

# Emails Posted Nov. 24

From: Neal Nunnally <[hnnunnally@aol.com](mailto:hnnunnally@aol.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 9:41 AM  
Subject: Capitol statue  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>  
Cc: Harrison Taylor <[htaylor87@hotmail.com](mailto:htaylor87@hotmail.com)>

Commission members,

There can be no nobler representative of our commonwealth than Robert E. Lee. He was good enough to be on Eisenhower's office wall, and no less a statesman than Winston Churchill deemed him among the noblest Americans.

Lee's statue should remain exactly where it is.

Respectfully,

Neal Nunnally  
804-276-1236 (H)  
804-356-1236 (M)

---

From: Mitt Younts <[myounts@outlook.com](mailto:myounts@outlook.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 9:44 AM  
Subject: Lee Statue  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

I support retaining the statue of Robert E. Lee at the US Capitol Hall. From a military commander to president of a respected university, Washington and Lee. Lee was a respected and honorable leader of young men of his time in our history.

Millard Younts, Washington and Lee University '72.

---

From: <[locoqui@cox.net](mailto:locoqui@cox.net)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 11:02 AM  
Subject:  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Keep the statue of Robert E. Lee.

---

From: [wcart@tds.net](mailto:wcart@tds.net) <[wcart@tds.net](mailto:wcart@tds.net)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 1:47 PM  
Subject: statue to replace Lee  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

After reading the article by Joseph W. Smith of the Capital News Service - it prompted me to write on the statue. Mr. Smith and probably the commission are focused on the statue's purpose being viewed as a statement for support of minorities and inclusion AND this NOT what this statue is about - this should NOT be a political statement designed to appease the left, the liberals - but exactly what DHR says - dead notable historical figure or known for civic or military service - PLEASE do not pick an unknown to many residents of the state based the current environment - we will be watching. Pocahontas is my choice . WC

---

From: Benjamin Barrett <[barrettb1992@gmail.com](mailto:barrettb1992@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 2:36 PM  
Subject: Lee Monument  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Sir or madame,

I respectfully voice my opinion as a Virginian to keep the Lee Monument inside the US Capital.

Respectfully,

Benjamin Barrett

---

From: Will Aygarn <[waygarn@hotmail.com](mailto:waygarn@hotmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 4:16 PM  
Subject: Re the proposal to remove R.L. Lee's statue.  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

R.L. Lee was a better man than any of his detractors, and had presidents and foreign dignitaries among his admirers. Leave his statue alone.

W.H. Aygarn  
2264 Stowe Road  
Virginia Beach, Va., 23457

---

From: Robert Musick <[roblmus33@gmail.com](mailto:roblmus33@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 9:55 PM  
Subject: Keep Gen. Lee  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Commissioners

General Lee served his country first faithfully and well; he served the country of which his state subsequently became a part reluctantly but devotedly. A man of conscience in troubled times, he chose a path that is disparaged today by those who would perfect history by explaining how it should have been, judged by “woke” sensibilities. He bore the full weight of the expectations of a nascent nation on his shoulders with grace. He fought the good fight and suffered crushing defeat, as well as financial ruin, including the loss of the family home, without complaining. He resumed a worthy career and urged reconciliation in defeat. Although he did not rise above the tide of history, he lived and shaped it in a way that Americans and others have respected and admired for generations.

There are many Virginians who deserve recognition for their accomplishments. If there is a better exemplar of qualities Virginians cherish, as they should, the Commission is to be commended for articulating it's choice. However, I expect one that simply panders to the prevailing winds. Men like Lee rarely serve on Commissions.

Robert L. Musick, Jr.

---

From: KIMBERLY THRASHER <[be3thrashers@aol.com](mailto:be3thrashers@aol.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 7:58 AM  
Subject: Lee  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Please keep the statue where it is at this time and forever more!

Thank you,  
Kimberly Thrasher  
UDC

---

From: Shannon Kern <[lskernls@icloud.com](mailto:lskernls@icloud.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 9:08 AM  
Subject: Lee Statue  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing you in regards to the removal of the Lee Statue. It is my opinion that the committee should not put anything up to replace the Lee statue. As a tax payer, I do not wish to see my hard earned money wasted for future generations to become offended and have whatever you may decide to erect removed. In fact, I believe that since you allowed the removal of the statues, that you should neutralize the state of Virginia and have all the statues removed and change the name of all the street signs and schools that have any person's name on it.

Thank you,  
Shannon Kern

---

From: Joel Meese <[joelmeese@yahoo.com](mailto:joelmeese@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 10:25 AM  
Subject: Capital Statue  
To: [USCapitolCommission@DHR.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@DHR.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

I nominate the following as replacements for the Robert E Lee statue at the U.S. Capital.

1. George Henry Thomas, a native Virginian and graduate of West Point who stayed loyal to the United States during the Civil War. As a Major General he commanded Union forces throughout the Civil War. Included with his troops were African American troops who served under him at the Battle of Nashville.
2. Elizabeth Van Lew who served as the chief Union spymaster (in Richmond) during the Civil War and US Postmaster for Richmond after the war
3. Pocahontas a Virginia native who helped in maintaining peace between the English settlers and Native Americans.

