



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ulysses S. Grant
National Historic Site

7400 Grant Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63123
314-842-3298 phone
314-842-1659 fax

Ulysses S. Grant NHS News Release

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Contact(s): Arlene Jackson or Pam Sanfilippo
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Unique Pair of Cannons go on Display

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site will officially unveil two Civil War era Cannons on Saturday, September 17, 2011 at 2:00pm. These 24-pounder **siege and garrison howitzer** cannons, while similar to many on display at battlefield sites throughout the country, are unique in that they are sequentially numbered. The cannons have belonged to the Busch family since the early 1900s and will be on loan to the park for display throughout the Civil War Sesquicentennial.

Ulysses S. Grant re-entered the army following the Confederate firing on Fort Sumter in April 1861. His military strategy and determination to preserve the Union gained him success on the battlefield and led to his promotion by President Abraham Lincoln to Lieutenant General and commander of all federal forces by March 1864.

Throughout the war, Grant employed naval and army forces, utilizing infantry, cavalry, and field artillery such as these two cannons to ensure victory. Western battles including Vicksburg and Chattanooga brought him fame, while his tenacity in pursuing and defeating Robert E. Lee's forces in the East led to Lee's surrender in April 1865 and ultimate victory for the Union.

These cannons symbolize Grant's determination and tenacity and the site is grateful to Mr. Andrew D. Busch for his efforts to preserve the cannons and loan them for display.

In addition to the unveiling ceremony there will be activities for children, tours of the historic White Haven home and costumed rangers and volunteers demonstrating skills a Civil War soldier would have needed. The Junior Ranger program is also available for children wishing to earn their Junior Ranger badges.

This presentation is one of an ongoing series of special activities at this unit of the National Park Service. Ulysses S. Grant NHS is located at 7400 Grant Road in south St. Louis County. The park is open for regular visitation from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.