



CRS Report for Congress

Presidential Grave Sites: Maintenance and Congressional District Locations

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Summary

This report¹ lists all U.S. Presidents, their terms of service, information concerning their grave sites, such as the address and the congressional districts of the grave sites, and the names and the telephone numbers of the burial locations or organizations or groups that maintain the burial sites. Information on presidential wreath laying ceremonies is also included. This report will be updated as events warrant.

Introduction

Reports of private and state run organizations experiencing financial difficulty in maintaining the nation's historic grave sites of former U.S. Presidents have caused concern in Congress.² Consequently, legislation was proposed in the 107th Congress, H.R. 2806, to provide federal assistance to help the various federal agencies and private and state run organizations in maintaining the nation's presidential grave sites, but it died in committee. Currently, no legislation has been introduced on this issue in the 110th Congress.

The grave sites of U.S. Presidents are either maintained by the federal or a state government or a private organization or foundation. Privately owned presidential grave sites can be maintained by the descendants of a former President's family, by a private association or corporation, or by a church or memorial foundation. Presidential grave sites, which are not maintained privately, are maintained by the state government, the state historical society or a federal government agency such as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. National Park Service, the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, and the U.S. Army.

¹ This report originally was authored by Marilyn L. Nelson (retired) and Thomas Coipuram Jr.

² Doug Pokorski, "Presidents' Gravesites May Win Federal Funding: Proposals to go Before Congress," *The State Journal-Register* (Springfield, IL), July 27, 2001, p. 13.

Currently, only 10 of the 37 presidential grave sites are maintained by the federal government.³ Due to the high number of privately managed presidential grave sites and the cost involved in maintaining them, federal assistance may be necessary in the upkeep and preservation of these presidential grave sites.⁴ One of the costs currently being absorbed by the U.S. Army is the annual presidential wreath-laying ceremony at the grave site on the birthday of the deceased President. Thirty wreaths are laid on the grave sites of 29 Presidents in a formal ceremony as mandated by Army regulations. (One wreath is laid at the Lincoln Memorial and another at the grave site in Springfield, Illinois.) The laying of wreaths on presidential grave sites had been a tradition for many years before it was written into Army Regulation 360-61 of October 15, 1980.⁵

The table below lists all the U.S. Presidents, their terms of service, information concerning their grave sites, such as the address and the congressional districts of the grave sites, and the names and the telephone numbers of the burial locations or organizations or groups that maintain the burial sites.

Table 1. Presidential Grave Sites

President and Term of Office	Burial Site Location	Maintenance	Cong. Dist.
George Washington 1789-1797	Mount Vernon Mount Vernon, VA 22121 Tel. 703-780-2000	Mount Vernon Ladies' Association	VA 8 th
John Adams 1797-1801	United First Parish Church 1306 Hancock Street Quincy, MA 02169 Tel. 617-773-1290	United First Parish Church	MA 10 th
Thomas Jefferson 1801-1809	Monticello Charlottesville, VA 22902 Tel. 434-984-9822	Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation	VA 5 th
James Madison 1809-1817	Montpelier 11407 Constitution Highway Montpelier Station, VA 22957 Tel. 540-672-2728	Montpelier Foundation	VA 7 th
James Monroe 1817-1825	Hollywood Cemetery 412 South Cherry Street Richmond, VA 23220-6214 Tel. 804-648-8501	Nonprofit corporation	VA 3 rd

³ Jones, Jack B., and Joy E. Jones, *On the Trail of the Presidents: An Historical Guide to Burial Sites and Monuments* (San Luis Obispo, CA, J. B. and J. E. Jones, 1994).

⁴ Kurt Erickson, "U.S. May Shoulder Cost of Presidents' Graves Upkeep," *The Pantagraph* (Bloomington, IL), July 26, 2001, p. A6.

⁵ U.S. Department of the Army, Army Public Affairs Program, *Army Regulation 360-1. Appendix I, "Presidential Wreath-Laying Ceremony,"* Oct. 15, 2000.

President and Term of Office	Burial Site Location	Maintenance	Cong. Dist.
John Quincy Adams 1825-1829	United First Parish Church 1306 Hancock Street Quincy, MA 02169 Tel. 617-773-1290	United First Parish Church	MA 10 th
Andrew Jackson 1829-1837	The Hermitage 4580 Rachel's Lane Nashville, TN 37076 Tel. 615-889-9909	Ladies Hermitage Association	TN 5 th
Martin Van Buren 1837-1841	Kinderhook Cemetery U.S. Highway 9 Kinderhook, NY 12106 Tel. 518-758-6401	Kinderhook Reformed Church	NY 22 nd
William Henry Harrison 1841-1841	William Henry Harrison Memorial U.S. Route 50 North Bend, Ohio 45052 Tel. 614-297-2630	Ohio Historical Society	OH 1 st
John Tyler 1841-1845	Hollywood Cemetery 412 South Cherry Street Richmond, VA 23220 Tel. 804-648-8501	Nonprofit corporation	VA 3 rd
James Polk 1845-1849	State Capitol Grounds Capitol Hill Nashville, TN 37243 Tel. 615-741-2901	State of Tennessee	TN 5 th
Zachary Taylor 1849-1850	Zachary Taylor National Cemetery 4701 Brownsboro Road Louisville, KY 40207 Tel. 502-893-3852	Department of Veterans Affairs	KY 3 rd
Millard Fillmore 1850-1853	Forest Lawn Group 1411 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, NY 14209 Tel. 716-885-1600	Private nonprofit corporation	NY 29 th
Franklin Pierce 1853-1857	Old North Cemetery Concord, NH 03302 Tel. 603-224-5984	Old North Cemetery/ Pierce Manse	NH 2 nd
James Buchanan 1857-1861	Woodward Hill Cemetery 538 E. Strawberry Street Lancaster, PA 17602 Tel. 717-295-7220	Private nonprofit corporation	PA 16 th

