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Steamtown National Historic Site News Release

October 22, 2004

For Release: Immediately

Contact: Ralph J. Coury, 570-340-5185 **Slocum Hollow's Christmas Magic**[©]

A Special Holiday Journey from Steamtown to the North Pole

Scranton, PA – Ever wonder what it really takes to get Santa's sleigh airborne? The answer to this timeless mystery is revealed in *Slocum Hollow's Christmas Magic*[©]. Visit Steamtown National Historic Site this holiday season; and travel to the North Pole on board a steam-powered train ride to the old Elf's wintry workshop. Feast on cocoa and cookies, prepared and served by Santa's best helpers. Experience the Yule Tide through the eyes of the children who grew up in Northeastern Pennsylvania's coal country.

Slocum Hollow's Christmas Magic[©] is a heartwarming story about a brother and sister growing up in a small mining village. Like many other children, then and now, Michael and Molly look forward to each holiday season with great anticipation. But this year, more than any before, will be especially exciting. Together with their mother and father, they will make the long-awaited journey to the "magical village" and finally meet the jolly old fellow with the rosy red cheeks.

Trains will depart for the North Pole nightly on:

Saturday	November 27	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Sunday	November 28	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	
Thursday	December 2	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	
Friday	December 3	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Saturday	December 4	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Sunday	December 5	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	
Thursday	December 9	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Friday	December 10	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Saturday	December 11	5:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 p.m.

Each night, as the train chugs its way nearer its destination, passengers will watch through frosted windows to catch a glimpse of the twinkling lights that decorate Santa's workshop and line the eaves and rooftops of Steamtown's holiday village. Children will sing carols and cheer when they hear the blast of the train whistle, signaling their arrival at the North Pole. Santa and his helpers will board the train to welcome everyone on the delightful evening visit to the icy north.

Adding to the holiday excitement, the Electric City Trolley Station and Museum – located adjacent to Steamtown National Historic Site – will once again host the *Festival of Trees*. This annual program, which supports the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots Campaign, features a collection of festively decorated holiday exhibits and Christmas Trees, and offers a unique opportunity to stroll through a winter wonderland of holidays past and present.

Due to high demand and limited seating, early reservations for *Slocum Hollow's Christmas Magic* are strongly recommended. Tickets are available at \$10.00 per person/age 1 and older. Credit card payments may be made in person or by telephone between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., daily. All mail order reservations must be paid by check or money order and must be received prior to November 19 to ensure adequate time for delivery of tickets. In the event of cancellation or postponement due to inclement weather, refunds will be available to those ticket holders who are unable to attend rescheduled programs.

Steamtown is open daily from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. From I-81, follow exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway); then, follow the signs to the main entrance at Lackawanna and Cliff Avenues. Additional details may be obtained by calling (570) 340-5200 or toll free (888) 693-9391, or by visiting the Steamtown web site at www.nps.gov/stea.

 $^{^{\}odot}$ Based on the children's story, Slocum Hollow's Christmas Magic $^{\odot}$, copyright 2004, written by Ron Stiltenpole.