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National Park Service  
Cultural Landscapes Inventory  
2009



Washington Monument Grounds  
Washington Monument

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## **Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan**

### **Inventory Summary**

#### **CLI General Information:**

##### **The Cultural Landscape Inventory Program**

###### **Purpose and Goals of the CLI**

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

###### **Scope of the CLI**

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

**Inventory Unit Description:**

The Washington Monument Grounds is a cultural landscape within National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA). It is located in Washington D.C. and comprises U.S. Reservation 2. Containing approximately 106 acres, the inventory unit is bounded by 14th Street to the east, Constitution Avenue to the north, 17th Street to the west, and the Tidal Basin to the south.

The National Park Service assumed responsibility for the property in 1933, when the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, and all the land they controlled, was reorganized under the administrative responsibility of the Department of the Interior.

The Washington Monument Grounds was first listed on the National Register of Historic Places automatically in 1966 under the National Historic Preservation Act. An updated 1980 nomination concluded that the site possesses national significance, and is listed under Criterion C for its architecture, engineering and landscape architecture, with a period of significance lasting from 1848-1849. In 1997, a National Register nomination for the L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington, D.C. was accepted by the Keeper and found Washington D.C.'s Monumental Core, within which the monument grounds are located, to be nationally significant under Criterion A in the areas of politics/government, social history, and commemoration. The period of significance listed by this nomination is 1791-1943. These existing nominations inadequately describe contributing landscape features and so do not adequately document the cultural landscape.

The most significant structure of the Washington Monument Grounds is the Washington Monument. This structure was listed as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in 1981 and is also listed in the National Register. Other structures located on the monument grounds that are also listed in the register are the Monument Lodge, the Survey Lodge, the Jefferson Pier and two U.S. Capitol Gateposts (designed by Charles Bulfinch).

This CLI finds that the Washington Monument Grounds retains integrity for its period of significance, 1791-1943. While there have been some changes to the landscape, especially in circulation, and the loss of some features, the overall integrity of the Washington Monument Grounds is high.

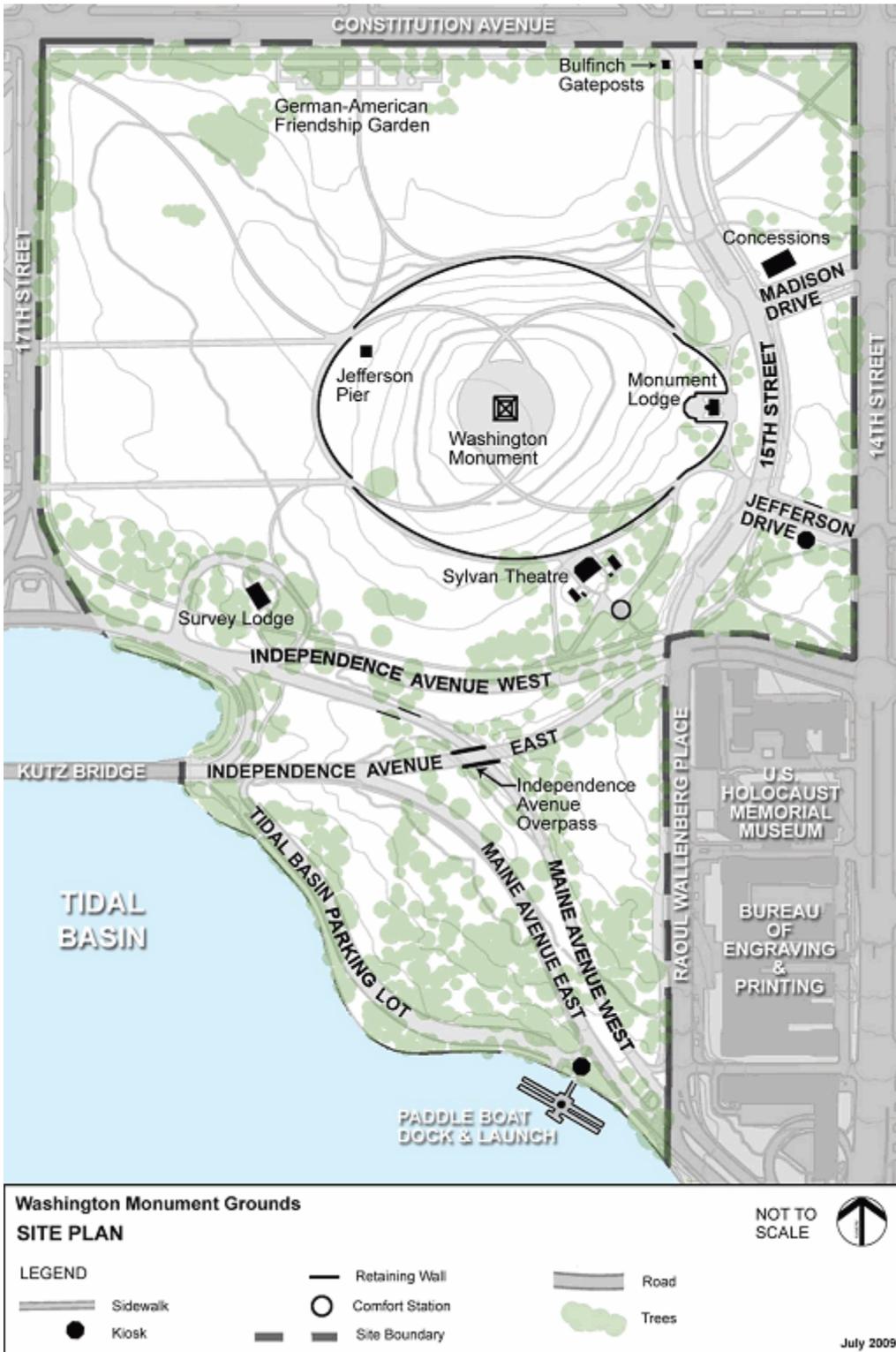
The period of significance for the Washington Monument Grounds cultural landscape is 1791 to 1943. This period begins with the initial conception of the National Mall design by Pierre Charles L'Enfant, and continues through the completion of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial in 1943 (CLR 2005:5-2).

This CLI finds that the Washington Monument Grounds cultural landscape retains integrity to its period of significance, 1791-1943, with all seven aspects of integrity represented. While there have been some changes to the landscape and the loss of some features, the overall integrity of the Washington Monument Grounds is high, and the existing landscape characteristics successfully invoke the historic significance of the property.

The Washington Monument Grounds cultural landscape is in good condition. This is largely due to the integrity and condition of its structures, circulation, vegetation and views.

**Site Plan**

Washington Monument Grounds  
 Washington Monument



*Site Plan, Washington Monument Grounds 2009*

**Property Level and CLI Numbers**

<b>Inventory Unit Name:</b>	Washington Monument Grounds
<b>Property Level:</b>	Landscape
<b>CLI Identification Number:</b>	600016
<b>Parent Landscape:</b>	600016

**Park Information**

<b>Park Name and Alpha Code:</b>	Washington Monument -WASH
<b>Park Organization Code:</b>	3493
<b>Park Administrative Unit:</b>	National Capital Parks-Central

## Concurrence Status

**Inventory Status:** Complete

### Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This CLI represents a continuation of the documentation of the cultural landscapes of the National Mall and Memorial Parks. Both primary and secondary sources were consulted, and resources from both within and outside the National Park Service were utilized. Of particular importance in the production of this CLI was the Washington Monument Grounds Final Site Development Plans for Visitor and Security Improvements - Landscape Plan. National Park Service, 2003 and Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report, 2003.

In depth site investigations were conducted by the National Capital Region Cultural Landscape Program (CLP) for the Analysis and Evaluation section.

The report was written and researched by Sarah Groesbeck, National Council for Preservation Education Intern and assisted by Martha Temkin, Regional Cultural Landscapes Inventory Coordinator (NCR). Jennifer Talken-Spaulding, (Cultural Resource Program Manager), and Perry Wheelock, Chief, Division of Resource Management, National Mall and Memorial Parks, provided valuable insight and assistance during the inventory process. Bradley Conway, IT Specialist, National Mall and Memorial Parks, provided assistance in the development of the maps and plans included in this report. Review assistance was provided by Michael Kelly, Park Ranger, Division of Interpretation and Education, and John Lockwood, Park Ranger, Division of Interpretation and Education, National Mall and Memorial Parks. Also, the following regional staff provided editing and graphic development assistance: Maureen Joseph, Regional Historical Landscape Architect, (NCR), Saylor Moss, Historical Landscape Architect, Emily Donaldson, Landscape Historian, and Deana Poss, Historical Landscape Architect.

### Concurrence Status:

<b>Park Superintendent Concurrence:</b>	Yes
<b>Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:</b>	08/12/2009
<b>National Register Concurrence:</b>	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
<b>Date of Concurrence Determination:</b>	09/28/2009

### National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The State Historic Preservation Officer for the District of Columbia concurred with the findings of the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscapes Inventory on September 28, 2009, in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It should be noted that the "National Register Eligibility Concurrence Date" refers to this Section 110 Concurrence and not the date of listing on the National Register.

## Geographic Information & Location Map

**Inventory Unit Boundary Description:**

The Washington Monument Grounds is a cultural landscape within National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA). It is located in Washington D.C. and comprises U.S. Reservation 2. Containing approximately 106 acres, the inventory unit is bounded by 14th Street to the east, Constitution Avenue to the north, 17th Street to the west, and the Tidal Basin to the south.

The National Park Service assumed responsibility for the property in 1933, when the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks (OPBPP), and all the land they controlled, was reorganized under the administrative responsibility of the Department of Interior

**State and County:**

**State:** DC

**County:** District of Columbia

**Size (Acres):** 106.00

**Boundary UTMS:**

**Source:** USGS Map 1:100,000

**Type of Point:** Point

**Datum:** NAD 83

**UTM Zone:** 18

**UTM Easting:** 323,434

**UTM Northing:** 4,306,456

**Location Map:**



*Location Map*

**Track Numbers:** U.S. Reservation 2

## Management Information

### General Management Information

**Management Category:** Must be Preserved and Maintained

**Management Category Explanatory Narrative:**

The Washington Monument Grounds was included in a 1980 National Register nomination and is also discussed in a National Register nomination prepared for the L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington, D.C. The management category is 'Must be Preserved and Maintained' because it has been listed as nationally significant. The date of the management category is the date this CLI was approved by the NAMA Superintendent.

### Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

**Management Agreement:**

**Type of Agreement:**

**NPS Legal Interest:**

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

**Public Access:**

**Type of Access:** Unrestricted

### Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

**Adjacent Lands Description:**

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Lands adjacent to the Washington Monument Grounds contribute to the cultural landscape of the site. The grounds are nationally-significant, the focal-point of the National Mall and the center of the monumental core of the city. The relationship between the Washington Monument, the U.S. Capitol and the White House was established in 1791 when L'Enfant designated the site as U.S. Reservation 2. The plan called for an equestrian statue of Washington located at the intersection of the axes with the White House to the north and the U.S. Capitol to the east and provided a connection between the two structures. The monument grounds' axial relationship was strengthened and broadened when the 1901 McMillan Plan expanded the central axis south to the site of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial and west to the Lincoln Memorial. These relationships were firmly established by 1943, when the Thomas Jefferson Memorial was completed.

The Mall was built because of its location between the U.S. Capitol and the Washington Monument Grounds; the open grass panels between 3rd and 14th Streets allow for a clear vista between the two structures. Similarly, the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, and later the World War II Memorial, of the Washington Monument Grounds were both constructed in such a manner that would preserve or enhance the vista between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. Maintenance of vegetation on the Ellipse and the White House grounds allows a clear vista between the White House and the Washington Monument, as well as the White House and the Jefferson Pier. To the south of the monument grounds, the Tidal Basin allows a clear view between the grounds and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. In addition, both the Tidal Basin and a large portion of the south monument grounds (south of Independence Avenue) were created during the reclamation of land from the Potomac River during the last decades of the 19th century, making the Tidal Basin integral part of the overall landscape design composition for the south grounds.

## **National Register Information**

### **Existing National Register Status**

#### **National Register Landscape Documentation:**

Entered Inadequately Documented

#### **National Register Explanatory Narrative:**

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The Washington Monument Grounds (WAMO) is a cultural landscape of the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA). It is located in Washington D.C. and comprises U.S. Reservation 2. Containing approximately 106 acres, the inventory unit is bounded by 14th Street to the east, Constitution Avenue to the north, 17th Street to the west, and the Tidal Basin to the south.

The Washington Monument was automatically listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966, according to the National Historic Preservation Act. A National Register nomination with supporting documentation for the Washington Monument & Grounds was written by Donald C. Phanz and accepted by the Keeper on February 2, 1980. The site is listed under Criterion C in the areas of architecture, community planning and development, engineering, and landscape architecture. The period of significance identified for the property was 1848-1889, the dates associated with the construction and completion of the Washington Monument.

In 1994, a National Register nomination for the L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington, D.C. was submitted with supporting documentation, and accepted by the Keeper on April 24, 1997. This nomination found Washington D.C.'s Monumental Core, within which the monument grounds are located, to be nationally significant under Criterion A in the areas of politics/government, social history, and commemoration. The period of significance identified by this nomination was 1791 to 1943, the end date associated with the completion of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

Also listed individually on the National Register are two of the remaining U.S. Capitol Gateposts. Designed by Charles Bulfinch, they were originally located on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The gateposts were moved to the intersection of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue in the 1870s and therefore fall within the boundaries of the Washington Monument Grounds cultural landscape.

In addition, the Washington Monument was listed as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in 1981.

The 1980 Washington Monument Grounds National Register nomination does not adequately or completely document all of the contributing landscape features of this site. Extant individual features and landscape characteristics are therefore not recognized in the existing nominations, and should be added if an update is written. This inventory more adequately documents the landscape of the Washington Monument Grounds, and records all contributing characteristics and features. Should this landscape be newly evaluated for the National Register, it would be eligible for listing under Criterion A, in the areas of politics/government, social history, recreation and commemoration, Criterion C, within the areas of architecture, community planning and development, engineering, and landscape architecture, and under Criterion D, as it has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to American prehistory or history.

**Existing NRIS Information:**

**Name in National Register:** Washington Monument  
**NRIS Number:** 66000035  
**Other Names:** Washington Monument & Grounds  
**Primary Certification Date:** 02/02/1980

**National Register Eligibility**

**National Register Concurrence:** Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination  
**Contributing/Individual:** Contributing  
**National Register Classification:** Site  
**Significance Level:** National  
**Significance Criteria:** A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history  
**Significance Criteria:** C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values  
**Significance Criteria:** D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

**Period of Significance:**

**Time Period:** AD 1791 - 1943  
**Historic Context Theme:** Expressing Cultural Values  
**Subtheme:** Architecture  
**Facet:** Exotic Revivals (1830-1860)  
**Time Period:** AD 1791 - 1943  
**Historic Context Theme:** Expressing Cultural Values  
**Subtheme:** Landscape Architecture  
**Facet:** The City Beautiful Movement  
**Other Facet:** The Early National Period  
The Late Victorian Eclectic Landscape  
Urban Planning in the Twentieth Century

**Area of Significance:**

- Area of Significance Category:** Architecture
  
- Area of Significance Category:** Archeology
  
- Area of Significance Category:** Community Planning and Deve
  
- Area of Significance Category:** Engineering
  
- Area of Significance Category:** Landscape Architecture

**Statement of Significance:**

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The Washington Monument Grounds (WAMO) is one of several cultural landscapes under the jurisdiction of the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA). It is located in Washington D.C. and comprises U.S. Reservation 2. Containing approximately 106 acres, the inventory unit is bounded by 14th Street to the east, Constitution Avenue to the north, 17th Street to the west, and the Tidal Basin to the south.

The Washington Monument and Grounds were listed on the National Register, first in 1966 by the National Historic Preservation Act. A National Register nomination with supporting documentation was accepted by the Keeper in 1980. In 1997, a National Register nomination for the L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington, D.C. was accepted by the Keeper. This nomination found Washington D.C.'s Monumental Core, within which the monument grounds are located, to be nationally significant with a period of significance from 1791 to 1943. This CLI concurs with all the areas, aspects and periods of significance found in the existing National Register nominations.

The period of significance for the Washington Monument Grounds cultural landscape is found by this CLI to be from 1791 to 1943. The period begins with the initial conception of the National Mall design by Pierre Charles L'Enfant and continues through the construction of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial in 1943. The Thomas Jefferson Memorial completed the important fourth structure, terminating the south axis envisioned in both L'Enfant's plan and the 1901 McMillan Plan. The other three structures are the White House to the north, the Lincoln Memorial to the west and the Capitol to the east. These four American monuments and centers of the government, with the Washington Monument at their center, form the core around which the National Mall is designed.

'The Washington Monument stands as a sentinel and the central focus of L'Enfant's conceived Monumental Core. Despite almost universal support for L'Enfant's vision, it took many years for elements of the plan to be effected. The site of the Washington Monument, for example, has witnessed tremendous change since the 18th century. Much of the land currently included within the grounds was created from the filling of the Potomac River tidal flats. The McMillan Plan, overseen by the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) during the early 20th century, helped bring L'Enfant's plan to fruition. Through their work in the vicinity of the Washington Monument, the CFA was able to strengthen and improve the National Mall area as the centerpiece of the nation's capital (CLR 2005:5-4) .'

The Washington Monument Grounds landscape retains integrity for its period of significance, with all seven aspects of integrity represented. The landscape and the events that have taken place there have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history (National Register Criterion A). The landscape also contains individual resources that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction (National Register Criterion C), and has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history (National Register Criterion D).

The Washington Monument Grounds cultural landscape has long functioned as an open, public space, '...set within the context of iconographic features representing American democracy (CLR 2005:5-2).' Even before its completion, the monument itself served as 'a symbol of the nation, of unification, and of the rights and values espoused in America's system and ideals. The symbolism of the monument...and its pivotal location as the linchpin of the National Mall area's axis have influenced its evolving role as

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the national focal point for expressing opinion, celebrating joy, and mourning tragedy (CLR 2005:5-5).’ This landscape has been and continues to be a gathering place for the American people, and while this space has developed and changed throughout its long history, it has remained one of America’s most significant cultural landscapes.

#### **National Historic Landmark Information**

**National Historic Landmark Status:** No

#### **World Heritage Site Information**

**World Heritage Site Status:** No

## Chronology & Physical History

### Cultural Landscape Type and Use

**Cultural Landscape Type:** Designed

**Current and Historic Use/Function:**

**Primary Historic Function:** Plaza/Public Space (Square)-Other

**Primary Current Use:** Plaza/Public Space (Square)-Other

**Current and Historic Names:**

**Name**

Washington Monument Grounds

**Type of Name**

Both Current And Historic

**Ethnographic Study Conducted:**

No Survey Conducted

**Chronology:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Annotation</b>
3000 - 1200 BC	Inhabited	Prehistoric artifacts found on the Washington Monument Grounds in the 1880s, probably during the final phase of construction or during landscaping of the grounds, indicate the episodic use of the area for at least 7,000 years. The exact location of the collection site is unknown, but it would have been on the south bank of Tiber Creek. The bank of the creek would have been a tidal marsh with shellfish, waterfowl, crabs, and fish that would have been used for food.
AD 1608	Explored	John Smith is the first Englishman to navigate the Potomac River.
	Inhabited	John Smith identifies Nacotchtanks and Tauxenents, part of the Conoy chiefdom as groups who inhabited area that became Arlington estate.
AD 1780 - 1790	Purchased/Sold	An 1874 map of `Washington in Embryo` shows that the land surrounding the mouth of Tiber Creek (formerly Goose Creek) was owned by David Burnes previous to survey by L`Enfant.
AD 1790	Purchased/Sold	Land designated for District of Columbia. The federal government paid 25 pounds per acre for lands designated as federal building reservations and public squares. The Washington Monument Grounds were designated as Reservation 2.
	Land Transfer	President George Washington appointed three city commissioners to have jurisdiction over city reservations.
AD 1790 - 1848	Built	Public grounds used for private purposes until they are granted to the Washington National Monument Society in 1848. Structures included houses and fences according to 1848 notification to those occupying the grounds.

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AD 1791 - 1792	Planned	Pierre Charles L'Enfant created the initial plan for the City of Washington. Plans included an equestrian statue of George Washington at the crossing of the axis south from the President's House and west from the Capitol. After L'Enfant was fired in 1792, the plan was modified by his successor, Andrew Ellicott. Ellicott's plan also included the site for a monument to honor Washington.
AD 1793	Built	A wooden post was placed to mark the intersection of the north-south line through the President's House and the east-west line through the center of the capitol.
AD 1802	Land Transfer	Jursidiction over city reservations was transferred from the three city commissioners to the Superintendent of Public Buildings.
AD 1804	Built	The Jefferson Pier, one of three stones used by Thomas Jefferson to demarkate his proposed national meridian line for surveying and time keeping, was built to replace the original wooden post. Due to its proximity to the edge of Tiber Creek, the stone was built on a 6 1/2 foot-deep foundation to ensure its stability. The pier was constructed of four large freestone slabs as walls, infilled with stone and cement, and capped with a 10-inch square slab of brownish sandstone on top of which two axes were carved. It stood about three to four feet above grade and would serve as a benchmark for construction of the Washington Monument as well as for city surveyors.
AD 1806 - 1807	Built	An act of the City Council for the City of Washington appropriated \$2,000 for the construction of a wharf at the end of 17th Street on November 10, 1806. Construction on the 17th Street Wharf was completed in 1807.
AD 1810 - 1815	Engineered	The first phase of the Washington City Canal was completed, along the route of Tiber Creek as far upstream at 6th Street, opening to traffic on Nov. 21, 1815.
AD 1815 - 1822	Engineered	By 1822 the Washington City Canal channel had reached the northern edge of the monument grounds up to 15th Street. The canal was 80 feet wide and flanked on either side by two 80-foot wide streets.

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AD 1833	Established	Washington National Monument Society was formed by a group of prominent Washington citizens to raise money for the construction of a monument to George Washington. Contributions were solicited from all citizens and were capped at one dollar per person, per year.
AD 1836	Planned	The Society began soliciting designs for a Washington monument that was to cost no less than \$1,000,000. Though several designs were submitted, no design was selected at the time. By this year the Society had raised over \$28,000.
AD 1845	Designed	Washington National Monument Society selected a design by Robert Mills for the monument. Mills' design featured a 600-foot-tall obelisk with a nearly level top surrounded by a colonnaded rotunda 200 feet in diameter and 100 feet tall. The rotunda or national pantheon was to contain statues of thirty Revolutionary War heroes and signers of the Declaration of Independence and be crowned with a statue of Washington in a chariot. The design was estimated to cost \$200,000 to complete.
AD 1847	Planned	The Society petitioned Congress for a site for their monument after raising \$87,000.
AD 1848	Land Transfer	Congress passed a resolution on January 31, 1848 allowing the President to select a site for the monument within the city's grounds and reservations. On April 12th, President Polk granted the Society Reservation No. 2, which comprised an area of approximately thirty-seven acres on the Potomac River. The selected site included the area L'Enfant and Ellicott had planned for the equestrian statue of Washington.
	Removed	Board of Managers of the Society notified those occupying the grounds to vacate within three months and to remove the houses and fences on the site.
	Designed	Robert Mills was commissioned to prepare an intermediate plan that would allow construction to begin, as insufficient funds had been raised to complete the monument and pantheon. Mills' intermediate plan reduced the height of the obelisk to 500 feet and, in place of the pantheon, a series of massive steps were added to the design, which allowed for the pantheon to be added at a later date.

	Built	Construction of the Monument's foundation began in June 1848. Foundation blocks were blue gneiss, no less than sixteen feet long and 7 feet thick. The Monument's walls were built of white marble ashlar blocks backed by blue gneiss. A wharf with lifting rigs was constructed along the river and a railway was built to transport stone to the monument. Other buildings on the grounds included stone-working shops, storage, and security facilities. These buildings stood until the end of the Civil War. During the Monument's construction, the Jefferson Pier was used as a benchmark for determining whether any settling was occurring.
	Built	The cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4, 1848 by grandmaster Benjamin B. French of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia.
AD 1849	Land Transfer	The office of the Commissioner of Public Buildings was transferred from the authority of the President to the new Department of the Interior.
	Designed	Andrew Jackson Downing created plan for the White House, Capitol, Smithsonian and monument grounds. Downing's plan guided the development of the Mall grounds through much of the 19th century.
AD 1849 - 1854	Built	Citizens of Alabama proposed donating a block of marble from their state for insertion into the interior of the Monument. The donation was accepted and many states and territories followed suit by donating stones. Subsequent donation were made by indian tribes, social societies, professional organizations, labor unions, businesses, individuals and foreign countries. Stones were stored and displayed in a lapidarium on the monument grounds until they were inserted into the Monument. By 1854, ninety-two stones had been inserted into the Monument.
AD 1854	Removed	Members of the Know-Nothing Political Party raided the Monument and stole a stone from the Temple of Concord in Rome that had been presented by the Pope. The Society offered a \$100 reward for information on the theft, but the stone was never recovered.

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AD 1854 - 1855	Planned	By the end of the 1854 building season, building funds had been exhausted after completing 152 feet above the Monument's foundation. When the Society petitioned Congress for additional funds, the House considered a donation of \$200,000, but refused to donate funds until conflicts with the Know-Nothing Party were resolved.
AD 1855	Land Transfer	Illegal elections held by the Know-Nothing Party created rival governing boards for the Society. On February 21, 1855, the Know-Nothings forcibly took over the monument grounds.
AD 1855 - 1858	Built	The Know-Nothing Party retained control of the monument grounds and continued construction. A few courses of stone were added, but much of the stone that was used was taken from refuse found on the grounds. In 1858, control of the grounds was returned to the original Washington National Monument Society. The Society's fundraising efforts did not elicit sufficient response to continue construction, due to a decline in public trust as well as the mounting tensions that would lead to the Civil War. It was determined that the grounds would be maintained until favorable conditions allowed building to resume.
AD 1861 - 1865	Ranched/Grazed	President Lincoln order the monument grounds be used for grazing cattle belonging to the government. The grounds were enclosed with a fence and one of the outbuildings converted for hay storage. Over the course of the war, extensive horse stables, officers quarters and mess, a civilian bunkhouse, and a slaughterhouse were built to accomodate various military needs.
AD 1862	Built	The Washington National Monument Society was given a 45-foot-by-30-foot Union flag in honor of Washington's birthday. The flag was installed on a pole at the top of the Monument and remained there for the duration of the war.
AD 1865 - 1870	Inhabited	After the Army's cattle yard was evacuated , the grounds became known as 'Murderer's Row,' since they housed prison escapees, deserters, and other undesirables.

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AD 1867	Land Transfer	The D.C. reservations were transferred from the Dept. of the Interior to the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, War Dept. Orville E. Babcock, superintendent of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers` Office made many improvements in the city.
AD 1871 - 1873	Engineered	Washington Canal is culverted and covered by B Street North (now Constitution Avenue), which formed the northern border of the monument grounds.
AD 1872	Engineered	OPBG built tree-lined, curving gravel roads through the grounds, including Meridian Avenue (16th Street) and a curving road connecting B Street North at the canal to 14th Street at the Agriculture Department grounds.
	Removed	The Jefferson Stone was broken up and removed from the grounds as part of the construction of the lakes and roads around the monument. Its removal caused problems for property owners who used the stone as a surveyor`s benchmark. When work on the monument resumed, its importance as a benchmark in determining whether the monument had settled was realized.
AD 1872 - 1873	Graded	The monument grounds were expanded by approximately twenty acres northwest of the monument as part of a project intended for flood control under Babcock and the OPBG. The reclaimed land included the site of Babcock Lake to the north of the Monument.
AD 1873 - 1876	Graded	Two ponds in addition to Babcock Lake were added on the northwestern edge of the grounds as flood control measures. One pond measured six acres and the other four acres. The banks of the ponds were sodded and paved with cobblestones. The island at the center was accessed by a small bridge.
AD 1873	Planted	Grass lawn was planted on the monument grounds.

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AD 1873 - 1874	Moved	Greenhouses from a propagating garden at the reservation on the corner of Missouri Avenue and 3rd Street were moved to the monument grounds south of present-day Independence Avenue (between current-day Independence Avenue and the area that would be reclaimed from the Potomac River) and west of 15th Street. Materials used in rebuilding the houses were taken from old greenhouses and from the houses removed from the square added to the Capitol Grounds the previous year. Two rows of frames were also constructed on the nursery grounds (referred to as nursery grounds through the early 1890s; later known as the propagating gardens). The nursery grounds were enclosed with a wooden fence.
	Planted	Stock for the nursery grounds (propagating gardens) was purchased and a large amount of seed was gathered from trees on public properties and planted in the nursery to later furnish public grounds as needed.
AD 1874	Moved	A pair of stone gateposts were moved to the intersection of B Street North and the southwest and southeast corners of 15th Street during Fredrick Law Olmsted's redesign of the Capitol Grounds. The gateposts are attributed to Charles Bulfinch's redesign of the Capitol Grounds between 1818 and 1829.
AD 1874 - 1875	Planted	A row of deciduous trees was planted along B Street North (Constitution Avenue) to 14th Street, and from 14th Street to B Street South (Independence Avenue). They were also planted in the grounds, along 16th Street from where it entered the grounds on 14th Street to the entrance along B Street North. Trees were placed 25 feet apart.
	Built	A new greenhouse (100' x 24') was erected in the nursery grounds (propagating gardens).
AD 1875 - 1876	Graded	The monument grounds were graded, after which grass was seeded and 961 trees, including evergreens, maples, and elms, were planted.

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AD 1876	Land Transfer	<p>A resolution introduced by Senator John Sherman authorizing the federal government to assume responsibility for the completion of the monument was passed unanimously. It provided \$200,000 for the Monument's completion; ownership of the grounds was returned to the federal government, though the Washington National Monument Society could continue to raise funds and act as an advisor in the completion of the monument. A Joint Commission for the Completion of the Washington Monument was established to oversee the completion. Construction would be carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with Lt. Col. Thomas Lincoln Casey as Engineer in Charge.</p>
AD 1876 - 1877	Built	<p>Two board-roof houses were built on the southern portion of the nursery grounds to be used as shops and storage that had previously been located in buildings near the Washington Monument.</p>
	Graded	<p>An embankment east of the greenhouses, along 15th Street, was cut down and graded to the level of the nursery and monument grounds. Grading uncovered pipes that supplied water to the nursery, which were lowered accordingly.</p>
AD 1877	Engineered	<p>A third pond was added to the grounds, south of the other ponds and west of the monument as an additional flood prevention. All of the ponds were turned over to the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries and used to raise carp. A series of hatching ponds was constructed on the land between the east and west ponds, as well as a small 'acclimatization pond' extension on the east bank of the south pond.</p>
AD 1878	Designed	<p>After discussions about the strength and ability of the foundation to support the monument, Congress approved \$36,000 to be spent in strengthening the foundation. Casey developed a plan for strengthening the Monument's foundations, as well as a design for the completed monument. The revised design called for a plain obelisk, without Mills' pantheon, that would stand a total of 555 feet tall - 500 shaft capped by 55-foot pyramidion of iron and glass.</p>
AD 1878 - 1879	Built	<p>An additional propagating house (140' x 10') was built at the nursery grounds (propagating gardens).</p>

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AD 1878	Built	Buildings related to the construction of the monument included stone cutters' sheds, a carpentry shop, storage for lumber, cement, iron, and tools, an engine house, water closet, lapidarium, offices, a blacksmiths shop equipped with three forges, and a tool sharpening shop. A roadway from the Monument to 14th Street was constructed, graded, and covered with broken stone.
AD 1879 - 1880	Built	Lt. Col. Casey reinforced the Monument's foundation with a concrete slab that was built beneath the existing foundation. Excavation beneath the existing foundation began in January 1879 and the reinforcement was completed in November 1879. The second part of strengthening the foundation, through the construction of a continuous buttress beneath the shaft, was begun in September 1879 and completed in May 1880.
AD 1880	Planned	Congress approved Lt. Col. Casey's preliminary design for the monument.
AD 1880 - 1884	Built	After the Monument foundation reinforcement was completed and inferior stonework installed by the Know-Nothing party was removed, construction of the monument's wall shafts resumed on August 7, 1880. Lt. Col. Casey constructed an interior shaft that was composed of eight Phoenix columns supporting the elevator and stair. The interior was built in 20-foot increments; the interior structure was first built 20 feet higher than the top of the shaft, after which the walls were built up to the same level and the process was repeated. Masonry construction was completed on December 6, 1884.
AD 1881		By 1881, the 17th Street Wharf had expanded to reach 1,200 feet into the Tiber Creek. The wharf was no longer accessible on its east side, but had a shallow dock on its west side to allow mooring for boats.
AD 1881 - 1882	Built	Additional space for plants in the nursery grounds (propagating gardens) was created by roofing the space between two existing greenhouses. Roads and walks were graveled and rolled and additional walks were laid out. An iron fountain-basin set on rock-work was created. A lawn was created and flowerbeds were formed in front of greenhouse buildings.

