



National Mall Times

The official newspaper
of National Mall and Memorial Parks

March 2012 • Volume 5, Issue 3

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Cherry Blossom Centennial

Ranger Brad Berger

March 27, 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the ceremonial planting of Japanese flowering cherry trees along the Tidal Basin by First Lady Helen Taft and the Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese Ambassador. From her first visit to Japan in 1885, noted authority on Asian culture and newspaper correspondent Eliza R. Scidmore advocated the planting of such trees in the nation's capital. The years turned into decades in her quest to beautify the city. Despite her lack of success, this was a formative time for Washington, D.C., as a series of damaging floods underscored the need for dredging the Potomac River in order to create land barriers which would protect the city. During the 1890s, two new bodies of land known as East Potomac Park and West Potomac Park formed a protective barrier around the areas susceptible to flooding. Between the two lay a Tidal Basin engineered to allow high water on the river to flow into and then out of the basin, reinforcing the city's protection. This grand new expanse of land lay wide open with possibilities.

As the nineteenth century turned to the twentieth, major building projects transformed what was known as a backwater amongst world capitals into the framework of the picturesque



city we know today. The city, taking its cue from the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, began to build and plan structures reminiscent of the White City, such as the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, and the Lincoln Memorial. It was in this atmosphere, known as the "City Beautiful" movement, that Scidmore met Dr. David Fairchild. Fairchild, a prominent figure at the Department of Agriculture, began introducing Japanese flowering cherry trees to his estate in Chevy Chase, MD, just north of the city. In the closing of an Arbor Day ceremony in 1908, Dr. Fairchild called for a large number of these trees

Centennial continued on page 3

Cherry Tree Rebellion

Ranger JoAnn Garcia

Visitors strolling to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial along the Tidal Basin when the cherry trees are in full bloom enjoy a spectacular view. Yet the story behind the scenery and the memorial is filled with turmoil and controversy. Loud protests against the building of the memorial and the removal of the cherished trees resulted in a great battle by several Washingtonians.

In 1912, First Lady Helen Taft and the Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese Ambassador, planted the first two Yoshino cherry trees on the north end of the Tidal Basin. Originally there were 3,020 cherry trees of 12 different varieties. These were planted at East Potomac Park, Washington Monument Grounds, and along the Tidal Basin. For Washingtonians, the trees came to symbolize a natural splendor at the center of our nation's capital, adding rich and colorful sights to the city, and something that would be cherished and visited by thousands of visitors for several years.

By 1936, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Commission was formed and planning got under way for construction. The present-day location at the Tidal Basin was selected in 1937, but indignant public criticism soon followed because building in that location would result in the removal of Japanese flowering cherry trees from the Tidal Basin area. What occurred next was "The Cherry Tree Rebellion." Citizens, clubs, boards, and associations of Washington began a city-wide protest against the destruction of these splendid trees. Eleanor "Cissy" Patterson, the owner and editor of the Washington Times-Herald, published several articles criticizing the Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration, and organized individuals to take action. On November 17, 1938, the day construction began on the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, 50 women marched on the White House, armed with a petition to stop the damage to the trees. The following day, the same women chained themselves to a tree at the construction site, with hopes to stop the work.

A group of approximately 150 women, led by Patterson, seized shovels from workers, re-filled holes, and prepared for a stand-off against

Revolt continued on Page 2

Welcome to National Mall and Memorial Parks

Superintendent Bob Vogel

On behalf of the National Park Service, welcome to National Mall and Memorial Parks! Here you can visit some of America's iconic landmarks and memorials that celebrate and commemorate our nation's heritage.

For generations, millions of people have come to the National Mall to experience the grandeur of these special places and to reflect on what it means to be an American. Many people come to exercise their First Amendment rights because of the park's proximity to our seat of government. For others, the National Mall is a neighborhood park they use for recreation and exercise. No matter what their reason, all who visit are part of a legacy that stretches back centuries. In this newspaper, you will find articles about the



Superintendent Bob Vogel

park's many features, as well as information about interpretive programs by our park rangers and other activities and resources. You also will find in this issue articles about our famous cherry trees. The blossoming cherry trees symbolize the arrival of spring in Washington, D.C. and provide a spectacular show of nature's beauty. The National Cherry Blossom Festival is held annually to showcase the beautiful trees that were a gift from the city of Tokyo to our nation's capital. This year marks the 100th anniversary of that gift. We'll be offering a wide variety of special programs as part of the celebration.

The staff and volunteers of the National Mall are available to tell you about the park, answer your questions and help you make the most of your time here in America's front yard. Enjoy your visit!

