



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

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12 September 2022

Concord City Council
41 Green Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Councilors,

The New Hampshire Historical Highway Marker Program is respectfully requesting City Council approval to install Marker #278 which honors former Concord resident Elizabeth Gurley Flynn for her accomplishments in leading America's early 20th century labor movement and for her support of civil liberties and women's rights. The Historical Highway Marker Program is jointly administered by the Division of Historical Resources (DHR) and the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Concord currently has 13 similar green cast aluminum historical markers erected throughout the city recognizing important aspects of the state and city's histories, from the ratification of the Federal Constitution to commemorating Concord's Sunset Baseball League.

Funding for the marker, its installation, and maintenance is paid for through highway funds at the Department of Transportation. The City would be under no financial obligation. We only seek City Council approval for its location, which is proposed near the southeast corner of Court and Montgomery streets near the county courthouse. Flynn's birthplace was on Montgomery Street.

The DHR and DOT are happy to continue coordination on the exact location and installation with City personnel to ensure that installation is done with public access and safety in mind.

Enclosed with this letter is a letter of support from the marker proponent, the marker text, as well as a map of the proposed location.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Amy S. Dixon

Community Preservation Coordinator
603-271-3485 or amy.s.dixon@dncr.nh.gov

cc: Shari King, DOT
Arnie Alpert, marker proponent



Dear members of the Concord City Council,

We are writing to ask you to approve a request from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources to erect a roadside historical marker for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn near her birthplace on Montgomery Street.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn has a secure place in American history. Long considered one of the most significant radical leaders of the twentieth century, she is remembered especially for her leadership in the labor movement, her advocacy for civil liberties, and her support for women's equality. She is not only the subject of at least two biographies, she has also shown up as a character in songs and historical fiction.

What is less well remembered is that she was born in Concord in 1890.

Elizabeth's parents were Annie Gurley, a seamstress, and Thomas Flynn, a quarry worker. It was in their household that the young Elizabeth developed a social conscience, a taste for literature, an interest in public affairs, and an unquenchable desire to make her mark on a world awash in injustice.

That can be remedied by granting permission for the NH Division of Historical Resources to erect a roadside marker near her birthplace.

The petition supporting the historical marker gained support of people from throughout the state, including residents of Concord. Please give your speedy assent.

Sincerely,

Arnie Alpert and Mary Lee Sargent

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Elizabeth Gurley Flynn
"The Rebel Girl"

Born in Concord in 1890, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was a nationally known labor leader, civil libertarian and feminist organizer. She joined the Industrial Workers of the World at age 17 where her fiery speeches earned her the nickname "The Rebel Girl." As a founder of the American Civil Liberties Union, Flynn advocated for women's rights, including supporting their right to vote and access to birth control. She joined the Communist Party in 1936 and was sent to prison in 1951 under the notorious Smith Act.



Wagon St

Washington St

26th St

27th St

28th St

29th St

30th St

31st St

32nd St

33rd St

34th St

35th St

36th St

37th St

38th St

39th St

40th St

41st St

Waynes St

26th St

27th St

28th St

29th St

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31st St

32nd St

33rd St

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32nd St

33rd St

34th St

35th St

36th St

37th St

38th St

39th St

40th St

41st St

42nd St

43rd St

Holy Trinity
Greek
Orthodox
Church

Stewart's
Building
Plaza

Main St

Chapel St

Chapel St

Chapel St

Chapel St

Chapel St

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Chapel St

Chapel St

Court St

Court St

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31st St

32nd St

33rd St

34th St

Montgomery St

Maple St

Maple St

Maple St

Maple St

Maple St

Maple St

Maple St

Stone St

Stone St

Stone St

Stone St

Centre St

Louden Rd

Louden Rd

Louden Rd

3

202

202

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202

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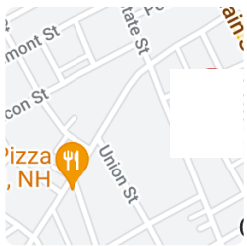


Image capture: Aug 2018 © 2022 Google

Concord, New Hampshire

Google

Street View - Aug 2018





SAMPLE NH HISTORICAL HIGHWAY MARKER