

April 2015 marks the 150th anniversary of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, an event that changed the course of American history. The fallen President's final trip was in a casket aboard the The United States, a train with a modified funeral car. It left Washington, DC, on April 20, 1865, on a 1700 mile trip that is estimated to have attracted three quarters of the population of the country.

The train arrived in New York City on April 24, where Lincoln lay in state at City Hall. The following morning a parade of mourners accompanied the hearse to the funeral train at the Hudson River Depot.

The train traveled north along the Hudson River. Trackside mourners displayed bonfires, torches, icons, and performed tableaux. Giant funeral arches of evergreens were created over the tracks. Buildings were draped. People sang, prayed, waved paper flags and wore mourning badges and ribbons.

The Stuyvesant Railroad Station

Built in 1880 after fire destroyed the original, the station is a fine example of late nineteenth century small town station architecture and boasts unusual brick finishes of particular interest to scholars of 1800s architecture.

The station was in use until 1958. After years of abandonment, a dedicated group of volunteers secured a grant from the NYS Greenway to purchase the station. A grant from the NY DOT in 1999 allowed the restoration of the station to begin. Volunteer efforts continue to raise funds for its restoration.

For more information contact:

Ron Knott, Supervisor, Town of Stuyvesant
(518) 758-6248, supervisor@stuyvesantny.us

The City of Hudson Railroad Station

Hudson stands out today for its success in historic preservation, with many notable properties in the city's extensive historic district, including the Hudson train station.

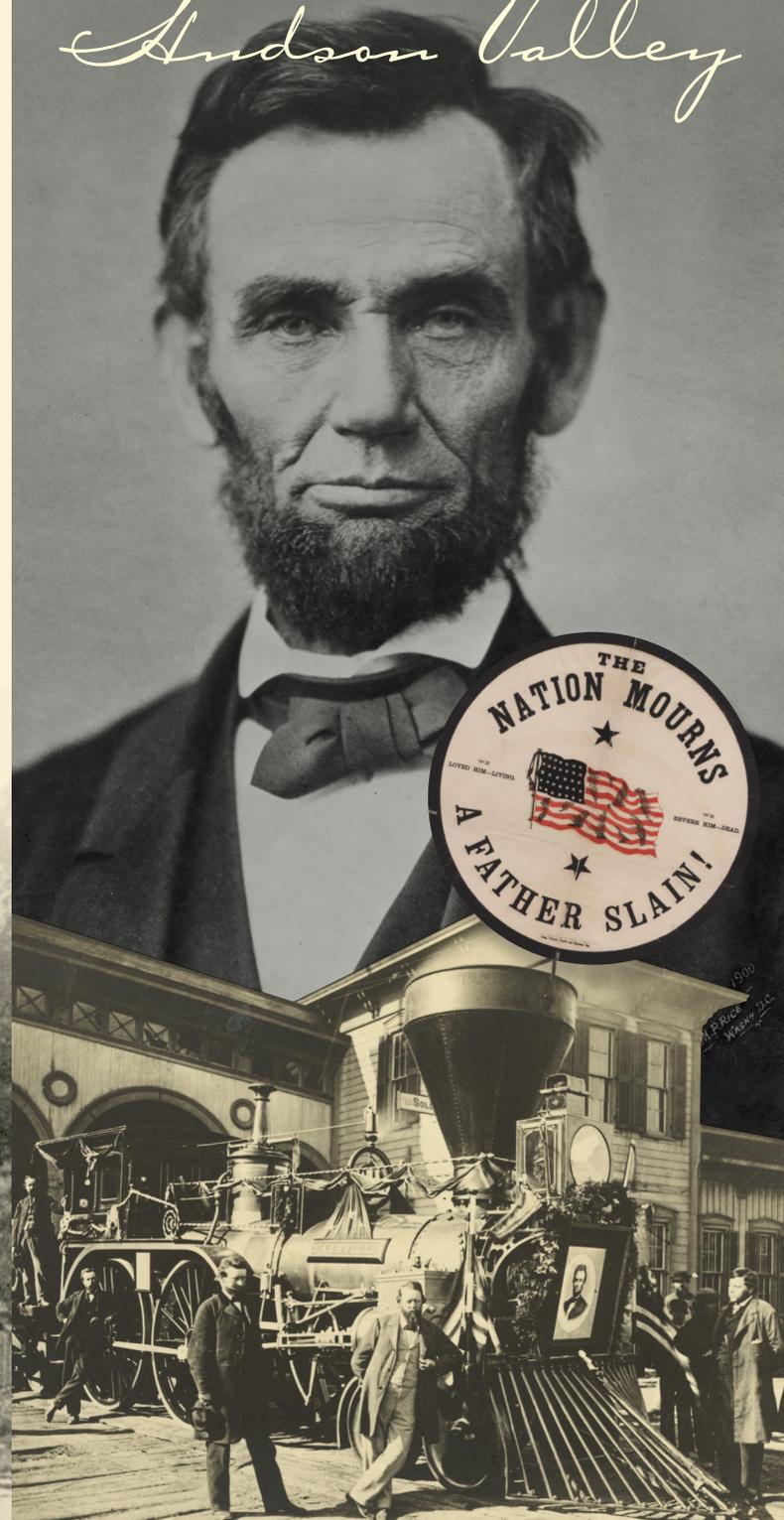
The Amtrak stop in Hudson was originally built for the New York Central Railroad in 1874. This red-brick, single-story station features a decorative cornice, wide eaves and a hipped roof with tall arched windows. Hudson is one of the busiest stations in the Eastern Corridor.