National Mall and Memorial Parks

900 Ohio Dr., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Phone: 202-233-3520
www.nps.gov/nama
Radio: 1670 AM

National Mall Times Staff

Editor-In-Chief: Nathan King

Editors: Susan Martin, Stacy Shannon, Michael Kelly

Ranger Programs & Activities

Daily Programs

What: Free site tours and interpretive talks

Where: Lincoln, Korean War Veterans, Vietnam Veterans, World War II, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Thomas Jefferson Memorials

When: Daily at 10:00 a.m., 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, and 10:00 p.m.

Special Programs

Saturday, March 3

First Ladies in Trying Times
Ranger Program, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Martha Washington, Mary Todd Lincoln, and Eleanor Roosevelt. Learn how these first ladies were busy doing much more than hosting tea parties. Hear stories about how these women held their famous positions during times of war and personal tragedies. Washington Monument Lodge on 15th Street. Ranger Nicole DeLuca 202-329-6890.

Lady Patriots

Ranger Program, 6 – 6:30 p.m.
American women have served in wartime since the American Revolution. Learn about women's personal courage and sacrifice in war through images, and discuss their selfless service that continues through today's conflicts. DC War Memorial. Ranger Victor Pillow 202-841-1774.

Sunday, March 4

First Lady of the World: Eleanor Roosevelt
Ranger Program, 3 – 3:45 p.m.

Truman called her "First Lady of the World," and in 1999 she was listed among the most admired persons in the world. Her accomplishments still affect us today. Join us as we celebrate her legacy and review her achievements. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Ranger Jan Buerger 202-497-1397.

Monday, March 5

1st Presidential Inauguration in DC, 1801
Living History Program, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Join park staff in period attire to learn about President Thomas Jefferson's 1801 inauguration. Use a quill pen to sign best wishes to President Jefferson. Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Ranger Mike Rose 202-438-9667.

Tuesday, March 6

Marian Anderson: Life Through Song
Ranger Program, 6 – 6:30 p.m.

Known as a great contralto who

broke color barriers as the first African-American to perform on the National Mall, Anderson changed American history. Lincoln Memorial. Ranger Tameika Washington 202-233-3519.

Wednesday, March 7

Women of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Ranger Program, 6 – 7 p.m.

Many women served with bravery and distinction in the Vietnam War. Maya Ying Lin, the young woman who designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial had to demonstrate that same courage to see her vision become reality. Come listen to stories of these women. Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Ranger Kathy Kagle 202-438-5377.

Friday, March 9

The Battle of Hampton Roads
Ranger Program, 6 – 7 p.m.

The Battle of Hampton Roads on March 8-9, 1862, marks the first time two ironclads fought a duel. John Ericsson's invention of the USS *Monitor* was the model ship for future warships. Lincoln Memorial. Ranger Paul O'Brian 202-438-7066.

Saturday, March 10

First Ladies in Trying Times
Ranger Program, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Martha Washington, Mary Todd Lincoln, and Eleanor Roosevelt. Learn how these first ladies kept busy doing more than hosting tea parties. Hear stories about how these women held their famous positions during times of war and personal tragedies. Washington Monument Lodge on 15th Street. Ranger Nicole DeLuca 202-329-6890.

Where are the Band of Patriots?
Living History Program, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Join park staff in 1776 attire to learn the events and people that helped create the National Mall and Memorial Parks and this nation. Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Ranger Mike Rose 202-438-9667.

Imprisonment of Women: The Battle for Equal Rights
Walking Tour, 2 – 4 p.m.

Since the American Revolution, women have played pivotal roles in their struggle for equal rights. Many made great sacrifices including spending time in prison. Explore and learn the stories about these great heroines. Sewall-Belmont House, Constitution and Maryland Aves. NE. Ranger JoAnn Garcia 202-329-1641.

Lady Patriots

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olution. Learn about women's personal courage and sacrifice in war through images, and discuss their selfless service that continues through today's war conflicts. DC War Memorial. Ranger Victor Pillow 202-841-1774.

Rosie the Riveter

Ranger Program, 6- 7 p.m.

World War II had a drastic impact on American values and attitudes with the need to bring women into the workforce to support the country while men were at war. Learn about their courage in the face of changing social norms and challenges as women entered the workforce in the 1940s. World War II Memorial. Ranger Paul O'Brian 202-438-7066.

Sunday, March 11

Hispanic Women of the Civil War
Walking Tour, 2 – 4 p.m.

Step back in time and discover Hispanic women in the Civil War. Travel into the past to the dangerous world of espionage and spies on this 2-mile walk. National Archives Pennsylvania Ave. Entrance. Ranger JoAnn Garcia 202-329-1641.

