

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Mall and Memorial Parks  
Washington, D.C.

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## **Photographs of the 2009 Presidential Inauguration**

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Pre-inaugural ceremonies took place Sunday, January 18, at the Lincoln Memorial. The inaugural ceremony took place Tuesday, January 20, at the U.S. Capitol.

Photographs are courtesy of the National Park Service, Office of Public Affairs. Photographs were taken by Terry Adams, Chris Alford, David Barna, Dana Dierkes, Laura Illige, and Paul Ollige.

# THE 2009 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

THE PRE-INAUGURAL CELEBRATION — JANUARY 18, 2009





**THE INAUGURATION — JANUARY 20, 2009**













The use of jumbotrons allowed hundreds of thousands of visitors to see the inauguration at various locations throughout the National Mall.





## THE CLEANUP



The Mall on December 30, 2008.



The Mall on January 21, 2009.







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# **Photographs of Existing Conditions on the National Mall**

Summer 2009 and Spring 2010

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All photographs were taken by Greg Sorensen, July 26–28 and September 7–12, 2009, and May 20–21, 2010.



# VIEWS AND VISTAS

## VIEWS FROM THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT

Views from the Washington Monument show the L'Enfant and McMillan plan vistas.



Looking east to the U.S. Capitol.



Looking west to the World War II Memorial, the reflecting pool, the Lincoln Memorial, the Potomac River, and Arlington Memorial Bridge. Constitution Gardens is to the right.



Looking south to the Tidal Basin, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, and the Potomac River, with the 14th Street and I-395 bridges.



Looking north to the Ellipse and the White House.

## THE CLASSIC VISTAS



The U.S. Capitol from Union Square.



The Washington Monument from the U.S. Capitol.



The White House from the grounds of the Washington Monument.

The Thomas Jefferson Memorial from the grounds of the Washington Monument.



The Washington Monument and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial from the Ellipse in President's Park.



The World War II Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial from 17th Street.



The Washington Monument from the Lincoln Memorial.



The U.S. Capitol, the Washington Monument, and the Library of Congress from the Lincoln Memorial.



The Washington Monument from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

The Washington Monument from the Tidal Basin.



The Thomas Jefferson Memorial from the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial.



The U.S. Capitol from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.



The White House from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

## VIEWS FROM NEARBY AREAS



The National Mall from the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial.



Arlington Memorial Bridge and the Lincoln Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery.



The Thomas Jefferson Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery.



**NORTH-SOUTH VIEWS FROM THE CENTER OF THE MALL**  
**6TH STREET, NW / SW**



The National Gallery of Art (West Building) to the north.



The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum to the south.

**BETWEEN 8TH AND 9TH STREETS, NW / SW**



The National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden to the north. The equipment is removing the last materials from the Festival of American Folklife.



The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden to the south.

**10TH STREET, NW / SW**



The National Museum of Natural History to the north.



The Smithsonian Castle to the south. A security project for the Smithsonian Institution will move the Jefferson Drive closer to the center of the Mall.

**13TH STREET, NW / SW**



The National Museum of American History to the north.



The Jamie L. Whitten Building of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the south.

# UNION SQUARE



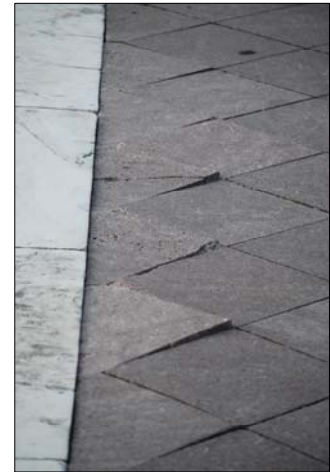
Looking northeast toward the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial.

The Capitol Reflecting Pool, to the west of the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial, occupies a large portion of Union Square.





The Ulysses S. Grant sculpture stains the marble pedestal, and pavers are out of alignment, creating a tripping hazard.



The Cavalry monument (right) is north of the Grant statue and the Artillery monument (below) is to the south.



People climbing on the Cavalry monument during a recent demonstration.

Graffiti on the base of the Artillery monument.



Union Square is used frequently for First Amendment demonstrations and events because of its prominent location. No utilities or other infrastructure are provided to facilitate such uses. Grade level changes make the square difficult to access for visitors with disabilities.



The pavement has deteriorated since the square was constructed in the 1970s.



Drainage grates can be trip hazards.



Information signs are being replaced with a new coordinated sign system.

Walks do not align with those on the Mall, resulting in social trails and damage as people find more direct routes. This summer temporary fencing was used to keep pedestrians off turf areas that were being rehabilitated.



Massive concrete security bollards are out of character with Union Square's design.