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AD 1882	Built	A new tropical plant house was constructed in the nursery grounds (propagating gardens) in autumn of 1882.
AD 1882 - 1883	Moved	A carpenter shop that was used during the construction of the State, War, and Navy departments' new building was moved from its original location south of the State Department Wing to the nursery grounds (propagating gardens). One end of the building was made into an office for the public gardener and also used as a work room. The remainder of the building was used as tool storage.
AD 1882 - 1901	Engineered	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredged the Potomac Channel and filled the Potomac Flats west and southwest of the monument grounds after a flood in 1881 almost reached the White House. By 1890, all the proposed reclaimed land had been filled. Work continued through 1901 to raise the level of the land to three feet above the 1877 flood stage.
AD 1883 - 1884	Built	A new palm and croton house (50' x 21' x 15') was constructed on the nursery grounds (propagating gardens).
AD 1884	Designed	The final design for the pyramidion at the top of the monument was altered by Lt. Col. Casey and made completely of marble so as to be as light as possible but strong enough to resist wind, and of a material that would not discolor the shaft. On December 6, 1884 the capstone for the monument was set in place. The cast-aluminum pyramidal cap was cast by William Frishmuth of Philadelphia. At 5.6 inches wide and 8.9 inches tall, the cap was the one of the largest pieces of aluminum ever cast at the time.
AD 1885	Established	The Washington Monument was dedicated on February 21, 1885. In preparation for the dedication, the blacksmith's shop, derrick shed, and rail track were removed from the monument grounds.
AD 1885 - 1886	Built	A new plant house (100' x 14') was constructed in the nursery grounds (propagating gardens), as well as a wagon shed and a new potting shed that was built connecting two of the greenhouses.

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	Built	The Boiler House was constructed by Washington, D.C. contractor William Bradley to house the boilers that powered the elevator's steam engine and was built of waste stock granite and white marble used in building the monument. The boilers were previously located at the base of the monument. The new structure contained two coal-fired boilers, a ninety-ton capacity coal vault, an ash vault, and a work room. It was connected by a brick tunnel to the underground engine room at the base of the Monument.
AD 1886		Buildings and materials that were no longer needed were sold at public auction on October 21, 1886.
AD 1886 - 1887	Built	A new greenhouse (100' x 12') was built in the nursery grounds (propagating gardens).
AD 1887 - 1889	Built	In June 1887 William Poindexter and Co. architects in Washington, DC were asked to design a building for public comfort and for the Washington National Monument Society. In April 1888 a site about 40 feet south of the monument was chosen and construction began. Though construction of the foundation had already begun, on May 8 the Building Committee of the Joint Commission decided to shift the location of the structure so that the south wall became the north. By May 15 a new location 480 feet east of the monument was chosen. The Monument Lodge opened to the public in January 1889.
AD 1887	Built	An apron of stone 10 feet in width was laid at the foot of the Monument shaft to prevent erosion from rainwater. The work was completed by November 1887.
AD 1887 - 1896	Graded	Thomas Lyons of Baltimore was contracted to deposit approximately 250,000 cubic yards of fill around the base of the monument to create the knoll surrounding the monument and fill Babcock Lake (north of the monument). A railway was constructed to expedite the work, which was completed by December 1888. Grading improvements in the northeast portion of the grounds continued through 1896.
AD 1887		The Monument was opened to visitors some time during 1887, but was closed again in May, due to damages caused by visitors to the interior walls of the Monument.

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AD 1887 - 1888	Built	The main road from B Street North to the nursery grounds (propagating gardens) was repaired and a walkway constructed on the west and south sides of it.
	Built	A new coal house (35' x 22' x 17') was put up on the nursery grounds (propagating gardens), as well as a new store house for flower pots (18' x 16' x 12'), and the old blacksmith shop was torn down and a new frame building (75' x 20' x 16') was constructed to be used as a blacksmith shop and storehouse. The wooden fence around the nursery was removed and an iron fence with four gates was erected (made from portions of fences removed from various reservations). 480 arborvitae (evergreen) trees were planted to form a hedge outside the fence.
AD 1888	Planted	Lawn surfaces on the north monument grounds were planted with evergreen and deciduous trees.
	Maintained	The Washington Monument was formally opened to the public on October 9, 1888. Once the monument was complete, the Joint Commission was disbanded and control of the monument grounds was transferred to the OPBG and administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
AD 1889 - 1890	Built	The Monument plaza was extended to cover a circular area with a seventy-foot radius and enclosed by an eight-inch granite curb and gutter. A gravel roadway fifty feet wide encircled the plaza. The roadway was to connect to other thirty-foot-wide roadways and nine-foot-wide walks that would lead to various entrances on the perimeter of the site. Pedestrian paths were surfaced with plank, gravel, or flagstone and carriageways with gravel.
	Built	A new greenhouse was constructed within the nursery grounds (propagating gardens), which brought the total number of greenhouses to fifteen. A frame building used as a workshop and a lath house was also built. The area of the nursery grounds was expanded by a half acre to the southwest. A new road on the west side of the nursery grounds was constructed to access the composting grounds on the river flats east of the nursery.

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AD 1890 - 1894	Built	With money appropriated from Congress, Peter Hains, the Army engineering officer who oversaw the design and construction of the Tidal Basin, began constructing a seawall around reclaimed Potomac Flats that would protect future fill from erosion. The wall was built on footing that was already in place and, from that footing, was six feet high, four feet thick at the base, and two and a half feet high at the top. Construction of all seawall except the interior of the Tidal Basin was completed in 1894.
AD 1890 - 1893	Built	Congress authorized the officer in charge of public grounds to set aside a portion of the grounds for a children's playground. The southern portion of the park was designated for this purpose in 1890, but was moved to the northern section of the grounds between B Street North and the main drive north of the Monument in 1893.
AD 1890 - 1891	Built	The number of greenhouses on the nursery grounds (propagating gardens) was increased to sixteen. Reports from the FY 1891 annual report indicate that there were also two brick potting sheds; seven frame buildings (including shops and storehouses), one of which was built in 1890-1891 as coal storage and a carpenter's shop; one large lath house; and two open sheds.
	Planted	A one hundred-foot arbor vitae (evergreen) hedge was planted at the northwest corner of the nursery grounds (propagating gardens). Thirteen flower beds were planted in the lawn in front of the north fence.
	Built	A new road connecting the Monument with the main road on the west side of the grounds (16th Street) was completed with cobblestone gutters. Another road north of the Monument ('main drive north') was constructed that connected with the road on the western portion of the grounds. Also constructed was an asphalt walkway that lead northwest from the monument to the carp ponds.
AD 1891 - 1892	Built	A new road connecting the main drive north with the road entering from 14th Street (near B Street North) was constructed, as well as a walkway connecting the northeast corner of the Monument to the entrance at 15th Street and B Street North. The walkway was paved with asphalt and partial boardwalk closest to 15th Street.

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AD 1892	Inhabited	The Grand Army of the Republic was encamped on the monument grounds during September 1892. Temporary buildings were constructed north of the monument during the encampment.
AD 1892 - 1893	Built	A plank walk from the Monument Lodge to the Monument was removed and a new, 6-foot-wide plank walk from 14th Street to the Monument was constructed.
AD 1894 - 1895	Planted	OPBG began planting trees, shrubs, and flower beds in the north monument grounds. During 1894-5, 60 trees and 429 shrubs were planted on the grounds.
	Built	Several new buildings were constructed in the propagating gardens, including a new rose house (130' x 20' x 12'), a frame potting shed (20' x 14' x 11'), and a new frame for small plants (130' x 11'). A new roadway 210 feet long was constructed from the northwest entrance to the new rose house. A gravel walk 5 feet wide was constructed on the north side of Greenhouse No. 16, and four hundred and four feet of flagged walk (one and one half to two feet wide) was laid for pedestrian travel through the nurseries. A new brick and cement tank (60' x 15' x 12.5') for storing goldfish during the winter and for planting water lilies was constructed.
AD 1895 - 1896	Built	Construction of the Tidal Basin seawall began in April 1895 and was completed in September 1896.
	Built	A new brick propagating house was erected (130' x 8' x 8'). An addition on the south side of the building was constructed of old materials (130' x 9' x 8'). The grounds were graded and plant benches were constructed for the new carnation house that was built during July and August 1896.
AD 1896 - 1897	Built	One of the old greenhouses in the propagating gardens was replaced by a new, glass structure.
AD 1898 - 1899	Built	A new greenhouse was built at the propagating gardens, measuring 112 feet long and 25 feet wide. A heated pit was added to the propagating house. The pit was constructed of brick and measured 130 feet long, 12 feet wide, and three feet deep.

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AD 1899	Land Transfer	Land from the reclaimed Potomac Flats was transferred to OPBG to be used by the propagating gardens in May 1899. The new grounds were immediately fenced in along the west and south boundaries and an embankment of earth was constructed along the line. Low grounds were filled and graded.
	Built	Twelve electric arc lights were used to light the north monument grounds.
AD 1899 - 1900	Moved	The 14th Street entrance to the monument grounds near the Department of Agriculture building was abandoned. New entrances at 15th and 14th streets along northeastern edge were created.
	Built	A new road on the east side of the propagating gardens was constructed in line with 15th Street between C and D streets southwest.
AD 1900	Built	A new iron and brick storehouse was constructed in the propagating gardens between July and October 1900. The structure was one story with a basement. The old shacks that had been used as storehouses were torn down.
AD 1900 - 1901	Moved	A number of structures that formerly stood in the northeast corner of President's Park were relocated to the propagating gardens to make way for the statue of General Sherman. A two story, frame structure (which had been used as the photograph building of the Treasury) was taken down in 1899 and re-erected in 1900-01 on the site as an office building. The new structure replaced the old frame shed that had been used as an office. A heavy iron fence was relocated from President's Park and set up on the 15th Street side of the grounds between C and D streets south. 440 feet of lighter iron picket fence was also relocated and set up on part of the south and west boundary of the grounds. Large weight scales were removed from the site of the Sherman Statue and set up at the C Street entrance to the propagating gardens.
	Planted	The grounds in front of the new office at the propagating gardens were graded, a lawn constructed, and trees and shrubs planted around the gravel roadway leading up to the new structure.

	Built	Two new propagating houses were built between two old propagating houses. Heat in these buildings was changed to hot water heating. One of the greenhouses was torn down and rebuilt (200' x 12' x 11'). A hay rick was constructed for the use of public animals. A temporary shed (40' x 22') was constructed over it to protect it from weather and a fence constructed around it.
	Graded	A sixty-foot portion of the 15th Street roadway in the propagating gardens was cut down about a foot and graded. Sidewalks and gutters were added along the improved roadway.
	Built	Granite gateposts were constructed at the east entrance of the propagating gardens. At the northwest entrance, iron posts and a double iron gate were erected.
AD 1901	Built	A new brick shop was built on the site of the old frame carpenter's shop that was torn down at the propagating gardens. It included shops for carpenters, painters, plumbers, tanners, and blacksmiths, and had an engine room, storerooms, and toilet room. The building was 100 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 26 feet high from basement to eaves and contained one store and a basement. The new shop was located on the east side of the propagating gardens, across the entrance road from the new storehouse.
	Planned	Senator James McMillan introduced a bill that formed the Senate Park Commission (also known as the McMillan Commission) to develop a new vision for Washington, D.C. The commission looked back to L'Enfant's plan for Washington and also toured European sites that would have inspired L'Enfant's plan.
	Expanded	The Washington Monument elevator power source was upgraded from steam to electricity in 1901. An addition to the boiler house was built to accommodate the new generating unit, which matched the existing structure in material and details. The building became known as the power house.

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	Expanded	In August 1901, thirty-one acres of land between the Tidal Basin and the Washington Monument grounds were transferred to OPBG for development into a park. A portion of Potomac Park between the Tidal Basin and Monument Grounds, and between 17th Street and Virginia Ave. NW and Maryland Avenue and 14th St, SW, was transferred to the OPBG and referred to as 'Monument Park Annex.'
AD 1901 - 1902	Planted	Fourteen trees were planted near the entrance to the roadway at 15th and B streets NW.
	Expanded	Extensive roadwork took place throughout the north Monument grounds. A large portion of the roadways on the grounds were resurfaced with gravel. New board walks were created or repaired, some of the old board walks were replaced with cinder walks. These paths were three, four, or five feet wide.
	Built	A new plant house (130' x 20' x 15') was built on the propagating gardens. Greenhouse no. 18 was shortened to be in line with the other greenhouses around it. A new shed for storing potting soil (40' x 25') was added to the grounds.
	Graded	The area west of the new storehouse and shop on the propagating gardens was cut down, graded, and a cement pavement was placed on the west front of both of these buildings.
	Planted	New roads in the propagating garden that were part of a 1901 plan for proposed development of the gardens were marked out and 52 American Elms and 39 Norway Maples were planted along the sides. Four large spruces were taken up and replanted on the lawn at the north end of the propagating garden grounds. As part of the grading of land west of the office, seventeen evergreen trees were planted. Five evergreens were planted in front of the office.

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AD 1902	Planned	<p>The McMillan Commission presented their plan for Washington to Congress, which included relandscaping and redesigning the ceremonial core, Capitol Grounds, and Mall by extending the cross-axes west and south of the Washington Monument. The Commission planned the Monument Garden on the Washington Monument Grounds as a formal sunken garden west of the monument, filled with bosquets, reflecting pools, fountains and sculpture, and accessed by a grand staircase. After presenting the plan, the Commission disbanded without any formal adoption by any governing body, though it was used by review boards during the 20th century.</p>
	Reconstructed	<p>Five greenhouses that had previously been located at the White House were torn down and re-erected during the autumn of 1902 at the propagating gardens. The greenhouses continued to be used for White House flowers as well as housing trees that were on the East and West Terraces during the summer months but stored in the winter.</p>
AD 1902 - 1903	Built	<p>A new road and bridle path were constructed on the western and southern borders of the Monument Grounds beginning July 1902. The new road connected 17th Street with 15th Street along the Tidal Basin, was paved with macadam and edged with gutters. The 17 1/2 foot-wide bridle path began near the intersection of 17th and B streets north and continuing south along the east side of 17th Street and along the new road at the edge of the Tidal Basin. The new roadway opened to the public on October 16, 1903.</p>
	Planted	<p>Improvements to the propagating gardens continued as growing stock that had previously been grown in the front of the gardens were transferred to the back, south of the greenhouses. Forty-one evergreens were planted at the north entrance, in front of the office, and a privet hedge was planted on the east side of the grounds. The waterlily tank on the grounds was filled in and planted with grass.</p>
	Built	<p>Six arc electric lights were installed in the propagating gardens. The installation was completed in March 1903.</p>
AD 1902	Moved	<p>By 1902 Survey Lodge Service Drive, which was originally oriented northeast, was moved to connect with the main roadway within the monument grounds.</p>

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AD 1903 - 1904	Built	Four plant frames were constructed at the propagating gardens as part of the White House greenhouses. One greenhouse was constructed, bringing the total number of White House greenhouses to six.
AD 1904	Built	Two greenhouses on the propagating gardens were removed and re-constructed beginning in April 1904. New building east of the propagating garden grounds blocked sunlight from these greenhouses, which were moved from the northeast corner of the grounds to their new location between greenhouses 24 and 27 (and given the numbers 25 and 26). The greenhouses were 128' x 12' x 11'. The total number of greenhouses at this time was thirty.
	Abandoned	Fish ponds to the northwest of the Washington Monument were abandoned by the U.S. Fish Commission.
AD 1904 - 1905	Built	Cinder paths and gutters were constructed along the 15th Street border of the propagating gardens.
	Built	A reception room for visitors was constructed on the lower floor of the Monument. The frame of the room was built of steel I beams and channel irons, with concrete walls and ceiling. The walls were plastered and painted, and had marble wainscots, and a marble floor. The two entrances had wooden and glass doors.
	Built	Three additional greenhouses were built as part of the greenhouses of the White House (one 130' x 23' x 16, the other 170' x 20' x 15'). Two additional greenhouses (130' x 13' x 12') were constructed between May and October 1905 to be used as 'rig and furrow' houses, devoted to growing carnations and other blooming plants for cut flowers. A new hotbed was also constructed.
	Built	New roads in the propagating gardens were completed. They included a gravel road from the gate entrances at the west front of the grounds, south to the road which entered from C Street and a short cinder road.

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	Planted	General grounds improvements to the propagating gardens during 1904-05 included lawn surfaces graded and sodded near the border with Potomac Park, a parking area near the storehouse and shops building was graded and sown with grass seed, a hedge of 965 privet plants was planted along the west boundary line with Potomac Park, and the store yard at the south end of the propagating garden grounds was cleaned up.
	Moved	Portrait statues and vases were presented by the executive committee of the Louisiana Purchase exposition for use in the inaugural ceremonies and later in public grounds of Washington, DC. Twelve portrait statues were placed for inaugural street decoration along the 17th Street corridor of the Monument Grounds and in Potomac Park. A photograph indicates that at least one vase was placed in propagating gardens, near the office.
AD 1905	Built	A portion of the monument grounds along B Street North from 14th to 16th Street was used by the International Railway Congress for the American Railway Appliance Exhibition. Between March 20 and May 3, ninety buildings were erected on the grounds for the exhibition. The exhibition was open May 3 through May 12, after which the buildings were dismantled. The grounds were completely vacated by the night of May 24 and work commenced in restoring the area to its previous condition. By June 6, 1905, the restoration was completed.
AD 1905 - 1906	Planted	Sixty-three evergreens and sixty-nine deciduous shrubs were planted on the lawn in front of the office in the propagating gardens.
	Built	Work for sewerage and draining the propagating gardens was begun in May and completed in June 1906. Terra-cotta drainpipe was laid and the boiler pits, down spouts of the greenhouse buildings, and the drains from the office building were all connected with this system. Two concrete manholes were built for flushing and cleaning the main sewer. The three old water-closets in the service toilet room in the potting shed were torn out and three stalls for water-closets put up. Three new water-closets, one urinal, and one two-part wash basin were set up in the east end of the shed.

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AD 1907	Land Transfer	In June 1907 the U.S. Fish Commission relinquished control of the areas of the monument grounds formerly under their control. The OPBG then leased the southern fish pond to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to be used as a swimming pool.
	Built	A boat dock was built on the north side of the Tidal Basin. On December 5, 1907 the old boathouse nearby was transferred to the OPBG, but continued to be leased by the current occupant, who had operated the concession since March 1902. The renter maintained the building at his own expense and rented boats and bathing suits to the public, as well as selling bait for fishing.
	Moved	A small greenhouse near the former fish ponds was moved to nearby gardens located south of the monument and west of 15th Street.
AD 1908	Planned	Planting elms south of the Monument was first suggested by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. in 1908. The trees planted were part of a larger planting plan that included trees being planted along the area of the Independence Avenue Extension, the Washington Monument Grounds, and the Potomac River in West Potomac Park.
AD 1908 - 1909	Built	Gas pipe was extended to the office in the propagating gardens for new lighting.
AD 1911	Moved	A stable that stood in the rear of the Executive stable proper was removed to the propagating garden grounds. Work began in August and the stable was moved to the gardens in September to be used as a storehouse.
AD 1910	Established	The Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) was created by an act of Congress. It was charged with giving formal advice to the President, Congress, heads of departments and agencies, and the District of Columbia government on matters of design and aesthetics as they affected the public places of the District of Columbia. In 1911, CFA's mission expanded to include all federal buildings.

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	Developed	The northern fish ponds were filled with clay and ashes and graded to match the surrounding topography. OPBG cancelled the Commissioners of the District of Columbia lease for the strip of land between the former fish ponds and built swimming pools.
	Moved	The Lodge House located on land between the two former fish ponds was renovated for new visitor uses. Two new restrooms were installed nearby.
AD 1911	Built	Electric lights on the monument grounds were replaced by fifty-five new gas lights.
	Built	Three additional baseball diamonds were laid out on the northern grounds, bringing the total to twelve.
AD 1912	Planted	On March 25, 1912, 3,000 Japanese cherry trees were received as a gift from the city of Tokyo. The first cherry trees were planted along the Tidal Basin two days later, on March 27, 1912. Throughout March and April, 1,800 cherries were planted, along with 55 flowering peach trees.
AD 1912 - 1913	Built	A large tank was built for growing water lilies for the White House greenhouses.
AD 1914	Built	Three additional baseball diamonds were laid out on the grounds, bringing the total to fifteen.
AD 1915	Built	An athletic field that included high and broad jump, a pole vault, shot putt, hammer throw, javelin, discus court, and half-mile turf running track was constructed on the grounds.
	Built	Two old greenhouses in the propagating gardens were torn down in May 1915 and reconstructed.
AD 1915 - 1916	Built	A cricket field was laid out on the grounds in 1915 but removed in 1916, as it did not prove popular.
AD 1916 - 1917	Built	Alice Pike Barney approached that OPBG with a proposal for an outdoor theater for productions of Shakespeare and other classical plays. The theater was built with an earthen stage, wings, entrance passage, floodlights and spotlights. The Sylvian Theater was dedicated on June 1, 1917 before a crowd of 15,000.

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AD 1917	Built	Soccer field added to the grounds.
AD 1917 - 1918	Built	The six arc electric lights in the propagating gardens were replaced with incandescent lamps. Cable was run to the Sylvan Theatre in order to supply electricity to the site. Three buildings at the propagating garden grounds were also supplied with electricity.
AD 1919	Built	By 1919, guard rails along the East Basin Drive portion of the Tidal Basin had been constructed.
	Built	By 1919, there were twenty greenhouses in the propagating gardens that comprised the White House greenhouses.
AD 1919 - 1920	Built	A new cement pump house (5' x 10' x 4') was built for the White House greenhouses.
AD 1920	Built	A frame shed for the storage of lumber was built at the propagating gardens. A new cement floor covering and sewer was put in the garage at the storeyard.
	Memorialized	The first ceremony at the Washington Monument commemorating George Washington's birthday was held. As part of the ceremony, forty-eight American flags were temporarily placed in a circle around the base of the Monument. Placement of flags around the monument became a part of annual commemorative ceremonies.
	Built	Two football fields and ten clay tennis courts were constructed on the monument grounds.
AD 1921	Built	An archery court, a clay basketball court, and a third football field were established on the grounds.
AD 1922	Built	A lacrosse field was added to the monument grounds in spring 1922, but moved to West Potomac Park in fall 1922 because of space limitations.
AD 1923	Built	The Monument and grounds were connected to the public power grid. As a result, the power house ceased to be used as such.

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AD 1924	Removed	Three football fields were removed in order to construct an additional five tennis courts, three of which were concrete.
AD 1925	Established	The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds and the office of the Superintendent of the State, War, and Navy Building were consolidated into a new organization called the Office of Public Building and Public Parks of the National Capital.
	Established	The National Capital Park Commission was created to acquire new parkland for the city. In 1926 their power was expanded to serve as a planning body with power to create comprehensive plans for Washington, D.C. and the region.
	Built	Three tennis courts on the monument grounds were changed from clay to concrete.
AD 1926	Land Transfer	The power house was transferred to the Design and Construction Division of the Office of Public Building and Public Parks (OPBPP).
AD 1927	Altered	A grate was added around the elevator in the Monument and bars were placed over the windows of the pyramidion as safety features.
AD 1928	Planned	Congress passed a bill appropriating \$5 million to fulfill the McMillan Plan. A Congressional committee, through which the appropriation was to be administered, hired Fredrick Law Olmsted, Jr. as a consulting landscape architect. \$30,000 was set aside in the bill for the improvement of the monument grounds.
AD 1930	Built	By 1930, a baseball diamond had been built on the south monument grounds, to the west of the propagating gardens.
	Established	An advisory committee was formed to oversee the preparations of plans for improving the monument grounds.
	Altered	The athletic field and croquet court were removed and an eighteen-hole Tom Thumb golf course was opened.

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AD 1930 - 1931	Engineered	Two series of soil borings were conducted on the monument grounds to determine the composition of the subsoil and the stability of the monument. The boring revealed that the monument gardens proposed by the McMillan Plan would endanger the stability of the monument. The advisory committee recommended abandoning the monument garden after proposals of underpinning the monuments foundation to bedrock or disassembling the monument and rebuilding it on bedrock. Both met with strong disapproval.
AD 1931	Planned	The `Informal Plan` was submitted to the committee by Fredrick Law Olmsted, Jr. and Henry Hubbard. The plan included a circumferential road around the monument and connections to other planned Mall roads. It also called for groves of elm trees to be planted in curved groves to the north and south of the monument.
	Planned	A plan by William Delano, referred to as the `Formal` or `Balustrade` Plan was reviewed by the advisory committee. Delano`s plan used continuations of rows of trees from West Potomac Park and the Mall to connect the monument grounds to the larger Mall area. The trees would frame an oval court west of the Monument.
AD 1931 - 1932	Established	Engineers reviewed the Informal Plan and the Balustrade Plan and determined that both would adversely affect the stability of the monument to some degree. The advisory council therefore recommended construction of those elements of the Informal Plan that would not endanger the safety of the Monument.
AD 1932	Planted	Trees were planted to the north and south of the monument as part of the Informal Plan.
AD 1931	Demolished	Constitution Avenue was widened and original flagstone sidewalks displaced.
	Built	New floodlights were added around the base of the monument. Four batteries of lights were installed near the sidewalk around the monument and two searchlights were mounted on the Bureau of Printing and Engraving and the Navy Buildings in West Potomac Park.

	Planted	Grounds around the Monument Lodge were improved with foundation plantings in November 1931. Plantings included layered beds of taller trees and shrubs such as English yew, English ivy, Japanese cedar, crape myrtle, juniper, and glossy abelia, and shorter specimens of azelea, jasmine, Japanese barberry, flowering quince, hydrangea, rose, and snowberry.
	Built	Restrooms in the Monument Lodge were enlarged to include an area formerly occupied by the office and store room.
AD 1932	Built	Eighty-four benches for visitors were installed around the inner curb of the monument plaza, forming a continuous curved line. The benches were composed of metal frames with wood slat seats and backs. Similar benches were placed along sidewalks.
AD 1933	Land Transfer	On August 10, 1933, the OPBPP and all the lands it controlled were reorganized as part of the National Park Service (NPS). The former power house became the Survey Lodge and housed survey crews documenting the boundaries of the new National Parks within the capital.
AD 1933 - 1937	Demolished	The Public Works Mall Project, undertaken by the NPS, removed many temporary buildings sited on the monument grounds and mall during World War I. The removal of these buildings established the landscape envisioned by the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans.
AD 1934 - 1943	Built	Planning for the Jefferson Memorial began in 1934 to be located on the south side of the Tidal Basin, completing the north-south cross-axis envisioned by the McMillan Commission. It was dedicated in 1943.
AD 1934 - 1935	Preserved	Cleaning and repair of the Washington Monument undergone by NPS and the Works Progress Administration. In July 1934 the entire monument was encased with aluminum scaffolding so that joints could be repointed, the exterior of the monument cleaned, cracks in the masonry repaired, and problems with lightning system repaired. Work was completed on January 16, 1935.

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AD 1934	Planned	Due to the growing need to protect the growing number of federal buildings along Constitution Avenue from flooding, a flood control dyke was planned for the northwest corner of the monument grounds. The plan also called for the removal of three swimming pools on the grounds in 1935, but public outcry delayed their removal until new pools could be built elsewhere.
AD 1935		The first cherry blossom festival was held in 1935, sponsored by Washington, DC civic groups.
AD 1936	Removed	Many of the curvilinear roads around the monument were removed, including 16th Street. 15th Street became the only road to the monument, leaving the monument sited on a mostly uninterrupted sweep of greensward. At this time the Survey Lodge service drive was modified to follow the path of an old carriage road.
	Built	Connections to Madison and Jefferson drives were established from 15th Street.
AD 1938	Built	Works Progress Administration workers leveled the grounds west of the monument where a seventeen-foot-tall flood control dyke had been constructed. The Potomac park levy stretches from 23rd Street between Constitution Avenue and the Lincoln Memorial, runs parallel to the Reflecting Pool, and ends on the Washington Monument grounds just east of 17th Street.
AD 1939	Planned	NPS prepared plans to transform the lower story of the Survey Lodge into a chlorination plant, though the plans never came to fruition.
AD 1941	Planned	At a joint meeting of the Fine Arts Commission and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) on November 14, 1941, a plan was proposed to extend Independence Avenue from 14th Street west to the Potomac near the Lincoln Memorial.

