



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hopewell Furnace
National Historic Site

610-582-8773 phone
www.nps.gov/hofu

National Park Service News Release

Release Date: Immediate Release

Contact: Jeff Jones, Site Manager (484-326-9365)

Hopewell Furnace Celebrates 87 years as a National Historic Site

ELVERSON – Hopewell Furnace invites you to join in celebrating the 87th anniversary of the park's establishment as a National Historic Site on Saturday, August 2nd. Programs and demonstrations will be offered throughout the day from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. touching on the over 250 years of stories the park has to tell.

Programs will highlight the park's significance both as a furnace and as a site for recreation and learning including aluminum molding and casting demonstrations, historic bake oven cooking, Revolutionary War era historic weapons demonstrations, fiber arts, blacksmithing, and more. At 11:00 a.m. park volunteer colliers will begin the summer charcoal burn which demonstrates the historic process for converting wood to charcoal. The charcoal burn lasts 7 days around the clock concluding on Saturday, August 9th.

Hopewell Furnace was established as a National Historic Site on August 3, 1938, and preserves the late 18th and early 19th century setting of an iron-making community, including the charcoal-fueled furnace, and its natural and cultural resources. This community illustrates the essential role of industrialization in the growth of the early United States. The furnace was established in 1771 by Ironmaster Mark Bird and operated as a furnace for the next 112 years.

The park's facilities are open Wednesday through Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Hopewell Furnace is located at 2 Mark Bird Lane, Elverson, PA 19520 about five miles south of Birdsboro, PA, off Route 345. Admission to the park is free. For more information, call 610-582-8773 or visit the park's web site at www.nps.gov/hofu.

.