Eleanor Roosevelt: First Lady of the World
Ranger Program, 6 – 7 p.m.

American women have served in wartime since the American Revolution. Learn about women's personal courage and sacrifice in war through images, and discuss their selfless service that continues through today's war conflicts. DC War Memorial. Ranger Lowell Fry 202-438-9603.

Saturday, March 17

Imprisonment of Women: The Battle for Equal Rights
Walking Tour, 2 – 4 p.m.

Since the American Revolution, women have played pivotal roles in their struggle for equal rights. Many made great sacrifices including spending time in prison. Explore and learn the stories about these great heroines. Sewall-Belmont House, Constitution and Maryland Aves. NE. Ranger JoAnn Garcia 202-329-1641.

Maya Ying Lin: The Vietnam Wall and Beyond
Ranger Program, 3 – 3:45 p.m.

Among the extraordinary women who have contributed to the park is the designer of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall, Maya Ying Lin. Join us to hear why she won the competition, and learn about her subsequent achievements. Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Ranger Jan Buerger 202-497-1397.

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Women of the Civil Rights Movement
Ranger Program, 3 – 3:45 p.m.

Learn about Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycott, Coretta Scott King, wife of Martin Luther King, Jr. and other remarkable women who made the school integration, Freedom Rides, and Birmingham campaign of the Civil Rights Movement happen. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial. Ranger Jan Buerger 202-497-1397.

Saturday, March 24

Revolt from page 1

workers and bulldozers in order to help save the trees. President Franklin Roosevelt claimed that Patterson, and other Washington newspapers were exaggerating, and stated that just 88 trees would be destroyed in the construction. Meanwhile, the Washington Post quoted a park official as saying, "For the past two weeks we have been removing trees in the Tidal Basin area for transplanting. None have been chopped down nor will any be." However, in the course of construction, some trees would perish. According to one account, the women were ultimately convinced to stand down after being served lunch by Assistant Secretary of the Interior Michael Strauss. After neverending cups of coffee, the ladies' need for restrooms hastened their decision to remove the chains. Roosevelt then had the rest of the trees removed in the middle of the night to avoid any further conflict.



High society rebels protest the cutting of cherry trees.

On December 15, 1938, the groundbreaking ceremony was performed at the site. This was followed by the cornerstone laying ceremony on November 15, 1939. President Roosevelt was in attendance and spoke eloquently about Jefferson and the many facets of his personality. He emphasized that Jefferson's outlook transcended traditional political philosophy, pointing out that Jefferson struggled with the idea of living in between the rule of a chosen few and the opinions and desires of the individual. Ultimately, Jefferson's vision of the individual's self determination ironically led to the rebellion against the removal of the cherry trees.

The Cherry Trees in Context
Bike Tour, 1 – 4 p.m.

Discover how these beautiful trees were part of the vision and symbolism of this city that George Washington, Pierre L'Enfant and other founders envisioned. Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Ranger Jan Buerger 202-497-1397.

Sunday, March 25

Nellie Taft: First Lady of Potomac Park
Ranger Program, 6 – 6:45 p.m.

First Lady Helen (Nellie) Taft is primarily known as the catalyst behind Japan's gift of the Tidal Basin cherry trees to Washington, D.C. Learn more about how she contributed to Washington, and why she made a difference, despite the formidable challenges. Japanese Lantern on the Tidal Basin. Ranger Jan Buerger 202-497-1397.

Friday, March 30

Murasaki Shikibu's Tale of the Genji
Ranger Program, 6 – 6:30 p.m.

The first Japanese novel, Murasaki Shikibu's *Tale of the Genji*, gives perhaps the earliest description of a Cherry Blossom Festival. Join us as we welcome the National Mall's festival with a reading from her tale. Japanese Lantern on the Tidal Basin. Ranger Jan Buerger 202-497-1397.

Find more Cherry Blossom Festival Programs on page 4!



In the winter and early spring, it is easy to see where squirrels go to stay warm. If you look up high in the trees, you may spot basketball-sized clumps of leaves. These are squirrel nests, known as dreys. If you spot a drey, you are likely to spot a squirrel nearby feeding in the trees or on the ground.

sharp, chisel-like teeth to chew through tough food like nuts and acorns. Squirrels also eat berries and flowers when these items are available. Squirrels that are fed by humans can become dependent on them for survival, which can cause them to have a shorter lifespan and exhibit aggressive, unpredictable behavior.