---

From: Caroline Silvera <[silveracampiglia@gmail.com](mailto:silveracampiglia@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 10:57 AM  
Subject: Historical Statue Submission  
To: [uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Historical Statue Commission,  
My name is Caroline Silvera and I attend Hylton High School in Woodbridge, Virginia. My best contact information is this email address and (703)438-0653. The person who should replace Robert E. Lee is Pocahontas.

It is time for Virginia to honor the Indigenous people that we drove out of the state. Being the home of the first U.S. settlements, our

history with Native Americans is not ideal. Because of our historical background, we have spent most of our remaining time honoring the wrong people, such as confederate generals, slave owners, and historical figures that treated Black or Indigenous people with great disrespect.

Pocahontas is not only representative of the opposite of this but she would also honor our history in a positive light. The Virginia State Capitol recognizes this, naming the General Assembly building the "Pocahontas Building". Pocahontas is a strong historical figure who became a leader in her community at the young age of 11. She translated and became an ambassador and leader between her own culture and the culture of the settlers, in the face of strong European power. Despite knowing that this new power would overcome their land, Pocahontas fought bravely and did the best she could to preserve her own culture. As a student of Virginia public schools, I remember learning about Pocahontas, but her story still has yet to be explored fully and her bravery needs to be emphasized. Pocahontas is a key historical figure in the foundation of the United States and in the settlement of Jamestown. By making Pocahontas the replacement, we can honor the Indigenous people of Virginia and reflect her true bravery and story for years to come.

---

From: James Tabor Jr <[jtaborjr60@gmail.com](mailto:jtaborjr60@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 1:51 PM  
Subject: Choice of Virginia Statue in U S Capitol  
To: <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Robert E Lee.

---

From: william o'keefe <[wokeefe@me.com](mailto:wokeefe@me.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 2:10 PM  
Subject: Recommendation for replacement of General Lee Statue in the US Capitol  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

As I Virginian for 70 years and as the former CEO of the George C. Marshall Institute, I support the other recommendations you have received to choose General Marshall.

William O'Keefe  
19054 Founders Knoll Terrace  
Midlothian Virginia 23113

---

From: Bob Shirley <[cwdigger15@gmail.com](mailto:cwdigger15@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 3:29 PM  
Subject: R.E. Lee Statue

To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

The current statue of R.E. Lee should stay where it is.

J.R. Shirley  
Virginia Beach VA.

---

From: fcobbs1429 <[fcobbs1429@aol.com](mailto:fcobbs1429@aol.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 5:19 PM  
Subject: STATUE  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

I reccomend John M. Langston to replace Robert E. Lee in the US Capitol.  
Thanks,  
Freddie Cobbs

---

From: No Name <[bsoongrl@aol.com](mailto:bsoongrl@aol.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 6:29 PM  
Subject: Replace the Lee statue in the capital  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

With James Armistad Lafayette

---

From: Peter Rush <[peterrush@outlook.com](mailto:peterrush@outlook.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 10:49 PM  
Subject: Proposed person for a statue in the Rotunda  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Commission,

There is a Civil War General from Virginia who fought for the Union who, once his credentials are examined, should be seen as a shoo-in to replace the statue of Robert E. Lee. He is the most undersung Union hero who deserves, finally, his place in the sun as probably the most capable field commander on either side in the war, who played a signal role in Union victory despite being denied by Grant and Sherman the commands that he earned, who was about as non-racist as any northerner from Lincoln down, and who was by far the most effective commander of a southern region during Reconstruction, with consummate concern for how to integrate blacks into the life of freedmen and society. His qualifications include:

From Virginia

Was loyal to the Union and fought for it

Was arguably the best field commander, with signal victories that helped win the war. His most important wartime successes (among many other important contributions) include:

Was the savior of Union fortunes at Chickamauga (without whose role the Union could have suffered catastrophe)

His trained troops took Missionary Hill and won the Battle of Chattanooga while Sherman was no factor, having positioned himself on the wrong hill, an absolutely critical victory

While being denied overall command (which went to Sherman), he made numerous proposals to Sherman and Grant that military historians agree would have almost certainly hastened by months the capture of Atlanta, and would have also entailed the defeat and probable destruction of the confederate army under Johnston and Hood, thereby shortening the Civil War by many months—Sherman rejected all of his suggestions, and left Hood's force undefeated when he set off for the Coast on his famous "March".

Robbed of all of his best troops stolen by Sherman for his march, Thomas was left to defend Nashville with a ragtag collection of units that had never fought together, against the undiminished force of Hood (where defeat would have allowed Hood to invade Kentucky and Ohio unopposed), and yet, within just a few weeks, Thomas had regrouped his forces, and executed a battle plan that didn't just defeat Hood, but destroyed his army as an effective fighting force, effectively ending the war in the trans-Appalachian region. (Barely 13,000 troops remained of the 50,000 that faced Thomas at Nashville, after defeat and 30 days of pursuit—the only instance in the Civil War of a Northern commander following up a battlefield victory by pursuing and destroying the opposing army.) And black contingents, well-trained by Thomas, played a significant part of the victory, fought exceptionally well, and suffered high casualty rates. On this, quoted from the article mentioned just below:

At the battle of Nashville the colored troops were used in as practical a fashion as possible under the circumstances without regard

for their color. True, before the battle Thomas had his doubts about their ability to stand up to the battle conditions many of them were about to face for the first time. They had been, after all, mostly garrison troops and had little combat experience. However, the colored troops displayed bravery and other soldierly traits at Nashville, and Thomas recognized this. When riding over the field after the battle he saw their dead mixed with the bodies of white soldiers and said: "This proves the manhood of the negro" (fn42).

