

BOOTH'S ESCAPE CENTURY ROUTE (Start from Laurel Springs Park in La Plata)

0.0	R	Radio Station Rd out of Park	50.3	R	TRO on Olivers Shop (232) from St Marys
2.0	R	Washington Ave at T, SS	51.5		[14] Bryantown Tavern on L
2.6	L	Mitchell Rd	51.6	X	Leonardtown Rd (5) TRO 232 at light
2.7	X	301 at light	54.5	R	Woodville Rd at T
5.8	R	Hawthorne Rd (225) shoulder	57.1	L	Mt Pleasant Rd
7.3	L	Rose Hill Rd at light	57.8	R	Covington Rd (Becomes Croom)
		[1] Thomas Stone NHS	60.2	S	TRO Croom Rd at SS
		[2] Rose Hill	62.6	L	Baden Westwood Rd
10.0	R	Rte 6 at T, SS	64.1	R	Bald Eagle School Rd
11.3	R	Poorhouse Rd	65.4	R	TRO Bald Eagle School Rd
15.0	L	Annapolis Woods Rd	66.1	L	Croom Rd (382)
16.7	L	Fire Tower Rd	67.8	R	Tanyard Rd
18.7	L	Rte 6 at T, SS	69.6	L	Nottingham Rd 1161
23.8	R	Causeway Rd	70.4	R	TRO Nottingham Rd
23.9	R	Chapel Pt Rd	70.8	R	Fenno Rd
		[3] One-room Schoolhouse and	71.6	R	Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary
		Old Port Tobacco Town Square	72.5	R	REST STOP by Visitors Center
		[4] Milberry Grove			
27.7		REST STOP at St. Ignatius [5]			
27.7	R	TRO on Chapel Pt Rd from Rest Stop	72.9	R	To leave Merkle
29.4	R	Irving Rd	73.4	R	Fenno (becomes St Thomas Church)
30.0	R	Route 301 shoulder	75.4	L	Mattaponi Rd
31.0	R	Popes Creek Rd	76.5	R	Croom Rd
		[8] Huckleberry	76.7	L	Molly Berry Rd
		[9] Dents Meadow	78.4	L	TRO Molly Berry Rd
		[10] Keechland	80.5	R	Baden Naylor Rd
		[11] Beach...RESTAURANTS	80.7	R	TRO Baden Naylor Rd
36.0	L	Edge Hill Rd at T	82.9	R	Baden Westwood Rd
37.0	L	Route 301 use shoulder on far side	83.4	R	Route 381 ... STORE on L
37.4	R	Budd's Creek Rd (234)	84.1	L	Cedarville Rd
		[12] Zekiah Swamp	86.4	L	Dent Rd (Becomes St Peters Church)
38.9	L	Penns Hill Rd	90.3	R	Poplar Hill Rd at T, SS (no sign) at
44.3	S	Wheatley Rd across (6) ... STORE			[17] St Peters Church
46.0	L	Olivers Shop Rd (232)	91.0	L	Mattawoman Beantown (205) at light
49.8	R	Notre Dame Place	91.4	L	Leonardtown Rd (5) at light
50.1	R	REST STOP at St Marys Church [13]	91.9	R	Renner Rd
			92.9	R	Piney Church Rd
			95.3	S	TRO Piney Church Rd
			97.6	R	Route 488 at T, SS
			100.2	R	Radio Station Rd
			101.3	R	END at Laurel Springs Park picnic area