President and Term of Office	Burial Site Location	Maintenance	Cong. Dist.
Abraham Lincoln 1861-1865	Lincoln Tomb State Historic Site Oak Ridge Cemetery 1500 Monument Avenue Springfield, IL 62702 Tel. 217-782-2717	Illinois Historic Preservation Agency	IL 20 th
Andrew Johnson 1865-1869	Andrew Johnson National Cemetery U.S. Route 411 Greenville, TN 37744 Tel. 423-638-3551	U.S. National Park Service	TN 1 st
Ulysses S. Grant 1869-1877	General Grant National Memorial Riverside Drive at W. 122 nd New York, NY 10027 Tel. 212-666-1640	U.S. National Park Service	NY 15 th
Rutherford B. Hayes 1877-1881	Rutherford Hayes Home 1337 Hayes Avenue Fremont, OH 43420 Tel. 419-332-2081	Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in conjunction with Ohio Historical Society	OH 5 th
James A. Garfield 1881-1881	Lake View Cemetery 12316 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44106 Tel. 216-421-2665	Private	OH 11 th
Chester A. Arthur 1881-1885	Albany Rural Cemetery 12204 Cemetery Avenue Albany, NY 12204 Tel. 518-463-7017	Nonprofit corporation	NY 21 th
Grover Cleveland 1885-1889	Princeton Cemetery 29 Greenview Avenue Princeton, NJ 08542 Tel. 609-924-1369	Nassau Presbyterian Church	NJ 12 th
Benjamin Harrison 1889-1893	Crown Hill Cemetery 700 West 38 th Street Indianapolis, IN 46208 Tel. 317-925-8231	Nonprofit corporation	IN 10 th
Grover Cleveland 1893-1897	Princeton Cemetery 29 Greenview Avenue Princeton, NJ 08542 Tel. 609-924-1369	Nassau Presbyterian Church	NJ 12 th

President and Term of Office	Burial Site Location	Maintenance	Cong. Dist.
William McKinley 1897-1901	McKinley Memorial Mausoleum Seventh Street N.W. and Monument Road Canton, Ohio 44701 Tel. 330-455-7043	Stark Country Historical Society	OH 16 th
Theodore Roosevelt 1901-1909	Young's Memorial Cemetery Cove Road and Oyster Bay Oyster Bay, NY 11771 Tel. 516-922-1474	Private corporation	NY 3 rd
William H. Taft 1909-1913	Arlington National Cemetery Fort Myer, VA 22211 Tel. 703-695-3175	U.S. Army	VA 8 th
Woodrow Wilson 1913-1921	Washington Cathedral Wisconsin Avenue and Woodley Road Washington, D.C. 20016 Tel. 202-537-5550	Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation	Wash. DC
Warren G. Harding 1921-1923	Harding Memorial U.S. Route 23 and Vernon Heights Boulevard Marion, OH 43302 Tel. 740-387-9630	Ohio Historical Society	OH 4 th
Calvin Coolidge 1923-1929	Plymouth Notch Cemetery South of Route 100A Plymouth, VT 05056 Tel. 802-672-3773	State of Vermont	VT At large
Herbert Hoover 1929-1933	Herbert Hoover National Historical Site 210 Parkside Drive West Branch, IA 52358 Tel. 319-643-2541	U.S. National Park Service	IA 1 st
Franklin D. Roosevelt 1933-1945	Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site 4097 Albany Post Road Hyde Park, NY 12538 Tel. 914-229-9115	U.S. National Park Service	NY 22 nd
Harry S. Truman 1945-1953	Harry S. Truman Presidential Museum and Library 500 W. U.S. Route 24 Independence, MO 64050 Tel. 816-833-1400	U.S. National Archives and Records Administration	MO 6 th

President and Term of Office	Burial Site Location	Maintenance	Cong. Dist.
Dwight D. Eisenhower 1953-1961	Eisenhower Center S.E. Fourth Street Abilene, KS 67410 Tel. 785-263-4751	U.S. National Archives and Records Administration	KS 1 st
John F. Kennedy 1961-1963	Arlington Cemetery Fort Myer, VA 22211 Tel. 703-695-3175	U.S. Army	VA 8 th
Lyndon B. Johnson 1963-1969	Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park Johnson City, TX 78671 Tel. 830-868-7128	U.S. National Park Service	TX 21 st
Richard M. Nixon 1969-1974	Richard M. Nixon Library and Birthplace 18001 Yorba Linda Blvd. Yorba Linda, CA 92886 Tel. 714-993-3393	Richard M. Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation	CA 41 st
Gerald R. Ford 1974-1977	Gerald R. Ford Museum 303 Pearl Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 Tel. 616-451-9263	Gerald R. Ford Foundation	MI 3 rd
Jimmy Carter ^a 1977-1981	To be determined		
Ronald Reagan 1981-1989	Ronald Reagan Presidential Library 40 Presidential Drive Simi Valley, CA 93065 Tel. 800-410-8354	U.S. National Archives and Records Administration	CA 23 rd
George H. W. Bush ^a 1989-1993	George Bush Presidential Library and Museum 1000 George Bush Drive W. College Station, TX 77845 Tel. 979-260-9552	Texas A&M University	TX 8 th
William J. Clinton ^a 1993-2001	To be determined		
George W. Bush 2001-	To be determined		

Source: Table data compiled by CRS.

a. Living former President.