

868

D-44

Presidents Park

Comprehensive Design Plan



The White House
& *President's Park*

PLEASE RETURN TO:

TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER
DENVER SERVICE CENTER
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Comprehensive Design Plan

The White House
& President's Park

Washington, D.C.

May 2000

United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

SCANNED

12/12/01

Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	5
<i>The White House and President's Park</i>	5
<i>Purpose of the Plan</i>	6
<i>Need for the Plan</i>	8
<i>The Planning Process</i>	8
<i>The White House and President's Park — An Overview</i>	11
<i>The Setting</i>	13
<i>Structures, Facilities, and Grounds</i>	13
<i>Roadways</i>	15
<i>Other Site Elements</i>	16
<i>The Historical Development of the Landscape</i>	17
<i>Pierre Charles L'Enfant, 1791</i>	17
<i>Thomas Jefferson, ca. 1804</i>	17
<i>Andrew Jackson Downing, 1851</i>	18
<i>Senate Park Commission Plan (McMillan Plan), 1901</i>	19
<i>McKim, Mead & White, 1902</i>	19
<i>Olmsted Brothers, 1935</i>	19
<i>National Park Service, ca. 1935</i>	20
<i>The Truman Renovation, 1949–52</i>	20
<i>John Carl Warnecke & Associates, 1962–69</i>	20
<i>The Landscape Today</i>	21
<i>The White House and President's Park</i>	21
<i>The Urban Setting</i>	22
<i>Historic Structures and Districts</i>	23
<i>Site Capacity</i>	28
<i>The Home and Office of the President</i>	31
<i>Executive Residence</i>	32
<i>Executive Office Support Services</i>	33
<i>News Media Facilities</i>	37
<i>Visitor Use, Services, and Experience</i>	39
<i>Public Access to the White House</i>	39
<i>Who Visits the White House and President's Park?</i>	43
<i>The Visitor Experience</i>	44

<i>Special Events and Demonstrations</i>	51
<i>Regulations</i>	51
<i>Special Events</i>	55
<i>Transportation</i>	58
<i>Local Street Network</i>	58
<i>Site Access</i>	62
<i>Public Parking</i>	63
<i>Public Transit</i>	66
<i>Tourmobile and Tour Bus Circulation</i>	67
<i>Pedestrians</i>	69
<i>Bicycles</i>	71
<i>Site Management and Operations</i>	73
<i>Jurisdiction and Security</i>	73
<i>Maintenance Operations</i>	75
<i>Utilities</i>	76
<i>The Comprehensive Design Plan</i>	79
<i>A Vision for the White House and President's Park</i>	79
<i>Introduction</i>	81
<i>The Context for the Plan</i>	81
<i>The Development of the Plan</i>	87
<i>The Organization of the Plan</i>	88
<i>Comprehensive Design</i>	90
<i>Planning Direction</i>	90
<i>Actions</i>	91
<i>Resource Conservation and Management</i>	96
<i>Planning Direction</i>	96
<i>Actions</i>	97
<i>The Home and Office of the President</i>	100
<i>Planning Direction</i>	100
<i>Actions</i>	102
<i>Visitor Use and Services</i>	107
<i>Planning Direction</i>	108
<i>Actions</i>	109
<i>Special Events</i>	114
<i>Planning Direction</i>	114
<i>Actions</i>	114
<i>Transportation</i>	117
<i>Planning Direction</i>	117
<i>Actions</i>	118

<i>Site Management and Operations</i>	121
<i>Planning Direction</i>	121
<i>Actions</i>	121
<i>Future Studies</i>	123
<i>Appendixes</i>	125
<i>A: Legislation</i>	127
<i>B: A Summary of Significant Plans and Projects at President's Park</i>	128
<i>C: An Inventory and Assessment of Structures and Memorials within and adjacent to President's Park</i>	140
<i>D: Primary Interpretive Themes for the White House and President's Park</i>	156
<i>E: Compliance, Mitigating Measures, Construction Techniques, Phasing, and Cost Estimates</i>	163
<i>F: Determination of Site Use Capacity</i>	174
<i>G: Planning Work Group Participants</i>	177
<i>H: Desired Futures — News Media</i>	183
<i>Glossary</i>	186
<i>Selected Bibliography</i>	189
<i>Planning Team and Consultants</i>	194
<i>Index</i>	197

