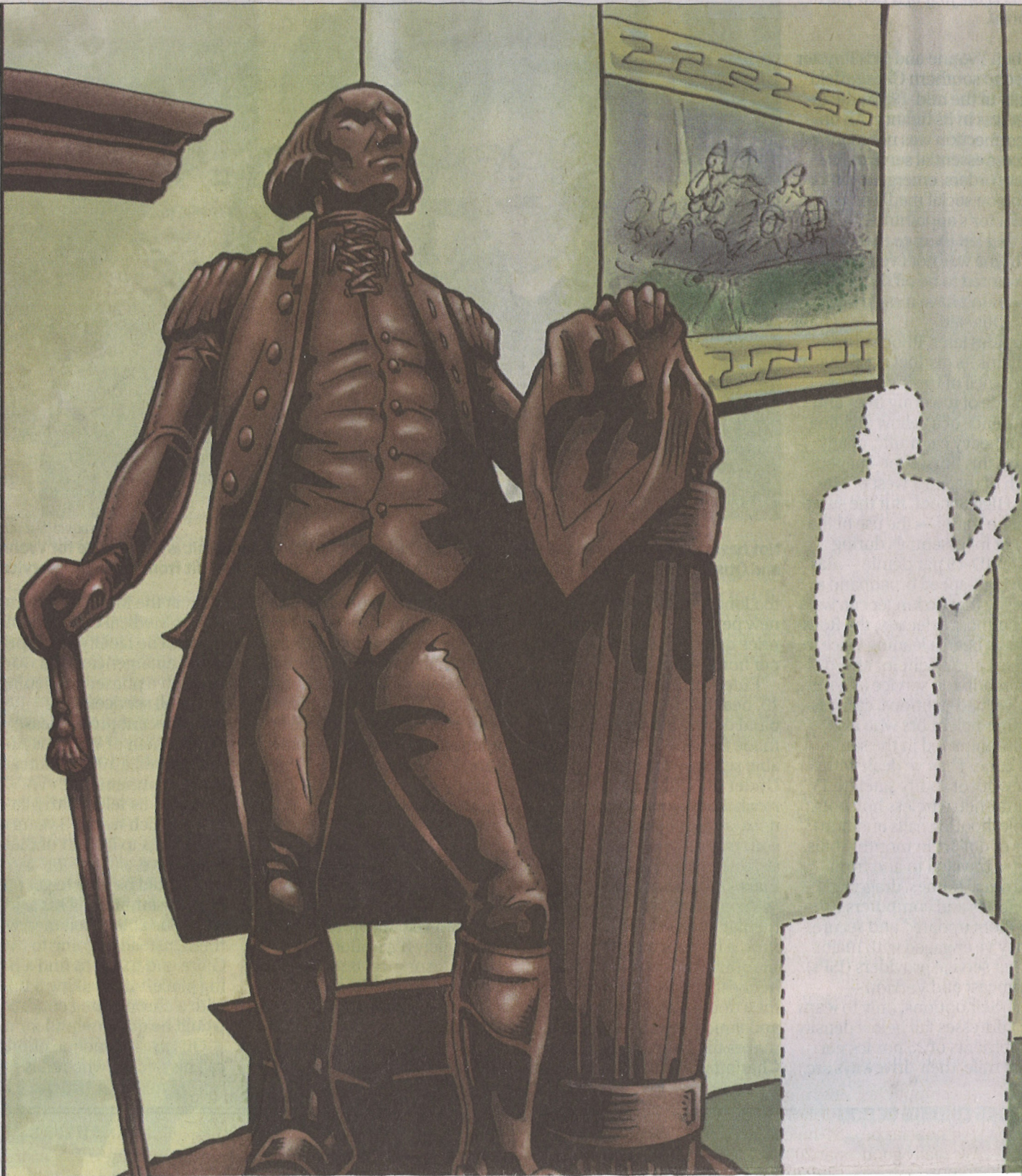


COMMENTARY

SECTION D · RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH · SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020 · RICHMOND.COM

GEORGE C. MARSHALL



Virginia's choice

Each state is entitled to have two statues in the U.S. Capitol. When Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee is removed, one statue will remain: George Washington. Who should take Lee's place? Who shall stand beside the father of our country?



David L.
Roll

It's Virginia's choice. Seventy-plus years ago, the choice would have been a no-brainer. At a graduation ceremony on the morning of June 5, 1947, Harvard University's president made the audacious yet entirely credible claim that a 27-year resident of Virginia was the only soldier-statesman in the history of America whose ability and character made him worthy of being compared favorably with George Washington: five-star General George C. Marshall, the organizer of victory and dominant voice in matters of Allied grand strategy

during World War II. That afternoon, Marshall, then secretary of state, outlined in Harvard Yard what would become known as the Marshall Plan, a bold program to protect American security by pledging to spend billions of dollars to reduce "hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos" in war-torn Europe. The next year he would lay the groundwork for NATO, a military alliance that successfully contained the aggressive designs of the Soviet Union. In 1953, having served as secretary of defense following the outbreak of the Korean War, Marshall was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Now, an eight-person commission appointed by Gov. Ralph Northam is charged with recommending a statue to replace Lee. The governor has suggested that it choose someone "who better represents the inclusive and diverse state that Virginia is now."

ROLL, Page D3

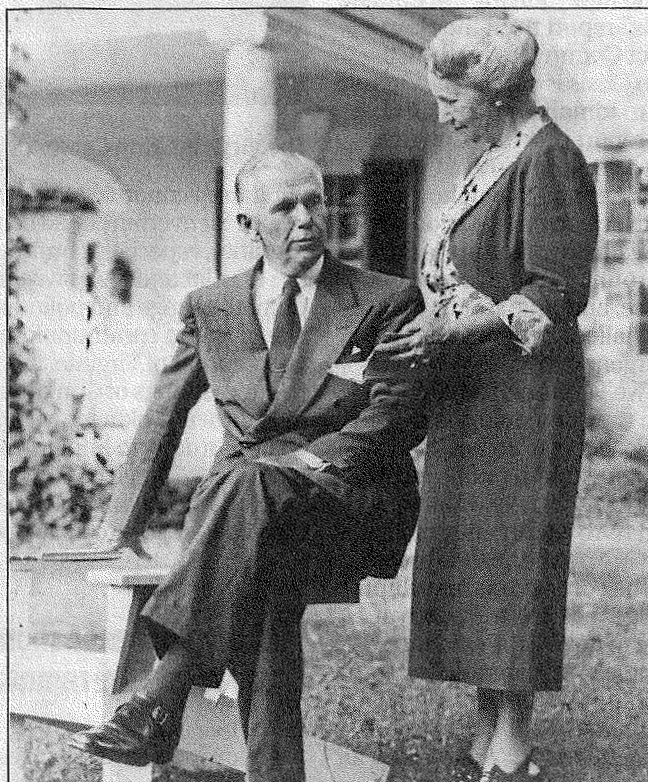


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL RESEARCH LIBRARY

George C. Marshall and wife, Katherine, spoke outside their home, Dodona Manor, in Leesburg in 1949.

Other than a plain marker at Arlington National Cemetery, there is no statue, let alone memorial, to this humble individual anywhere in Washington — even though he is the second-most consequential soldier-statesman thus far in our history.

Roll

From Page D1

U.S. Rep. Jennifer Wexton, D-10th, believes the replacement should be someone who symbolizes an acknowledgment of Virginia's history of slavery. Assuming the commission follows that lead, individuals such as Booker T. Washington (African American intellectual), Oliver Hill (civil rights lawyer), Barbara Rose Johns (civil rights activist) and John Mercer Langston (founder of Howard University Law School) each are worthy candidates for placement in the Capitol's Statuary Hall.

While George Marshall in war and peace liberated millions abroad and safeguarded the lives of tens of thousands of American soldiers and citizens, diversity and civil rights were not among his causes.

In fact, scrutiny of his 50-year career under 10 presidents, which surely would take place if his statue were to be seriously considered as a replacement for Lee, would reveal a blend of indifference and condescension toward African Americans.

That attitude likely reflects some of the racist beliefs that pervaded white society throughout the first half of the 20th century, though there is no evidence that he ever harbored hostility toward African Americans.

This is not to say that he simply was a captive of his times. Marshall was capable of rising above Army tradition and societal mores. In the case of racial integration and inclusivity, however, he did not rise. His single-minded concerns were winning the war and achieving peace.

Which leads to the question: What should the replacement statute em-

body? An individual who represents a break with Virginia's history of slavery and racism, and a future of inclusivity? Or the triumph of America over Nazi racism and tyranny, magnanimity toward the vanquished and the quest for world peace?

Having lived, figuratively, with Marshall for several years while researching and writing "George Marshall: Defender of the Republic," I am biased, of course. But I believe his statue should be placed at the elbow of George Washington in the nation's Capitol.

Other than a plain marker at Arlington National Cemetery, there is no statue, let alone memorial, to this humble individual anywhere in Washington — even though he is the second-most consequential soldier-statesman thus far in our history.

Next to, or near, Washington is where he belongs.

Nevertheless, it is Virginia's choice, not mine. And in light of the Black Lives Matter and other racial justice protests taking place in Virginia and throughout the rest of the country, a strong case can and almost certainly will be made that this is the right time for the state to make a symbolic break with its past.

But one day, hopefully before Marshall fades from memory, an act of Congress, or the states of Virginia and Pennsylvania (Marshall's birthplace), will secure a place for his statue somewhere under the Capitol dome or even on the National Mall. His achievements, and particularly his character, must never be forgotten.

David L. Roll of Washington is author of "George Marshall: Defender of the Republic" and "The Hopkins Touch: Harry Hopkins and the Forging of the Alliance to Defeat Hitler." Contact him at: DRoll@steptoe.com

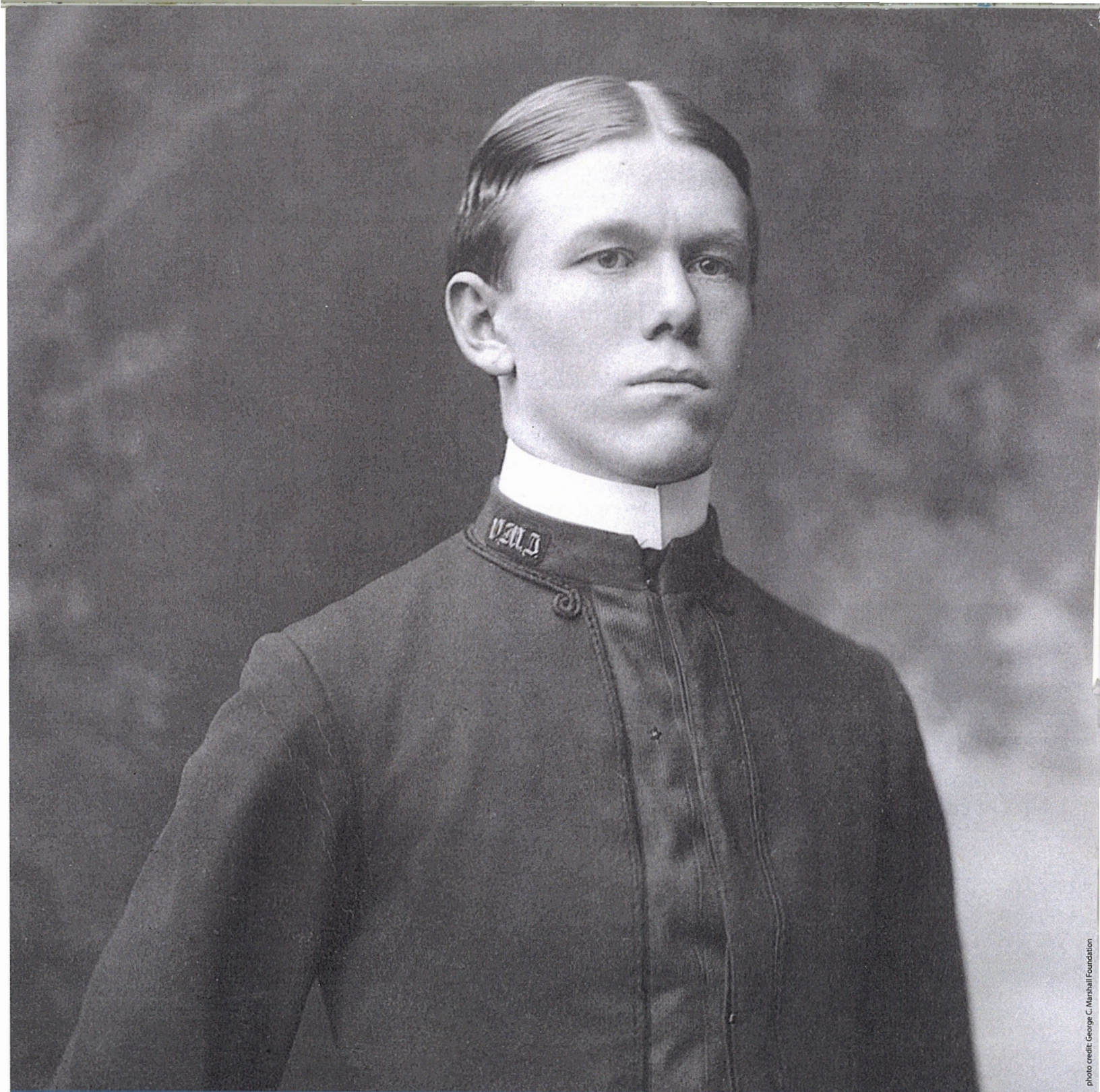


photo credit: George C. Marshall Foundation

By the time Marshall ended his public career in 1951 the pillars of his character — self-mastery, selflessness, candor, the capacity to love and be loved, and magnanimity — were deeply etched.

George C. Marshall— Character Matters

BY DAVID ROLL

George Catlett Marshall. Today he is remembered, if at all, as the man with a plan—the Marshall Plan of course. He is not to be confused with George Preston Marshall, the former owner of the Washington Redskins. During his bitterly contested divorce, Preston Marshall’s wife complained to the judge, “I married a man without a plan.”

George C. Marshall occupies a singular place in history. As soldier, he profoundly influenced the course of two world wars that swept away the European and Japanese systems of power and led to a new world order. As statesman, he conceived and spearheaded the Marshall Plan, the most significant and successful initiative in United States diplomacy since the Louisiana Purchase. He husbanded the “containment” of Soviet aggression at the beginning of the Cold War while laying the groundwork for NATO. As special envoy to China in 1946 and Secretary of Defense after the outbreak of the Korean War, five-star General Marshall faced up to the limits of American power in Asia and oversaw with surprising reluctance the relief of General Douglas MacArthur. He devoted a year to leading the American Red Cross. In 1953 Marshall accepted the Nobel Peace Prize. No American comes close to his ubiquitous yet selfless presence throughout the history of the twentieth century.

Rather than recount the stages of Marshall’s incredible fifty-year career as soldier and statesman under ten presidents, my aim in this brief essay is to focus on Marshall’s character, a theme that runs throughout my recent book, *George Marshall: Defender of the Republic*, and binds its pages together. George Marshall’s character—how it was formed; how it developed; how it facilitated his accomplishments; and why it matters.

The word “character” is derived from ancient Greek, the verb *charassein*—meaning engraved, cut in furrows, etched. Long before Marshall’s character was deeply etched, it began to take shape at the Virginia Military Institute. As an awkward sixteen-year-old from the North with a Yankee twang Marshall was a prime target for hazing by upperclassmen shortly after he entered VMI as a first year rat. One night they jammed the butt of a naked bayonet between the

Opposite page:
Portrait photo of
Cadet George C.
Marshall at Virginia
Military Institute,
1900.

No American comes close to his ubiquitous yet selfless presence throughout the history of the twentieth century.

This article is a summary of the author’s lecture delivered in September 2019. You can watch Mr. Roll’s talk, as well as other Legacy Series lectures, on our YouTube channel. [YouTube](#)

floorboards and sadistically ordered him to squat over the blade. Weakened from a bout of typhoid fever that had delayed his arrival at the Institute, Marshall could not hold the position for long. He slipped sideways. The bayonet gashed his buttock. He was stitched up in the infirmary, but never uttered a word to anyone about the real cause of his wound. Marshall's stoic loyalty and self-possession were spread by word of mouth throughout the cadet corps and rewarded with respect. As he told an interviewer, at VMI he learned "self-control...discipline," until it was "ground" into him—and the "problem of managing men."

