

CLARA BARTON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

WHAT IS NOW THE Clara Barton National Historic Site—a large home located in Glen Echo, Maryland—was originally constructed in 1891 to serve as an American Red Cross warehouse for disaster relief supplies. Clara Barton worked with her staff in an office within the home, and the house was equipped with living quarters for staff and volunteers returning from disaster sites. In 1897, Barton designated the home as the American Red Cross's national headquarters. That same year, she began living there, and it was her home until she died on April 12, 1912.

Following Barton's death, the house was privately owned for many years. In 1963, the group Friends of Clara Barton bought the house and preserved it for several years, and the house was given National Historic Landmark status in 1965. In 1974, Congress designated the house as the Clara Barton National Historic Site, and one year later, the National Park Service purchased the house and restored it to its appearance during Barton's time living and working there. Today, the Clara Barton National Historic Site is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays and offers four free guided tours on each of those days.