Illustrations

Existing Conditions	7
Aerial View of Lafayette Park, the White House, and the Ellipse	15
Historic Districts	25
Memorials / Monuments	26
White House Grounds: Commemorative Plantings and Gardens	27
Resource Conservation and Management: Photographs	30
White House: Functional Relationships	32
The Home and Office of the President: Photographs	38
Visitor Use and Services: Photographs	41
White House Public Tour Route	47
Visitor Use and Services	50
Special Events	52
Special Events, Transportation, and Site Management and Operations: Photographs	57
Average Weekday Traffic Volumes	60
Pedestrian Street Crossings	70
Pedestrian Entryways	91
Ellipse Side Panels and Walkways	93
Plan — Aboveground	94
Plan — Belowground	95
Ellipse	104
White House Education Center and Museum	108
Pedestrian Corridor	112
Events Plaza — Plan View	116

Tables

1: Historic Structures, Sites, and Districts in and near President's Park	24
2: Parking Supply for Staff in the President's Park Area	35
3: Numbers of Visitors on White House Tours	42
4: Special Events within President's Park	53
5: Levels of Service on East-West Streets Adjacent to President's Park	61
6: Mode of Arrival for White House Tour Visitors	63
7: On-Street Parking Supply by Regulation and Location in President's Park	64
8: Metrorail Stations	66
9: Weekday Pedestrian Volumes	69
10: Weekday Bicycle Volumes	72

*Executive Committee
Comprehensive Design Plan
for the White House*

The *Comprehensive Design Plan for the White House and President's Park* was developed with the continuing involvement and guidance of the following agencies and federally chartered organizations, which have stewardship and oversight responsibilities at the White House and President's Park:

Executive Office of the President
Executive Residence at the White House
White House Military Office
U.S. Department of the Treasury
U.S. Secret Service
General Services Administration
National Park Service
District of Columbia
Commission of Fine Arts
National Capital Planning Commission
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
(until 1996)

The plan was approved on March 29, 2000, by Robert G. Stanton, director of the National Park Service, which had primary responsibility for developing the plan. The plan was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts on April 19, 2000, and by the National Capital Planning Commission on May 4, 2000.