Eastern Gray Squirrel

Did you know that Washington, D.C. hosts one of the higher concentrations of squirrels in the country? Eastern gray squirrels live in woodland and parkland environments throughout the eastern United States. Trees are essential for eastern gray squirrels because they provide homes, food, and safety from most predators.



Like other rodents, eastern gray squirrels have special teeth to eat their food. They use their



Remember it is illegal to feed any wildlife in national parks! Help keep wildlife wild!

Enjoy your *Natural Mall*!

Centennial from page 1

to be planted where the speedway around the Tidal Basin was located, which would create a "Sea of Cherries" in this newly reclaimed land. Hearing Dr. Fairchild's words that day was a kindred spirit, in the form of Scidmore. The passion of these two advocates to adorn the city with natural beauty, a complement to the burgeoning architectural wonders both then in construction and planning stages, fell on a sympathetic ear.

In April 1909, First Lady Taft, upon reading a letter sent by Scidmore which presented both her and Fairchild's sentiments, heartily agreed. She was familiar with the trees herself, having lived in Japan for a time. A fundraising campaign was proposed, yet unnecessary, for Dr. Jokichi Takamine, discoverer of adrenaline, and Japanese Consul General in New York, Mr. K. Midzuno offered a donation of 2,000 trees as a gift to the people of the United States, in the name of the people of Tokyo.

Upon their arrival in January 1910, the 2,000 trees were inspected and unfortunately found to be infested with parasitic nematodes. Ultimately, the trees were burned, as they were deemed unsafe in their condition to be planted in large numbers. Two years later, a gift of 3,020 young, healthy trees arrived in Washington, D.C. On March 27, along the northwest wall of the Tidal Basin, the first gift tree was planted. Every spring which followed this occasion, millions of visitors descended upon the area around the Tidal Basin, East Potomac Park, and the grounds of the Washington Monument as more trees planted from the clippings of originals and subsequent gifts from Japan filled out the



Burning of the original nematode-infested trees at Hains Point. Photo courtesy of U.S. National Arboretum.

park. In 1935, the viewing of the blooming of the cherry blossoms became an organized event known as the Cherry Blossom Festival.

The following handful of years were very hard on the Japanese flowering cherry trees, for there was a full-scale rebellion by prominent ladies of Washington society who objected to

the planning of the site for a new memorial to President Thomas Jefferson along the southern edge of the Tidal Basin. In November 1938, many of these ladies chained themselves to the cherry trees which were destined to be removed for the construction of the new memorial. The ladies eventually left the area, after showing their disdain for the removal of the 26-year-old trees. Eventually the "Cherry Tree Rebellion" as it came to be known, proved a victory for both sides. Advocates of the memorial saw the formal dedication take place on Thomas Jefferson's 200th birthday, April 13, 1943, beautifully framing the new structure with the planting of hundreds more young cherry trees. The coming of World War II resulted in a handful of the cherry trees being vandalized after the attack on Pearl Harbor. A moratorium was placed on the annual springtime festivals for the duration of the war as well.

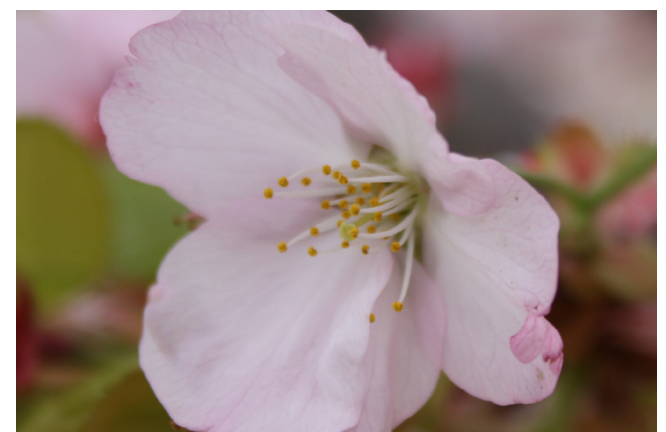
At the end of World War II relations between the United States and Japan grew stronger. As symbols of friendship, the two nations continued to give one another gifts. Clippings from Tidal Basin trees were sent back to Japan to help replenish groves of cherry trees which were diminished during the war. The nation of Japan bestowed upon the park in 1954 the gift of an ancient stone lantern, which is ceremonially lit at the beginning of each Cherry Blossom Festival. This gift marks the 100th anniversary of formal relations between the two nations. It lies in the grove of trees where the first one was planted in 1912, along the northwest edge of the Tidal Basin. Near the exit of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial stands a decorative stone Japanese pagoda given as a gesture of goodwill in 1958. Pagodas are the dominant architecture in Japanese Shinto temples which honor those who have come before us. Japanese flowering cherry trees surround the grounds of many of these sites, for the brief duration of their brilliant blossoms upon their limbs symbolized the brevity of life for the people of Japan. It is therefore quite fitting that these trees bedeck the grounds upon which we as a nation have planted monuments and memorials to our forebears.

