. Please call the Executive Director at 301-495-2490 for details.

Name as you would like to be recognized

 Please consider my contribution to be anonymous

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Please make checks payable to: **Montgomery County Parks Foundation** 9500 Brunett Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20901