VIRGINIA’S CIVIL WAR 150 HISTORYMOBILE COMING TO MAYMONT
TRACTOR-TRAILER 'MUSEUM ON WHEELS' IS FILLED WITH INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS AND ACTIVITIES

History is on the move in Virginia as the Civil War 150 HistoryMobile rolls into Maymont, March 30, April 1 and April 2. The exhibit, an initiative of the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission, will be located near Maymont’s Hampton Street Entrance and will be open daily from 10am to 4pm. Admission to the HistoryMobile is free.

The expandable 53-foot tractor-trailer uses immersive spaces and interactive exhibits to draw together stories of the Civil War and Emancipation from the viewpoints of those who experienced it across Virginia—young and old, enslaved and free, soldiers and civilians.

Visitors will encounter history in ways they may have never experienced before. The HistoryMobile exhibit is divided into four sections: Battlefront, Homefront, Journey to Freedom, and Loss-Gain-Legacy. From the bewildering sense of chaos experienced by soldiers, to the last letter written by a dying son to his father after sustaining a mortal wound, to a hushed conversation between a husband and wife considering the great risks and rewards of fleeing to freedom, the HistoryMobile presents the stories of real people in Virginia whose lives were shaped by the historic events of the 1860s, and invites visitors to imagine, “What Would You Do?”

The Civil War 150 HistoryMobile crosses the state visiting museums, schools, and special events. Its four-year tour began in July 2011, and since then it has made over 70 stops and attracted visitors from every state and a number of other countries. It will continue to tour through spring 2015.

In addition to learning more about Virginia's history, the HistoryMobile also provides visitors with tourism information about the many historic sites and destinations that they can explore today. Interactive maps and touch-screen kiosks located at the HistoryMobile allow visitors to easily plan their next trip.

The HistoryMobile represents an extraordinary cooperative partnership among public agencies and private/nonprofit organizations. Working with the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission to manage the tour are the Virginia Tourism Corporation and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. HistoryMobile exhibits were designed in partnership with the Commission, Virginia Historical Society, and the Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania National Military Park.

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The Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission was created by the General Assembly to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Virginia. In addition to the HistoryMobile, the Commission sponsors programs that include an award-winning museum exhibition, a statewide document digitization program, a highly-acclaimed annual Signature Conference series, an Emmy-nominated documentary, and much more.

More information on the Civil War 150 HistoryMobile and the initiatives of the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission can be found at www.VirginiaCivilWar.org. For information on visiting Civil War sites throughout Virginia, visit www.Virginia.org/CivilWar.

This Civil War 150 HistoryMobile will be at Maymont, at 1700 Hampton Street in Richmond, Virginia, as part of Dominion Family Easter on March 30 and Spring Break Week on April 1 and April 2. Easter and Spring Break Week will also include a variety of activities and entertainment for families. For information on these Maymont events, visit www.maymont.org.

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High-resolution images of the HistoryMobile can be downloaded at: www.virginiacivilwar.org/press/imagelibrary.php

For high-resolution images of Maymont’s events, contact Carla Murray at cmurray@maymont.org or 804-358-7166, ext. 315.