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AD 1942	Planned	<p>On July 17, 1942, the National Park Service's plan for the new highway system through West Potomac Park was approved by NCPC. The plan called for the use of as many existing roads as possible, to reduce the number of trees that would need to be removed from the grounds. It also required the roads to be built conspicuously narrow to limit existing vegetation removal.</p>
	Planned	<p>The firm of Modjeski and Masters of Harrisburg, PA was chosen as consulting engineer. Architect Paul Cret, of Modjeski and Masters, designed the new highway. Cret's design created a bridge, which was later named Kutz Bridge, to carry eastbound traffic over the bay at the north end of the Tidal Basin. Westbound traffic passed just north of the bay on a separate roadway. An overpass was constructed where westbound lanes passed over the eastbound lanes, and a connection to Maine Avenue was created. The design also changed the shoreline of the northern neck of the tidal basin, flattening out the area from its original round shape.</p>
AD 1942 - 1943	Moved	<p>Greenhouses, shops, warehouses, storehouses, and offices located in the propagating gardens on the south monument grounds were relocated to Anacostia Park due to road construction on the new roadway system through the grounds. Some twenty buildings on five acres of land were left after the road was completed. The buildings that left standing were located along 15th Street, between Maine Avenue SW and Independence Avenue SW.</p>
	Built	<p>Construction contracts were awarded to three separate firms. Alexander and Repass completed the bridge construction, Highway Engineering and Construction Company for the section from 14th Street to the Lincoln Memorial, and work on roadways in the area of 14th Street and Main Avenue grade separation between Independence Avenue and Highway Bridge were awarded to Wilmoth Paving Company. All road construction was completed by September 11, 1943.</p>
AD 1942	Built	<p>The interior of the central room in the Monument Lodge was remodeled to house a display featuring materials relating to the life of Washington. It also housed the operation of a concessionaire.</p>

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	Land Transfer	The National Park Service transferred 22.17 acres on the northwest portion of the monument grounds to the Public Buildings Administration on April 28, 1942 for the construction of temporary buildings for national defense purposes. Three federal office buildings were constructed, as well as a parking lot built at 16th Street. The buildings were to be removed within a year of the end of the war. The buildings, parking lot, and grounds were fenced off from the rest of the monument grounds. Many of the recreational facilities on the grounds were removed during construction of these buildings.
AD 1943	Built	One of the temporary federal office buildings was expanded with three additional wings. The parking lot at 16th Street was also enlarged.
AD 1944	Built	A permanent wooden stage was built at the Sylvan Theatre.
AD 1948	Built	Plans made to construct a small, two counter concession stand on the west elevation of the Monument Lodge.
AD 1949	Built	By 1949, the temporary office buildings on the monument grounds had expanded to cover almost the entire length of 17th Street.
AD 1950	Built	By 1950, the Survey Lodge service road connected only to Independence Avenue.
AD 1952	Planned	Plans created for reconstructing tidal basin walk near Kutz Bridge and installing a pipe handrail. Plans also included constructing an 8 foot concrete walk and resetting the existing handrail between Kutz Bridge and Outlet Bridge.
AD 1953 - 1958	Built	A plan for a permanent dock and refreshment stand along the Tidal Basin was created. The dock was 60' x 40', separated from the seawall by an 8 foot dock. The refreshment stand was 35' x 15'. It is unclear when the dock was constructed, but a photograph taken in 1958 shows a boat dock near the entrance to East Basin Drive. In addition to the permanent dock, the photograph shows piers to the east, west, and south of the dock.
AD 1955	Planted	124 Yoshino cherry trees were planted in clusters around the Sylvan Theatre.

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	Expanded	The concession stand on the west elevation of the Monument Lodge was expanded to include serving features, a larger canopy, and a fenced dining area.
AD 1956	Planned	Mission 66 plans included removal of approach roads leading to monument's base.
AD 1958	Built	Forty-eight permanent flag poles were installed in a circle at the outer edge of the drive around the monument.
	Built	Eight red aircraft warning lights were installed on the pyramidion, one above each exterior window.
	Built	A new floodlight system was installed, with four inner concrete vaults for lighting the lower sixty feet of the monument, four large concrete bunkers with hydraulically-powered aluminum covers at the outer edge of the circular drive, and eight search lights mounted on pedestals 568 feet from the monument.
AD 1959	Built	A forty-ninth flag was added to the circle around the monument and unveiled on July 4, 1959, symbolizing the addition of the state of Alaska.
AD 1960	Built	The fiftieth flag was added to the circle around the monument and unveiled on July 4, 1960, symbolizing the addition of the state of Hawaii.
	Planned	As of February 22, 1960, cars were prohibited from driving around the monument, as the plaza and drive were converted into pedestrian walkways.
AD 1962	Demolished	The twenty remaining buildings on the south monument grounds (between 15th Street, Maine, and Independence avenues) were demolished in 1962. Garages, shops, and offices on the grounds were moved to other locations.
	Built	A proscenium arch was added to the Sylvan Theatre.
AD 1963 - 1964	Expanded	A cinder block, shed-roof addition to the Monument Lodge was constructed on the west elevation. The addition also included an aluminum awning to provide shade.

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AD 1964	Demolished	The temporary federal office buildings constructed during World War II were removed from the monument grounds in 1964.
	Preserved	A second cleaning of the Washington Monument took place in 1964, this time using an exterior rigging system rather than scaffolding. The exterior marble was cleaned and cracks and spalls were repaired.
AD 1965	Planned	The National Park Service approved the Washington Mall Master Plan, produced by Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill. The Master Plan was to guide the future development of the Mall and included removing existing through-traffic routes, developing special sight-seeing routes, fully developing existing conditions, using a complete landscape concept to unify the mall, emphasizing the north-south and east-west axes, and clearing the Mall of temporary facilities. Other planned but unexecuted elements included the construction of a new plaza and pedestrian paths, extending the North and South Reflecting Pool Drives through the monument grounds to connect with Jefferson and Madison drives, and the relocation of the Sylvan Theatre.
AD 1966	Built	Two information kiosks were built, one just south of the 16th Street parking lot, the other north of the Monument Lodge. Both kiosks were hexagonally shaped structures.
	Planted	Two groves of Yoshino cherry trees were added north of the monument, to the east and west of the 16th Street parking lot.
AD 1969	Planted	Washington's Floral Library (Tulip Library) was created near the corner of Independence Drive, SW and East Basin Drive. Floral beds were planted with beds of tulips from Holland. After the tulips bloomed, the bulbs were removed and the beds were replanted with a wide variety of annuals such as begonias, petunias, marigolds, zinnias, and ageratum. Several varieties of chrysanthemums were planted for the fall.
AD 1969 - 1970	Built	A second hexagonal kiosk was built near the Monument Lodge. The new kiosk was located along 15th Street, north of the existing kiosk and was surrounded by a pentagon-shaped brick pavement and benches.

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AD 1971	Established	President Nixon issued a Presidential proclamation on July 4, 1971 stating that the flags around the Washington Monument were to fly twenty-four hours a day.
AD 1973	Planned	The Washington Monument Visitor Facility Comprehensive Design Program investigated the possibility of constructing an underground visitors center around the monument's foundations. It proposed rehabilitating the Survey lodge for continued office use; rehabilitating the Monument Lodge as a tour bus ticketing facility and removing its concession stand addition; and constructing an information kiosk and underground restrooms in the southeast corner of the grounds.
AD 1974	Planned	An Interim Development Plan for the monument grounds proposed implimenting a ticket system for monument entry, widening 15th Street to alleviate traffic congestion, and eliminating the 16th Street parking lot.
AD 1976	Altered	The Sylvan Theatre underwent renovation, with construction of an enlarged stage, enclosed dressing rooms, and sheds added.
	Built	The temporary Kodak theater was built as part of bicentennial celebrations. The theater operated from April to October 1976 and was removed after the festivities were complete. A new, permanent comfort station was also constructed. The comfort station was round with a flat roof and exterior walls constructed of aggregate cement panels. Both the comfort station and the Kodak theater were located in the southeast corner of the grounds.
AD 1981	Planned	A Development Concept Plan, meant to refine elements of previous plans, was prepared. The new plan included two parallel paths extending from the monument plaza west to 17th Street; two diagonal paths east from the plaza toward 15th Street, a new plaza at the base of the monument, and realigning 15th Street. The plan also called for the removal of the Monument Lodge, as it disrupted the east-west axis from the monument to the Capitol. Though the Commission of Fine Arts approved all four paths running east and west, only the two paths running west to 17th Street were constructed.

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AD 1983	Planned	In commemoration of the German-American Tercentennial in 1983, the German-American Gardens were designed by Oehme Van Sweden and Associates and were designed at the entrance to the 16th Street Parking lot, with identical east and west areas flanking a central lawn. Each garden contained a central twenty-foot radius circular terrace with a fountain, which was circled by benches. Plantings included German and American herbs, flowering perennials, grasses, and small flowering trees such as fragrant ash.
AD 1984	Graded	The monument mound was filled and graded in preparation for upcoming construction projects to improve access walks to the monument. 23,000 cubic yards of earth were added to the mound.
AD 1985	Memorialized	The portion of 15th Street between Independence Avenue SW and Maine Avenue SW was named 'Raoul Wallenberg Place' in honor of Raoul Wallenberg by Act of Congress on December 19, 1985.
AD 1986	Built	The two parallel paths running west from the monument were completed with financial support from the National Society of Professional Engineers.
AD 1987 - 1988	Planted	Construction of the German-American Gardens, at the entrance of the 16th Street parking lot, began in 1987. The gardens were completed in 1988.
AD 1989	Planned	The 1981 Development Concept Plan was revised to include the restoration of the Monument Lodge and its conversion into a tourmobile drivers' rest stop. The plan also included a new visitor's facility near the Sylvan Theater and built into the mound at the base of the monument. The monument plaza was to be redesigned as a grassy knoll. 15th Street was to be realigned in a manner that reflected the natural curve of the mound.
AD 1991 - 1993	Reconstructed	The Survey Lodge was rehabilitated to repair termite damage and was modernized. The original slate roof and cupola that had been removed by the early 20th Century were restored.

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AD 1992 - 1994	Altered	The interior lobby of the Washington Monument was remodeled, and included an Egyptoid elevator entry reminiscent of Robert Mills' original entablatures for the monuments' entrances.
AD 1993	Planned	Another Development Concept Plan was prepared for the site in 1993. The plan included realigning Jefferson and Madison Drives, rehabilitating the land between 15th Street and the monument to meet accessibility standards, removing the 16th Street parking lot, and constructing new walks from the monument to other sections of the grounds. It also recommended renovation of the plaza with new lighting and seating, reconfiguration of the Survey Lodge parking lot, replacement of the Sylvan Theatre, and construction of an underground visitor's center which would be entered through the Monument Lodge.
AD 1997	Altered	Madison and Jefferson Drives between 14th and 15th streets were realigned to a diagonal configuration.
AD 1997 - 2000	Rehabilitated	The Monument restoration, entitled 'It Stands for All,' included three stages: first, replacing electrical, heating, and air conditioning systems and refurbishing the elevator; second, exterior cleaning including repairing cracks, repointing joints, cleaning the exterior stone and; third, repairing observation levels, which included sealing the eight windows and eight aircraft warning lights, repairing and preserving the 193 interior commemorative stones, and refurbishing the observation deck.
AD 1997	Rehabilitated	The Monument's electrical, mechanical, heating, communications, and elevator systems were upgraded and repairs as part of the first phase of the monument restoration. During this time, from January 12 to May 22 1998, the Monument was closed to visitors.
AD 1998	Built	A twelve-foot plywood fence was erected around the base of the monument in July 1998 in preparation for renovation construction.
	Built	Two rings of concrete Jersey barriers was installed around the base of the Monument in August 1998 as an anti-terrorism measure after the bombings of the United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. The closest ring of barriers was placed about 25 feet from the Monument.

	Built	Phase two of the Monument restoration began with the construction of scaffolding designed by Michael Graves, which was enclosed within a blue-gray mesh with horizontal and vertical strips that resembled ashlar stone joints. The Monument and scaffolding were lit by 630 lights by the end of January 1999. The Monument observation deck was closed to the public from October 5, 1998 to February 22, 1999 while the scaffolding was being put into place. When the Monument reopened, visitors entered through a 280-foot-long covered walkway.
AD 1998 - 2000	Maintained	Independence Avenue was repaved, new granite curbing was installed, and new light standards were also installed.
AD 1999	Built	A temporary steel structure with a blue canopy was erected to serve as an interactive visitor's center during the renovation of the Washington Monument. The \$2 million center was donated by Discovery Communications and contained four galleries focusing on George Washington, the city of Washington, DC, the Washington Monument, and the Monument's history as a public gathering place. The visitor's center opened to the public in February 1999. The temporary structure is still standing as a gift shop, but will be taken down when construction on the NMAAHC begins in 2012.
AD 1999 - 2000	Planted	The National Park Service aerated soil, seeded the grounds, and laid sod.
	Rehabilitated	The Monument closed to the public once again in December 1999 for the refurbishment of observation levels at 490 and 500 feet and to replace the elevator with an upgraded cab. When it reopened to the public on July 31, 2000, only the new elevator had not been installed.
AD 2000 - 2002	Rehabilitated	The Monument was closed to the public in December 2000. It reopened to visitors on February 22, 2002.
AD 2001	Planned	The National Park Service submitted a proposal to the National Capital Planning Commission for a security solution to ring the Monument with 370 bollards. The Commission rejected the proposal as not fitting the landscape of the grounds.

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	Built	A temporary visitor screening facility was constructed at the Monument's entrance after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.
	Planned	The Commission of Fine Arts approved the proposed underground visitors center leading from the Monument Lodge to the Monument.
	Designed	Olin Partnership was one of many firms to submit designs for security measures around the Washington Monument. Olin's design included an underground visitor screening facility located between the east side of the Monument and the Monument Lodge and a graded system of walled terraces and pathways that would form overlapping rings around the monument. Ground improvements included the removal of the 16th Street parking lot and reconfiguration of walkways on the grounds, replacing asphalt paving of the plaza with materials more consistent with the tone of the plaza, eight stone benches placed in a circular pattern on the outer rim of the plaza, and regrading the slope around the Monument. The plan was won the National Park Service's design competition on December 19, 2001 and was approved by the Fine Arts Commission on December 20, 2001.
AD 2002	Restored	The Monument reopened to visitors on February 22, 2002 for the first time since it closed in December 2000.
AD 2003	Planned	The National Capital Planning Commission gave preliminary approval for security landscaping around the Washington Monument on January 9, 2003.
AD 2003 - 2005	Built	A plywood fence was erected around two-thirds of the monument grounds in August 2003 as preliminary work for the Grounds improvement project began. The fence stood for the duration of the renovation project and was dismantled in June 2005.
AD 2003	Abandoned	Plans for the underground visitor screening facility were abandoned due to lack of public and congressional support. The project was dependent on funds from the Department of Interior's appropriations bill, but an amendment to the bill blocked funding for work on the underground center.

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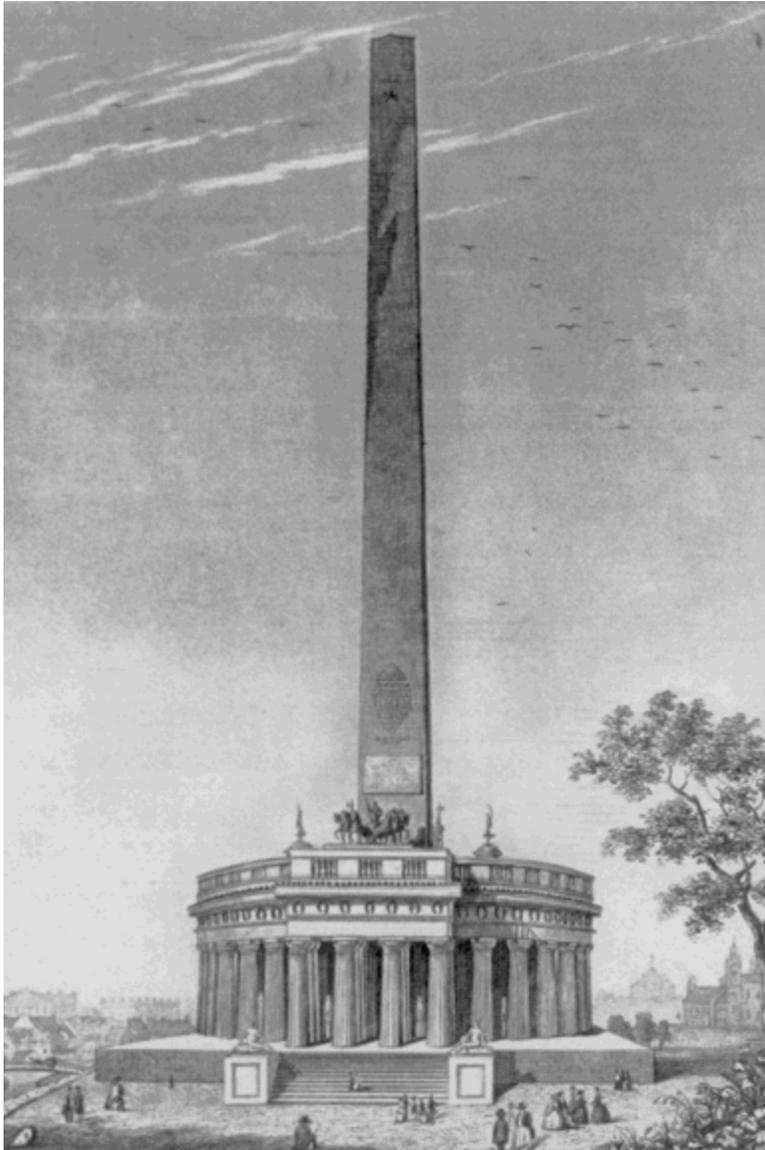
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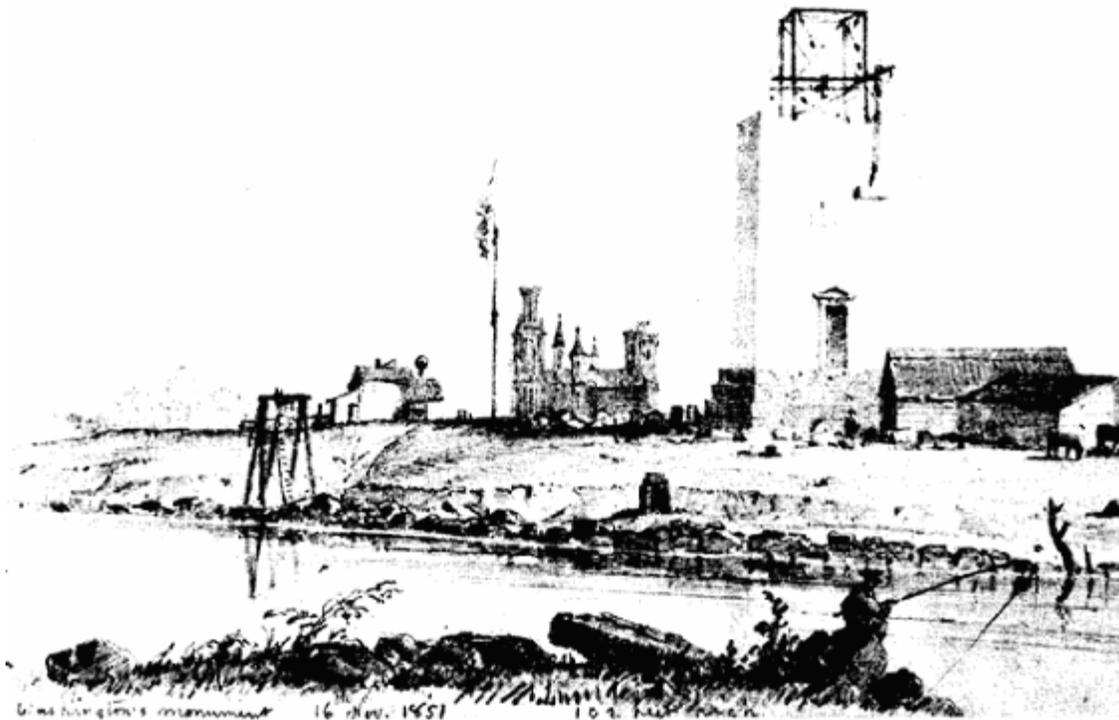
AD 2004	Built	In 2004 a temporary structure with a blue canopy was constructed near the corner of 15th Street and Madison Drive. The structure houses a refreshment stand and gift shop, but will be taken down when construction on the NMAAHC begins in 2012.
AD 2004 - 2005	Built	The monument grounds were closed on September 7, 2004 during the completion of grounds improvements. The Monument was re-opened to visitors starting April 1, 2005, but the grounds remained closed through June 2005.
AD 2005	Maintained	New curb and gutter was built along Independence Avenue, along with repairs to the left lane of the road.
AD 2005 - 2007	Restored	The Monument Lodge was restored 2005-06. During the restoration, the 1963 concrete block addition was removed. A plaza behind the lodge was built during this time. It reopened to the public on July 4, 2007 after extensive renovation and landscaping. The restored lodge housed ticketing for the Washington Monument.
AD 2006	Planned	The five acre plot of land at the southwest corner of 14th Street and Constitution Avenue was chosen by the Smithsonian's Board of Regents as the site for the National Museum of African American History and Culture on January 30, 2006.
	Maintained	Independence Avenue was resurfaced and granite curbs were installed.
AD 2009	Planned	Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup was chosen to design the National Museum of African American History and Culture located on the monument grounds between 14th and 15th Street. The design team was chosen by a jury chaired by museum director Lonnie G. Bunch III from among six firms that entered the design competition in January 2009. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2012 and the building to open in 2015.

**Physical History:**

For a comprehensive narrative history of the landscape of the Washington Monument Grounds, please refer to the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc., 2003. Please note that the 2003 CLR did not address the cultural landscape of the south monument grounds and therefore this CLI contains the most comprehensive and up-to-date history of that section of the Washington Monument Grounds.



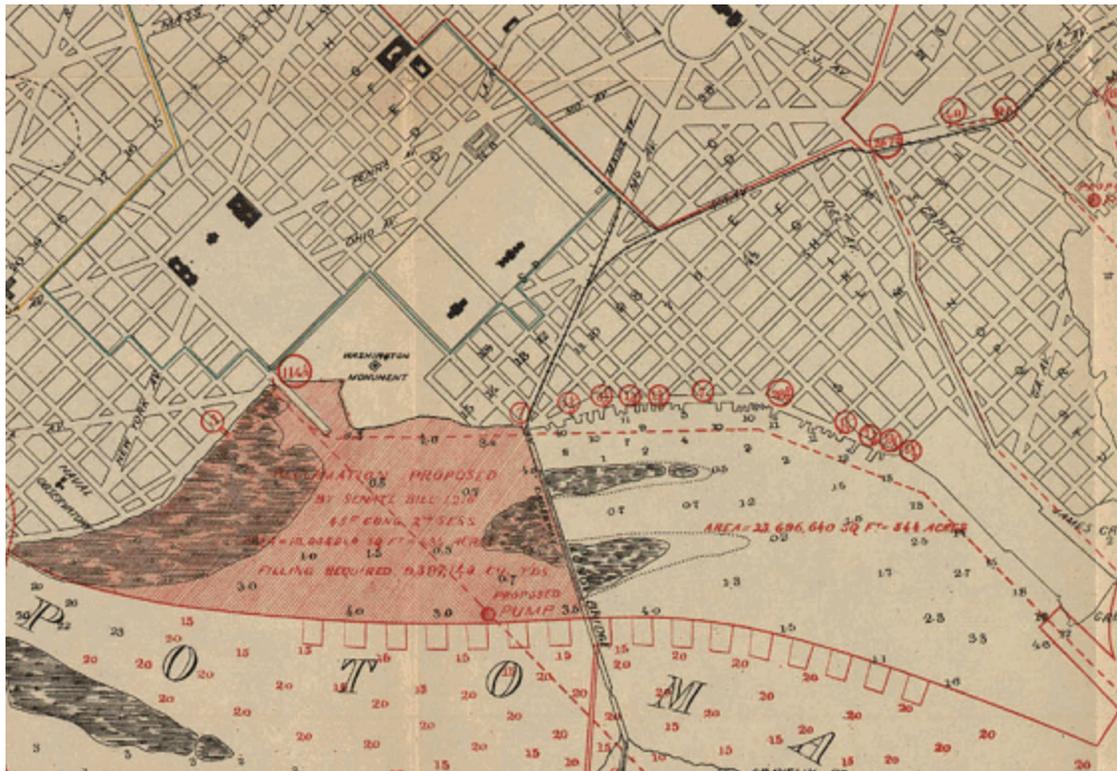
*1846 engraving of Robert Mills' original design for the Washington Monument (LC-USZ62-58546).*



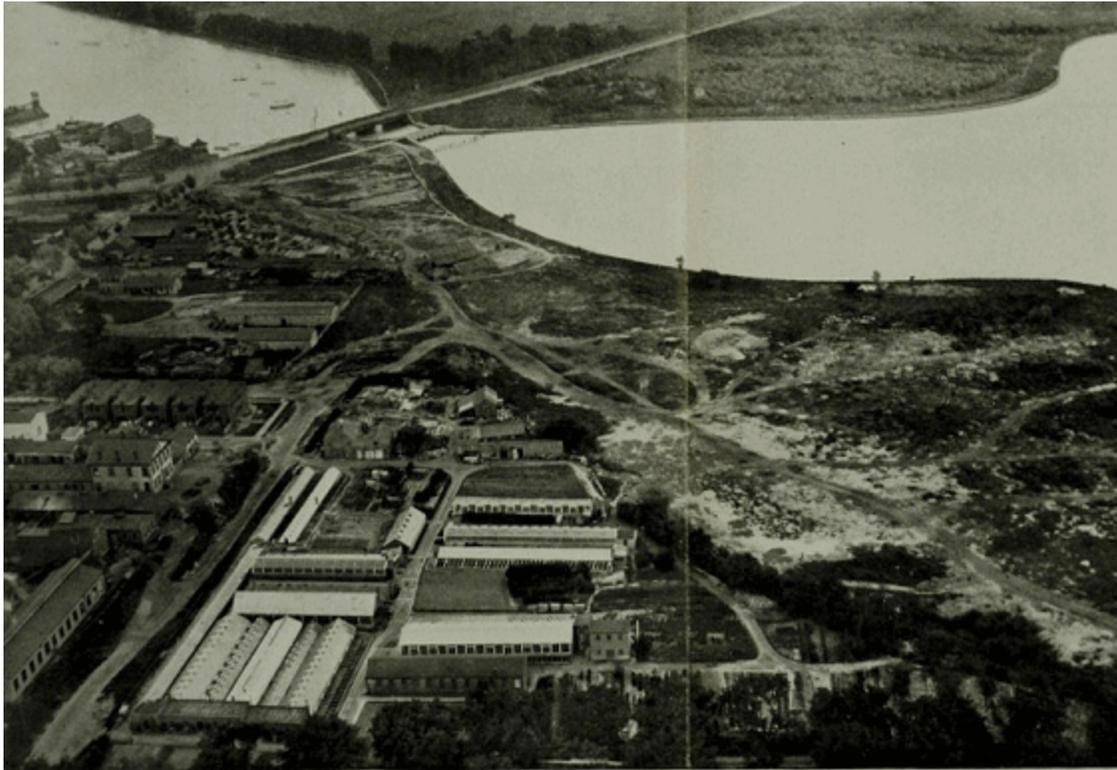
*Watercolor of the Washington Monument by Seth Eastman, November 16, 1851. The scene shows construction buildings around the monument's exposed foundation, as well as the Jefferson Pier along Tiber Creek (WAMO CLR, 2003).*

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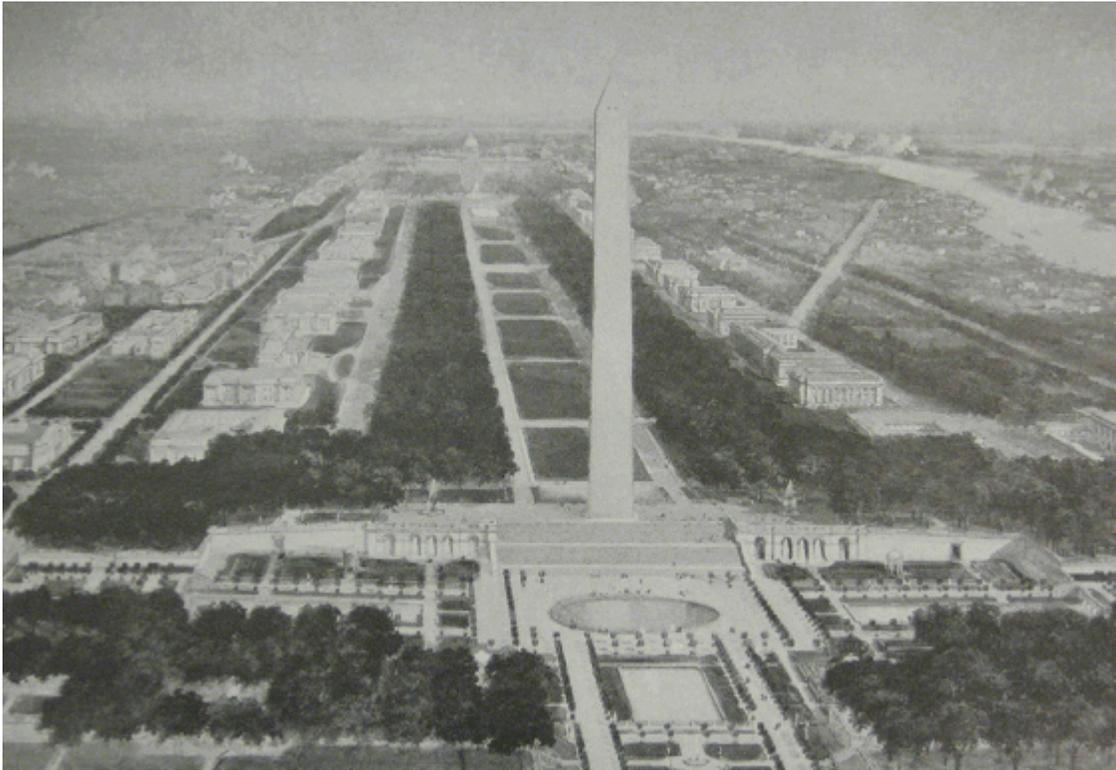
*Harbors of Washington and Georgetown, DC, 1878. The map shows proposed areas of the Potomac to be reclaimed and the size of the Washington Monument grounds before the project began (Letter from the Secretary of War, January 17, 1879).*



*Looking south from the top of the Washington Monument, showing propagating gardens and nursery before reclaimed land from the Potomac Flats was added to the gardens, ca. 1899 (Report of the Chief of Engineers, 1899).*

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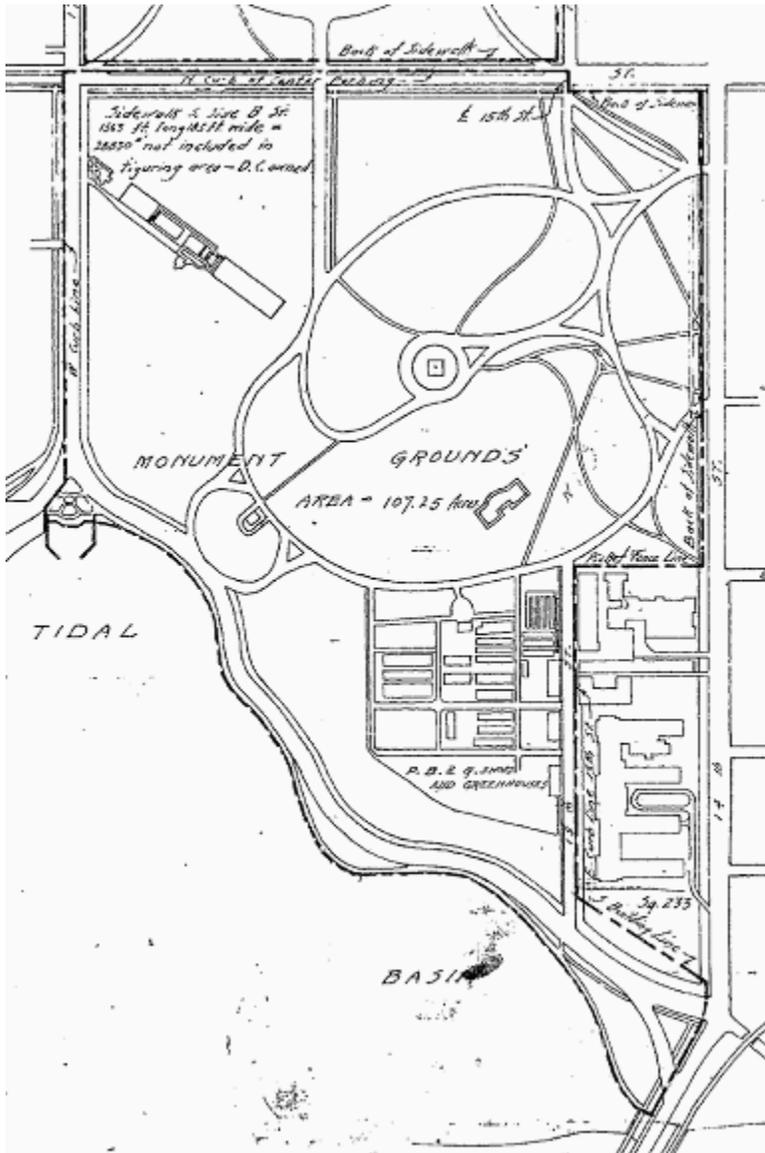
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*Plan based on the 1901 McMillan Plan for the Washington Monument Grounds and National Mall (9th CFA Report, 1921).*

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*"Boundary Map Monument Grounds - Grounds South," 1924. The map shows recreational use of lands on the northwest grounds and greenhouses and shops to the south. (National Park Service map, January 1924).*

## **Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity**

### **Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:**

### Introduction

This section provides an evaluation of the physical integrity of the cultural landscape at the Washington Monument Grounds by comparing the existing conditions with those landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance, 1791-1943. Landscape characteristics are the tangible and intangible aspects of a cultural landscape which express its historic character and integrity, and which allow visitors to understand the history of a site. Each characteristic or feature is classified as either a contributing or non contributing element of the site's overall historic significance.

