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Monuments and Memorials Authorized Under the Commemorative Works Act in the District of Columbia: Current Development of In-Progress and Lapsed Works

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SUMMARY

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Monuments and Memorials Authorized Under the Commemorative Works Act in the District of Columbia: Current Development of In-Progress and Lapsed Works

Under the Commemorative Works Act (CWA) of 1986, Congress may authorize commemorative works to be placed in the District of Columbia or its environs. Once a commemorative work has been authorized, Congress continues to be responsible for statutorily designating a memorial site location.

This report provides a status update on 13 in-progress memorials, 8 memorials with lapsed authorizations, and 1 with a repealed authorization. For each monument or memorial, the report provides a rationale for the work as expressed in the *Congressional Record* or a House or Senate committee report; its statutory authority; the group or groups sponsoring the commemoration; and the memorial's location (or proposed location), if known. A picture or rendering of each work is also included, when available.

For more information on the Commemorative Works Act, see CRS Report R41658, *Commemorative Works in the District of Columbia: Background and Practice*, by Jacob R. Straus; CRS Report R43241, *Monuments and Memorials in the District of Columbia: Analysis and Options for Proposed Exemptions to the Commemorative Works Act*, by Jacob R. Straus; and CRS Report R43743, *Monuments and Memorials Authorized and Completed Under the Commemorative Works Act in the District of Columbia*, by Jacob R. Straus.

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Introduction

Since November 1986, the Commemorative Works Act (CWA) has provided the legal framework for the placement of commemorative works in the District of Columbia. Congress enacted the CWA to establish a statutory process for ensuring "that future commemorative works in areas administered by the National Park Service (NPS) and the General Services Administration (GSA) in the District of Columbia and its environs (1) are appropriately designed, constructed, and located and (2) reflect a consensus of the lasting significance of the subjects involved."[1] Areas administered by other agencies are not subject to the CWA. Responsibility for overseeing the design, construction, and maintenance of such works was delegated to the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of the GSA,[2] the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA). Additionally, the CWA restricts placement of commemorative works to certain areas of the District of Columbia based on the subject's historic importance.

Pursuant to the CWA, locating a commemorative work on federally owned and administered land in the District of Columbia requires the federal government to maintain the memorial unless otherwise stipulated in the enabling legislation. In some cases, however, authorized memorials are ultimately sited on land that falls outside of CWA jurisdiction and outside the boundaries of the District of Columbia and its environs. For example, Congress authorized the Air Force Memorial for placement on land owned and administered by either NPS or GSA in the District of Columbia. Memorial organizers, however, chose a site near the Pentagon in Arlington, VA, that is owned and administered by the Department of Defense. Consequently, the Department of Defense, not the NPS or GSA, is responsible for maintenance.

This report highlights in-progress works and memorials with lapsed authorizations since the passage of the CWA in 1986. The report provides information—located within text boxes for easy reference—on the statute(s) authorizing the work; the sponsor organization; statutory legislative extensions, if any;[3] and the memorial's location or proposed location, if known. A picture or rendering of each work is also included, when available.

Commemorative Works Areas of the District of Columbia

The CWA, as amended, divides areas administered by the NPS and the GSA in the District of Columbia and its environs into three sections for the placement of memorials: the Reserve, Area

[1] 40 U.S.C. §8901(4).

[2] Whether oversight of the design, construction, and maintenance of commemorative works authorized pursuant to the Commemorative Works Act falls to the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of the General Services Administration is determined by who administers the land on which the memorial is to be constructed. In all cases to date, the Secretary of the Interior has been the oversight official, as all authorized commemorative works have been placed or are scheduled to be placed on National Park Service land.

[3] Pursuant to the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. §8903(e)(1)), all sponsor groups are provided with a seven-year period to complete the work necessary to complete (i.e., dedicate) the memorial. This time period can be extended administratively if the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of General Services issues a construction permit, or if Congress amends the initial statute to provide for additional time to complete the memorial's design and construction. For more information, see CRS Report R41658, *Commemorative Works in the District of Columbia: Background and Practice*, by Jacob R. Straus.

I, and Area II. For each area, the standards for memorial placement are specified in law, and congressional approval of monument location is required.

Reserve

The Reserve was created in November 2003 to prohibit the addition of future memorials in an area defined as "the great cross-axis of the Mall, which generally extends from the United States Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial, and from the White House to the Jefferson Memorial."[4] Under the act, this area is considered "a substantially completed work of civic art."[5] Within this area, "to preserve the integrity of the Mall … the siting of new commemorative works is prohibited."[6]

Area I

Created as part of the original CWA in 1986, Area I is reserved for commemorative works of "preeminent historical and lasting significance to the United States."[7] Area I is roughly bounded by the West Front of the Capitol; Pennsylvania Avenue NW (between 1st and 15th Streets NW); Lafayette Square; 17th Street NW (between H Street and Constitution Avenue); Constitution Avenue NW (between 17th and 23rd Streets); the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts waterfront area; Theodore Roosevelt Island; National Park Service land in Virginia surrounding the George Washington Memorial Parkway; the 14th Street Bridge area; and Maryland Avenue SW, from Maine Avenue SW, to Independence Avenue SW, at the U.S. Botanic Garden.

Area II

Also created as part of the original CWA statute, Area II is reserved for "subjects of lasting historical significance to the American people."[8] Area II encompasses all sections of the District of Columbia and its environs not part of the Reserve or Area I.

Factors Potentially Influencing Commemorative Works' Completion

Several factors may affect a memorial foundation's ability to complete a memorial. These include settling on a desired site location, getting design approval, and raising the funds necessary to design and build a commemorative work.

[4] 40 U.S.C. §8902.

[5] P.L. 108-126, §202(a), 117 Stat. 1348 (2003).

[6] 40 U.S.C. §8901 note; and 40 U.S.C. §8908(c). The placement of museums and visitors centers is also prohibited under 40 U.S.C. §8905(b)(5) and 40 U.S.C. §8908(c).

[7] 40 U.S.C. §8908 (b)(1). The Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of General Services, after seeking the advice of the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission, can recommend that a memorial be placed in Area I. If either the Secretary or the Administrator recommends placement in Area I, he or she must notify the House Committee on Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The Secretary or the Administrator notifies Congress by sending a letter to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. If the recommendation is not enacted into law within 150 calendar days, the recommendation is not adopted, and the memorial sponsor must consider sites in Area II.

[8] 40 U.S.C. §8908(b)(2).

Site Location

Choosing a memorial site location is one of the biggest tasks for all authorized sponsor groups. Many groups want locations on or near the National Mall. The creation of the Reserve in 2003,[9] however, makes placement of a future memorial on the National Mall difficult. Subsequently, many sponsor groups attempt to locate sites as close to the National Mall as possible to ensure that visitors have easy access to the memorial. For example, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial is located on land directly south of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, thus providing a prominent—just off the National Mall—location.[10]

Likewise, the foundation previously authorized to construct a memorial to honor John Adams and his family's legacy evaluated site locations as close to the National Mall as possible.

Design Approval

In 1986, as part of the CWA, Congress authorized the NCPC and the CFA to approve memorial designs. The NCPC and the CFA were tasked with carrying out the goals of the CWA, which are

> (1) to preserve the integrity of the comprehensive design of the L'Enfant and McMillan plans for the Nation's Capital; (2) to ensure the continued public use and enjoyment of open space in the District of Columbia and its environs, and to encourage the location of commemorative works within the urban fabric of the District of Columbia; (3) to preserve, protect, and maintain the limited amount of open space available to residents of, and visitors to, the Nation's Capital; and (4) to ensure that future commemorative works in areas administered by the National Park Service and the Administrator of General Services in the District of Columbia and its environs are … appropriately designed, constructed, and located; and … reflect a consensus of lasting national significance of the subjects involved.[11]

In some instances, sponsor groups have difficulty creating a memorial vision that meets the specifications of the NCPC, CFA, and the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (NCMAC). In these cases, groups will often have to present multiple designs to these bodies before getting final design approval. For example, the Eisenhower Memorial Commission has presented variations on the design for the Eisenhower Memorial to the NCPC multiple times.[12] In all instances, the NCPC gave feedback to the memorial design team and asked them to continue work to comply with NCPC guidelines for memorial construction.[13]

Fundraising

Perhaps the most challenging step in the commemorative works process for many sponsor groups is raising the necessary funds to design and build a commemorative work. Although most sponsor groups do not anticipate fundraising difficulties, some groups have experienced challenges. Failure to raise the necessary funds can be used as a reason not to extend a memorial's

[9] P.L. 108-126, §202, 117 Stat. 1349 (2003).

[10] For a further discussion of memorial siting, see CRS In Focus IF11937, *Commemorative Works Act: Siting Memorials in the District of Columbia*, by Jacob R. Straus.

[11] 40 U.S.C. §8901.

[12] For example, the National Capital Planning Commission's web page on the Eisenhower Memorial lists five formal presentations by the Eisenhower Memorial Commission. For more information, see National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), "Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial," https://www.ncpc.gov/projects/eisenhower/.

[13] NCPC, *Commission Action: Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial*, file no. 6694, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2017October/6694_Dwight_D._Eisenhower_Memorial_Modification_Commission_Action_Oct2017.pdf.

authorization beyond the initial seven-year period. In some cases, even though the CWA generally prohibits the use of federal funds for memorial design and construction,[14] Congress has authorized appropriations to aid sponsor groups in their fundraising efforts. For example, in 2005, Congress appropriated $10 million to the Secretary of the Interior "for necessary expenses for the Memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr."[15] The appropriation was designated as matching funds, making them available only after being matched by nonfederal contributions.[16]

Since the enactment of the Commemorative Works Act in 1986, 48 memorials and monuments have been authorized by statute. On a yearly basis, however, legislation is pending before Congress to consider a wide range of additional commemorative works. Pursuant to the CWA, future commemorative works will continue to be considered according to congressional guidelines. If new commemorative works are authorized or currently authorized commemorative works are completed, this report will be updated accordingly.

Authorized Commemorative Works

Since the passage of the Commemorative Works Act (CWA) in 1986, Congress has authorized 48 commemorative works to be placed in the District of Columbia or its environs. Of these works, 13 are in progress, 8 have lapsed authorizations, and 1 had its authorization repealed. **Table 1** lists commemorative works authorized by Congress since 1986 that are in progress, those with authorizations that have lapsed, and those with an authorization that has been repealed.