Forty years later during the dark Valley Forge days just after Pearl Harbor, January and February 1942, Marshall was still fighting to achieve self-mastery. During winter evening walks with Katherine, his second wife, George would talk to himself—as if he "lived outside" his body, constantly disciplining himself—as if he were his own subordinate. "I cannot allow myself to get angry," he would say, meaning that this was not the time for blame or recriminations. Or he would blurt out, "I cannot afford sentiment, mine must be cold logic," probably referring to the fact that he would have to get a message to General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines that his army, trapped on the Bataan Peninsula, was doomed. There would be no rescue. Or he would have to inform his dear friends, generals, that they were too old to lead troops in combat and must retire from the army.

For decades Marshall relentlessly strived to achieve self-mastery—that is, command of himself. He was not always successful—there were moments when he lost control of his explosive temper. But it was this steady struggle that enabled Marshall to become the dominant voice in matters of Allied grand strategy during World War II; strive for an entire year in China to form a coalition government between Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists and Mao Zedong's Communists; push the Marshall Plan through Congress; have the patience to deal with the likes of Franklin Roosevelt, Joseph Stalin, and Winston Churchill; and rebuild America's depleted armed forces after the onset of the Korean War.

In addition to self-mastery, a hallmark of Marshall's character was selflessness. A conversation between President Roosevelt and Marshall in Cairo in December 1943 laid bare the essence of

"Well," he said to Marshall, "I could not sleep at ease with you out of Washington..."

Marshall's selflessness. Roosevelt "beat around the bush" and then he got to the point. He asked Marshall whether he wanted to command Operation Overlord, the massive invasion of northwest France that was scheduled to take place in early June of 1944. At the time of this conversation, the American and British military chiefs regarded Overlord as the decisive battle of the war. And Marshall knew that if he asked for the command Roosevelt would almost certainly give it to him. But he didn't ask. He demurred. Instead, he told the president that he should feel perfectly free to decide the issue of command according to the best interests of the country and to not consider his—that is Marshall's—own feelings. The president paused, then concluded the affair. "Well," he said to Marshall, "I could not sleep at ease with you out of Washington," which meant that the command of Overlord would go to Dwight Eisenhower, his springboard to the presidency.

Whether Marshall coveted the Overlord command—and some of his closest associates said he did—or whether he really felt it was in the best interests of the nation to remain in



Washington where he could continue to influence the direction of the global war—we will never know the truth—his refusal to express his desire one way or the other was utterly selfless. Yet it was the code, the moral code, that he lived by.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Chief of Staff Gen. George Marshall share a chuckle at the Algeria Conference in June 1943.

Selflessness was a critical key to Marshall's effectiveness as a leader because his subordinates knew that his orders and suggestions were motivated not

by self-interest but by facts, objectivity, logic, and the best interests of the country. It was this quality that enabled Marshall to rally the brightest minds and most capable individuals—like Dwight Eisenhower, Lucian Truscott, Matthew Ridgway, George Kennan, and Dean Acheson—to loyally support and drive through his initiatives. They trusted Marshall with their lives and careers to do the right thing.

Secretary of War Henry Stimson, a lifelong Presbyterian, found an apt proverb to express both Marshall's selflessness and his efforts to achieve self-mastery: "He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city."

A third aspect of Marshall's character was candor—a quality related to trust and sincerity that reaches to the core of one's integrity. When Marshall was a thirty-seven-year-old major in France during World War I, the first reported sign that the quality of candor would be etched into his character appeared. Perhaps it was summoned by an explosion of anger. In the presence of dozens of officers Marshall stepped forward and dared to confront General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing, the ramrod-straight supreme commander of all of the American forces in France. Pershing had just finished loudly criticizing, indeed humiliating, Marshall's commanding officer, the head of the 1st Division, for failures in training his troops. Marshall, ever loyal to his boss, felt Pershing's criticisms were unjust. He rattled off a stream of facts to show that Pershing's own headquarters was responsible for the training deficiencies. Pershing tried to depart, saying he would "look into" Marshall's allegations. Marshall grabbed Pershing's arm, saying there was no need to investigate. "These are the facts," he said.

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photo credit: George C. Marshall Foundation
General of the Armies
John J. Pershing

Those who witnessed the confrontation were horrified. They thought Marshall would be relieved. But it turned out that his candid outburst won Pershing's respect. Marshall was promoted to colonel and assigned to Pershing's own staff.

Over the years Marshall's reputation for candor grew—not just for his honesty and openness but for being willing and unafraid to speak truth to power. In 1938 Marshall, as a one-star brigadier general, was the only one in a packed meeting in the White House to disagree with Roosevelt's proposal to build 10,000 war planes as a strategy to deter Hitler. Though those in the room believed that Marshall doomed his relationship with the president, it turned out that Roosevelt admired and respected Marshall's integrity.

Four months later, on a lazy Sunday, Roosevelt summoned Marshall to the Oval Study and told him he was inclined to appoint him chief of staff of the U.S. Army. "What do you think of that?" he asked Marshall. "Nothing, Mr. President," replied Marshall, "except to remind you that I have the habit of saying exactly what I think...and that can often be unpleasing." Roosevelt proceeded to make Marshall the chief of staff, jumping him over four other eligible generals who outranked him. Because of Marshall's candor the president concluded that he could trust Marshall to tell him what he needed to know, not what he wanted to hear, and that he would remain loyal to his commander in chief.

Secretary of State
George Marshall
with President
Harry Truman at
White House prior
to Conference of
Foreign Ministers in
London, November
1947.

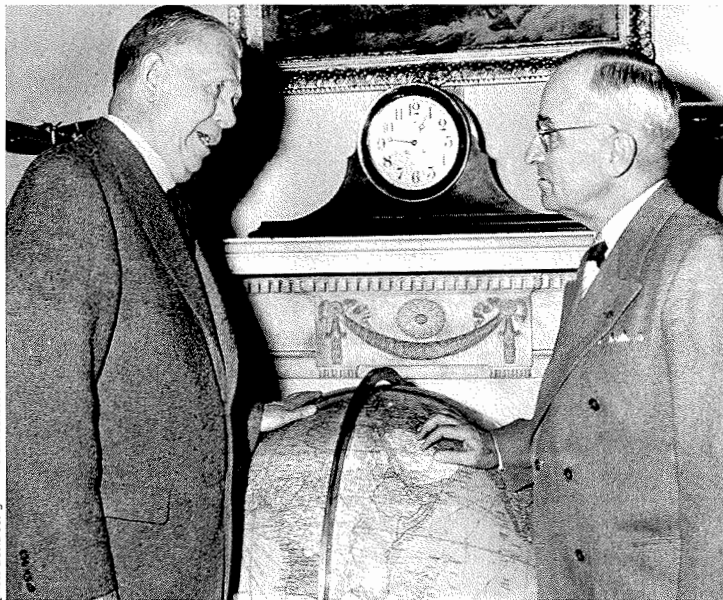


photo credit: George C. Marshall Foundation

In 1948, during a showdown in the Oval Office, a red-faced Marshall told President Harry Truman that if he decided to immediately recognize the new state of Israel it would be "a transparent dodge to win a few votes" in the upcoming presidential election; a stain on the office of the presidency; and that if he, Marshall, voted in the forthcoming election he would "vote against the president." Marshall's rebuke startled everyone. When the

room cleared, Truman used an old Missouri farmer's saying to express what had just happened, "Well, that was rough as a cob."

Though Truman, over Marshall's objection, went ahead and recognized Israel, he still admired and respected Marshall for candidly expressing the reasons for his opposition. Two years later, Truman called upon Marshall again, this time to serve as secretary of defense shortly after the outbreak of the Korean War. Notwithstanding the stinging rebuke in the Oval Office, Truman continued to revere Marshall. Character mattered.

photo credit: George C. Marshall Foundation



George and Lily
Marshall circa
1922.

Marshall has been portrayed by most writers as coolly impersonal, austere, stoic, aloof, stolid—as if he lacked feelings, emotions. But as I devoured the letters donated to the Marshall Foundation and dug deeply into Marshall’s inner life, I found that his character was also indelibly shaped by a capacity for loving and accepting the love of his two wives, a precocious young girl, a headstrong stepson, and a handful of intimate friends.

Marshall was passionately in love with his first wife, Lily Carter Coles, and she with him. Lily was a stunning woman—witty, full of fun, adventurous. On their wedding night George learned that Lily could not risk pregnancy due to a congenital heart condition. Though childless, by all accounts their marriage was blissful. In 1927 Lily died following a risky operation to remove the diseased thyroid gland that had been aggravating her heart condition. In a letter to his close friend General Pershing, Marshall wrote that he felt “lost” and doubted “he could face the future.” Lily’s death changed Marshall. He softened, became more compassionate and conversational.

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Marshall’s second wife, Katherine Boyce Tupper, had been a trained Shakespearean actress who performed on the English stage. They met one another when they were in their late forties, the year after Katherine’s husband, a lawyer, had been murdered by a deranged client. Katherine was the mother of three, an older daughter and two teenaged boys. The marriage transformed George from a lonely widower into a loving and attentive husband and stepfather, enthusiastically responsible for “a complete family” as he exulted in a letter to Pershing. The relationship

Katherine Marshall greets newly appointed Secretary of State George Marshall at Hickham Field, Territory of Hawaii, as he traveled from China to the United States, Jan. 8, 1947.



photo credit: George C. Marshall Foundation

between George and Katherine was one of mature love—they provided one another with emotional support, companionship, mutual respect, and friendship. Marshall was particularly solicitous and caring with regard to Katherine's health and regretted his long absences from her.

Marshall formed a lifelong bond with Allen, Katherine's youngest, a sensitive and willful fifteen-year-old when they first met. He came to love and mentor Allen as if he were his own son, the son he never had. When Allen was killed during the war while leading his tank platoon on the road to Rome, Marshall experienced profound grief. Katherine was crushed.

George Marshall and Rose Page Wilson in Durham, NC, 1950.



photo credit: George C. Marshall Foundation

The precocious young girl that I mentioned, Rose Page, was befriended by Marshall when she was only eight. For the rest of Marshall's life he treated Rose as if she were his daughter, advising her on school, career, marriage and serving as a responsible godfather of her children. It was a loving friendship. Rose was one of the last people to visit Marshall before he died.

David Brooks wrote that “love is a motivational state.” It “propels” one to make promises to those he or she loves. And that “character is forged in the keeping of those promises.” Marshall learned to make and keep his promises, not only to those he loved but to generals, presidents, and world leaders, among countless others.

Finally, as Marshall acquired power another aspect of his character—magnanimity—began to emerge. Magnanimity means high-minded, free from resentfulness, Latin for “great-souled.”

The day after Roosevelt decided that Eisenhower would command Overlord, Marshall handwrote a note at the bottom of the president’s order. “Dear Eisenhower. I thought you might like to have this as a memento.” Ike cherished the note. He understood at once the generosity—the great-souled nature—of Marshall’s gesture.

In fall of 1948 when Truman was running for president, Secretary of State Marshall raised himself to the heights as a magnanimous leader. At that time Marshall was locked, trapped in Paris in endless negotiations with Soviet diplomats over the Berlin crisis. Marshall learned that Truman, back in Washington, was about to undermine him by sending an inexperienced diplomat to Moscow to negotiate directly with Joseph Stalin. It was Truman’s

version of an “October surprise,” hoping he could achieve a breakthrough with the Soviets that would help him win the election. Marshall could have resigned or threatened to resign. Some of his advisers recommended that he do just that. But he did not. Instead, he thought of the pressures on the president as he fought against long odds to win the presidency. He dashed off a radiogram to Truman. “I understand what’s worrying you Mr. President and I am coming home immediately.”

This was magnanimity on a grand scale. It was, in my judgment, the mark of a great man.

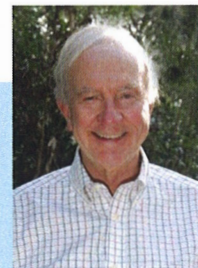
It has been said that if you want to test a man’s character give him power. By gaining dominion over most—but not all—of his shortcomings, by any measure George Marshall surely passed the test.

By the time Marshall ended his public career in 1951 the pillars of his character—self-mastery, selflessness, candor, the capacity to love and be loved, and magnanimity—were deeply etched. Because Marshall’s character enabled him to accomplish great things, it mattered. It will never be replicated but it needs to be remembered, if not emulated, by today’s leaders.

Because Marshall’s character enabled him to accomplish great things, it mattered. It will never be replicated but it needs to be remembered, if not emulated, by today’s leaders.

David L. Roll is the author of *George Marshall: Defender of the Republic* (Dutton Caliber) and *The Hopkins Touch: Harry Hopkins and the Forging of the Alliance to Defeat Hitler* (Oxford) and the co-author of *Louis Johnson and the Arming of America* (Indiana University Press), a biography of Harry Truman’s defense secretary. He is

Senior Counsel at Steptoe & Johnson LLP, a Washington D.C.-based international law firm, Nonresident Fellow at the German Marshall Fund, and founder of the Lex Mundi Pro Bono Foundation, a public interest organization that provides pro bono legal services to social entrepreneurs around the world.



From: [Langan, Julie](#)
To: [rr US Capitol Commission](#)
Subject: Fwd: FW: Hearing on replacement of Lee statue in the US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:17:23 AM
Attachments: [D.ROLL.pdf](#)
[D.ROLL\[2\].pdf](#)

Julie V. Langan
Director/State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221
Office: (804) 482-6087
Cell: (804) 385-6936

COVID-19 Update: DHR is open for business and the majority of staff is teleworking. Our offices are temporarily closed to the public.

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Roll, David <DRoll@steptoe.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 2:58 PM
Subject: FW: Hearing on replacement of Lee statue in the US Capitol
To: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov <julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov>

Dear Ms. Langdan:

I understand that there is a meeting or hearing called by eight commissioners charged with the responsibility of recommending a replacement of the Lee statute in the US Capitol that is scheduled to take place on October 8 at 10:30 am I would like to attend if permissible. Please let me know how I can participate in the hearing, what I need to do to register my attendance, and the names and titles of each of the commissioners. Attached is an op-ed piece that was published in the Richmond Times-Dispatch that I would like to have entered into the record and a recent article I wrote about George C. Marshall.

I would like an opportunity to speak briefly about why George C. Marshall deserves a statue in the U.S. Capitol, if not a replacement of Lee then a place elsewhere else in the Capitol.

Many thanks, Dave

David L. Roll
Senior Counsel, Steptoe & Johnson LLP
droll@steptoe.com

202 361 0896 (cell)

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

D.ROLL.pdf
D.ROLL[2].pdf

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Rebel](#)
Subject: Re:
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:42:11 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Fri, Oct 2, 2020 at 9:14 AM Rebel <rebel56@jetbroadband.com> wrote:

>
>
>
>
>
> I think Thomas Jefferson's statue should replace the vacancy of Robert E. Lee.
>
>
>
> William Howard
>
> Lebanon Va. 24266

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [John Wagstaff](#)
Subject: Re: DO NOT Remove Lee Monument
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:42:45 PM

Thank you for your email which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Fri, Oct 2, 2020 at 9:53 AM John Wagstaff <jwagstaff842@gmail.com> wrote:

To Whom It May Concern,

Leave the Lee Monument in the US Capitol. Lee was a great Virginian and American. Without Lee, many engineering projects would not have been completed in the many areas of the country. To this date Lee is the only person to graduate West Point without a single demerit.

Lee followed Virginia when she seceded. He felt his duty was to his state. If more people in positions of power had half the sense of duty that Lee had, our country would not be in the shape we are in.

In closing, most people are not in favor of Soviet Union style removal of monuments to put up the "flavor of the month" monument. Lee should remain as a tribute in the US Capital.