Landscape characteristics are classified as contributing if they were present during the property's period of significance, and non contributing if they were not present during that period. Non contributing features may in some cases be considered "compatible," if they are determined to fit within the physical context of the historic period and match the character of contributing elements in a way that is sensitive to the construction techniques, organizational methods, or design strategies of the historic period. Features designated as "incompatible" are those that are not harmonious with the quality of the cultural landscape, and whose existence can lessen the historic character of the property.

This section also includes an evaluation of the property's integrity in accordance with National Register criteria. As defined by the National Register, historic integrity is the authenticity of a property's identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the site's historic period. The National Register recognizes seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Several or all of these aspects must be present for a site to retain historic integrity. To be listed on the National Register, a property must not only be shown to have significance under one of the four criteria, but also should be demonstrated to retain integrity to the period of significance.

### Landscape Characteristics and Features

Contributing landscape characteristics identified for the Washington Monument Grounds are views and vistas, buildings and structures, circulation, vegetation, topology, land use, spatial organization, small-scale features, archeology, and constructed water features.

The 1901 McMillan Plan vistas between the U.S. Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial, and the White House and Thomas Jefferson Memorial, with the Washington Monument as the pivotal element, have been faithfully maintained. The views from the city and the vistas looking outward from the Monument have also been preserved. While the views and vistas of the Washington Monument grounds are in some places obstructed by maturing vegetation, these changes are reversible and therefore this landscape characteristic retains integrity to the period of significance.

Most of the buildings and structures present during the period of significance have been removed, but buildings that are no longer extant were often temporary, or not associated with the commemorative purposes of the grounds. Those buildings remaining on the Washington Monument Grounds include the Washington Monument, Monument Lodge, Survey Lodge, and Jefferson Pier, all of which exhibit the seven aspects of integrity. Additional structures that contribute to the integrity of the site include the Bulfinch Gateposts and the Independence Avenue overpass bridge. On the whole, the buildings and

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structures on the grounds retain integrity to the period of significance.

There have been many changes to circulation features on the monument grounds since the period of significance, but overall site circulation patterns have remained. Perimeter circulation corridors, the Independence Avenue corridor, and the Tidal Basin road and walks remain largely unmodified. The circulation within the grounds north of Independence Avenue has been reconfigured and altered several times since 1943, but these changes are compatible with historic circulation. The survival of the perimeter corridors, coupled with the compatible changes made to other circulation systems on the site allows the circulation of the grounds to retain integrity to the period of significance.

The most important characteristics of vegetation on the Washington Monument Grounds, open lawns surrounded by groves and lines of trees on the perimeter, remain. Although replanting has taken place, the trees that have been planted are largely compatible with historic features. Although some aspects of the vegetation features and patterns have changed in the monument grounds since the period of significance, vegetation retains its integrity.

The topography of the Washington Monument Grounds is dominated by the monument mound. The other topographical features, such as the flats and berm, serve to emphasize the predominance of the mound on which the Washington Monument sits. Although minor changes have been made since 1943, they have not altered the overall topography of the site. The topographical features therefore retain integrity.

The land use most important to the monument grounds – commemorative, public gathering, recreation, and visitor service – continue to be represented on the site. Those uses that are missing from the site, such as military use, were at the time considered temporary and as the setting became more park-like the utilitarian/agricultural use of the south grounds also disappeared. Despite the loss of some types of historic land use, the Washington Monument Grounds this landscape characteristic retains integrity.

The spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds remains similar to its arrangement during the period of significance, despite minor changes over time and remains a prominent and central component of the city's monumental core. For this reason the spatial organization of the site has integrity.

The extant small-scale features that date to the period of significance contribute to the integrity of the landscape because they remain in their original locations and have not been extensively modified. Many of the other features on the site that do not date from the period of significance, such as the post-and-chain fencing, flagpoles, and light poles are consistent with the site's historic character and design intent and are therefore compatible. Therefore, despite minor changes, small-scale features retain integrity to the period of significance.

While identification of contributing and non-contributing archaeological resources is beyond the scope of this report, the significant and historic nature of the Washington Monument Grounds suggests that other contributing resources exist.

Constructed water features on the Washington Monument Grounds have no integrity, as all features that were present during the period of significance have been removed.

#### The Seven Aspects of Integrity

1. Location is the place where the cultural landscape was constructed. The Washington Monument Grounds occupies its historic location as U.S. Reservation 2, a 106-acre area bounded by 17th Street on the west, Constitution Avenue on the north, 14th Street on the east, and the Tidal Basin on the south. The location of the Washington Monument Grounds retains its integrity of location.
2. Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure and style of a cultural landscape or historic property. From the late 19th century through 1943, numerous plans for the Washington Monument Grounds were adopted and only partially implemented, but many of the historic structures on the site are extant in their original locations. Perimeter circulation corridors are unchanged, as is the form of the Independence Avenue extension implemented in 1942-43. Interior circulation has been altered in a manner compatible with historic features, and therefore the design of the grounds retains integrity.
3. Setting is the physical environment of a cultural landscape or historic property. The Washington Monument Grounds was designated by L'Enfant in 1791 as U.S. Reservation 2, the site of an equestrian statue of George Washington. Although lacking a statue as envisioned by L'Enfant, construction of the Washington Monument obelisk began in 1848 and was completed in 1884. The importance of the location was reinforced by the 1901 McMillan Plan, which expanded the north-south and east-west axes with the Washington Monument Grounds at their center. Since the views and vistas to and from the monument have not been modified significantly, the property's cultural landscape retains integrity to the period of significance.
4. Materials are the physical elements of a particular period, including construction materials, plants and other landscape features. The Washington Monument Grounds retain a high level of material integrity. Most of the extant buildings, structures and small-scale features are composed of their original materials. Likewise the plant materials, represented by interior groves, large expanses of lawn, cherry trees lining the Tidal Basin and elms along the perimeter roads, all retain historic integrity.
5. Workmanship includes the physical evidence of the craft of a particular period. Much of the original, 19th century workmanship used in the construction of the Washington Monument, Monument Lodge, Survey Lodge, and Jefferson Pier survives today, including the exterior marble used to construct the Monument, Monument Lodge, and Survey Lodge. Although the Independence Avenue extension has been repaved several times since its completion in 1943, the stone-faced Independence Avenue overpass demonstrates the workmanship of the period of its completion. Overall, the cultural landscape retains its integrity of workmanship, despite the removal of workmanship such as the replacement of pedestrian walks on the monument grounds.
6. Feeling is the property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period. The

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Washington Monument remains the focal point of the grounds, as it did throughout the period of significance. The park setting surrounding the Monument continues to include open lawns and groves of trees. Walks installed in 2004-05 evoke the curvilinear roads and walkways present during the period of significance. The feeling of the grounds, therefore, retains integrity.

7. Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. The Washington Monument Grounds possess integrity in their association with George Washington, as the site of the monument constructed to commemorate the nation's first president. The grounds also retain their association with the 1791 L'Enfant Plan and the 1901 McMillan Plan for the improvement of Washington.

#### Conclusion

This CLI finds that the Washington Monument Grounds retains integrity for its period of significance, 1791-1943. While there have been some changes to the landscape, especially in circulation, and the loss of some features, the overall integrity of the Washington Monument Grounds is high

#### **Landscape Characteristic:**

##### **Views and Vistas**

###### Historic Conditions

A defining aspect of the Washington Monument Grounds since its inception is the Monument's relationship with surrounding buildings and the views to and from these structures. L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the new city included open vistas from the U.S. Capitol and White House to the intersection of their respective axes, the future site of a monument to George Washington. L'Enfant designed an open promenade between the Capitol and monument grounds, with buildings on both sides of it to reinforce the visual corridor. President's park was placed between the monument grounds and White House, leaving a view unobstructed by buildings along the north-south axis.

The eventual construction of the Washington Monument, begun in 1848, placed the obelisk just southeast of the cross-axis where the equestrian statue planned by L'Enfant would have been placed. Since its completion in 1884, the Washington Monument has been a prominent feature of Washington, DC and its skyline. Views of the Monument from the city and surrounding areas – which are too numerous to fully enumerate, vistas from the Monument's base, and vistas from the top of the obelisk have historically contributed to its significance.

Although its prominence on the skyline was evident, views from the base of the Monument were affected by earlier naturalistic designs for the mall and ellipse.

An 1898 photograph documenting the view of the Capitol from the Monument plaza indicates that the view from the base was obstructed by street trees along 14th Street ("Vista of the Capitol from the Door of the Monument, Looking East" Report of the Chief of Engineers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1898.). Also, at this time views north to the White House were impeded by trees lining Constitution Avenue.

The 1901 McMillan Plan expanded the monumental core to include park land and locations for memorials to the south and west of the Washington Monument. The plan also called for unobstructed views of the Washington Monument and Capitol across the Mall which, up to that time, had not been achieved. Monumental gardens called for in the plan directly around the Washington Monument created open vistas along the north-south and east-west axes, while trees planted in the corners of the grounds would further emphasize these corridors.

Though the gardens were never constructed, the hallmark emphasis on the main axes of the McMillan Plan was achieved. Planning for the Lincoln Memorial took into consideration that the Washington Monument had been constructed to the southeast of the axial crossing. The axis of the Mall and Lincoln Memorial were adjusted so that the Washington Monument would align with the U.S. Capitol and that same axis would continue to the Lincoln Memorial. “The completion of the Lincoln Memorial in 1921 and Reflecting Pool in 1924 added the western focal point for the axial plan envisioned by the McMillan Commission. The construction of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial from 1939 to 1943 completed the cross-axial plan envisioned by the McMillan Plan. The Thomas Jefferson Memorial was not built on axis with the Washington Monument, but with the original north-south alignment of the White House and Jefferson Pier.

By the end of the 1930s many of the trees that had previously impeded views to and from the Washington Monument had been removed, including those along 14th and 17th streets trees along 14th Street had been removed. However, temporary war buildings constructed in 1942 (between the 16th Street parking lot and 17th Street) obstructed the view from the base of the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial.

#### Existing Conditions

“The intended views of the Washington Monument from the city and the vistas looking outward from the Monument have been faithfully maintained through time. The Monument is a dominant presence from any vantage point in the city, and the views between the Monument and the White House, the Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial are as dramatic today as they were when the structures were first completed (Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report, 2003:4-28).”

Changes during the second half of the 20th century cleared many of the obstructions to views between the major features emphasized in the L’Enfant and McMillan Plans and the Monument. When the temporary war buildings were expanded to the south, the remaining trees that had lined 16th Street on the monument grounds were removed. The temporary buildings remained until 1964, and once they were removed, some of the views between the Lincoln Memorial, Reflecting Pool, and Washington Monument were reclaimed. The World War II Memorial, constructed on the site of the Rainbow Pool and completed in 2004, was design to frame rather than block the view between the two monuments.

Groves of trees as well as street trees along the perimeters of the Washington Monument Grounds constitute the main obstruction of views to and from the Monument. To the north, the

White House is visible from the Washington Monument plaza, although trees along Constitution Avenue partially block the view. A few large trees along 14th Street partially obstruct the view of the Capitol from the Washington Monument. Although a 2003 site development plan called for the removal of large street trees, this portion of the plan has not yet been implemented.

The designed vista along the north-south axis of the monumental core, between the White House, Jefferson Pier, and Thomas Jefferson Memorial are unobstructed. Trees on the south monument grounds and along Constitution Avenue have been thinned to preserve views between these structures. However, maturing trees on the south monument grounds (south of Independence Avenue) almost completely block the view of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial from the Monument and only the top of the dome is visible from the Monument plaza.

#### Integrity

While the views and vistas of the Washington Monument grounds are in some places obstructed by maturing vegetation, this landscape characteristic retains integrity. The views from the city and the vistas looking outward from the Monument have been faithfully maintained, retaining the strong visual corridors established by the L'Enfant and McMillan plans.

#### Character-defining Features:

Feature: Views from D.C. and surrounding region to Monument

Feature Identification Number: 137108

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Views from top of Monument to the surrounding city and important sites

Feature Identification Number: 137110

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Views from the site to the Lincoln Memorial, White House, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, and the U.S. Capitol

Feature Identification Number: 137112

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Vistas of the Monument from Lincoln Memorial, White House, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, and the U.S. Capitol

Feature Identification Number: 137114

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Screened views of the site features

Feature Identification Number: 137116

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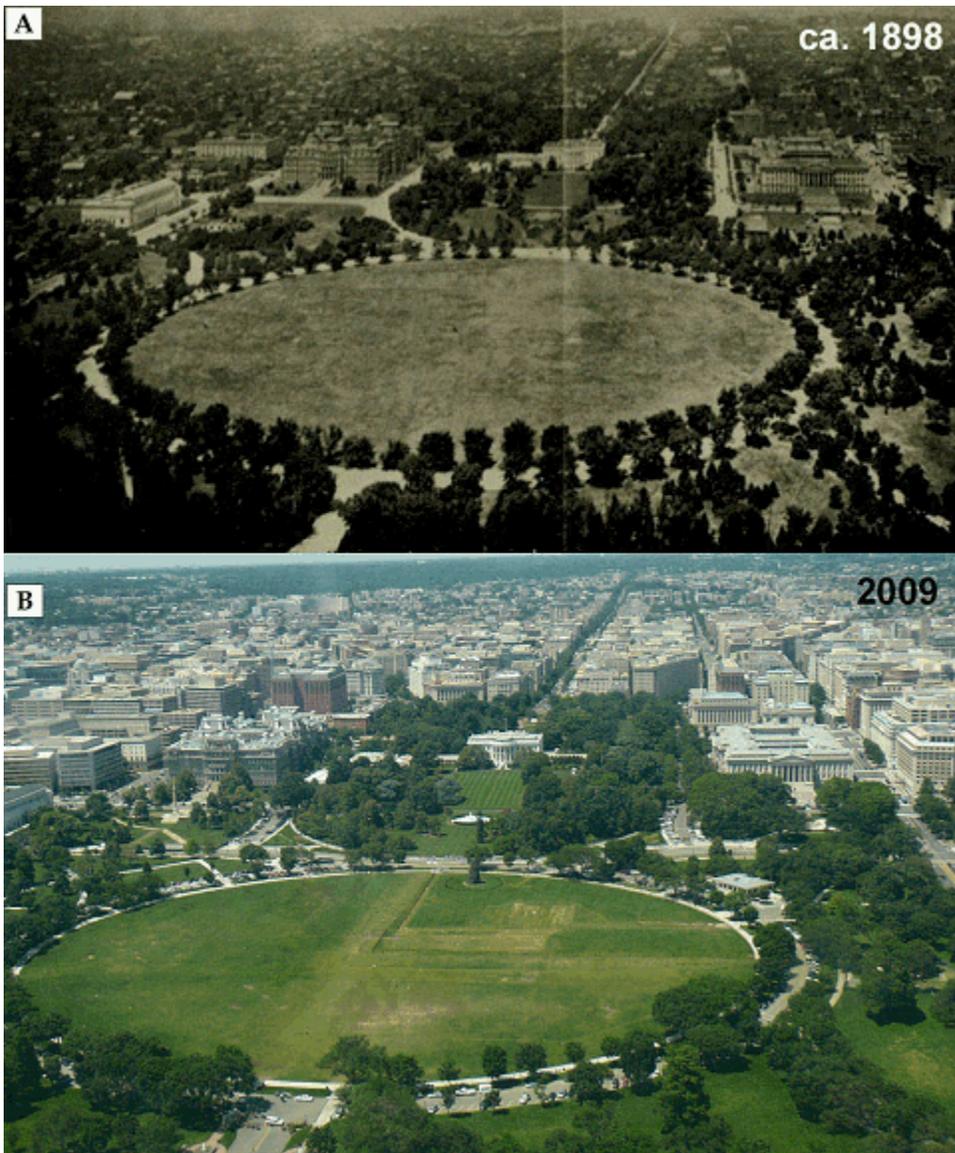
Type of Feature Contribution:           Contributing

Feature:       Axial views through Jefferson Pier of the White House and Thomas Jefferson Memorial

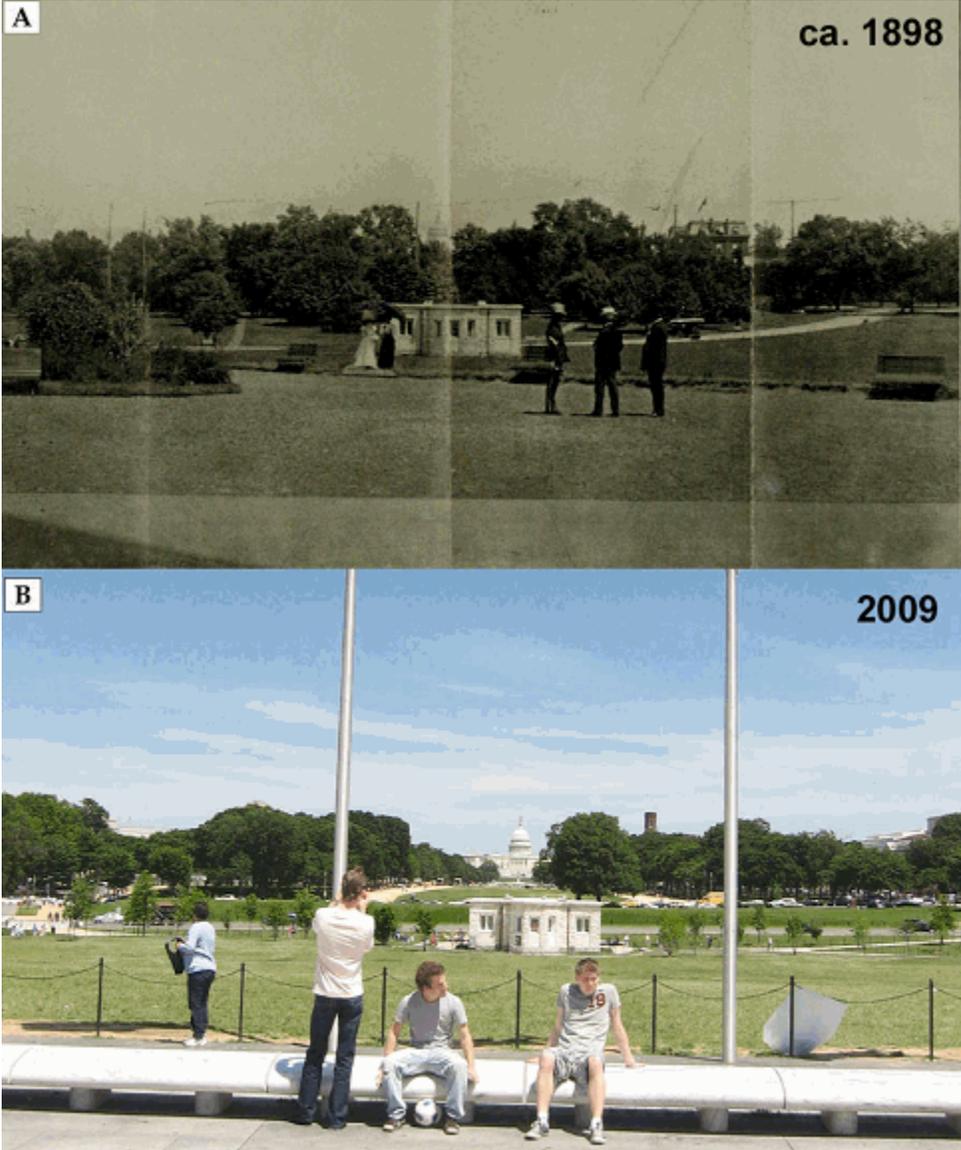
Feature Identification Number:       137118

Type of Feature Contribution:       Contributing

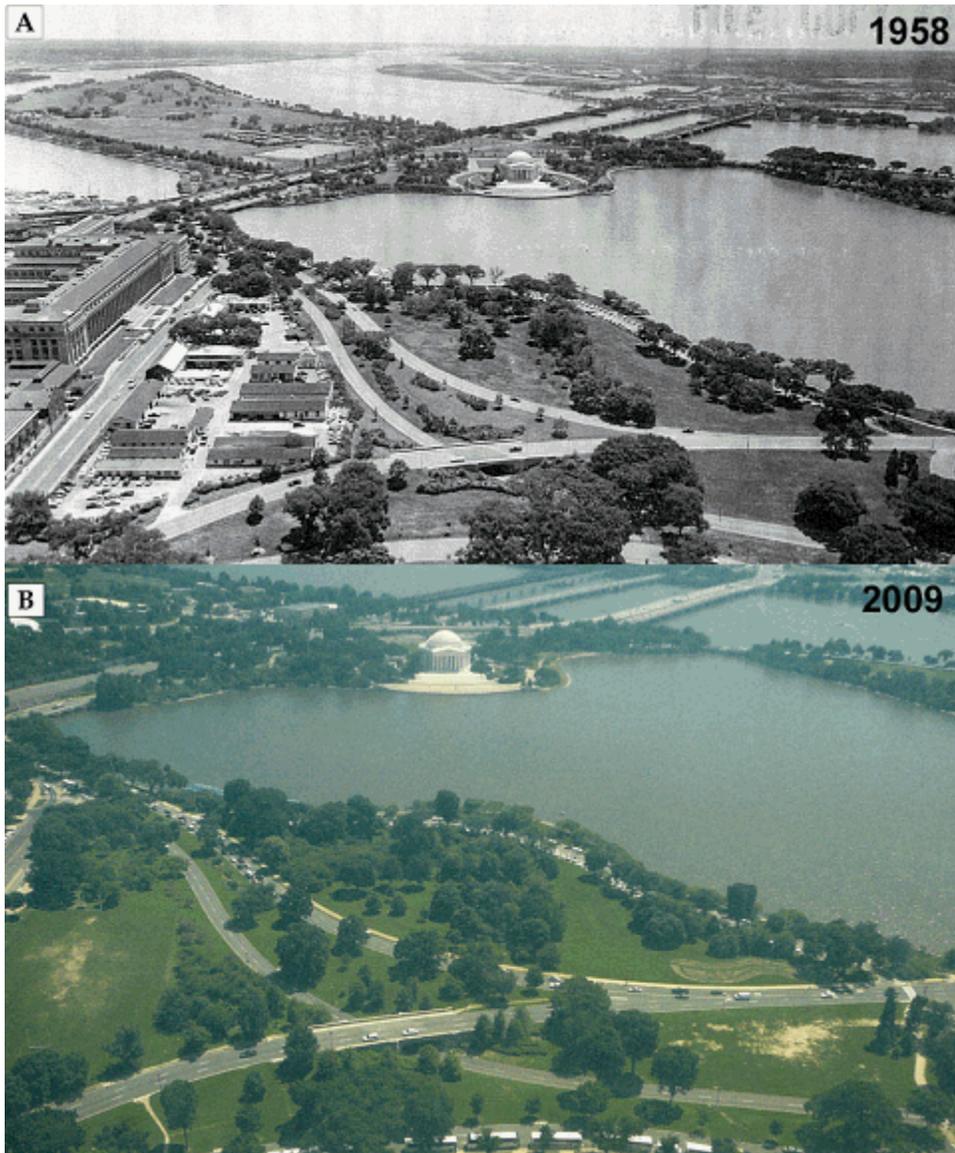
**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*View north from the top of the Washington Monument to the White House (A. Report of the Chief of Engineers, 1898 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*



*View east from the base of the Monument to the Mall and U.S. Capitol (A. Report of the Chief of Engineers, 1898 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*



*View south from the top of the Monument to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. The 1958 view includes remaining shops that were removed in 1962 (A. National Park Service, Abbie Rowe, May 14, 1958 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*

### **Buildings and Structures**

#### Historic Conditions

(Portions of text in this section has been excerpted from the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2003)

“The prominence of the obelisk within the Washington Monument Grounds and the National Mall has been maintained throughout its history, particularly since its completion in 1884, while

the significance of the Washington Monument as a national symbol appears to have grown over time.

“Most of the other structures that occupied the site during the late 18th and early 19th centuries, including construction-related buildings, military structures, housing, and stables are no longer extant. Before the Washington National Monument Society took control of the site [in 1848], there were apparently some houses and fences built on the grounds. These were removed by the time construction began in the 1840s. Recreational facilities from the early 20th century, including tennis courts, a boat house, a swimming pool, and associated facilities have also vanished. Temporary buildings erected on the site during World War II were the last to be removed. Some remained on site until the mid-1960s.

“Two buildings constructed on the Washington Monument Grounds during the 19th century—the Monument and Survey Lodges—survive, although their uses have been modified. The Survey Lodge was constructed circa 1885 as a boiler house for the monument... The Monument Lodge, originally intended to accommodate the public comfort, continues to serve the needs of visitors....

“The Sylvan Theatre, established in 1917, has become a more permanent structure over time, with various additions and accompanying structures augmenting the feature (CLR 2003:4-19).”

Greenhouses, shops, and offices were located on the southern portion of the monument grounds (between present-day Independence Avenue and the Tidal Basin to the south, 15th Street to the east, and 17th Street to the west) from the 1870s through the first half of the 20th century. The extension of Independence Avenue through the grounds required the removal of many of the buildings in 1942, though 25 buildings remained on the grounds after road construction was complete. These remaining maintenance complex buildings were removed from the grounds in 1962 and relocated to just south of the 14th Street Bridge in East Potomac Park. The road system that was completed in 1943 included an overpass bridge where eastbound Independence Avenue passes over westbound Maine Avenue.

#### The Washington Monument

The Washington Monument is constructed of white marble ashlar blocks backed by blue gneiss; its foundations are blue gneiss and concrete. The initial phase of construction on the Monument began in 1848 and continued until 1854. At this time the structure was roughly 152 feet high. Construction did not resume until 1879, when the Monument’s foundations were reinforced and strengthened. Work resumed on the wall shafts in 1880 and was completed in 1884. The obelisk now stands 555 feet, 5 1/8 inches high, with an 8.9-inch aluminum cap installed at the top. This cap was at the time one of the largest pieces of aluminum ever cast.

The base is 55 feet wide, with 13-foot thick masonry walls at the base and one-foot thick walls at top. The interior lobby is 23 feet wide and the elevator cab is 9 feet wide. 193 commemorative stones were placed in the interior walls, starting at the 30-foot level and

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continuing to the 450-foot level. Various states, organizations, and countries around the world donated these stones. The viewing area is reached by a total of 897 steps and has eight windows – two on each side. The windows were unglazed and large enough to allow for exterior access. They were fitted with interior shutters that, when shut, were flush with the exterior and masked the openings. In the 1920s screens of metal bars were hinged to the windows on the interior and rain gutters were attached above each window. The rain gutters were eventually removed, as they were staining the exterior marble (Washington Monument National Register Nomination pp. 1-2).

The Monument was “...surrounded by a level plaza set atop a steeply-sided artificial knoll. Much of the knoll was constructed from fill, which was needed to stabilize the massive, tiered, concrete footings that support the weight of the Monument (CLR 2003:4-19).” The Monument was cleaned and repaired in 1934-35. During the repairs, it was temporarily encased with aluminum scaffolding.

#### Monument Lodge

The Monument Lodge was built at its current location, 480 feet east of the Monument, during 1888-89, after several location shifts. The structure is rectangular, constructed of rusticated ashlar stone with the approximate dimensions of 25 feet by 30 feet. It is flat roofed, with one story and a partial basement. The building was opened to the public in January 1889 as a point of arrival for visitors. It was used as a waiting room for tours of the Washington Monument, with public restrooms. The restrooms were enlarged in 1931 to include an area formerly occupied by the office and store room. In 1942, the interior of the lodge was again remodeled to house a display featuring materials relating to George Washington’s life, and for the operations of a concessionaire.

#### Survey Lodge

The Survey Lodge, located approximately 750 feet southwest of the Monument, was originally designed as a boiler house to supply power to the Washington Monument elevator. The two-story structure was built in 1885 of waste stock granite and white marble that was used to construct the monument. A steam tunnel connected the Lodge to the underground engine room at the base of the Monument. Its most prominent feature is its forty-foot-tall chimney.

An addition to the boiler house, which matched the original structure in materials and details, was built when the Washington Monument elevator power source was converted from steam to electricity in 1901. In 1923, the Monument and grounds were connected to the public power grid and the Survey Lodge was no longer used as a power house. It housed the Design and Construction Division of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks (OPBPP) from 1926 to 1933, when the OPBPP and its lands were reorganized under the National Park Service. At this point it became known as the Survey Lodge and housed survey crews documenting the boundaries of the new national parks within Washington.

#### Jefferson Pier

“The location of the intersection of the two axes or meridian—one extending south from the White House, and the other west from the Capitol—was first demarcated in 1793 with a wooden post. The stone Jefferson Pier replaced the wooden posts in 1804. The present marker is a replacement for the original, which was unintentionally destroyed in 1872 (CLR 2003:4-20).” In 1889, the stone was re-erected as it stands today. The pier is a two-foot by two-foot block of granite, 3 feet, 3 inches tall. Its western face was inscribed: “Position of Jefferson / Pier Erected Dec 18, 1804. / Recovered and Re-erected / Dec 2, 1889 / District of Columbia.” It is located 371.6 feet west and 123.17 feet north of the Washington Monument.

#### Bulfinch Gateposts

Several pairs of gateposts, once located on the west grounds of the U.S. Capitol, were moved to a series of intersections along Constitution Avenue (then B Street North) in 1874, including a pair that was placed to flank the 15th Street entrance to the monument grounds. The design of the gateposts is generally attributed to Charles Bulfinch, who was commissioned to do the U.S. Capitol restoration in 1814. The gateposts are approximately eleven feet tall, four feet wide, and are constructed of Aquia Creek sandstone. They are designed in a classical motif, with horizontal bands carved out of the post and a carved frieze topping the posts. Volutes top the posts and are decorated using the stylized acanthus leaf form (U.S. Capitol Gatehouses and Gateposts National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form, 1973).