Table 1. In-Progress and Lapsed Memorials in the District of Columbia and Its Environs

Congress	Memorial	Authorizing Legislation
	In-Progress Commemorative Works	
112	National Liberty Memorial (Slaves and Free Black Persons Who Served in American Revolution)[a]	P.L. 112-239, §2860, 126 Stat. 2164 (2013)
113	Peace Corps	P.L. 113-78, 127 Stat. 647 (2013)
115	Global War on Terrorism[b]	P.L. 115-51, 131 Stat. 1003 (2017)
115	National Emergency Medical Services[c]	P.L. 115-275, 132 Stat. 4164 (2018)
116	Women's Suffrage Movement Memorial	P.L. 116-217, 134 Stat. 1052 (2020)
116	Republic of Texas Legation	P.L. 116-248, 134 Stat. 1124 (2020)
116	Fallen Journalists	P.L. 116-253, 134 Stat. 1135 (2020)
117	Medal of Honor	P.L. 117-80, 135 Stat. 1538 (2021)
117	Women Who Worked on the Home Front in World War II	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §702 (2022)
117	Service Animals and Handlers	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §704 (2022)

[14] For example, see the statute authorizing the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial (P.L. 106-348, 114 Stat. 1358 [2000]).

[15] P.L. 109-54, §134, 119 Stat. 526 (2005).

[16] P.L. 109-54, §134, 119 Stat. 527 (2005).

Congress	Memorial	Authorizing Legislation
117	Jean Monnet	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §705 (2022)
117	Enslaved Individuals who Endured the Middle Passage	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §707 (2022)
117	Thomas Paine[d]	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §709 (2022)
	Lapsed Authorizations for Commemorative Works[e]	
100	National Peace Garden	P.L. 100-63, 101 Stat. 379 (1987)
105	Benjamin Banneker	P.L. 105-355, Title V, §512, 112 Stat. 3266 (1998)
106	Frederick Douglass	P.L. 106-479, 114 Stat. 2184 (2000)
107	John Adams and his Family's Legacy[f]	P.L. 107-62, 115 Stat. 411 (2001)
108	Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitors Center	P.L. 108-126, 117 Stat. 1348 (2003)
110	Brigadier General Francis Marion	P.L. 110-229, §331, 122 Stat. 781 (2008)
112	Gold Star Mothers[g]	P.L. 112-239, §2859, 126 Stat. 2164 (2013)
115	Second Division Memorial Modifications	P.L. 115-141, Division G, §121(a)(1), 132 Stat. 661 (2018)[h]
	Repealed Authorizations	
99	Black Revolutionary War Patriots[a]	P.L. 99-558, 100 Stat. 3144 (1986)

Source: 40 U.S.C. §8903 note and CRS analysis of memorial legislation.

Notes:

a. P.L. 112-239, §2860 repealed an authorization to the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation to create a Black Revolutionary War Veterans Memorial that had been authorized by P.L. 99-558 (100 Stat. 3144 [1986]). P.L. 112-239 provided a new authorization for the Slaves and Free Black Persons Who Served in the American Revolution Memorial to the National Mall Liberty Fund DC. The Liberty Fund commonly calls the memorial the National Liberty Memorial. P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §703 reauthorized and extended the Liberty Fund's authorization until September 30, 2027.

b. P.L. 117-81 (§6605), the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, authorized the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation to site the Global War on Terrorism Memorial in the Reserve.

c. The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial was reauthorized until September 11, 2033, by P.L. 119-107 (2026).

d. The Thomas Paine National Historical Association was initially authorized to establish a Thomas Paine Memorial by P.L. 102-407 (106 Stat. 1991 (1992)). In 1999, the Thomas Paine Memorial's authorization was extended to 2003 (P.L. 106-113, §142, 113 Stat. 1501A-171 (1999)). That authorization expired in 2003. In 2022, a different sponsor organization, the Thomas Paine Memorial Association, was authorized to establish a Thomas Paine Memorial by P.L. 117-328.

e. Authority for these memorials lapsed prior to construction permits being issued to the sponsoring group.

f. The memorial to John Adams and his family's legacy was reauthorized by P.L. 116-9, (§2406(l), 133 Stat. 749, [2019]), until December 2025. In the 119th Congress, legislation has passed the House to extend the Adams Memorial Commission and its authorization for a memorial until 2032 (H.R. 2306, 119th Congress).

g. Legislation to reauthorize this memorial was introduced in the 117th Congress (H.R. 2365, introduced April 5, 2021, passed the House July 26, 2021; and S. 1938, introduced May 27, 2021).

h. P.L. 115-141 incorporated S. 1460, §7130 (115th Congress; Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017) to authorize modifications to the Second Division Memorial.

In-Progress Commemorative Works

Currently, 13 commemorative works have active authorizations and are in various stages of development. These include the following:

- Memorials Under Construction

  None

- Memorials Being Designed

  Peace Corps Memorial,

  Global War on Terrorism Memorial,

  Fallen Journalists Memorial, and

  Republic of Texas Legation Memorial.

- Memorials Evaluating Site Locations

  National Liberty Memorial (Slaves and Free Black Persons Who Served in the Revolutionary War),

  National Emergency Medical Services Memorials,

  Women's Suffrage Movement Memorial,

  Medal of Honor Memorial,

  Women Who Worked on the Home Front in World War II Memorial,

  Service Animals and Handlers Memorial,

  Jean Monnet Memorial,

  Enslaved Individuals who Endured the Middle Passage Memorial, and

  Thomas Paine Memorial.

Memorials Under Construction

No currently authorized memorials are presently under construction.

Memorials Being Designed

Peace Corps

In January 2014, Congress authorized the Peace Corps Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate the mission of the Peace Corps and the ideals on which the Peace Corps was founded."[17] During House debate on the bill (S. 230), Representative Raúl Grijalva, then-ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulations, summarized his understanding of the aims of the Peace Corps Memorial:

> Last November, we marked the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's tragic assassination. Losing President Kennedy left a lasting scar on the American psyche, but

[17] P.L. 113-78, §1(a), 127 Stat. 647 (2014).

> his legacy lives on through his words and ideas, including the establishment of the Peace Corps, an institution that has sent over 200,000 Americans to 139 countries in its 52-year history.
>
> S. 230 authorizes construction of a memorial to commemorate the mission of the Peace Corps and the values on which it was founded. I cannot think of a better way to celebrate President Kennedy's legacy and the tremendous accomplishments of the Peace Corps.
>
> With the passage of S. 230, we will be sending a worthwhile bill to the President's desk. I am glad we have been able to put our differences aside and pass such a meaningful bill in the first few weeks of the new year.[18]

The Peace Corps Memorial is to be located between 1st Street, NW, Louisiana Avenue, NW, and C Street, NW, in the District of Columbia. In November 2021, the Peace Corps Memorial Foundation received preliminary design approval with comments from CFA.[19]

In the 116th Congress, the Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation's authority to construct a memorial was extended until January 24, 2028.[20] In October 2024, CFA approved the memorial's final site development plan, and "delegated completion of the final review process to the [CFA's] staff."[21] In December 2024, the NCPC approved the memorial's final site development plans.[22] **Figure 1** shows the concept design for the Peace Corps Memorial as presented to the CFA and the NCPC.

[18] Rep. Raúl Grijalva, "Peace Corps DC Commemorative Work Act," House debate, *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 160 (January 13, 2014), p. H168.

[19] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts to Kym. A. Hall, area director, Region 1-National Capital Area, National Park Service, November 24, 2021, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-18-nov-21-1.

[20] P.L. 116-318, 134 Stat. 5069 (2021).

[21] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Lisa Mendelson-Ielimini, acting director, Region 1-National Capital Area, National Park Service, October 24, 2024, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-17-oct-24-2.

[22] NCPC, *Commission Action: Peace Corps Commemorative Park*, file no. 7623, December 5, 2024, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2024December/7623_Peace_Corps_Commemorative_Park_Commission_Action_Dec2024.pdf; and NCPC, *Executive Director's Recommendation: Peace Corps Commemorative Park*, file no. 7623, December 5, 2024, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2024December/7623_Peace_Corps_Commemorative_Park_Staff_Report_Dec2024.pdf.

Figure 1. Peace Corps Memorial

Concept Design



Source: Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation, "View of threshold between benches."

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 113-78, 127 Stat. 647 (2014)
Sponsor Organization:	Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation (https://www.peacecorpscommemorative.org)
Statutory Extension:	Authorization extended through January 24, 2028 P.L. 116-318, 134 Stat. 5069 (2021)
Location:	Area II
Dedication:	TBD

Global War on Terrorism Memorial

In August 2017, Congress authorized the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism."[23] During debate on the bill (H.R. 873) in the House, Representative Tom McClintock, then chair of the Federal Lands Subcommittee of the House Committee on Natural Resources, stated why a memorial to the Global War on Terrorism is important, despite a statutory prohibition against war memorials for ongoing conflicts.[24]

> The Commemorative Works Act requires that a war be ended for at least 10 years before planning can commence on a national memorial. There is good reason for this requirement: it gives history the insight to place the war in an historic context and to begin to fully appreciate its full significance to our country and future generations.

[23] P.L. 115-51, 121 Stat. 1003 (2017).

[24] 40 U.S.C. §8903(b) and (c).

> But the war on terrorism has been fought in a decidedly different way than our past wars. We are now approaching the 16th anniversary of the attack on New York and Washington. The veterans who sacrificed so much to keep that war away from our shores deserve some tangible and lasting tribute to their patriotism and altruism while they, their families, and their fellow countrymen can know it. The Gold Star families of our fallen heroes for whom the war will never end deserve some assurance that their sons and daughters will never be forgotten by a grateful Nation.
>
> We should remember that many of our Nation's heroes from World War II never lived to see the completion of the World War II Memorial, which was completed 59 years after the end of that conflict.
>
> For these reasons, this measure suspends the 10-year period in current law. It doesn't repeal it. It merely sets it aside for the unique circumstances of the current war on terrorism.[25]

On December 27, 2021, President Joe Biden signed legislation that authorizes the Global War on Terrorism memorial to be sited in the Reserve and provides that the memorial is otherwise subject to the CWA.[26] The legislation states

> The National Global War on Terrorism Memorial authorized by section 2(a) of the Global War on Terrorism War Memorial Act (40 U.S.C. 8903 note; P.L. 115-51; 131 Stat. 1003) (referred to in this section as the "Memorial") shall be located within the Reserve.[27]

In March 2023, the CFA approved a site location within West Potomac Park at Constitution Avenue and 23rd Street NW.[28] In April 2023, the NCPC supported the further exploration of both the Constitution Avenue site and a site along the Potomac River.[29] The Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation is developing its initial design concept.[30] **Figure 2** shows the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation's concept design.