Sincerely

John & Jacquie Wagstaff

--

BIT BY BIT FARM

JOHN & JACQUIE WAGSTAFF
2086 CLARKTON ROAD
NATHALIE, VIRGINIA 24577
434-349-2159



From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Art Ritter](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Lee replacement
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:44:11 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Mon, Oct 5, 2020 at 9:32 AM Art Ritter <o2behiking@yahoo.com> wrote:

>
> I'd suggest Booker T. Washington to replace General Lee's statue at the Capital.
>
> Art Ritter
> Glen Allen, Virginia
>
>
>
>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Robert Harmon](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: U.S. Capitol Virginia Statue Removal/Replacement
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:42:26 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 4:01 PM Robert Harmon <rharm888@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>

> From: Robert Harmon <rharm888@hotmail.com>

> Sent: Sunday, October 4, 2020 6:09 AM

> To: uscapitolcommision@dhr.virginia.gov <uscapitolcommision@dhr.virginia.gov>

> Subject: U.S. Capitol Virginia Statue Removal/Replacement

>

>

> The removal of the Statue of Robert E. Lee from the U.S. Capitol could be foretold long ago, if anyone had bother to think about it; however, the reasons for the removal of Robert E. Lee and the reasons for the addition of another statue are wholly unrelated. Although the affiliation of an honorable military general is being conflated with modern politics and thus dishonors his memory, the role of his statue was to provide an iconic representation of Virginia.

>

> Although modern Virginians may no longer consider him worthy of this honor, the place his statue has occupied for all of these years is more than simply an alcove for a statue that needs replacing. Again, the statue should by nature be iconic and representative of Virginia; and in the current societal context, it should be a unifying symbol. Unfortunately, icons worthy of praise and representative status are few and far between if they exist at all. I believe that at the present time a simple empty alcove would serve as a more poignant representation of the Commonwealth and the nation. This is especially true in the contrasting light of George Washington who himself owned slaves before becoming disillusioned with the institution.

>

> Perhaps more important than the reputation of the icon is the reputation of the people displaying the icon. Although I previously pointed to the representation of all Virginians, this is currently impossible in the current divided state of politics and the Commonwealth. In essence, Virginians no longer know what they want, nor are they themselves examples worthy of dedicating statues for the long term. As such, any statue would simply be a short term reminder of the times we live in and would either not last as long as the statue of Robert E. Lee or would be so obscure in meaning as to be insignificant. Rather than replacing him with a vague symbol of some historically significant, but ultimately obscure event, it would be better to wait until there is both a figure that is both obviously qualified to fill the role of an icon and a population that is both unified and invested enough to care.

>

> With this in mind, leave the alcove empty as a sign that we are still searching for both a new identity and an icon of that identity. The person to fill the alcove should be obvious and not needing either public comment or a selection board. This perfect person that is expected does not exist yet and with the current state of society may possibly never exist again. You need to recognize that there is no appropriate candidate for the statue.

>

>

> Sincerely;

>

> Robert A. Harmon

> rharm888@hotmail.com

>

>

>

>

> Sent from Mail for Windows 10

>

>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Jonathan Varnell](#)
Subject: Re: Gen. Robert E. Lee statue
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:39:24 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 8:31 AM Jonathan Varnell <jvarnell50@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> Dear Commission,

>

> It is an appalling travesty what is happening in America with the attempts of cultural Marxist to re-write our history. Nevertheless no matter what they do they can not change our history nor can they change the fact that Robert E.Lee was one of the finest Virginians and American that has ever lived. His character stands at the level of George Washington. I do believe his statue should stay where it is to provide a reminder and role model to the degenerates that fill our congressional halls what true honor and upstanding character is.

>

> with kind regards,

>

> Jonathan Varnell

>

>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Cindy](#)
Subject: Re: General Lee Statue in Congress
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 11:09:08 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Mon, Oct 5, 2020 at 10:50 AM Cindy <galndixie@aol.com> wrote:

>
> General Lee needs to remain in his current position in our Government Hall. He was much more than a Confederate Leader. Before the War, he did great service to the United States Military, as a Soldier, Teacher, and Leader. After the war, he implored and directed citizens to be Good Americans, to follow and support the laws of the US, which he most certainly did himself. He was not ever a tyrant or a traitor, as decided and agreed upon by the US Congress after the war. He was well respected by both sides of the controversy, before and after the war. Taking down Confederate Monuments and Statues has not anywhere helped the current controversy, and if you look at areas where that has happened, things have only gotten worse. We need to keep and respect all our Historic Memorabilia, and we need to stop bowing to pressure from those that refuse to learn and learn from history. We need instead to impress upon them the importance of history, and that cannot be done by hiding and destroying it.
>
> “The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see.” – Winston Churchill
>
> “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” – George Santayana
>
> “Study the past if you would define the future.” – Confucius
>
> “That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons of history.” – Aldous Huxley
>
> “If you don’t know history, then you don’t know anything. You are a leaf that doesn’t know it is part of a tree.” – Michael Chrichton
>
> “History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be un-lived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again.” – Maya Angelou
>
> “The lovers of romance can go elsewhere for satisfaction but where can the lovers of truth turn if not to history?” – Katharine Anthony
>
> “We are not makers of history. We are made by history.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.
>
> “No volume of history is insignificant, even the worst chapters. Especially the worst chapters.” – Terri Guillemets
>
> “A generation which ignores history has no past – and no future.” – Robert A. Heinlein
>
> “You don’t change the course of history by turning the faces of portraits to the wall.” – Jawaharlal Nehru
>
> “More and more, I tend to read history. I often find it more up to date than the daily newspapers.” – Joe Murray
>
> “Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history.” – Abraham Lincoln
>
> “History is a relentless master. It has no present, only the past rushing into the future. To try to hold fast is to be

swept aside.” – John F. Kennedy

>

> “History is the interpretation of the significance that the past has for us.” – Johan Huizinga

>

> “History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are.” – David McCullough

>

“History maketh a young man to be old, without either wrinkles or gray hairs; privileging him with the experience of age, without either the infirmities or inconveniences thereof.” – Thomas Fuller

>

> “If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday.” – Pearl Buck

>

> “The history of the past is but one long struggle upward to equality.” – Elizabeth Cady Stanton

>

> “History is a kind of introduction to more interesting people than we can possibly meet in our restricted lives; let us not neglect the opportunity.” – Dexter Perkins

>

> “How can we know who we are and where we are going if we don't know anything about where we have come from and what we have been through, the courage shown, the costs paid, to be where we are?”— David McCullough

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Thomas Bowers](#)
Subject: Re: George Catlett Marshall
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:41:51 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 2:12 PM Thomas Bowers <tombowers42@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I write to suggest strongly that a statue of General George Catlett Marshall replace the statue of Robert E. Lee in the U.S. Capitol.

>

>

>

> George Marshall was one of the most important Virginians in history.

>

> · As Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army during World War II, he built the Army from 180,000 men to more than eight million by the war's end. He selected generals Dwight Eisenhower, Omar Bradley and George Patton for leadership positions. He was the most important military adviser to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman and was responsible for forging the alliance with Great Britain and other allies that resulted in victory.

>

> · He postponed a well-deserved retirement to go to China as a special envoy of President Truman in 1946.

>

> · As Secretary of State in 1947-48, he championed the European Recovery Program (Marshall Plan), the \$13 billion effort to restore the economies of Europe after World War II, and was instrumental in the formation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

>

> · Serving as president of the American Red Cross in 1949-50, Marshall ignored President Truman's admonition to take it easy and traveled extensively to raise money and the stature of that important organization.

>

> · Truman called upon Marshall again in 1950 and asked him to serve Secretary of Defense in the early days of the Korean War and to again rebuild the American Army.

>

> · Marshall won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953 for his efforts on behalf of the Marshall Plan.

>

>

>

>

> National and world leaders paid tribute to Marshall.

>

> · "In a war unparalleled in magnitude and horror, millions of Americans gave their country outstanding service. General of the Army George C. Marshall gave it victory." (President Harry Truman) Truman also called Marshall the greatest military mind in U.S. history.

>

> · "He was the true organizer of the Allied victory." (Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain)

>

> · "He was in my opinion one of the best, and his drive, courage, and imagination transformed America's great citizen army into the most magnificent fighting force ever assembled." (Admiral William Leahy, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during World War II)

>

> · "I wish that he could have understood how much he had meant to America, how much his fellow citizens

appreciated the vision that impelled him to labor so hard to prepare the nation for the probability of its entry into war.” (General Dwight Eisenhower)

>

> · “The thing that stands out in everybody’s recollection of General Marshall is the immensity of his integrity, the loftiness and beauty of his character.” (Dean Acheson)

>

>

>

> General Marshall was definitely a Virginian and graduated as First Captain from the Virginia Military Institute in 1901. He and his wife owned Dodona Manor, their home in Leesburg from 1941 until his death in 1959. He often went there during the war for therapeutic work in his garden because it was “a great source of relaxation because it gets my mind off my troubles.” From China in 1946, he lamented, “I wish I were settled in civil life down at Leesburg.’ President Harry Truman visited him there, as did other national and international leaders, including Averell Harriman, Bernard Baruch, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Senator Harry Byrd, and Field Marshal Sir John Dill of the British Army.

>

>

>

> George Marshall has been compared to George Washington for his integrity and sense of duty as a soldier and statesman. The citation for his honorary degree from Harvard University in 1947 stated that plainly: “An American to whom Freedom owes an enduring debt of gratitude, a soldier and statesman whose ability and character brook only one comparison [George Washington] in the history of the nation.” It is appropriate then, that a statue of George Marshall should join the statue of George Washington as Virginia’s honorees in the U.S. Capitol.

>

>

> Respectfully submitted

>

> Tom Bowers

>

> Docent Director

>

> George Marshall's Dodona Manor

>

> Leesburg, VA

>

>

> Tom Bowers

> 44358 Oakmont Manor Square

> Ashburn, VA 20147-5539

> 919.606.6126 (M)

> Primary email address: tombowers42@gmail.com

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Mary Stevens](#)
Subject: Re: Keep Honorable General Robert E Lee
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:43:50 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 8:53 PM Mary Stevens <marystevens827@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Ladies and Gentlemen:

>

> I hope that you will share the attached 350 pages of names totaling 7,714 signatures of those who are against the removal of General Robert E Lee. Also, attached are related comments from individuals who disagree with the removal of General Lee from the Statuary Hall at the US Capitol.

>

> These 7,714 names are people who will be dissatisfied if Virginia removes the beautiful statue of General Robert E Lee from the Statuary Hall. To do so would be divisive and hateful. The General was asked by President Abraham Lincoln to lead the Union troops during the war. If there was something wrong with selecting the General, I am sure President Lincoln would not have asked him. General Lee rejected Lincoln's offer, because he could not fight against his native Virginians. The General did not agree with secession or slavery, but he agreed to do what his native Virginia wanted. Furthermore, General Lee had NO slaves, but his wife inherited slaves from her Father. A few years into the war, General Lee returned home to free his wife's slaves according to the wishes of his Father-in-Law's will.

>

> Slaves were brought to this country by New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and New Hampshire. Only the US stars and stripes were flown on front of slave ships. You will find NO pictures of slave ships with Confederate Flags on front of the ships.

>

> There were 5 slave states in the Union (Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri and Delaware). Had slavery been the main objective of the war, these slave states would not have been allowed. And, some Union Generals had slaves which they kept until after the war. Lincoln promised the South that he would not interfere with slavery. (Read his inaugural address). Congress passed the Crittenden Johnson Resolution that said the war would end when the South returned to the Union. The North needed the South's business and tariffs which were used mostly in the North. So, had slavery been a primary concern for the South, they would have remained in the Union with protections promised by Lincoln. The South needed help from England and France. In 1864, Confederate President Davis sent Louisiana Representative Duncan Kenner to England/France to negotiate for their help if the South ended slavery.

>

> I've seen some African American women wearing beautiful necklaces with a pendant in the shape of the African Continent. I think it's wonderful and it's a part of their identity. Ladies and Gents, this statue of General Lee is a part of my identity. Your removal of him would be like me removing a necklace with the African pendant from around a black woman's neck.

>

> Please pass on to the appropriate person or persons the attached signatures and comments garnered from this petition.

> Thanks for your time and efforts with this request.

>

> Contact me for verification of any of the above.

>

> Mary T Stevens

> marystevens827@gmail.com

>

> PS.....See the attached picture of Lee's monument in Richmond with both white and black men being photographed on scaffolds. I assume that these men worked on erecting the statue. It appears that they dressed in their Sunday best for the photo. There is NO Jim Crow in the photo.

>

>

>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [- WILL & COSBY \(Robert Cosby, Jr., P.E.\)](#)
Subject: Re: Lee Monument
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:39:36 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 9:42 AM - WILL & COSBY (Robert Cosby, Jr., P.E.) <coskid@aol.com> wrote:

>
> If you want to remove the Lee Monument, you should not replace it with a statue of anyone.
>
> Thanks
> Robert Cosby, Jr.
>
>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Glenda Payne](#)
Subject: Re: Lee Statue Replacement
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:40:11 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 10:41 AM Glenda Payne <greenbean33@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
> My request is: Edward Maria Winfield
>
> The first President of the Governing Council of Virginia
>
> I'm ashamed of this society who wants to lose the south's history forever.
>
> Thank you,
>
> Glenda Payne
>
> Get Outlook for iOS

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Billie Earnest](#)
Subject: Re: Lee Statue US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:42:47 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 4:05 PM Billie Earnest <Billie47@msn.com> wrote:

>

> The Statues in the US Capitol are to represent persons who served their States. They are not to promote a modern day social cause. There are other ways to do this. Not even George Washington gave more to Virginia than Robert E Lee. He sacrificed his home (Arlington House), his military career, and all that he had for the Defense of his native Virginia. I implore Virginia's elected Representatives to have the courage of Lee. Stand up for our State. Vote to keep the Statue of General Robert E Lee in the US Capitol.

>

> B. Frank Earnest

> 945 Banyan Drive

> Virginia Beach, VA. 23462

>

>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Gary Jackson](#)
Subject: Re: Lee Statue
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:43:59 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Mon, Oct 5, 2020 at 8:50 AM Gary Jackson <garyjht78@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> To Whom It May Concern,

>

> Please do not remove the Lee statue. He was the greatest Virginian that ever lived. When you read history about the life of the man and his character, he was truly a great citizen of the US and the state of Virginia, only following the direction of his Governor.

>

> He did not own slaves. His wife did. After the surrender, his orders were to furl the flag and bring the nation back together. His example made him better than most at trying to make peace. He could have ordered southerners to fight a guerrilla war, which some appear to be doing presently. He would have been the last to have wanted a statue of himself anywhere. We did not live during those times and do not understand the decisions he had to make.

>

> Gary N. Jackson

> 1304 Sandy Circle

> Blacksburg, VA 24060

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Billie Earnest](#)
Subject: Re: Lee's Statue in the US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:43:03 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 4:59 PM Billie Earnest <Billie47@msn.com> wrote:

>
> To Whom it may concern"
>
> On August 9, 1960, President Dwight D Eisenhower responded to a letter he received concerning the picture of General Robert e Lee that he displayed in the Oval Office.
>
> I quote from the 3rd paragraph of his letter:
>
> "From deep conviction I simply say this: a nation of men of Lee's caliber would be unconquerable in a spirit and soul. Indeed, to the degree that present-day American youth will strive to emulate his rare qualities, including his devotion to his land as reveled in his painstaking efforts to help heal the Nation's wounds once the bitter struggle was over, we, in our own time of danger in a divided world, will be strengthened and our love of freedom sustained. Such are the reasons that I proudly display the picture of this great American on my office wall."
>
> To those of you who wish to divide the current Citizens of Virginia, can you not see through the eyes of our former President, that General Lee was a man of probity, character, and loyalty.
>
> Please reconsider the removal of General Lee's statue from the US Capitol.
>
> Billie Burgess Earnest
> 945 Banyan Drive
> Va. Beach, Va. 23462
>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Admin - George C. Marshall](#)
Subject: Re: Marshall Capitol Statue Nomination
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:41:41 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 1:37 PM Admin - George C. Marshall <admin@georgecmarshall.org> wrote:

>

> To Whom it May Concern,

>

>

>

> On behalf of the Board of Directors of the George C. Marshall International Center in Leesburg, Virginia, we would like to suggest that a statue of General George Catlett Marshall be selected to replace the statue of Robert E. Lee in the U.S. Capitol.

