



# CITY OF MANASSAS VIRGINIA

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December 18, 1995

Mr. Douglas K. Harvey  
Museum Director  
Manassas Museum System  
9101 Prince William Street  
Manassas, VA 22110

Dear Doug:

I had mixed feelings when you announced your resignation as Director of the Manassas Museum System after 13 plus years. You have been an outstanding administrator and it will be difficult to fill your shoes. On the other hand, I am excited about your new challenges and opportunities as the new Operations Director at Pamplin Park Civil War site in Petersburg, Virginia.

You are a proven leader. This has been amply demonstrated during the last nine years when tremendous expansion took place under your leadership. In May of 1982, the Museum was housed in a small storefront building. Today, the Museum system is comprised of:

- The new \$1.7 million museum on Prince William Street was dedicated February 1991. The Museum interprets the rich history of Manassas and the Northern Virginia Piedmont.
- The Liberia House on Mathis Avenue is a circa 1825 Federal style home. A significant home during the Civil War visited by President Abraham Lincoln.
- Mayfield Confederate fortification site adjacent to Battery Heights subdivision.
- Cannon Branch fortification site at the Manassas Gateway Business Park.
- The Manassas Industrial School/Jennie Dean Memorial adjacent to Dean Elementary School was dedicated May 1995.
- Renovation of the railroad depot (underway).

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You have always demonstrated a concern about the Museum system and its future. I know you believe that the system must grow and serve an exploding Northern Virginia population and a growing tourism population.

You have created a vision for our community as we plan on how to implement development plans for the Liberia House, the two fortifications and Phase II of the Museum.

It has been my distinct pleasure to have served with you and to know you to be the kind of leader who focuses on the big picture in a collaborative and facilitative style of leadership.

Once again, allow me to express my thanks to you and your staff for your numerous contributions during the last 13 plus years. With kindest regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely yours,

  
John G. Cartwright  
City Manager

JGC/kt