

Historic Resources	Significance
Plan of the City of Washington	<p>The Plan of the City of Washington (L'Enfant Plan; McMillan Plan) is the sole American example of comprehensive Baroque city planning in the United States. The plan consists of a coordinated system of radiating avenues, parks, and vistas overlaid on an orthogonal street grid. Significant views and vistas with the APE that contribute to the Plan of the City of Washington are east and west views along Jefferson Drive, SW, and Madison Drive, NW, north and south views on Third, Fourth, Seventh, and Twelfth streets, NW/SW, and axial views on Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Maryland Avenue, SW.</p> <p>The Plan for the City of Washington was first listed in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites (DC Inventory) in 1964 and expanded in 1997. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1997.</p>
National Mall Historic District	<p>The National Mall Historic District encompasses some of the oldest and most iconic public lands in our nation. Its development reflects two seminal historic plans for the federal city - the plan designed by Maj. Peter (Pierre) Charles L'Enfant in 1791 and the 1901-02 McMillan (Senate Park) Commission Plan - and represents significant contributions to the design heritage of our national capital. As the nation's foremost commemorative landscape, the National Mall's monuments and memorials symbolize the country's collective values and ideals. Its open spaces define the setting of the executive and legislative branches of our federal government and provide essential civic space for historic events of national significance.</p> <p>The National Mall Historic District was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and administratively in the NRHP in 1966 as a historic site encompassing the formal greensward and museum buildings between the U.S. Capitol Grounds and 14th Street, NW-SW. The National Mall Historic District was formally designated in the NRHP in 1981, and in 2016, the NRHP boundaries were expanded.</p>
Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site	<p>Roughly bound by Third Street, NW, to the east, Constitution Avenue to the south, East Executive Avenue to the east, and E and F streets, NW to the north, the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site is significant as the national ceremonial route that spans from the White House to the U.S. Capitol. It has been the site of inaugural parades and civic processions. It is also significant as the commercial heart of Washington, DC. The National Historic Site consists of approximately 160 resources ranging from monumental civic buildings to smaller commercial structures that date from c. 1791-1960.</p> <p>The Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site was designated in the NRHP in 1966 and in the DC Inventory in 1973. The NRHP documentation was amended in 2007.</p>
Lyndon B. Johnson Department of Education	<p>Federal Office Building No. 6 (now the Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building) was the first of fifteen office buildings erected by the newly created General Services Administration under a 1956 master plan for expanding federal facilities. Its Modernist design initiated a dramatic change in the federal government's image as expressed through buildings. The project was envisioned as the employment center for a redeveloped Southwest neighborhood,</p>

	<p>advancing the Southwest Urban Renewal Plan while also enabling the removal of wartime “tempo” from the Mall. Completed in 1961, Federal Office Building No. 6 was first occupied by NASA and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The building is now occupied by the US Department of Education.</p> <p>The building was designed in the DC Inventory and the NRHP in 2017 under National Register Criteria A and C.</p>
<p>Social Security Administration</p>	<p>The Social Security Administration Building (Wilbur J. Cohen Building) was one of the last buildings constructed under a major building campaign to accommodate the growing number of federal employees during the 1930s.¹ The building was built for the Social Security Board (established 1935) and is associated with the establishment of a nationwide pension program, one of the most enduring accomplishments of the New Deal. The building illustrates the expansion of the McMillan Plan recommendations to Southwest Washington and was jointly planned with the Railroad Retirement Building.</p> <p>The building was constructed between 1939 and 1940 in the Stripped Classical style of architecture. The building was designed by Charles Z. Klauder (1872-1938), consulting architect under the supervision of then Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Louis A. Simon (1867-1958). The building features exterior relief sculptures designed by Henry Kreis and Emma Lou Davis. The interior of the building, which features Art Deco features, features interior murals.²</p> <p>The building was listed in the DC Inventory and the NRHP in 2007 under National Register Criteria A and C.</p>
<p>Mary E. Switzer Federal Building</p>	<p>The Mary E. Switzer Building (formerly the Railroad Retirement Building) was one of the last buildings constructed under a major building campaign to accommodate the growing number of federal employees during the 1930s.³ Built between 1939 and 1940, the building was designed by Charles Z. Klauder, who served as Consulting Architect and implemented by Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect of Public Buildings Administration, Federal Works Agency. The finished building, in addition to its unusual “fishbone” plan, had elements of both Streamline Moderne and Egyptian Revival in its façade. Although intended for the Railroad Retirement Board, its first occupant was to the United States Department of War. The building was renamed as the Mary E. Switzer Memorial Building on October 21, 1972, thereby becoming the first federal building named for a woman.⁴</p>

¹ National Register of Historic Places, Social Security’s Administration Building, Washington, DC, National Register #07000639.