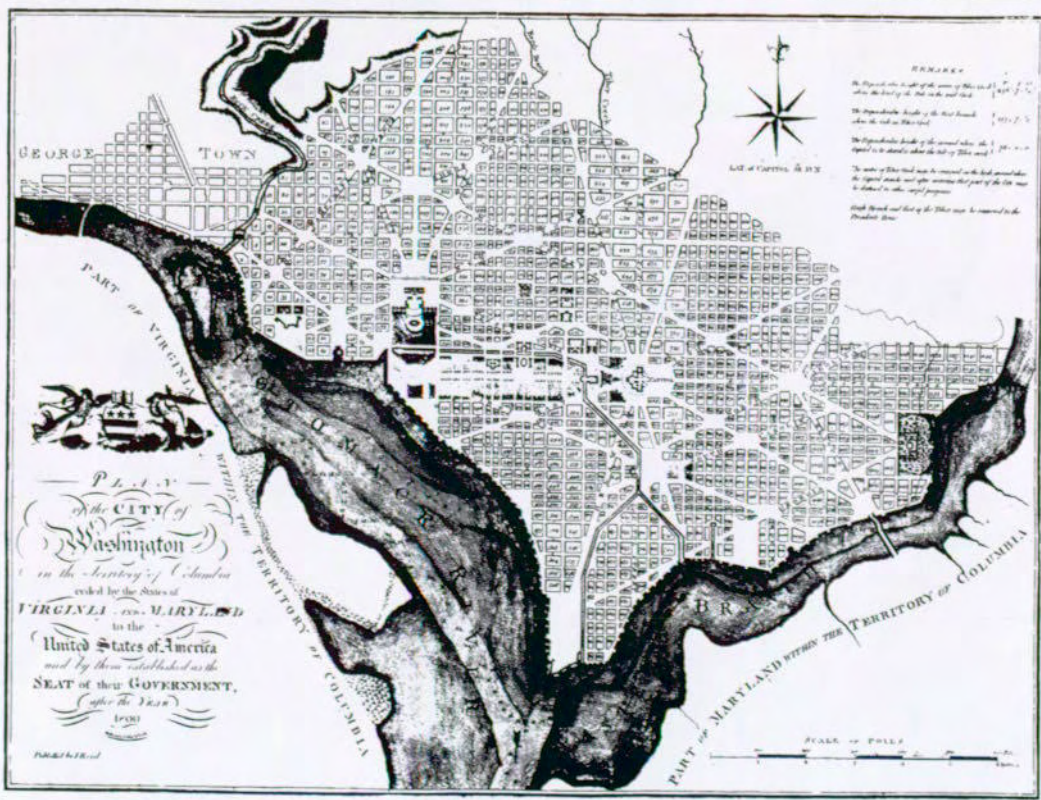
THE WHITE HOUSE AND ITS SETTING



"I do hereby declare and make known that the location of . . . the . . . district of ten miles square shall be found by running four lines of experiment. . . . Being so run, I do hereby declare . . . that all that part within the said four lines . . . is now fixed upon, and