>

>

>

> Please see our letter attached.

>

>

>

> Valérie Beaudoin

>

> Executive Director

>

>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Neil Cohen](#)
Subject: Re: My input per statue replacement
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:41:46 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 11:33 AM Neil Cohen <cohenconnects@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I am against removing any statue, monument or painting on Federal or State property unless there is a vote on the decision and the public has a say. That said, if VA is going to spend taxpayer money to remove any monument, they should not waste additional funds replacing it.

>

> A replacement should not even be discussed at this time, due to extreme polarization of the Virginia population. It should be discussed after there is a state election and a new administration is in place so the voters have a say.

Thank you.

>

> Neil A. Cohen

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Jacqui x](#)
Subject: Re: No One
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:40:40 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 1:39 PM Jacqui x <jacloftis@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
>
>

> Whomever is chosen will later be found to have an issue as we are all imperfect.

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Loyal Millett](#)
Subject: Re: Nominees
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:41:04 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 11:27 PM Loyal Millett <millettloyal@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> To Whom it May Concern,

>

> These are my proposals for a replacement statue within the National Statuary Hall:

> 1. Martha Washington

> 2. Pearl Bailey

> 3. Pocahontas

> 4. James Madison

> 5. Meriwether Lewis

> 6. John Marshall

>

> Loyal Evan Powell Millett

> millettloyal@gmail.com

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Sue Anne Boothe](#)
Subject: Re: Opposition to Removal of the Robert E. Lee Statue at the US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 11:08:42 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Mon, Oct 5, 2020 at 10:41 AM Sue Anne Boothe <lpboothe@swva.net> wrote:

>

> Dear Commissioners,

>

> I am writing to you to object to the removal the Robert E. Lee statue from the United States Capitol. I believe that Robert E. Lee is an appropriate representative of Virginia. He was an outstanding man who served the country and Virginia. He was and is well respected by citizens from all over the country, including contemporary figures from the Northern states and Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Dwight D. Eisenhower. When the Civil War ended, Lee urged his soldiers to go home and be good citizens. He became president of Washington College and made innovations that helped revive the college and lead it into modern times. Robert E. Lee was a man of great moral and honorable character. Please do not remove his statue from the Capitol.

>

> Sue Anne Boothe

>

> Floyd

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Alex](#)
Subject: Re: Please consider Ella Fitzgerald
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:40:21 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerley,

Julie Langan

On Tue, Sep 8, 2020 at 12:32 AM Alex <ourprez@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> I support Ella Fitzgerald to replace Robert E. Lee in Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol. Nobody else even comes close, in my humble opinion. Thank you for your time and consideration.

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Alex Christensen

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Cecil Quillen](#)
Subject: Re: Replacement for the Lee statue
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:40:04 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerley,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Aug 29, 2020 at 1:43 PM Cecil Quillen <cecilquillen@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I am writing to propose that the Lee statue in the U.S. Capitol be replaced by a statue of John Marshall.

>

> Marshall was a Virginian and was certainly the most important American in the 19th Century who was not President', and may well be the most important person not President since the adoption of our Constitution in 1789. He created the America we know through his interpretations of the Constitution. His importance is thoroughly documented in numerous histories and biographies, most importantly Jean Edward Smith's biography, "John Marshall: Designer of a Nation."

>

>

>

> Cecil Quillen

>

>

> cc: Professor Kevin Walsh

> President

> John Marshall Foundation

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: loretta.hassan
Subject: Re: Replacement of Lee statue at US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:41:28 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 10:25 PM loretta.hassan <momlbh1@yahoo.com> wrote:

>
> I strongly endorse George C. Marshall to be the replacement.
>
> Zubair U. Hassan MD
> 200 Brookschase Ln.
> Henrico Va. 23229
> 804.285.4329

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Sarah Peet](#)
Subject: Re: Replacement statue
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:43:13 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 5:27 PM Sarah Peet <shayhurs@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I would like the consideration of Chief Powhatan, also known as Wahunsenacawh, to be the next state statue in the National Statuary Hall Collection to represent the Commonwealth of Virginia. All the other Native Americans in the collection represent the western nations and states. There should be representation of the Native Peoples in Virginia and none would be more fitting than Chief Powhatan.

>

> Thank you for your consideration.

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Jerry Cahoon](#)
Subject: Re: Replacing Lee
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:41:08 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 3:22 PM Jerry Cahoon <onebadjer34@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

> To whom it may concern, I would like to nominate Evelyn Butts as replacement for the statue of Robert E. Lee. Mrs. Butts was instrumental in dismantling the Poll Tax in Virginia and the Supreme Court case that struck it down through out the nation.

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Robert Williams](#)
Subject: Re: Robert E Lee statue located in the Capitol building
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:43:38 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 7:21 PM Robert Williams <robertjeaniew@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> Please consider leaving this statue in place. It reflect my native Virginian love of our nations history.

> Lee was an honorable man and leader of Virginia. It's an error to view America's history through a prism based on todays societal moral views.

> Sincerely,

> Robert G Williams

> Fredericksburg VA

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Daniel Hoffman](#)
Subject: Re: Robert E. Lee statue replacement.
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:39:12 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 7:55 AM Daniel Hoffman <hoffman4vb@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I think it's a mistake to put up any statue of any person to honor them. Human beings are by nature fallible and any person so honored can prove to be less than honorable. In addition to being a great public figure they can also cheat, lie, commit crimes such as murder, pedophilia, embezzlement, spousal abuse and a litany of other than honorable activity. This happens all the time to politicians, sport figures and anyone dotted on by others.

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Edward A. Fiorella](#)
Subject: Re: Robert E. Lee Statue
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:43:25 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sun, Oct 4, 2020 at 5:46 PM Edward A. Fiorella
<efiorella@ff-legal.com> wrote:

>
> Ladies and Gentlemen,
>
> Robert E. Lee is one on the greatest Virginians to have lived . The attacks against his character are unwarranted and baseless. His likeness should remain in our Country's capital to remind all how a moral and Christian life of duty and sacrifice is lived. We have too few examples today of it in Richmond and Washington DC.
>
> Keep General Lee where he belongs.
>
> Ed Fiorella
>
> Norfolk VA

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Malcolm Kallman](#)
Subject: Re: STATUE REPLACEMENT
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:42:00 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Fri, Oct 2, 2020 at 6:12 AM Malcolm Kallman <29snug@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I very strongly recommend General George C. Marshall as a replacement for General Robert E. Lee.

> The nations of Europe, our great country, and the Commonwealth of Virginia owes this great man their gratitude for what he accomplished in his lifetime for the good of all mankind.

>

> His record speaks volumes for itself.

>

> Malcolm R. Kallman (97)

> A proud veteran of WWII

>

> PS: I would have made an effort to be at the meeting in person, but I hopefully will be recovering from surgery the day before.

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Sandra ruggles](#)
Subject: Re: Statue to replace Lee
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:39:57 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 10:22 AM Sandra ruggles <sruggles78@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I would like to vote for a statue of Booker T Washington to replace Robert E Lee.

> Thanks

> Sandra Ruggles

>

> Sent from my iPhone "We must let go of the life we have planned , so as to accept the one that is waiting for us".
Joseph Campbell

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Ben Clark](#)
Subject: Re: Statue
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:39:00 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Fri, Oct 2, 2020 at 6:11 PM Ben Clark <thebenclark@live.com> wrote:

>

>

> How about Robert E Lee?

> Sent from my iPhone

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Mahrt, Lehr](#)
Subject: Re: Statues
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:39:46 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 10:04 AM Mahrt, Lehr <mmmahrt4@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> I would like to see Pocahontas chosen as Virginia's statue replacement. Most people who visit the collection in Statuary Hall may stop for a moment to read about the statue, but most forget quickly about who that person was or what they did. Virginia already has the most recognizable man there. Why not complement him with a very well know character from Virginia's beginnings? Having a woman would be rare, and paying homage to the original inhabitants of America would be appropriate. She did great things and every American history class teaches about her. Sincerely, Barbara Lehr

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Warren M Harris](#)
Subject: Re: Suggestion for Lee statue replacement
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:40:54 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 1:47 PM Warren M Harris <wmharris@embarqmail.com> wrote:

>
> Members of the Commission:
>
> I am a native Richmonder and have been a Virginia resident most of my life, and I would like to suggest the Lee monument be replaced with one honoring Edgar Allan Poe, a person of whom all Virginians can be proud.
>
> Poe, also a Richmonder, is a giant figure in the literary history of America and indeed of all the English-speaking world. He is a living presence as well. His unique poems have been read by virtually every high school student in America and are in fact being read and discussed to this very day.
>
> A monument to him would highlight Richmond's and Virginia's contributions to American culture, and could be advertised to tourists along with an opportunity to visit the Poe House, other cultural and historical sites in the city, and the Rotunda at the University of Virginia where he lived.
>
> I hope you will give serious consideration to a monument honoring Edgar Allan Poe.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Warren M. Harris
>
> --
> Warren M. Harris
> 274 Bradley Street
> Abingdon, VA
> 24210
>
> TEL 276-628-5342
>
> cc: The Hon. Levar Stoney
>

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [John Novack](#)
Subject: Re: Suggestion for Statue to Replace that of Robert E. Lee in the US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:40:30 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 1:03 PM John Novack <john.novack@outlook.com> wrote:

Ladies and Gentlemen -

I would like to suggest that a statue of General Winfield Scott replace the statue of Robert E Lee in the US Capitol. Below is a discussion of his qualifications which appear in an article in Wikipedia.

Winfield Scott

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see [Winfield Scott \(disambiguation\)](#).

Not to be confused with [Winfield Scott Hancock](#).

Winfield Scott (June 13, 1786 – May 29, 1866) was an American military commander and political candidate. He served as a general in the [United States Army](#) from 1814 to 1861, taking part in the [War of 1812](#), the [Mexican–American War](#), the early stages of the [American Civil War](#), and various [conflicts](#) with [Native Americans](#). Scott was the [Whig Party](#)'s presidential nominee in the [1852 presidential election](#), but was defeated by [Democrat Franklin Pierce](#). He was known as **Old Fuss and Feathers** for his insistence on proper military etiquette, and as the **Grand Old Man of the Army** for his many years of service.

Winfield Scott

Winfield Scott by Fredricks, 1862.jpg



3rd [Commanding General of the U.S. Army](#)

Scott was born near [Petersburg, Virginia](#), in 1786. After training as a lawyer and brief militia service, he joined the army in 1808 as a captain of the light artillery. In the War of 1812, Scott served on the [Canadian](#) front, taking part in the [Battle of Queenston Heights](#) and the [Battle of Fort George](#), and was promoted to brigadier general in early 1814. He served with distinction in the [Battle of Chippawa](#), but was badly wounded in the subsequent [Battle of Lundy's Lane](#). After the conclusion of the war, Scott was assigned to command army forces in a district containing much of the Northeastern United States, and he and his family made their home near New York City. During the 1830s, Scott negotiated an end to the [Black Hawk War](#), took part in the [Second Seminole War](#) and the [Creek War of 1836](#), and presided over the [removal](#) of the [Cherokee](#). Scott also helped to avert war with Britain, defusing tensions arising from the [Patriot War](#) and the [Aroostook War](#).

In 1841, Scott became the [Commanding General of the United States Army](#), beating out his rival [Edmund P. Gaines](#) for the position. After the outbreak of the [Mexican–American War](#) in 1846, Scott was relegated to an administrative role, but in 1847 he led a campaign against the [Mexican](#) capital of [Mexico City](#). After [capturing](#) the port city of [Veracruz](#), he defeated Mexican General [Antonio López de Santa Anna](#)'s armies at the Battles of [Cerro Gordo](#), [Contreras](#), and [Churubusco](#). He then [captured Mexico City](#), after which he

In office

July 5, 1841 – November 1, 1861

President [John Tyler](#)
[James K. Polk](#)
[Zachary Taylor](#)
[Millard Fillmore](#)
[Franklin Pierce](#)
[James Buchanan](#)
[Abraham Lincoln](#)

Preceded by [Alexander Macomb](#)

Succeeded by [George B. McClellan](#)

Personal details

Born June 13, 1786
[Dinwiddie County, Virginia](#), U.S.

Died May 29, 1866 (aged 79)
[West Point, New York](#), U.S.

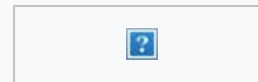
Resting place [West Point Cemetery](#)

Political party [Whig](#)

Education [College of William and Mary](#)

Awards [Congressional Gold Medal](#) (2)

Signature



Military service

Nickname(s) "Old Fuss and Feathers"
"The Grand Old Man of the Army"

Allegiance United States

Branch/service [Virginia Militia](#)
[United States Army](#)

Years of service 1807 (Militia)
1808–1861 (U.S. Army)

Rank [Major General](#)
 [Brevet Lieutenant General](#)

Commands

- 1st Brigade, Left Division, Army of the North
- Division of the North
- Eastern Department

maintained order in the Mexican capital and indirectly helped envoy [Nicholas Trist](#) negotiate the [Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#), which brought an end to the war.

Scott was a candidate for the Whig presidential nomination in 1840, 1844, and 1848, and won it [in 1852](#). The Whigs were badly divided over the [Compromise of 1850](#), and Pierce won a decisive victory over his former commander. Nonetheless, Scott remained popular among the public, and in 1855 he received a [brevet](#) promotion to the rank of [lieutenant general](#), becoming the first U.S. Army officer to hold that rank since [George Washington](#). Despite being a Virginia native, Scott stayed loyal to the Union and served as an important adviser to President [Abraham Lincoln](#) during the opening stages of the Civil War. He developed a strategy known as the [Anaconda Plan](#), but retired in late 1861 after Lincoln increasingly relied on General [George B. McClellan](#) for military advice and leadership. In retirement, he lived in [West Point, New York](#), where he died on May 29, 1866. Scott's military talent was highly regarded by contemporaries, and historians generally consider him to be one of the most accomplished generals in U.S. history.

