National Capital Planning Commission

National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial Donor Recognition Plaques

23rd Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Approval of Preliminary and Final Site Development Plans

United States Department of the Interior

July 9, 2026 | File: 7745

Project Summary

Commission Meeting Date: July 9, 2026

NCPC Review Authority: 40 U.S.C. § 8905

Applicant Request: Approval of Final Site Development Plans

Session: Review Exception

NCPC Review Officer: Stephanie Free

NCPC File Number: 7745

Project Summary:

The National Park Service has submitted preliminary and final site development plans for the addition of one donor recognition sign at the National Desert Storm Desert Shield Memorial.

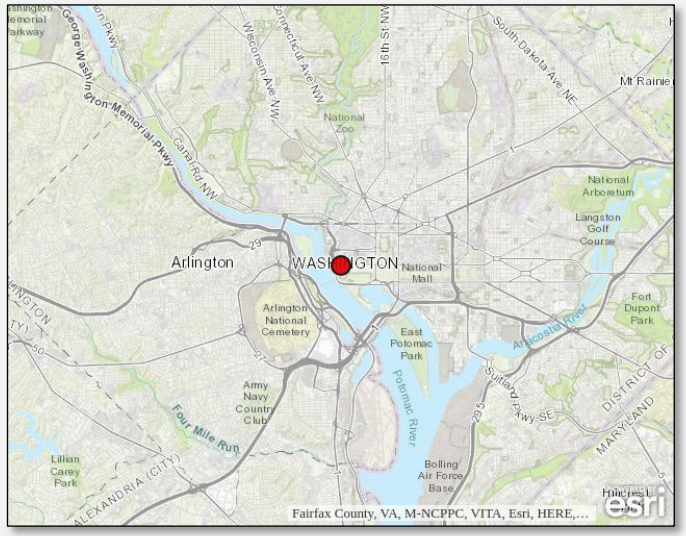
The Commission approved the memorial design in December 2022, including a single donor recognition panel for the State of Kuwait as the provider of major funding for the memorial.

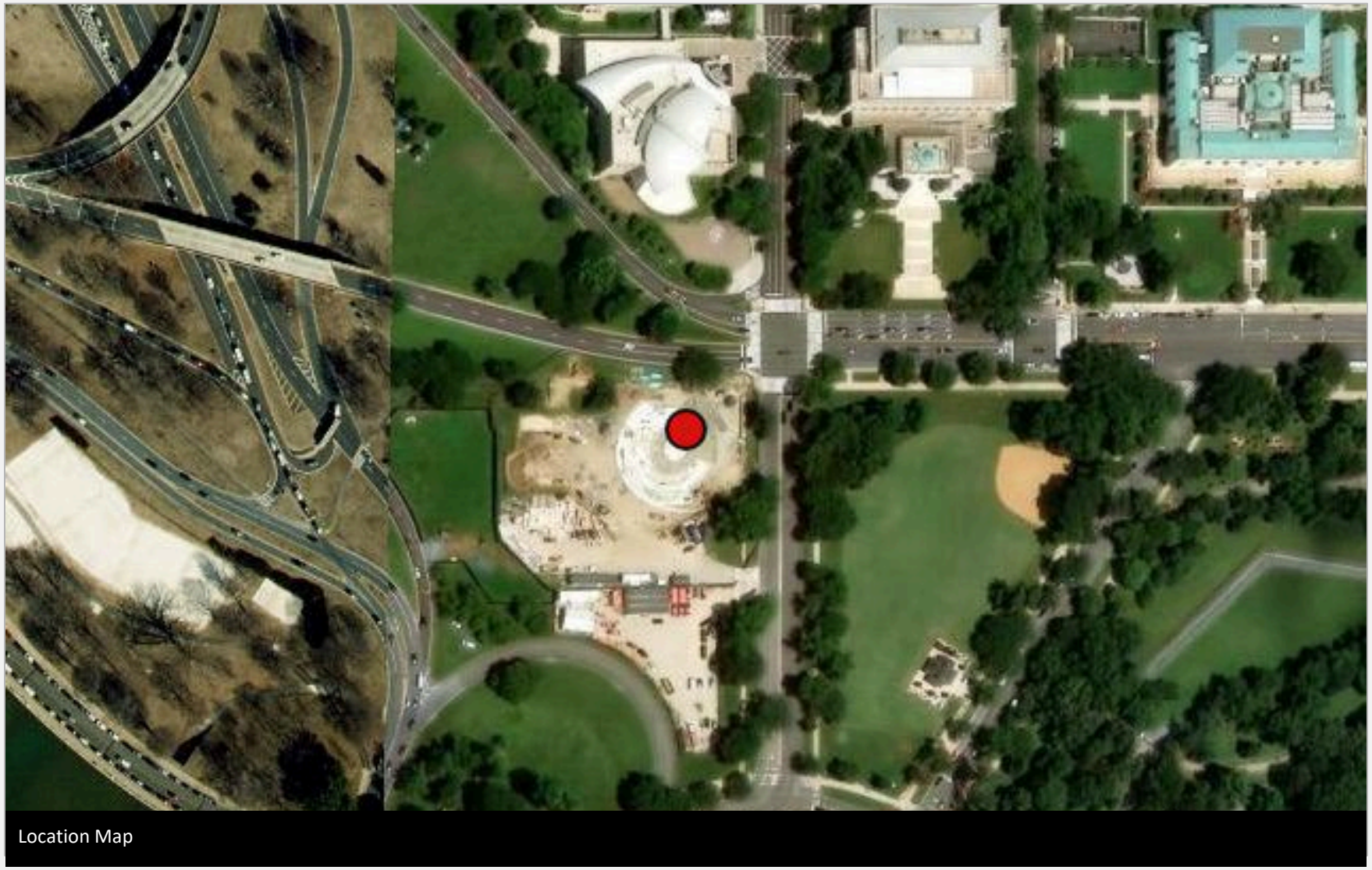
Pursuant to follow-up correspondence between the National Park Service and the Embassy of the State of Kuwait, if additional donors meeting the established recognition criteria were identified after that date, the NPS, the Memorial Association, and the memorial design team agreed to work together to recognize those entities on a separate plaque.