In 1965, further gifts of 3,800 trees from Japan were planted on the grounds of the Washington Monument. Through the years, the reciprocal gifts of the two nations were tempered by the steady arrival of visitors every spring to witness



Crowned Queen of Cherry Blossoms. A colorful ceremony which attracted thousands of visitors to the capital, little Sakiko Saito, daughter of the Japanese Ambassador and Mme. Saito, was crowned Queen of the Cherry Blossoms by Melvin Hazen, Commissioner of the District of Columbia. The festival was held to celebrate the anniversary of the presentation of the Japanese cherry trees to the capital by the citizens of Tokyo, Japan during the Taft Administration. To her right and left are the queen's two attendants Masako Saito, also a daughter of the Japanese Ambassador, and Barbara Caldwell, American playmate of the two youngsters. Washington, D.C., April 8, 1937. LC-H22- D-1227

the blooming of these magnificent trees. The *Sakura*, as they are known to the people of Japan, bear deeply important symbolism that has drawn people together for generations. The cherry blossom is portrayed second only to the moon in Japanese art, and the amount of poems written about them is virtually limitless. The festival held every spring in Washington, D.C. is a clear indication of how the U.S. has blended facets of cultures from around the world into something truly unique, something American.



Cherry Blossom Festival



Park Events for March 24 - April 15, 2012

Welcome!

On this page, you will find information about events happening at National Mall and Memorial Parks during the National Cherry Blossom Festival. Information about other events happening throughout Washington, D.C. can be found on the National Cherry Blossom Festival website, www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the gift of the flowering cherry trees on the National Mall!

The first 3,020 cherry trees were given to the City of Washington, D.C. by the City of Tokyo, Japan in 1912. Since then, the trees have been cultivated throughout the park, to include more than a dozen varieties to enjoy.

These beautiful, flowering trees have attracted millions of people to the National Mall over the years, and the National Cherry Blossom Festival has grown into a major event. This year's festival is bigger than ever.

Enjoy this extraordinary celebration, and help us kick off the next 100 years of cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C.!

Services

Welcome and Information

Tents

Tidal Basin Welcome Area
10 a.m. - 7 p.m. *(Every Day)*

Sylvan Theater (March 31 - April 15)
11 a.m. - 7 p.m. *(Friday & Saturday)*
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. *(Sunday through Thursday)*

Food Tents

Tidal Basin Welcome Area
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. *(Every Day)*

Souvenir/Bookstore Tents

Tidal Basin Welcome Area
10 a.m. - 7 p.m. *(Every Day)*

First Aid Tent

Tidal Basin Welcome Area
10 a.m. - 7 p.m. *(Every Day)*

Bloomin' Jr. Ranger Tent

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. *(Saturday & Sunday)*

Bicycle Parking

BRING YOUR OWN LOCK!

Thomas Jefferson Memorial & Independence Avenue between 14th and 15th Streets



Paddles reminds us, "Please do not pick the blossoms," and "Please do not climb the trees."

Ranger-Led Programs

Cherry Talks

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial & Thomas Jefferson Memorial
11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. *(Every Day)*
Learn more about the history of the blossoms on these daily programs.

Lantern Walks

NPS Welcome Tent at Tidal Basin Welcome Area
8 p.m. - 10 p.m. *(Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday)*
Enjoy the memorials and blossoms at night. Bring your own flashlight.

Bike Tours

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
1 p.m. - 4 p.m. *(Saturdays & Sundays)*
Enjoy the cherry blossoms without all the traffic! Bring your own bike, helmet, and water.

Cherry Chit-Chat Runs

Washington Monument Lodge
8 a.m. - 9 a.m. *(Saturdays)*
Lace up your shoes and join a Park Ranger for a 3.5 mile run and learn about the blossoms.

Bloomin' Jr. Ranger

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
Earn your Jr. Ranger Badge with hands-on activities!
10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. *(Saturdays & Sundays)*
Special Ranger Activity
2 p.m. *(Saturdays & Sundays)*

Ranger Audio Tours

Dial (202) 747-3465 to learn more about the blossoms.

Celebrating 100 Years of Cherry Blossoms in D.C.