But possibly given the tenor of the time, the above merely qualifies his as an excellent candidate. But his views, and actions, on issues of race, and what he did and advocated for blacks after the war and during Reconstruction, make him the quintessential leader from that era of our nation's history. An excellent online summary of Thomas on the issue of slavery and black emancipation is

<http://www.aotc.net/article5.htm#:~:text=We%20begin%20to%20learn%20about,of%20blacks%20in%20the%20military.>

(4 or 5 books on Thomas all corroborate the facts described in this article—these facts are beyond dispute. It is one of the largest travesties in American history that Thomas's crucial role has received such short shrift by history) .

The following quotes are from that article, which should be read in full to appreciate how appropriate it would be for his statue to be in the Capitol. Explanatory information about him could then bring into the general consciousness and award him the renown that he has been due but denied for the past 155 years:

In fact Thomas was a quiet pioneer in the enrollment of blacks in the military. He took an active interest in their training and wrote the following in a letter dated 18 Nov. 63: "The Confederates regard them as property. Therefore the Government can with propriety seize them as property and use them to assist in putting down the Rebellion. But if we have the right to use the property of our enemies, we share also the right to use them as we would all the individuals of any other civilized nation who may choose to volunteer as soldiers in our Army [*italics mine*]. I moreover think that in the sudden transition from slavery to freedom it is perhaps better for the negro to become a soldier, and be gradually taught to depend on himself for support, than to be thrown upon the cold charities of the world without sympathy or assistance" (fn6). A born teacher, he monitored daily the



progress of the colored troops assigned to him for training. By 5 April 1864 he reported six fully organized colored regiments on duty, plus three more organizing, along with a battery of light artillery.

Thomas Van Horne, the early biographer of George Thomas, described his attitude toward the colored troops in the following way ("Major General George H. Thomas", p. 214):

"In accordance with his antagonism to state rights, General Thomas supported the government in declaring slaves contraband of war, and in enlisting them as soldiers when their freedom had been proclaimed by the President of the United States. He was too pronounced in his loyalty and too direct and severe in his logic, to falter when extreme measures were adopted. He was, therefore, prepared for the radical solution of the problems of the war as they were developed in the various stages of the conflict. When the enlistment of the manumitted slaves was ordered by the National authorities no department commander performed his duty in giving efficiency to colored regiments more loyally than General Thomas. He gave advice and encouragement to the officers who were engaged in organizing and commanding negro troops in his department. And when these troops exhibited their proficiency in the manual of arms and drill, he was often among the delighted spectators."

Thomas headed the government of the South for the last 4 months of the War. Again, from this article:

After the battle of Nashville (15-16 Dec. 1864) Thomas turned to two projects: 1) a massive mounted raid by Wilson to Selma and 2) reconstruction in those areas of the South which were gradually added to his command during the course of the war. Actually his reconstruction activities were continuous because, after the war in the fall of 1865, Thomas's effective area of control was sanctioned by President Johnson. Thomas was thus made the military governor of the Division of the Tennessee with headquarters in Nashville. The command included Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. According to Cleaves "Thomas supported Governor Brownlow in Tennessee by attempting to muzzle a reviving Confederate press, combating negrophobia, guarding the polls, assisting in arrests, and altogether was zealous in reconstructing what he termed 'many obtuse minds' as if he had been born in Massachusetts....On the other hand, Thomas would go as far as anyone in obtaining pardons and privileges for former Confederate officers and their relatives" (fn12), as well as helping

out ordinary returning Confederate soldiers. According to McKinney: "Among the military commanders in the South, Thomas was pre-eminent in the work of reconstruction" (fn13). Furthermore, "...the method Thomas suggested was in accordance with Lincoln's theory that reconstruction was an executive function" (fn14), that is, Lincoln and then Johnson should be allowed to decide the pace and basic policies of reconstruction.

As opposed to Tennessee, where Thomas worked with appointed and then elected governors, Thomas's reconstruction projects in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi involved a novel approach to the problem of integrating mixed populaces into the normal U.S. political process. "...instead of building a civil government from the top down Thomas began to build it from the bottom up" while he acted as provisional governor" (fn15).

Wherever he had influence he took a moderate course. On the one hand he restrained, sometimes through military force, the attempts of some former Confederates to avoid any consequences for their anti-Union activities. On the other hand he "...pressured the Freedman's Bureau to make the Negro discharge his responsibilities to himself, his family and his community, and to secure to him the rights of life, liberty and property." In short, there could have been no more faithful executor of Lincoln's reconstruction policies than George H. Thomas.

I feel that this came about, in part, because he knew better than most what kind of people he was dealing with in the South, being a Southerner himself (as was Lincoln). On 5 Sept. 1865 Thomas wrote President Johnson: "As a general rule the negro soldiers are under good discipline....I believe in the majority of cases of collision between whites and negro soldiers that the white man has attempted to bully the negro, for it is exceedingly repugnant to the Southerners to have negro soldiers in their midst & some are so foolish as to vent their anger upon the negro because he is a soldier" (fn16).