SOUTHERN MARYLAND CENTURY HISTORICAL SITES

- [1] **Thomas Stone National Historical Site:** 'Habre de Venture'; Home of a signer of the Declaration of Independence
- [2] **Rose Hill:** Home of Confederate agent Olivia Floyd, her brother John Semmes, and George Washington's Doctor.
- [3] **Port Tobacco:** Old Indian village of Potobac visited in 1608 by Captain John Smith. Later a center of Confederate activity, where Tom Jones was offered a \$100,000 reward to betray Booth. (Jones fed Booth for 5 days and put him in a boat for Virginia instead). Museum opens at noon.
- [4] **St. Ignatius Church:** (FIRST REST STOP). Oldest (1662) continuously active parish in the U.S. Olivia and John Floyd are buried here (see [2])
- [5] **The Pine Thicket:** Where Tom Jones cared for Booth and Herold for 5 days.
- [6] **Rich Hill:** Home of Samuel Cox who fed and aided Booth and Herold after they crossed the Great Zekiah Swamp.
- [7] **Huckleberry:** Home of Tom Jones (see [5]). Jones, Booth and Herold stopped here for provisions on the way to Jones' rowboat.
- [8] **Dent's Meadow:** Crossed by Jones, Booth and Herold to reach Potomac River.
- [9] **Keechland:** The Dent Plantation.
- [10] **Pope's Creek Beach;** Whence Booth and Herold first set off for Virginia in Tom Jones' rowboat. They landed back in Maryland at Blossom Point by mistake.
- [11] **Great Zekiah Swamp:** Crossed by the two fugitives after leaving Dr. Mudd.
- [12] **St. Mary's Church:** Where Booth and Dr. Mudd first met. Dr. Mudd is buried here.
- [13] **Bryantown Tavern:** The conspirators met here to hatch their plots.
- [14] **Mudd Home:** Where Booth's broken leg was set. Tours 12-4 pm are conducted by Dr. Mudd's granddaughter who was born and raised here. Well worth the \$3.00 fee! Air Conditioned.
- [15] **Nottingham:** Colonial port town. The British camped here on their march to D.C. in 1814.
- [16] **St. Peter's Church:** Where, on Easter Sunday, Mudd reported the late night visit of two "strangers" on Good Friday. Spangler, the stage hand who held Booth's horse at Ford's Theater on Good Friday (and was convicted as a conspirator) is buried here.

BOOTH'S ESCAPE

Booth and his fellow conspirators had first plotted to kidnap Lincoln. They ambushed his carriage on March 17, 1865, but Lincoln was not inside. Three weeks later, on April 9, the Civil War ended with Lee's surrender at Appomattox. When it was announced that Lincoln would attend Ford's Theater on Good Friday, April 14, Booth, an actor familiar with the theater, saw his chance to avenge the Confederacy. The conspirators decided to kill the President, Vice President Andrew Johnson and the Secretary of State William Seward simultaneously.

George Atzerodt, who was to kill Johnson, went to the Kirkwood Hotel, but then lost his nerve and fled to Germantown. Lewis Powell almost succeeded in knifing to death Seward and four other members of his household. David Herold, who awaited Powell outside was frightened by the screams within and fled on his stolen horse.

At the same time, 10:15 pm, Booth succeeded in shooting Lincoln in the back of the head. He leaped to the stage yelling "sic semper tyrannis", breaking his leg as he landed, and escaped through the stage door to his waiting horse.

Crossing the Navy Yard Bridge (11th street), Booth met up with Herold at Soper's Hill, Anacostia, at about 11:30 pm. The two fugitives took New Cut Road to Surratts Tavern to pick up binoculars and a rifle hidden there. They continued on to Dr. Mudd's home [14], arriving at about 4:00 am. There the broken leg was set and Booth rested in an upstairs bedroom for 12 hours, until Mudd returned from Bryantown [13] where he met soldiers searching for Booth and learned of the assassination.

Leaving about 5 pm on Saturday, they arrived at Oswell Swann's cabin after avoiding Bryantown. Swann guided them through the Great Zekiah Swamp [11] and led them to Col. Sam Cox's home, Rich Hill [6], at midnight. After a meal, they hid in a pine thicket [5] two miles away, where they were cared for by Tom Jones for the next five days. On Thursday, Jones took them to the river, stopping for food and drink at Huckleberry [7], his home. Crossing Dent's Meadow [8], they reached the boat and set off across the Potomac from Pope's Creek shore [10] with a candle and compass to guide them in the dark. The incoming tide deposited the fugitives back in Maryland at Blossom Point. They were cared for by Confederate agents Peregrin Davis and John Hughs until they set out again for Virginia two days later, on Saturday. This time they reached their destination, where they were ultimately trapped in Garrett's barn. Herold surrendered, but Booth was fatally shot when the barn was burned down to flush him out.