#### Independence Avenue Overpass Bridge

Construction of the new roadway through West Potomac Parks and the south monument grounds in 1942 included an overpass where eastbound Independence Avenue passed over westbound Maine Avenue. The bridge is faced with mica schist in a random ashlar arrangement, with granite coping. All construction on the bridge was completed by September 11, 1943.

#### Seawall

The Tidal Basin seawall, including the portion within the Washington Monument Grounds, was constructed from April 1895 through September 1896, the last to be completed. The seawall around the other portions of reclaimed land was completed in 1894. The wall was built on footing that was already in place and, from that footing, was six feet high, four feet wide at the base, and two and a half feet wide at the top. Throughout the period of significance the portion of seawall along the south monument grounds remained relatively unchanged, though walks were constructed and safety rails – similar in design to those in place today – had been constructed by 1919.

#### Sylvan Theatre

The Sylvan Theatre is located 150 yards southeast of the Washington Monument. “The Sylvan Theatre began as an earthen stage in 1917. It was proposed as a ‘theatre for Shakespeare’ in 1916 by Alice Pike Barney, a patroness of the arts. A 1931 plan of the theatre and its landscaped surroundings shows a stand of trees behind the stage and steps leading down either side of the front of the stage.” (CLR 2003:4-20) Privet hedges were used on either side of the

stage to create dressing rooms. The audience most likely sat on the grass.

#### Missing Buildings

“A number of construction-related buildings were erected on the Washington Monument Grounds to support the ambitious monument construction project. Because it was built in two stages, two sets of construction buildings have existed on the site. The first set included stone-working shops, storage, and security facilities. Also during this period, a wharf and railroad grade supported the work. These stood until the end of the Civil War. The second group stood between circa 1880 and 1885. They included stone cutters’ sheds, a carpentry shop, storage for lumber, cement, iron, and tools, an engine house, water closet, lapidarium, offices, three forges, and tool sharpening and blacksmith shops (CLR 2003:4-21).”

#### Recreational Facilities

“Numerous recreational structures have come and gone within the monument grounds since the early 20th century. By the 1920s there were at least fifteen tennis courts [some clay, some concrete] on the grounds. The earliest courts, shown on a 1917 plan, were built in a block of five to the northeast of swimming facilities along 16th Street. A 1919 plan reveals a block of ten more courts west of the swimming pools. The block of ten was gone by 1930 and the other five were removed by 1936 when Works Progress Administration workers leveled the northwestern part of the grounds in preparation for constructing a seventeen-foot-tall flood control dike or levee (CLR 2003:4-21).”

Fish ponds, built in the 19th century and located in the northwestern part of the grounds, were converted to swimming basins in 1907. “A 1905 topographic map showing lines for a proposed sewer system indicates the ponds, supply house, and watch house for the fisheries. A domed building labeled “Supply House” on maps showing the fish ponds appears to have been converted into a bath house when the ponds were transferred to the District Commissioners ‘for use as a Bathing Beach in June 1907.’ (“Sketch of Monument Grounds,”) By 1910, when the ponds, after their brief tenure as ‘bathing basins,’ were filled, additional swimming pools had been constructed in the location of former hatching ponds on the levee between the north and south ponds. A 1917 plan shows rectangular pools and associated structures, including a structure housing shower baths and dressing rooms. A boat house in this cluster was later removed and its foundation converted into an outdoor swimming pool. The pool was later drained and filled, and then rebuilt as a boat house before being removed altogether in 1936. Other support buildings at the swimming area included an office and toilets. All of these facilities were removed in 1936 when the area was re-graded by the WPA (CLR 2003:4-21).”

#### Temporary War Buildings

“In 1942, a complex of temporary office buildings was constructed in the western half of the grounds between 17th Street and the former 16th Street alignment. A plan shows three distinct structures, two parallel to 17th Street and the third parallel to Constitution Avenue. Some of the war-related buildings remained on site until 1965 (CLR 2003:4-22).” The buildings eventually covered almost the entire west side of the monument grounds.

#### Propagating Gardens

Building on the southern portion of the monument grounds (south of present-day Independence Avenue) did not occur to a significant degree until the 1870s, when greenhouses were moved from propagating gardens then located at the corner of Missouri Avenue and 3rd Street in 1873. Greenhouses, tropical plant houses, hot beds, and potting sheds continued to be built, repaired, or expanded in the propagating gardens through the end of the 19th century and into the 20th century.

Early construction on the site was characterized by frame buildings which were often built of scrap material or from buildings removed from other sites and reassembled once they reached their new location. In 1882, a carpenter shop was moved to the north end of the propagating gardens after construction was completed on the War, State, and Navy departments' new building and was used for an office, storage, and work space.

Major improvements to the propagating gardens began soon after the addition of land from the reclaimed Potomac Flats in May 1899. A brick storehouse was built in 1900 to replace the shacks that had previously been used for storage, followed by a brick building on the site of the old carpenter's shop. This new building included shops for carpenters, painters, plumbers, tanners, and blacksmiths, and had an engine room, storerooms, and toilet room. Both brick structures were located along 15th street and flanked the east entrance to the propagating gardens, where granite gateposts were constructed in 1900-01. During the same time, a new building replaced the old office building at the north entrance to the grounds. This new office, a two-story frame structure, was relocated from the northeast corner of President's Park when the statue of General Sherman was erected in 1898-1901. Five greenhouses located at the White House were torn down during the autumn of 1902. Using much of the original material, they were rebuilt on the propagating gardens (Report of the Chief of Engineers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1903). These greenhouses continued to be used for White House flowers and plant storage during the winter months.

Buildings were maintained on the propagating gardens until the early 1940s, when the new highway system through the monument grounds and West Potomac Park required their removal. Many of the greenhouses, shops, storehouses, and offices located on the monument grounds were relocated to Anacostia Park, though twenty-five buildings were left on the grounds after construction was complete. These buildings were located along 15th Street and between Maine Avenue, S.W. and Independence Avenue, S.W until 1962, when they were removed from the site.

#### Existing Conditions

##### Washington Monument (Contributing)

"Despite being constructed a few hundred feet from its original intended location, the pyramidion-topped obelisk has maintained a commanding position and relationship to the Capitol to the East and the White House to the north since its completion." (CLR 2003:4-19) Since the

period of significance, the Monument has undergone two cleanings, once in 1964 and again from 1998 to 2000, during which time it was covered with a blue-gray mesh which enclosed the scaffolding. The Monument has retained its integrity and is a contributing feature of the site.

A temporary visitor screening facility was constructed at the Monument's base in 2001. The facility measures approximately 12-15 feet high, 10 feet wide, and 20 feet deep. Its construction imitates the stone blocks of the Washington Monument. It remains in use today.

#### Monument Lodge (Contributing)

Additions had been made to the lodge after the period of significance; in 1948 a concession stand was added to the west side of the building, followed by a larger expansion in 1955 that included a serving area with a large canopy and fenced dining area west of the serving area. All additions were removed during the Monument's renovation in 2005-2006, which restored the exterior of the lodge to its original appearance. The lodge continues to house restroom facilities, ticketing, and a book shop. The integrity of the Monument Lodge has been retained, especially since accretions dating after the period of significance have been removed from the structure.

#### Survey Lodge (Contributing)

In general, the Survey Lodge retains its original structural features, character, and integrity. From 1991 to 1993 the building was rehabilitated to repair termite damage and was also modernized. The original slate roof and cupola that had been removed during the early 20th century were restored. The lodge continues to house NPS personnel offices and public restrooms.

#### Jefferson Pier (Contributing)

The Jefferson Pier today sits on a treeless part of the site, a conspicuous component of the landscape and a surviving structure from the early history of the monument grounds. Recent grounds security improvements, which included re-grading the monument mound, did not adversely affect the pier itself, though it now sits slightly below grade. The Pier retains its significance and integrity as a marker of L'Enfant's original cross-axes.

#### Bulfinch Gateposts (Contributing)

The Bulfinch Gateposts continue to flank 15th Street at its intersection with Constitution Avenue. As no significant changes have been made to the structures, they have retained their integrity.

#### Independence Avenue Overpass (Contributing)

The Independence Avenue roadway has been repaved several times since its construction, but no significant changes to the road or the overpass bridge have been made. The structure has been maintained and therefore retains its integrity from the period of significance.

#### Seawall (Contributing)

The seawall that borders the south monument grounds remains largely unaltered from the period of significance except for a change in the seawall stone from the Kutz Bridge to the east, near the point where the sidewalk intersects with the seawall. Despite plants growing from between its stones along the seawall, this structure retains integrity.

Sylvan Theatre (Non-Contributing)

The Sylvan Theatre continues to be a venue for public gathering and events on the Washington Monument Grounds, but has been significantly altered since the period of significance. The first permanent stage was built in 1944, followed by the proscenium arch in 1966. During the 1976 bicentennial, several changes were made to the theater and its surroundings: a comfort station was built near the theater; the Kodak Theatre, a temporary visitor center that was removed shortly after the end of the bicentennial, was built between the Sylvan Theatre and the Monument Lodge; the Sylvan Theatre itself was renovated, with an enlarged stage, enclosed dressing rooms, and sheds added.

The integrity of the Sylvan Theatre as a gathering and performing space has been affected by the security improvements that were implemented on the monument grounds in 2003-05. The eastern walkway and walled terrace cut through the area which was previously an uninterrupted lawn sloping up from the stage to the Washington Monument on which audiences were seated. Some of the sheds near the rear of the theater are in poor condition. One shed, on the east side of the theater, is covered by a blue tarp.

Kiosks (Non-Contributing)

During the latter part of the 20th century, several small structures were added to the monument grounds as visitor support. A kiosk along Jefferson Drive is used for bus tour sales. This six-sided kiosk measures approximately 20 feet tall, with a diameter of 10-15 feet. The structure is painted red, white, and blue. The roof is also six-sided and comes to a point at the top.

Another kiosk is located near the corner of Maine Avenue and the Tidal Basin Parking Lot and provides refreshment sales for the south monument grounds and Tidal Basin area. The refreshment kiosk is octagonal and has large windows on several sides for refreshment service. The pointed roof also has eight sides and is constructed of metal. The structure is approximately 15-20 feet in diameter.

Comfort Station (Non-Contributing)

The comfort station located southeast of the Sylvan Theatre was built as part of the 1976 bicentennial improvements to the monument grounds. It was designed by National Park Service architect Ben Biderman. The structure is oval shaped with a flat roof and an approximately 30-35 foot diameter. It has separate entrances on either side for men's and women's restroom facilities. The comfort station's walls are constructed of aggregate cement panels.

Steel structure with Blue Canopy (Non-Contributing)

A steel structure with a blue canopy was erected in 2004 and stands near the corner of 15th Street and Madison Drive. Within the canopy, which measures 50-60 feet long and 25-30 feet wide, a frame building has been built and is used as a refreshment stand and souvenir shop. The frame building is 35-40 feet long and 15-20 feet wide. (Both the building and the canopy will be taken down when construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture begins in 2012.)

Retaining Walls

The retaining walls on either side of westbound Maine Avenue, just west of the Independence Avenue Overpass, may date to the construction of the Independence Avenue extension project which was completed during the period of significance. Both retaining walls form an arch and are approximately a foot and a half high at their midpoints and ten feet long. They are constructed of multi-colored grey and brown stones of varying shapes and sizes, though the stones at the top of the walls are all rectangular and roughly the same size. The wall's appearance suggests that they were part of the 1942 construction, but their contributing status is undetermined.

A granite retaining wall was constructed along the north side of Jefferson Drive during the latter half of the 20th century, perhaps in association with or after the 15th Street realignment in 1993. The retaining wall measures approximately 25 feet long and three feet high and are non-contributing features of the site.

Security improvements to the monument grounds in 2004-05 included the construction of 30-inch high granite retaining walls that encircle the Monument in overlapping rings. The walls of the retaining walls are faced with two courses of dark gray (Ash Rose) granite veneer with a rock-pitch finish, topped with a solid granite cap. Along the inside of the retaining wall, three feet from the outer wall, is a stone curb. The curb is a foot and a half wide and four inches high. Lighting is embedded in these walls. The placement and grading of the walls creates a 'ha ha' effect, a classic landscape design detail that renders the walls invisible with an uninterrupted view from the top of the mound. Though these retaining walls are non-contributing features, this technique helped to preserve a sense of the original topographic character.

Light Vaults (Non-Contributing)

New lighting of the Washington Monument was designed for the 2004-2005 renovation of the monument grounds. Four light vaults were placed on the grounds, southeast of the Monument (northeast of the Sylvan Theatre stage), northeast of the Monument (north of the group of willow oaks along 15th Street), northwest of the Monument (outside of the retaining walls that encircle the Monument), and southwest of the Monument (northeast of the Survey Lodge). The lights are raised on a platform approximately 15 feet off the ground. Another pole raised an addition 10-12 feet above the lights is topped by a security camera.

Boat Dock and Gate (Non-Contributing)

There has been a permanent boat dock at the site near the entrance to the Tidal Basin Parking Lot since the 1950s. The first photograph of a dock at that location was taken in 1958 (National Park Service, "View From the Window of the Washington Monument," 1958. Photograph by Abbie Rowe.), though plans were created for a dock and refreshment stand in 1953 (National Park Service, "Permanent Dock & Refreshment Stand, Tidal Basin" 1953.). It is uncertain whether the present-day dock is the same, though the 1958 photograph shows that the dock was much closer to the seawall. Projecting from both the east and west sides of the main dock are two floating docks, approximately 60-70 feet long, which hold paddle boats that aren't in use. Along the south side of the main dock is an additional dock that measures approximately 10 feet by 40 feet.

Both the 1953 plan and 1958 photograph show a rectangular structure located on the main dock and used for refreshments, measuring 35 feet by 15 feet. The existing structure is octagonal, approximately 10-15 feet in circumference. Half of it is enclosed; the other half has an open counter space.

A metal gateway has been placed at the entrance to the dock and an approximately 20 foot metal bridge connects the dock to the Tidal Basin walkway. It is unclear when the bridge and the gate were constructed. The gateway has been painted brown and stands 10-12 feet high and is approximately 10 feet wide. Two gates open inward toward the bridge and can be locked. On both ends of the gateway, sections projecting perpendicular to the main gateway provide additional protection. Barbed wire runs along the sides and top of the gateway.

Analysis

Those buildings that are integral to the commemorative purposes of the monument grounds remain on the site and have retained their integrity. These structures include the Washington Monument and those buildings associated with it: the Monument Lodge, Survey Lodge, and Jefferson Pier. These structures all exhibit the seven aspects of integrity. Although most of the buildings and structures present during various parts of the period of significance have been removed, the buildings that are no longer extant were often temporary, or not associated with the commemorative purposes of the grounds. Additional structures that contribute to the integrity of the site include the Bulfinch Gateposts and the Independence Avenue overpass bridge. While the Bulfinch Gateposts are no longer in their original location, they have been a part of the monument grounds for over 100 years and remain largely unchanged. The overpass bridge remains an integral part of the Independence Avenue extension through the south monument grounds.

**Character-defining Features:**

- Feature: Washington Monument
- Feature Identification Number: 136218
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
  
- Feature: Monument Lodge

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Feature Identification Number: 136220  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Survey Lodge  
Feature Identification Number: 136222  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Jefferson Pier survey marker  
Feature Identification Number: 136224  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Bulfinch gateposts  
Feature Identification Number: 136226  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Independence Avenue Overpass  
Feature Identification Number: 136228  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Sylvan Theatre stage  
Feature Identification Number: 136230  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Sylvan Theatre dressing rooms  
Feature Identification Number: 136232  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Sylvan Theatre sheds  
Feature Identification Number: 136234  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Comfort Station  
Feature Identification Number: 136236  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Bus Tour Kiosk  
Feature Identification Number: 136238

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Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Light Vaults

Feature Identification Number: 136240

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Monument security screening facility

Feature Identification Number: 136242

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Granite retaining wall (Monument knoll)

Feature Identification Number: 136244

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Steel structure with blue canopy

Feature Identification Number: 136246

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Tidal Basin refreshments kiosk

Feature Identification Number: 136248

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Boat Dock, ramp, and metal gate

Feature Identification Number: 136250

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Retaining Wall (near Independence Ave. overpass)

Feature Identification Number: 137122

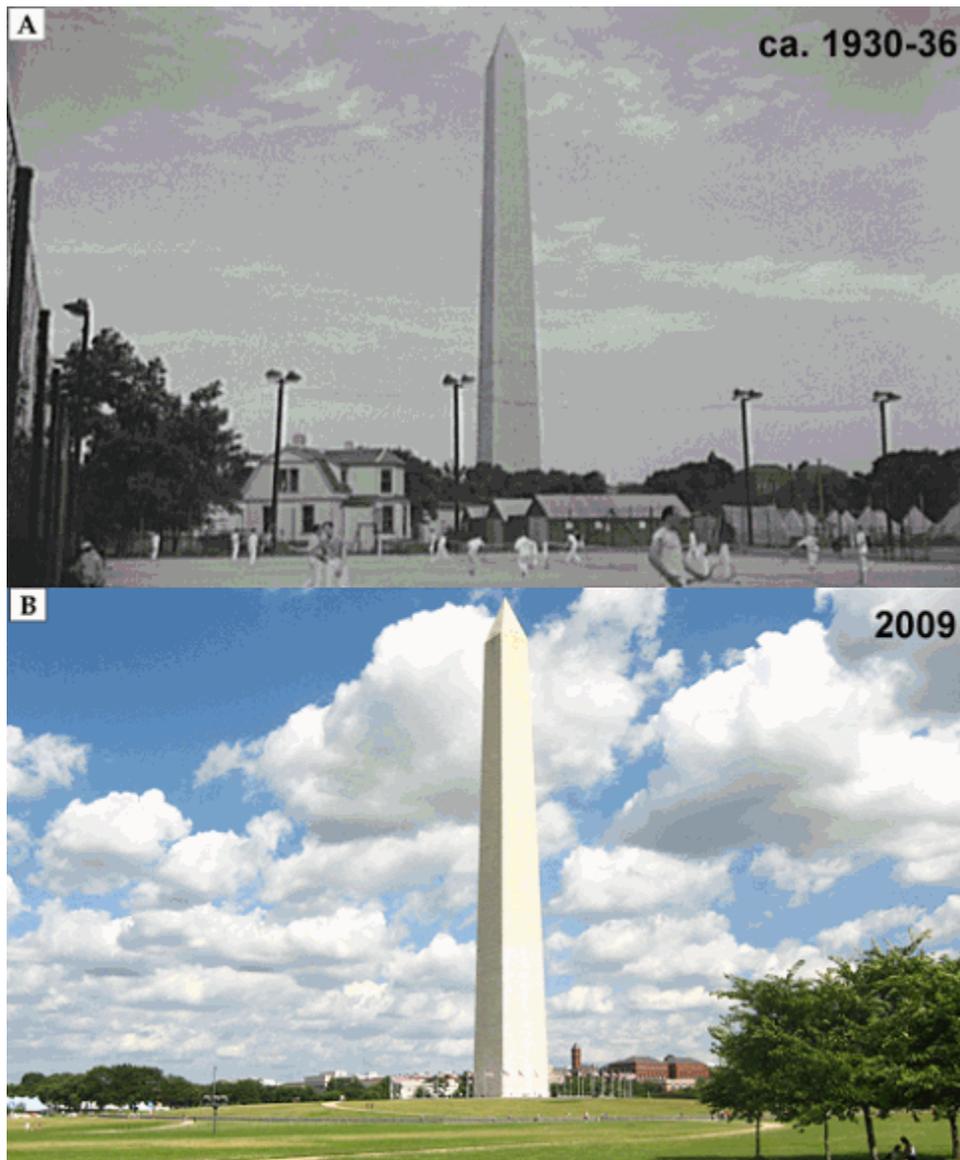
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Retaining Wall (15th Street)

Feature Identification Number: 137124

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

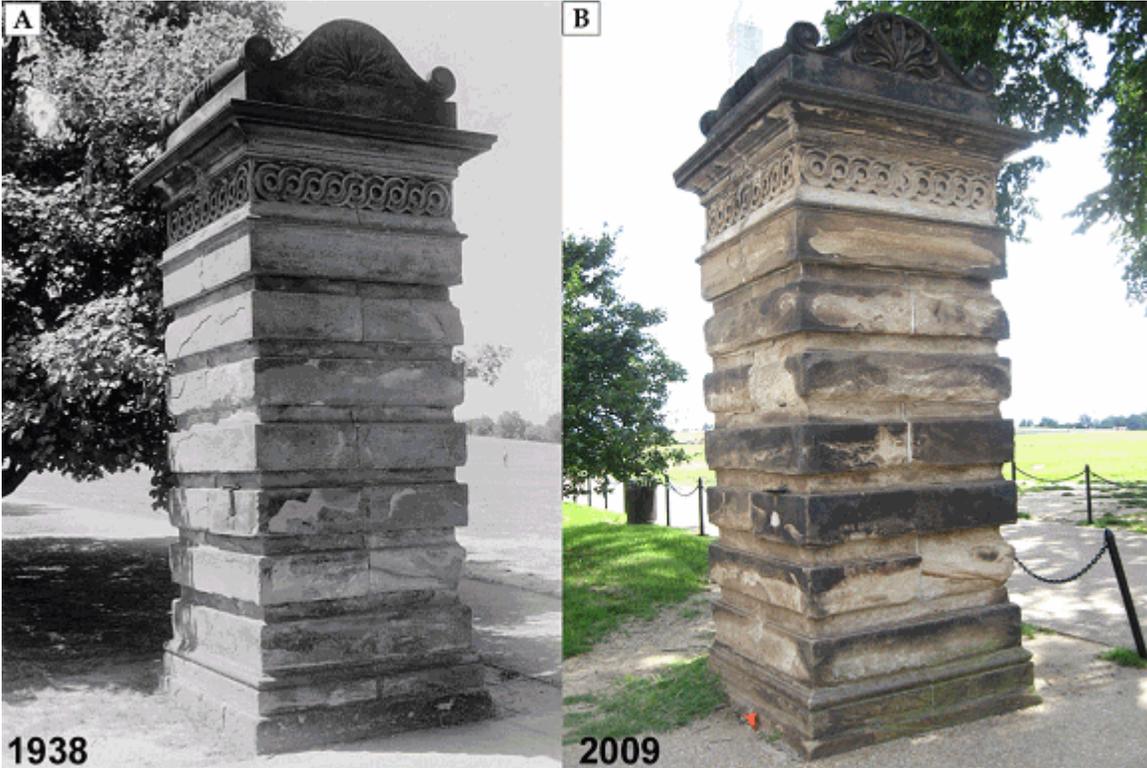
**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



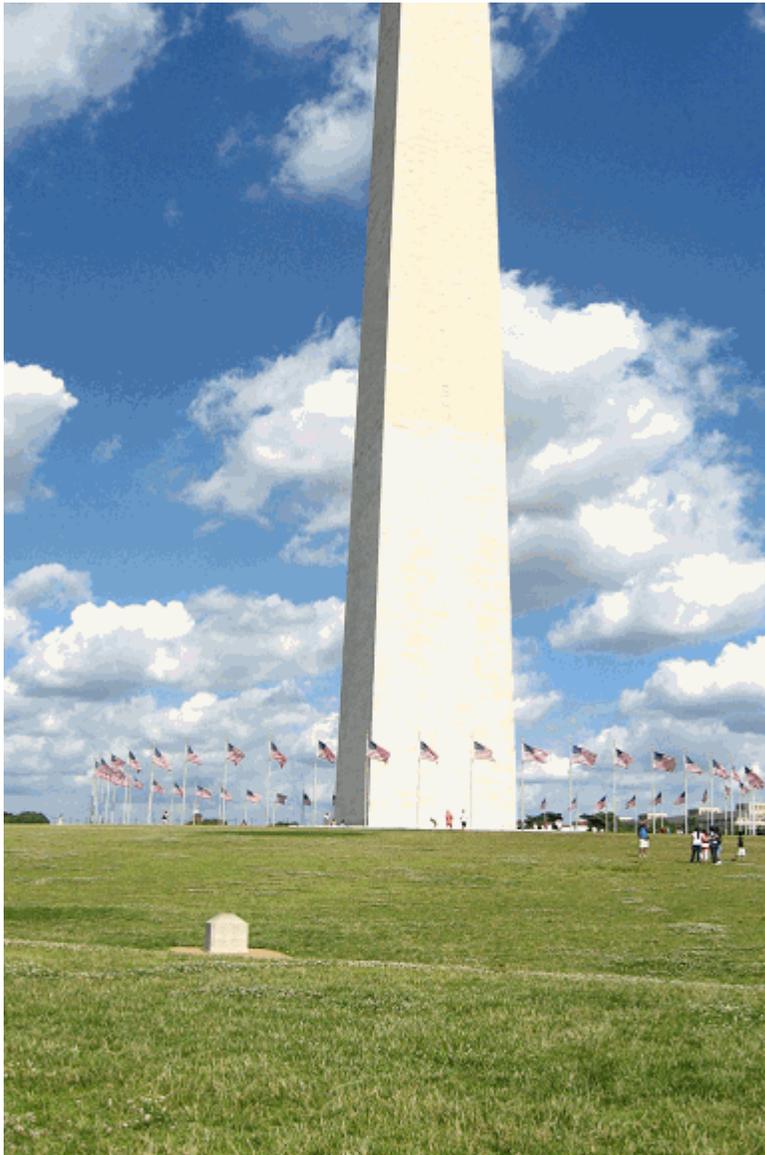
*View of the Washington Monument from the northwest. The 1930s photograph shows tennis courts on the grounds with former U.S. Fish Commission Superintendents' house in the background (A. LC-H813-2261 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*



*Photograph of the Survey Lodge and the newly created River Road that connected 17th Street to 15th Street (Report of the Chief of Engineers, 1903).*



*Bulfinch gatepost at the southwest corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue (A. HABS, Thomas T. Waterman, 1938 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*



*Washington Monument and Jefferson Pier (NCR CLP 2009).*

### **Circulation**

#### Historic Conditions

(Most of the text in this section has been excerpted from the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2003)

“Of the landscape features associated with the Washington Monument Grounds over the years, circulation has changed the most dramatically. Contributing resources include most of the perimeter roads around the Washington Monument Grounds, [the Independence Avenue

extension through the south monument grounds,] a few walks and one set of steps. Various circulation features associated with earlier periods of the site's history are no longer extant. . . .

“Two graphic sources indicate circulation features associated with the Washington Monument Grounds in the late 19th century. These include an 1880s bird's eye view and an 1885 U.S. Geological Survey map of Washington. These sources show one roadway passing through the Washington Monument Grounds. This roadway enters the site from B Street (later Constitution Avenue) at Meridian Avenue (later 16th Street) and curves around the southwestern side of the Monument, terminating at 14th Street opposite the Agriculture Department grounds.

“Numerous plans relating to the Monument's second phase of construction show an elaborate network of curvilinear carriageways encircling the knoll. Few sources exist to confirm which of these were ultimately built. The interior curvilinear roadways present when the site opened to the public are thought to have been inspired by A.J. Downing's mid-19th-century design for the Mall. Some of these continued to exist after the adoption of the more formal McMillan Plan in the beginning of the 20th century, but most were removed in the 1930s and 1940s.

“By the 1890s, the old 14th Street entrance near the Agriculture Department is known to have been abandoned and new entrances to the grounds were in place at 15th Street and 14th Street along the grounds' northeastern edge. Several of the planned carriage roads were in place by this time as well. Curving drives surrounding the knoll highlighted the Monument's object-like quality. Circulation within the grounds remained little altered until the 1930s. In 1936, the NPS implemented a plan to remove several of the existing roads, including 16th Street. These former circulation corridors were re-graded and planted with grass. . . .

“There has been less change associated with the roads and sidewalks along the perimeter of the site. Although road widening and re-grading have occurred, Constitution Avenue and 14th Street have anchored the northern and eastern boundaries of the grounds since they were first delineated. Likewise, a paved plaza has existed at the base of the Monument since 1889 (CLR 2003: 4-11, 12).”

Little is known about the circulation of the south monument grounds (located south of present-day Independence Avenue) until the end of the 19th century, after the nursery grounds (later referred to as propagating gardens) were added to the site. Roadways and pedestrian paths were constructed during the early 1890s and in the early 1900s a grid-like system of roads through the propagating grounds was constructed. During this time River Road (Tidal Basin Parking Lot) was constructed along the Tidal Basin. These roads remained on the site with little change until the 1940s, when the Independence Avenue extension was constructed.

#### Constitution Avenue (B Street North) and 14th Street

The Washington City canal was constructed along the alignment of present-day Constitution Avenue during the early 19th Century. The canal was eventually culverted and covered by B Street North in 1871-73. “Constitution Avenue and 14th Street, which bound the Washington Monument Grounds on the north and east respectively, have edged the site since the 19th century. In 1931, Constitution Avenue was widened and its original flagstone sidewalks displaced (CLR 2003: 4-12).”

#### 16th Street

“Vehicular circulation within the monument grounds initially consisted of a main roadway entering the site at the intersection of 16th Street and Constitution Avenue. Known as “Meridian Avenue,” this road was thirty-five-feet wide and surfaced with gravel. It led south into the site between the ponds present at the time, curving around the southwestern side of the knoll and connecting to 14th Street near the southeastern corner of the grounds. By the 1890s, trees had been planted along the 16th Street entry into the monument grounds and also appears as a tree-lined road through the grounds on the 1901 McMillan Plan. The trees appear closely spaced and likely formed an allée-like approach to the Monument. 16th Street was removed in 1936 as part of a larger plan to alter circulation within the grounds. The parking lot was added in 1943, when temporary military office buildings occupied the central part of the grounds (CLR 2003: 4-12).”

#### 17th Street

“17th Street existed as part of the city’s grid of streets northwest of the monument grounds by 1851. It appears to have been gradually extended southward as land was reclaimed over the Potomac Flats. The road corridor assumed its current configuration by 1917 (CLR 2003: 4-12).”

#### 15th Street and Madison and Jefferson Drives

“The north end of 15th Street, flanked by stone gateposts relocated from the Capitol grounds in 1874, appears to have provided an entry to the Washington Monument Grounds by 1889. While B Street (Constitution Avenue), 14th Street, and 17th Street are shown lined with trees on the 1901 McMillan Plan, 15th Street apparently never received the same treatment, indicating that it may have been considered a secondary roadway. The alignment and function of 15th Street has shifted perhaps more than any other associated with the site. In 1936, in conjunction with the Mall plan to follow the McMillan Plan, connections to Madison and Jefferson Drives were established from 15th Street (CLR 2003: 4-13).”

#### Propagating Grounds

There is no information about roadways on this part of the grounds prior to its use as the propagating gardens; even after the inception of their use as such, there is little information about roadways before the 1890s. In 1891, a 210-foot roadway was constructed through the propagating gardens. 15th Street, which was the eastern border of the propagating gardens, was extended between C and D streets south in 1899-1900. The roadway was improved in 1900-01 when a 60-foot portion of the road was graded and sidewalks and gutters were added. New roads were marked out within the propagating gardens as part of the 1902 Plan for Improvement of the Monument Grounds. The plan called for a grid of three north-south roads and three east-west roads; later maps of the area from 1909, 1924, and 1930 indicate that the plan was carried out. The maps also show that there were three entrances to the propagating grounds – two along Park Drive Way (which ran slightly north of the path of Independence Avenue today) and one along 15th Street.