The original State of Kuwait recognition plaque will be located within a planting bed located to the south of the central water feature. The additional plaque is proposed in a planting bed located to the north of the central water feature, approximately mirroring the location of the original plaque.

The proposed plaque will be similar in size, coloring, and materiality to the original plaque.

Site Location





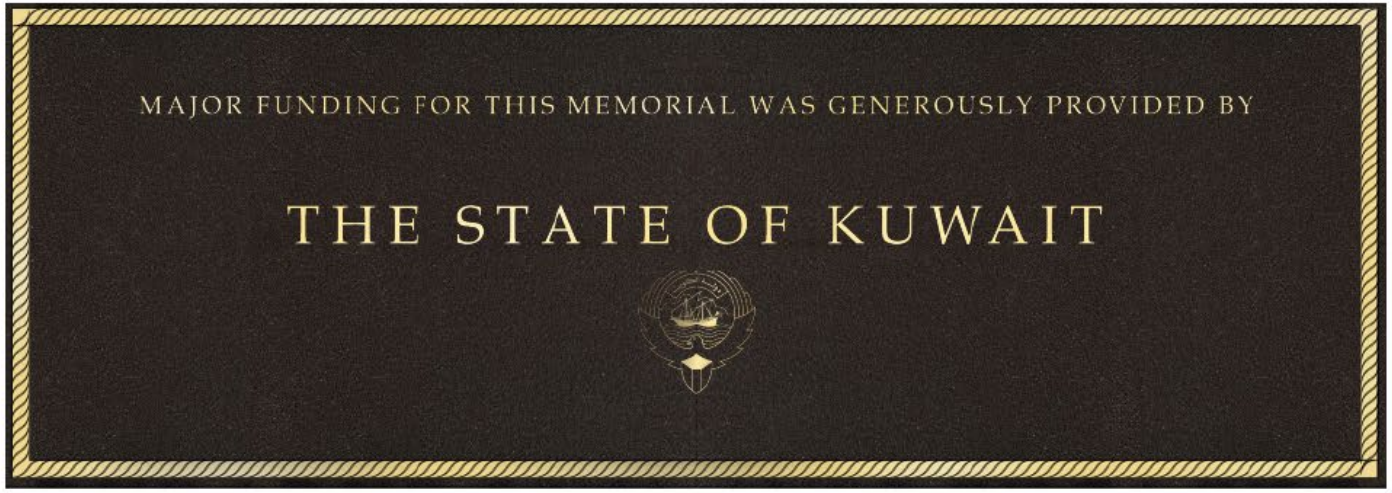
Location Map

Background and Rationale

The National Capital Planning Commission approved the design of the Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial on December 12, 2022, including a single donor recognition panel, as part of the memorial's design and visitor experience.

