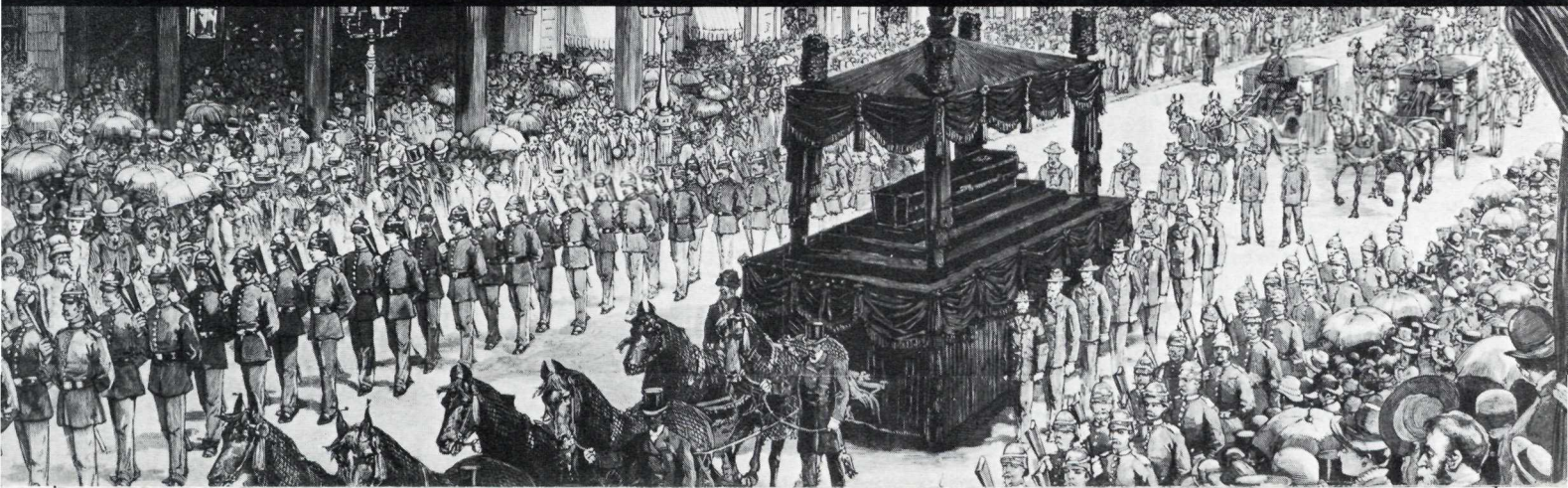


General Grant

National Memorial
New York

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



The grand memorial erected by the American people to Ulysses S. Grant in 1897 bears witness to the reverence they felt for the former general and ex-president. A huge, classically-proportioned mausoleum was thought a fitting resting place for the man honored as the saviour of the Union. Grant himself was an unassuming, almost shy man, who studiously avoided all pomp and ceremony. During the Civil War he rarely carried a sword and felt most comfortable in a private's coat.

He was nevertheless a lion on the battlefield. "I can't spare this man," Abraham Lincoln once said of him. "He fights." The Union army had enjoyed only indifferent success

early in the war, and there was some alarm that the smaller, less well provisioned Confederate armies were outmaneuvering Federal troops. Grant's leadership changed the tide in the Union's favor.

General William T. Sherman characterized Grant as possessing "a simple faith in success," which led him on to one victory after another at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and elsewhere. His lifelong, almost superstitious, habit of refusing to retrace his steps spurred him to attack the enemy relentlessly, until it was worn down and defeated.

As single-minded as he was in war, Grant

was humane and generous in peace. When he received Robert E. Lee's surrender on April 9, 1865, he allowed the Confederate soldiers to keep their horses so they could plow their fields after returning home. When Northern politicians later attempted to try Lee for treason, Grant used his influence to halt the proceedings. At the time of his death in 1885, Grant was universally respected by both Northerners and Southerners. As a sign that the Civil War was truly over and that old wounds had healed, the Confederate Generals Simon Buckner and Joseph Johnston attended the Union commander's funeral as pallbearers.

