

## **Mount Vernon to launch Civil War tour**

*By The Associated Press*

George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate in Virginia will soon offer a new tour to highlight its connection to the Civil War.

After Union troops stormed nearby Alexandria just weeks into the war, Confederate forces were closing in from the south. Records show soldiers from both sides visited the estate during that turbulent time.

Washington's home was considered one of the few neutral locations during the war, due to efforts by the home's caretakers, the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association.

The estate announced Friday that it will offer the "Mount Vernon in the Civil War" tour on Saturdays and Sundays beginning April 2 through October. It will show the changing role of African Americans at the estate and views from Union and Confederate perspectives about the first U.S. president.