In Case of Emergency - United States Park Police (202) 610-7500
Lost and Found (202) 426-6849

Discover a Monument

John Ericsson Memorial

Ranger Brad Berger

“Of such is the greatness of America.”

With these words, President Calvin Coolidge closed his remarks upon the dedication of the John Ericsson Memorial in West Potomac Park on May 29, 1926. Sculpted by James Earle Fraser, the figure of Ericsson is seated below images reflective of Adventure, Labor, and Vision. These qualities were embedded in the work of John Ericsson, who from his youth in Sweden, was recognized as a prodigy in engineering. The

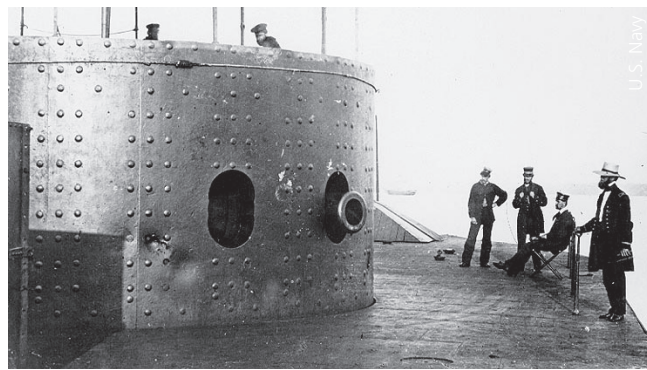


John Ericsson, photographed in 1862.

base of his memorial is a mariner’s compass, fittingly, for it is in the field of naval warship development that he is most remembered. He arrived in the U.S. in 1839, taking up residence in New York City, and dove into his work.

Despite his prodigious output, he made his most lasting mark on American history decades after his arrival. Upon the opening of the Civil War, the Confederate States Navy began work on modifying the remains of the scuttled wooden warship, the *USS Merrimac*, creating an ironclad. John Ericsson already had plans, which until this time were collecting dust, that became the basis for the Union ironclad, *USS Monitor*. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Battle of the Ironclads at Hampton Roads, on March 9, 1862. Ericsson’s ship proved able protection for the remains of the Union blockading fleet, and spawned the creation of many more “monitors” for the navy. He continued working tirelessly, creating other wonders such as the world’s first solar powered engine, until his death in 1889.

The John Ericsson Memorial is located just south of the Lincoln Memorial at the intersection of Independence Ave. and Ohio Drive SW.



Deck of *USS Monitor* photographed July 1862



John Ericsson Memorial

What’s Happening with the Washington Monument?

The Washington Monument was damaged by a magnitude 5.8 earthquake on Aug. 23, 2011. The National Park Service and structural engineers performed a complete inspection of the historic structure and identified numerous types and locations of damage within the building: cracking, spalling, and displacement of stones, loose and missing mortar, and damage to components of the elevator and elevator shaft.

For your safety, the Washington Monument and portions of the Washington Monument grounds are closed while the National Park Service works to repair the historic structure. \$15 million are available for the repairs, half appropriated by Congress, and half donated by David Rubenstein.

For detailed information, photos, and videos, visit online at: www.nps.gov/wamo



Structural engineer Emma Cardini inspects the Washington Monument’s exterior, September 2011.



NPS staff collect and analyze broken pieces of stone on the monument’s 500’ observation level.



Most of the earthquake damage, like this spall, occurred in the upper 100 feet of the monument.

Get a Bird’s-Eye View of the City!

Climbing to 315 feet, the Old Post Office Tower is third in height among Washington, D.C.’s buildings. The National Park Service invites you to take a free elevator ride to the observation deck 270 feet above Pennsylvania Avenue for an awe-inspiring view of Washington, D.C.

**Ranger Programs:
Talks of the Tower
on the Half-Hour**

**Daily at 10:30 a.m.,
11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.**

For more information about park programs at the Old Post Office Tower, check the program schedule on page 2 or call 202-606-8691.



Winter Operating Hours:

Labor Day through Memorial Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Sunday and Holidays
12 - 5:45 p.m.

www.nps.gov/opot

Trust for the National Mall

by Trust for the National Mall

The Trust for the National Mall, the official non-profit partner of the National Park Service for the National Mall, invites you to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Cherry Blossom trees by contributing to the Cherry Tree Endowment Fund. Visit nationalmall.org/contribute/cherry-tree-endowment-fund to make your tax-deductible contribution today.

Every spring, the Cherry Blossom trees grace the National Mall with their blooms, bringing a sense of renewal to the city. In 1912, more 3,000 cherry trees were donated as a gift of friendship to the City of Washington, D.C. from the City of Tokyo, Japan. In Japan, the flowering cherry tree, or “Sakura,” is an exalted flowering plant. The beauty of the cherry blossom is a potent symbol equated with the evanescence of human life and epitomizes the transformation of Japanese culture throughout the ages.