Visitors sit on the edge of the reflecting pool. The large square and the lack of amenities such as seating do not create a welcoming atmosphere.





# THE MALL



The Mall seen from the Washington Monument two weeks after the Festival of American Folklife. Bare and brown turf areas do not easily recover because of compacted soil conditions and a nonfunctioning irrigation system.

Most events on the Mall last for only a few hours and have minimal impact.





The most distinctive building facing the Mall is the Smithsonian Castle, which is where 10th Street would cross the Mall.

A carousel has been on the Mall northeast of the Smithsonian Castle since 1967. The present carousel dates from 1981.



The Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building is currently vacant. Structural repairs are being undertaken as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. A use has not been determined for the structure.



The turf is a mix of weeds and grass.

Wide graveled pathways are difficult for visitors pushing strollers or in wheelchairs to maneuver, gravel is scattered onto the lawns, and dust is an irritant for many.



The Smithsonian Metro station has minimal information about the National Mall and orientation to nearby destinations. A new sign system is scheduled to be installed.





The loss of American elms affects the design and view corridor between the U.S. Capitol and the Washington Monument. Turf dies out in areas covered by tents.



Smaller trees require decades to reach the size of mature elms.





One of four NPS refreshment stands on the Mall. The facilities have limited seating and tables. There are no restrooms near food service locations.



The NPS Washington bench.

# WASHINGTON MONUMENT AND GROUNDS



The iconic Washington Monument is a landmark for National Mall visitors, both during the day and at night.

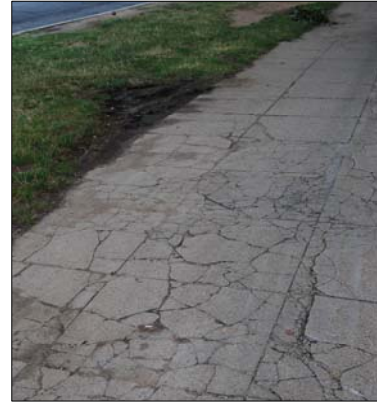


Portions of the grounds of the Washington Monument show areas of bare compacted soils and poor turf conditions.





Deteriorated walkways, social trails, and lack of maintenance access routes contribute to present conditions.



The German-American Friendship Garden on the north grounds of the Washington Monument is not readily identifiable.



One of two interactive water features at the German-American Friendship Garden.

The west grounds of the Washington Monument showing turf conditions. Only the central panel has irrigation.



The temporary refreshment tent will be removed, and services will be provided at a permanent location to allow the construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

The Jefferson Pier Marker delineates the original location proposed for the Washington Monument.





Turf has been damaged around the Washington Monument as children play on the post-and-chain fencing.



A project is underway to remove the temporary security screening building on the east side of the monument.

Visitors queue up for Washington Monument tickets at Monument Lodge in the morning. The historic building provides a small bookstore and public restrooms





Survey Lodge is away from main circulation routes. Somewhat hidden by vegetation, this historic structure is being reused as an information station.

Vehicles behind Survey Lodge are not screened from public view.

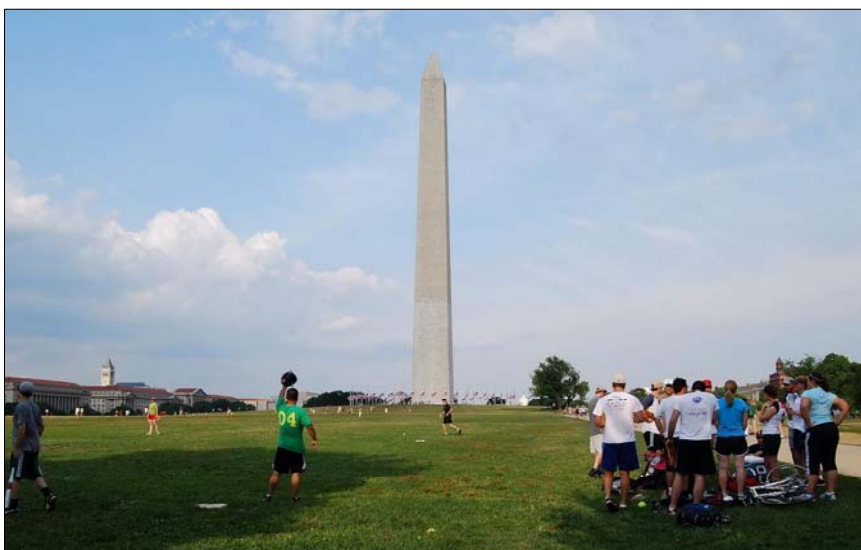
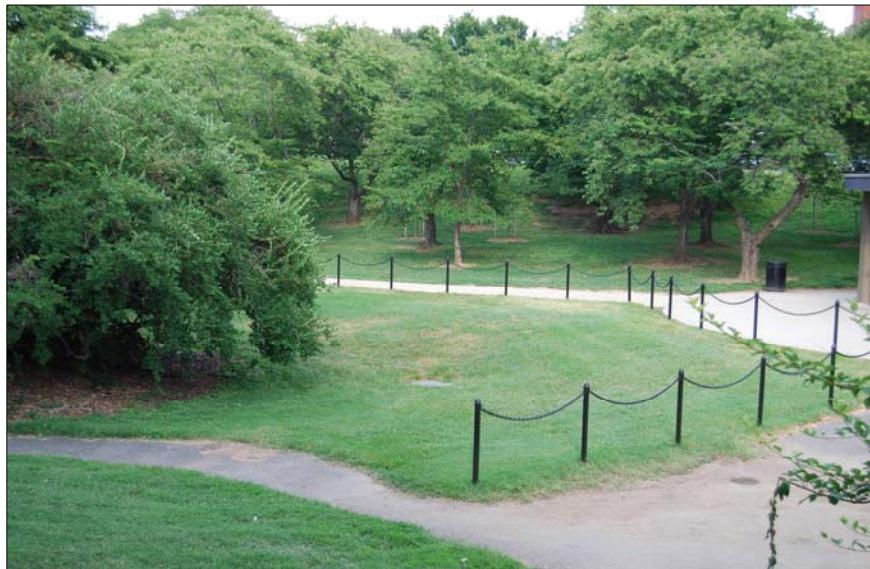