For more information contact:

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Lincoln in the Hudson Valley



In 2015, communities in Columbia County are marking this historic event between February and the end of April. On April 25, both Hudson and Stuyvesant will hold commemorative vigils with bonfires, gun salutes, draped buildings, period church remembrances, tableaux, musical presentations, reenactments, historical interpretation and other events.



Feb 9, 12:00 pm Press Conference,
Congressman Chris Gibson
Hudson Amtrak Station, Hudson

Feb 20, 6:00 pm “Remembering Lincoln”
Congressman Chris Gibson
Lincoln as a complex historical figure worthy of our close study.
Ichabod Crane Central School, High School Auditorium, 2910 Rte. 9, Valatie

March 5, 7:00 Lincoln’s Final Journey to Albany
Jack McEneny, Author of “Albany: Capitol City on the Hudson”
Stuyvesant Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant

March 15, 2:00 “Underwhere? in the 1860s: Women’s Clothing in the mid 19th Century”
Kjirsten Gustavson, Education Director, Clermont State Historic Site
Stuyvesant Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant

April 19, 3:00 “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: A Nation Mourns”
A Lincoln Musical Tribute, 77th New York Regimental Balladeers
Program includes Lincoln’s favorite songs and fiddle medleys, Aaron Copeland’s “Lincoln Portrait”, classics Amazing Grace, Battle Hymn of the Republic, Gettysburg Address and more.
Audience sing-along.
First Presbyterian Church, 369 Warren St, Hudson

April 23, 10:30 “Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address and the Meaning of the Civil War”
Ted Hilscher, Associate Professor of History, Columbia Greene Community College, Adult Learning Institute, Listen & Learn Program, Faculty/Staff Lounge, Main Building
4400 Rte 23, Hudson
Open to the public. Registration requested:
828-4181, Ext 3431

April 24–26, 1–4 pm Lincoln’s Long Journey Home
DAR Exhibit: Tells the story of the assassination of President Lincoln and the trip on the Funeral Train
DAR, 113 Warren Street, Hudson

Additional organizations with events to be announced:

Operation Unite NY, Hudson
Shiloh Baptist Church, Hudson
Town of Hillsdale
Town of Claverack

Featured exhibit: copies of three issues of *The Old Flag*, a handwritten prison newspaper from Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas, 1864

April 25 Activities

- tableaux and music by Ichabod Crane Central School students
- an original skit written for the occasion by Kate McLeod
- reenactors including Mrs. Lincoln, Solomon Northrup and a Civil War surgeon
- tableau depicting activities when the train stopped in Hudson
- eulogy done in the style of the mid 19th century
- interpretive displays
- reading from the diary of Elizabeth Miller who went to Albany to honor Mr. Lincoln
- reading of Walt Whitman’s Civil War poetry
- period and contemporary food
- Civil War period music
- fiddle tunes by Colin McCoy
- gun salutes
- bonfires
- 1800s funeral customs

2015 will be an extraordinary year for reenactors, individuals and organizations that are steeped in Civil War history. This 150th anniversary year will remind us of one of the most important events in the course of American History—the death of President Abraham Lincoln.

Although all events are free, donations are welcome. Please visit our Facebook page.
[facebook.com/LincolnFuneralTrain2015](https://www.facebook.com/LincolnFuneralTrain2015)