This year, we will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of this extraordinary gift. It is a celebration not only of the beautiful blossoms themselves, but also of the lessons they teach us about history, cooperation and friendship.

Each year, more than one million people flock to the National Mall to experience the exquisite beauty of the Cherry Blossom trees. Yet the trees’ popularity

is both a gift and a challenge. The extraordinary amount of foot traffic the area receives compacts the soil and damages the trees’ root systems. Some of the sidewalks separating the trees from the Tidal Basin are flooded twice a day by the tides, forcing visitors to create social trails within the tree line. As a result, the Cherry Blossom trees are dying at an annual rate nearly triple the normal attrition rate for this type of tree. We have loved our Cherry Blossoms trees to near ruin.



The National Park Service has a staff of eight to replace, care for and maintain 4,000 Cherry Blossom trees, which make up only a part of the 20,000 trees within the National Mall. The current maintenance budget of \$1.2 million does not provide for emergency funds in the case of extreme weather, professional development, or infrastructure improvements – like additional post-and-chain – to protect the trees.

This is a problem we can solve together right now.

The Cherry Tree Endowment Fund will provide reliable, annual support, in perpetuity, for the replacement and maintenance of the Cherry Blossom trees. The Endowment will ensure funds beyond the National Park Service’s annual budgetary appropriations to maintain the tree to the highest possible standards.

Funds contributed to the Endowment will become part of its principal, making your gift a permanent and vital piece of the National Mall’s future.

Throughout our history, Americans have excelled at working together to invent and deploy creative answers to complex questions. It’s time to make our National Mall a reflection of this fundamental attitude. It’s time for this park to embody the same pride it inspires in each of us.

It’s time to preserve the beauty of the National Mall. Support the Cherry Tree Endowment today.

The Trust for the National Mall is the official non-profit partner of the National Park Service dedicated to restoring and improving the National Mall. For more information please visit:

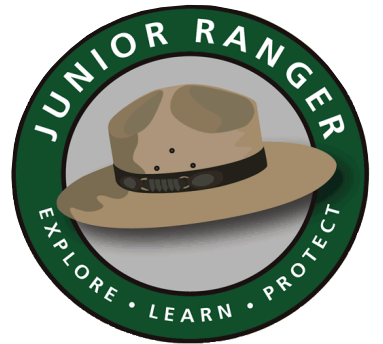
www.nationalmall.org
 Twitter: @thenationalmall
 Facebook.com/TrustfortheNationalMall
 Email: information@nationalmall.org

KIDS' Column



Become a Junior Ranger!

Junior Ranger books are located at the Survey Lodge Ranger Station and at most memorials.



Maya Ying Lin
 photo by Adam Stoltman



Marian Anderson
 photo by Carl Van Vechten



Helen Herron Taft
 photo courtesy of U.S. National Arboretum

In honor of Women's History Month, draw a line to match up the woman's photo to her famous act!

She performed a famous Easter Sunday concert at the Lincoln Memorial.

She was an early delegate to the United Nations.

First Lady who helped bring the cherry trees to Washington, D.C.

She was the designer of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

She represented the women who went to work in factories during World War II.



Eleanor Roosevelt



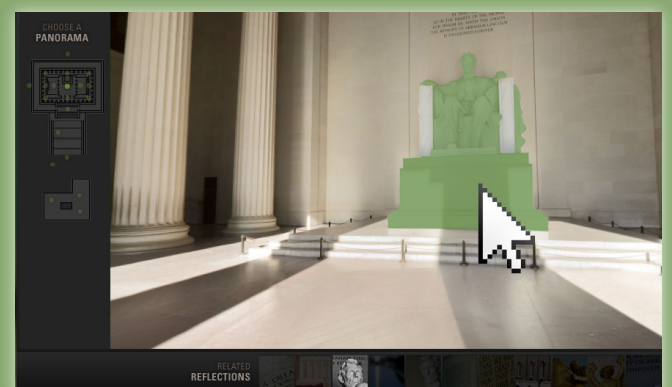
Rosie the Riveter

Explore the Lincoln Memorial Online!