[25] Rep. Tom McClintock, "Global War on Terrorism Memorial Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 163 (July 28, 2017), p. H6544.

[26] P.L. 117-81, §6605, 135 Stat. 2442 (2021). Previously, legislation had been introduced to provide for a specific site location within the Reserve. In both the 116th Congress (H.R. 5046 and S. 4564) and the 117th Congress (H.R. 1115 and S. 535), legislation was introduced to provide three options for siting the Global War on Terrorism Memorial: Constitution Gardens, the JFK Hockey Fields, and West Potomac Park. P.L. 117-81 did not provide specific site locations for consideration.

[27] P.L. 117-81, §6605(a).

[28] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission on Fine Arts, to Kym A. Hall, Area Director, Region 1-National Capital Area, National Park Service, March 23, 2023, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-16-mar-23-2. See also, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, "CFA Meeting—16 March 2023," https://cfa.gov/records-research/record-cfa-actions/2023/03/cfa-meeting.

[29] NCPC, *Commission Action: Global War on Terrorism Memorial Site Selection*, file no. 8450, April 6, 2023, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2023April/8450_Global_War_on_Terrorism_Memorial_Site_Selection_Commission_Action_Apr2023.pdf.

[30] Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation, "Our Initial Design Concept," https://www.gwotmemorialfoundation.org/design-concept.

Figure 2. Global War on Terrorism Memorial Initial Concept Design



Source: Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation, "Our Initial Design Concept," https://www.gwotmemorialfoundation.org/design-concept.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 115-51, 131 Stat. 1003 (2017)
Sponsor Organization:	Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation (https://www.gwotmemorialfoundation.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	Reserve[31]
Dedication:	TBD

Fallen Journalists

In December 2020, Congress authorized the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause."[32] During House debate on the bill (H.R. 3465), Representative Deb Haaland, then chair of the National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Committee on Natural Resources, stated why she considered a memorial to fallen journalists to be important:

> Every day, journalists at home and abroad place their lives at risk in pursuit of the truth and in defense of our First Amendment right to a free and independent press.
>
> In 2018 alone, nearly 80 journalists from around the world were murdered in their line of work. Yet, with the closure of the Newseum earlier this year, there is no memorial that commemorates those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice while fulfilling their duty to deliver the news.
>
> The memorial envisioned in H.R. 3465 would be a fitting tribute to their sacrifices and an affirmation of our Nation's commitment to a free press.[33]

[31] P.L. 117-81, §6605, 135 Stat. 2442 (2021).

[32] P.L. 116-253, §2(a), 134 Stat. 1135 (2020).

[33] Rep. Deb Haaland, "Fallen Journalists Memorial Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 166 (September 21, 2020), p. H4560.

In December 2022, Congress authorized the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to site the memorial in Area I.[34] In 2023, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation selected its site on "a triangle park bounded by Maryland and Independence Avenues and 3rd Street, SW, adjacent to the National Museum of the American Indian."[35] Since site selection, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Association has worked on the memorial's design. It presented initial concept designs for the memorial to the NCMAC,[36] the CFA,[37] and the NCPC[38] in September 2024. In December 2025, the NCPC approved the Fallen Journalists Memorial's preliminary site development plans at the intersection of Maryland Avenue, SW, and 4th Street, SW, with comments.[39] **Figure 3** shows the Fallen Journalists Memorial's preliminary design.

[34] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §708, 136 Stat. 5620 (2022).

[35] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Kym A. Hall, area director, Region 1—National Capital Area, National Park Service, April 27, 2023, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-20-apr-23-1. See also, NCPC, *Commission Action: Fallen Journalists Memorial Site Selection*, file no. 8449, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2023April/8449_Fallen_Journalists_Memorial_Site_Selection_Commission_Action_Apr2023.pdf; and U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, *Fallen Journalists Memorial Site Selection Study*, April 20, 2023, https://cfa.gov/system/files/meeting-materials/1-CFA-20APR23-1-NPS-Fallen-Journalists-Mem_pres.pdf.

[36] National Fallen Journalists Memorial Association, *NCMAC Submission*, September 4, 2024, https://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?sfid=755203&projectID=44217.

[37] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Kym A. Hall, area director, Region 1—National Capital Area, National Park Service, September 25, 2024, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-19-sep-24-1; and U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, "CFA Meeting—19 September 2024," https://cfa.gov/records-research/record-cfa-actions/2024/09/cfa-meeting.

[38] NCPC, *Commission Action: Fallen Journalists Memorial*, file no. 8449, October 3, 2024, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2024October/8449_Fallen_Journalists_Memorial_Commission_Action_Oct2024.pdf; and NCPC, *Executive Director's Recommendation: Fallen Journalists Memorial*, file no. 8449, October 3, 2024, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2024October/8449_Fallen_Journalists_Memorial_Staff_Report_Oct2024.pdf.

[39] NCPC, *Commission Action: Fallen Journalists Memorial*, file no. 8449, December 4, 2025, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2025December/8449_Fallen_Journalists_Memorial_Commission_Action_Dec2025.pdf; and NCPC, "Fallen Journalists Memorial," *Executive Director's Recommendation*, File No. 8449, December 3, 2025, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2025December/8449_Fallen_Journalists_Memorial_Staff_Report_Dec2025.pdf.

Figure 3. Fallen Journalist Memorial Preliminary Design



Source: NCPC, *Submission Materials: Fallen Journalists Memorial*, file no. 8449, December 5, 2025, p. 87, https://www.ncpc.gov/files/projects/2025/8449_Fallen_Journalists_Memorial_Submission_Materials_Dec2025.pdf#page=87.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 116-253, 134 Stat. 1135 (2020)
Sponsor Organization:	Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation (https://www.fallenjournalists.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	Area I[40]
Dedication:	TBD

Republic of Texas Legation

In December 2020, Congress authorized the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "honor those who, as representatives of the Republic of Texas, served in the District of Columbia as diplomats to the United States and made possible the annexation of Texas as the twenty-eighth State of the United States."[41] During House debate on the bill (H.R. 3349), Representative Deb Haaland, then chair of the National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Committee on Natural Resources, stated why she considered a memorial to the Republic of Texas Legation to be important:

> Shortly after Texas declared its independence from Mexico in 1836, the Republic of Texas sent diplomats to several countries to represent the Republic's interests. Among other things, these diplomats advocated for protection from Mexico, financial assistance, and annexation by the United States.

[40] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §708, 136 Stat. 5620 (2022).

[41] P.L. 116-248, §2(a), 134 Stat. 1124 (2020).

> London and Paris have each erected commemorative works to recognize the role their Texas legations played in their countries, and it seems only fitting to install one here in the capital of the country proud to claim Texas as its own.[42]

The Texas Legation Memorial will be "within an existing raised planter bed along the 600 block of Indiana Avenue, NW."[43] In May 2025, CFA provided no objection to the memorial's final design,[44] and in June 2025, the NCPC approved the memorial's final site development plans, with comments.[45] **Figure 4** shows the Daughters of the Republic of Texas's preferred concept rendering.

Figure 4. Texas Legation Memorial

Preferred Concept Rendering



Source: National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission, "Daughters of the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial Presentation," March 13, 2024, https://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?sfid=718103&projectID=44217.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 116-248, 134 Stat. 1124 (2020)
Sponsor Organization:	Daughters of the Republic of Texas (https://www.drtinfo.org)

[42] Rep. Deb Haaland, "Republic of Texas Legation Memorial Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 166 (September 21, 2020), p. H4558.

[43] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Kym A. Hall, area director, Region 1-National Capital Area National Park Service, February 3, 2024, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-15-feb-24-2.

[44] CFA, "Texas Legation Memorial," May 15, 2025, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-15-may-25-b.

[45] NCPC, *Commission Action: Texas Legation Memorial*, file no. 8330, June 5, 2025, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2025June/8330_Texas_Legation_Memorial_Commission_Action_Jun2025.pdf; and NCPC, *Executive Director's Recommendation: Texas Legation Memorial*, file no. 8330, June 5, 2025, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2025June/8330_Texas_Legation_Memorial_Staff_Report_Jun2025.pdf.

Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	Area II (Indiana Avenue, NW)
Dedication:	TBD

Site Locations to Be Determined

National Liberty Memorial (Slaves and Free Black Persons Who Served in the Revolutionary War)

In December 2012, Congress authorized the National Mall Liberty Fund DC to establish a commemorative work "to honor the more than 5,000 courageous slaves and free Black persons who served as soldiers and sailors or provided civilian assistance during the American Revolution."[46] Additionally, P.L. 112-239 repealed a 1986 authorization to the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation to establish a commemorative work for black Revolutionary War veterans (discussed further in the section below on "Repealed Authorization").[47]

In prepared remarks to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Joseph Lieberman summarized the need, from his perspective, for a memorial to African Americans who served in the Revolutionary War:

> Throughout our history the sacrifices of these remarkable patriots have often been relegated to a mere footnote. This is unfortunate not only because it overlooks their service, but also because it prevents us from taking an honest, nuanced view of our nation's history. By establishing a memorial to honor African Americans' contributions to our nation's founding, we will broaden all Americans' understanding of the diversity of the patriots who helped to secure our independence.[48]

Further, in the Senate report accompanying the 2012 authorization (S. 883, 112th Congress), the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources summarized the history of memorializing Black Revolutionary War veterans in the District of Columbia.

> In 1986, Congress authorized the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial Foundation to establish the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial to honor the 5,000 courageous slaves and free Black persons who served as soldiers or provided civilian assistance during the American Revolution (P.L. 99-558).
>
> In 1987 Congress enacted a second law, P.L. 100-265, authorizing placement of that memorial within the monumental core area as it was then defined by the Commemorative Works Act. In 1988, the National Park Service, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Capital Planning Commission approved a site in Constitution Gardens for the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial and, in 1996, approved the final design.

[46] P.L. 112-239, §2860, 126 Stat. 2164 (2013).

