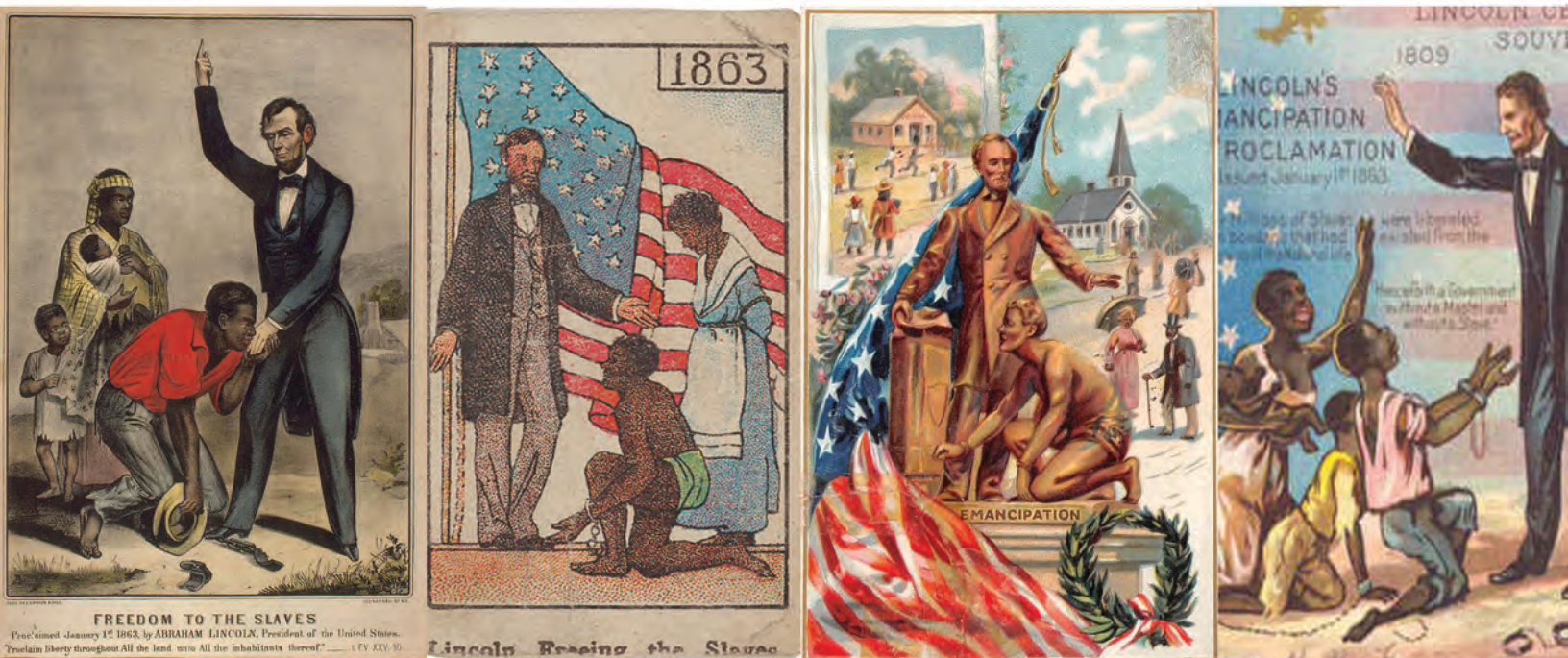


'I Don't See Freedom': Residents on Lincoln Statue

Lincoln Park, Washington, D.C.'s largest urban park located a mile from the nation's Capitol Building, is also home to the "Emancipation Memorial," designed by Charlestown native Thomas Ball to celebrate Abraham Lincoln. Speaking in 1876 at the dedication service with President Ulysses S. Grant in attendance, Frederick Douglass remarked: "showing the black man with a manly stature, rather than on his knees, would've been more indicative of freedom."

An exact replica is featured in Boston's Park Square. Located directly across Boston's famous Public Garden, nestled between the stately Park Plaza Hotel and a Legal Seafood restaurant, the city's "Freedman's Memorial" is viewed by throngs of locals and visitors from across the world every day. The city of Methuen has another edition in its Town Hall, and University of Wisconsin-Madison is the sponsor of a version standing prominently on its campus grounds.

The National Park Service maintains that the monument was paid for solely by small donations of former slaves. However, the initial funding promotions were posted without reference to the planned design, simply asking for freed persons to give money in honor and thanks to Lincoln's memory. Later a St. Louis-based volunteer relief agency took up the effort, raising well over \$25,000. Congress appropriated \$3,000 for the pedestal upon which the original still rests.



PRESIDENT LINCOLN, WRITING THE PROCLAMATION OF FREEDOM,
January 1st 1863.