However, Thomas wasn't all sweetness and light. When necessary for the furtherance of government policy he was ready, in certain cases, to quickly intercede with troops. For example, in 1866 in cooperation with Stanton (and in opposition to Grant), Thomas had 2 absent Tennessee legislators arrested and brought to Nashville so that a quorum could be reached for the vote on the 14th amendment (fn17). It was then passed 43 to 13. This was necessary for the re-admission of Tennessee into the Union, and there were many, north and south, who sought to delay this.

Another illustration of Thomas's firmness can be seen in what he wrote on 2 March 67: "...a portion of the people of the States lately in

rebellion, do not and have not accepted the situation, and that is, that the late civil war was a rebellion and history will so record it...Everywhere in the States lately in rebellion, treason is respectable and loyalty odious. This, the people of the United States, who ended the Rebellion and saved the country, will not permit (fn18)." This statement was made primarily in reference to the Ku Klux Klan which had been founded early in 1866 in Pulaski, Tenn. It was at first only a social organization for Tennessee juveniles. They turned quickly from social activities to terrorizing the local negroes through sheets (meant to signify the ghosts of dead Confederate soldiers) and masks, and the movement spread until the Klan was formally organized as an adult terror organization in 1867 in Nashville with Bedford Forrest as titular head. The terror soon became systemic and widespread, and Thomas combated the movement with all of the means at his disposal. His still functioning secret service found out who the organizers were, but Thomas's reports to Washington had no effect, other than to arouse the Republican radicals against Johnson who was not in favor of giving full citizenship and voting rights to the negroes (fn19).

In any case, either through sound administration or good luck, in spite of the sometimes chaotic situation in parts of his command, he was not often openly opposed from within his department. According to McKinney: "He had only one serious outbreak of violence in his command area" (fn20), whereas in other departments there were several bloody confrontations with hundreds of people killed, as in New Orleans under the harsh administration of Sheridan. Sheridan was, in fact, so harsh that even he became persona non grata and was sent to the West where he showed his mettle against Indian families. Towards the end of Thomas's stewardship of the five states, President Johnson had this to say about him: "[Thomas] has not failed, under the most trying circumstances, to enforce the laws, to preserve peace and order, to encourage the restoration of civil authority, and to promote as far as possible a spirit of reconciliation." (fn21)

The unique contribution of George H. Thomas to racial reconciliation at the battle of Nashville, that which finally earns him the title "Practitioner of Emancipation", lay precisely in his being the first commander in a major engagement to not give colored troops a "special" or symbolic role as at Ft. Wagner and Port Hudson. On the contrary, he made them a meaningful part of his military planning, treating them as best as he could like any other soldiers. Afterward, having contributed to a decisive victory, the only time (fn 52) that this occurred in the entire Civil War, they truly could call themselves "men of war". That Thomas's effort was perhaps incomplete and accompanied with doubts must be admitted, but it must, out of fairness, also be put into the context of his own background, and the

racism of the military establishment including many of his own subordinate commanders, and of his times. In view of this context, an impartial observer can only be impressed with how enlightened Thomas was in his social policies, as he carried them out.

To finish I quote here Frederick Douglass who wrote the following about Lincoln: "Viewed from the genuine abolition ground, Mr. Lincoln seemed tardy, cold, dull, and indifferent; but measuring him by the sentiment of his country, a sentiment he was bound as a statesman to consult, he was swift, zealous, radical, and determined" (fn53). This same statement can be fairly applied to George H. Thomas.

After relinquishing his military governorship of the 5 Southern states, Thomas sat for 6 months on the Dyer Congressional committee investigating malfeasance in war material supply contracts during the Civil War, and then assumed the post of Commander of the Department of the Pacific on 15 June 1869. He died 28 March 1870 in his office, apparently of a stroke. Thomas wrote no memoirs, destroyed his personal papers before his death, and left only his work to witness for his basic moral message to posterity. It therefore falls to us to discern and then make known this message so that our children may profit from it.

If today Thomas is not appreciated by the black community for his role in advancing their cause, it is only because Thomas is barely or not at all known to the general public. He is poorly treated in comprehensive books about the Civil War and barely or not at all mentioned in standard American history textbooks on all levels.

If Thomas is not an icon of the NAACP today, he ought to be.

I should mention that up till the time of his premature death in 1871, Thomas was very well known and received great contemporary acknowledgment and praise for the role he played—but following his death, Sherman and Grant spearheaded a successful campaign to elevate their role and read Thomas out of the history books. It is time to right this gross injustice. I pray that Thomas's statue replace Lee's in the Capitol Rotunda.

Peter Rush

Leesburg, VA

703-727-5800

---

From: Patricia Harrington <[barefootcajun77@gmail.com](mailto:barefootcajun77@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sat, Nov 21, 2020 at 11:50 PM  
Subject: The Statue of Robert E Lee at the Capitol building in Washington, D.C.  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Robert E Lee was a fine upstanding citizen both before the War Between the States and afterward. His statue should NOT be replaced or removed from our United States Capitol.

His accomplishments for the United States of America should not be shrouded or destroyed. The statue should stay at the U S Capitol.

