

First Aid Kit - Following her career as president of the American Red Cross, Clara Barton established the National First Aid Association of America and served as the honorary president for five years. The organization emphasized basic first aid instruction, emergency preparedness and developed first aid kits. The First Aid Kit included items such as: Bandages, Tourniquets, Cotton Dressings, Scissors, Safety Pins, Medicine, Vials, Dental Floss, Plaster Cough and the First Aid textbook.



Cannon Ball – When the Civil War began in 1861, Clara Barton was living in Washington, DC. She saw many soldiers come through the city, some wounded or in need of supplies. She began a collection of goods and supplies to give to the soldiers. But this only did so much good. Clara Barton knew that to provide any real support or services she needed to be closer to the battle, on the field. But because she was a woman, this was not an easy task. However, her persistence and courage eventually allowed her to gain permission to go to the battlefront. She pushed herself hard during the war, working to help all those in need no matter what side they were fighting for. This is where she earned her title, the Angel of the Battlefield.

This fragment is original to the Civil War and was transferred to the Clara Barton National Historic Site from the National Park Service collection of Gettysburg National Military Park. It illustrates the odd assortment of show and tell type of items Miss Barton kept around the Glen Echo home. She collected objects from places of service and used them in exhibits and receptions to add to the story of her work.

Clara Barton was not at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1 -3, 1863, as she was working in the Sea Islands region of

South Carolina for the siege at Charleston. This object is also an example of how the National Park Service is able to benefit public education through the cooperation of park sites. During the restoration of Clara Barton National Historic Site, the National Park Service worked with objects that were original to the site and added additional objects of the period and in a few instances created reproductions that were necessary to complete display areas. Clara Barton had fragments of artillery shells from her Civil War service but the National Park Service did not have any of her original fragments in the museum collection. In working with other National Park Service Civil War sites, fragments not needed for display purposes were located and available for loan or transfer from Gettysburg National Military Park. Visitors can gain a sense of these types of objects in Clara Barton's home, even if the original objects are not in the collection, thanks to the cooperation between National Park Service sites.



Lincoln Inauguration Invitation -

Clara Barton received an invitation to President Lincoln's Second Inaugural Ball for her contribution during the Civil War. It was held March 6, 1865 on the top floor of the Patent Office Building. During the 1850's Miss Barton worked in the building as a clerk. Miss Barton and Lincoln never met, however he was familiar with her work and put her in charge of the Office of Correspondence of Missing Men in Army in 1865.



Knife (and case) – Although Clara Barton had no formal training as a nurse, she was called to perform nursing duties during the Civil War. These items are believed original to the Clara Barton National Historic Site collection and probably date between 1900 and 1925.





This pocket knife serves as a reminder of one of Clara Barton's Civil War tales. During the Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, Clara Barton performed her first field surgery. She extracted a bullet from the face of a wounded soldier using only her pocket knife and another wounded man to hold the patient still. She later stated, "I do not think a surgeon would have pronounced it a scientific operation, but that it was successful I dared to hope from the gratitude of the patient."

Diary – Clara Barton often wrote down the events of the day in her diary. When the National Park Service site took over the property in 1975, they had to do a lot of work to restore the house to the way it looked when Clara Barton lived here. In a wall they found several of her diaries! Because of this find, we are able to learn more about her personal life, her interactions with other people, and the day to day operations of the Red Cross.

This diary of Clara Barton's is from the Spanish American War, 1898. Her diary during the Spanish American War July16, 1898 – December 31, 1898 has an entry for nearly everyday except September. Charts on tides, postage rates, city populations, lunar cycles, and cash accounts were some of the recordings. The American Red Cross aid included members of the American armed forces, prisoners of war, and Cuban refugees. This was the first time that the American Red Cross provided assistance to American armed forces and civilians during wartime.



Bodice – This bodice, or shirt, worn by Clara Barton, was part of the original collection when the National Park service acquired the property in 1975. The bodice is made of silk with 9 fabric covered buttons up the front. Due to constant exhibition in the past, we are no longer able to display it in the museum. Light has damaged the material to a point where it is to fragile to put on exhibit.



Dr. Hubbell Portrait – Julian Bertine Hubbell served the American Red Cross from its inception in 1881 until 1904, as Chief Field Agent. He was engaged at every field of relief during those first twenty-three years, except for the efforts following the Galveston Hurricane of 1900. Julian Hubbell was born February 5, 1847 in Sabula, Iowa. In the mid 1870's, he moved to Dansville. New York and served as a Professor of Science and later Principal at the Dansville, New York Hygienic Seminary. It was during this time that he met Miss Barton, learned of her quest to form a Red Cross Society in America and pledged his service to her cause. On June 28, 1883 he received his degree as a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Michigan. Julian Hubbell passed away in the Glen Echo home on November 19, 1929 and is buried in Anamosa, Iowa.



Typewriter – Clara Barton's Glen Echo home also housed several American Red Cross volunteers. Volunteers could stay at the house with free room and board in exchange for their work. This typewriter, located in the Red Cross volunteer offices, is only one of many pieces of technology in the house. Clara Barton was fond of technology and incorporated it into her offices. She also had a telephone, a letter press, a graphaphone

(early recording device), staplers, electricity, and plumbing! In her line of work, these things were very useful.