Eastern Division

- [Commanding General of the United States Army](#)
- [Army of Mexico](#)

Battles/wars

- [War of 1812](#)
- [American Indian Wars](#)
- [Mexican-American War](#)
- [American Civil War](#)

See battles [show](#)

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- 4.4 [Tensions with the United Kingdom](#)
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 - [5.2 Mexican–American War](#)
 - [5.2.1 Early war](#)
 - [5.2.2 Invasion of Central Mexico](#)
 - [5.2.3 Mexico City](#)
 - [5.3 Taylor and Fillmore administrations](#)
 - [5.4 Presidential election of 1852](#)
 - [5.5 Pierce and Buchanan administrations](#)
 - [5.6 Lincoln administration](#)
- 6 [Retirement and death](#)
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 - [7.1 Historical reputation](#)
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Early life [[edit](#)]



Scott used this [coat of arms](#) for his [bookplate](#).^[1] It has been incorporated into the heraldry of various units of the U.S. Army, including the [1st](#) and [7th](#) Engineer Battalions.^[2]

Winfield Scott was born on June 13, 1786, to Ann Mason and her husband, William Scott, a farmer, veteran of the [American Revolutionary War](#), and officer in the [Dinwiddie County](#) militia.^[3] At the time, the Scott family resided at Laurel Hill, a plantation near [Petersburg, Virginia](#).^{[4][5]} Ann Mason Scott was the daughter of Daniel Mason and Elizabeth Winfield, and it was Ann's mother's maiden name that William and Ann Scott selected for their son.^[6] Scott's paternal grandfather, James Scott, had migrated from [Scotland](#) after the defeat of [Charles Edward Stuart's](#) forces in the [Battle of Culloden](#). Scott's father died when Scott was six years old; his mother did not remarry, and she continued to raise Scott, his brother, and his two sisters until her death in 1803.^[4] Although Scott's family held considerable wealth, most of the family fortune went to his older brother, James.^[7]

In 1805, Scott began attending the [College of William and Mary](#), but he soon left in order to [study law](#) in the office of attorney David Robinson, where his contemporaries included [Thomas Ruffin](#).^[8] While apprenticing under Robinson, he attended the trial of [Aaron Burr](#), who had been accused of [treason](#) for his role in events now known as the [Burr conspiracy](#).^[9] During the trial, Scott developed a negative opinion of the [Senior Officer of the United States Army](#), General [James Wilkinson](#), as the result of Wilkinson's obvious efforts to minimize his complicity in Burr's actions by providing forged evidence and false, self-serving testimony.^[10] He was [admitted to the bar](#) in 1806, and practiced in [Dinwiddie](#).^[11] In 1807, Scott gained his initial military experience as a [corporal](#) of [cavalry](#) in the Virginia [militia](#), serving in the midst of the [Chesapeake–Leopard Affair](#).^[12] Scott led a detachment that captured eight [British](#) sailors who had attempted to land in order to purchase

provisions.^[12] Virginia authorities did not approve of this action, fearing it might spark a wider conflict, and they soon ordered the release of the prisoners.^[12] Later that year, Scott attempted to establish a legal practice in [South Carolina](#), but was unable to obtain a law license because he did not meet the state's one-year residency requirement.^[13]

Early career, 1807–1815 [[edit](#)]

First years in the army [[edit](#)]

See also: *[Origins of the War of 1812](#)*

In early 1808, President [Thomas Jefferson](#) asked Congress to authorize an expansion of the [United States Army](#) after the British announced an escalation of their naval blockade of [France](#), thereby threatening American shipping. Scott convinced a family friend, [William Branch Giles](#), to help him obtain a commission in the newly-expanded army.^[14] In May 1808, shortly before his twenty-second birthday, Scott was commissioned as a [captain](#) in the [light artillery](#).^[15] Tasked with recruiting a [company](#), he raised his troops from the Petersburg and [Richmond](#) areas, and then traveled with his unit to [New Orleans](#) to join his [regiment](#).^[15] Scott was deeply disturbed by what he viewed as the unprofessionalism of the army, which at the time consisted of just 2,700 soldiers. He later wrote that "the old officers had, very generally, sunk into either sloth, ignorance, or habits of intemperate drinking."^[16]

He soon clashed with his commander, General [James Wilkinson](#), over Wilkinson's refusal to follow the orders of Secretary of War [William Eustis](#) to remove troops from an unhealthy bivouac site.^[15] Wilkinson owned the site, and while the poor location caused several illnesses and deaths among his soldiers, Wilkinson refused to relocate them because he personally profited.^[15] In addition, staying near New Orleans enabled Wilkinson to pursue his private business interests and continue the courtship of Celestine Trudeau, whom he later married.^[17] Scott briefly resigned his commission over his dissatisfaction with Wilkinson, but before his resignation had been accepted, he withdrew it and returned to the army.^[18] In January 1810, Scott was convicted in a court-martial, partly for making disrespectful comments about Wilkinson's integrity,^[19] and partly because of a \$50 shortage in the \$400 account he had been provided to conduct recruiting duty in Virginia after receiving his commission.^[20] With respect to the money, the court-martial members indicated that Scott had not been intentionally dishonest, but had failed to keep accurate

records.^[21] His commission was suspended for one year.^[19] After the trial, Scott fought a duel with William Upshaw, an army medical officer and Wilkinson friend who Scott blamed for causing the court-martial; each fired at the other, but both emerged unharmed.^[22]

After the duel, Scott returned to Virginia, where he spent the year studying military tactics and strategy,^[15] and practicing law in partnership with [Benjamin Watkins Leigh](#).^[23] Meanwhile, Wilkinson was removed from command for insubordination, and was succeeded by General [Wade Hampton](#).^[24] The rousing reception Scott received from his army peers as he began his suspension led him to believe that most officers approved of his anti-Wilkinson comments, at least tacitly; their high opinion of him, coupled with Leigh's counsel to remain in the army, convinced Scott to resume his military career once his suspension had been served.^[23] He rejoined the army in [Baton Rouge](#), where one of his first duties was to serve as judge advocate (prosecutor) in the court-martial of Colonel [Thomas Humphrey Cushing](#).^[25]

War of 1812 [[edit](#)]

Further



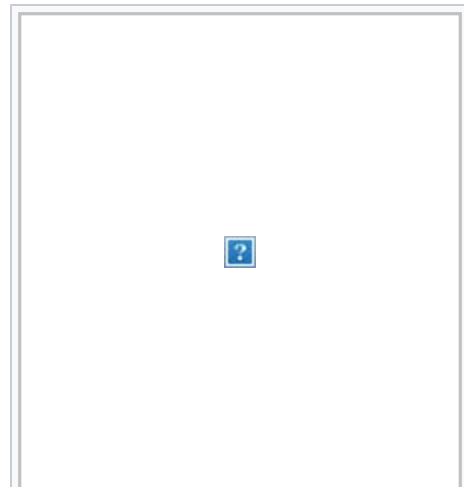
information: [Presidency of James Madison](#)

Tensions between Britain and the United States continued to rise as Britain attacked American shipping, [impressed](#) American sailors, and encouraged [Native American](#) resistance to American settlement. In July 1812, Congress [declared war](#) against Britain.^[26] After the declaration of war, Scott was promoted to the rank of [lieutenant colonel](#) and assigned as the second-in-command of the 2d Artillery,

-serving under [George Izard](#). While Izard continued to recruit soldiers, Scott led two companies north to join General [Stephen Van Rensselaer](#)'s militia force, which was preparing for an invasion of [Canada](#).^[27] President [James Madison](#) made the invasion the central part of his administration's war strategy in 1812, as he sought to capture [Montreal](#) and thereby take control of the [St. Lawrence River](#) and cut off [Upper Canada](#) from [Lower Canada](#). The invasion would begin with an attack on the town of [Queenston](#), which was just across the [Niagara River](#) from [New York](#).^[28]

In October 1812, Van Rensselaer's force attacked British forces in the [Battle of Queenston Heights](#). Scott led an artillery bombardment that supported an American crossing of the Niagara River, and he took command of American forces at Queenston after Colonel [Solomon Van Rensselaer](#) was badly wounded.^[29] Shortly after Scott took command, a British column under [Roger Hale Sheaffe](#) arrived. Sheaffe's numerically-superior forces compelled an American retreat, ultimately forcing Scott to surrender after reinforcements from the militia failed to materialize.^[30] As a [prisoner of war](#), Scott was treated hospitably by the British, although two [Mohawk](#) leaders nearly killed him while he was in British custody.^[31] As part of a prisoner exchange, Scott was released in late November; upon his return to the United States, he was promoted to the rank of [colonel](#) and made the commander of the 2d Artillery. He also became the chief of staff to General [Henry Dearborn](#), who was the senior general of the army and personally led operations against Canada in the area around Lake Ontario.^[32]

Dearborn assigned Scott to lead an [attack](#) against [Fort George](#), which commanded a strategic position on the Niagara River. With help from naval commanders [Isaac Chauncey](#) and [Oliver Hazard Perry](#), Scott landed American forces behind the fort, forcing its surrender. Scott was widely praised for his conduct in the battle, although he was personally disappointed that the bulk of the British garrison escaped capture.^[33] As part of another campaign to capture Montreal, Scott forced the British to withdrawal from Hoople Creek in November 1813. Despite this success, the campaign fell apart after the American defeat at [Battle of Crysler's Farm](#), and after General Wilkinson (who had taken command of the front in August) and General Hampton failed to cooperate on a strategy to take Montreal.^[34] With the failure of



Scott during the War of 1812

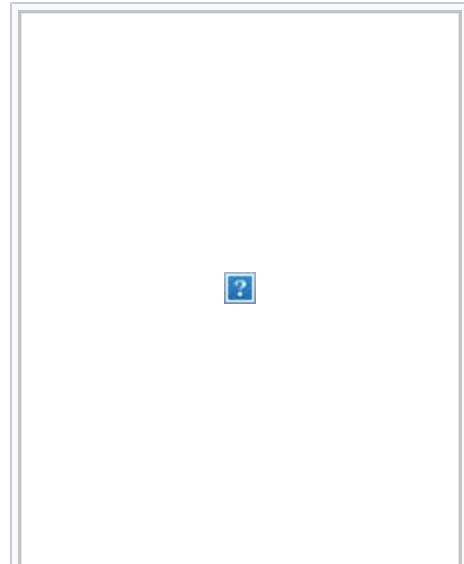
the campaign, President Madison and Secretary of War [John Armstrong Jr.](#) relieved Wilkinson^[a] and some other senior officers of their battlefield commands, replacing them with younger officers like Scott, Izard, and [Jacob Brown](#). In early 1814, Scott was promoted to [brigadier general](#)^[b] and was assigned to lead a regiment under General Brown.^[37]

In mid-1814, Scott took part in another invasion of Canada, which began with a crossing of the Niagara River under the command of General Brown.^[38] Scott was instrumental in the American success at the [Battle of Chippawa](#), which took place on July 5, 1814.^[39] Though the battle was regarded as inconclusive from the strategic point of view because the British army remained intact,^[40] it was seen as an important moral victory because it was "the first real success attained by American troops against British regulars."^[41] Later in July, a scouting expedition led by Scott was ambushed, beginning the [Battle of Lundy's Lane](#).^[42] Scott's brigade was decimated after General [Gordon Drummond](#) arrived with British reinforcements, and he was placed in the reserve in the second phase of the battle; he was later badly wounded while seeking a place to commit his reserve forces.^[43] The battle ended inconclusively after General Brown ordered his army to withdraw, effectively bringing an end to the invasion.^[44] Scott spent the next months convalescing under the supervision of military doctors and physician [Philip Syng Physick](#). His performance at the Battle of Chippawa had earned him national notoriety, and he was promoted to the [brevet](#) rank of [major general](#) and awarded a [Congressional Gold Medal](#).^{[45][c]} In October 1814, he was appointed commander of American forces in Maryland and northern Virginia, taking command in the aftermath of the [Burning of Washington](#).^[47] The War of 1812 came to an effective end in February 1815, after news of the signing of the [Treaty of Ghent](#) (which had been signed in December 1814) reached the United States.^[48]

In 1815, Scott was admitted as an honorary member of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati in recognition of his service in the War of 1812.^[49] Scott's Society of the Cincinnati insignia was a one of a kind solid gold eagle measuring nearly three inches in height, making it one of the most impressive military society insignias ever made. It was made by silversmiths Thomas Fletcher and Sidney Gardiner of Philadelphia.^[50] There are, however, no known portraits or photographs of Scott wearing the insignia. Scott's insignia is in the collection of the [United States Military Academy](#) Museum at West Point, New York.^[51]

Family [[edit](#)]

In March 1817, Scott married Maria DeHart Mayo (1789–1862).^[52] She was the daughter of Abigail (*née* DeHart) Mayo and Colonel John Mayo, a wealthy engineer and businessman who came from a distinguished family in Virginia.^[53] Scott and his family lived in [Elizabethtown, New Jersey](#) for most of the next thirty years.^[54] Beginning in the late 1830s, Maria spent much of her time in Europe because of a bronchial condition, and she died in [Rome](#) in 1862.^[55] They were the parents of seven children, five daughters and two sons:^{[56][57]}



Maria DeHart Mayo (1789–1862)

- Maria Mayo Scott (1818–1833), who died unmarried.
- John Mayo Scott (1819–1820), who died young.
- Virginia Scott (1821–1845), who became Sister Mary Emanuel of the [Georgetown convent of Visitation nuns](#).^{[58][59]}
- Edward Winfield Scott (1823–1827), who died young.
- Cornelia Winfield Scott (1825–1885), who married Brevet Brigadier General Henry Lee Scott (1814–1866) (no relation), Winfield Scott's [aide-de-camp](#) and [Inspector General of the Army](#).^[60]
- Adeline Camilla Scott (1831–1882), who married Gould Hoyt (1818–1883), a New York City businessman.
- Marcella Scott (1834–1909), who married [Charles Carroll MacTavish](#) (1818–1868), the grandson of [Richard Caton](#) and a member of Maryland's prominent [Carroll family](#).^[61]

Mid-career, 1815–1841 [[edit](#)]

Post-war years [[edit](#)]

Further information: [Presidency of James Monroe](#) and [Presidency of John Quincy Adams](#)

With the conclusion of the War of 1812, Scott served on a board charged with

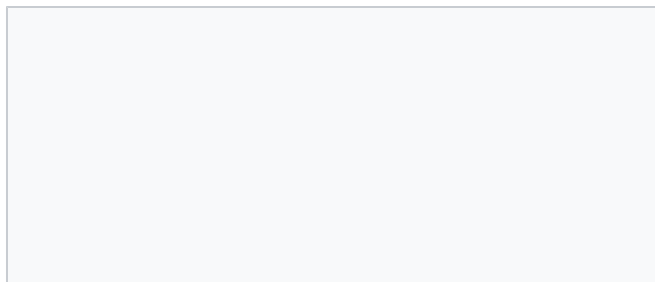
demobilizing the army and determining who would continue to serve in the officer corps. [Andrew Jackson](#) and Brown were selected as the army's two major generals, while [Alexander Macomb](#), [Edmund P. Gaines](#), Scott, and [Eleazer Wheelock Ripley](#) would serve as the army's four brigadier generals.^[48] Jackson became commander of the army's Southern Division, Brown became commander of the army's Northern Division, and the brigadier generals were assigned leadership of departments within the divisions.^[54] Scott obtained a leave of absence to study warfare in Europe, though to his disappointment, he reached Europe only after [Napoleon](#)'s final defeat at the [Battle of Waterloo](#).^[62] Upon his return to the United States in May 1816, he was assigned to command army forces in parts of the [Northeastern United States](#). He made his headquarters in [New York City](#) and became an active part of the city's social life.^[63] He earned the nickname "Old Fuss and Feathers" for his insistence on proper military bearing, courtesy, appearance and discipline.^[64] In 1835, Scott wrote *Infantry Tactics, Or, Rules for the Exercise and Manoeuvre of the United States Infantry*, a three-volume work that served as the standard drill manual for the United States Army until 1855.^[65]

Scott developed a rivalry with Jackson after the latter took offense to a comment Scott had made at a private dinner in New York, though they later reconciled.^[66] He also continued a bitter feud with Gaines that centered over which of them had seniority, as both hoped to eventually succeed the ailing Brown.^{[67][d]} In 1821, Congress reorganized the army, leaving Brown as the sole major general and Scott and Gaines as the lone brigadier generals; Macomb accepted demotion to colonel and appointment as the chief of engineers, while Ripley and Jackson both left the army.^[69] After Brown died in 1828, President [John Quincy Adams](#) passed over both Scott and Gaines due to their feuding, instead appointing Macomb as the senior general in the army. Scott was outraged at the appointment and asked to be relieved of his commission, but he ultimately backed down.^[70]

Black Hawk War and Nullification Crisis [[edit](#)]

Further information: [Presidency of Andrew Jackson](#)

In 1832, President Andrew Jackson ordered Scott to [Illinois](#) to take command of a conflict known as the [Black Hawk War](#).^[71] By the time Scott arrived in Illinois, the conflict had come to a close with



the army's victory at the [Battle of Bad Axe](#). Scott and Governor [John Reynolds](#) concluded the [Black Hawk Purchase](#) with