Robert E Lee's character contained many attributes, including honor, gentlemanliness, strength and empathy, compassion, respect for others, discernment and honesty. He was a well educated person and worked diligently for the U. S. before and after the war. While he attended the United States Military Academy he was distinguished in scholastics and martial exercises. In 1829 He graduated second in the class, having served as adjutant of the corps. He defended the United States during the Mexican War when he commanded the light batteries, with General Scott. From 1848 to 1852 he was the superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy.

Hoping to avoid participation in the war he deplored, he reluctantly resigned from the U. S. Army since a sense of duty to his state made him accept command of the Virginia forces. At the end of the Civil War where he earned distinction, he surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant on April 9, 1865. A few years after the Civil War ex-Confederates were granted amnesty by presidential proclamation.

Since he was now paroled and granted amnesty, he became the President of Washington College (Now Washington and Lee) in that position, he supported reconciliation between North and South. For the last five years of his life, when he died on October 12, 1870. His application for a Presidential Pardon can be seen in the National Archives, Records of the Adjutant General's office, 1780 - 191. Over the next few years, the ex-Confederates were granted amnesty by presidential proclamation. He has paid his dues and should be respected for the honorable citizen he was.

Thank you for your time,

Patricia Harrington  
Concerned U.S. Citizen

Note: One minor error: it was reported that when Lee applied for a Presidential Pardon, he failed to include the Oath of Allegiance as required by law. A few years ago the oath turned up, misfiled, perhaps deliberately by someone who did not want to see Lee pardoned. Bob Huddleston (from Wikipedia).

---

From: **Eva Grimsley** <[evadrgr16@gmail.com](mailto:evadrgr16@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 at 8:08 AM  
Subject: Statue to replace General Robert E. Lee in the Capitol  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Chief Powhatan would be a wonderful choice for the person to represent Virginia in the Capital.

Eva Grimsley  
235 Grimsley RD  
Flint Hill, VA 22627

---

From: Harold Carter <[outlook\\_0171B54DE2607828@outlook.com](mailto:outlook_0171B54DE2607828@outlook.com)>  
Date: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 at 10:14 AM  
Subject: Robert E. Lee Statue.... Do Not Remove....Thank You....  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

---

From: Gary E Young <[ygeyoung@aol.com](mailto:ygeyoung@aol.com)>  
Date: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 at 2:59 PM  
Subject: Robert E Lee Statue  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Please leave it where it is and do not replace it. I speak as a great-grandson of a Union soldier who was wounded six times in the Civil War, but none of my Yankee family approve of this nonsense.

Gary E Young  
Richmond, VA

---

From: G. W. Scott <[thegwscotts@gmail.com](mailto:thegwscotts@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 at 8:54 PM  
Subject: Replacement of the Virginia statue at the US capitol  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Sir or Madam:

You solicit opinions. My opinion is that the Lee statue should remain. No one you select will be his superior in devotion to duty or in general virtue.

Respectfully,  
Gerald Scott

---

From: Tad Sutton <[tadsutton@gmail.com](mailto:tadsutton@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 at 10:52 PM  
Subject: monument nomination  
To: <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>  
Cc: <[Julie.Langan@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:Julie.Langan@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Good evening,

We nominate Mary Jane Richards! We have discussed this as a family and Emily has decided on Mary, Emily attends Henderson Elementary School in Dumfries, VA.

Mary exemplifies the spirit, fortitude, and courage of the best abolitionists of the era, risking her life to help the Union cause.

Lawrence Edward Sutton III  
Mary Sutton  
Emily Sutton  
Jacob Sutton

---

From: EUGENE SHELTON <[eshelton849@yahoo.com](mailto:eshelton849@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 at 11:05 PM  
Subject: Replacing the Robert E. Lee Statue  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

I would like to have Oliver White Hill Sr. To be considered as a replacement for the Robert E. Lee statue on the grounds of the Capitol. Mr. Hill was a prominent Attorney and citizen in the city of Richmond.

---

From: J O'L <[olaceyj@gmail.com](mailto:olaceyj@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 3:16 AM  
Subject: Replace Lee with Langston  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

I nominate John Mercer Langston to replace the state of Robert E. Lee

in the U.S. Capitol. As the first black man, and the last for nearly a century, to represent Virginia in the House of Representatives he seems an appropriate choice. Furthermore returning the Congressman to the Capitol could be viewed as the symbolic restoration of his term, cut short by election fraud and voter intimidation. It's possible he might have served in Congress for many years were it not for the systematic disenfranchisement of black voters.

During the Civil War, Langston recruited men to serve in the United States Colored Troops to defend the USA against the Army of the CSA led by General Lee, and thus contributing to our victory. The irony of replacing the traitorous Lee with the patriot Langston makes the latter a very appealing choice.

Perhaps Langston's most important legacy was his work in higher education. His contributions to three HBCUs, as first President of VSU, founding Dean of Howard Law, and member of the board of St. Paul's College underscore his belief that black men and women could achieve at the highest levels of academia.

Events of recent years have revealed the degree to which black Americans have been denied full participation in American society and representation in government, and denied protection and fair treatment under the law. John Mercer Langston's story has many parallels to these events, not the least the 2020 election. Returning Congressman Langston to the U.S. Capitol would not only be incredibly satisfying, elevating and "unerasing" his story would put a spotlight on some of the structures remaining in place today that deny far too many American citizens the full benefits of their citizenship.

