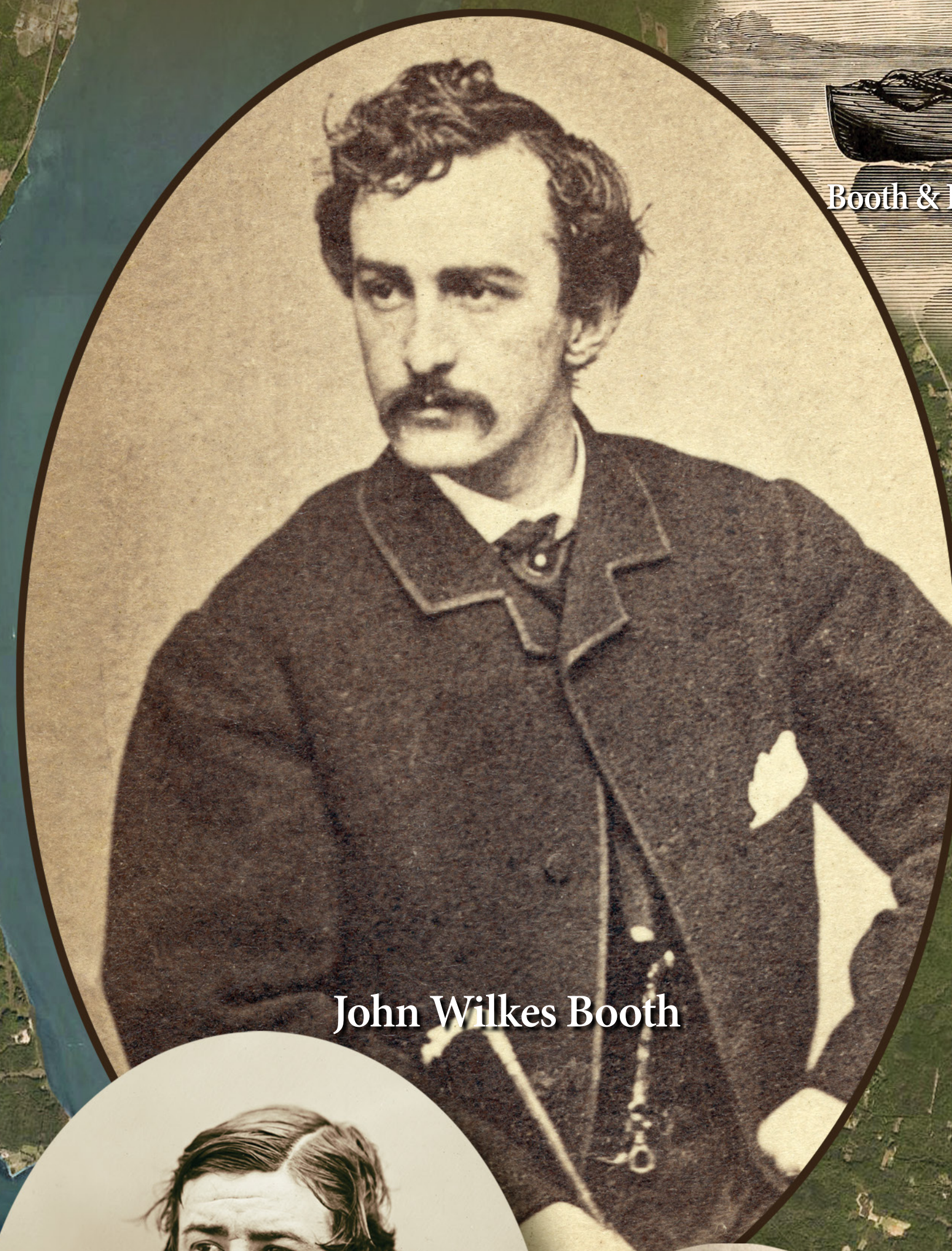


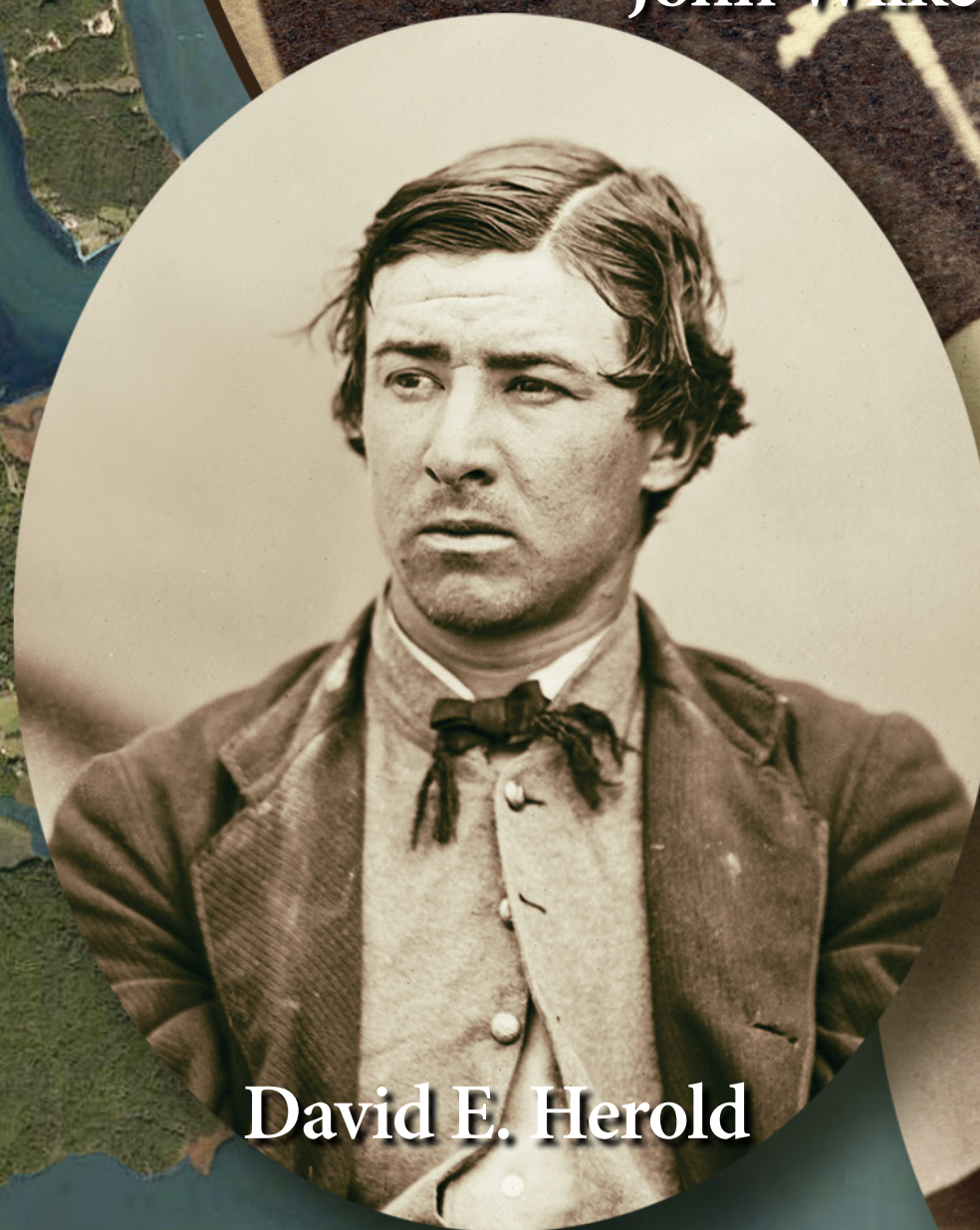
JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPES TO VIRGINIA FROM POPES CREEK AFTER ASSASSINATING PRESIDENT LINCOLN



