

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

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THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS ON VIEW FOR A LIMITED TIME

A copy of the historic speech written in Lincoln's own hand travels for the last time

CHICAGO (March 25, 2009) – In celebrating the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln, the Museum will host one of only five surviving copies of the Gettysburg Address written in Lincoln's own hand on loan from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. This is the last time the Address will travel outside of the Springfield institution. The document will be on display April 1 through May 3 as part of the *Lincoln Treasures* exhibition.

"Viewing this document is an experience that should not be missed. Written in Lincoln's own hand, the document has something to offer the whole family. It brings Lincoln's life and ideals to the forefront during this very exciting time in our nation's history," stated Gary T. Johnson, Chicago History Museum president. "We thank the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum for the opportunity to showcase this treasure to our visitors during this celebratory year." To accommodate families and visitors, the Museum will be extending its hours every Sunday in April beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The viewing of the Gettysburg Address is part of a larger exhibition called *Lincoln Treasures* which highlights key Lincoln artifacts and documents from the Chicago History Museum's collection that commemorates the life and tragic death of Abraham Lincoln. The five known copies of the Gettysburg Address were written in Lincoln's own hand because the speech was so moving, his friends and acquaintances asked him for copies. The copy that will be on display was written for Edward Everett, who also spoke at the Gettysburg dedication. A bound version of Everett's Gettysburg oration will also be on view to the public.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 adults with audio tour, \$12 seniors/students with audio tour, free for children 12 years and younger.

General Admission is free on Mondays. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at www.chicagohistory.org. The Chicago History Museum is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society and acknowledges the Chicago Park District's generous support of all the Museum's activities.