[47] P.L. 112-239, §2860(f) repeals P.L. 99-558 (100 Stat. 3144 [1986]), as amended by P.L. 99-590 (100 Stat. 3330 [1986]); and P.L. 99-591 (100 Stat. 3341 [1986]), which authorized the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia "the estimated five thousand courageous slaves and free black persons who served as soldiers and sailors or provided civilian assistance during the American Revolution and to honor countless black men, women, and children who ran away from slavery or filed petitions with courts and legislatures seeking their freedom."

[48] U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, *Miscellaneous National Park Bills*, hearing on S. 264, S. 265, S. 324, S. 764, S. 864, S. 883, S. 888, S. 925, S. 970, S. 1063, and S. 1134, 112th Cong., 1st sess., July 28, 2011, S.Hrg. 112-214, p. 7.

> Despite four extensions of the memorial's legislative authorization over 21 years, the Foundation was unable to raise sufficient funds for construction, the authority (and associated site and design approvals) finally lapsed in October 2005, and the Foundation disbanded with numerous outstanding debts and unpaid creditors.
>
> S. 883 would authorize another nonprofit organization, the National Mall Liberty Fund D.C., to construct a commemorative work honoring the same individuals as proposed by the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial Foundation, subject to the requirements of the Commemorative Works Act.[49]

On September 26, 2014, President Obama signed H.J.Res. 120 to provide the memorial with a location in Area I.[50] In December 2022, Congress extended the National Mall Liberty Fund's authority to construct a memorial in Area I until September 30, 2027.[51] Previously, the Fund's authority had expired in January 2020. **Figure 5** shows a memorial concept design.

Figure 5. National Liberty Memorial

Concept Design



Source: Liberty Mall Fund DC, "Conceptual Design—National Liberty Memorial," *National Liberty Memorial Site Selection Report*, presentation to the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission, July 23, 2013.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 112-239, §2860, 126 Stat. 2164 (2013)

[49] U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, *Establishment of a Memorial to Honor Contributions of Free Persons and Slaves During the American Revolution*, report to accompany S. 883, 112th Cong., 2nd sess., January 13, 2012, S.Rept. 112-118, pp. 1-2.

[50] P.L. 113-176, 128 Stat. 1910 (2014). See also, "Approval of Memorial to Commemorative Slaves and Free Black Persons Who Fought in the American Revolution," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 160 (September 8, 2014), pp. H7273-H7274; and "Approving the Location of an American Revolution Memorial," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 160 (September 11, 2014), p. S5518. Prior to the Liberty Memorial Fund's authorization expiration in 2020, it had publicly expressed interest in three sites: the National Mall at 14th Street and Independence Avenue, NW; Freedom Plaza; and Virginia Avenue and 19th Streets, NW, with a strong preference for the National Mall site, which is currently under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (http://libertyfunddc.com/site-selection-2). In the 114th Congress (2015-2016), legislation was introduced to designate the Secretary of Agriculture as the officer "responsible for the consideration of the site and design proposals and the submission of such proposals on behalf of the sponsor to the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission" in order to apply the CWA to the memorial. H.R. 1949 (114th Congress), passed the House on September 16, 2015. On March 17, 2016, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on H.R. 1949. Additionally, the provisions of H.R. 1949 were also included as a House amendment to S. 2012, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2016. S. 2012 passed the Senate and the House in different forms, and a conference was held. No further action on S. 2012 occurred in the 114th Congress. No further action was taken on the measure.

[51] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §703, 136 Stat. 5618 (2022).

Sponsor Organization:	National Mall Liberty Fund DC (http://www.libertyfunddc.com)
Statutory Extension:	
	Authorization extended through September 30, 2027 P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §703, 136 Stat. 5618 (2022)
Location:	Area I[52]
Dedication:	TBD

National Emergency Medical Services Memorial

In October 2018, Congress authorized the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate the commitment and service represented by emergency medical services."[53] During House debate on the bill (H.R. 1037), Representative Tom McClintock, then chair of the Federal Lands Subcommittee of the House Committee on Natural Resources, stated why he considered a memorial to the emergency medical services providers to be important:

> Mr. Speaker, each year 850,000 EMS providers answer more than 30 million calls to serve 22 million patients in need at a moment's notice and without reservation. For these heroes who serve on the front lines of medicine, sacrifice is a part of their calling. EMTs and paramedics have a rate of injury that is about three times the national average for all occupations, and some pay the ultimate price in the service of helping others.
>
> The men and women of the emergency medical services profession face danger every day to save lives and help their neighbors in crisis. They respond to incidents ranging from a single person's medical emergency to natural and manmade disasters, including terrorist attacks. But while their first responder peers in law enforcement and firefighting have been honored with national memorials, EMS providers have not.[54]

The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation presented its initial site selection study to the CFA in October 2019,[55] and to the NCPC in December 2019.[56] In the 119th Congress, the memorial was reauthorized until September 2033.[57]

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 115-275, 132 Stat. 4164 (2018)

[52] P.L. 113-176, 128 Stat. 1910 (2014).

[53] P.L. 115-275, 132 Stat. 4164 (2018).

[54] Rep. Tom McClintock, "Authorizing National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to Establish a Commemorative Work," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 164 (July 17, 2018), p. H6338.

[55] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, Commission of Fine Arts secretary, to Lisa Mendelson-Ielmini, Acting Director, Region 1-National Capital Area, National Park Service, October 24, 2019, https://cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-17-oct-19-1.

[56] NCPC, *Commission Action: Emergency Medical Services Memorial Site Selection*, file no. 8130, December 5, 2019, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2019December/8130_Emergency_Medical_Services_Memorial_Site_Selection_Commission_Action_Dec2019.pdf.

[57] P.L. 119-107, 140 Stat. 1018 (2026). Also see U.S. Congress, House Natural Resources Committee, *National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Extension Act*, report to accompany H.R. 2196, 119th Cong., 2nd sess., February 24, 2026, H.Rept. 119-518, https://www.congress.gov/committee-report/119th-congress/house-report/518/1?s=2&r=1. On November 3, 2024, the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial authorization had previously expired. See National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (NCMAC), "Memorial Updates," August 11, 2026, https://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?sfid=859569&projectID=44217.

Sponsor Organization:	National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation (https://www.emsmemorial.org)
Statutory Extension:	Authorization extended through September 11, 2033 P.L. 119-107, 140 Stat. 1018 (2026)
Location:	TBD
Dedication:	TBD

Women's Suffrage Movement Memorial

In December 2020, Congress authorized the Every Word We Utter Monument to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which gave women the right to vote."[58] During House debate on the bill (H.R. 473), Representative Joe Neguse stated why he considered a memorial to the 19th Amendment to be important:

> "Every word we utter, every act we perform, waft unto innumerable circles beyond." Those are the words Elizabeth Cady Stanton that inspired the movement for H.R. 473, which will create Washington, D.C.'s first statue memorializing the women's suffrage movement.
>
> Today, we have the opportunity to honor the diverse and multigenerational group of women who fought for decades to secure women the right to vote.[59]

In the 118th Congress, Congress authorized the Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation to place the memorial in the Reserve.[60] In September 2025, the Commission of Fine Arts approved the Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation's preferred site "at the western end of Constitution Gardens," with comments.[61] In December 2025, the foundation presented four potential sites to the NCPC.[62] **Figure 6** shows the proposed sites for the Women's Suffrage Movement Memorial.

[58] P.L. 116-217, §1(a), 134 Stat. 1135, (2020).

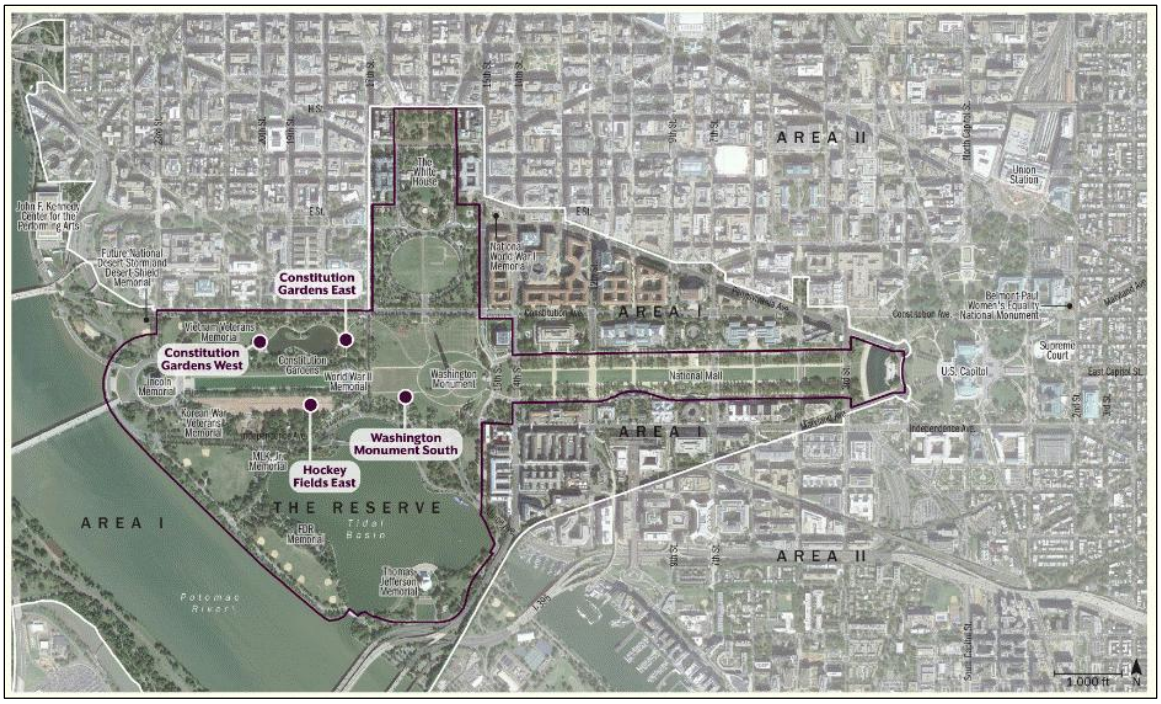
[59] Rep. Joe Neguse, "Authorizing Every Word We Utter Monument to Establish a Commemorative Work," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 166 (February 26, 2020), p. H1205.