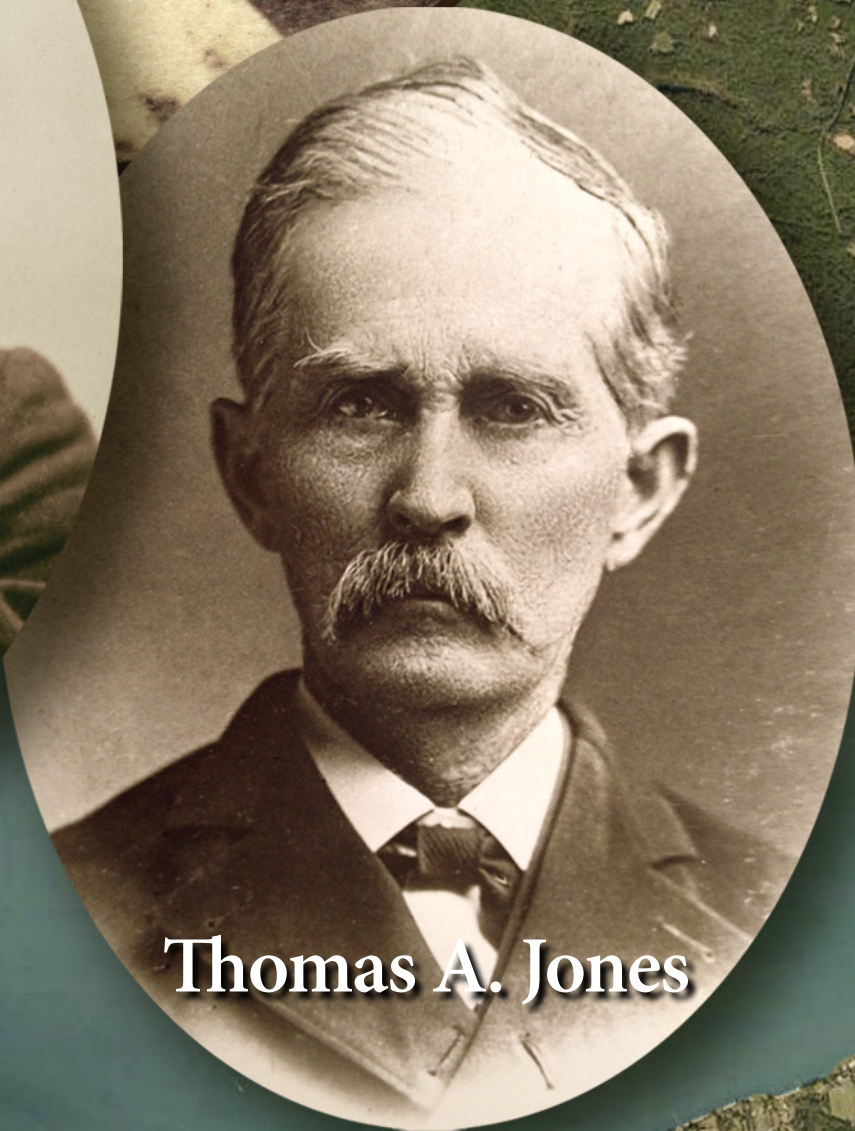
Booth & Herold escaping across the Potomac from Popes Creek (c. 1867)



John Wilkes Booth



David E. Herold



Thomas A. Jones

1 After assassinating Pres. Abraham Lincoln on Friday, April 14, 1865, John Wilkes Booth and his accomplice, David Herold, fled southward from Washington, DC into Charles County. Booth's leg, which had been broken during the assassination, was set by Dr. Samuel Mudd of Waldorf, MD before the pair continued on to "Rich Hill," the estate of rebel sympathizer, Col. Samuel Cox. To evade a search by Union troops, Col. Cox hid Booth and Herold while summoning Thomas A. Jones, the Confederacy's Chief Signal Agent north of the Potomac, from his Popes Creek home known as "Huckleberry." Thomas A. Jones then guided Booth and Herold to the mouth of a stream in Dent's Meadow ±1-mile north of Popes Creek where a rowboat had been hidden to carry the conspirators across the Potomac into Virginia.

MARYLAND

3 Indiantown Farm

Huckleberry

2 Dent's Meadow

Popes Creek **You Are Here**

4 Gambo Creek

VIRGINIA

UPPER MACHODOC CREEK

2 After sundown on April 20, Booth and Herold launched their boat from Dent's Meadow near Popes Creek bound for Machodoc Creek in Virginia.

3 Misdirected by strong currents, navigational errors, and the threat of Union gunboats patrolling the Potomac, at sunrise on April 21 Booth and Herold discovered they were still on the Maryland side of the Potomac near Nanjemoy Creek, 9-miles northwest of their intended destination. The pair hid in a former slave cabin at Indiantown Farm until the evening of April 22 when they set out in their boat once again for Machodoc Creek where assistance had been prearranged by Thomas A. Jones.

4 Booth and Herold finally reached the Virginia shore on April 23, landing at Gambo Creek near modern day Dahlgren, VA, where they found assistance before continuing their escape southward. On April 26, the two conspirators were caught by Federal troops at Garrett's Farm near Port Royal, VA 30-miles to the south. John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Pres. Abraham Lincoln, was shot dead in the Garrett's tobacco barn. Booth's accomplice, David Herold, was captured and subsequently executed on the gallows at the Washington Arsenal on July 7, 1865. Thomas A. Jones of Popes Creek was arrested but later released for lack of evidence against him.