



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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*For Immediate Release*

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August 26, 2015

IR-074

## Celebrate 40 Years of Preservation at Sully

Come celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the restoration of Sully Historic Site on September 6, 2015, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. At this special anniversary celebration free tours will be given highlighting the architecture of Sully, structural changes made by various families and restoration efforts of the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) from 1959 through the present. In 1975 FCPA opened the site to visitors on a regular basis.

Built in 1794, on a land grant from Lord Fairfax, Sully was initially the home of Richard Bland Lee, northern Virginia's first elected representative to congress. He and his family lived in the house until 1811, supported by enslaved domestic and field labor. Nine other families lived at Sully, helping to preserve the home and land. Reflecting the history of Fairfax County, Sully had been a multi-crop farm, a dairy farm and a gentleman's country home before becoming an historic house museum in a county park.

The house is furnished inside and out as it was in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Extensive research was done to replicate paint colors, carpets and window hangings, and furnishings. Due to the generosity of the Lee family, much of the objects on display were in the house when it was new.

During the day enjoy refreshments, try your hand at carpentry using a shaving horse and draw knife, and see photos of the house before the restoration – it looks quite different!

At 1 p.m. Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey, Sully District Representative of the Park Authority Board, Hal Strickland, and Donald A. Hawkins a member of the 1960 Historic American Building Survey team will be featured speakers at the commemorative ceremony.

For more information, please call Sully at 703-437-1794.

Sully Historic Site is located in Chantilly off Route 28, one quarter mile north of Route 50, five miles north of Route 66 or five miles south of the Dulles Toll Road. For more information, call 703-437-1794 or visit us on the web at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/).

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.