[60] P.L. 118-226, 138 Stat. 2819 (2025). For more information, see U.S. Congress, House Natural Resources Committee, *Women's Suffrage National Monument Location Act*, report to accompany H.R. 1318, 118th Cong., 1st sess., H.Rept. 118-268, November 3, 2023, https://www.congress.gov/118/crpt/hrpt268/CRPT-118hrpt268.pdf. In June 2023, a Senate subcommittee held a hearing on a companion measure, S. 886. For more information, see U.S. Congress, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks, *Hearing to Receive Testimony on Legislation*, June 21, 2023, https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2023/6/subcommittee-hearing-to-receive-testimony-on-legislation. Prior to the authorization of a site in the Reserve, the Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation had presented its site selection study to the NCMAC. See NCMAC, "Women's Suffrage National Monument," October 4, 2023, https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=463&projectID=44217&documentID=131669.

[61] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Jen Nersesian, director, Region 1-National Capital Area, National Park Service, September 25, 2025, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-18-sep-25-1.

[62] NCPC, *Commission Action: Women's Suffrage National Monument*, file no. 8699, December 4, 2025, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2025December/8699_Womens_Suffrage_National_Monument_Site_Selection_Commission_Action_Dec2025.pdf; NCPC, *Executive Director's Recommendation: Women's Suffrage National Monument*, file no. 8699, December 4, 2025, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2025December/8699_Womens_Suffrage_National_Monument_Site_Selection_Staff_Report_Dec2025.pdf.

Figure 6. Proposed Site Locations of the Women's Suffrage Movement Memorial



Source: NCPC, *Women's Suffrage Movement Memorial*, file no. 8699, December 4, 2025, p. 48, https://www.ncpc.gov/files/projects/2025/8699_Womens_Suffrage_National_Monument_Site_Selection_Submission_Materials_Dec2025.pdf.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 116-217, 134 Stat. 1052 (2020)
Sponsor Organization:	Every Word We Utter Monument (https://www.womensmonument.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	Reserve[63]
Dedication:	TBD

Medal of Honor Memorial

In December 2021, Congress authorized the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "honor the extraordinary acts of valor, selfless service, and sacrifice displayed by Medal of Honor recipients."[64] During House debate on the bill (H.R. 1664), the bill's sponsor, Representative Marc Veasey, stated why he considered a memorial to Medal of Honor recipients important:

> This bill honors our Nation's brave servicemembers by paving the way for the creation of a monument in our Nation's Capital recognizing the Medal of Honor and its more than 3,500 recipients.
>
> Our Nation's Medal of Honor recipients are patriots. They have put their lives on the line to ensure we can live freely and prosperously in the greatest nation on Earth. That is why I am happy to have spearheaded this from the beginning and pay homage to the values the

[63] P.L. 118-226, 138 Stat. 2819 (2025)

[64] P.L. 117-80, §1(a), 135 Stat. 1539 (2021).

> Medal of Honor represents—courage, patriotism, citizenship, integrity, commitment, and sacrifice—and the brave individuals who earned it in service to our country.[65]

On September 10, 2026, President Trump signed legislation to provide the memorial with a location in the Reserve.[66]

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 117-80, 135 Stat. 1539 (2021)
Sponsor Organization:	National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation (https://mohmuseum.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	Reserve[67]
Dedication:	TBD

Women Who Worked on the Home Front in World War II

In December 2022, Congress authorized the Women Who Worked the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate the commitment and service represented by women who worked on the home front during World War II."[68] During House consideration of a standalone bill to authorize the memorial (H.R. 3531), Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton stated why she considered a memorial to women who worked on the home front in World War II important:

> This bill would authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a memorial to honor these women. The memorial is designed to be interactive and to educate visitors on the important role women played during World War II.
>
> Between 1940 and 1945, the percentage of women in the workforce increased from 27 percent to nearly 37 percent. By 1945, one in four married women worked outside the home. The work done by women on the home front opened the doors for women in the workplace widely and has had a profound and lasting effect on the job market ever since.[69]

The Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation is seeking a proposed site for the memorial.[70] On December 10, 2025, the House passed H.R. 2290, which would provide the memorial a site location in Area I or the Reserve.[71]

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[65] Rep. Marc Veasey, "Authorization to Establish Commemorative Work," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 167 (July 26, 2021), p. H3861.

[66] P.L. 119-104, 140 Stat. 1011 (2026). For background information on the authorization to place the memorial in the Reserve, see U.S. Congress, House Natural Resources Committee, *Hershel "Woody" Williams National Medal of Honor Monument Location Act*, report to accompany H.R. 2717, 118th Cong., 1st sess., November 3, 2023, H.Rept. 118-267 (GPO, 2023), https://www.congress.gov/118/crpt/hrpt267/CRPT-118hrpt267.pdf; "Hershel 'Woody' Williams National Medal of Honor Monument Location Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 171 (January 21, 2025), pp. H237-H238; U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, *Business Meeting to Consider Pending Legislation*, December 17, 2025, https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2025/12/business-meeting-to-consider-pending-legislation.

[67] P.L. 119-104, 140 Stat. 1011 (2026).

[68] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §702(a), 126 Stat. 5617 (2022).

[69] Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, "Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act," *Congressional Record*, vol. 167 (December 1, 2021), p. H6739.

[70] Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation, "Choosing a Location for the Memorial," https://wwiiwomenmemorial.org/new-page-1.

[71] H.R. 2290 (119th Congress), passed the House on December 10, 2025. See also U.S. Congress, House Natural Resources Committee, *World War II Women's Memorial Location Act*, report to accompany H.R. 2290, 119th Cong., 1st

(continued...)

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §702, 136 Stat. 5617 (2022)
Sponsor Organization:	Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation (https://wwiiwomenmemorial.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	TBD
Dedication:	TBD

National Service Animals and Handlers

In December 2022, Congress authorized the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate the heroic deeds and sacrifices of service animals and handlers of service animals in the United States."[72] During debate on a standalone bill to authorize the memorial (H.R. 6353), Representative Raúl Grijalva, then chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, stated why he considered a memorial to service animals important:

> The bill recognizes the National Service Animals Monument Corporation's mission to honor and recognize the broad scope of service animals through a memorial to educate the public of the contributions by service animals and of the human-animal bond between service animals and their handlers.
>
> The memorial will ensure that the contributions of service and working animals are understood, and that their history is not forgotten.
>
> In doing so, the bill recognizes the lifesaving and life-sustaining service these animals so generously provide to our communities.[73]

The National Service Animals Monument Corporation is currently evaluating site locations.[74] In the 119th Congress, legislation has been introduced to site the memorial in the Reserve.[75] **Figure 7** depicts the conceptual design for the memorial.

sess., September 15, 2025, H.Rept. 119-284 (2025), https://www.congress.gov/119/crpt/hrpt284/CRPT-119hrpt284.pdf. On December 9, 2025, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on S. 1088, the companion measure to H.R. 2290. See, U.S. Congress, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, *Pending Legislation*, 119th Cong., 1st sess., November 9, 2025, S.Hrg. 119-238, https://www.congress.gov/119/chrg/CHRG-119shrg62251/CHRG-119shrg62251.pdf. In the 118th Congress (2023-2024), legislation (H.R. 8307) was introduced that would have authorized the Women Who Worked on the Home Front in World War II Memorial's placement in Area I or in the Reserve. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and was not further considered.

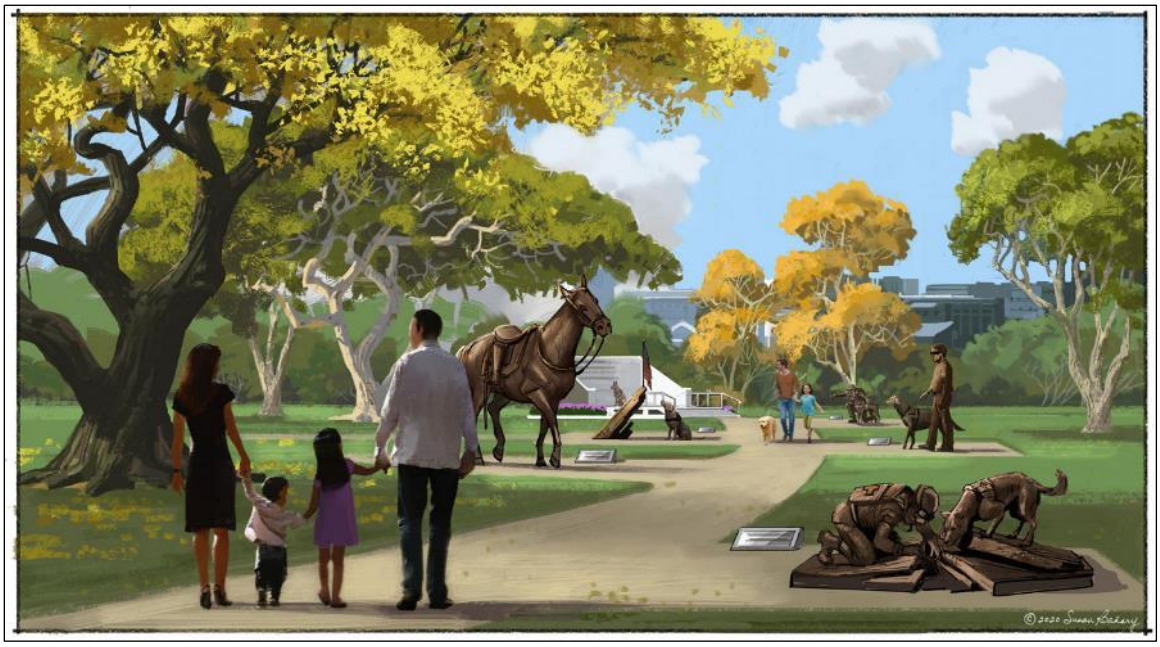
[72] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §704, 126 Stat. 5618 (2022).

[73] Rep. Raul Grijalva, "National Service Animals Memorial Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 168 (September 19, 2022), p. H7932.

[74] National Service Animals Monument, "Our Timeline," https://nationalserviceanimalsmonument.org/overview-and-timeline.

[75] H.R. 9582 (119th Congress), introduced July 2, 2026.