Roadways within the propagating grounds changed little until 1942, when the Independence

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Avenue Extension was constructed. Although a majority of the roads within the grounds were demolished, the eastern-most north-south road through the grounds remained, as did the 15th Street entrance to the grounds.

#### Independence Avenue Extension

During the early 1940s a new road system was constructed through the south monument grounds and West Potomac Park. The road system would allow for greater access to the newly constructed Pentagon by allowing defense workers to use either the 14th Street or Memorial Bridges to reach it. Independence Avenue was extended to the Lincoln Memorial (near 23rd Street), while Maine Avenue was extended to 17th Street. The dual highway system, all drives of which were one-way, was designed to preserve the northern neck of the Tidal Basin, views of the area, and as many trees as possible. The design included a bridge (later named Kutz Bridge) carrying eastbound Independence Avenue traffic over the north end of the Tidal Basin. Westbound traffic on Independence Avenue passed north of the Tidal Basin on a separate roadway. An overpass was constructed where eastbound lanes of Independence Avenue passed over the westbound Maine Avenue lanes.

#### River Road

River Road (Tidal Basin Parking Lot) was created soon after the Potomac Flats infill was completed. The new macadam-paved road connected 17th Street with 15th Street and ran along the edge of the Tidal Basin. At the same time this road was created, a 17-foot wide bridal path was constructed parallel to it, beginning along the east side of 17th Street and continuing along the Tidal Basin. The road continued to be used after the Independence Avenue extension was built, though it was no longer directly connected to 17th Street. It is unclear when the road began to be used for parking, or whether this use dates from the period of significance.

#### Survey Lodge Service Drive

“The service drive around the Survey Lodge was initially oriented to the northeast and connected, via two Y intersections, to a former curvilinear drive within the monument grounds. Several plans, including a 1902 site plan and a 1917 existing conditions plan, show this tree-lined oval drive. When the curvilinear drive was removed in 1936, the service drive was modified to follow part of the alignment of an old carriage road. It later connected to the new Independence Avenue (CLR 2003: 4-13).”

#### Plaza

“There has been a level paved area at the base of the Washington Monument since the completion of its construction, although the plaza has evolved over the years. In 1887, the plaza was a 10-foot-wide apron of granolithic stone laid to prevent erosion. In 1889, it was extended to cover a circular area with a 70-foot radius, set within an eight-inch granolithic curb and gutter. A 50-foot-wide gravel roadway was to encircle the plaza and connect with 30-foot-wide roadways and nine-foot-wide walks leading to various entrances at the perimeter of the grounds. Formal paving was added after 1906 to address complaints of wind-blown dust from

the graveled surface (CLR 2003: 4-13, 14).”

The plaza remained without significant changes through the remainder of the period of significance, though access roads to the plaza changed. A curved road connecting 16th Street to the plaza was constructed in 1890-91; other roadways, including one from 15th Street to the plaza, had already been constructed by 1890. These two roads remained until 1936, when 16th Street – including the road that connected it to the plaza – was removed from the grounds. After 1936, the road from 15th Street remained as the only vehicular access to the plaza.

#### Pedestrian Walks and Paths

“Most of the pedestrian circulation existing on the site today has been added in recent years. While some existing circulation follows the general alignment of historic paths, the grading and materials of the walks have changed and been replaced numerous times... The many changes to pedestrian circulation in the western portion of the grounds reflect the various uses of the area. The construction and filling of lakes and ponds, the addition and removal of recreational facilities, and the erection and removal of temporary buildings during World War II have affected walks and paths to various degrees.

“The first known mention of pedestrian circulation at the Washington Monument Grounds dates from 1888 when Thomas Casey began to upgrade the grounds. The first location-specific mention of paths dates from 1889. That year, a boardwalk is described as extending between 14th Street and the “Lodge House” (likely the Monument Lodge) and the east face of the Monument. Other plank walks were added throughout the 1890s, although their locations are not known. Documentation suggests that flagstone walks were laid in 1901-02, and many of the boardwalks were improved through grading, cindering, and/or paving.

...[A]sphalt was apparently used as a paving material as early as 1890-91 when an asphalt walk was constructed from the north side of the Monument to the northwest, possibly extending to 17th Street... In 1891-92 an asphalt walk was built from the northwestern corner of the Monument to 16th Street....

“In 1896-97, documentary sources suggest a thirty-foot-wide gravel roadway was added in the northeast part of the grounds. A diagonal walk ran from the Monument to the northeast corner of the grounds at the corner of Constitution Avenue and 14th Street. Another walk in the northeast corner of the site ran diagonally from the point where 15th Street enters the grounds to 14th Street, established based on the 1936 plan.

“A circa 1902 plan shows walks leading east from 16th Street curving around and up to the Monument. These walks appear to have survived more or less intact until the 1936 removal of 16th Street and other site features.

“In 1942, two parallel walks appear on a site plan leading from the Monument towards 17th Street. They stop at the edge of a collection of temporary buildings sited in this area to

accommodate the needs of the U.S. Army and others during World War II; it is not known when these walks were built or removed....

“Little is known about the origin of walks at the Sylvan Theatre, or the lodges. By 1902, flagstone walks existed around the Survey Lodge, but these were later replaced. Flagstone steps at the Sylvan Theatre may date to its 1917 construction or to landscape changes made in the 1930s (CLR 2003: 4-14, 15).”

Within the propagating gardens, the first-mentioned pedestrian walks were a five-foot wide gravel walk and 404 feet of flagged walkways that were constructed for pedestrian travel through the propagating gardens in 1891. It is unclear how long these pedestrian paths were in use, though they certainly had been removed by the end of the period of significance. Sidewalks were added along the portion of 15th Street adjacent to the propagating grounds in 1900-01.

A 1909 map of West Potomac Park shows that a walk had been added along the Tidal Basin side of River Road by that year. The walk continued to be used through the period of significance.

#### Other Missing Circulation Systems

“During the initial construction of the Washington Monument, a rail line was laid across the site, extending from the Baltimore and Potomac line on Maryland Avenue to the base of the Monument. Stone and other materials were brought to the site by rail. The rail line was renewed ca. 1880 to support the second phase of construction. A section was elevated on a trestle to reach the top of the knoll as the Monument neared completion. The track and trestle were removed after construction was completed in 1885 (CLR 2003: 4-15).”

#### Existing Conditions

##### Constitution Avenue and 14th Street

Constitution Avenue and 14th Street corridors have not been significantly altered since the period of significance ended in 1943.

##### 16th Street

The 16th Street parking lot, which had followed the alignment of the old street, was removed during the monument grounds improvements during 2004-05. Evidence of 16th Street and the parking lot is extant; curbs, a pedestrian crossing, and traffic lights remain along the former Constitution Avenue entrance to the grounds, but there is no trace on the grounds.

##### 17th Street

The configuration of 17th Street has not undergone any major changes since the period of significance.

#### Independence and Maine Avenues

Construction of the Independence Avenue extension through the south monument grounds was completed in 1943, just before the end of the period of significance. A few minor changes have taken place since that time: the access road to the propagating gardens/maintenance grounds along eastbound Independence Avenue was taken out when the remainder of the propagating garden buildings were removed in 1962; between 1998 and 2000, Independence Avenue was repaved and new granite curbing was installed; and in 2005 new curbs and gutters were built along Independence Avenue, along with repairs to the left lane of the road.

#### 15th Street and Madison and Jefferson Drives

The 1943 configuration of 15th Street, Madison Drive, and Jefferson Drive was not changed until 1997, when Jefferson and Madison drives were realigned to their current symmetrical, diagonal configuration. 15th Street was changed at the same time, its new curvilinear path creating a more symmetrical alignment. Due to the realignment, 15th Street, Madison Drive, and Jefferson Drive no longer retain their historic integrity.

#### Raoul Wallenberg Place (formerly 15th Street)

The portion of 15th Street between Independence Avenue SW and Maine Avenue SW was re-named "Raoul Wallenberg Place" in honor of Raoul Wallenberg by Act of Congress on December 19, 1985. Although construction on Raoul Wallenberg Place was part of the 1997 reconfiguration of 15th Street, Madison Drive, and Jefferson Drive, the street was not altered from its previous configuration. New sidewalks were built and a bus-off was constructed. Traffic patterns were altered at the intersection of Raoul Wallenberg Place and Maine Avenue, as a new right turn lane from Raoul Wallenberg Place onto westbound Maine Avenue created a triangular pedestrian island. Other islands were created at this intersection to allow better pedestrian traffic flow from one side of the street to the other.

#### Survey Lodge Service Drive

The Survey Lodge service drive remains in a similar configuration as that during the period of significance. A small portion of the existing service drive is flanked by cobble-lined gutters, which may survive from the original oval drive.

#### Plaza

The current monument plaza was created as part of the 2004-2005 grounds security improvements. The original size of the plaza was retained, but the concrete and asphalt surface was replaced with the two colors of granite. It is comprised of three concentric circles of lighter granite (Ash Rose), between which the darker colored granite (Mesabi Black) was placed.

#### Pedestrian Walks and Paths

During the second half of the 20th century, "pedestrian walkways of asphalt and concrete crisscross[ed] the site in a relatively informal manner, connecting important intersections and

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features. While some of the [walkways suggested] remnant alignments of former circulation features none appear[ed] to be completely intact or retain material integrity.” (CLR 2003: 4-15) During the bicentennial, a small queuing area was added behind the Monument Lodge. In 1986, two parallel paths running west from the Monument were completed. These paths generally following the alignment of the 1942 paths leading to the west. Walks within the German-American Friendship Gardens were created in 1987-88.

The 2004-05 grounds security improvements included a new pedestrian circulation plan designed by Olin Partnership in conjunction with the NPS. Most conspicuous is the new system of curvilinear paths associated with the retaining walls that encircle the Washington Monument. Two overlapping twelve-foot wide elliptical paths enclose the Monument. The paths allow for pedestrian traffic, but bollards, placed at the four points where paths leading from the corners of the grounds meet, restrict automobile access.

Paths from the corners of the site were adjusted; new paths were added and existing paths removed as necessary. All paths maintain the curvilinear configuration characteristic to the site, though the two parallel paths leading between the Monument and 17th Street were retained. All paths are constructed of exposed aggregate concrete. Although the historic configuration of pedestrian paths on the grounds has not been preserved, there have been paths on the grounds since the Monument was completed in the 1880s. Although the current paths are non-contributing, they retain the curvilinear nature characteristic of historic walks, as well as an orientation toward the Monument and are compatible non-contributing.

During 2004-05 improvements, a retaining wall was built around the west side of Monument Lodge addition. When the addition was removed during the 2005-06 Monument Lodge renovations, the space between the Lodge and the wall became a terrace constructed of the same exposed aggregate concrete used for walks throughout the grounds.

Pedestrian Walks along and leading to the Tidal Basin have changed little since the end of the period of significance. In 1952 sections of concrete sidewalk were constructed just south of Kutz Bridge and immediately north of the inlet bridge. Other areas of the walk were replaced, but retained their original configuration (National Parks Service, map “Tidal Basin Walks,” 1952). A path between the Tidal Basin and the Survey Lodge was created sometime after 1958.

Sidewalks around the perimeter of the monument grounds have not changed significantly since the period of significance. They continue to follow the alignments of perimeter roads.

#### Bus Pull-offs

Several bus pull-offs were created during the realignment of 15th Street, Jefferson and Madison drives, and Raoul Wallenberg Place. Pull-offs are located on the south side of Jefferson Drive, the north side of Madison Drive, two along 15th street, just north of its intersection with Madison Drive and south of its intersection with Jefferson Drive. A bus

pull-off is also located on Raoul Wallenberg Place, across from the entrance to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. These all post-date the period of significance.

Analysis

Although there have been many changes to circulation features on the monument grounds since the period of significance, the overall site circulation retains integrity. Perimeter road corridors – Constitution Avenue, 14th and 17th Street, Raoul Wallenberg Place, and the Tidal Basin Parking Lot – have not been changed. Independence and Maine Avenues also remain in their historic configuration. Walks along perimeter roads (with the exception of Raoul Wallenberg Place) and the Tidal Basin have not been altered. Circulation within the grounds, especially north of Independence Avenue, has been completely reconfigured; 15th Street, Jefferson and Madison Drives were realigned in the late 1990s and lack integrity. Pedestrian circulation has been altered several times since 1943, most recently with the 2004-05 grounds security improvements. The pedestrian walks and plaza, though not contributing, are compatible with historic circulation. The walks retain the curvilinear configuration of those present during the period of significance. They serve to emphasize the importance of the Washington Monument, as all walks are oriented around it. The monument plaza, though replaced with granite, has retained its historic size, simplicity of design and materials, and compatibility with the Monument itself.

**Character-defining Features:**

Feature: 17th Street corridor, including sidewalks

Feature Identification Number: 136256

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Constitution Avenue corridor, including sidewalks

Feature Identification Number: 136258

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: 14th Street corridor, including sidewalks

Feature Identification Number: 136260

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Independence and Maine Avenue corridors

Feature Identification Number: 136262

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Tidal Basin Parking Lot corridor

Feature Identification Number: 136264

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

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Feature: Tidal Basin walk  
Feature Identification Number: 136266  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Raoul Wallenberg Place corridor  
Feature Identification Number: 136268  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Flagstone steps at the Sylvan Theatre  
Feature Identification Number: 136270  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Monument plaza  
Feature Identification Number: 136272  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Aggregate concrete sidewalks on monument grounds  
Feature Identification Number: 136274  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Oval Service Drive at Survey Lodge  
Feature Identification Number: 136254  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Raoul Wallenberg Place bus pull-off and sidewalk  
Feature Identification Number: 136294  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Walks between the monument and 17th Street  
Feature Identification Number: 136296  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: 15th Street corridor, including sidewalk, bus pull-offs  
Feature Identification Number: 136298  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

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Feature: Madison Drive corridor, including sidewalks, bus pull-offs

Feature Identification Number: 136300

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Jefferson Drive corridor, including sidewalks, bus pull-offs

Feature Identification Number: 136302

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Wooden ramp at Sylvan Theatre

Feature Identification Number: 136304

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: German-American Friendship Gardens Walks

Feature Identification Number: 136306

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Walks at Sylvan Theatre

Feature Identification Number: 136308

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Walks at Monument Lodge

Feature Identification Number: 136310

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Terrace at Monument Lodge

Feature Identification Number: 136332

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Tidal Basin Parking

Feature Identification Number: 136334

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

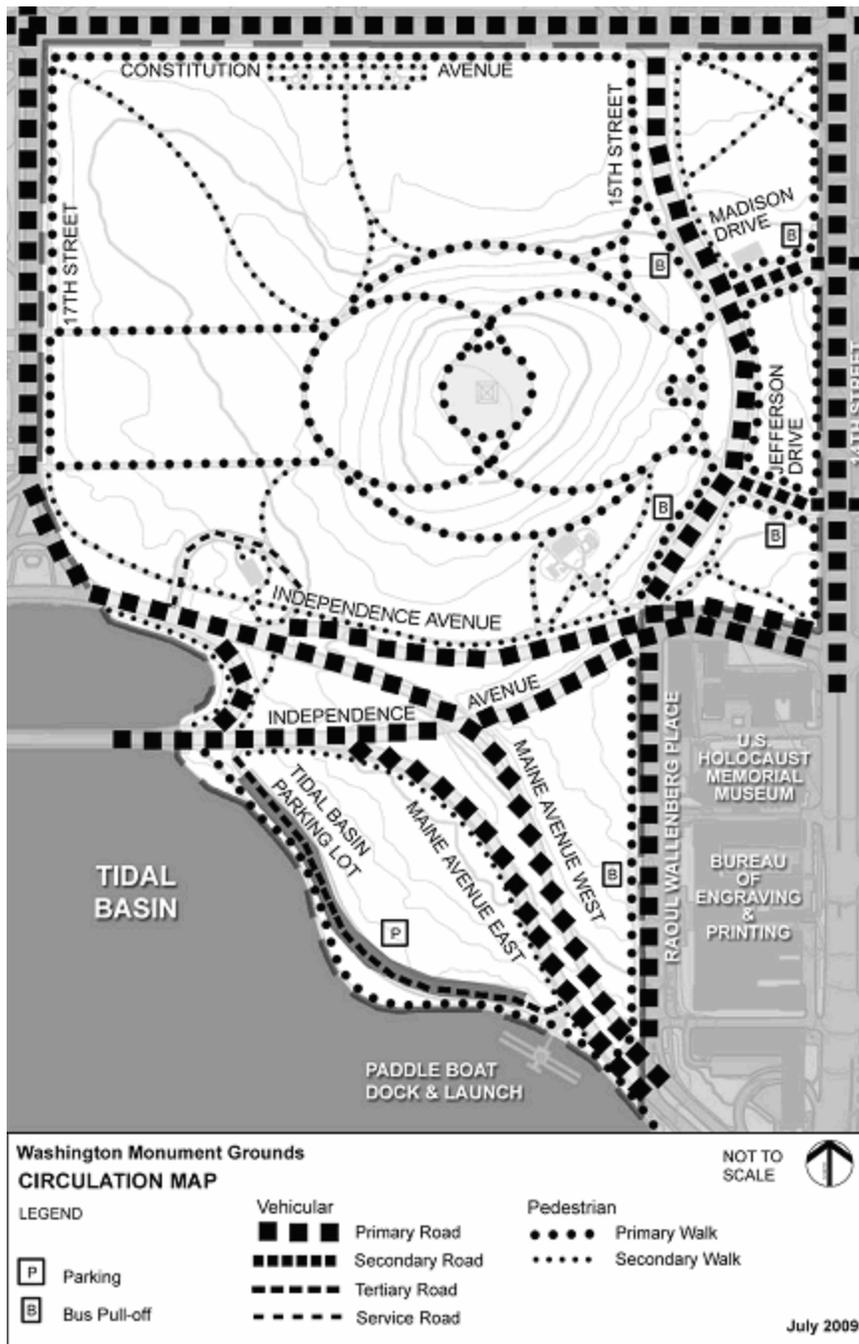
Feature: Walk between Tidal Basin and Survey Lodge

Feature Identification Number: 136336

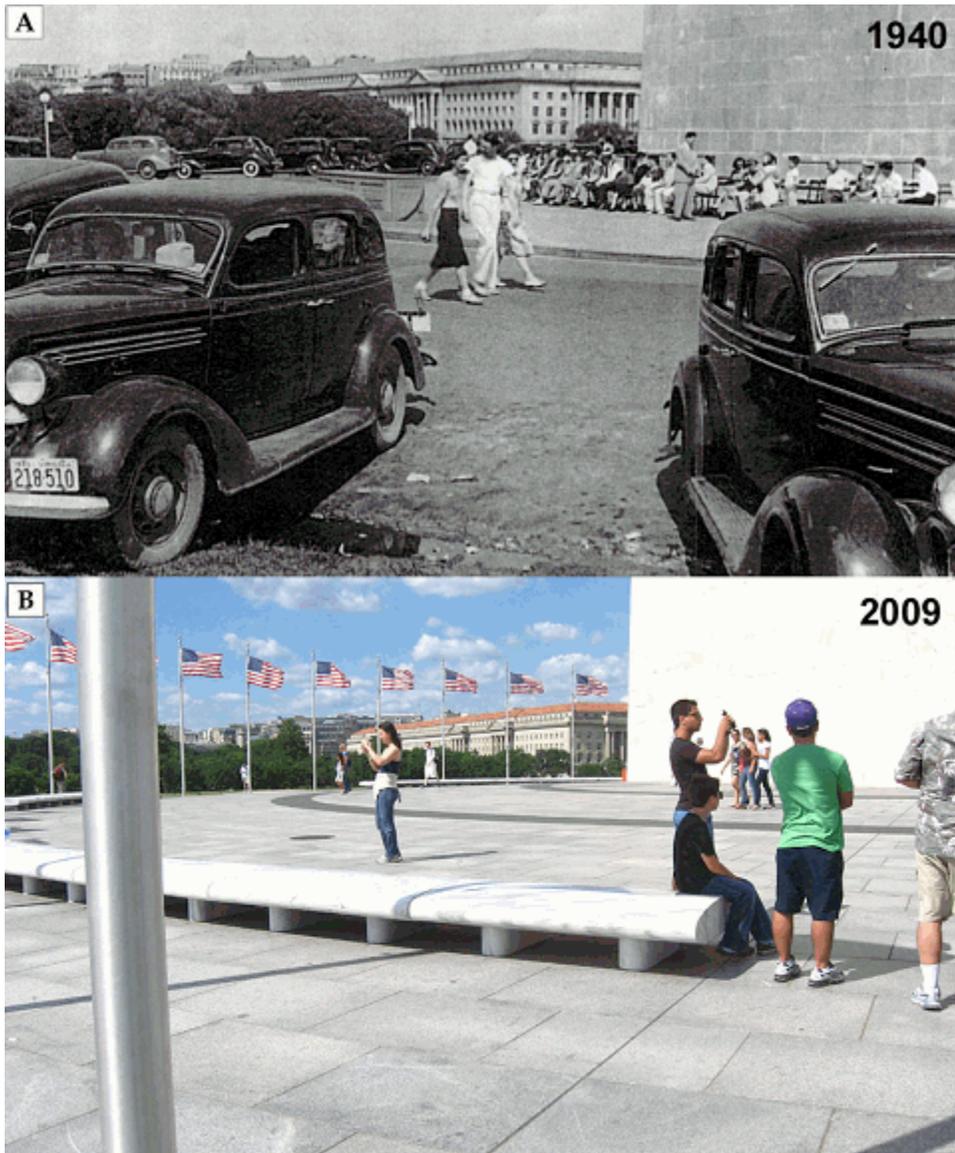
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**

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*Existing conditions circulation map.*



*West side of the Monument plaza (A. “Monument Grounds – Rear of Monument”, September 1940 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*

## **Vegetation**

### Historic Conditions

The defining vegetative feature of the Washington Monument Grounds is the open lawn that defines the ground plane of the site. Other predominate types of vegetation are street trees that delineate the perimeters of the grounds, groves of canopy and cherry trees, cherry trees along the Tidal Basin, and foundation plantings. The use of street trees on the Monument Grounds dates to the 19th century, during the early monument construction period. Groves of canopy trees appear to have been planted on the north grounds since the mid-20th century,

possibly during the period of significance. Beginning in the early 20th century, trees were planted south of Independence Avenue and construction of the extension of the Independence Avenue was planned to minimize the removal of existing trees there. Mulberry trees southwest of the monument may be the only naturally-occurring vegetation on the site, and may date from the period of significance. Ornamental vegetation was planted on the grounds as early as 1886. There are records of two flowering cherry trees on the grounds in 1886, but the first extensive planting of cherry trees along the Tidal Basin did not occur until 1912.

#### Street Trees

Trees lined Washington's main streets by the 1820s. On the monument grounds, trees were present along 14th Street, as early 1855. During the 1870s, Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) improvements to the site included several new curvilinear roadways through the grounds. Meridian Avenue (16th Street) was extended south past the Monument and then curved east toward B Street South. Deciduous trees placed 25 feet apart were planted along Meridian Avenue and B Street North (Constitution Avenue), and 14th Street during 1874-75. Images from the late 19th century indicate trees planted along the 17th Street periphery, as well as the 15th Street roadway through the grounds. Lines of street trees were also planted in the 1870s along a roadway south of the monument that roughly corresponded to the path of present-day Independence Avenue.

During the first half of the 20th century, through the end of the period of significance (1943), a few changes were made to the configuration of street trees on the grounds. Trees along 17th Street that obstructed the view between the Washington and Lincoln memorials were removed by 1923, though the vista along 17th Street was intentionally narrowed to a controlled 160-foot opening (the width of the Reflecting Pool). This break in the street trees was part of the 1916 Howard Plan and was used to keep the main visual axis between the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial free of large-scale distractions. When 16th Street was eliminated from the monument grounds in 1936, many of the trees that had lined the road remained, though they were thinned to create a vista toward the Lincoln Memorial. Into the 20th century, a variety of trees lined 14th Street.

South of present-day Independence Avenue, the first recorded street tree planting took place in 1901-02, when 52 American elms (*Ulmus americana*) and 39 Norway maples (*Acer platanoides*) were planted along the sides of the newly marked out roadways within the propagating gardens. Trees lined the roadways in the southern section of the propagating gardens until the Independence Avenue extension construction in 1942-43. The construction of the road extension was planned to minimize the removal of trees in this area, although the majority of the internal roadways were removed at that time. A 1948 photograph of the south monument grounds show that trees lining the 15th Street entrance to the propagating gardens remained, but other street trees were taken out during construction of Independence Avenue (National Park Service photograph, March 31, 1948) Elm trees (*Ulmus* sp.) were planted along River Road (now the Tidal Basin Parking Lot) during the early 20th century and lined the drive throughout the period of significance.

Street trees were planted along both sides of River Road (now the Tidal Basin Parking Lot) soon after the road was constructed in 1902-1903. Some of the trees along the side of the road closest to the basin were eventually replaced after the first cherry trees were planted 1912. Trees lined River Road and the Tidal Basin continuously through the end of the period of significance.

#### Interior Grass and Groves of Trees

Improvements to the monument grounds in 1873 included planting a lawn. After the grounds were graded in 1875-76, they were once again seeded with bluegrass (*Poa* sp.) and rye (*Lolium* sp.) and a variety of trees, including evergreens, maples (*Acer* sp.), and elms (*Ulmus* sp.) were planted. The central portion of the grounds surrounding the Washington Monument was characterized by open grassy lawn dotted with groves of trees.

Trees were planted just south of the Monument, near present-day Independence Avenue in several campaigns. In addition to the 1875-6 planting, more trees were added in 1888. In 1894-95, OPBG planted 60 trees, 429 shrubs, and numerous flower beds. The shrubs and flowers were typically planted in triangles formed by the intersection of roads and walkways. South of present-day Independence Avenue, the first recorded tree planting took place in 1901-02, when 17 evergreen trees were planted when the area west of the propagating gardens office was graded. 41 additional evergreens were planted at the north entrance of the propagating gardens in 1902-03. In 1901-02, lawns were also planted near the north entrance of the propagating gardens, in front of the new office and, in 1901-02. In 1904-05, sod was laid along the western edge.

Although the age of the mulberry trees (*Morus* sp.) located southwest of the Washington Monument has not been determined, historic photographs suggest that it dates to the period of significance. It is likely that the trees were not on the grounds before 1887-88, when the final grading occurred around the base of the Washington Monument, creating the knoll. During the 1890s deciduous trees were planted throughout the monument grounds, though there is no specific mention of mulberry trees being planted. In 1890-91, the curvilinear road that connected 16th Street to the monument plaza was constructed (Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1891). Since the trees follow the curve of the road, they could have been planted after the road was added. Mulberry trees, however, were not commonly used as street trees and so they may be the only naturally occurring vegetation on the site (CLR 2003:4-16). It is not until the 20th century, however that there is any evidence of the mulberry trees on the grounds. An aerial photograph from 1919 shows vegetation near the current location of the tree (1919 'Long Bridge. Airplane View of, With Tidal Basin, Monument, etc'.'). Photographs from 1923 and 1930 more clearly show a grouping of trees that may have included the mulberry trees (1923 'NATGEO;' 1930 'Aerial Existing Conditions NE;' 1930 'Aerial Existing Conditions NW'). The first definitive evidence of the present-day mulberry trees on the Washington Monument Grounds dates from November 16, 1969, when a photograph was taken of an anti-war march

of the monument grounds.

The earliest evidence for cherry trees (*Prunus* sp.) dates is 1886, when two flowering cherry trees were recorded on the north monument grounds. On March 27, 1912, the first cherry trees – part of a gift of 3,000 trees from the city of Tokyo – were planted along the Tidal Basin. Throughout March and April 1912, 1,800 cherry trees were planted around the entire Tidal Basin, as well as 55 “flowering peach trees” (*Prunus* sp.). (Chapell 1973: 102)

#### Plantings around Buildings

Early photographs of the Monument Lodge show limited vegetation around its perimeter until after 1931, when trees were planted to the south of the lodge and shrubs were planted to its north. Plantings included English yew (*Taxus baccata*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), Japanese cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*), crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia* sp.), juniper (*Juniperus* sp.), and glossy abelia (*Abelia grandiflora*), and shorter specimens of azalea (*Rhododendron* sp.), jasmine (*Jasminum* sp.), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), flowering quince (*Chaenomeles speciosa*), hydrangea (*hydrangea* sp.), rose (*Rosa* sp.), and snowberry (*Symphoricarpos* sp.).

When the Survey Lodge was completed in 1889, no trees or shrubs were planted around it. By 1902, an oval road was constructed around the building and lined with trees. Plantings were added around the building in the 20th century, but little is known about them.

Ornamental plantings were part of the original design for the Sylvan Theatre. Initial plantings, however, appear to have been replaced by new designs over the years. A 1931 map shows a privet hedge (*Ligustrum* sp.) around the sides and rear, forming open-air dressing rooms on either side of the stage.

The buildings in the propagating gardens had very little ornamental planting, most of which was centered on the north entrance to the grounds. After a new office was reconstructed there in the propagating gardens in 1900-01, the grounds in front were graded, and a lawn was planted. In addition, trees and shrubs were planted around the gravel roadway leading to the office (Annual reports of the War Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1901. Report of the Chief of Engineers. Part 5. Appendices 3715-3719). A photograph from 1901 shows trees and shrubs to the east and west, evergreens to the north, and plants around the fountain in front of the building (‘New Office At the Propagating Gardens, 1901’). The remainder of the buildings on the grounds lacked plantings, due to the utilitarian nature of the remainder of the grounds. During the Independence Avenue extension project in 1942-43, the majority of the buildings in the gardens were demolished and all ornamental plantings were removed.

Although the Independence Avenue overpass was completed in 1943, it does not appear that any vegetation was planted around the bridge until after the period of significance.

#### Existing Conditions

#### Street Trees

Trees continue to line the roads along the perimeter of the site. Elms (*Ulmus* sp.) line 14th Street today, though gaps have been left to provide a vista toward the Capitol. A large tree was planted along 14th Street, after the period of significance, and blocks the view between the Monument and the U.S. Capitol. The 2003 planting plan for the monument grounds calls for the eventual removal of the tree. Along Constitution Avenue, there is a closely-spaced double line of elm trees. Elm trees also still line 17th Street, with a gap along the east-west axis with the Lincoln Memorial. The lines of elm trees along Independence Avenue, established in the 1870s, have been maintained, with replacements up to the present. There are no trees remaining along the path that 16th Street took through the grounds. With the exception of a few willow oaks (*Quercus phellos*) along the west side of 15th Street near its intersection with Madison Drive, NW, there are no longer trees lining 15th Street. The willow oaks may date to the period of significance.

Elm (*Ulmus* sp.) trees line the drive around the Survey Lodge. Though the majority of the elms do not date from the period of significance, one large elm on the northeast side of the intersection of the lodge drive may have been planted before 1943.

The south side of the Tidal Basin Parking Lot is lined with elms (*Ulmus* sp.) and cherry trees (*Prunus* sp.). A few of the large elms along this roadway could date from the period of significance, including a particularly large elm located south of the intersection of Maine Avenue and Raoul Wallenberg Place (formerly 15th Street).