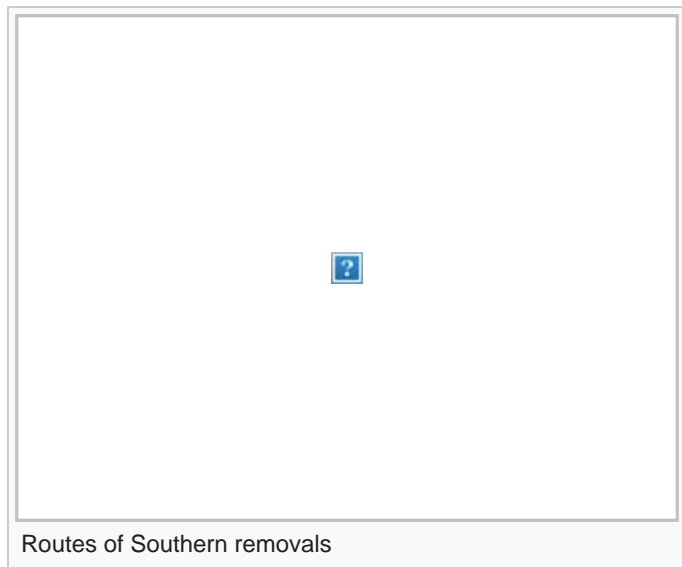
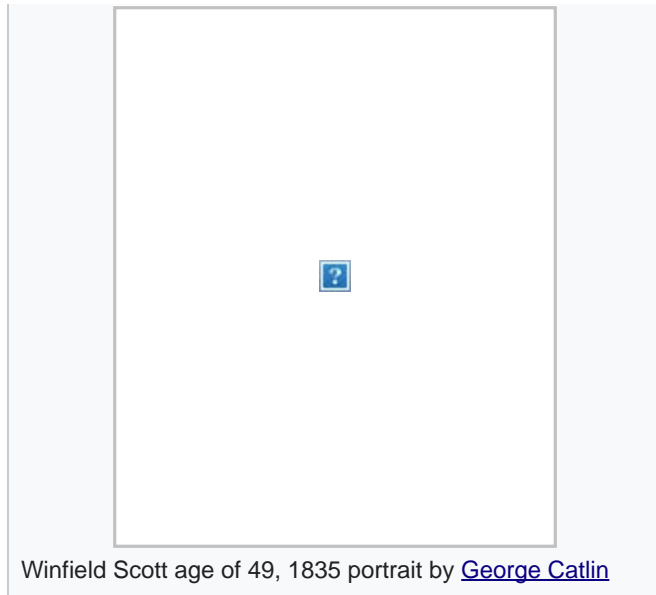
Chief [Keokuk](#) and other Native American leaders, opening up much of present-day [Iowa](#) to

settlement by whites.^[72] Later in 1832, Jackson placed Scott in charge of army preparations for a potential conflict arising from the [Nullification Crisis](#).^[73] Scott traveled to [Charleston, South Carolina](#), the center of the nullification movement, where he strengthened federal forts but also sought to cultivate public opinion away from [secession](#). Ultimately, the crisis came to an end in early 1833 with the passage of the [Tariff of 1833](#).^[74]

Indian Removal [[edit](#)]

Further information: [Trail of Tears](#)

President Jackson initiated a policy of [Indian removal](#), relocating Native Americans to the west of the [Mississippi River](#). Some Native Americans moved peacefully, but others, including many [Seminoles](#), forcibly resisted. In December 1835, the [Second Seminole War](#) broke out after the [Dade massacre](#), in which a group of Seminoles ambushed and massacred a U.S. Army company in [Central Florida](#).^[75] President



Jackson ordered Scott to personally take command of operations against the Seminole, and Scott arrived in Florida by February 1836.^[76] After several months of inconclusive campaigning, he was ordered to the border of [Alabama](#) and [Georgia](#) to put down a [Muscogee](#) uprising known as the [Creek War of 1836](#).^[77] American forces under Scott, General [Thomas Jesup](#), and Alabama Governor [Clement Comer Clay](#) quickly defeated the Muscogee.^[78] Scott's actions in the campaigns against the Seminole and the Muscogee received criticism from some subordinates and civilians, and President Jackson initiated a Court of Inquiry that investigated both Scott and General Edmund Gaines.^[79] The board cleared Scott of any misconduct, but reprimanded Gaines.^[80]

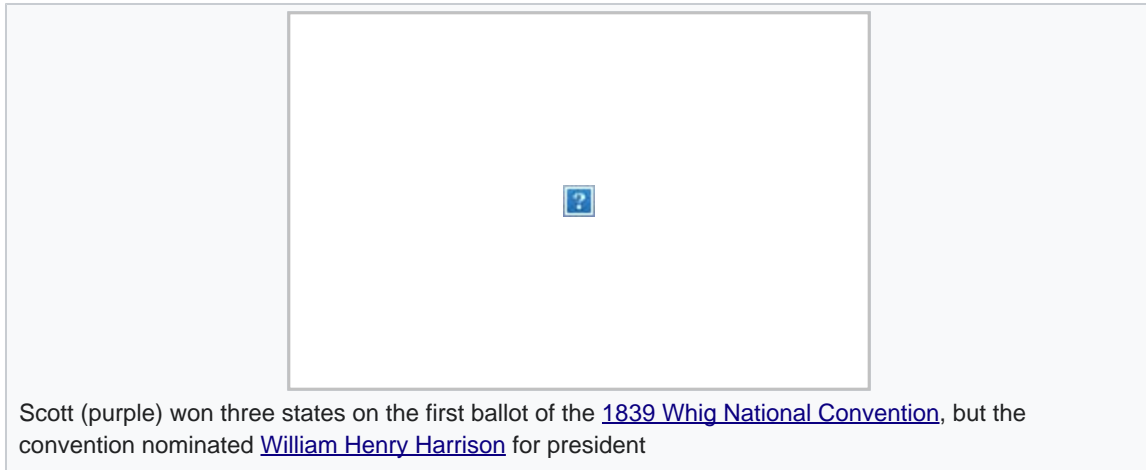
[Martin Van Buren](#), a personal friend of Scott's, assumed the presidency in 1837, and Van Buren continued Jackson's policy of Indian removal.^[81] In April 1838, Van Buren placed Scott in command of the removal of [Cherokee](#) from the Southeastern United States. Some of Scott's associates tried to dissuade Scott from taking command of what they viewed as an immoral mission, but Scott accepted his orders.^[82] After almost all of the Cherokee refused to voluntarily relocate, Scott drew up careful plans in an attempt to ensure that his soldiers forcibly, but humanely, relocated the Cherokee. Nonetheless, the Cherokee endured abuse from Scott's soldiers; one account described soldiers driving the Cherokee "like cattle, through rivers, allowing them no time to take off their shoes and stockings."^[83] In mid-1832, Scott agreed to Chief [John Ross](#)'s plan to let the Cherokee lead their own movement west, and he awarded a contract to the Cherokee Council to complete the removal. Scott was strongly criticized by many Southerners, including Jackson, for awarding the contract to Ross rather than continuing the removal under his own auspices.^[84] Scott accompanied one Cherokee group as an observer, traveling with them from [Athens, Georgia](#) to [Nashville, Tennessee](#), where he was ordered to the [Canada–United States border](#).^[85]

Tensions with the United Kingdom [[edit](#)]

In late 1837, the so-called "[Patriot War](#)" broke out along the Canadian border as some Americans sought to support the [Rebellions of 1837–1838](#) in Canada. Tensions further escalated due to an incident known as the [Caroline affair](#), in which Canadian forces burned a steamboat that had been used to deliver supplies to rebel forces. President Van Buren dispatched Scott to [Western New York](#) to prevent unauthorized border crossings and prevent the outbreak of a war between the United States and the United Kingdom.^[86] Still popular in the area due to his service

in the War of 1812, Scott issued public appeals, asking Americans to refrain from supporting the Canadian rebels.^[87] In late 1838, a new crisis known as the [Aroostook War](#) broke out over a dispute regarding the border between [Maine](#) and Canada, which had not been conclusively settled in previous treaties between Britain and the United States. Scott was tasked with preventing the conflict from escalating into a war.^[88] After winning the support of Governor [John Fairfield](#) and other Maine leaders, Scott negotiated a truce with [John Harvey](#), who commanded British forces in the area.^[89]

Presidential election of 1840 [edit]



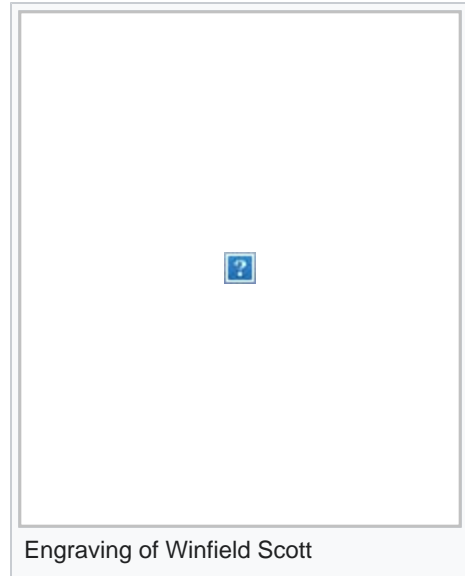
In the mid-1830s, Scott joined the [Whig Party](#), which was established by opponents of President Jackson.^[90] Scott's success in preventing war with Canada under Van Buren confirmed his popularity with the broad public, and in early 1839 newspapers began to mention him as a candidate for the presidential nomination at the [1839 Whig National Convention](#).^[91] By the time of the convention in December 1839, party leader [Henry Clay](#) and 1836 presidential candidate [William Henry Harrison](#) had emerged as the two front-runners, but Scott loomed as potential compromise candidate if the convention deadlocked.^[92] After several ballots, the convention nominated Harrison for president.^{[93][e]} Harrison went on to defeat Van Buren in the [1840 presidential election](#), but he died just one month into his term and was succeeded by Vice President [John Tyler](#).

Commanding General, 1841–1861 [edit]

Service under Tyler [edit]

Further information: [Presidency of John Tyler](#)

On June 25, 1841, Macomb died, and Scott and Gaines were still the two most obvious choices for the position of [Commanding General of the United States Army](#). Secretary of War [John Bell](#) recommended Scott, and President Tyler approved; Scott was also promoted to the rank of [major general](#).^[f] According to biographer [John Eisenhower](#), the office of commanding general had, since its establishment in 1821, been an "innocuous and artificial office ... its occupant had been given little control over the staff, and even worse, his advice was seldom sought by his civilian superiors." Macomb had largely been outside of the chain-of-command, and senior commanders like Gaines, Scott, and Quartermaster General Thomas Jesup reported directly to the Secretary of War.^[95] Despite Scott's efforts to invigorate the office, he enjoyed little influence with President Tyler, who quickly became alienated from most of the rest of the Whig Party after taking office.^[96] Some Whigs, including [Thaddeus Stevens](#) of Pennsylvania, favored Scott as the Whig candidate in the [1844 presidential election](#), but Clay quickly emerged as the prohibitive front-runner for the Whig nomination.^[97] Clay won the 1844 Whig nomination, but he was defeated in the general election by Democrat [James K. Polk](#). Polk's campaign centered on his support for the [annexation](#) of the [Republic of Texas](#), which had gained independence from [Mexico](#) in 1836. After Polk won the election, Congress passed legislation enabling the annexation of Texas, and Texas gained statehood in 1845.^[98]



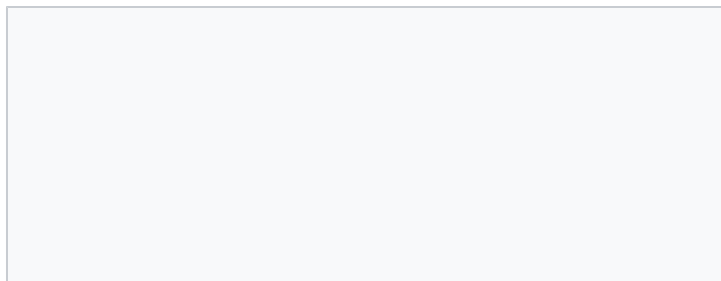
Mexican–American War [[edit](#)]

Further information: [Presidency of James K. Polk](#)

Early war [[edit](#)]

Polk and Scott had never liked one another, and their distrust deepened after Polk became president, partly due to Scott's affiliation with the

^[99]



Whig Party. Polk came into office with two major foreign policy goals: the acquisition of [Oregon Country](#), which was under joint American and British rule, and the acquisition of [Alta California](#), a Mexican province.^[100] The United States nearly went to war with Britain over Oregon,

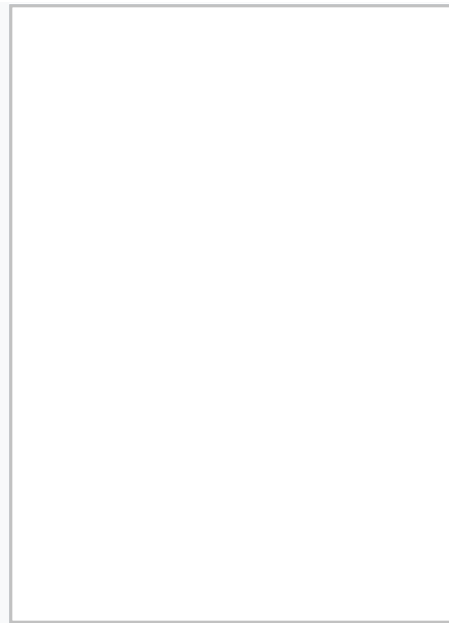
but the two powers ultimately agreed to [partition](#) Oregon Country at the 49th parallel north.^[101] The [Mexican–American War](#) broke out in April 1846 after U.S. forces under the command of Brigadier General [Zachary Taylor](#) clashed with Mexican forces north of the [Rio Grande](#) in a region claimed by both Mexico and Texas.^{[102][103]} Polk, Secretary of War [William L. Marcy](#), and Scott agreed on a strategy in which the U.S. would capture [Northern Mexico](#) and then pursue a favorable peace settlement.^[104] While Taylor led the army in Northern Mexico, Scott presided over the expansion of the army, ensuring that new soldiers were properly supplied and organized.^[105]

Invasion of Central Mexico [\[edit \]](#)

Taylor won several victories against the Mexican army, but Polk eventually came to the conclusion that merely occupying Northern Mexico would not compel Mexico to surrender. Scott drew up an invasion plan that would begin with a naval assault on the [Gulf](#) port of [Veracruz](#) and end with the capture of [Mexico City](#). With Congress unwilling to establish the rank of [lieutenant general](#) for Democratic Senator [Thomas](#)



Hart Benton, Polk reluctantly turned to Scott to command the invasion.^[106] Among those who joined the campaign were several officers who would later distinguish themselves in



A drawing of Scott at the [Battle of Veracruz](#)



Allegorical depiction of Winfield Scott on horseback during the [Battle of Cerro Gordo](#)

the [American Civil War](#), including Major [Joseph E. Johnston](#), Captain [Robert E. Lee](#), and Lieutenants [Ulysses S. Grant](#), [George B. McClellan](#), [George G. Meade](#), and [P. G. T. Beauregard](#).^[107] While Scott prepared the invasion, Taylor inflicted what the U.S. characterized as a crushing defeat on the army of Mexican President [Antonio López de Santa Anna](#) at the [Battle of Buena Vista](#).^[108] In the encounter known in Mexico as the Battle of La Angostura, Santa Anna brought U.S. forces to near collapse, capturing cannons and flags, and returned to Mexico City, leaving U.S. forces on the field.^[109] Santa Anna left to put down a [minor insurrection](#), and recruited a new army.^[110]

According to biographer John Eisenhower, the invasion of Mexico through Veracruz was "up to that time the most ambitious amphibious expedition in human history."^[111] The operation commenced on March 9, 1847 with the [Siege of](#)

[Veracruz](#), a joint army-navy operation led by Scott and Commodore [David Conner](#).^[9] After safely landing his 12,000-man army, Scott encircled Veracruz and began bombarding it; the Mexican garrison surrendered on March 27.^[113] Seeking to avoid a mass uprising against the American invasion, Scott placed a priority on winning the cooperation of the [Catholic Church](#). Among other initiatives designed to show respect for church property and officials, he ordered his men to salute Catholic priests on the streets of Veracruz.^[114] After securing supplies and wagons, Scott's army began the march towards [Xalapa](#), a city on the way to Mexico City.^[115] Meanwhile, Polk dispatched [Nicholas Trist](#), Secretary of State [James Buchanan](#)'s chief clerk, to negotiate a peace treaty with Mexican leaders.^[116] Though they initially feuded, Scott and Trist eventually developed a strong working relationship.^[117]