Figure 7. National Service Animals and Handlers Memorial Concept Design



Source: National Service Animals Monument Corporation, "Artist's Conceptual Designs," https://nationalserviceanimalsmemorial.org/#.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §704, 136 Stat. 5618 (2022)
Sponsor Organization:	National Service Animals Monument Corporation (https://nationalserviceanimalsmonument.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	TBD
Dedication:	TBD

Jean Monnet

In December 2022, Congress authorized the Embassy of France in Washington, DC to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "honor the extraordinary contributions of Jean Monnet with respect to—(1) restoring peace between European nations; and (2) establishing the European Union."[76] During debate on a standalone bill to authorize the memorial (H.R. 6611), Representative Jim Costa stated why he considered a memorial to Jean Monnet important:

> Jean Monnet was a distinguished French diplomat whose efforts in the immediate post-World War II era were instrumental in the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, which was a precursor to what eventually became the European Union (EU). Monnet is widely considered a "founding father" of the EU. His vision argued that a unified and economically integrated Europe would lead to long-term peace and stability on the continent.
>
> Monnet was a strong ally and partner of the United States. He spent time in Washington, D.C. during World War II and was a strong advocate for U.S. military assistance to the Allied countries. During his time in Washington, Monnet lived near Rock Creek Park and frequently took long walks in what he referred to as "my park." Monnet claimed that it was

[76] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §705(a), 126 Stat. 5619 (2022).

on these walks that he thought out and developed plans to achieve lasting peace through a unified Europe.[77]

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §705, 126 Stat. 5619 (2022)
Sponsor Organization:	The Embassy of France in Washington (https://franceintheus.org/jeanmonnet)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	TBD
Dedication:	TBD

Enslaved Individuals Who Endured the Middle Passage

In December 2022, Congress authorized the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "commemorate the enslaved individuals, the identities of whom may be known or unknown, who endured the Middle Passage."[78] During House consideration of a standalone bill to authorize the memorial (H.R. 4009), Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, stated why she considered a memorial to enslaved individuals who endured the Middle Passage important:

> This bill would authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia commemorating the enslaved individuals who endured forced migration to the United States by way of the transatlantic slave trade. The National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission unanimously supported this bill, and it passed out of committee by unanimous consent.
>
> We must not hide this history. Enslaved individuals, known and unknown, rest at the core of our Nation's history. The atrocities of the system of chattel slavery shed light on our Nation's central struggle between slavery and freedom—a freedom under which some could be owned, beaten, separated from their families, and denied any rights.
>
> This bill provides for the creation of a powerful marker of truth-telling and remembrance. Let us honor the personhood of these individuals who were repeatedly assumed to have none so that they will never be forgotten.[79]

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §707, 126 Stat. 5620 (2022)
Sponsor Organization:	Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	TBD
Dedication:	TBD

Thomas Paine

In December 2022, Congress authorized the Thomas Paine Memorial Association to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia to "honor the United States patriot, Thomas

[77] Rep. Jim Costa, "Authorization to Establish Commemorative Work," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 168 (December 12, 2022), p. H9675.

[78] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §707(a). 136 Stat. 5620 (2022).

[79] Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, "Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 168 (September 19, 2022), p. H7932.

Paine."[80] Previously, in October 1992, Congress had authorized the Thomas Paine National Historical Association to establish a memorial to honor Revolutionary War patriot Thomas Paine.[81] The authorization for that memorial expired on December 31, 2003.[82] In September 2024, the Thomas Paine Memorial Association presented its site selection study to the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission.[83] In the 119th Congress, legislation has been introduced to authorize the memorial's placement in Area I (H.R. 9600). On October 29, 2026, the House Natural Resource Committee reported the legislation.[84]

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §709, 136 Stat. 5621 (2022)
Sponsor Organization:	Thomas Paine Memorial Association (https://thomaspainememorial.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	TBD
Dedication:	TBD

Commemorative Works with Lapsed, Replaced, or Repealed Authorizations

Since 1986, several commemorative works authorized by Congress were not completed in the time allowed by the CWA. They include the memorial to John Adams and his family; modifications to the Second Division Memorial; memorials to honor Gold Star Mothers, Benjamin Banneker, Frederick Douglass, and Brigadier General Francis Marion; a National Peace Garden; and a Vietnam Veterans Visitor Center. An additional memorial, to Thomas Paine, had a lapsed authorization that was not extended, but an authorization for a different group to construct a memorial honoring the same subject became law in 2022 (as discussed elsewhere in this report). Additionally, one memorial (the Slaves and Free Black Persons who served in the Revolutionary War memorial) had its authorization lapse, and then subsequently repealed in legislation creating a new memorial authorization (The National Liberty Memorial). The following section describes

[80] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §709(a), 136 Stat. 5621 (2022).

[81] P.L. 102-407, 106 Stat. 1991 (1992); and P.L. 102-459, 106 Stat. 2268 (1992).

[82] P.L. 106-113, §142, 113 Stat. 1501A-171 (1999). The 1999 authorization was given to the Thomas Paine Memorial Foundation. The authorization in P.L. 117-328 did not repeal the 1999 authorization. Consequently, the Thomas Paine Memorial listed here is separate from the Thomas Paine Memorial authorized in 1999 and listed under "Commemorative Works with Lapsed Authorizations," below.

[83] Thomas Paine Memorial Association, "Site Selection Study," September 4, 2024, https://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?sfid=755332&projectID=44217. The Thomas Paine Memorial Association also provided NCMAC a document to justify the potential siting of the memorial within Area I. For more information, see Thomas Paine Memorial Association, "Thomas Paine and His Importance in the History of the United States of America," https://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?sfid=755331&projectID=44217.

[84] U.S. Congress, House Natural Resources Committee, *Common Sense 250 Act of 2026*, report to accompany H.R. 9600, 119th Cong., 2nd sess., October 29, 2026, H.Rept. 119-860, https://www.congress.gov/119/crpt/hrpt860/CRPT-119hrpt860.pdf. On September 2, 2026, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on H.R. 9600. For more information, see U.S. Congress, House Committee on Natural Resources, Federal Lands Subcommittee, "Empowering Local Management, Expanding Public Access and Conserving America's Historic Legacy," press release, September 2, 2026, https://naturalresources.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=419018; and U.S. Congress, House Committee on Natural Resources, Federal Lands Subcommittee, *Legislative Hearing on H.R. 642, H.R. 5470, H.R. 6788, H.R. 9269, H.R. 9600, H.R. 9779, H.R. 10128, H.R. 10136 and S. 675*, September 2, 2026, https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=418999.

the initial authorization for each of these memorials and congressional extensions of memorial authorization, if appropriate.

Lapsed Authorization With Reauthorizing Legislation Introduced in the 119th Congress

Legislation has been introduced in the 119th Congress to extend the authorization of two lapsed memorials—the John Adams and His Family Memorial and the Second Division Memorial additions.

John Adams and His Family

In November 2001, Congress authorized the Adams Memorial Foundation to "establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor former President John Adams, along with his wife Abigail Adams and former President John Quincy Adams, and the family's legacy of public service."[85] In remarks during debate on the bill (H.R. 1668, 107th Congress), Representative Joel Hefley summarized the importance of the Adams family to American history:

> Perhaps no American family has contributed as profoundly to public service as the family that gave the Nation its second President, John Adams; his wife, Abigail Adams; and their son, our sixth President, John Quincy Adams, who was also, by the way, a member of this body. The family's legacy was far reaching, continuing with John Quincy Adams's son, Charles Francis Adams, who was also a member of this body and an ambassador to England during the Civil War; and his son, Henry Adams, an eminent writer and scholar, and it goes on and on.[86]

In March 2019, as part of the enactment of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, Congress created the Adams Memorial Commission.[87] The Adams Memorial Commission replaces the Adams Memorial Foundation as the memorial's sponsor. Moving forward, the commission is responsible for all aspects of the memorial's siting, design, and construction.[88] In the 119th Congress, legislation passed the House to reauthorize the Adams Memorial Commission, which was scheduled to expire on December 2, 2025, and to authorize the memorial to be sited in the Reserve.[89] On July 21, 2026, the Senate Committee on Energy and

[85] P.L. 107-62, 115 Stat. 411-412 (2001).

[86] Rep. Joel Hefley, "Authorizing Adams Memorial Foundation to Establish Commemorative Work Honoring Former President John Adams," remarks in the House, *Congressional Record*, vol. 147, part 8 (June 25, 2001), p. 11757.

[87] P.L. 116-9, §2406, 133 Stat. 748 (2019). The commission consists of 12 members: four appointed by the President; four Senators appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate in consultation with the Senate majority leader and the Senate minority leader; and four Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House in consultation with the House majority leader and the House minority leader.

[88] In December 2013, the Adams Memorial Foundation's authorization expired. Prior to its lapse of authorization, the Adams Memorial Foundation was working with the NCMAC on the potential recommendation of a location in Area I. National Park Service, "National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee Meeting," 76 *Federal Register* 32986, June 7, 2011. NCMAC had not endorsed any particular site location; it had recommended that the foundation continue its examination of numerous sites in the District of Columbia to find a suitable location. Author's notes of National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission Meeting, June 23, 2011, National Building Museum, Washington, DC.

[89] H.R. 2306 (119th Congress) passed the House on December 10, 2025. The Adams Memorial Commission's authorization was set to expire on December 2, 2025. H.R. 2306 would extend the Adams Memorial Commission until 2032 and provide site location choices for the memorial in the Reserve. See U.S. Congress, House Natural Resources Committee, *Adams Memorial-Great American Heroes Act*, report to accompany H.R. 2306, 119th Cong., 1st sess., October 31, 2025, H.Rept. 119-353 (2025), https://www.congress.gov/119/crpt/hrpt353/CRPT-119hrpt353.pdf; and (continued...)