Soldier/Citizen

1822-39 Born April 27 in Point Pleasant, Ohio, in two-room cottage. Baptized Hiram Ulysses Grant. Attends school and works in father's tannery. Establishes lifelong reputation as excellent horseman.

1839-43 Attends West Point, where name is recorded as Ulysses Simpson Grant. Excels in mathematics. Hopes for teaching post at the military academy.

1843-46 Assigned to post near St. Louis. Regiment moves to Louisiana, then to Mexican border.

1846-48 Serves in Mexican War under Generals Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott. Strongly influenced by Taylor's informal manner and practical approach to warfare and Scott's bold, unconventional move in cutting loose from his supply base.

1848-52 Marries Julia Dent, who became a constant source of strength. Serves as Quartermaster at Great Lakes posts. First of four children is born.

1852-54 Transferred to Oregon. After two unhappy years there and in California, leaves military service.



1854-61 Tries farming land given Julia by father. Forced to peddle cleared wood in St. Louis. Bad luck and ill health cause failure of farm. Fails in real estate business. Father gives him job clerking in family leather goods store.

General

1861 Civil War breaks out. Appointed colonel of undisciplined, demoralized 21st Illinois Volunteers. Proves adept at leading soldiers, and toughens troops in western campaigns. Commissioned a brigadier general at the urging of an Illinois congressman.



1862 First major victories: takes Fort Henry and Fort Donelson in Tennessee after demanding "unconditional surrender." Named a major general in the volunteer army. Defeats Confederates at Shiloh.

1863 With a daring maneuver, takes Vicksburg, last major rebel stronghold on the Mississippi, and cuts Confederacy in half. Commissioned a major general in the regular army. Raises siege of Chattanooga.

1864 Appointed lieutenant general by Lincoln and given command of all Union armies. Campaigns in Virginia against Lee.

1865 Breaks Lee's line at Petersburg and forces Confederates to abandon Richmond. On April 9, receives surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House. The Civil War ends weeks later.

1866 Named first full General of the Armies in American history.

Statesman

1868 Accepts Republican nomination for the presidency, declaring "Let us have peace." Elected to Nation's highest office. Advocates amnesty for Confederate leaders and protection for freed blacks.

1872 Reelected president. Signs act establishing the Nation's first national park, Yellowstone. Administration marred by financial scandals involving friends and supporters.

1876 Opens the Nation's Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia.



1877-79 Travels around the world, greeted by crowds and dignitaries everywhere.

1880 Settles in New York City. Goes into business on Wall Street.

1884 Banking house of Grant and Ward fails. Loses most of his fortune. Begins to write memoirs to provide for family. Contracts cancer of the throat.

1885 Dies July 23, at Mt. McGregor, New York.

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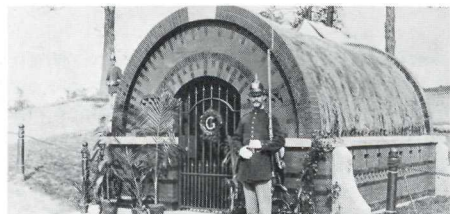
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Popularly known as Grant's Tomb, the memorial to General Grant is the largest mausoleum in America, rising to an imposing 150 feet from a bluff overlooking the Hudson River. It was a mammoth undertaking for the time: hundreds of men worked on the structure between 1891 and 1897, using over 8,000 tons of granite. The great size of the tomb was meant to express the profound admiration Americans felt for the Civil War general. In his own time Grant's military accomplishments were compared to those of Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, and Napoleon Bonaparte. As the man credited with saving the Nation from dissolution, Grant was propelled to the forefront of America's

pantheon of heroes and declared the equal of Washington and Lincoln.

Because of his status as a national hero, most Americans assumed Grant would be buried in Washington D.C., but his family announced that his remains would be interred in New York City. Grant himself had said he preferred a burial site in St. Louis, Missouri, Galena, Ohio, or New York City, and had insisted that a place be reserved by his side for his wife Julia. Immediately after the general died, Mayor William Grace offered the family a burial site in New York, with the assurance that Mrs. Grant could be interred by Grant's side. The funeral was held in New

York on August 8, 1885, and was one of the most spectacular processions ever staged in America. Buildings all over the city were draped in black, with the most elaborate displays along Broadway, the route of the funeral march. The estimated one million people who turned out for the event crowded sidewalks, filled windows, stood on rooftops, and climbed trees and telephone poles for a view of the procession, which included 60,000 marchers, stretched 7 miles, and took up to 5 hours to pass. President Grover Cleveland, his Cabinet, the Justices of the Supreme Court, and virtually the entire Congress took part in the parade.