Only one elm (*Ulmus* sp.) remains of those that lined the east entrance of the propagating gardens during the period of significance. The tree is located approximately ten feet west of the sidewalk, by the Tourmobile bus pull-off on Raoul Wallenberg Place.

#### Interior Grass and Groves of Trees

The Washington Monument Grounds continue to be characterized by open grassy lawn dotted with groves of trees. The existing groves of trees on the southwestern (17th Street and Independence Avenue) and southeastern (14th Street and Independence Avenue) corners of the grounds are of unknown origin, but are likely to contain trees surviving from the early 20th century plantings. The groves to the southwest are comprised of elm (*Ulmus* sp.), chestnut (*Castanea* sp.), and maple trees (*Acer* sp.). New chestnut trees have been recently added to the southwest grove. The groves of trees between 14th and 15th Street, south of Jefferson Drive contain linden (*Tilia* sp.), chestnut, and elm trees.

Existing groves of cherry trees (*Prunus* sp.) on the north monument grounds (north of Independence Avenue) include several in the vicinity of Sylvan Theatre, one centered 140 feet west of the stage and another centered 130 feet to its northeast. There is also a grove of cherry trees just southwest of the German-American Friendship Garden. The several dense groves of cherry trees on the Monument Grounds may have been planted to replace earlier groves of other species. Recent (YEAR?) cherry tree plantings include a grove near the

corner of 17th Street and Constitution Avenue, several new plantings near the southeast and southwest corners of the German-American Friendship Garden, and around the Sylvan Theatre.

The German-American Friendship Gardens were designed by Wolfsang Oehme and installed in 1987-88. The original planting plan called for trees such as shadblow (*Amelanchier arborea*) and magnolia (*Magnolia* sp.), shrubs such as witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) and spreading yew (*Taxus* sp.), grasses, and perennials including Japanese anemone (*Anemone* sp.), false spiraea (*sorbaria sorbifolia*), bluebeard (*Caryopteris x clandonensis*), lilies (*Lilium* sp.), and blackeyed susan (*Rudbeckia* sp.). The garden plantings originally flanked the entrance to the 16th Street oval parking lot. When the 16th Street parking lot was removed during the 2004-5 grounds improvements, the former entrance to the lot between the two sections of the German-American Friendship Garden was seeded with grass. The gardens continue to be characterized by the same plants found in the original planting plan.

Within the grounds south of Independence Avenue are many groves of trees, the largest between Maine Avenue SW and the Tidal Basin Parking Lot, are comprised of elm (*Ulmus* sp.), evergreen, ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*), and cherry trees (*Prunus* sp.). A few of the largest elms could date from the period of significance, though it is not certain without tree dating.

Groves of trees between Raoul Wallenberg Place, Independence and Main Avenues are mainly comprised of cherry trees (*Prunus* sp.), red maples (*Acer rubrum*), pines (*Pinus* sp.), and elm trees (*Ulmus* sp.). More recently planted cherry trees have been arranged symmetrically, while older plantings were laid out asymmetrically. It is unlikely that any of the groves contain trees dating from the period of significance, since buildings were located on the site until 1962. Trees were limited to the south, near the intersection of present-day Raoul Wallenberg Place and Maine Avenue. In addition to groves of trees, the area contains open lawn that is currently used as a rugby field.

The Tulip Library was planted in 1969 and designed by NPS Landscape Architect Darwina Neal. The library included a wide variety of tulips (*Tulipia* sp.) in the spring, annuals such as begonias (*Begonia* sp.), petunias (*Petunia* sp.), marigolds (*Tagetes* sp.), zinnias (*Zinnia* sp.), and ageratum (*Ageratum* sp.) during the summer months, and chrysanthemums (*Chrysanthemum* sp.) in the fall. It continues to be planted with tulips in the spring and annuals in summer, though chrysanthemums are no longer planted in the fall.

It is unclear when the median plantings between north and southbound Maine Avenue were planted, though they do not date from the period of significance. Median plantings include lavender (*Lavandula* sp.), daylilies (*Hemerocallis* sp.), and butterfly bushes (*Buddleia davidii*).

#### Plantings around Buildings

A privet hedge (*Ligustrum* sp.) at the Sylvan Theatre still exists today, leading to the dressing rooms to the east and west of the stage, but it is not known if it dates to the period of

significance. A row of hollies (*Ilex* sp.) that were planted along the back of the theater appear to have replaced a group of shrubs that existed in 1931. It is unlikely that the hollies and other shrubs in this area are from before 1943 but they are compatible with historic plantings. Plants around the Sylvan Theatre also include forsythia (*Forsythia* sp.), honeysuckle (*Lonicera* sp.), spiraea (*Spiraea* sp.), and hemlock (*Tsuga* sp.).

2007 renovations to the Monument Lodge included an Olin Partnership landscape design landscaping around the building. Flowers replaced shrubs, including tulips in the spring and annuals planted in the summer. Star magnolia trees (*Magnolia stellata*) were planted west of the Lodge, on either side of the plaza behind it; cherry trees were planted to the east, between the sidewalk and 15th Street.

Survey Lodge plantings include butterfly bushes, azaleas, and rhododendrons. Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) is used as ground cover around all sides of the lodge and trees include fir (*Abies* sp.), pine (*Pinus* sp.), and crape myrtle trees. Several large catalpa trees (*Catalpa* sp.) are located northwest and southeast of the Survey Lodge. These trees could date from the period of significance, though it is difficult to be certain without tree dating.

Vegetation surrounding the Independence Avenue overpass postdates the period of significance, but was planted soon thereafter. A photograph of the south grounds from 1948 indicates small shrubs that had been recently planted on all sides of the bridge (National Park Service photograph, March 31, 1948). A photograph from 1958 shows a similar configuration of evergreen shrubs in large masses (National Park Service, 'View from the window of the Washington monument, May 14, 1958). The size of vegetation currently surrounding the overpass bridge suggests that it was planted within the last 10 years. Current vegetation includes holly (*Ilex* sp.), cistus (*Cistus* sp.), and pachysandra (*pachysandra* sp.)

#### Analysis

Although some aspects of the vegetation features and patterns have changed in the Monument Grounds since the period of significance, the overall vegetation retains its integrity. Planting throughout the period of significance was not limited to one landscape plan; rather, it adopted components of several different plans. The most important characteristics of vegetation on the grounds, open lawns surrounded by groves and lines of trees on the perimeter, have survived. Although replanting has taken place, the trees that have been planted are mostly compatible with historic character. Expanding the planting of cherry trees from the tidal basin into the north monument grounds creates continuity between the Tidal Basin area and the south and north Washington Monument Grounds.

#### Character-defining Features:

Feature: Street Trees along Tidal Basin Parking

Feature Identification Number: 137132

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Lawn

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Feature Identification Number: 136312  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Mulberry Tree  
Feature Identification Number: 136314  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Street Trees along 17th Street  
Feature Identification Number: 136316  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Street Trees along Constitution Avenue  
Feature Identification Number: 136318  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Street Trees along 14th Street  
Feature Identification Number: 136320  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Cherry Groves along Tidal Basin  
Feature Identification Number: 136322  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Open Groves  
Feature Identification Number: 136324  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Elm tree along Raoul Wallenberg Place  
Feature Identification Number: 136326  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Elms along Tidal Basin Parking Lot  
Feature Identification Number: 136342  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Elm in SW grove near Survey Lodge  
Feature Identification Number: 136348

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Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Catalpa tree behind Survey Lodge

Feature Identification Number: 136344

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Large Elm along Tidal Basin, near intersection of Raoul Wallenberg and Maine Avenue

Feature Identification Number: 136346

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Sylvan Theatre plantings

Feature Identification Number: 136328

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Lines of Trees

Feature Identification Number: 136330

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Street Trees along Independence Avenue

Feature Identification Number: 136352

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Street Trees along Raoul Wallenberg Place

Feature Identification Number: 136354

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Maine Avenue median plantings

Feature Identification Number: 136356

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Cherry Groves (north grounds)

Feature Identification Number: 136358

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: German-American Friendship Gardens

Feature Identification Number: 136360

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Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Monument Lodge plantings

Feature Identification Number: 136362

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Survey Lodge plantings

Feature Identification Number: 136364

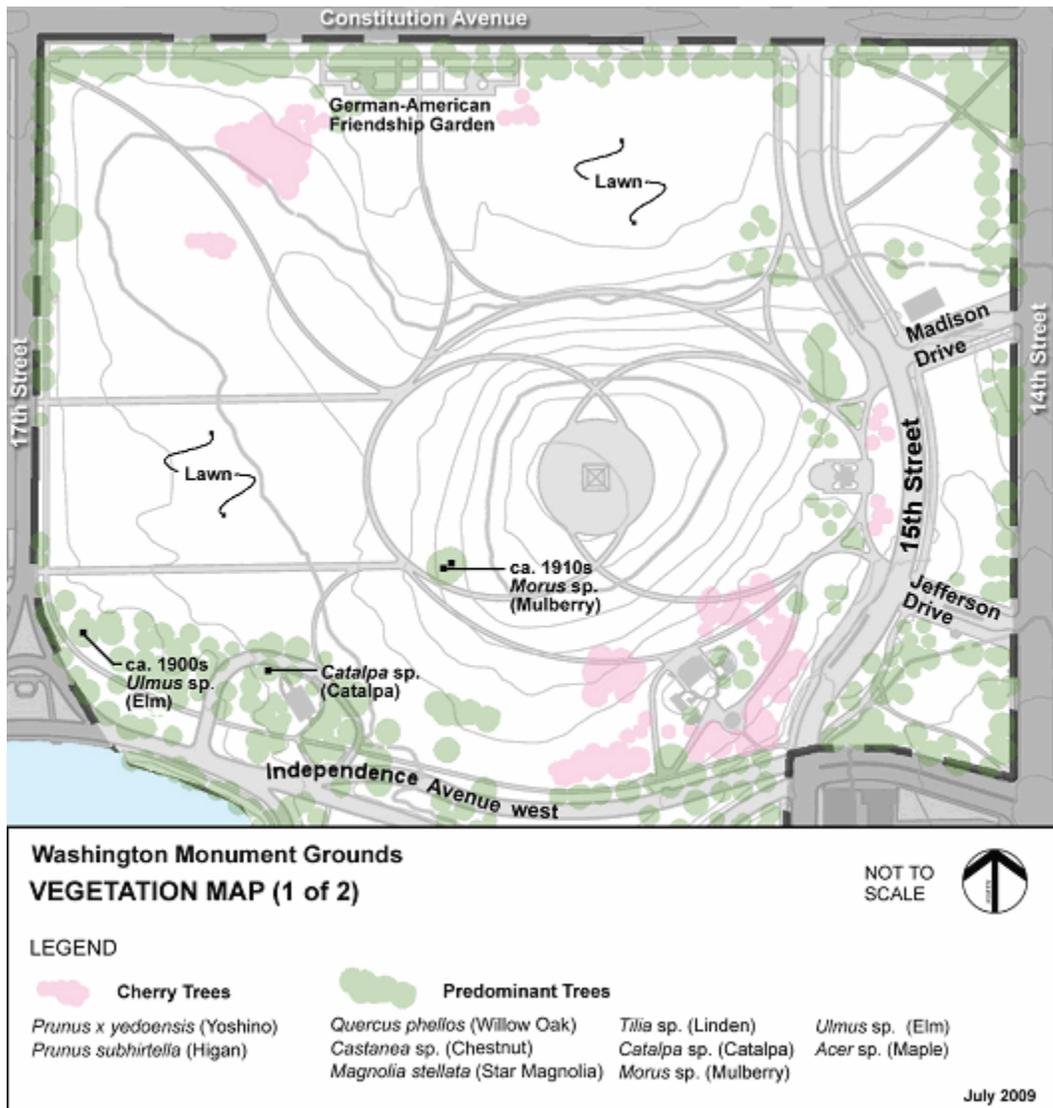
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Tulip Library

Feature Identification Number: 136366

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



Vegetation Map (1 of 2)



Vegetation Map (2 of 2)



*1919 Photograph of north monument grounds, showing Sylvan Theatre plantings and tree-lined roads. The trees southwest of the monument are in a location similar to the mulberry trees extant on the site (LC-H261- 30452).*



*Historic mulberry trees located southwest of the Washington Monument (NCR CLP 2009).*

### **Topography**

(A portion of the text in this section has been excerpted from the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2003)

“The existing landform and topography of the Washington Monument Grounds was formed and gained its current character and configuration by the end of the period of significance. The existing topography of the Washington Monument Grounds is the result of massive and numerous manipulations of the natural ground plane... Thousands of cubic yards of fill have transformed the site and resulted in a man-made ground plane. The most significant feature resulting from this manipulation, the knoll that serves as a base for the Monument, was designed to stabilize it and provide an attractive approach. Created during the completion of the Monument, this gentle rise in grade has undergone a number of minor alterations since 1889 as circulation patterns have been changed.

When construction began on the Monument, the western part of the site was low and marshy, with water coming so close to the Jefferson Pier that watercraft were tied to it upon landing. The site was described as late as 1872 as being partly “overflowed at high tide.” In the 1870s, a lake and two ponds were constructed by cutting and filling this marshy area to control flood waters; by 1938, these were filled and a flood control dyke built along Constitution Avenue. In fact, most of the earthmoving activity on the site has been related to flood control and water management, although some actions, such as the mound or knoll, relate to engineering and

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aesthetic purposes. While high ground was intentionally chosen as a location for the Monument, the original landform was much less prominent than today's knoll, which has been augmented by fill. The dramatic effect of the mound is enhanced by the expanse of level ground around the Monument's base, which has also been filled and graded over the years (CLR 2003: 4-9)."

#### Historic Conditions

##### The Mound

"The most notable topographic feature on the monument grounds is the mound or knoll upon which the Monument stands. When construction on the Washington Monument was suspended in 1854, the Monument stood on a small, steeply-sided knoll. By the time of its dedication in 1885, the mound's upper terrace had been expanded. At that time, however, Thomas Casey, the engineer who guided the Monument's design, proposed that the knoll be expanded even further and the sides be made to slope gradually. An 1889 plan shows the proposed new grade, which was achieved by depositing thousands of additional cubic yards of fill on the mound and other parts of the grounds. This massive re-grading effort established the general profile of the mound present today. It serves to mask the Monument's massive tiered foundation, and enhance its dramatic siting (CLR 2003: 4-10)."

##### The Flats

"In addition to the mound, the site's pre-1791 topography has been manipulated in a number of ways since the preparation of the L'Enfant Plan. In the 1870s, the grounds were graded, including cutting of the high ground along 14th Street to fill along 14th Street north of the road entering the grounds. The lake and ponds added to the northwestern part of the site in the 1870s also were formed through site grading. Grading occurred in the northern portion of the grounds in the 1890s. The two ponds in the northwest corner of the grounds were filled in 1910.

##### Flood Control Levee

"In the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration workers leveled the grounds west of the Monument where a seventeen-foot-tall flood control dyke was been constructed. Today, these manipulations of the ground are not obvious: the gently sloping, level, grassy grade of the site is relatively uniform, stretching from the knoll out to the tree-lined boundary streets (CLR 2003: 4-10)." The Potomac Park Levee stretches from 23rd Street between Constitution Avenue and the Lincoln Memorial, runs parallel to the Reflecting Pool, and ends on the Washington Monument Grounds just east of 17th Street.

##### Berms

There is a ten-foot rise, or berm, that is located southeast of the Monument Lodge. It is not clear what the historic function of this feature was, but it was part of original topography of the site. It may have been an attempt to screen views of the Monument Lodge east from the Mall approaches.

##### South Monument Grounds/Potomac Flats

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The topography of the south monument grounds (south of Independence Avenue) has historically been characterized by a gradual sloping to the Tidal Basin. This section of the grounds includes land that was reclaimed from the Potomac River during the last two decades of the 19th century. An 1862 map of Washington DC shows that the south grounds did not originally extend beyond 16th Street axis; land was filled in to the west of the existing section to form the area known as the Potomac Flats that still exists today (“Bird’s Eye View of the City of Washington, DC, and the seat of War in Virginia,” drawn and published by John Bachmann, 1862). Previous to the filling of the Potomac Flats, the south grounds bordered the Potomac River and would have been low and marshy.

The first recorded change to the topography took place in 1876, when an embankment east of the greenhouses, along 15th Street, was cut down and graded to the level of the propagating gardens and monument grounds. The propagating gardens underwent minor re-grading during the construction of new plant houses and buildings, such as in 1896 when a new carnation house was built, or in 1901-1902 after the new office was constructed near the north entrance to the propagating gardens, land north and west of the office were graded. Land west of the storehouse and shop (which flanked the east entrance to the grounds along 15th Street, just north of the main entrance to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing) was cut down and graded.

The filling of the Potomac Flats took place between 1882 and 1901. By 1890 all of the proposed reclaimed land had been filled, though work continued through 1901 to raise the level of the land to three feet above the 1877 flood stage – one of the worst floods in Washington, DC history. Construction of the seawall around the Tidal Basin proceeded from 1895 through 1896 and protected the reclaimed land from future erosion. Low portions of the land were filled and graded after portions of the Potomac Flats adjacent to the south monument grounds from were transferred to Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) in 1899 and 1901.

The 1942-1943 construction of the Independence Avenue extension required topographical changes in the area of the Independence Avenue overpass. Earth was removed along the path of westbound Maine Avenue to allow it to pass under eastbound Independence Avenue, and other changes were made for the overpass and road system through the south grounds.

#### Existing Conditions

##### The Mound

The monument mound remained unchanged until 1984, when it was filled and graded in preparation for upcoming construction projects to improve access walks to the Monument. 23,000 cubic yards of earth were added to the mound.

Washington Monument grounds security improvements that took place from 2004-2005 included filling and re-grading the monument mound. The grading was required for the new retaining walls and paths and to provide access to the Monument for all visitors. The placement and grading of the walls creates a ‘ha ha’ effect, a classic landscape design detail

that renders the walls invisible with an uninterrupted view from the top of the mound. This technique helped to preserve a sense of the original topographic character. Grading preserved the “pronounced slope of the knoll from which the Monument rises while smoothing the small surface variations to allow for the even rise of the retaining walls and paths as they ascend the slope to the monument plaza. A comparison of the [former and current] cross-site grading slopes indicates some increased uniformity in the knoll, although the pastoral and variegated character of the slope across the grounds is retained (Washington Monument Grounds Final Site Development Plans, 6).”

#### The Flats

The flats on the north monument grounds remain essentially the same today as during the period of significance. Impending plans to improve the levee along 17th Street may change the existing topography of this western portion of the grounds.

#### Flood Control Levee

The eastern end of the levee remains a feature of the northwest monument grounds, though levee improvements may change the feature and the topography of the grounds around it. Since only a small portion of the levee is located on the monument grounds, and the majority of the levee is located in Constitution Gardens, it is listed as a contributing feature of Constitution Gardens and not the Washington Monument Grounds.

#### Berms

The berm east of the Monument Lodge was “modified in 1951 to improve the intersection of Independence Avenue and 15th Street, and again in 1997 as part of the 15th Street, Jefferson and Madison Drive realignment project. This high point has also been accentuated at some point to provide the illusion of a single green swath extending between the Mall and the Washington Monument (CLR 2003: 4-10).”

During the re-grading of the monument grounds in 2004-2005, other berms were created south and west of the Monument retaining wall. The slope of the approximately three-foot berm to the west of the retaining wall is gradual, while the berm to the south is more pronounced, rising seven to ten feet at its highest point. Both serve to mask the retaining wall from views from the south and west monument grounds.

#### South Monument Grounds/Potomac Flats

No significant changes have been made to the topography of the south grounds since the period of significance.

#### Analysis

The topography of the Washington Monument Grounds is dominated by the monument mound. The other topographical features, such as the flats, berm, and Potomac Flats continue to emphasize the predominance of the mound on which the Washington Monument sits. These topographical features retain their integrity. Although minor changes have been made since 1943, they have not altered the overall topography of the site.

### Land Use

The primary land use for the Washington Monument Grounds has always been commemorative; however the site has had various other uses throughout its history.

In 1791, the newly created L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington, determined that an equestrian statue of George Washington be constructed at the crossing of the axis south from the President's House and west from the Capitol. The area, set aside as U.S. Reservation 2, is what is now known as the Washington Monument Grounds.

In 1848, President Polk officially designated the same site as the location for a monument to be built by the Washington National Monument Society. Construction began later that year, and although the Monument was not completed until 1884, it has been a popular commemorative icon ever since. Additionally, the monument grounds have been used extensively throughout history for commemorative events including a ceremony held for Lincoln after he died and a celebration after Charles Lindbergh completed the first trans-Atlantic flight in 1927. For example, Independence Day festivities have been held there annually since before the Washington Monument was completed.

Since the late 19th century, recreational land use has also been important on the monument grounds. Roads on the site were used for carriage drives since 1872; 17th Street and River Road (now the Tidal Basin Parking Lot) were used as a carriage speedway during specifically designated days of the week. In 1890, Congress set aside a portion of the grounds to be used as a children's playground. From the early to mid 20th century, recreation facilities for swimming, tennis, baseball, basketball, soccer, football, archery, and golf were located on the grounds. Most of these major building facilities were removed by 1936. While none of the constructed recreational features established during the period of significance remain, a rugby field was constructed along Raoul Wallenberg Place sometime after the propagating garden buildings were removed from the site in 1962. In addition to rugby, recreational activities that take place on the grounds today on designated recreational fields include kickball and softball. Other non-competitive recreation or passive uses include frisbee, jogging, dog-walking, kite-flying, and sun-bathing. Residents and visitors to Washington D.C. utilize the lawns and park setting of the grounds to relax and enjoy the outdoors. Established in 1917, the Sylvan Theater provides a permanent public performance space on the site.

“The Washington Monument Grounds have long served as a focal point for public gathering; this use continues today and contributes to the historic significance of the site (Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report [CLR], 2003:4-8).” Groups had been gathering on the site by the 1920s; notable events include the 1963 civil rights march, anti-Vietnam War marches in the 1970s, the Million Man March in 1995, and protests against war in Iraq during the 2000s.

Visitor services have been part of the land use of the Washington Monument Grounds since 1855, when a reception room was built on the grounds. The Monument Lodge was constructed in 1888-89 as an amenity for the visiting public. In addition to the Monument Lodge, visitor

facilities on the site include restrooms, drinking fountains, concessions for food, books, and souvenirs, and security.

Throughout its history, the monument grounds have also been used for many temporary purposes. Military use included stables, quarters, and mess for officers and enlisted men, and the temporary war buildings that were constructed during World War II between 16th and 17th Street. The grounds have also been used for agriculture during the 19th and 20th centuries. During the Civil War they were used as a cattle yard and even as late as World War I sheep grazed there. The ponds and lakes created on the site during the 1870s were used by the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries to raise fish until 1907. Perhaps the longest continual agricultural use on the grounds was the propagating gardens, established on the south grounds (south of present-day Independence Avenue) in 1873-74. The gardens were used to grow plants for the public reservations throughout the city and the White House until 1942, when a majority of the buildings and greenhouses were demolished during the creation of the Independence Avenue extension. While several buildings remained until 1962, their use appears to have been for maintenance rather than agriculture.

#### Analysis

Despite changes since the period of significance, the Washington Monument Grounds continue to have high integrity of land use. Those uses that are missing from the site, such as military use, were at the time considered temporary and as the setting became more park-like the utilitarian/agricultural use of the site also disappeared. The land uses most important to the monument grounds – commemorative, public gathering, recreation, and visitor service – continue on the site.

#### **Spatial Organization**

Before the Washington Monument was constructed, the site (U.S. Reservation 2) was designated by L'Enfant for an equestrian statue of Washington. His plan placed the statue at the intersection of the White House to the north and the Capitol to the east, effectively establishing the location as the symbolic center of the city.

Although the center point of the cross-axis was demarcated by the Jefferson Pier in 1804, the completed monument was built 371.6 feet east and 123.17 feet south of it, due to the pier's close proximity to the Potomac River and marshy terrain. Despite the change in location, the Washington Monument "has always provided the central focus for the spatial organization of the monument grounds. Since initial construction began in 1848, the [Monument] has occupied the central graded knoll that covers its tiered foundation." (Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report [CLR] 2003: 4-4).

The 1901 McMillan plan re-emphasized and expanded the monument grounds' role as the center of the monumental core of Washington. The plan expanded the central axis west to the Lincoln Memorial and south to an unspecified memorial (eventually the Thomas Jefferson Memorial). "[T]he emphasis on axial relationships to structures beyond the grounds introduced by the McMillan Plan in the early 20th century made visual connections part of the spatial organization. The elevated position of the Monument as the center point of the cross-axis, and

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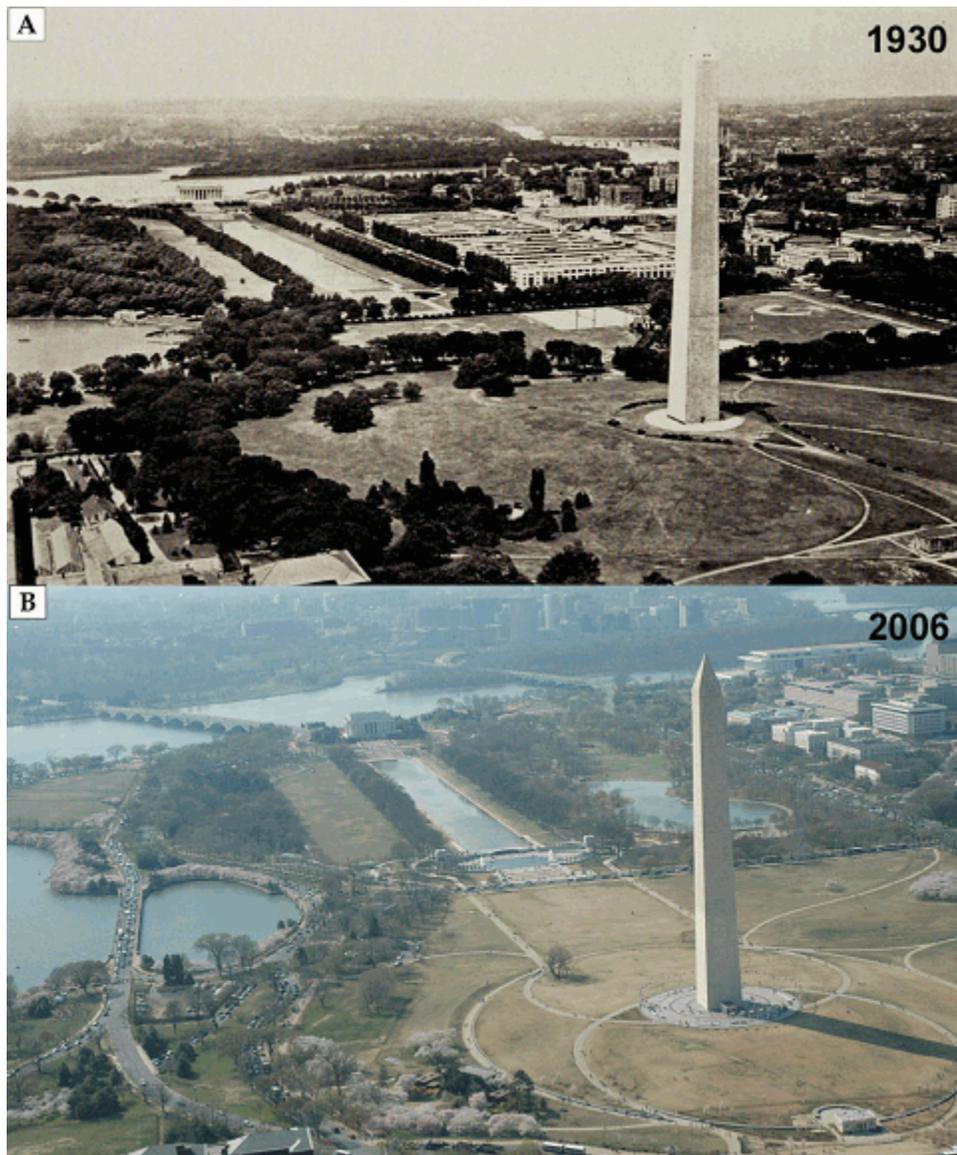
its visibility, accentuated by its setting and dramatic beauty, contributed to the success of the McMillan Plan during the early 20th century...” (Washington Monument Grounds CLR 2003:4-4).

The south monument grounds (located south of Independence Avenue) have served as a continuation of park ground, as well as a connection between the Washington Monument and Thomas Jefferson Memorial and Tidal Basin. While much of this area served a utilitarian purpose during most of the period of significance, once the south grounds were expanded from land reclaimed from the Potomac in 1899 and 1901, it also served a park function. With the completion of the Independence Avenue extension project in 1943, a connection between the 14th Street Bridge and Arlington Memorial Bridge was created. The spatial orientation of this portion of the grounds is largely dominated by the road system that runs through it.

#### Analysis

The spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds was determined from the outset by the location of the grounds in relationship to other significant structures in the city and then the placement of the Washington Monument at the center those grounds. The landscape was planned to function as the axis of Washington, DC’s monumental core with the Washington Monument as the focal point of the grounds themselves. Despite some changes over time, the spatial organization of the site remains similar to its arrangement during the period of significance and so retains integrity.

#### **Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*View from east of the Washington Monument Grounds. The Washington Monument provides a central focus for the National Mall (A. "Airplane View of Existing Conditions, 1930 (Looking Northwest)" and, B. NPS, Carol Highsmith, March 2006).*

### **Small Scale Features**

#### Historic Conditions

(Portions of the text in this section has been excerpted from the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2003)

“Small-scale features are one of the most difficult resource types to compare over time at this site, because they are little discussed in early documents and are not easy to discern in historic

maps and photographs due to their size and scale. Consideration of existing small-scale features through observation suggests that most of the extant small-scale features on the Washington Monument Grounds appear to be of relatively recent origin. A few features, such as the cobblestone gutters near the Survey Lodge and a few bench and light post types, may survive from the period of significance. Other features of more recent origin, while not historic, are consistent with the site's historic character and design intent. For instance, the flagpoles that ring the monument plaza do not date to the period of significance and were apparently not part of either Mills' or Casey's visions for the site, but temporary flagpoles were used around the plaza during the period of significance. These features remain consistent with and enhance the ceremonial intent of the Monument, and they symbolize the expansion of the meaning of the site to broader patriotic themes (CLR 2003:4:22)."

#### Elevation Obelisk

"The elevation obelisk, placed on the site in 1898 by the Coast and Geodetic Survey, was intended to serve as a benchmark for the Washington Monument. It was placed in a manhole 150 feet south of the Monument for the purpose of calculating the settlement of the Monument. It is not visible from the surface of the site (CLR 2003:4-24)."

#### Benches

"Benches have been placed around the monument grounds for visitor comfort since at least 1905, when park "settees" are mentioned in annual reports about maintenance on the grounds. Their placement within the grounds and appearance are not described in these sources, however. In 1932, the Monument base was encircled with eighty-four benches around the inner curb. These cast-iron-and-wood-slat benches appear in photographs from 1942 (CLR 2003:4-24)."

#### Flagpoles

"A ring of forty-eight American flags was temporarily flown at the base of the Washington Monument for the first time to commemorate George Washington's birthday in 1920. By 1940, flags were regularly placed in a circle around the base of the Monument as part of the 4th of July celebrations. In 1942 a joint Resolution allowed the flags to stay up at night for the desired patriotic effect (CLR 2003:4-25)." Permanent flagpoles were not installed until 1957.