The circular restroom south of the monument dates from the 1960s and is difficult to maintain and inadequately sized to meet demand.



The Sylvan Theater is not oriented to take full advantage of seating on the hillside south of the Washington Monument. Infrastructure is outdated for performances.

The area behind the Sylvan Theater is in a slight depression, so facilities are generally not visible. New facilities in this location would be convenient and accessible by pedestrians and operational vehicles.



The monument grounds are used nearly constantly for recreational activities, including permitted team sports, such as softball.

# WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL



The World War II Memorial lies on the axis from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial and was built around the historic rainbow pool. The fountains add visual interest and mask urban background noise.



Granite has been found to be more resistant to pollution and wear and tear than marble.



Granite paving patterns underscore the use of quality materials and add interest to large open areas.

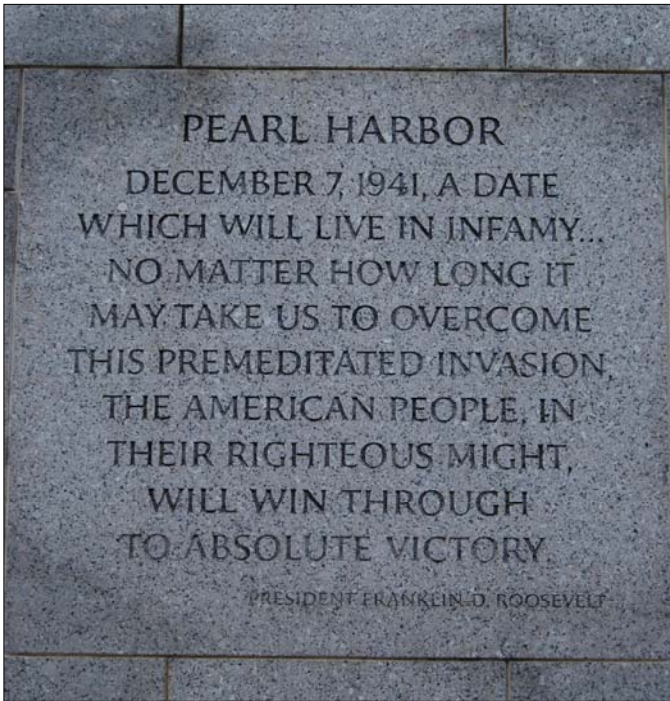




The Freedom Wall includes 4,000 gold stars commemorating more than 400,000 who gave their lives in the war.



The memorial has been a popular destination for visitors since it opened, with average annual visitation of about 4.4 million from 2004 to 2008.



Carved inscriptions are easy to read.



Bronze bas-reliefs depict wartime scenes, both in the field and at home.





Design details and granite paving at the World War II Memorial contribute to a sense of quality and place.



This group seating area just north of the World War II Memorial is one of the few such areas on the National Mall.







The World War II visitor contact station is south of the memorial.

The restrooms are near the contact station.



Sign announcing times for interpretive programs.

# CONSTITUTION GARDENS



Constitution Gardens is enclosed by trees, offering opportunities for quiet away from more actively visited areas of the National Mall.

The plaza at the east end of the lake was intended as the location of a restaurant in the original 1970s design.