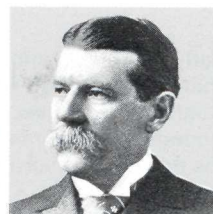


A temporary brick vault was built in Riverside Park at 122d Street to house Grant's remains. The spot was miles beyond the built-up part of the city and difficult to reach by public transportation, but it offered breathtaking views of the Hudson River and promised to be an apt setting for a grandiose, permanent

monument that everyone assumed would quickly be erected in Grant's honor. Few suspected, as the door to the temporary vault was sealed, that it would be 12 years before Grant's Tomb would be completed.



Richard T. Greener, first black graduate of Harvard and a longtime associate of Grant, supervised the fund-raising campaign as secretary of the Grant Monument Association. Former President Arthur and J.P. Morgan helped establish the organization.



Gen. Horace Porter, former aide-de-camp to Grant, became president of the organization in 1892 and managed to collect \$350,000 in 90 days, enough to finish the monument. Altogether, 90,000 people donated more than \$600,000.

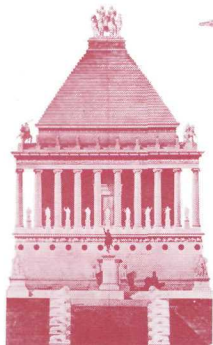


On Grant Day, April 27th, 1897—the 75th anniversary of his birth—the tomb was dedicated. Ten days earlier Grant's body had been secretly transferred from the temporary vault to an 8½-ton red granite sarcophagus in the mausoleum. Crowds again filled the streets, as an enormous parade

passed beneath a triumphal arch and warships on the Hudson fired salutes. Sitting by President McKinley on a huge grandstand in front of the tomb, Mrs. Grant reviewed the ceremony. Five years later she was laid by her husband's side in an identical sarcophagus.

The Tomb

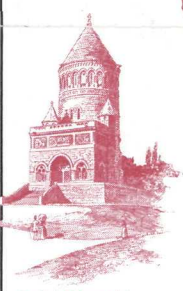
The august memorial to Grant was modeled after some of the most famous monuments ever built. It incorporates elements from the Tomb of King Mausolus at Halicarnassus, the tomb of the Roman Emperor Hadrian, and the Garfield Memorial.