² DC Historic Preservation Office, *DC Inventory of Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%200%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.pdf>.

³ National Register of Historic Places, Railroad Retirement Board Building, Washington, DC, National Register #07000638.

⁴ DC Historic Preservation Office, *DC Inventory of Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%200%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.pdf>.

	The building was listed in the DC Inventory and in the NRHP in 2007 under National Register Criteria A and C.
Terminal Refrigerating and Warehousing Company	<p>The building was constructed in 1932 and designed in the Neoclassical style by prominent Washington architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. An unusual and monumental example of an urban cold storage warehouse and ice plant, the structure is a rare surviving specimen of a particular type of industrial building that became central to the social and economic function of the twentieth-century city.⁵</p> <p>The building was listed in the DC Inventory and in the NRHP in 2014 under Criteria A and C.</p>
U.S. Botanic Gardens	<p>The idea for establishing a United States Botanic Garden was first contemplated in the late eighteenth century by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison. A botanic garden was established in 1820; however, its operations ceased in 1837. In 1842, the U.S. Botanic Garden was re-established in greenhouses located behind the Old Patent Office Building, and in 1850, the institution moved to a greenhouse that had previously been occupied by the Columbian Institute's garden. The Botanic gardens moved to its present location in 1933. The Garden includes the Conservatory (renovated between 1997 and 2001), the National Garden (opened in 2006), and Bartholdi Park (created in 1932).⁶</p> <p>The U.S. Botanic Gardens was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964. It is also a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
Ulysses S. Grant Memorial	<p>Located at the eastern edge of the National Mall near the base of the Capitol Building, this memorial pays tribute to American Civil War General and 18th U.S. President Ulysses S. Grant. At 252 feet long by 71 feet wide by 44 feet high, the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial is the largest equestrian monument in the United States. The statue was erected under an act passed by Congress in 1901. It was designed by sculptor Henry Merwin Shrady. The memorial was dedicated on the centennial of Grant's birthday – April 27, 1922.⁷</p> <p>The Grant Memorial is considered a contributing resource to the Civil War Monuments, which was listed in the NRHP in 1978 and in the DC Inventory in 1979.</p>
U.S. Capitol	The U.S. Capitol is the centerpiece of L'Enfant's federal city and is the seat of government and the symbol of the United States. The U.S. Capitol has been occupied continuously by Congress since 1800 and until 1935 it housed the Supreme Court as well. The Capitol has been associated with nearly all of the nation's political leaders. Its legislative chambers have been the site of innumerable debates that have altered the course of history, and the place where presidents, military commanders, and international leaders have addressed the nation. The east and west fronts of the Capitol have been the traditional location of

⁵ DC Historic Preservation Office, "Terminal Refrigerating and Warehouse Company," *DC Inventory of Historic Sites: FY 2014 Landmarks Update*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/FY%202014%20Landmarks%20Update.pdf>.

⁶ DC Preservation League, "United States Botanic Garden," *DC Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/619>.

⁷ National Register of Historic Places, Civil War Monuments in Washington, DC, Washington, DC, National Register #78000257.

	<p>presidential inaugurations. Since the assassination of Lincoln, every president who has died in office has lain in state in the rotunda. The compass rose at the center of the rotunda floor marks the original prime meridian for the country, and is the measuring point for the layout of the city and boundaries of several states.</p> <p>It is the first major example in America of the Federal architectural style derived from English Neoclassicism, and exhibits numerous efforts at developing an indigenous style of architecture and decorative art drawn from the American environment and reflective of American character and ideals. Its major spaces include unsurpassed Federal and Greek Revival era rooms, and it houses notable examples of American statuary, artwork, decorative arts, and craftsmanship, including the most opulent mid-Victorian interiors in America. Its extraordinary double-shelled and trussed cast iron dome is a significant and innovative engineering achievement. Seeing the dome as symbolic of the Union, Lincoln pushed ahead with construction in the midst of the war, and the year he began with the Emancipation Proclamation ended with the raising of Freedom over the Capitol.</p> <p>The U.S. Capitol was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1960. It was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and is exempt from listing in the National Register. The Capitol Grounds are within a L'Enfant Plan reservation.⁸</p>
Capitol Grounds	<p>The Capitol Grounds were designed by Frederick Law Olmstead and laid out in an extended project implemented between 1874 and 1892. The Capitol Grounds were listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and are exempt from listing in the National Register. The Capitol Grounds are within a L'Enfant Plan reservation.⁹</p>
National Gallery of Art East Wing	<p>The East Wing of the National Gallery of Art was constructed in 1978 to the Modernist design of I.M. Pei. In 1981, it received a National Honor Award from the American Institute of Architects.¹⁰</p> <p>The East Wing is not individually designated. It is a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
National Gallery of Art West Wing	<p>The West Wing of the National Gallery of Art was constructed in 1941. The Neoclassical style building was designed by John Russell Pope and serves the United States' national art museum. The institution was established in 1937 via an Act of Congress using funds donated by Andrew W. Mellon. At the time of the building's completion, it was the largest marble structure in the world.¹¹</p>

⁸ DC Historic Preservation Office, *DC Inventory of Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%200%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.pdf>.

