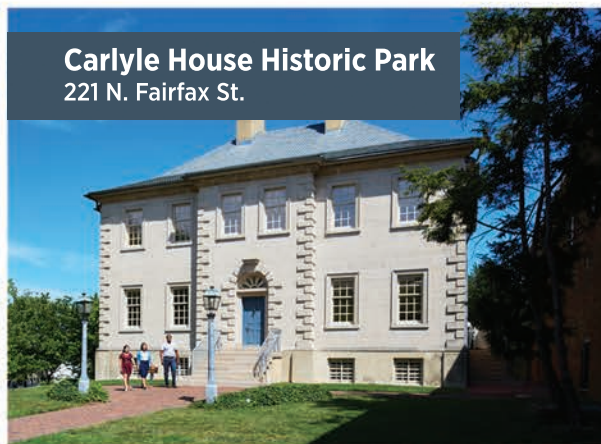


# MERCY MYSTERY

## Spy Scavenger Hunt

Inspired by PBS' *Mercy Street*, which is based on real events of Civil War Alexandria, this scavenger hunt will take you around Old Town learning about espionage and undercover activities during the Civil War. Follow the clues and post your photos on Instagram and Twitter using the hashtag #MercyMystery.

We'll feature your photos on [VisitAlexandriaVA.com/MercyMystery](http://VisitAlexandriaVA.com/MercyMystery).



**Carlyle House Historic Park**  
221 N. Fairfax St.

**1.** Women smuggled contraband goods and messages behind enemy lines. How? By using their crinoline hoop skirts to transport weapons, military documents, medicine, and more. How many objects do you think you can hide under your clothes? Or could you hide a whole person? Confederate spy Frank Stringfellow claimed that he hid under a hoop skirt to escape Union soldiers when he was on a scouting mission in Alexandria!

**Go to Carlyle House and take a photo of the smuggler's dress.**

**2.** Frank Stringfellow was known for his legendary acts of espionage during the Civil War. Check out his army field case, canteen and blanket at Carlyle House and take a photo.

**Take a photo of Frank Stringfellow's army field case, canteen, and blanket.**



**Alfred Street Baptist Church**  
301 S. Alfred St.

**3.** The Underground Railroad was a vast network of people that helped fugitive slaves escape to the North and to Canada. The safe houses and businesses where fugitives would rest and eat along their long and perilous journey were called "stations." "Conductors" were responsible for moving fugitives from one station to the next. According to local lore, Alfred Street Baptist Church, home to the oldest African American congregation in Alexandria, is believed to have been a station on the Underground Railroad.

**Go to Alfred Street Baptist Church and take a photo of the historical marker.**

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**Robert E. Lee's Boyhood Home**  
607 Oronoco St.



**4.** According to the book "Confederate Scout: Virginia's Frank Stringfellow," Frank's spy abilities attracted the attention of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and Frank was proud to be called "Lee's scout." Go and take a photo of the historical marker at Gen. Lee's boyhood home. A few steps away, see the Lee-Fendall House, home to his extended family, and now a museum.

**Take a photo of the historical marker at Robert E. Lee's boyhood home.**

**Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum**  
105 Fairfax St.



**5.** Did you know: Frank Stringfellow posed as a dental assistant in Alexandria, secretly gathering intelligence for the Confederacy. During that time, ether was used in dental procedures, and it would have been for sale at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary, now a museum.

**Go to the Apothecary museum and take a photo of one of the ether bottles on display.**

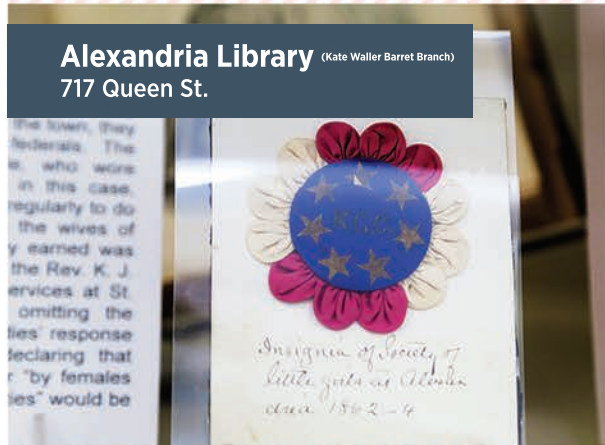
**Lloyd House**  
220 N. Washington St.



**6.** Benjamin Hallowell was a Quaker and opposed slavery. He was rumored to have been a conductor of the Underground Railroad, helping runaway enslaved people escape to freedom. Take a photo of Lloyd House, now a historical and genealogical library, where he lived for a time.

**Take a photo of Lloyd House.**

**Alexandria Library** (Kate Waller Barrett Branch)  
717 Queen St.



**7.** The Knights of the Golden Circle (K.G.C.) had its earliest roots in the mid-1830s Southern Rights Clubs, which advocated the re-establishment of the African slave-trade. The K.G.C. became one of the most powerful secret and subversive organizations in the history of the United States with members in every state and territory before the end of the Civil War. In PBS' Mercy Street, Alice Green was portrayed as a member of this secret society.

**Find a K.G.C. badge at the Barrett Branch Library's Mercy Street exhibit and take a photo**



**Alexandria Archaeology Museum**  
105 N. Union Street, #327 (3rd floor of the Torpedo Factory)



**8.** Go to the Alexandria Archaeology Museum and look for The Wickham Musket. Archaeologists found this Civil-War era military weapon cocked and loaded in a backyard privy in Alexandria. Why was a US military firearm found in a privy on private property? Why was it loaded and cocked when discarded? Visitors have offered theories, some involving crime, potential slave rebellion, or fear of the Federal occupation during the Civil War.

**Develop your own theory and take a photo of The Wickham Musket.**

**THE**  
**END**

**For more about Mercy Street go to:**  
**[www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/MercyStreet](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/MercyStreet)**