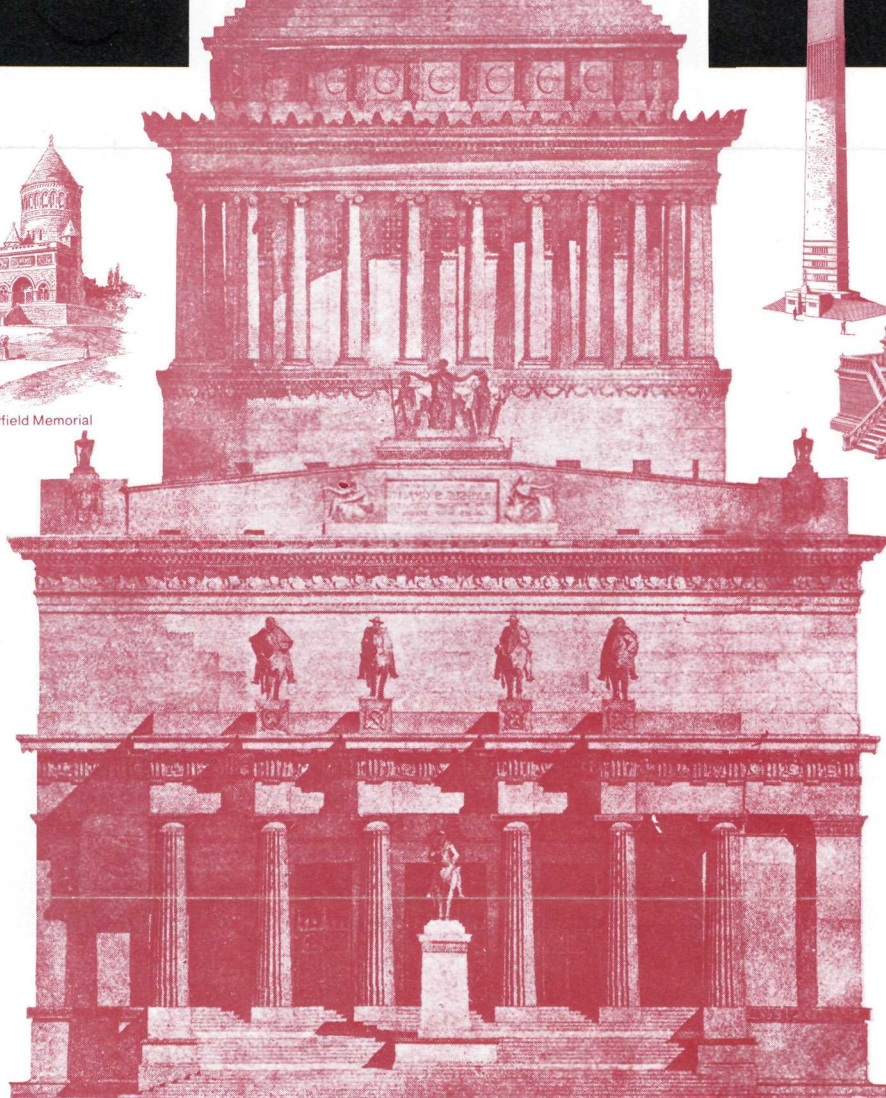
Tomb of King Mausolus

These references to previous mausoleums for the great were intended to emphasize Grant's exalted place in history.

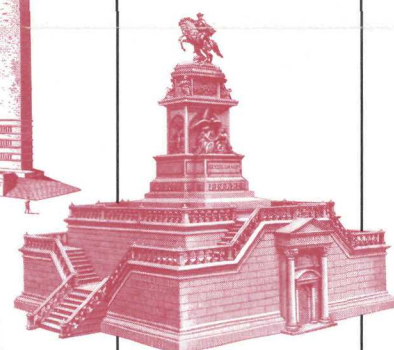
Other designs had been considered. Everyone in America seemed to have an opinion on how the tomb should look. Some thought a towering shaft of granite would best commemorate the dead hero, while others felt a large equestrian statue would be more appropriate. There were



Garfield Memorial



Duncan's preliminary design for Grant Monument



Rejected designs for Grant Monument

even suggestions that it be built of red, white, and blue glass columns. A competition in 1888 drew entries from all over the world, but none were accepted. In a second competition in 1890, the judges selected a design by



New York architect John Duncan.

John Duncan set out to "produce an edifice which shall be unmistakably a Monumental Tomb, no matter from what point of view it may be seen." Of the extensive sculptural ornamentation originally planned, only the two recumbent figures by J. Massey Rhind were commissioned. The figures, probably personifying Victory and Peace, support a plaque which reads, "Let Us Have Peace." The interior of the tomb is of Carrara and Lee marbles. Allegorical reliefs on the vaulting, designed by Rhind, represent Grant's birth, military life, civilian career, and death. The bronze busts in the crypt, sculpted under the WPA program in 1938, portray Grant's

favorite generals: Sherman, Sheridan, Thomas, MacPherson, and Ord.

The Grant Monument Association donated the tomb to the American people in 1958. It is administered by the National Park Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, which is responsible for the preservation of historic and natural resources.

Visitor Information: General Grant National Memorial is located near the intersection of Riverside Drive and West 122d St. You can reach it by Fifth Ave. bus, IRT subway to 116th or 125th and Broadway, or 125th St.

crosstown bus. Riverside Drive is also accessible from the Henry Hudson Parkway at several points. Parking is permitted near the memorial. Visiting hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For information, or to arrange for group visits, call (212) 666-1640. A Superintendent, whose address is 26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005, is in immediate charge of the site.

For Your Safety: Don't allow your visit to be spoiled by an accident. While every effort has been made to provide for your safety, there are potential hazards which require your alertness and common sense.