Subsequently, the staff of the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the design of the State of Kuwait donor recognition plaque, recognizing the country as the provider of major funding for the Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial, on January 14, 2025.

As noted in follow-up correspondence between the National Park Service and the Embassy of the State of Kuwait on January 14, 2025, if additional donors meeting the established recognition criteria were identified after that date, the National Park Service, the National Desert Storm Memorial Association, and the memorial design team agreed to work together to recognize those entities on a separate plaque.



U.S. COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

401 F STREET NW SUITE 312 WASHINGTON DC 20001-2728 202-504-2200 FAX 202-504-2195 WWW.CFA.GOV

14 January 2025

Dear Ms. Stidham:

The staff of the Commission of Fine Arts has reviewed the revised design of the donor recognition plaque, featuring the emblem of Kuwait, to be installed at the National Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial. The staff has no objection to this design as consistent with the overall design approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and, with the authority delegated by the Commission at its meeting of 20 October 2022, approves this minor graphic change to the final design for the site work as originally documented in the materials dated 11 December 2023 and as revised in the attached drawing dated 14 January 2024.

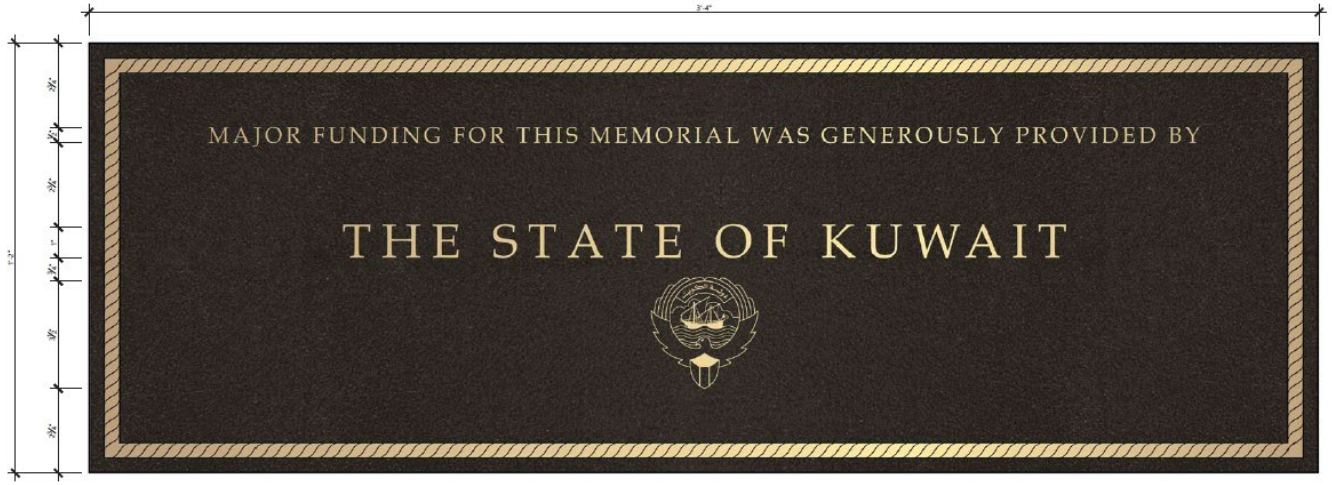
Please continue consulting on the development of this important project with the staff which, as always, is available to assist you.