directed to be surveyed, defined, limited, and located . . . for the permanent seat of the Government of the United States."

George Washington

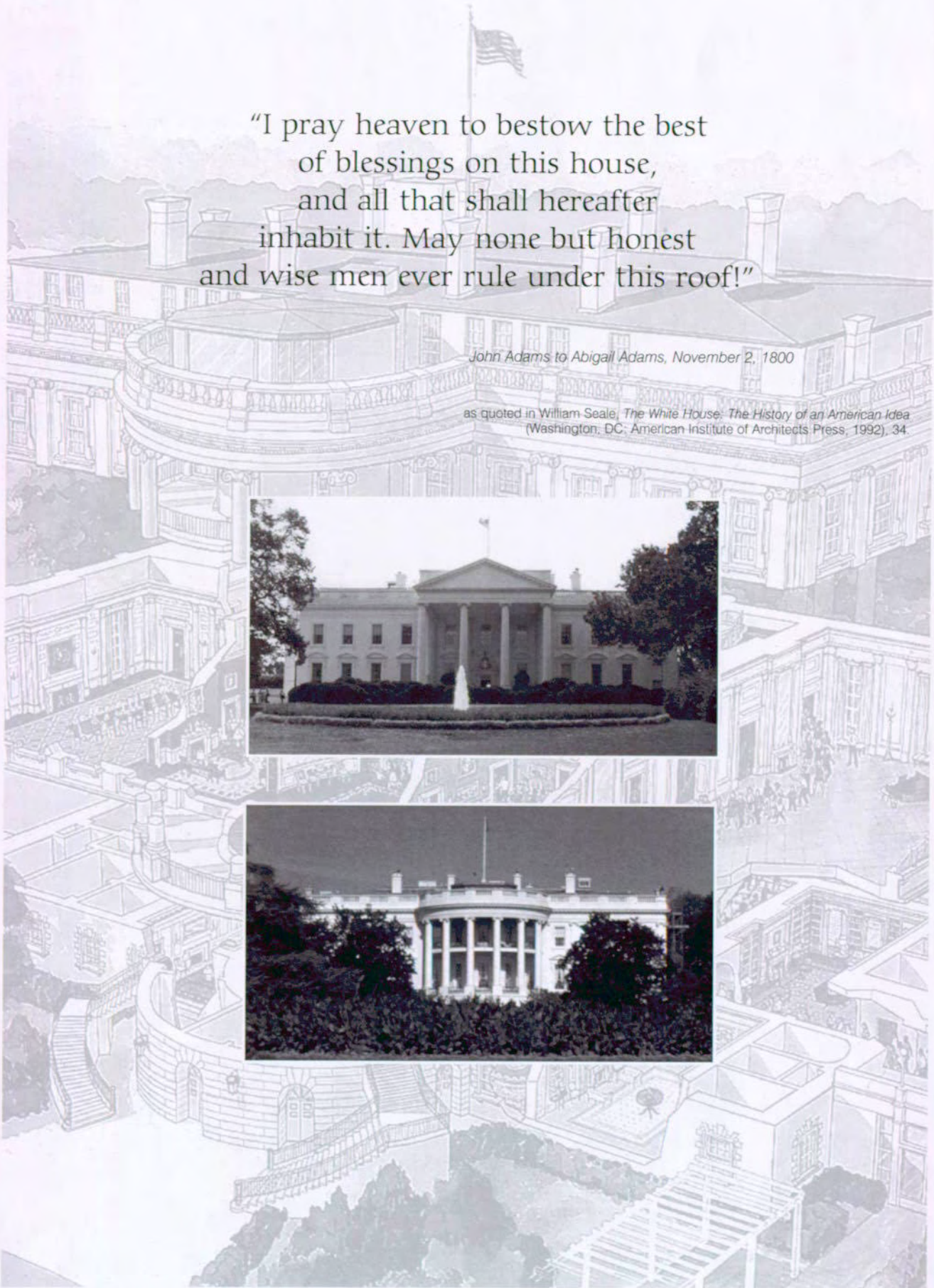
January 24, 1791, as quoted in John W. Repp, *Washington on View: The Nation's Capital since 1790* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1991), 10.



"THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE
will stand upon a rising ground, not far
from the banks of the Potomac,
possessing a delightful water prospect,
with a commanding view of the Capitol."

George Walker, A Description of the Situation and Plan of the City of Washington Now Building for the Metropolis of America and Established as the Permanent Residence of Congress After the Year 1800, as reprinted in Kenneth Bowling, Creating the Federal City, 1774-1800: Potomac Fever (Washington, DC: American Institute of Architects Press, 1988), 52.



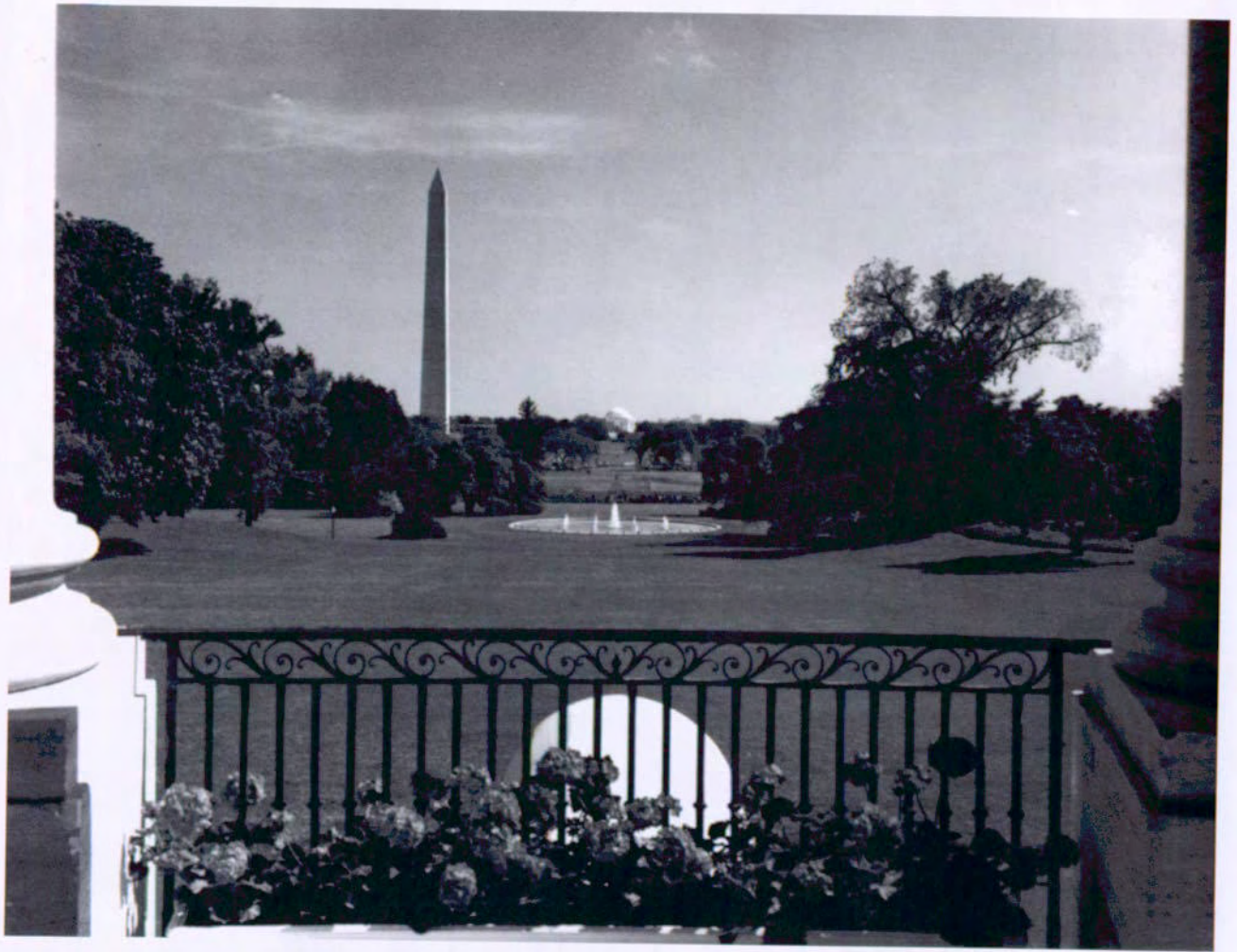


"I pray heaven to bestow the best
of blessings on this house,
and all that shall hereafter
inhabit it. May none but honest
and wise men ever rule under this roof!"

John Adams to Abigail Adams, November 2, 1800

as quoted in William Seale, *The White House: The History of an American Idea*
(Washington, DC: American Institute of Architects Press, 1992), 34.





Introduction

[History] clearly shows that we arrive at catastrophe by failing to meet situations—by failing to act where we should act. . . . [The] opportunity passes and the next situation always is more difficult than the last one.

— Eleanor Roosevelt

The overall purpose of the *Comprehensive Design Plan for the White House and President's Park* is to provide a framework for future management of the area that will respect past traditions and meet the needs of tomorrow. This effort represents the first comprehensive plan for the property since 1791, when George Washington designated the site for the residence of the president.

The White House and President's Park

In 1790 George Washington signed an act of Congress declaring that the federal government would reside in an area “not exceeding ten miles square . . . on the river Potomac” — the city now known as Washington, D.C. The placement of the White House was integral to the design for the new federal city developed by Pierre Charles L'Enfant. The architecture for the house was to be monumental, with a classical theme symbolizing democracy, and large public parks surrounding it to provide an appropriate setting. The site, selected in 1791, had sweeping vistas that would connect the buildings representing the executive and legislative branches of government.

Construction of the presidential residence began in 1792, and in November 1800 the first residents — John and Abigail Adams — moved in. Since then, the White House has been the official residence of every president of the United States of America.

The White House is a classic Georgian manor house that is one of the most important buildings in the history of the United States:

- ◆ It is the home and office of the president of the United States and the setting for official presidential functions, including dinners and welcoming ceremonies for foreign heads of state.

- ◆ It is the center of the executive branch of government, the headquarters of the commander in chief of the nation's armed forces, and an office complex.
- ◆ It is a unit of the national park system, a public tour destination, and a fully accredited museum.
- ◆ It is the place where citizens have the constitutional right to come and petition the president.
- ◆ It is a focus for popular public celebrations, such as presidential inaugural parades, annual Easter egg rolls, and the Pageant of Peace in December.