Natural Resources held a hearing on H.R. 2306.[90] On September 30, the committee ordered the bill to be to be reported, with an amendment.[91]

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 107-62, 115 Stat. 411 (2001)
Sponsor Organization:	Adams Memorial Commission (https://adams.gov) (P.L. 116-9, §2406(l), 133 Stat. 749 [2019])
Statutory Extensions:	
	Authorization extended through September 30, 2010 P.L. 111-88, §130, 123 Stat. 2933 (2009)
	Authorization extended through December 2, 2013 P.L. 111-169, 124 Stat. 1192 (2010)
	Authorization extended through December 2, 2020 P.L. 113-291, §3094, 128 Stat. 3880 (2014)
	Authorization Extended through December 2, 2025 P.L. 116-9, §2406(l), 133 Stat. 749 (2019)
Location:	TBD[92]
Dedication:	TBD

Second Division Memorial Modifications

On March 23, 2018, as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141), modifications to the Second Division Memorial were authorized.[93] The Second Division Memorial was initially dedicated on July 18, 1936, to commemorate the division's World War I casualties, and "two wings were dedicated on June 20, 1962, with significant battles of World War II inscribed on the west and of the Korean War on the east."[94] P.L. 115-141 authorizes the placement of "additional commemorative elements or engravings on the raised platform or stone work of the existing Second Division Memorial ... to further honor the members of the Second Infantry Division who have given their lives in service to the United States."[95]

"Adams Memorial-Great American Heroes Act," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 171 (December 9, 2025), pp. H5083-H5085, https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/volume-171/issue-207/house-section/article/H5083-1. H.R. 2306, §2, would authorize the memorial to be sited in an area on the Northeast side of the Ellipse at the corner of E St., NW, and 15th St., NW. A copy of the map referenced in H.R. 2306 can be provided by the author upon request.

[90] U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, *Hearing on Pending Legislation*, July 21, 2026, https://www.congress.gov/event/119th-congress/senate-event/338795; https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/hearings-subcommittee-on-national-parks-to-receive-testimony-on-pending-legislation/.

[91] U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, *Business Meeting to Consider Pending Legislation*, September 30, 2026, https://www.congress.gov/event/119th-congress/senate-event/338795; https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/business-meeting-to-consider-pending-legislation-3.

[92] Prior to the Adams Memorial Foundation's authorization expiration, the memorial had been approved for Area I (P.L. 107-315, 116 Stat. 2763 (2002)).

[93] P.L. 115-141, Division G, §121(a)(1), 132 Stat. 661 (2018). P.L. 115-141 incorporated by reference Section 7130 of S. 1460 (115th Congress), the Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017.

[94] U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Second Division Memorial," *The White House and President's Park*, https://www.nps.gov/places/second-division-memorial.htm.

[95] P.L. 115-141, Division G, §121(a)(1).

In November 2020, CFA reviewed proposed modifications to the Second Division Memorial.[96] In March 2021, NCPC approved the final plans for the memorial additions.[97] Authorization for the memorial's modification expired on December 12, 2024.[98]

In the 119th Congress, legislation has been introduced to extend the authorization for modifications to the Second Division Memorial until 2032.[99] **Figure 8** shows the proposed modification to the Second Division Memorial.

Figure 8. Second Division Memorial



Source: Second Infantry Division Association Memorial Foundation, "Second Infantry Division Memorial Modification," CFA Submission, November 19, 2020, p. 21, https://www.cfa.gov/system/files/meeting-materials/CFA-19NOV20-2-Second_Division_Memorial_%28pres%29.pdf.

Authorization Statute:	P.L. 115-91, §352, 131 Stat. 1367 (2017); P.L. 115-141, Division G, §121(a)(1), 132 Stat. 661 (2018)

[96] Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Kym A. Hall, Area Director, Region 1—National Capital Area, National Park Service, November 25, 2020, https://cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-19-nov-20-2.

[97] NCPC, "NCPC Approves Final Plans for Second Division Memorial Modification," press release, March 5, 2021, https://www.ncpc.gov/news/item/133/1/.

[98] NCMAC, "Memorial Updates," August 11, 2026, https://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?sfid=859569&projectID=44217.

[99] S. 1353 (119th Congress), introduced April 8, 2025. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on S. 1353 on December 1, 2025, and ordered the bill reported, with an amendment, by voice vote on February 4, 2026. U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, *National Park Subcommittee to Receive Testimony on Pending Legislation*, 119th Cong., 1st sess., December 9, 2025, https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2025/12/national-park-subcommittee-to-receive-testimony-on-pending-legislation; U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, *Business Meeting to Consider Pending Legislation*, 119th Cong., 2nd sess., February 4, 2026, https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2026/2/business-meeting-to-consider-pending-legislation; and U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources, *Amendment to S. 1353*, 119th Cong., 2nd sess. February 4, 2026, https://www.energy.senate.gov/services/files/2BF61705-C288-4E2A-9DF3-9DCE1AAE95F4.

Sponsor Organization:	Second Division Indianhead Division Association, Inc. (https://www.2idmemorialsfoundation.org)
Statutory Extension:	N/A
Location:	Reserve
Dedication:	TBD

Lapsed Authorization Without Reauthorizing Legislation Introduced in the 119th Congress

National Peace Garden

In June 1987, Congress authorized the Director of the National Park Service to enter into an agreement with the Peace Garden Project to "construct a garden to be known as the 'Peace Garden' on a site on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor the commitment of the people of the United States to world peace."[100] In remarks during debate on the bill (H.R. 191, 100th Congress), Representative Steny Hoyer summarized the need for a memorial to peace:

> No one or nation can ever doubt the commitment of the American people to protecting our freedoms when threatened by foreign aggressors. Our Nation's Capital rightfully honors our heroic defenders of freedom—Americans who served their country courageously, gallantly, and at great risk to their lives.
>
> Our citizens have also exhibited an equal commitment for world peace and international law and justice. The creation of a Peace Garden is an appropriate symbol of our efforts to continuing to seek peaceful resolution of world conflict and the institution of the rule of law.
>
> Certainly, this century has been one of bloodiest and most violent in man's history. We have seen countless battles, wars, rebellions, massacres, and civil and international strife of all kinds—continuing examples of man's inhumanity toward his fellow man.
>
> At the same time, against this terrible backdrop, there have been encouraging strides toward world peace. As we honor those who have made sacrifices in war, through monuments, so, too, should we honor them by striving to ensure that the world they have left us will be a peaceful one. A garden would be a living monument to our efforts.[101]

In 1988, a site was approved for the Peace Garden at Hains Point in Southwest Washington, DC.[102] Since its initial authorization in 1987, the National Peace Garden was reauthorized twice.[103] The authorization expired on June 30, 2002.[104]

Benjamin Banneker

In November 1998, Congress authorized the Washington Interdependence Council of the District of Columbia to establish a memorial to "honor and commemorate the accomplishments of Mr.

[100] P.L. 100-63, 101 Stat. 379 (1987).

[101] Rep. Steny Hoyer, "Authorizing the Establishment of a Peace Garden," remarks in the House, *Congressional Record*, vol. 133, part 4 (March 10, 1987), p. 5205.

[102] National Park Service, "New Memorials Update," press release, March 14, 2001.

[103] P.L. 103-321 (108 Stat. 1793, August 26, 1994) extended the Peace Garden's authorization until 10-years after enactment (1997). P.L. 105-202 (112 Stat. 676 [1998]) extended the authorization until June 30, 2002.

[104] P.L. 105-202, 112 Stat. 676 (1998).

Benjamin Banneker."[105] Adopted as part of a larger bill to create a national heritage area in Michigan, the authorization for the Benjamin Banneker Memorial passed the House and Senate without debate and by voice vote in October.[106] In 2001, the National Park Service reported that the memorial was to be sited on the L'Enfant Promenade in Southwest Washington and be under the jurisdiction of the District of Columbia.[107]

Since its initial authorization, the Washington Interdependence Council has not been granted an extension to its original authorization, which expired in 2005. A bill (S. 3886) was introduced in the 111th Congress (2009-2010) to reauthorize a Benjamin Banneker Memorial. S. 3886 was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, but no further action was taken.[108]

Frederick Douglass

In November 2000, Congress authorized the Frederick Douglass Gardens, Inc., "to establish a memorial and gardens on lands under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior in the District of Columbia or its environs in honor and commemoration of Frederick Douglass."[109] During debate, Representative James Hansen provided a summary of why a memorial to Frederick Douglass was important:

> Mr. Speaker, Frederick Douglass was one of the most prominent leaders of the 19th century abolitionist movement. Born into slavery in eastern Maryland in 1818, Douglass escaped to the North as a young man where he became a world-renowned defender of human rights and eloquent orator, and later a Federal ambassador and advisor to several Presidents. Frederick Douglass was a powerful voice for human rights during the important period of American history, and is still revered today for his contributions against racial injustice.[110]

Early in 2001, the Frederick Douglass Memorial Gardens, Inc., expressed its preference for a site location near the Douglass Memorial Bridge in Southeast Washington,[111] but no further action was taken by Congress to approve the site location. The Frederick Douglass Memorial's authorization expired in 2008. One attempt was made to reauthorize a Frederick Douglass Memorial during the 110th Congress (2007-2008), but the bill was not reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources.[112]

Brigadier General Francis Marion

In May 2008, Congress authorized the Marion Park Project to establish a commemorative work to honor Brigadier General Francis Marion.[113] In testimony before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Daniel N. Wenk, deputy director for operations, National Park Service, supported the enactment of legislation authorizing a Brigadier

[105] P.L. 105-355, Title V, §512, 112 Stat. 3266 (1998).

[106] "Automobile National Heritage Area Act of 1998," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 144 (October 10, 1998), p. H10423; and "Automobile National Heritage Area," *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 144 (October 14, 1998), p. S12533.

[107] National Park Service, "New Memorials Update," press release, March 14, 2001.

[108] S. 3886 (111th Congress), introduced September 29, 2010.

[109] P.L. 106-479, 114 Stat. 2184 (2000).

[110] Rep. James Hansen, "Authorizing Memorial and Gardens in Honor and Commemoration of Frederick Douglass," *Congressional Record*, vol. 146, part 14 (October 3, 2000), p. 20630.

[111] National Park Service, "New Memorials Update," press release, March 14, 2001.

[112] H.R. 3935 (110th Congress), introduced October 25, 2007.

[113] P.L. 110-229, §331, 122 Stat. 781 (2008).

General Francis Marion Memorial and explained why such a memorial meets criteria for commemoration in the District of Columbia.

> Brigadier General Francis Marion commanded the Williamsburg Militia Revolutionary force in South Carolina and was instrumental in delaying the advance of British forces by leading his troops in disrupting supply lines. He is credited for inventing and applying innovative battle tactics in this effort, keys to an ultimate victory for the American Colonies in the Revolutionary War. Additionally Brigadier General Marion's troops are believed to have been the first racially integrated force fighting for the United States.[114]

The Marion Park Project identified its preferred site location for the memorial at Marion Park in southeast Washington, DC. In December 2014, the National Capital Planning Commission expressed its support for the Marion Park site.[115] Since its initial authorization, the Marion Memorial was reauthorized once.[116] Authorization for the memorial expired on May 8, 2018.

