

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 19, 2016**

**REDDICK MANSION TO HOST CIVIL WAR ARTIFACT AND WEAPON  
DISPLAY**

**REDDICK MANSION ASSOCIATION**  
**100 W. LAFAYETTE STREET**  
**OTTAWA, IL**

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On Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, from 11am-3pm, the Reddick Mansion will have two of the area's largest personal collections of Civil War artifacts and weaponry on display.

Bob Diepen of Seneca has been collecting Civil War artifacts for many years. His weapons collection includes saddle guns, pocket pistols and naval guns from the Civil War. On display, he will have one of only a thousand rifles issued to the Union Navy during the War. His collection also includes cannon balls, swords, and bayonets. Diepen will also display two sets of slave shackles and slave identification artifacts.

One of his more recent acquisitions is the collection of more than 44 photographic prints from 1864, originally owned by Spencer Meade, son of General George Gordon Meade, the Union commander at the Battle of Gettysburg. According to Diepen, "Spencer collected the 'photos' in 1864, while he was traveling with his father, General Meade. There are images of several Union generals including Sherman, Thomas, and Burnside, as well as several significant legislators of the time. It is really a unique collection of the important military and political leaders during the Civil War."

The other collection belongs to Chicago suburbanite, Rob Hauff. Hauff has been a Civil War re-enactor and collector for more than 30 years and has presented his traveling museum to schools and civic groups throughout Illinois and Wisconsin. "My traveling museum teaches about Civil War history through objects. Weapons, personal artifacts, and models tell about the people and events of the Civil War," said Hauff.

Hauff will often do spontaneous presentations about Samuel Colt, John Ericson, and John Logan. The highlights of Hauff's collection includes an impressive assortment of Colt pistols as well as several artillery shell displays.

The cost is \$5.00 per person. All proceeds from this event will be used for the maintenance and restoration of the Reddick Mansion.

The Reddick Mansion, at 100 W. Lafayette Street in Ottawa, IL, was completed by 1858, the time of the first Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. The building is open for tours 6 days a week and is also available for rent for special events.