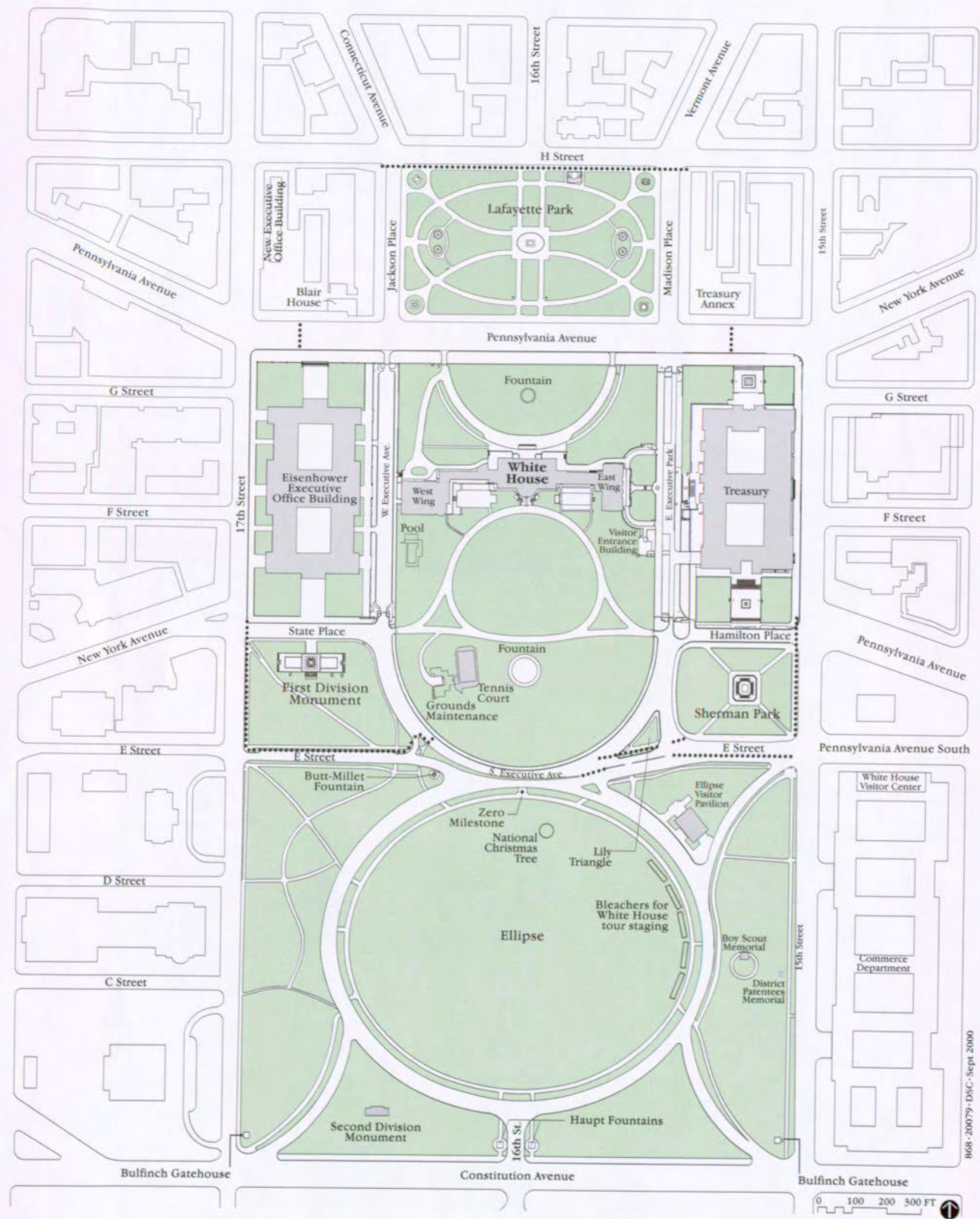
The White House and President's Park, including Lafayette Park and the Ellipse, are a public trust, important symbols of our nation's heritage. The management of this area must remain flexible to accommodate the various formal and informal uses that occur daily. The preservation of the site's resources must be ensured by prudent and adequate planning and by sensitive design. These are the planning and design challenges inherent at the White House and President's Park.