#### Lighting

"A few light poles within the monument grounds are known to have been used historically and during the period of significance. It is difficult in some cases to determine whether the existing light poles were actually placed on the site during the period of significance, however. The historic light pole types include the Washington Globe single lamp street lights, the Olmsted single lamp street light, and the 'Twin Twenty' double lamp street lights. The Twin Twenty standard was used for major roads and avenues in the Mall area between 1923 and 1960. According to NPS, the single Washington Globe lights were in place along Constitution Avenue at 14th Street by 1936; and Olmsted lights were in place on Jefferson Drive by 1937 and the 16th Street parking lot entrance road by 1947. Missing today is another type of globe light

visible in photos from the 1920s around the monument base and along 15th Street (CLR 2003:4-25).” These street lights had a single, ball-shaped globe.

“In the 1880s, the only known lighting on the Washington Monument Grounds consisted of gas lamps along 14th Street, according to an 1880 map showing gaslight locations in the city. Twelve electric lights were added along the roadways within the [north] grounds circa 1904-05. These were supplemented by fifty-five new gaslights in 1911-12. Lights were added to the tennis courts in 1927. In 1930-31, lighting was added to the exterior of the Monument Lodge and to the Sylan Theatre (CLR 2003:4-26).”

The first mention of lighting in the propagating gardens (south of present day Independence Avenue) was in 1902-1903, when six arc electric lights were installed in the propagating gardens. In 1908-1909, gas pipe was extended to the office in the propagating gardens for new lighting. Photographs of the area after the Independence Avenue extension project show that there were street lights along Independence and Maine Avenues in 1948 (National Park Service photograph, March 31, 1948). It is likely that they were put up soon after construction was completed in 1943, though there is no definite evidence. The photograph does not clearly indicate the type of light poles that were used.

“In 1925, the Monument was first lit by searchlights from the nearby Powhatan Hotel. In 1929, more searchlights were added for the safety of airplanes; in 1931, red warning lights were installed on the top of the Monument to take over this function. Floodlights were first installed on the grounds to illuminate the structure at night in 1931-32. Twenty of these lights were installed near the base.(CLR 2003:4-26).”

#### Barriers

It is possible that the handrail along the Tidal Basin dates from the period of significance. A photograph taken between 1916 and 1919 indicates that a fence had been erected along the Tidal Basin by that time (Library of Congress, “Aerial view, Hains Point and Tidal Basin, Washington, D.C” 1916-19). The photograph shows a barrier similar to that which is used currently. A 1952 plan for the Tidal Basin walks indicate that pipe handrails were in use and that the existing rails were reset along the new walks. If the current handrail is not the same one that was on site during the period of significance, it is compatible with the historic version.

All other barrier features found on the grounds during the period of significance have since been removed. However, the type of post-and-chain barriers in use today was utilized as early 1901 near the Survey Lodge. Barrier types used historically, but no longer extant... “include earlier versions of post-and-chain fences along roadways and paths, chain-link barriers surrounding the temporary buildings erected on the monument grounds during World War II and wire wickets bordering the sidewalk in front of Monument Lodge (CLR 2003:4-26).”

Prior to 1887, the propagating gardens had some type of wood barriers enclosing the gardens. After that time, several different forms of iron fence were used until the Independence Avenue extension was constructed in 1942-43. The portion of the south grounds not cleared during

road construction continued to be enclosed by barriers until the buildings were removed in 1962.

#### Drainage Features

“As early as 1901, cobblestone gutters, 2-1/2- to 3-feet-wide, are noted as being constructed throughout the site. It is possible that the remnant stone-lined drainage ditch along the edge of the Survey Lodge service drive dates to this period. As such it is a contributing resource. No other examples of this gutter type remain (CLR 2003:4-27).”

#### Plaques

Previously located “along the center of the pedestrian walk leading to the monument plaza east/northeast of the entry station, the dedication plaque is a large bronze tablet with raised lettering that details the contributions of various groups and individuals to the establishment of the Washington Monument. The plaque was created in 1885 under the direction of the Washington National Monument Society, and was originally intended to be sited inside the Monument, but Engineer Thomas Casey rejected this proposed location. In 1898, a second request by the Society was similarly denied by the Chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The plaque was subsequently stored in the offices of the Society within the Monument Lodge, until these were lost to an expansion of the restroom facilities in 1931.

“The plaque first appears on maps of the site in a December 1956 drawing entitled “Local Plot Plan and Section.” It is shown placed to the north of the Monument. However, the plaque does not appear again on plans and maps of the Monument until the 1990s when it is included in the 1994 HABS documentation drawings of the Monument and plaza. It is unclear when the plaque was moved to [the pedestrian walk leading to the plaza] (CLR 2003:4-27).”

#### Other Site Furnishings

“The first known mention of drinking fountains on the grounds is one installed for visitor use on the north side of the Monument Lodge in 1902-03. This drinking fountain does not survive. All of the existing fountains on the site appear to post-date the period of significance. Before 1963, the only trash receptacle type mentioned in association with the site is a wire basket (CLR 2003:4-26).”

#### Existing Conditions

##### Elevation Obelisk

The Elevation Obelisk remains on the monument grounds. No significant changes have been made to this feature.

##### Benches

Benches remain on the monument grounds. A few cast-iron-and-wood-slat benches still remain on the monument grounds along Constitution Avenue, Raoul Wallenberg Place, near the Survey Lodge, and along Jefferson Drive. In other areas, new benches have been added since the period of significance. Cast-iron-and-wood-slat benches on the monument plaza were replaced in 1963 with concrete-and-wood-slat benches. These benches were then replaced in

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2002 with backless benches composed of recycled plastic. When the entire plaza was improved in 2004-2005, eight curved, backless benches of white marble were installed along the outer edge of the plaza. A similar marble bench was placed just east of the Monument Lodge entrance. Concrete-and-wood slat benches are currently only located around the refreshment kiosk along the Tidal Basin. Granite benches were added to the German-American Friendship Gardens in 1987-88.

#### Flagpoles

“Mission 66 improvements implemented in 1957 included installation of [50] permanent, twenty-five-foot-high aluminum flagpoles, and associated floodlights placed in four underground vaults. In 1971, President Nixon issued a Presidential Proclamation to allow the flags to fly twenty-four hours a day. (CLR, 2003:4-25).” The flagpoles were replaced in-kind during the 2000 rehabilitation project.

#### Lighting

“Street lighting was planned to be enhanced in 1951, with 1,000-lumen globes to be upgraded to 2,500-lumen Washington Globe lights along 15th Street. The 15th Street lights were replaced again in the late 20th century realignment of the roadway. (CLR 2003: 4-26).” Washington Globe lights are also placed along the Survey Lodge Service Drive. The Twin Twenty double lamp street lights are in use on all other perimeter roadways and along Independence and Maine Avenues. Olmsted lighting located near the 16th Street parking lot and on Madison and Jefferson Drives were removed from the monument grounds during the 2004-05 grounds security improvements.

The original floodlights used to light the monument plaza were replaced in 1958 with underground vaults placed on the four sides of the Monument, floodlights located a few feet from the Monument’s base, and spotlights mounted on elevated concrete piers. These features were removed in 2004-05, when grounds improvements included a new lighting plan including in-grade recessed uplights set into the granite plaza to illuminate the Monument’s base and flagpoles, high intensity floodlights mounted within recessed vaults to light the Monument shaft, and elevated spotlights to illuminate the Monument’s peak. Lighting was added along the retaining walls to light paths leading to the monument plaza, as well as uplights installed along the front of the Monument Lodge.

#### Barriers

No significant changes have been made to the pipe handrail along the Tidal Basin.

The most prevalent type of barriers on the grounds today is metal post-and-chain. It can be found near the Monument Lodge, the Survey Lodge and the Sylvan Theatre, along 14th and 15th Streets, Constitution Avenue, the monument plaza and paths leading to it. Other barriers on the grounds includes a wooden board fence enclosing a service area behind the Survey Lodge and post-and-rope barriers lining the two walks between 17th Street and the Washington Monument.

#### Drainage Features

The cobblestone gutters along the western edge of the Survey Lodge service drive remain intact. Although sections remain in good condition, the two ends of the gutter are either partially covered with gravel, pebbles, or grass.

#### Plaques

The Dedication plaque was removed from the Monument's base during the 2004-05 grounds improvements. It was cleaned and restored in 2006 and is currently in storage at MRCE. It will be re-installed on the monument grounds once compliance and a design plan have been completed. Other plaques added to the site in the late 20th century include the George Washington granite panel, removed during 2004-05 grounds improvements, and the 100th Anniversary panel, which is set into the southern-most walk connecting 17th Street to the Washington Monument.

#### Other Site Features

Drinking fountains and trash receptacles, none of which date to before 1943, are located throughout the monument grounds. The trash receptacles near the Tidal Basin are wood-slat, similar to those installed in 1963. More recent varieties, which now make up the majority of trash receptacles on the site, are metal slat. Other features added since the period of significance include bike racks and picnic benches near the Survey Lodge and the German-American Friendship Gardens, "Guide to the Mall" signage located near the peripheries of the site, metal gates at the entrance and exit of the Tidal Basin Parking Lot, and security bollards located north and south of the monument plaza.

#### Analysis

While many of the small-scale features on the Washington Monument Grounds do not date from the period of significance, features such as the post-and-chain barriers, flagpoles, cast-iron-and-wood-slat benches, and light poles that have been added to the site since 1943 are consistent with the site's historic character and design intent. The grounds' extant small-scale features remain in their original locations, have not been extensively modified and therefore retain high integrity.

#### **Character-defining Features:**

- Feature: Elevation Obelisk  
Feature Identification Number: 137136  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Twin Twenty double lamp street lights  
Feature Identification Number: 136368  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Washington Globe single lamp street lights

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Feature Identification Number: 136370  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Cast iron and wood slat benches  
Feature Identification Number: 136374  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Ring of flagpoles  
Feature Identification Number: 136376  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Dedication plaque at monument base  
Feature Identification Number: 136378  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Stone-lined drainage ditch at Survey Lodge Service Drive  
Feature Identification Number: 137128  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Pipe Handrail - Tidal Basin  
Feature Identification Number: 136382  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Post and chain barriers  
Feature Identification Number: 136384  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Monument Plaza uplights and floodlights  
Feature Identification Number: 136386  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Niche lights in monument mound retaining walls  
Feature Identification Number: 136408  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Monument Lodge uplights  
Feature Identification Number: 136410

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Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Monument Plaza and Monument Lodge marble benches

Feature Identification Number: 136412

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Friendship Garden Stone benches

Feature Identification Number: 136414

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Tidal Basin Concrete and wood slat benches

Feature Identification Number: 136416

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Picnic benches

Feature Identification Number: 136418

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Post and rope barriers

Feature Identification Number: 136420

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Timber barrier at Survey Lodge

Feature Identification Number: 136422

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Security Bollards

Feature Identification Number: 136424

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Bike racks

Feature Identification Number: 136426

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: 100th Anniversary panel

Feature Identification Number: 136442

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Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Informational, traffic, and regulatory signage

Feature Identification Number: 136438

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Metal gates (Tidal Basin parking)

Feature Identification Number: 136448

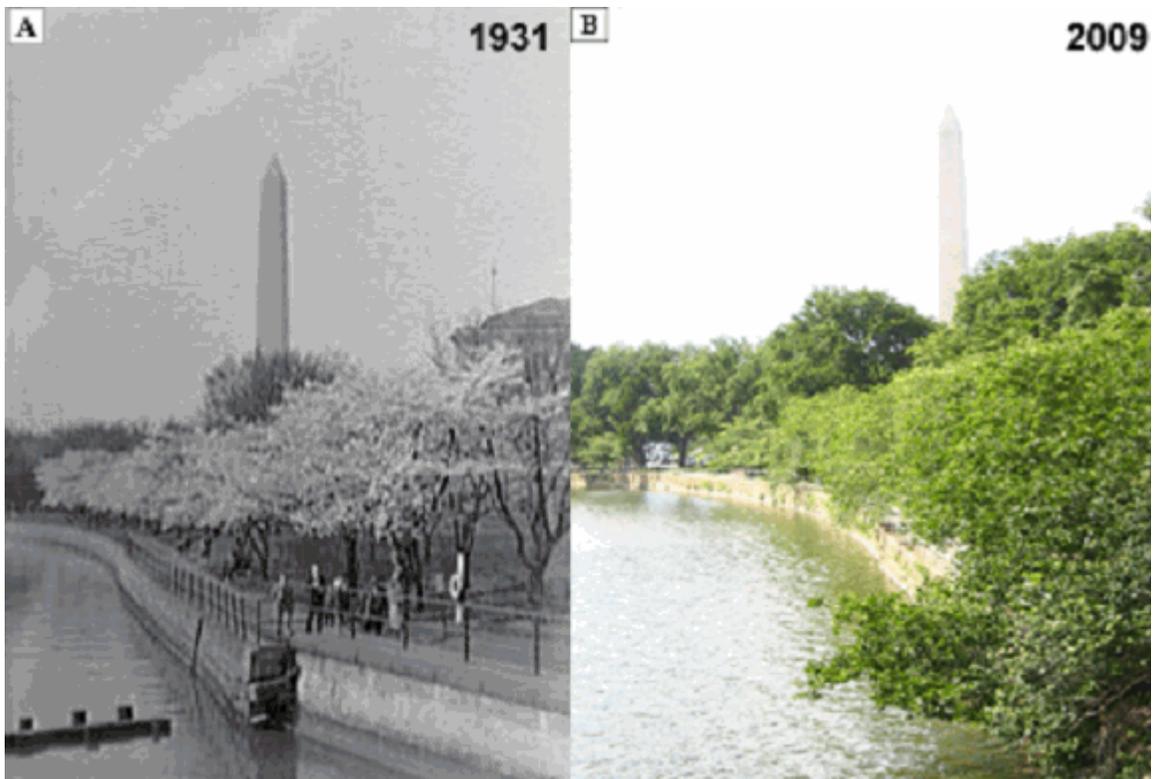
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Trash receptacles

Feature Identification Number: 136450

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Tidal Basin seawall along the southern edge of the Washington Monument Grounds (A. LC-H812- 1186-003 and, B. NCR CLP 2009).*



*Stone-lined drainage ditch along the Survey Lodge service drive (NCR CLP 2009).*

### **Archeological Sites**

While identification of contributing and non-contributing archaeological resources is beyond the scope of this report, the significant and historic nature of the Washington Monument Grounds suggests that other contributing resources exist.

‘Resources that are known to exist include the debris from the construction of the Monument; rejected or damaged memorial stones discarded and covered with the fill associated with the knoll; and the remains of the steam tunnel that ran from the Survey Lodge when it provided steam to power the Monument (CLR 2003:3-26).’

Recent archeology reports (2007, 2008, and 2009) have examined the site of the National

Museum of African-American History and Culture located at the northeast corner of the monument grounds, as well as the 17th Street area of the Potomac Park levee at the northwest corner of the grounds.

### **Constructed Water Features**

#### Historic Conditions

(Most of the text in this section has been excerpted from the Washington Monument Grounds Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2003)

There are no constructed water features that date to the period of significance still extant on the Washington Monument Grounds. “Water features were formerly important components of the landscape. When the grounds were first delineated, the Washington Canal edged the site to the north. By 1873, Babcock Lake had been created to the north of the Monument; three years later there were two additional fish ponds on the site, created as flood control measures. The ponds were replaced by swimming pools, which lasted from 1907 until the mid-1930s. Other water features important to the site’s context include the Tidal Basin to the south and Reflecting Pool to the west (CLR 2003: 4-23).”

#### Washington Canal

“The Washington Canal was created in 1815 through the channelization of Tiber Creek. It followed the current alignment of Constitution Avenue along the northern edge of the grounds. Never a successful enterprise, the canal was culverted between 1871 and 1873 prior to being covered by a roadway, then called B Street North, that later became Constitution Avenue. Constitution Avenue still forms the northern boundary for the Washington Monument Grounds, following the historic alignment of the canal (CLR 2003: 4-23).”

#### Babcock Lake

“Babcock Lake was created north and west of the Monument in 1873. It was fed by natural springs, the Potomac River, and a 4-inch supply pipe that ran 800 feet between 14th Street and the lake. A second pipe fed an aeration fountain in the middle of the lake. An undated, ca.-1870s somewhat fanciful depiction of the site shows the lake and its fountain as an element in the park landscape that was to be retained as an ornamental feature after the Monument’s completion. The lake did not, however, last long; it was filled in 1887 because engineers feared it was destabilizing the structure’s foundations. During its brief existence, Babcock Lake was utilized by the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries to raise fish (CLR 2003: 4-23).”

#### Fish Ponds and Swimming Pools

“During the second construction period in the 1870s-1880s, the Army Corps of Engineers created two ponds on the northwestern edge of the grounds, one six acres in size and the other four acres, to act as a flood prevention measure. The banks of the ponds were sodded and paved with cobblestones; one had an island in its center accessed by a small bridge. The ponds flanked the proposed alignment of Virginia Avenue, which was never extended into the monument grounds, although a right-of-way appears to have been left between the ponds for that purpose.

“In 1877, a third pond was added to the south of the others, and west of the Monument, where

an inlet of the Potomac River was enclosed and cut off from the river itself, likely as part of flood control measures prior to the filling of the Potomac Flats. All of these ponds were turned over to the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries in 1878 and used to raise carp. A series of hatching ponds was constructed on the land between the east and west ponds by the commission, which also built a small “acclimatization pond” extension by digging out in the eastern bank of the south pond for the introduction of newly hatched fish. The ponds went out of use as a fishery circa 1905; in 1907 they were converted to use for public bathing. Between 1908 and 1911, the ponds were filled with ashes and clay and the ground graded and seeded. The hatching ponds between the old lakes were converted to swimming pools ca. 1910, remaining in use until 1936 when they were removed to prepare for construction of a flood control dyke to ‘protect federal buildings on Constitution Avenue’ (CLR 2003: 4-23, 24).”

#### Existing Conditions

The only extant water features on the grounds, the two fountains in the German-American Friendship Gardens were built in 1987-1988, after the period of significance. The fountains consist of “granite pavers offset from the larger circular granite paved areas of the garden. The edge of each fountain is flush with the grade of the surrounding paving. The fountain pool is formed by the paving sloping gently toward a low point in the center of the circle. Three grates around the inside of each circle cover nozzles that spray water. A [fourth] grate in the center of each fountain collects the water for recirculation (CLR 2003: 4-23).”

#### Analysis

Constructed water features on the Washington Monument Grounds have no integrity, as all features that were present during the period of significance have been removed.

#### **Character-defining Features:**

Feature: German-American Gardens Fountain  
Feature Identification Number: 136182  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

#### **Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Photograph of the unfinished Washington Monument with Babcock Lake to the right of the monument and Tiber Creek behind the monument, ca. 1875 (LC-USZ62-90246).*

## Condition

### Condition Assessment and Impacts

**Condition Assessment:** Good

**Assessment Date:** 08/12/2009

#### Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The Washington Monument Grounds retains integrity to the period of significance and is in good condition. The grounds are subject to heavy pedestrian traffic, including visitors to the Washington Monument and Tidal Basin, use of the grounds for recreational and commemorative activities, and festivals. Continued regular maintenance of vegetation and structures are required to maintain the condition of the cultural landscape.

To maintain the good condition of the Washington Monument Grounds, the following should continue to be followed:

1. Monitoring erosion and wear to grass throughout the grounds, especially along pedestrian paths. Post-and-chain barriers could be installed where necessary to prevent erosion and social paths from forming.
2. Clear plant growth and gravel from the drainage feature along the Survey Lodge service drive.
3. Repair and repoint stones along the Tidal Basin seawall
4. Replace vegetation as needed with in-kind planting.
5. Continued monitoring of elms on site for Dutch Elm disease.

The Assessment Date refers to the date that the park superintendent concurred with this Condition Assessment

### Impacts

**Type of Impact:** Exposure To Elements

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Description:** As an outdoor monument, the Washington Monument is exposed to weather and pollution and requires periodic cleaning and maintenance. The most recent cleaning of the monument was completed in 2000.

**Type of Impact:** Flooding

**External or Internal:** Both Internal and External

**Impact Description:** If flood walls and levies are not properly maintained, flooding of the Potomac River and Tidal Basin could adversely affect the

grounds.

**Type of Impact:** Pests/Diseases  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
**Impact Description:** Dutch elm disease is the main disease afflicting elms on the Washington Monument Grounds. These conditions are monitored and controlled by NAMA staff.

**Type of Impact:** Soil Compaction  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
**Impact Description:** Pedestrian traffic and recreational activities taking place on the site have lead to soil compaction.

**Type of Impact:** Structural Deterioration  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
**Impact Description:** Cars parked along or on the drainage feature bordering the Survey Lodge service drive have caused wear. Portions of the drainage feature are covered with gravel and stone, other sections have grass growing between the stones.

**Type of Impact:** Visitation  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
**Impact Description:** Continuing and increasing visitation creates wear on structures and vegetation that could negatively impact the cultural landscape without proper maintenance.

**Type of Impact:** Vegetation/Invasive Plants  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
**Impact Description:** The butterfly bush found near the Survey Lodge is considered an invasive plant and should be removed, as should any other invasives found on the site.

**Type of Impact:** Erosion  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
**Impact Description:** Lawns are subject to erosion due to pedestrian traffic, vehicle traffic, or lack of irrigation. Social paths throughout the grounds have also caused wearing and erosion of the lawns.

**Type of Impact:** Deferred Maintenance

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Description:** The Tidal Basin seawall along the south edge of the monument grounds is in need of repair. Plant growth between the stones of the seawall should be removed.



## Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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**Year of Publication:** 1876
- Citation Author:** Chappell, Gordon  
**Citation Title:** Historic Resource Study, West Potomac Park: A History.  
**Year of Publication:** 1973
- Citation Author:** Corcoran, W.W.  
**Citation Title:** Washington Monument. Letter from W.W. Corcoran, Chairman of the Joint Committee for the Completion of the Washington Monument  
**Year of Publication:** 1878  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Corcoran, W.W.  
**Citation Title:** Letter from W.W. Corcoran, Esq., Chairman, Joint Commission for Completion of Washington Monument  
**Year of Publication:** 1879  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

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**Citation Title:** Letter from W.W. Corcoran, Chairman of the Joint Commission for the Completion of the Washington Monument  
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- Citation Author:** Department of the Interior News Release.  
**Citation Title:** 'Washington's First 'Tulip Library' to Begin Bloom'  
**Year of Publication:** 1969
- Citation Author:** Eisen, Jack  
**Citation Title:** 'Metro Scene'  
**Year of Publication:** 1984  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Grant, U.S., III  
**Citation Title:** Improvement of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Year of Publication:** 1934  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** John Milner Associates, Inc.  
**Citation Title:** Washington Monument and Associated Structures Historic Structure Report  
**Year of Publication:** 2004  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** John Milner Associates, Inc.  
**Citation Title:** Washington Monument Grounds Draft Cultural Landscape Report  
**Year of Publication:** 2003  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS

**Citation Author:** KressCox Associates, P.C.  
**Citation Title:** Historic Structures Report, Tidal Basin Inlet Bridge, Washington, DC  
**Year of Publication:** 1986  
**Citation Publisher:** KressCox Associates, P.C., Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** LeeDecker, Charles, Stuart Fiedel and John Bedell  
**Citation Title:** Phase I Archaeological Investigation for the National Museum of African American History and Culture, District of Columbia  
**Year of Publication:** 2007  
**Citation Publisher:** The Louis Berger Group, Inc., Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** Louis Berger Group, Inc.  
**Citation Title:** Pre-Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture  
**Year of Publication:** 2008  
**Citation Publisher:** The Lewis Berger Group, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** `Boundary Map - South Monument Grounds`  
**Year of Publication:** 1924  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished Manuscript

**Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** `Demolition of Greenhouses - 15th & C Streets, SW/Monument Grounds`  
**Year of Publication:** 1942  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished Manuscript

- Citation Author:** National Parks Service  
**Citation Title:** `Permanent Dock & Refreshment Stand, Tidal Basin`  
**Year of Publication:** 1953  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished Manuscript
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** `Tidal Basin Walks`  
**Year of Publication:** 1952  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished Manuscript
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** `Tulip Library`  
**Citation Publisher:** USDI/NPS
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** Washington Monument Grounds Final Site Development Plans for Visitor and Security Improvements - Landscape Plan  
**Year of Publication:** 2003
- Citation Author:** Oehme, Van Sweden & Associates, Inc.  
**Citation Title:** `Planting Plan German-American Friendship Gardens`  
**Year of Publication:** 1987  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished Manuscript
- Citation Author:** Office Joint Commission  
**Citation Title:** Annual report of the Joint Commission for the Completion of the Washington Monument.  
**Year of Publication:** 1888  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Governmetn Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Reps, John W.  
**Citation Title:** Washington on View: The Nation`s Capital Since 1790  
**Year of Publication:** 1991  
**Citation Publisher:** The University of North Carolina Press

- Citation Author:** Shultz, Scott G.  
**Citation Title:** The Development of the Historic Landscape of the Washington Monument Grounds and West Potomac Park  
**Year of Publication:** 1995  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Stevens, Rebecca  
**Citation Title:** List of Classified Structures: Bulfinch Gatepost (West) - Res. 2  
**Year of Publication:** 2006  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS
- Citation Author:** Stevens, Rebecca  
**Citation Title:** List of Classified Structures: Bulfinch Gatepost (East) - Res. 2  
**Year of Publication:** 2006  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS
- Citation Author:** Stevens, Rebecca  
**Citation Title:** List of Classified Structures: Independence Avenue, SW  
**Year of Publication:** 2006  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1874
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1875  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1878  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1880  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1881  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1883  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1884  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1886  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1887  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1888  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1890  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1891  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1892  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1893  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1895  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1896  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1897  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1899  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1900  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1901  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1902  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1903  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1904  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1905  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1906  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1909  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1912  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1913  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1915  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1918  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1919  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** United States Army  
**Citation Title:** Report of the Chief of Engineers  
**Year of Publication:** 1920  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** unknown  
**Citation Title:** L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia  
National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form  
**Year of Publication:** 1997  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS

**Citation Author:** unknown  
**Citation Title:** National Cherry Blossom Festival History of the Trees and  
Festival  
[www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/cms/index.php?id=574](http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/cms/index.php?id=574)  
**Year of Publication:** 2009

**Citation Author:** unknown  
**Citation Title:** Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and  
Culture [http://nmaahc.si.edu/section/about\\_us/view/63](http://nmaahc.si.edu/section/about_us/view/63)  
**Year of Publication:** 2009

**Citation Author:** unknown  
**Citation Title:** Washington Monument National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory Nomination Form  
**Year of Publication:** 1981  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS

**Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** 'A Monumental Security Operation; Sightseers Seem  
Unconcerned About Terror as Barriers Go Up'  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC

**Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** 'Monument Reopens to Top Reviews; Elevator Flaw Strands First  
Visitors at Summit, but Nobody Complains'  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC

- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Monument To Be Closed Till December`  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Form, Function Unite In Scaffold`  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `More Than Flags Fly at Monument; Pole Damaged After Storm Sends Debris Soaring, Tourists Fleeing`  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `One Last Party Before Monument Goes Under Wraps`  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Under Wraps`  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Getting the Point At the Monument`  
**Year of Publication:** 1999  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC

- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Monument Visitors Lower Their Sights From the Top Deck`  
**Year of Publication:** 1999  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Washington Monument Closes (Once Again)`  
**Year of Publication:** 1999  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Washington Monument to Reopen Monday`  
**Year of Publication:** 2000  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Subtler Approach to Security on Mall; Arts Panel Backs Below-Ground Facilities at Monument`  
**Year of Publication:** 2001  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Subtler Approach to Security on the Mall`  
**Year of Publication:** 2001  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Normalcy Never So Welcomed; Tourists, Officials Rejoice As Monument Reopens After 14-Month Overhaul`  
**Year of Publication:** 2002  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC

- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Panel Endorses New Barriers for Washington Monument`  
**Year of Publication:** 2003  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Washington Monument Entry Tunnel Plan Dies`  
**Year of Publication:** 2003  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Washington Monument Subtly Fortified; Security Project Completed With Granite Walls Designed to Provide Terror Protection`  
**Year of Publication:** 2005  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `Mall Site Is Chosen for Black History Museum`  
**Year of Publication:** 2006  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC
- Citation Author:** Washington Post  
**Citation Title:** `A Monument within a Monument`  
**Year of Publication:** 2007  
**Citation Publisher:** Washington Post, Washington, DC

### Supplemental Information

**Title:** Library of Congress Photographs

**Description:** "Aerial view, Haines Point and Tidal Basin," ca. 1916-19 (LC-H261- 24667)

"GATE PIER Now at Southeast Corner of Fifteenth and Constitution Avenue," 1938 (HABS DC,WASH,1A-5)

"GATE PIER Now at Southwest Corner Fifteenth and Constitution Avenue," 1938 (HABS DC,WASH,1A-4)

"Japanese cherry blossoms View from across Tidal Basin I," 1931 (LC-H812-1186-003)

"Looking across the Tidal Basin from the steps of the Jefferson Memorial," 1943 (LC-USW3- 021023-E)

"Long Bridge. Airplane View of, With Tidal Basin, Monument etc," 1919 (LC-H261-30586)

"Swimmers; Washington Monument in background," 1922 (LC-F8- 19279)

"Washington, DC. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Bridge pier," 1942 (LC-USF34- 011428-D)

"Washington, D.C. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Engineer sighting a transit," 1942 (LC-USF34- 011418-D)

"Washington, D.C. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Finishing a curb," 1942 (LC-USF34-011417-D)

"Washington, D.C. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Finishing a road surface," 1942 (LC-USF34-011416-D)

"Washington, DC. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Large concrete mixer," 1942 (LC-USF34-011414-D)

"Washington, DC. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Large concrete mixer," 1942 (LC-USF34-011415-D)

"Washington, DC. Construction of a bridge and road near Independence Avenue and 14th and 16th Streets, S.W. Men shoveling the concrete to fill in low spots," 1942 (LC-USF34- 011420-D)

## Washington Monument Grounds

### Washington Monument

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"Washington, D.C. Views from Washington Monument," 1945  
(LC-USW31-058720-C)

"Washington, D.C. Views from Washington Monument,) 1945  
(LC-USW31-058716-C)

"Washington, D.C. Views from Washington Monument," 1945  
(LC-USW31-058726-C)

"Washington, D.C. Washington Monument at sunset," 1943 (LC-USW3- 020208-E)

"Washington Monument Grounds Viewed from Air," 1919 (LC-H261- 30507)

"Washington Monument. Night view of Washington Monument from across tidal basin," ca. 1920-50 (LC-H812-T-M04-003)

"Washington Monument, on the baseball ground, near the White House," 1874  
(LC-USZ62-108154)

"Washington Monument. View from Air," 1919 (LC-H261- 30452)

**Title:** Photograph of November 16, 1969 anti-war march at the Washington Monument Grounds.

**Description:** This image is the first image definitively showing the extant mulberry trees located southwest of the Washington Monument.

Source: Picketing File (154633), Washingtoniana Division, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library, Washington, DC

Washington Monument Grounds

Washington Monument

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