This typewriter, also called a Standard Visible Writer, is not original to Clara Barton National Historic Site, but is typical of the office equipment used by American Red Cross staff in the Glen Echo home. Clara Barton owned typewriters manufactured by Remington, Underwood and Oliver. Clara Barton noted in her diary on December 3, 1898, "Mr. Cottrell has succeeded so well in his operation of the Oliver Typewriter, that he is carrying along nearly all the current correspondence."



Clara Barton's chair - This chair is original to the house. It is thought to have been used by Clara Barton at her desk in her office. (oral tradition??) Legend has it that Clara Barton cut off the back of the chair to prove that she was not too old for the job and that she did not need any kind of support.



Record of Federal Dead - Between 1865 and 1869, Clara Barton conducted her search for missing soldiers and ran her Office of Correspondence with the Friends of the Missing Men of the United States Army. She began her work in Annapolis, Maryland with the returning Union prisoners of war. This book is original to her program and contains information she complied in order to notify families about the fate of their missing soldiers.

The Record of Federal Dead is a bound record book with 17 pages completed in pen and ink. It lists the name, rank, company, state, regiment, place and date of death, age or cause of death for

488 Federal soldiers who died in hospitals in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. The names of those supplying the information are also given. Printed in black on the spine of the book "RECORD OF FEDERAL DEAD. CLARA BARTON."



Red and Gold Settee – After her work with the Office of the Missing Soldiers Clara Barton was in need of a good long rest. Her doctors recommended that she take a much needed vacation. She traveled to Europe, where she learned of the International Red Cross, an organization established to aid victims of War. Clara Barton volunteered her time and efforts to help their cause.

By tradition, this red and gold settee was gifted to Clara Barton from the Grand Duchess Louise of Baden, Germany, for her contributions during the Franco-Prussia War in 1870. Clara Barton and the Grand Duchess friendship began in 1870 when Miss Barton worked under her sponsorship in the German Red Cross. Miss Barton worked to organize relief and establish sewing factories in order to provide clothing for the residents and employment for women.



Sitz bath - Clara Barton lived in her house in Glen Echo for the last 15 years of her life. It home served as her primary residence, the Headquarters of the American Red Cross, and a warehouse. Miss Barton's house did have plumbing during her lifetime and there was one bathroom on the second floor. Chamber pots and bathtubs like the Sitz Bath were still available in case they were needed by the many volunteers and workers that lived in the house with Miss Barton. The term Sitz derives from the German word sitzen, which means to sit. The Sitz Bath specifically is a bathtub shaped like a chair in which one bathes in a sitting position.



Clara Barton Seal – After all of her hard work throughout the Civil War, Miss Barton's doctors recommended that she take a much needed rest, a holiday in Europe. Not being one who was used to being idle, Clara Barton soon found a new cause. She learned of the International Red Cross and their work all over Europe.

Coming back to the United States, Clara Barton brought the idea of an American Red Cross to the US government. But the United States had just fought a war, and did not think another would come along anytime soon. They had no interest in supporting an organization for victims of war. So Clara Barton amended her plan to include victims of famine and natural disasters, none of which were preventable. Clara Barton became the first president of the American Red Cross in 1881.

Clara Barton sent teams, often including herself, of volunteer aid workers to disaster sites. These teams were stockpiled with supplies and a desire to help. "Visit the worst places, stay long enough to learn the real needs, and supply them... This is the original style and spirit of real Red Cross work." Miss Barton remained the president of the American Red Cross until her retirement 1904.

In An imprinted hand stamp marked with the initials C B and cross design used by Clara Barton for marking documents and items with her seal.



Stapler – This Midget Staple Binder or stapler is not original to Clara Barton National Historic Site, but is typical of the office equipment used by American Red Cross workers while performing administrative work in the Glen Echo Headquarters. The Acme Staple Company was founded in 1894 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. At the time of this writing, the company was still in business, located in Franklin, New Hampshire.



Photo of Clara Barton's home and Glen Echo amusement park ride –

Clara Barton was drawn to Glen Echo, MD, by Edward and Edwin Baltzley. The two brothers were developing the area around their Chautaugua in Glen Echo. They knew that having a person of national celebrity in the neighborhood would draw buyers to the area and offered to build Clara Barton a house free of charge. She accepted their offer, but she first used the building only as a warehouse. The house was too far from Washington, DC to be very practical. It took her over two hours to reach Glen Echo by carriage. However, when the trolley lines came to Glen Echo in 1897, she moved into the house full time. The house functioned as her home, warehouse, and national headquarters for the American Red Cross.

The Glen Echo Amusement Park now stood on the original site of the 53rd National Chautauqua. This is a photo postcard of Clara Barton's Glen Echo home, with rollercoaster tracks out in the front of her house. The Glen Echo Park Amusement managers put a rollercoaster that came screeching by her window and a Ferris wheel was on the side of her home. Park owners were hoping to drive her out of her house so he could turn it into a hotel. Clara Barton was happy to see him replaced.