The White House and the surrounding President's Park consist of approximately 82 acres. The total area includes several smaller, related elements. To the north is Lafayette Park; to the west are West Executive Avenue, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building (formerly the Old Executive Office Building) and its grounds, plus the First Division Monument; to the east are East Executive Park, the Treasury Building and its grounds, plus Sherman Park; and to the south is President's Park South, commonly referred to as the Ellipse. Boundaries for the site generally run from H Street on the northern edge of Lafayette Park, along Jackson and Madison Places south to Pennsylvania Avenue, east and west on Pennsylvania Avenue to 15th and 17th Streets, and south to Constitution Avenue.

Purpose of the Plan

This *Comprehensive Design Plan for the White House and President's Park* has three specific purposes:

1. Identify what needs and functions will have to be accommodated at the site over the next 20 years.
2. Determine how best to ensure the protection of important resources on the site, including the White House itself.
3. Solve the logistical and management problems that have developed over the years.



868-20079-DSC-Sept 2000



..... Concrete Barriers

Existing Conditions



This *Comprehensive Design Plan* is intended to provide for the efficient administration and operation of the buildings, grounds, and resources of President's Park, to ensure their protection, and to interpret their significance to the public.

Need for the Plan

The White House and President's Park are a manifestation of more than 200 years of incremental change. Most problems have been addressed as they have arisen, while some have not been addressed at all. The lack of a comprehensive plan has generally resulted in a piecemeal approach to problem solving and development.

Present needs are not being met for the Executive Residence, the Office of the President, or the ever-increasing numbers of visitors who come to tour the White House. In addition, surrounding urban land uses continue to encroach on President's Park and threaten its dignity and character.

The problems confronting the White House and President's Park were identified through a series of issue workshops with agencies and organizations having interests or responsibilities at the site, as well as with the general public. The specific problems are described for each major part of the plan, beginning on page 90.

The Planning Process

To address the issues and concerns facing the White House and President's Park, and to create a vision for the future of the site, the National Park Service proposed a comprehensive design plan in 1989 and presented the proposal to the various agencies with responsibilities at the White House and President's Park (see the text box on the next page). Congress provided funding to the National Park Service to begin the planning process in 1992.

An Executive Committee, consisting of representatives from each of the agencies with responsibilities at the site, has worked with the National Park Service to discuss issues and concerns and to review interim planning products. The approved plan presented in this document has been developed as a result of the continuing involvement of this committee.

As part of this planning process, the purpose and significance of the White House and President's Park were defined, and various groups were asked to create broad conceptual statements (referred to as desired futures) of what the White House and President's Park should be in the future. These statements provided the context for the plan, and they are presented for each major part of the plan.

A *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* that presented the proposed plan, three alternatives, and a no-action alternative, and that analyzed the environmental consequences of implementing the alternatives, was available for public review and comment from December 2, 1998, to March 11, 1999. Public forums on the document were held at the White House visitor center on February 27 and 28, 1999. A total of 100 comments were received — 29 from governmental agencies, businesses, and organizations; 2 from students at educational institutions; and 69 from individuals. All substantive comments were addressed in the *Final Environmental Impact Statement*, which was released on December 13, 1999, for a 30-day no-action period. A "Record of Decision" approving the adoption of the proposed plan was signed by the director of the National Park Service on March 29, 2000. The plan was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts on April 19, 2000, and by the National Capital Planning Commission on May 4, 2000.

The individual steps in the development of the plan are discussed beginning on page 87.

Site Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction for the White House and President's Park is shared by various federal departments and the District of Columbia. Their relationships hinge on precedents and legislation that have accrued over time. The following agencies and federally chartered organizations have stewardship and oversight responsibilities within the site:

- Executive Office of the President
- Executive Residence at the White House
- White House Military Office
- U.S. Department of the Treasury
- U.S. Secret Service
- General Services Administration
- National Park Service
- District of Columbia
- Commission of Fine Arts
- National Capital Planning Commission
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (until April 1996)



*The White House
and President's Park*



An Overview

The Setting

The White House and President's Park consist of an 82-acre parcel north of the Potomac River in Washington, D.C. President's Park is adjacent to the Washington Monument, the Tidal Basin, and various other elements that make up the area known today as the Monumental Core.