Gold Star Mothers

In December 2012, as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, Congress authorized the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation to establish a commemorative work to "commemorate the sacrifices made by mothers, and made by their sons and daughters who as members of the Armed Forces make the ultimate sacrifice, in defense of the United States."[117] In testimony before the House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, the legislation's (H.R. 1980's) sponsor, Representative Jon Runyan, explained why he thought a memorial to Gold Star Mothers was needed:

> During World War I, mothers of sons and daughters who served in the Armed Forces displayed flags bearing a blue star to represent pride in their sons or daughters and their hope that they would return home safely.
>
> For more than 650,000 of these brave mothers, that hope was shattered, and their children never returned home. Afterwards many of them began displaying flags bearing gold stars to represent the sacrifice that their sons and daughters made in heroic service to our country. Over the years the gold star has come to represent a child who was killed while serving in the Armed Forces, during either war or peacetime.[118]

In December 2013, the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation presented its site analysis to the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission. In that informational presentation, they expressed a preference for a site location adjacent to Arlington National

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[114] Testimony of National Park Service Deputy Director for Operations Daniel N. Wenk, in U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, *Miscellaneous National Park Bills*, hearing on S. 169, S. 312, S. 580, S. 686, S. 722, S. 783, S. 890, H.R. 497, and H.R. 1047, 110th Cong., 1st sess., April 26, 2007, S.Hrg. 110-88, p. 12.

[115] The Marion Park Project, "Site Selection & Design Process," http://www.swampfoxmemorial.org/siteselection.html. On December 4, 2014, the National Capital Planning Commission officially expressed its support for the placement of the Francis Marion Memorial within Marion Park. For more information, see NCPC, *Commission Action: Francis Marion Memorial*, file no. 7615, December 4, 2014, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2014December/Francis_Marion_Memorial_Recommendation_7615_December_2014.pdf.

[116] P.L. 114-92, §2852, 129 Stat. 1184 (2015).

[117] P.L. 112-239, §2859, 126 Stat. 2164 (2013).

[118] Testimony of Representative Jon Runyan, in U.S. Congress, House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, *Legislative Hearing on H.R. 1980, H.R. 2070, H.R. 2621, and H.R. 3155*, 112th Cong., 1st sess., November 3, 2011, http://naturalresources.house.gov/uploadedfiles/runyanstatement11.03.11.pdf.

Cemetery.[119] In January 2015, the NCPC expressed support for a site next to the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor's Center on Memorial Drive,[120] and the CFA approved that site location.[121]

The Gold Star Mothers National Memorial Foundation's authority to construct a memorial expired in January 2020.[122] In the 117th Congress (2021-2022), legislation was introduced to reauthorize the memorial until January 2, 2027, but was not enacted.[123]

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitors Center

In November 2003, Congress authorized the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to create a visitor center at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to "better inform and educate the public about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Vietnam War."[124] In the House report accompanying the legislation (H.R. 1442, 108th Congress), the Committee on Resources summarized the need for a visitor center at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial:

> Since its dedication in 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, known to many as simply "The Wall," has done much to heal the nation's wounds after the bitterly divisive experience of the Vietnam War. For those who served, that year marked a sea change in the country's view of the Vietnam veteran. Americans began to understand and respect the Vietnam veterans' service and sacrifice. Today, over 4.4 million people visit The Wall every year—making it the most visited Memorial in the Nation's Capital. Today, most visitors to The Wall were not alive during the "Vietnam Era." Many veterans' organizations and many others believe today's visitor is shortchanged in his/her experience. Many leave The Wall not fully understanding its message. To that end, a visitor center would provide an educational experience for visitors by facilitating self-guided tours, collecting and displaying remembrances of those whose names are inscribed on the Memorial, and displaying exhibits discussing the history of the Memorial and the Vietnam War. The visitor's center would eventually replace a 168-foot National Park Service kiosk currently at the site.[125]

The visitor center was to be constructed underground and located across the street from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial.[126] In 2015, the NCPC and CFA approved the visitor center's design.[127] On September 21, 2018, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

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[119] NCMAC, "Agenda," December 12, 2013, http://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?documentID=50005.

[120] NCPC, *Commission Action: Proposed Site for the Gold Star Mothers National Monuments*, file no. 7731, December 3, 2015, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2015December/Gold_Star_Mothers_National_Monument_Recommendation_7731_December2015.pdf.

[121] U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, "CFA 19/NOV/15-2, Gold Star Mothers National Monument," https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-19nov15-2.

[122] The Gold Star Mothers National Memorial Foundation's authority to construct a memorial expired in January 2020.

[123] H.R. 2365 (117th Congress), passed the House on July 26, 2021; and S. 1938 (117th Congress), introduced May 27, 2021. Similar legislation was introduced in the 116th Congress, but was not enacted (H.R. 2819, passed the House on February 28, 2020; and S. 1673, introduced May 23, 2019). For more information, see U.S. Congress, House Committee on Natural Resources, *Gold Star Families National Monument Extension Act*, report to accompany H.R. 2819, 116th Cong., 1st sess., October 18, 2019, H.Rept. 116-243.

[124] P.L. 108-126, 117 Stat. 1348 (2003).

[125] U.S. Congress, House Committee on Resources, *To Authorize the Design and Construction of a Visitor Center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial*, report to accompany H.R. 1442, 108th Cong., 1st sess., October 2, 2003, H.Rept. 108-295, p. 2.

[126] P.L. 108-126, §6(b), 117 Stat. 1348 (2003).

[127] NCPC, *Commission Action: Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center*, file no. 6597, July 9, 2015, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2015July/Vietnam_Veterans_Memorial_Visitor_Center_Recommendation_
(continued...)

announced their intention not to seek an extension to its authorization to build the visitor center, which expired on November 17, 2018.[128] At that time, legislation had been introduced, but not considered, to extend the fund's authorization into 2022.[129] Previously, the fund had received two statutory extensions.[130]

Replaced Authorization

Thomas Paine

In October 1992, Congress authorized the Thomas Paine National Historical Association to establish a memorial to honor Revolutionary War patriot Thomas Paine.[131] In remarks summarizing the need for a memorial to Thomas Paine, Representative William Lacy Clay stated

> Thomas Paine's writings were a catalyst of the American Revolution. His insistence upon the right to resist arbitrary rule has inspired oppressed peoples worldwide, just as it continues to inspire us. It is time that a grateful nation gives him a permanent place of honor in the capital of the country he helped build.[132]

Since its initial authorization in 1992, the authorization for the Thomas Paine memorial was extended once. Authorization for the memorial expired on December 31, 2003.[133] In the 117th Congress, a new sponsor group, the Thomas Paine Memorial Association, was authorized to establish a Thomas Paine Memorial.[134] The new authorization legislation did not repeal the expired 1992 authorization.

Repealed Authorization

Since 1986, one commemorative work's authorization was repealed by Congress—the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial—as part of legislation creating a new memorial authorization.

6597_July2015.pdf; Letter from Thomas E. Luebke, secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to Robert Vogel, regional director, National Park Service, National Capital Region, May 15, 2015, https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-21may15-2; and NCPC, *Commission Action: Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center*, file no. 6597, https://www.ncpc.gov/docs/actions/2012July/Vietnam_Veterans_Memorial_Visitor_Center_Recommendation_6597_July2012_.pdf.

[128] Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, "Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Changes Direction of Education Center Campaign," press release, September 21, 2018, http://www.vvmf.org/news/article=Vietnam-Veterans-Memorial-Fund-changes-direction-of-Education-Center-campaign.

[129] S. 3298 (115th Congress), introduced July 30, 2018. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on S. 3298 on August 15, 2018. For more information, see U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, *Legislative Hearing*, August 15, 2018, https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=B763CF41-B503-4EF2-9B06-CD734A00DBB8.

[130] P.L. 111-270, 124 Stat. 2851 (2010) (extended through November 17, 2014); and P.L. 113-21, 127 Stat. 490 (2013) (extended through November 17, 2018).

[131] P.L. 102-407, 106 Stat. 1991 (1992); and P.L. 102-459, 106 Stat. 2268 (1992).

[132] Rep. William Lacy Clay, "Authorizing Construction of a Monument to Honor Thomas Paine," remarks in the House, *Congressional Record*, vol. 138, part 13 (July 21, 1992), p. 18660.

[133] P.L. 106-113, §142, 113 Stat. 1501A-171 (1999).

[134] P.L. 117-328, Division DD, Subtitle D, Title VII, §709(a) (2022).

Black Revolutionary War Patriots

In October 1986, Congress authorized the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia to honor "the estimated five thousand courageous slaves and free black persons who served as soldiers and sailors or provided civilian assistance during the American Revolution and to honor countless black men, women, and children who ran away from slavery or filed petitions with courts and legislatures seeking their freedom."[135] In remarks introducing the memorial legislation, Representative Mary Rose Oakar summarized the need for a memorial to Black Revolutionary War Veterans:

> Mr. Speaker, as early as 1652 blacks were fighting as members of the Militia in Colonial America, thus beginning their history of achievement and heroism for our country. Yet, history books in American schools have for the most part omitted the contributions of black soldiers since the Revolutionary War, to our most recent conflict in Vietnam.
>
> This memorial to these black Americans is a small tribute to their bravery and valor, an important part of the founding of our country.[136]

Following its initial authorization in 1986, the memorial was reauthorized three times.[137] Authorization for the memorial expired in 2005,[138] and it was repealed when the National Mall Liberty Fund DC was authorized to build the National Liberty Memorial in 2013 (discussed above in the section "National Liberty Memorial").[139]

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[135] P.L. 99-558, 100 Stat. 3144 (1986); P.L. 99-590, 100 Stat. 3330 (1986); and P.L. 99-591, 100 Stat. 3341 (1986).

[136] Rep. Mary Oakar, "Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial," *Congressional Record*, vol. 131, part 22 (November 4, 1985), p. 30373.

[137] P.L. 103-321 (108 Stat. 1793 [1994]) extended the authorization to 10 years from the date of enactment (1996). P.L. 105-345 (112 Stat. 3205 [1998]) extended the authorization until 2000, and P.L. 106-442 (114 Stat. 1926 [2000]) extended the authorization until 2005.

[138] P.L. 106-442, 114 Stat. 1926 (2000).

[139] P.L. 112-239, Title XXVIII, §2860, 126 Stat. 2164 (2013).

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