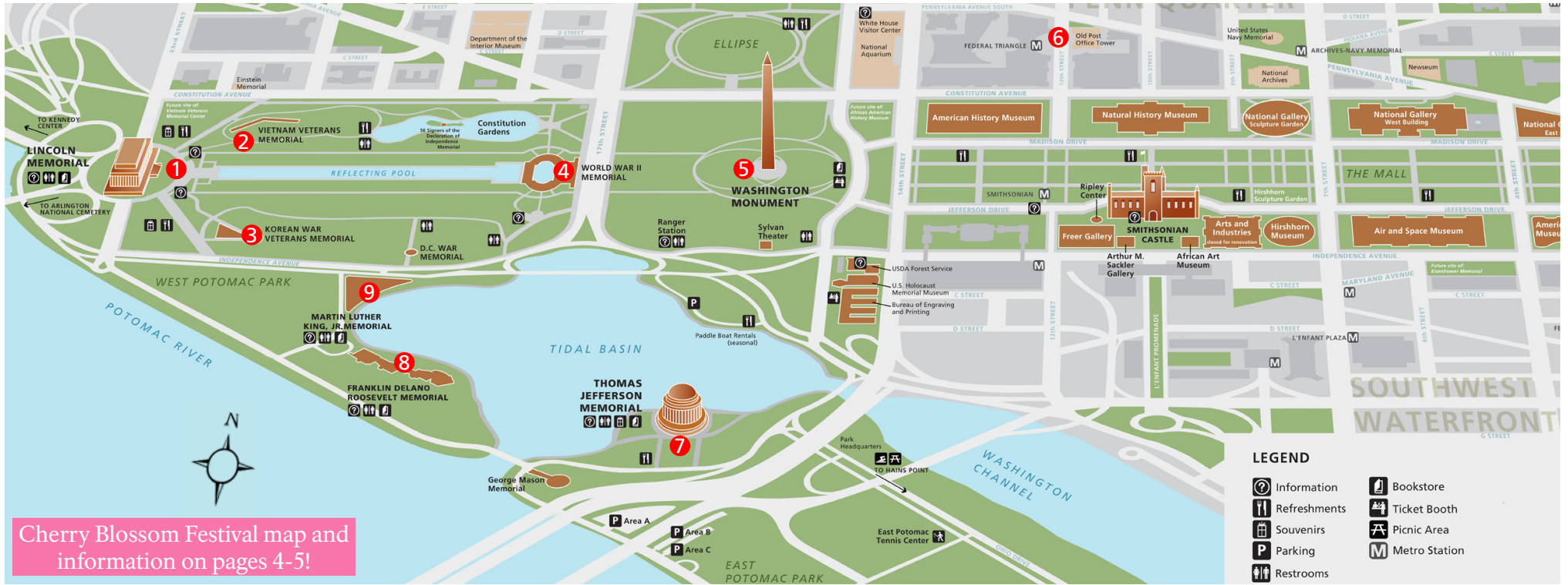
<http://www.nps.gov/linc>

Click on “Lincoln Memorial Interactive Site”

- Interactive Panoramas
- Ranger Videos
- Award-winning website



Plan Your Visit



Things to See

- 1 Lincoln Memorial
- 2 Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- 3 Korean War Veterans Memorial
- 4 World War II Memorial
- 5 Washington Monument
- 6 Old Post Office Tower
- 7 Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- 8 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
- 9 Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial

In all memorials:



Bookstores

Capture the moment, take home a book, and explore the ideas and values that make visiting National Mall and Memorial Parks such a stirring experience. Eastern National, a park partner, operates five bookstores:

- Washington Monument Lodge
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Lincoln Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
9 a.m. - 10 p.m.



www.easternnational.org

Things to Do

Ranger Programs and Tours

What: Free site tours and interpretive talks

Where: Lincoln, Korean War Veterans, Vietnam Veterans, World War II, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Thomas Jefferson Memorials

When: Daily at 10:00 a.m., 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, and 10:00 p.m.

Want more? Take your experience to the next level with our special programs! Locations, topics, types, and times vary. See page 2 for more information about these ranger programs.



Concessions

Guest Services, Inc. manages all retail operations for National Mall and Memorial Parks including refreshment kiosks and gift stores throughout the park, plus seasonal paddle boat rentals.

Tidal Basin Paddle Boats
202-479-2426
www.tidalbasinpaddleboats.com



www.guestservices.com



Be Your Own Guide

National Mall App

Use the official National Mall App for Android and iPhone/iPad to plan your visit, navigate, learn about the memorials, search for programs, and more!



Android



iPhone / iPad

Cell Phone Tours

Dial from anywhere to listen to recorded programs on the following topics:

- Lincoln Memorial: (202) 747-3420
- First Amendment: (202) 595-0085
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial: (202) 595-0093
- Hispanic Heroes: (202) 595-1730
- Cherry Blossoms: (202) 747-3465