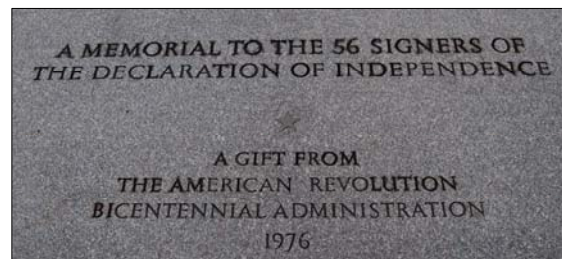


Stone terraces lead down from the plaza to the lake and were planned to provide outdoor seating space.



One of the plaza terraces.

The memorial to the 56 Signers of the Declaration of Independence is on an island in Constitution Gardens Lake. Each signature is highlighted in gold.





A refreshment stand is on the west side of the lake.

Deteriorating asphalt walk.



Looking east toward Constitution Gardens from near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



The historic Lockkeeper's House is at the corner of 17th and Constitution Avenue.

The proximity of the structure to Constitution Avenue obscures sightlines for drivers. Space for pedestrians waiting to cross the streets is limited.

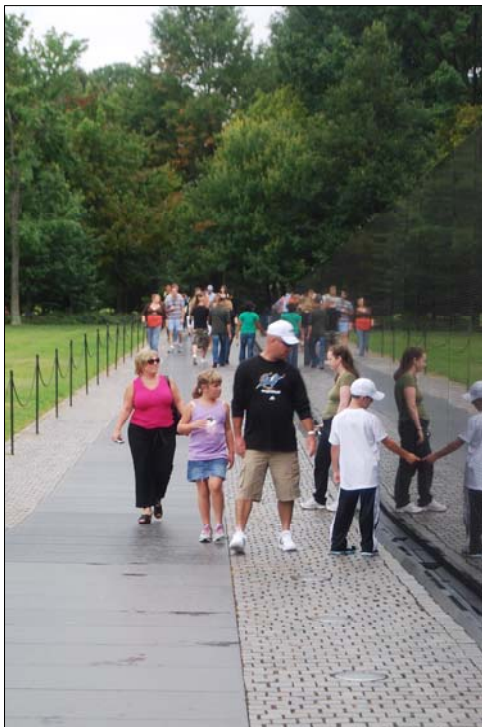


The Potomac Park levee runs between Constitution Gardens and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the north and the Lincoln Memorial on the south, effectively separating the areas.

# VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL



View of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial from the east.



The ambience of the memorial inspires quiet and private moments for commemoration.





View of the Memorial Wall from the west.



The base of the flagpole at the west entrance to the memorial is designed to commemorate all branches of the armed forces.



The *Three Servicemen* statue was added south of the wall in 1983.



View from the south.

The Vietnam Women's Memorial was added in 1993.

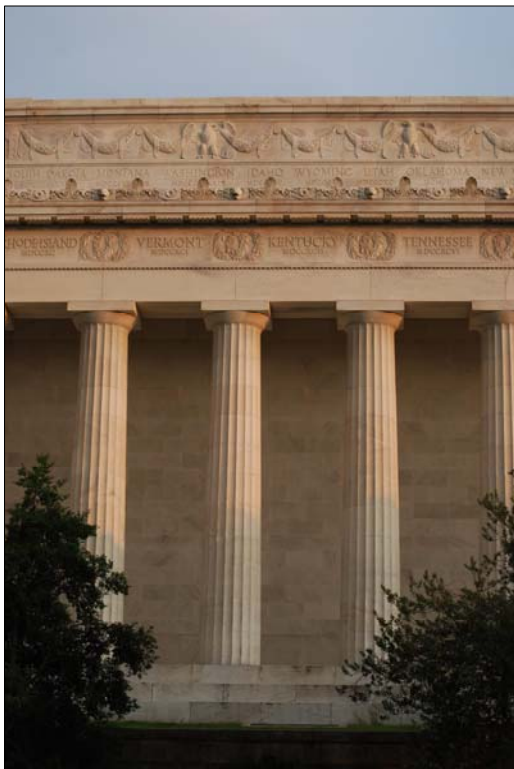




# LINCOLN MEMORIAL AND GROUNDS



The Lincoln Memorial is one of the most frequently visited sites on the National Mall.



At what point does user capacity exceed optimal conditions for having an enjoyable experience at a memorial?





Social trails along both sides of the reflecting pool have obliterated turf.

Tour groups gather wherever they can find space.



Bicycle tours are becoming an increasingly popular way to sightsee.



Visitors use temporary security bollards as well as the stairs for seating near the Lincoln Memorial.

The north (left) and south (below) refreshment stands at the Lincoln Memorial use geothermal energy to reduce energy costs. These are two of the few places on the National Mall providing shaded seating for visitors.