Sincerely,

Janet Lacey.

(Resident of Arlington, Virginia since 1958 and alumnus of Washington-Liberty HS)

---

From: reneewchargois <[renewchargois@gmail.com](mailto:renewchargois@gmail.com)>

Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 5:32 AM

Subject:

To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to have Robert E. Lee's statue replaced by Attorney Oliver White Hill, Sr.

Thank you.



Sincerely,  
Renee W. Chargois

---

From: snailkite virginia <[amh1619@gmail.com](mailto:amh1619@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 8:30 AM  
Subject: Statue Recommendation for US Capitol  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Commission Members,  
I would like to nominate a statue of Dred Scott to increase awareness that this important American is from our commonwealth.  
Thank you for your consideration,  
Dan Deans  
Ashburn VA

---

From: iris kenny <[irisloretta@yahoo.com](mailto:irisloretta@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 10:10 AM  
Subject: Historical Statues  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>  
Cc: [irisloretta@yahoo.com](mailto:irisloretta@yahoo.com) <[irisloretta@yahoo.com](mailto:irisloretta@yahoo.com)>

US Capitol Commission

I hereby nominate Mr Oliver White Hill, Jr as the person to represent Virginia as a new statue for placement in the Capitol.

Respectfully,

James Kenny III

---

From: Conway Moncure <[moncurejj87@gmail.com](mailto:moncurejj87@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 10:32 AM  
Subject: Virginia statue  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Other than Washington, there can be no greater, more deserving Virginian than Robert E. Lee to represent Virginia in the U.S. Capitol. Lee was instrumental in encouraging reconciliation following hostilities. He was admired and respected by his foes and by foreign leaders of the time.

---

From: Nithin Srinivas Gopinath <[nithinsrinivasg@gmail.com](mailto:nithinsrinivasg@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 11:41 AM  
Subject: The submission for the new statue

To: <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Committee,

I think you should choose Pocahontas for this statue, she fits all the criteria and she was also born here, in VA.

---

From: Sirichandana Yakkala <[siriyakkala28@gmail.com](mailto:siriyakkala28@gmail.com)>

Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 2:35 PM

Subject: Monument Application

To: <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear US Capital Commission,

Thank you for giving us this wonderful opportunity to choose a monument that will be placed in our state next to the George Washington statue. I have attached the submission below in two pdfs. One pdf is the format you have sent out and the other has my full explanation for Virginia's new statue. Thank you and have a great Thanksgiving!

Regards,

Sirichandana Yakkala

7th Grade, Rachel Carson Middle School

Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) is a U.S. citizen who is known for his historical renown and represents bravery, patriotism, as well as valor. He tore apart the religion and race barriers that we used to hold and brought all of us together by making us Americans. MLK's "I Have A Dream" speech explained how we are not Protestants and Catholics, but simply God's children. He showed bravery by standing up against all of the people that opposed his views. He represented patriotism by helping to shape this nation just like how George Washington did. Patriotism isn't an idea, but is devotion to our nation. MLK signifies valor because of the challenges and dangers he faced. He made many bus boycotts, his first in 1955 in Alabama, and he was arrested for the non-violent protests he made which were inspired by the master himself, Mahatma Gandhi. By placing a statue of Martin Luther King Jr. next to George Washington, we will be representing two of the most fearless leaders in our country's history.

---

---

From: Dennis Lee Hupp <[dhupp@juridicalsolutions.com](mailto:dhupp@juridicalsolutions.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 3:55 PM  
Subject: Virginia statue in U.S. Capitol  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

To Members of the Commission:

I would like to suggest JAMES MADISON as a most appropriate person to be memorialized with a statue in the United States Capitol. His “credentials” are well known to any student of history, so I note only two particulars: He is known as “The Father of the Constitution”, and he served in the United States House of Representatives.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dennis Lee Hupp  
Retired Circuit Court Judge

---

From: **Dray, Mark** <[mday@hunton.com](mailto:mday@hunton.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 4:02 PM  
Subject: Robert E. Lee should stay.  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>  
Cc: Dray, Mark <[mday@hunton.com](mailto:mday@hunton.com)>

---

From: Cynthia Setzer <[cysam@bellsouth.net](mailto:cysam@bellsouth.net)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 6:32 PM  
Subject:  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

R E Lee is my choice. Bill Setzer

---

From: Ed Mitchell <[EMitchell@devonusa.com](mailto:EMitchell@devonusa.com)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 23, 2020 at 6:33 PM  
Subject: Suggestion for replacement of the Robert E. Lee Statue on Monument Avenue  
To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Dear Sir or Madame – my suggestion is to keep the statue of Robert E. Lee “As-Is”, and faithfully guard it and protect it, as the Governor of Virginia guaranteed that he would do, when he signed the deed on March 17, 1890.

The exact verbiage of the deed of record is as follows:

The State of Virginia, party of the third part acting by and through the Governor of the Commonwealth and pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Special Statute herein before mentioned executes this instrument in token of her acceptance of the gift and of her guarantee that she will hold said Statue and pedestal and Circle of ground perpetually sacred to the Monumental purpose to which they have been devoted and that she will faithfully guard it and affectionately protect it.