⁹ DC Historic Preservation Office, *DC Inventory of Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%200%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.pdf>.

¹⁰ DC Preservation League, "National Gallery of Art," *DC Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/413>.

¹¹ DC Preservation League, "National Gallery of Art," *DC Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, <https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/413>.

	The building was listed in the DC Inventory in 1968. It is a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.
Bulfinch Gatehouses and Gateposts	<p>The former gate structures of the Capitol, built after 1814 at the foot of the west Capitol grounds, were part of the reconstruction of the Capitol after the War of 1812. They are generally attributed to Charles Bulfinch, the architect in charge of the restoration. The gatehouses and posts were removed in 1874 and reconstructed at their present locations in 1880; they were restored in 1940. The two one-room gatehouses of rusticated Aquia sandstone were designed to harmonize with the building's basement story. Their classical facades are in the style of Roman Triumphal arches with Doric columns, arched doorways, a guilloche frieze, and heavily foliated scroll of acanthus leaves and rosettes. The four rusticated gateposts are similar, topped with acanthus motifs and volutes.¹²</p> <p>The Bulfinch Gatehouses and Gateposts were listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and in the NRHP in 1973 under National Register Criterion C. The Bulfinch Gatehouses and Gateposts are within the L'Enfant Plan Reservation and is within the National Mall Historic District.</p>
National Museum of Natural History	<p>The National Museum of Natural History, which opened in 1910 as the United States National Museum, is a large Neoclassical Style building that was designed by the local architectural firm of Hornblower & Marshall along with Charles F. McKim and Daniel H. Burnham. The building was built to house the Smithsonian's growing collections. In 1964, the Museum of History and Technology (National Museum of American History) opened next door, followed by the National Museum of American Art-National Portrait Gallery in the Old Patent Office five years later. With these collections in new quarters, in 1969, the building became the National Museum of Natural History. East and west wings, designed by Mills, Petticord and Mills, were added to the original building in 1961-65, with additional changes to the building in the 1970s and 1990s.¹³</p> <p>The National Museum of Natural History was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and was amended in 2023. The building was listed in the NRHP in 2023. The building is also a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
National Museum of American History	The National Museum of American History opened in January 1964 as the National Museum of History and Technology. It was one of the last buildings to be designed by the renowned architectural firm of McKim Mead & White. The building's exterior was designed in the New Formalist style, which incorporated Classical formal elements such as symmetrical façade composition and monumental scale. The hallmarks of New Formalism also included the use of a podium, abstracted Classical elements such as repetitive column bays and cornices, and planar wall surfaces adorned in high-quality, traditional building materials such as marble. In 1980, the building was renamed to the

¹² DC Historic Preservation Office, *DC Inventory of Historic Sites*, accessed May 9, 2024, [https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%2000%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.p](https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%2000%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.pdf)
[df](https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Inventory%202009%2000%20Alpha%20Version%2003%2011.pdf).

¹³ DC Preservation League, "National Museum of Natural History," *DC Historic Sites*, accessed May 10, 2024, <https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/422>.