The visitor information station for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (left) is northeast of the Lincoln Memorial and the one for the Korean War Veterans Memorial (below) is southeast.



Post-and-chain fencing has helped protect turf areas, but some walks are too narrow for the number of visitors.

Sand volleyball courts are available north of the Lincoln Memorial.



## WATERGATE STEPS



The Watergate Steps are west of the Lincoln Memorial; Ohio Drive is between the steps and the Potomac River.

Two sculptures representing the *Arts of Peace* flank the east entrance to Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.



View to Arlington National Cemetery and Arlington House (the Robert E. Lee Memorial).

## CONSTITUTION AVENUE BELVEDERE



The historic belvedere, northwest of the Lincoln Memorial, marks the end of Constitution Avenue at the Potomac River. It was designed as a formal viewing area, with seating built into stone walls and open balustrades. The avenue no longer continues to the belvedere because of changes in the 1960s to provide access to the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge (US 66) and the Potomac River Freeway.



# KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL



The Korean War Veterans Memorial with wreaths commemorating the armistice on July 27, 1953. Like the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the scale of this memorial is personal, rather than monumental.

Groups entering the memorial may be too large for the walkways, obstructing the movement of other visitors.



The tranquil pool is at the top of the memorial, with the words "Freedom Is Not Free" on the granite wall.



Care will need to be taken to ensure tree grates are routinely resized to accommodate tree growth.



The memorial has shaded seating for contemplation around the small reflecting pool. Many visitors may not go as far as the seating areas.



A larger-than-life squad of 19 soldiers (representing the Air Force, the Army, the Marines, and the Navy, as well as different ethnic backgrounds) marches up the hill to the Pool of Remembrance.



## D.C. WAR MEMORIAL / ASH WOODS



The D.C. War Memorial will be rehabilitated with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The parking area at the U.S. Park Police stables is not visible from Independence Avenue. It is visible from the JFK hockey fields to the north.



JFK hockey fields.

# JOHN PAUL JONES MEMORIAL



The John Paul Jones Memorial is on a traffic island in 17th Street at Independence Avenue.

Side fountain on the memorial.



# JOHN ERICSSON MEMORIAL



The John Ericsson Memorial is along Ohio Drive, south of the Lincoln Memorial. An interpretive exhibit across the street tells about the inventor.



# THE TIDAL BASIN

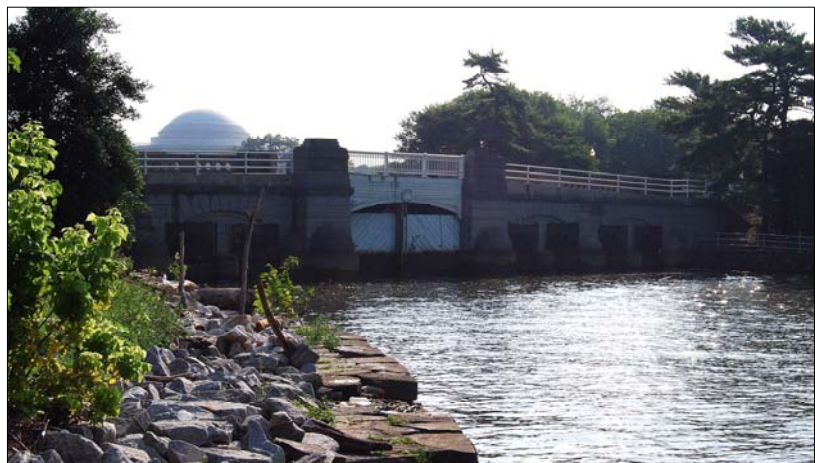


Sidewalks on Kutz Bridge are too narrow for more than two people to walk side-by-side. Access is extremely difficult for visitors in wheelchairs and for bicyclists.



Outlet Bridge flushes the Washington Channel.

Inlet Bridge fills the Tidal Basin.





The first gift of trees from Japan was in 1912; now there are 12 varieties of flowering cherry trees. Narrow walks along the Tidal Basin result in trampling impacts around the cherry trees during the National Cherry Blossom Festival.



The Japanese pagoda (ca. 1600) was a gift from the mayor of Yokohama, Japan, in 1958.



The walkways around the Tidal Basin are regularly overtopped by high tides.



Vegetation growing in the dry-laid seawall requires continual maintenance.

Low-hanging cherry tree branches contribute to the ambience of the Tidal Basin walkways, but sometimes interfere with access.



The Annual Library south of Independence Avenue is one of the few areas on the National Mall where color is added with flowering plants — tulips in the spring and annuals in the summer.

# FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

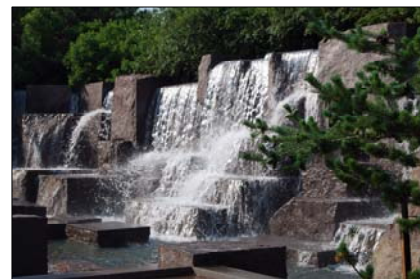


The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, which opened in 1997, features four outdoor rooms, one for each term of office.

Large plazas with granite paving provide ample space for visitors. On average there were 2.8 million visits annually from 2004 to 2008.



Numerous water features help mask urban noise.





The memorial's location west of the Tidal Basin takes advantage of the classic views of the Washington Monument, as well as the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.



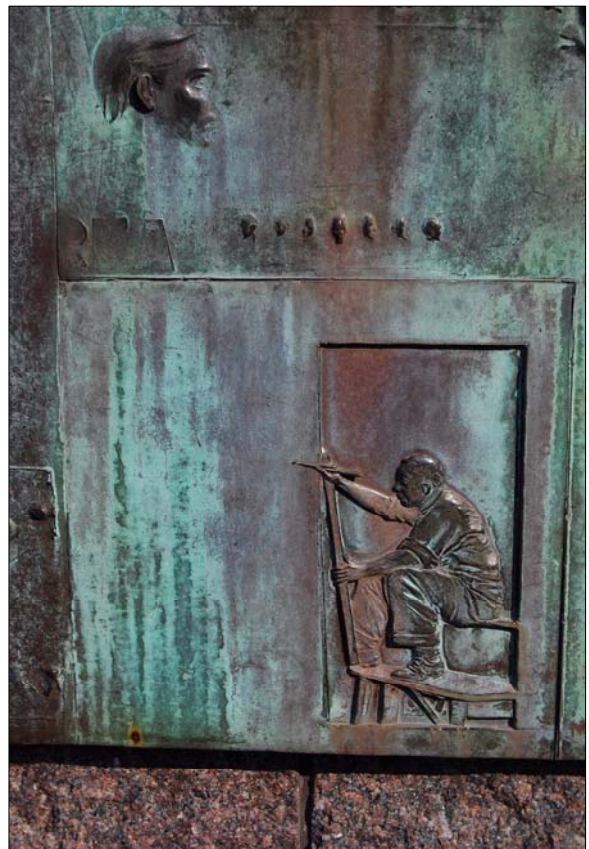
Bronze sculptures and quotations are used to characterize each of Roosevelt's four terms as president.







The variety of sculpture creates interesting ways for visitors to reflect on this period of U.S. history.





In the 12 years that the memorial has been open, the pigment in the incised inscriptions has faded, so the words are difficult to read.

Room 4 was intended to be used for programs and lectures, but this has not occurred.



# WEST POTOMAC PARK RIVERFRONT

Looking north along the Potomac River toward Arlington Memorial Bridge.



Riprap has been installed along sections of the Potomac River to stabilize the bank.

In areas the dry-laid stone walls are visible.





Riprap has been installed because of deteriorating rock walls.



Looking northwest from near Inlet Bridge.



The First Air Mail Memorial is along the West Potomac Park Riverfront. Few visitors are aware of its existence.



West Potomac Park provides large recreation fields.



# GEORGE MASON MEMORIAL



The George Mason Memorial is in a secluded garden area off Ohio Drive SW. Inscriptions may be difficult to read and vines are not well established on the pergola. The historic pool needs rehabilitation.



# THOMAS JEFFERSON MEMORIAL



Sinking walls in front of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial plaza are being addressed under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.





The Thomas Jefferson Memorial from the south.



The former parking area south of the memorial could be redesigned to accommodate a security perimeter, as well as demonstrations and special events.

The Thomas Jefferson Memorial at night.





# AREAS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

## PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND MARYLAND AVENUE



The Peace Monument at the end of Pennsylvania Avenue is under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol, as is the James Garfield Memorial at the head of Maryland Avenue.



Pennsylvania Avenue (left) and Maryland Avenue (below) terminate on the Capitol grounds.



## UNITED STATES CAPITOL



Historic lamppost on the west grounds of the Capitol.



Flower beds add color to the west side of the Capitol.





Capitol lawns show no sign of soil compaction and resulting impacts on the quality of the turf.

Wide sidewalks can accommodate large groups. Stone walls protect lawn areas.



Entrance to the new U.S. Capitol Visitor Center.



Paving patterns and features such as lampposts and benches add visual interest to plazas.



Reflecting pools around visitor center skylights add interest to the large plaza area east of the Capitol building.



A new lamppost on the east side of the U.S. Capitol and stone-carved details on the base.



Security components at the U.S. Capitol use a mix of walls and bollards.



Ornamental plantings enliven areas.

## UNITED STATES BOTANIC GARDEN



The Botanic Garden is just south of Union Square.