Indeed, a bipartisan panel formed by the City of Richmond also recommended in 2019 that the Lee Monument remain, but with context added. If the impotent Mayor of Richmond, and equally impotent Governor of our once great state had any moral fibre, they would not cater to the demands of an angry anarchistic lawless mob.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward D. Mitchell

1415 E. Main Street

Richmond, VA 23219

---

From: Toni Schmiegelow <[td754@icloud.com](mailto:td754@icloud.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 4:41 AM  
Subject: Suggestion for statue  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

I suggest Oliver Hill to replace the Lee statue.

---

From: Dave Barger <[bargerdavemyra@aol.com](mailto:bargerdavemyra@aol.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 5:03 AM  
Subject: Statues  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Whose statue should replace Lee's?

As a proud citizen of the state of Virginia, it is disheartening to see a statue that has been at the US Capital's Statuary Hall for more than a century being torn down. Why? Because a few people decided that it offends them. Well, excuse me, but I am offended that I never got a chance to voice my opinion on this topic until AFTER the fact. If we, as a society, try to remove everything that offends someone, we will no longer have any statues, schools, or buildings with names on them. Where does it stop? Do we need to rename every single street or anything else that bears a person's name on it because it might offend someone? When we try to erase our history, we risk the possibility of repeating history.

Our country, like almost every other country, has overcome many obstacles to bring us to the point to where we are today. We have gone through periods of strife, conflict and division; however, we have overcome every single one of those issues to be a better, stronger nation. While we are not perfect and still have work to do, the removal of statues does nothing to move us forward, but rather divides us further as a nation.

Rather than replace this statue or the others that have been defaced or removed across the state, I have another suggestion on how to handle this issue. Here's an idea – why doesn't the Commission for Historical Statues set aside a location to place these statues in a park and call it the People's History Park (similar to the Bedford War Memorial). The statues could be placed with pertinent information on each individual within the park. This way, we can preserve our history and not offend those people that are upset by the statues.

When taking this issue into account, you didn't take into account the feelings of everyone, just a select few. I hope that you will take my suggestion seriously, as I am a tax paying individual who was born and raised in the one time beautiful state of Virginia.

Sincerely yours,

David H Barger

---

From: **Rick Tatnall** <[rick@pocahontasproject.org](mailto:rick@pocahontasproject.org)>

Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 8:41 AM

Subject: Supporting the Pocahontas nomination for the statue in the US Capitol

To: [julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov) <[julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Cc: [stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov)

<[stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:stephanie.williams@dhr.virginia.gov)>, Chuck Wagner  
<[chuck.wagner@gc.k12.va.us](mailto:chuck.wagner@gc.k12.va.us)>, Steele, Carol <[csteele@gloucesterva.info](mailto:csteele@gloucesterva.info)>

Dear Director Langan,

I am writing to inform you and your department, as well as the members of the US Capitol Commission, of a unique and special undertaking in support of the Pocahontas nomination for the statue in the US Capitol. Early in the DHR nomination process I, in the name of **The Pocahontas Project**, submitted an email letter supporting the Pocahontas nomination and offering the reasons why our organization believes she is most worthy. As we started promoting our support to others, students at Gloucester High School (our Project is headquartered in Gloucester) who have founded the **Pocahontas Leadership Collaborative @ Gloucester High School** decided they wanted to get involved. Understanding that she had officially been nominated, the students looked for another means to support that nomination. I informed them of Dr. Ayers suggestion from the Commission's October meeting to get input from students which further motivated them and shaped their plans.

The result is an on-line google form designed to inform about the overall DHR process, promote the Pocahontas nomination, and give Virginians of all ages a chance to add their name to the list of supporters of Pocahontas or send DHR an email nominating someone else. The form is the result of collaboration between the GHS students and Dr. Chuck Wagner, GCPS Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, copied on this email. At the end of this email I provide the text used to promote this informative form / petition, include the link.

Gloucester County Public Schools and the County of Gloucester have been promoting the form on their websites and social media, and I have been promoting it throughout Central Virginia. The form was discussed in an article that ran in several Tidewater newspapers recently about The Pocahontas Project (see link below for online version) and the Virginia Gazette will print another article this week highlighting the efforts of the folks from Gloucester Schools.

<https://www.dailypress.com/virginiagazette/va-vg-pocahontas-project-gloucester-1107-20201113-eo6aj33yafaadkypjymcixkqka-story.html>

At this point I and my colleagues would like to apologize to you and DHR as we understand our effort has colored outside the lines of your request for emails or letters. We hope you will see our effort for what it is - a heartfelt collective belief that Pocahontas deserves to represent the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia and United States of America in the US Capitol.

We first started promoting the form on Friday November 13th and as we started this

week we have over 300 respondents. Our plan is for Dr. Wagner to send to you and Deputy Director Williams by email the data file created by the form at 4pm this Friday, ahead of your 5pm nomination deadline. The GHS students will analyze the data this week and give Dr. Wagner certain data points that you and the Commission might consider in your deliberations. Dr. Wagner will also send along the link to the upcoming VA Gazette story, which we hope will be available on-line on Wednesday.

While we understand that our support for Pocahontas is not in the form that you requested, we hope DHR will give it some consideration as you decide the five names to present to the Commission. Thank you for your work in coordinating the process.

