

## Department of Historic Resources

([www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov))

**For Immediate Release**

November 3, 2014

**Contact:**

Randy Jones

Department of Historic Resources

540.578-3031 (cell)

[Randy.Jones@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:Randy.Jones@dhr.virginia.gov).

STATE HISTORICAL HIGHWAY MARKER  
"MARY GREENHOW LEE (1819-1907)"  
TO BE DEDICATED IN WINCHESTER

***—Marker highlights the one-time Winchester resident and noted Civil War diarist Mary Greenhow Lee—***

***—The marker's text is reproduced below—***

RICHMOND – A state historical marker issued by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources that highlights one-time Winchester resident and noted Civil War diarist, Mary Greenhow Lee, and her war time efforts in support of the Confederacy, will be dedicated this week.

The dedication and unveiling ceremony for the marker begins at 2 p.m., Saturday, November 8, at the sign's location at 132 N. Cameron Street, in Winchester, beside a parking lot for the adjacent George Washington Hotel. The event is open to the public.

Speakers during the ceremony will include George Schember, president of the Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, which is hosting the ceremony, and a representative of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

The "Mary Greenhow Lee" marker recalls that Lee's "extensive diary survives as one of the most informative records of daily life in Civil War Virginia." According to the marker, "Lee chronicled military engagements, homefront hardships, and the erosion of slavery." In service to the Confederacy, she also "stockpiled supplies for the army, ran an

underground mail service, aided wounded soldiers, and hosted Confederate officers, including Gen. Thomas J. ‘Stonewall’ Jackson.”

“In Feb. 1865, U.S. Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan expelled Lee from Winchester, citing her ‘constant annoyance,’” in the words of the marker. Lee settled in Baltimore and after her death in 1907, she was buried in Winchester’s Mount Hebron Cemetery.

The sign was approved for manufacture as a state historical marker by the Department of Historic Resources in 2013.

Virginia’s historical highway marker program, which began in 1927 with the installation of the first historical markers along U.S. Route 1, is considered the oldest such program in the nation. Currently there are more than 2,500 official state markers, most maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation, as well as by local partners in jurisdictions outside of VDOT’s authority.

**Text of the marker:**

**Mary Greenhow Lee (1819-1907)**

On this site lived Mary Greenhow Lee, whose extensive diary survives as one of the most informative records of daily life in Civil War Virginia. Lee chronicled military engagements, homefront hardships, and the erosion of slavery. An ardent supporter of the Confederacy, she stockpiled supplies for the army, ran an underground mail service, aided wounded soldiers, and hosted Confederate officers, including Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson. In Feb. 1865, U.S. Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan expelled Lee from Winchester, citing her “constant annoyance.” She settled in Baltimore. After her death, she was buried in Winchester’s Mount Hebron Cemetery with her husband.

# # #