

# HARRIET TUBMAN

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 harriettubman.com/appoq.html

**HARRIET  
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» Home

» Freedom  
Tour

» Memoriam

» Photo  
Gallery

» Contact  
Us

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MAIN MENU

» HOME

» GENERAL  
TUBMAN

» FREEDOM  
TOUR

» MEMORIAM

» HISTORICAL  
DOCUMENTS

» PHOTO  
GALLERY

» HARRIET  
TUBMAN DAY

» Heritage  
Production Co.

» **HARRIET  
TUBMAN'S  
COLORING  
BOOK CLUB**

» **Senator Hillary  
Clinton**

» **Harriet  
Tubman's  
Civil War  
Pension**

» **VISIT THE  
HARRIET  
TUBMAN HOME**

» **WILMINGTON  
FRIENDS  
MEETING  
HOUSE**

» **THOMAS  
GARRETT**

» **THOMAS  
GARRETT DAY**

» **ALBANY FREE  
SCHOOL**

» **APPOQUINIMINK  
MEETING  
HOUSE**

» **Camden  
MEETING  
HOUSE**

» **STAR HILL  
A.M.E. CHURCH**

» **TUBMAN-  
GARRETT  
RIVERFRONT  
PARK**

Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House

The  
State  
Div

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs  
The Harriet Tubman Historical Society  
Appoquinimink Friends Meeting  
\*

Cordially invites you to attend the  
Dedication Ceremony of the  
Historical Marker for  
Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House  
\*

Thursday, March 10, 1994  
Harriet Tubman Day  
12:00 Noon  
\*

Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House  
West Main Street, Rt. 299  
Odessa, Delaware  
\*

Freedom Program at Zoar Church  
(Next door to the Meeting House)  
Thomas Garrett gift T-Shirts  
For all Band Members

Sponsored by  
The Harriet Tubman Historical Society  
\*

Guests:  
Delaware National Guard – Retiring of Colors  
Howard Parker, Wills & Joanne Passmore,  
Robert Eastburn, Littleton & Jane Mitchell  
Mike & Allison Richards  
Ada Wanamaker, Zoar Church  
Dan Griffith, Thomas Summers  
Harmon Carey  
Middletown High School Band  
*Selection: The Battle Hymn of the Republic*  
David Harris, Director  
RSVP:

The Harriet Tubman Historical Society  
(302) 762-8010

APPOQUINIMINK FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Believed to be one of the smallest Quaker Meeting Houses in the nation, the Appoquinimink Friends Meeting house was built by David Wilson and presented to the Friends as a gift. Local tradition identifies this structure as a stop on the Underground

» **TUBMAN-GARRETT PLAQUE**

» **CLEARFIELD FARM**

» **CHARLES BLOCKSON**

» **KOSTMAYER - H.R. 3863**

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Railroad during the years preceding the Civil War. While enroute to destinations north of Delaware, runaway slaves would hide in the loft of the church in order to escape capture. Prominent local Quakers who served as agents on the Railroad included John Alston and John Hunn. The Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. NC - 90



The Delaware Public Archives operates a historical markers program as part of its mandate. Markers are placed at historically significant locations and sites across the state. For more information on this program, please contact Russ McCabe at (302) 744-5000.

Location: Odessa – Approximately 1/8 mile west of the intersection of Route 1, and Route 299 (Main Street) south side of Route 299.

Notes:

APPOQUINIMINK - RESTING PLACE. Native American Minquas Used This Area in Their Travels and Commerce

One of the smallest Quaker Meeting Houses in the nation, Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House was built in 1785. Quakers, or friends were known for their strong feelings against slavery. Local Quakers used the Meeting as a station on the Underground Railroad. Free Africans and abolitionists of many faiths cooperated to make the Underground Railroad a safe passage-way to freedom for people enslaved. Among the station masters, conductors and helpers were Harriet Tubman, Thomas Garrett, John Alston, William Still, John Hunn, and Patrick Holland. (*Howard Parker, Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House*)

*At Odessa, Delaware, the slaves often stayed at the Friends Meeting House on the south side of Main Street. It was a plain brick structure about twenty feet square, with a pitch roof and pent eaves across the gable ends. This roof covered a loft in which the blacks hid. (General Harriet Tubman by Earl Conrad)*



Picture  
courtesy  
of Cayuga  
Museum  
(Click  
picture to  
enlarge)

*The Appoquinimink Meeting House is said to have been a station on the Underground Railroad. A member of the meeting, John Hunn, owned the farm to the west and was arrested with Thomas Garrett for harboring runaway slaves. (Friend in Odessa)*

*John Alston, who died 25<sup>th</sup> of ninth month, 1874, for a long while attended it regularly, mostly alone. John Alston was a devoted friend of the slave, and an agent on the Underground Railroad. (T. Chalkey Matlack)*

Appoquinimink Friends Meeting House listed: NPS Underground Railroad Special Resource Study 1995.



### **The Underground Railroad Advisory Committee**



Harriet  
Tubman  
"The  
Conductor"  
By Carl A.  
Pierce  
(click  
picture to  
enlarge)

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