Rick Tatnall  
The Pocahontas Project

=====

### **Help place Pocahontas in the US Capitol!**

In July 2020, the Commission for Historical Statues in the United States Capitol unanimously recommended that the statue of General Robert E. Lee, currently located in the National Statuary Hall Collection at the United States Capitol, be replaced.

#### ***The Pocahontas Leadership Collaborative @ Gloucester High***

**School** (PLC@GHS), supports the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) search for nominations from Virginians to inform the decision of Virginia's US Capitol Commission to present one nominee to the VA General Assembly in January 2021.

PLC@GHS invites Virginians of all ages, including students, school staff, parents, and other Virginia citizens to join the effort by accessing the survey tool below. This brief survey enables each participant the opportunity to either endorse the nomination of Pocahontas, or to recommend another nominee. The nomination process closes 11/27/2020.

**[Click here to access the Pocahontas Nomination Support form](#)**

PLC@GHS will provide the Commission with names of supporters on 11/27. For more information on this effort, contact Rick Tatnall at [rick@pocahontasproject.org](mailto:rick@pocahontasproject.org)

---

From: Michael Goldstein <[mikemg@msn.com](mailto:mikemg@msn.com)>

Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 8:51 AM

Subject: Statue Replacement

To: [USCapitolCommission@DHR.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@DHR.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

As a retired Army officer and baby boomer, I look to Gen George Marshall of the greatest generation for inspiration of a person who rose to meet the needs of a nation when democracy was truly at risk from the Axis threat of WWII and then shined in service after the war to represent the best of free nations. He will stand proudly in the capitol.

Michael Goldstein  
Arlington VA

---

From: Ben Ragsdale <[outlook\\_86FE26031F2A0A7E@outlook.com](mailto:outlook_86FE26031F2A0A7E@outlook.com)>

Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 9:52 AM

Subject: Statues representing Virginia at the U.S. Capitol

To: [USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov) <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Cc: Ben Ragsdale <[benragsdale@verizon.net](mailto:benragsdale@verizon.net)>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I'm a 76-year resident of Virginia and have been civically engaged since high school. I was raised in rural Virginia, lived my adult life in an urban area, and have worked in a variety of jobs. Assuming that we keep George Washington, "the father of our country," I endorse Oliver W. Hill, Sr., for the other main statue from Virginia in our allotted space – a very distinguished, historic, and well-visited space -- at the Capitol.

It's impossible to illustrate the unique totality of Virginia's contributions to the nation with two statues. But certainly Washington represents true leadership in many areas at the beginning of our Republic. And Oliver Hill is uniquely representative of the non-elite individuals, particularly those who are not white, who have been vital to this nation's survival and prosperity, who have forced America to mature, to live up to its founding principals, to begin to equalize opportunity and make this nation whole. Mr. Hill, born early in our last century, boldly represents the "new Virginia" which is still being born, one where people fight vigorously but peacefully for the practical changes which will fulfill the ideals most of us profess --- while still embracing the human virtues and the democratic processes which have always benefitted mankind.



Oliver W. Hill, Sr.: Freedom Fighter in the courtroom, super community leader, self-described “earthling.” Standing at the U.S. Capitol, he will continue to point the way forward and make us proud.

---

From: JPLibron <[ccyj@aol.com](mailto:ccyj@aol.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 9:56 AM  
Subject: Renaming U.S. Capitol Statue, Atty.Oliver White Hill, Sr.  
To: <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>  
Cc: <[hoppinn@erols.com](mailto:hoppinn@erols.com)>, <[ccyj@aol.com](mailto:ccyj@aol.com)>

Attn:Stephanie Williams

I am writing you to nominate  
Atty. Oliver White Hill, Sr. to  
replace the Robert E. Lee statue  
in the United States Capitol in  
Washington, D. C..

Atty. Oliver White Hill. Sr., a  
native Virginian, World War II  
veteran,also,became the first  
African American on the  
City of Richmond Council  
since Reconstruction.  
Let's not forget, Atty. Hill, Sr.  
successfully argued & won  
landmark cases before  
the Virginia Supreme Court  
and the United States Supreme  
Court which played an intricate part  
in overturning segregated  
laws to the judicial system.

Surely, Atty. Oliver White Hill, Sr.  
is worthy of this historical recognition.

Sincerely,  
Janith P. Libron,  
Citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia

---

From: Powali Yeet <[powaliyeet@gmail.com](mailto:powaliyeet@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 10:32 AM

Subject: Nomination for Commission of Historical Statues in the United States Capitol

To: <[uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

Cc: <[Julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:Julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov)>

To whom it may concern,  
Please check the included link for my statue nomination. Thank you for your time and consideration.

file:///home/chronos/u-9471f135328c9b485f18c9d5efa66b17d83df282/MyFiles/Downloads/VA\_Monument\_Application.pdf

Sincerely,  
Pragyan B. Sharma  
Rachel Carson Middle School  
3714 Freehill Lane Fairfax, VA

---

From: Peter Witt <[peterwitt4@gmail.com](mailto:peterwitt4@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 11:25 AM  
Subject: R E Lee statue  
To: <[USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov)>

No other Virginian so exemplifies a noble ideal of duty, honor and generosity of spirit than Lee. Please keep his place in the Capitol.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peter McDearmon Witt

---