In mid-April, Scott's force met Santa Anna's army at Cerro Gordo, a town near Xalapa. Santa Anna had established a strong defensive position, but he left his left flank undefended on the assumption that dense trees made the area impassible.^[118] Scott decided to attack Santa Anna's position on two fronts, sending a force led by [David E. Twiggs](#) against Santa Anna's left flank, while another force, led by [Gideon Pillow](#), would attack Santa Anna's artillery.^[119] In the [Battle of Cerro Gordo](#), Pillow's force was largely ineffective, but Twiggs and Colonel [William S. Harney](#) captured the key Mexican position of El Telegrafo in hand-to-hand fighting.^[120] Mexican resistance collapsed after the capture of El Telegrafo; Santa Anna escaped the battlefield and returned to Mexico City, but Scott's force captured about 3,000 Mexican soldiers.^[121] After the battle, Scott continued to press towards Mexico City, cutting him and his army off from his supply base at Veracruz.^[122]

Mexico City [[edit](#)]

Scott's force arrived in the [Valley of Mexico](#) in August 1847, by which time Santa Anna had formed an army of approximately 25,000 men. Because Mexico City lacked walls and was essentially indefensible, Santa Anna sought to defeat Scott in a pitched battle, choosing to mount a defense near the Churubusco River, several miles south of the city.^[123] The [Battle of Contreras](#) began on the afternoon of August 19, when the Mexican army under General [Gabriel Valencia](#) attacked and pushed back an American detachment charged with building a road.^[124] In the early morning of the following day, an American force led by General [Persifor Frazer Smith](#) surprised and decimated Valencia's army.^[125] News of the defeat at Contreras caused a panic among the rest of Santa Anna's army, and Scott

immediately pressed the attack, beginning the [Battle of Churubusco](#). Despite the strong defense put up by the [Saint Patrick's Battalion](#) and some other units, Scott's force quickly defeated the demoralized Mexican army.^[126] After the battle, Santa Anna negotiated a truce with Scott, and the Mexican foreign minister notified Trist that they were ready to begin negotiations to end the war.^[127]

Despite the presence of Scott's army just outside of Mexico City, the Mexican and American delegations remained far apart on terms; Mexico was only willing to yield portions of Alta California, and refused to accept the Rio Grande as its northern border.^[128] While negotiations continued, Scott faced a difficult issue in the disposition of 72 members of Saint Patrick's Battalion who had deserted from the U.S. Army and were captured while fighting for Mexico. All 72 were court-martialed and sentenced to death. Under pressure from some Mexican leaders, and personally feeling that the death penalty was an unjust punishment for some defendants, Scott spared 20, but the rest were executed.^[129] In early September, negotiations between Trist and the Mexican government broke down, and Scott exercised his right to end the truce.^[130] In the subsequent [Battle for Mexico City](#), Scott launched an attack from the west of the city, [capturing](#) the key fortress of [Chapultepec](#) on September 13.^[131] Santa Anna retreated from the city after the fall of Chapultepec, and Scott accepted the surrender of the remaining Mexican forces early on the 14th.^[132]

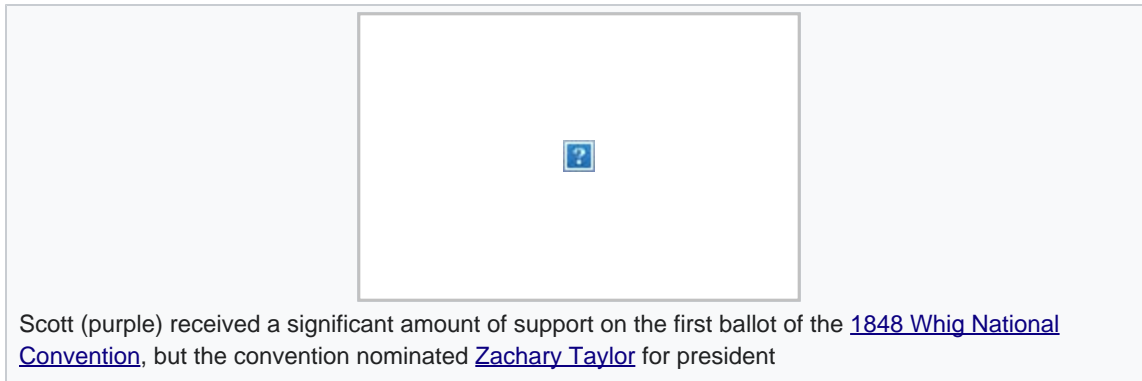
Unrest broke out in the days following the capture of Mexico City, but, with the cooperation of civil leaders and the Catholic Church, Scott and the army restored order in the city by the end of the month. Peace negotiations between Trist and the Mexican government resumed, and Scott did all he could to support the negotiations, ceasing all further offensive operations.^[133] As military commander of Mexico City, Scott was held in high esteem by Mexican civil and American authorities alike, primarily owing to the fairness with which he treated Mexican citizens.^[134] In November 1847, Trist received orders to return to Washington, and Scott received orders to continue the military campaign against Mexico; Polk had grown frustrated at the slow pace of negotiations. With the support of Scott and Mexican president [Manuel de la Peña y Peña](#), Trist defied his orders and continued the negotiations.^[135] Trist and the Mexican negotiators concluded the [Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#)^[h] on February 2, 1848; it was ratified by the U.S. Senate the following month.^[137] In late 1847, Scott arrested Pillow and two other officers after they wrote letters to American newspapers that were critical of Scott. In response, Polk ordered the release of the three officers, and removed Scott from

command.^[138]

Upon the founding of the [Aztec Club of 1847](#), a military society of officers who served in Mexico during the war, Scott was elected as one of only two honorary members of the organization.^[139]

Taylor and Fillmore administrations [[edit](#)]

Further information: [Presidency of Zachary Taylor](#) and [Presidency of Millard Fillmore](#)



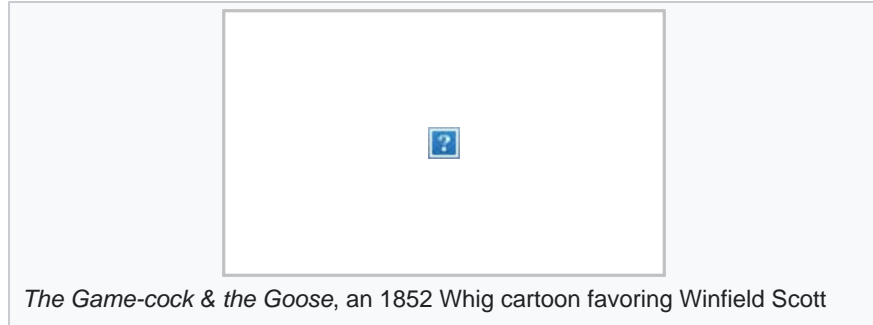
Scott was again a contender for the Whig presidential nomination in the [1848 election](#). Clay, [Daniel Webster](#), and General Zachary Taylor were also candidates for the nomination. As in 1840, Whigs were looking for a non-ideological war hero to be their candidate. Scott's main appeal was to anti-slavery "conscience Whigs", who were dismayed by the fact that two of the leading contenders, Clay and Taylor, were slaveholders. Ultimately, however, the delegates passed on Scott for a second time, nominating Taylor on the fourth ballot. Many anti-[slavery](#) Whigs then defected to support the nominee of the [Free-Soil Party](#), former President Martin Van Buren. Taylor went on to win the general election.^[140]

After the war, Scott returned to his administrative duties as the army's senior general.^[141] Congress became engaged in a divisive debate over the status of slavery in the territories, and Scott joined with Whig leaders Henry Clay and [Daniel Webster](#) in advocating for passage of what became known as the [Compromise of 1850](#). Meanwhile, Taylor died of an illness in July 1850 and was succeeded by Vice President [Millard Fillmore](#).^[142] The Compromise of 1850 and the enforcement of the [Fugitive Slave Act of 1850](#) badly divided the country as a whole and the Whig Party in particular. Northerners strongly objected to the stringent provisions of the act, while Southerners complained bitterly about any perceived slackness in enforcement.^[143] Despite Scott's support for the Compromise of 1850, he became

the chosen candidate of [William Seward](#), a leading Northern Whig who objected to the Compromise of 1850 partly because of the fugitive slave act.^[144]

Presidential election of 1852 [edit]

By early 1852, the three leading candidates for the Whig presidential nomination were Scott, who was backed by anti-Compromise Northern Whigs, President Fillmore, the first choice of most Southern Whigs, and Secretary of State Webster, whose



support was concentrated in New England.^[145] The [1852 Whig National Convention](#) convened on June 16, and Southern delegates won approval of a [party platform](#) endorsing the Compromise of 1850 as a final settlement of the slavery question.^[146] On the convention's first presidential ballot, Fillmore received 133 of the necessary 147 votes, while Scott won 131 and Webster won 29. After the 46th ballot still failed to produce a presidential nominee, the delegates voted to adjourn until the following Monday. Over the weekend, Fillmore and Webster supporters conducted unsuccessful negotiations to unite behind one candidate.^[146] On the 48th ballot, Webster delegates began to defect to Scott, and the general gained the nomination on the 53rd ballot.^[146] Fillmore accepted his defeat with equanimity and endorsed Scott, but many Northern Whigs were dismayed when Scott publicly endorsed the party's pro-Compromise platform.^[147] Despite the party's effort to appeal to southerners by nominating [William Alexander Graham](#) of [North Carolina](#) for vice president, many Southern Whigs, including [Alexander H. Stephens](#) and [Robert Toombs](#), refused to support Scott.^[148]

The [1852 Democratic National Convention](#) nominated [dark](#)

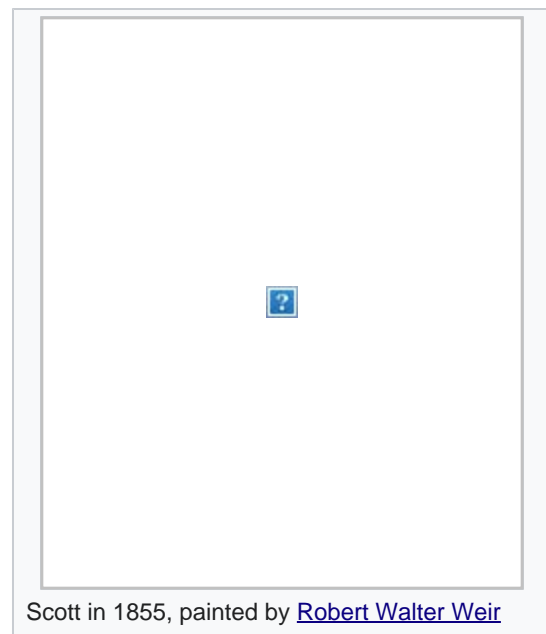
horse candidate [Franklin Pierce](#), a Northerner sympathetic to the Southern view on slavery who had served under Scott as a brigadier general during the Mexican War.^[149] Pierce had resigned from the U.S. Senate in 1842, and had briefly held only the minor office of [United States Attorney](#) for the [District of New Hampshire](#) since then, but emerged as a compromise candidate partly because of his service under Scott in the Mexican–American War.^[150] The Democrats attacked Scott for various incidents from his long public career, including his court-martial in 1809 and the hanging of members of the Saint Patrick's Battalion during the Mexican–American War.^[151] Scott proved to be a poor candidate who lacked popular appeal, and he suffered the worst defeat in Whig history.^[152] In the South, distrust and apathy towards Scott led many Southern Whigs to vote for Pierce or to sit out the election, and in the North, many anti-slavery Whigs voted for [John P. Hale](#) of the [Free Soil Party](#).^[153] Scott won just four states and 44 percent of the popular vote, while Pierce won just under 51 percent of the popular vote and a large majority of the [electoral vote](#).^[154]

Pierce and Buchanan administrations [[edit](#)]

Further information: [Presidency of Franklin Pierce](#), [Presidency of James Buchanan](#), and [Origins of the American Civil War](#)

After the 1852 election, Scott continued his duties as the senior officer of the army. He maintained cordial relations with President Pierce but frequently clashed with Pierce's Secretary of War, [Jefferson Davis](#), over issues like travel expenses.^[155] Despite his defeat in the 1852 presidential election, Scott remained broadly popular, and on Pierce's recommendation, in 1855 Congress passed a resolution promoting Scott to brevet lieutenant general.^{[156][157]} Scott was the [first](#) U.S. Army officer since [George Washington](#) to hold the rank of lieutenant general.^{[158][1]} He also earned the appellation of the "Grand Old Man of the Army" for his long career.^[159]

The passage of the 1854 [Kansas–Nebraska Act](#) and the outbreak of [violent](#)



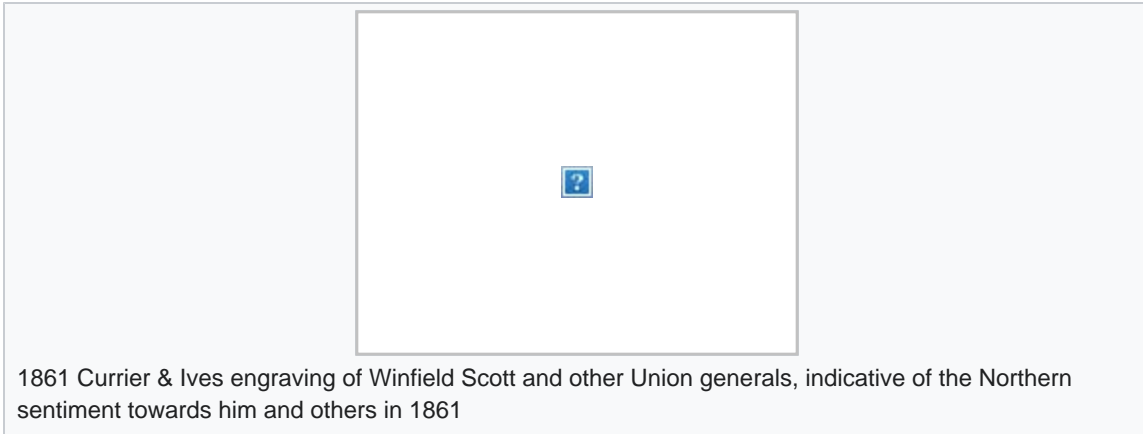
[confrontations](#) between pro-slavery and anti-slavery forces in Kansas exacerbated sectional tensions and split both major parties. Pierce was denied re-nomination in favor of James Buchanan, while the Whig Party collapsed. In the [1856 presidential election](#), Buchanan defeated [John C. Frémont](#) of the anti-slavery [Republican Party](#) and former President Fillmore, the candidate of the [nativist American Party](#).^[160] Sectional tensions continued to escalate after the Supreme Court handed down its decision in [Dred Scott v. Sandford](#). Buchanan proved incapable of healing sectional divides, and some leading Southerners became increasingly vocal in their desire to secede from the union.^[161] In 1859, Buchanan assigned Scott to lead a mission to settle a dispute with Britain over the ownership of the [San Juan Islands](#) in the [Pacific Northwest](#). Scott reached an agreement with British official [James Douglas](#) to reduce military forces on the islands, thereby resolving the so-called "[Pig War](#)".^[162]

In the [1860 presidential election](#), the Republicans nominated [Abraham Lincoln](#), while the Democrats split along sectional lines, with Northern Democrats supporting Senator [Stephen A. Douglas](#) and Southern Democrats supporting Vice President [John C. Breckinridge](#). Lincoln won the election, taking just 44 percent of the popular vote but winning a majority of the electoral vote due to his support in the North.^[163] Fearing the possibility of imminent secession, Scott advised Buchanan and Secretary of War [John B. Floyd](#) to reinforce federal forts in the South. He was initially ignored, but Scott gained new influence within the administration after Floyd was replaced by [Joseph Holt](#) in mid-December. With assistance from Holt and newly-appointed Secretary of State [Jeremiah S. Black](#), Scott convinced Buchanan to reinforce or resupply Washington, D.C., [Fort Sumter](#) (near Charleston, South Carolina), and [Fort Pickens](#) (near [Pensacola, Florida](#)). Meanwhile, several Southern states seceded, formed the [Confederate States of America](#), and chose Jefferson Davis as president.^[164]