The National Garden is accessible through a gate on Maryland Avenue. The gravel pathways are embedded with a mesh to help control the spread of gravel.



The recently renovated Conservatory is described as a living plant museum.



The First Ladies' Water Garden has a distinctive paving pattern, shaded tables, and container gardens. It is a pleasant place for visitors to relax and enjoy the surroundings.



Container gardens provide colorful accents.



Umbrellas provide shade at corner tables.

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART



The West Building of the National Gallery of Art is at 6th Street on the north side of the Mall.

The entrance to the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden is where 8th Street would cross the Mall. The National Archives is visible north of Constitution Avenue.



The pool in the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden has constantly changing jets of water that frame the National Archives.

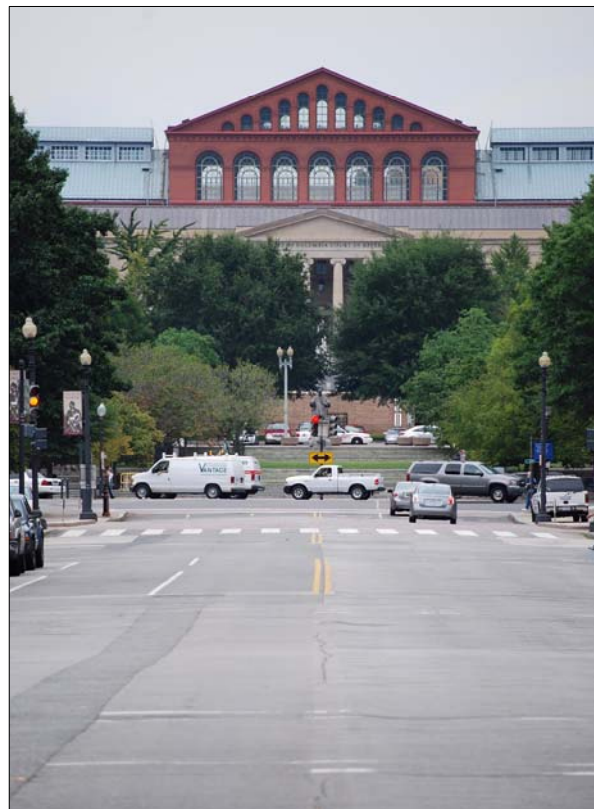




The plaza between the West Building and the East Building of the National Gallery of Art features a distinctive paving pattern, fountains, and skylights to the underground passageway.



The view north from 4th Street between the two National Gallery buildings shows the National Building Museum in the background and the D.C. Court in front.



# AREAS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

## GARDENS



A garden east of the Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building provides a refreshing and shady pedestrian walkway between Jefferson Drive and Independence Avenue.

The Enid A. Haupt Garden is south of the Smithsonian Castle. The gates provide access from the Mall.



The Moongate Garden in the Enid A. Haupt Garden was inspired by the Temple of Heaven in Beijing.



An interactive water feature.

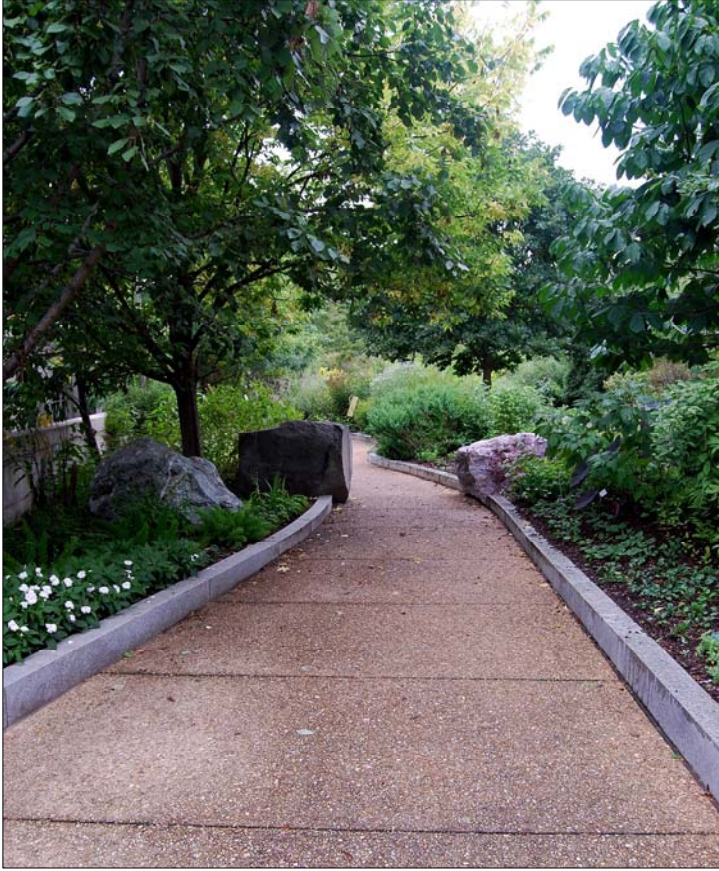


A view of the Enid A. Haupt Garden from the northeast.