	<p>National Museum of American History to better reflect the collections housed within.</p> <p>The National Museum of American History is not individually designated in either the DC Inventory or the NRHP. The building is a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
<p>U.S. Department of Agriculture</p>	<p>The Department of Agriculture Administration Building is an extremely long building of white marble located on the National Mall. When it was built, it became one of the first government buildings to use reinforced concrete. The significance of the building derives from its Neoclassical architecture. The building is one of many examples of this type of civic architecture that characterizes much of modern Washington. The main portion of the building was designed by Rankin, Kellogg & Crane and built between 1904 and 1908; a central section was added in 1930.¹⁴</p> <p>The U.S. Department of Agriculture (Administration Building) was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and in the NRHP in 1974. The building is also within the boundaries of the National Mall Historic District.</p>
<p>Freer Gallery</p>	<p>The Freer Gallery of Art was designed by Charles Adams Platt and built in 1923. The building was designed to house Charles L. Freer’s personal collection of American and Asian art. Freer donated his collection and an endowment for the construction of a building, which were accepted by the Smithsonian in 1906. Construction on the Italian Renaissance Revival-style building lasted from 1916 to 1923. Designed by architect Charles Adams Platt, the building’s exterior is clad in pink granite, with a prominent interior courtyard clad in white marble. A major renovation completed in 1993 connected the Freer Gallery to the Quad buildings and expanded the underground storage areas.</p> <p>The Freer Gallery was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964 and in the NRHP in 1969 under National Register Criterion C. The building is also a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
<p>Smithsonian Castle</p>	<p>The Smithsonian Institution Building, also known as “The Castle”, was designed by architect James Renwick, Jr. The building is constructed of red sandstone and was designed in the Norman style. Completed in 1855, the Castle became the anchor for the National Mall as additional museums and government buildings were constructed around it. Over the years several reconstructions have taken place. The first followed a disastrous fire on January 24, 1865, which destroyed the upper story of the main segment and the north and south towers. In 1883, the east wing was fireproofed and enlarged to accommodate more offices. Major rehabilitation projects undertaken in the 1910s and 1960s modernized the building and converted existing galleries into offices.</p> <p>The Castle served as a home and office for Joseph Henry, the first Secretary of the Smithsonian. Until the National Museum (now the Arts and Industries Building) was erected in 1881, the Castle housed all aspects of Smithsonian operations, including research and administrative offices; lecture halls; exhibit halls; a library and reading room; chemical laboratories; storage areas for specimens; and living</p>

¹⁴ DC Preservation League, “Department of Agriculture (Administration Building),” *DC Historic Sites*, accessed May 10, 2024, <https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/145>.

	<p>quarters for the Secretary, his family, and visiting scientists. In the late 1880s, the Castle’s south yard became home to the fledgling National Zoological Park. Today, the Castle houses the Institution’s central administrative offices, the Office of the Secretary, and the Smithsonian Information Center.</p> <p>The building was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964, designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1965, and listed in the NRHP in 1966. The building is also a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
<p>Arts and Industries Building</p>	<p>Constructed between 1879 and 1881, the Arts and Industries Building is the nation’s best-preserved example of nineteenth-century world’s fair or exposition-type architecture. Built to house the international exhibits left over from the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition of 1876, it reflects the three principal requirements of this architectural type: to enclose a very large area, to present a tasteful, dramatic, and pleasing exterior, and to employ inexpensive construction technology. The architects were Cluss & Schulze.</p> <p>The building was listed in the DC Inventory in 1964. It was listed in the NRHP and designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1971 under National Register Criteria A and C. It is also a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
<p>Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden</p>	<p>The modernist-style Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden opened to the public in 1974. First comprised of the remarkable modern and contemporary art collection of Joseph H. Hirshhorn, the museum was chartered by Congress in 1966, which accepted Hirshhorn’s gift and appropriated funds for the construction of a museum on the National Mall. The building was designed by architect Gordon Bunshaft, who conceived the museum as a “large piece of functional sculpture.” The hollow, elevated drum floats above several acres of landscaped grounds for sculpture. Curved galleries and exhibit spaces are located along the drum’s perimeter. The building is clad in precast concrete aggregate and contains some 197,000 square feet of total exhibition space, indoors and outdoors, with 60,000 square feet of exhibition space on three floors and 2.7 acres around and under the building. The Sculpture Garden contains 1.3 acres sunken six to fourteen feet below street level, encased by concrete retaining walls. The Sculpture Garden was redesigned and renovated in 1981, implementing new accessibility features.</p> <p>The Hirshhorn has been determined eligible for designation under National Register Criteria A and C. The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden is also a contributing resource to the National Mall Historic District.</p>
<p>Orville and Wilbur Wright Federal Buildings</p>	<p>The Orville Wright Federal Building (FOB 10A) and the Wilbur Wright Federal Building (FOB 10B) were designed by Holabird & Root & Burgee, and Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen between 1957 and 1960 for the General Services Administration (GSA). They were two of four buildings that were constructed by GSA under the Southwest Urban Renewal program. The buildings are successful examples of the adaptation of the Internal Style to its context and to the needs of the federal office</p>

	<p>building. For instance, while modern in style, the marble clad exterior rendered the building consistent with other buildings that lined the National Mall.¹⁵</p> <p>The Orville and Wilbur Wright Federal Buildings were listed in the NRHP in October 2024.</p>
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¹⁵ “Federal Office Building 10B; Wilbur Wright Building”, DC State Historic Preservation Office Determination of Eligibility Form.