Because Scott was from Virginia, Lincoln sent an envoy, Thomas S. Mather, to ask whether Scott would remain loyal to the United States and keep order during [Lincoln's inauguration](#). Scott responded to Mather, "I shall consider myself responsible for [Lincoln's] safety. If necessary, I shall plant cannon at both ends of [Pennsylvania Avenue](#), and if any of the Maryland or Virginia gentlemen who have become so threatening and troublesome show their heads or even venture to raise a finger, I shall blow them to hell."^[165] Scott helped ensure that Lincoln arrived in Washington safely, and ensured the security of Lincoln's inauguration, which ultimately was conducted without a major incident.^[166]

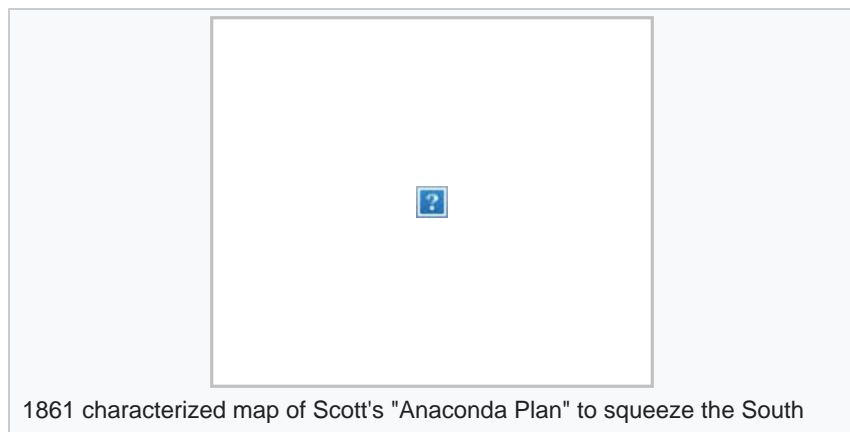
Lincoln administration [[edit](#)]

Further information: [*Presidency of Abraham Lincoln*](#)



By the time Lincoln assumed office, seven states had declared their secession and had seized federal property within their bounds, but the United States retained control of the military installations at Fort Sumter and Fort Pickens.^[167] Scott advised evacuating the forts on the grounds that an attempted re-supply would inflame tensions with the South, and that Confederate shore batteries made re-supply impossible.^[168] Lincoln rejected the advice and chose to re-supply the forts; although Scott accepted the orders, his resistance to the re-supply mission, along with poor health, undermined his status within the administration. Nonetheless, he remained a key military adviser and administrator.^[169] On April 12, Confederate forces began an [attack](#) on Fort Sumter, forcing its surrender the following day.^[170] On April 15, Lincoln declared that a state of rebellion existed and [called up tens of thousands of militiamen](#). On the advice of Scott, Lincoln offered Robert E. Lee command of the [Union](#) forces, but Lee ultimately chose to serve the Confederacy.^[171]

Scott took charge of molding Union military personnel into a cohesive fighting force.^[172] Lincoln rejected Scott's proposal to build up the regular



army,^[i] and the administration would largely rely on volunteers to fight the war.^[174] Scott developed a strategy, later known as the [Anaconda Plan](#), that called for the capture of the Mississippi River and a blockade of Southern ports. By cutting off the eastern states of the Confederacy, Scott hoped to force the surrender of Confederate forces with a minimal loss of life on both sides. Scott's plan was leaked to the public, and was derided by most Northern newspapers, which tended to favor an immediate assault on the Confederacy.^[175] As Scott was too old for battlefield command, Lincoln selected General [Irvin McDowell](#), an officer whom Scott saw as unimaginative and inexperienced, to lead the main Union army in the [eastern theater](#) of the war.^[176] Though Scott counseled that the army needed more time to train, Lincoln ordered an offensive against the Confederate capital of Richmond. Irvin McDowell led a force of 30,000 men south, where he met Confederate Army at [First Battle of Bull Run](#). The Confederate army dealt the Union a major defeat, ending any hope of a quick end to the war.^[177]

McDowell took the brunt of public vituperation for the defeat at Bull Run, but Scott, who had helped plan the battle, also received criticism.^[178] Lincoln replaced McDowell with McClellan, and the president began meeting with McClellan without Scott in attendance.^[179] Frustrated with his diminished standing, Scott submitted his resignation in October 1861. Though Scott favored General [Henry Halleck](#) as his successor, Lincoln instead made McClellan the army's senior officer.^[180]

Retirement and death [[edit](#)]



Scott in 1861

After retiring, Scott traveled to Europe with his daughter, Cornelia, and her husband, H. L. Scott. In [Paris](#), he worked with [Thurlow Weed](#) to aid American consul [John Bigelow](#) in defusing the [Trent Affair](#), a diplomatic incident with Britain.^[181] On his return from Europe in December 1861, he lived alone in New York City and at [West Point, New York](#), where he wrote his memoirs and closely followed the ongoing civil war. After McClellan's defeat in the [Seven Days Battles](#), Lincoln accepted Scott's advice and appointed General Halleck as the army's senior general. In 1864, Scott sent a copy of his newly-published memoirs to

Ulysses S. Grant, who had succeeded Halleck as the lead Union general. The copy that Scott sent was inscribed, "from the oldest to the greatest general."^[182] Following a strategy similar to Scott's Anaconda Plan, Grant led the Union to victory, and the Confederate army [surrendered](#) in April 1865.^[183]

On October 4, 1865, Scott was elected as a Companion of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the [Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States](#) and was assigned insignia number 27.^[184] He is one of the few individuals who belonged to the three most senior military societies of the United States - the Society of the Cincinnati, the Aztec Club of 1847 and the Loyal Legion.

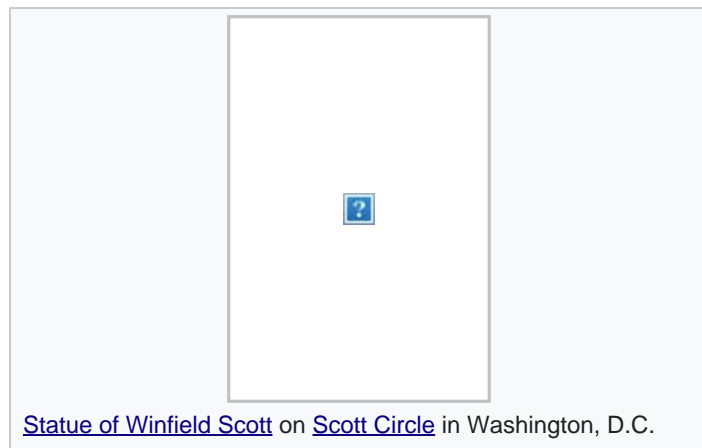
Scott died at West Point on May 29, 1866.^[7] President [Andrew Johnson](#) ordered the flags flown at half-staff to honor Scott, and Scott's funeral was attended by many of the leading Union generals, including Grant, George G. Meade, [George H. Thomas](#), and [John Schofield](#). He is buried at the [West Point Cemetery](#).^[185]

Legacy [[edit](#)]

Historical reputation [[edit](#)]

Scott holds the record for the greatest length of active service as general in the U.S. Army,^[183] as well as the longest tenure as the army's chief officer. Steven Malanga of [City Journal](#) writes that "Scott was one of America's greatest generals ... but he had the misfortune to serve in two

conflicts—the War of 1812 and the controversial Mexican-American War—bracketed by the far more significant American Revolution and Civil War."^[186] Biographer John Eisenhower writes that Scott "was an astonishing man" who was the country's "most prominent general" between the retirement of Andrew Jackson in 1821 and the onset of the Civil War in 1861.^[187] The [Duke of Wellington](#) proclaimed Scott "the greatest living general" after his capture of Mexico City.^[188] Robert E. Lee wrote, "the great cause of our success [in Mexico] was in our leader [Scott]".^[189] Historians Scott Kaufman and John A. Soares Jr. write that Scott



[Statue of Winfield Scott](#) on [Scott Circle](#) in Washington, D.C.

was "an able diplomat who proved crucial in helping avert war between Britain and the United States in period after the War of 1812."^[190] [Fanny Crosby](#), the hymn writer, recalled that Scott's "gentle manner did not indicate a hero of so many battles; yet there was strength beneath the exterior appearance and a heart of iron within his breast. But from him I learned that the warrior only it is, who can fully appreciate the blessing of peace."^[191]

In addition to his reputation as a tactician and strategist, Scott's career was also noteworthy for his concern about the welfare of his subordinates, as demonstrated by his willingness to risk his career in the dispute with Wilkinson over the Louisiana bivouac site.^[192] In another example, when cholera broke out among his soldiers while they were aboard ship during the Black Hawk campaign and the ship's surgeon was incapacitated by the disease, Scott received a treatment tutorial from the surgeon and risked his own health by tending to the sick men himself.^[193]

Memorials [[edit](#)]

Scott has been memorialized in numerous ways. [Scott County, Iowa](#) in the state of Iowa; [Scott County, Kansas](#); [Scott County, Virginia](#);^[194] [Scott County, Minnesota](#); and [Scott County, Tennessee](#) were all named for him. Communities named for Scott include [Winfield, Illinois](#); [Winfield, Indiana](#); [Winfield, Iowa](#); [Winfield, Alabama](#); and [Winfield, Tennessee](#), [Fort Scott, Kansas](#), [Scott Depot](#) and [Winfield](#)^[195] in West Virginia. Other things named for Scott include [Lake Winfield Scott](#) in [Georgia](#), [Mount Scott](#) in Oklahoma, and the [Scott's oriole](#), a bird.^[196]



A [statue of Scott](#) stands at [Scott Circle](#) in Washington, D.C. Scott is one of very few U.S. Army generals to be honored on a U.S. postage stamp.^{[197][198][199]} A [paddle steamer](#) named the [Winfield Scott](#) launched in 1850 and a [US Army tugboat](#) currently in service is named [Winfield Scott](#). Various individuals, including Union General [Winfield Scott Hancock](#), Confederate General [Winfield Scott Featherston](#), and Admiral [Winfield Scott Schley](#), were named after General Scott. The US Army Civil Affairs Association views General Scott as the Father of Civil Affairs and the regimental award medallions bear his name.^[200]

The [General Winfield Scott House](#), his home in New York City during 1853–1855, was named [National Historic Landmark](#) in 1973. Scott's papers can be found at the [William L. Clements Library](#) at the [University of Michigan](#) at [Ann Arbor, Michigan](#).^[201]

Dates of rank [[edit](#)]

During his career, which ended with his retirement on November 1, 1861, Scott was promoted from captain to brevet lieutenant general.^[202] The effective dates of his promotions were:^[202]

Insignia	Rank	Component	Date
	Captain	Regular Army	3 May 1808
	Lieutenant Colonel	Regular Army	6 July 1812
	Colonel	Regular Army	12 March 1813
	Brigadier General	Regular Army	9 March 1814
	Brevet Major General	Regular Army	25 July 1814
	Major General	Regular Army	25 June 1841
	Brevet Lieutenant General	Regular Army	29 March 1847
	Brevet Lieutenant General	Retired	1 November 1861

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [David Petraeus](#)
Subject: Re: Support for a Statue of General of the Army George C. Marshall in the US Capitol
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:42:56 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Fri, Oct 2, 2020 at 12:04 PM David Petraeus <petrd@kk.com> wrote:

>
> I strongly support biographer David Roll's recommendation that Virginia choose for "its" monument in the US Capitol a statue of General of the Army George C. Marshall.

>
> David H. Petraeus, General, US Army (Ret.)
> Partner, KKR and Chairman, KKR Global Institute
> 9 West 57th Street, Suite 4200
> New York, New York 10019

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>
>
>

> =====
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> KKR uses your personal information in accordance with its privacy notices, which can be found on <http://www.kkr.com>.
> =====

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Stan McChrystal](#)
Subject: Re: Support for General Marshall's Statue Replacing General Lee's
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:41:27 PM

Thank you for your suggestion which I will share with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 12:15 PM Stan McChrystal
<stan.mcchrystal@mcchrystalgroup.com> wrote:

>
> Ladies/Gentlemen of the Commission,
>
>
>
> First, thanks for your work on this. I believe who we honor with statues in the US Capitol matters.
>
>
>
> Although there are doubtless many candidates to replace General Lee's statue, I would support the selection of General George Marshall. His military service was extraordinary, but more importantly, he embodies the ideals and value that we have long claimed as important to our nation – this is a great way to show that.
>
>
>
> My thanks and all the best,
>
>
>
> Stan McChrystal | Partner
>
> McChrystal Group
>
> 333 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 100
>
> Alexandria, Virginia 22314
>
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>
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From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Andrew Johnson](#)
Subject: Re: Symbol instead of person
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 12:38:46 PM

Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your suggestion.

As required by the Architect of the US Capitol, the replacement statue must:

- be a deceased person
- have been a citizen of the United States
- be illustrious for historic renown or for distinguished civic or military services

If you have a person to suggest, please feel free to do so.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 9:50 PM Andrew Johnson <ajjohnson1607@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> To whom it may concern:

> I am not certain "busts" may consist of a plant instead of a person, but, if so, I propose Virginia place a statue of an oak tree in the capital (in addition to Monument avenue). I believe the symbol has obvious significance to the Commonwealth, as Oaks abound throughout our Commonwealth and the emancipation oak is an important historical site and symbol. In addition, the symbolism of a tree is significant for Virginia in at least two ways: 1. for better or worse, many of the English traditions that are hallmarks of American society and government have their "roots" in Virginia; 2. Virginia has for over 400 years grown from a small shabby government with few limbs and shallow roots to a thriving republic with divergent branches of interests, views, and backgrounds, all of whom are united in a common goal, or trunk, reaching out and up for a more free and just existence (the sun in this metaphor) for the leaves on each branch and the generations of leaves to come and stabilized through deep roots of common experience and a commitment to civil, democratic government. I think the tree metaphor can be powerful for the commonwealth and hope it will be considered for the Capitol and throughout Richmond as a symbol of Virginia's growth through time, the diverse interests and people that are unified in our republic, and, perhaps most importantly now, the endurance of a tree that, though gnarled and scarred, can grow with each year to reach ever high towards the principles that feed it.

>

> Have a nice evening

> Andrew Johnson

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Lynn Robertson](#)
Subject: Re: Virginia's statue in the US Capitol
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 9:41:19 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Sat, Oct 3, 2020 at 3:31 PM Lynn Robertson
<lynn.douglas.robertson@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I strongly support replacing the statue of Robert E. Lee with one of George C. Marshall. As far as I know, there is no monument honoring Gen. Marshall in the DC area other than his grave in Arlington Cemetery, a terrible oversight in my opinion. He was a giant in the history of our nation and the world.

>

> As an admirer both of Barbara Johns (some of whose relatives live in my part of Virginia) and of Booker T. Washington (whose birthplace is near my home), I would not be unhappy with the choice of either of them if the commission does not choose Gen. Marshall.

>

> I look forward to learning of your decision.

>

> Mary Lynn Douglas Robertson

> Salem, Virginia

From: julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov on behalf of [US Capitol Commission, rr](#)
To: [Phyllis Cates](#)
Subject: Re: Virginia's statue of Robert E. Lee
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 11:08:50 AM

Thank you for your email. It will be shared with the Commission for Historical Statues in the US Capitol.

Sincerely,

Julie Langan

On Mon, Oct 5, 2020 at 10:50 AM Phyllis Cates <catesp5@cs.com> wrote:

>

> We the people of Virginia (taxpayers and voters) do NOT want the statue of Robert E. Lee removed from the U.S. Capitol building. Why are the politicians (all of them) catering to the few people that do NOT know history. These people were apparently sleeping during history classes. Why do you all placate the few that are probably too ignorant to vote and they are probably welfare freeloaders that do not even work nor contribute anything to this country.

>

> LEAVE THE STATUE WHERE IT IS AND JUST DO YOUR JOB OF WORKING FOR AMERICA AND TAKING DOWN STATUES IS NOT WORKING FOR AMERICAN TAXPAYERS.

>

> PHYLLIS CATES

> CENTER CROSS, VA 22079