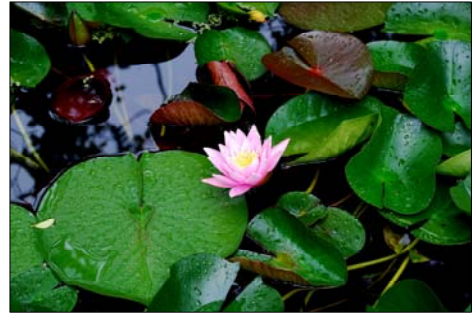
The Rose Garden is in front of the Arts and Industries Building and east of the Smithsonian Castle.



Looking toward the Rose Garden and the Smithsonian Castle from the east.



The Butterfly Habitat Garden is east of the National Museum of Natural History



A group seating area at the Butterfly Habitat Garden.



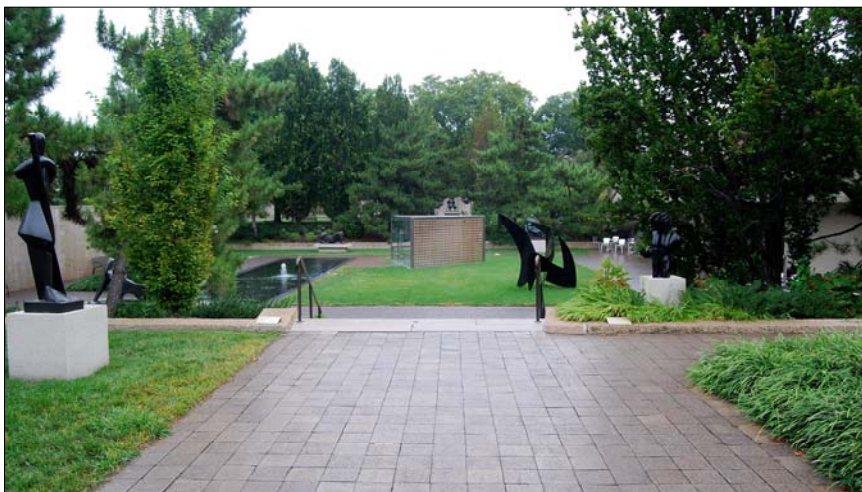
## HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN



The Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden is a sunken garden on the Mall.



Paving patterns and plantings create a restful environment.



## OTHER SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION SITES



The National Museum of the American Indian is the easternmost museum on the south side of the Mall. Waterfalls muffle city noise.

Planters on the north side of the plaza incorporate benches.



The food court adjacent to the National Air and Space Museum has the potential to provide more direct access to food service for visitors to the National Mall.

NOTE: Photographs of other Smithsonian Institution buildings on the Mall (the National Air and Space Museum, the National Museum of Natural History, and the National Museum of American History, as well as the Castle and the Arts and Industries Building, are included in the "Views and Vistas" and "The Mall" sections.

# THE WHITE HOUSE AND PRESIDENT'S PARK



The White House from Lafayette Park.



The Andrew Jackson statue in Lafayette Park.



Granite paving along the Pennsylvania Avenue sidewalk in front of the White House.



Sherman Park.



Paving at Sherman Park.







The White House from E Street.



Looking north across the Ellipse to the White House.

Paving on the walkway around the Ellipse.





The Haupt fountains flank 16th Street at the entrance to the Ellipse. This is the west fountain.

The Bulfinch gatehouse at the corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue.



## EXISTING CONDITION UPDATES — 2010



Condition of a turfgrass panel in front of the Smithsonian Castle, May 2010.

The National Park Service is experimenting with turfgrass restoration on the Mall. The panel was scheduled to be reopened to use June 7, 2010. How well the turf does over the summer will be studied.



Jogging paths adjacent to walkways on the Mall.



Setup for the July Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the Mall begins in May.

The tent over the temporary visitor facilities at the Washington Monument collapsed during the winter of 2010.



Designs to reconstruct the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool and provide adjacent walkways have been approved, and work is projected to begin by the end of 2010 and last for 18–24 months. The project is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Shrubs around the historic Lockkeeper's House have been removed, improving visibility of the structure, as well as sightlines for drivers and pedestrians.



The Tidal Basin walkway is completely submerged during high tide.

Work to stabilize and repair the seawall and the plaza in front of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial began in spring 2010 and is scheduled to be completed by June 2011. The project is being funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

