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## NPS Northeast Region News Release

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### **Cynthia MacLeod Named Superintendent of Independence National Historical Park, Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site, and Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial**

**Philadelphia** – National Park Service (NPS) Northeast Regional Director Dennis Reidenbach announced that Cynthia MacLeod has been selected as the superintendent of Independence National Historical Park. As superintendent she will also manage other NPS sites in Philadelphia including the Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site and the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial. MacLeod is expected to begin her assignment in early February 2008.


MacLeod follows Reidenbach, who was promoted to be the Regional Director for the NPS Northeast Region in September 2007. “Cindy MacLeod has a strong background in managing cultural resources and in building successful partnerships. Her skills are a particularly good match for the resources, the people, the community, and the challenges that face Independence National Historical Park,” said Reidenbach. “It is satisfying to be able to choose your successor and with Cindy, Independence is in very good hands.”

Since 1990, MacLeod served as superintendent of Richmond National Battlefield Park and Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site in Richmond, Virginia. Richmond NBP preserves more than 1900 acres of Civil War resources at nine sites in the Richmond area.

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Maggie L. Walker NHS commemorates the life of Walker, a successful African American businesswoman in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the first woman in the United States to charter and serve as president of a bank. While in Richmond, MacLeod expanded resource preservation and interpretation at both parks and was instrumental in historic building rehabilitations. She established new visitor centers for each park including the Visitor Center at Tredegar, a partnership venture that opened to acclaim in 2000.

"I will miss the NPS staff in Richmond, our wonderful partners, and the vibrant programs that we have built over the years," said MacLeod. "But, I know and love Philadelphia, and I look forward to working with the people, partners and programs at Independence."

MacLeod began her career with the NPS in Michigan in 1980 as an architectural historian. She worked in the NPS regional offices in Omaha, Nebraska, and in Philadelphia where she managed the tax incentive programs for historic rehabilitation projects and conducted architectural surveys. She completed Harvard University's Senior Managers in Government Program and served in international assignments in Poland and France. She has a master's degree in architectural history from the University of Virginia and a bachelor's degree from Duke University, where she majored in both zoology and comparative literature. MacLeod enjoys being mom to her children ages 10 and 12, traveling, and gardening. She is married to architect Douglas Harnsberger.

Independence NHP, "the birthplace of our nation" is home to the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, the site of Benjamin Franklin's home and about 20 buildings open to the public. For information about Independence National Historical Park, go to [www.nps.gov/inde](http://www.nps.gov/inde). Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site commemorates the life of the author, his times, and his literary legacy. More information can be found at [www.nps.gov/edal](http://www.nps.gov/edal). Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial, the smallest unit of the NPS, honors the Polish patriot and hero of the American Revolution. More information is at [www.nps.gov/thko](http://www.nps.gov/thko).

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