Sincerely,

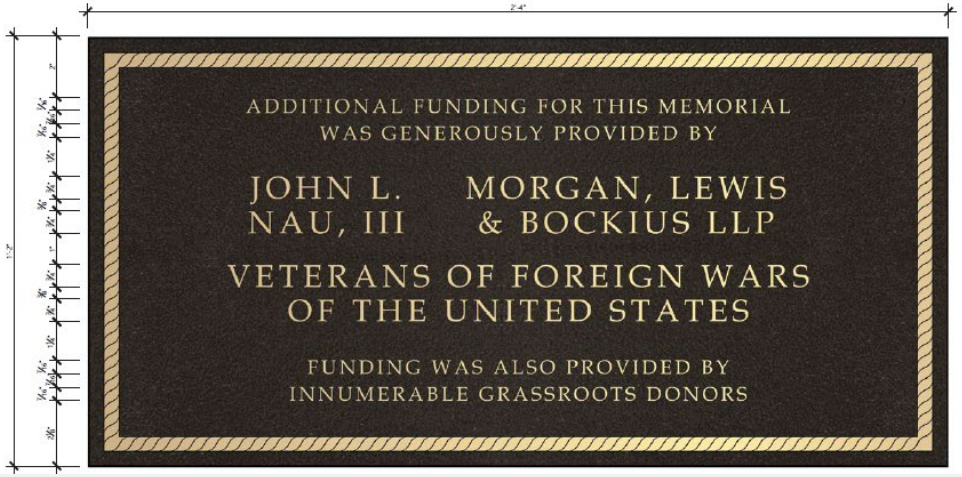
Thomas E. Luebke, FAIA
Secretary

Proposed Graphic Design of Plaques

Donor Recognition Plaque #1 (The State of Kuwait) - Approved January 14, 2025 by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts



Proposed Donor Recognition Plaque #2



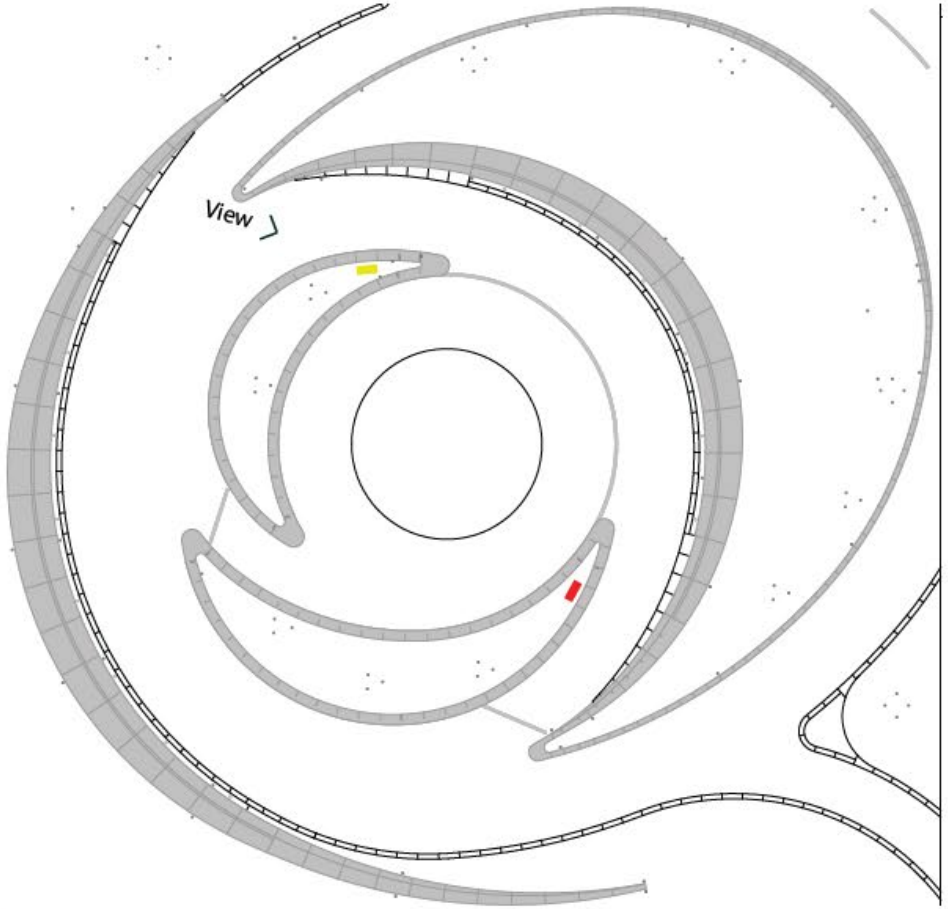
Location of Donor Plaques



Detailed Location of Second Plaque



View of Proposed Second Donor Recognition Plaque, Looking East towards Inscription Wall



Proposed Donor Recognition Plaque #2

Donor Recognition Plaque #1 (The State of Kuwait)