President's Park and the surrounding lands have changed substantially since 1791. L'Enfant's original concept (reinterpreted by Andrew Ellicott), Andrew Jackson Downing's 1851 plan, and the work of Olmsted brothers in 1935 represent the major specific plans for the property that have generally guided its development over the last 200 years. Other general plans, including the 1901 plan by the Senate Park Commission (known as the McMillan plan), have also had some effect, particularly on surrounding traffic patterns, but for the most part they have continued L'Enfant's vision. Individual projects occurring outside formal planning efforts have at times compromised the historic concept; however, great care has usually been taken to preserve the context of the original idea — with President's Park as an important element in the design of the federal capital.

President's Park exists in a neighborhood containing five historic districts and over 60 historic sites that are listed as significant by either the National Park Service or the District of Columbia. The buildings within and adjacent to President's Park range in style from Georgian, to Classical Revival and Second Empire, to modernist and postmodernist. The site is also rich in historic archeological resources and has the potential to yield prehistoric resources as well. The White House museum collections compare favorably with those of international galleries.

Structures, Facilities, and Grounds

The White House Complex

Areas of the White House complex that are addressed in this document include the Executive Residence, the East and West Wings, East Executive Park, West Executive Avenue, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB), and the Treasury Building. Various other secondary buildings and facilities within the White House grounds and office areas

include maintenance structures, security installations (including a White House visitor entrance building), and various recreational facilities (including a swimming pool, tennis court, basketball hoop, putting green, and running track).

Recreational areas and private garden areas are well-screened from public view by formal and informal plantings. Private garden areas include the Rose Garden adjacent to the west colonnade, the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden adjacent to the east colonnade, and the Children's Garden. There are 41 commemorative trees planted by various presidents and first ladies on the White House grounds, plus a boxwood hedge planted by President Truman. Other elements include a 1992 time capsule commemorating the bicentennial of the laying of the White House cornerstone, the concrete-cast handprints of various presidential grandchildren in the Children's Garden, as well as fountains and sculptures.

Lafayette Park

After various earlier configurations, Lafayette Park was redesigned by Andrew Jackson Downing in 1851. His plan was reinterpreted by the Corps of Engineers in the 1870s and 1880s and then by the National Park Service in the 1930s. The park was redesigned from 1962 to 1970 by the architectural firm John Carl Warnecke & Associates, in association with Mrs. Paul Mellon and the National Park Service. Warnecke's work recast Lafayette Park as the central focus for a national historic preservation initiative in the 1960s. Warnecke used Downing's earlier design as a framework by which to link an urban park space with new construction on the east and west ends of the park, while providing for the preservation of significant 19th century streetscapes on Madison and Jackson Places. A lodge built about 1913 in the northeast end of Lafayette Park is now used for maintenance storage; the National Park Service closed the lodge's restroom facility in October 1997 in response to a U.S. Public Health inspection.

The Ellipse

The Ellipse was originally a low-lying area and landfill. After a design by Andrew Jackson Downing, it was brought up to its present grade by 1880, when the circular drive was established. The walkways on the Ellipse tend to be informal, except for the circular drive, and they generally follow the routes of pedestrian dirt paths that have evolved over time. A visitor pavilion on the northeast quadrant of the Ellipse (built in 1994) provides visitor services and restrooms.



An aerial view of Lafayette Park, the White House, and the Ellipse shows the importance of north/south views, which L'Enfant emphasized in his plan for Washington.

Two gatehouses designed by architect Charles Bulfinch ca. 1827 and originally built for the United States Capitol mark the southeast and southwest corners of the property on Constitution Avenue; they were relocated to these sites in 1880.

Roadways

Roadways in and near President's Park date from various planning efforts. The perimeter streets — H Street, Jackson Place, Madison Place, 15th Street, and 17th Street — are all part of L'Enfant's 1791 city plan, while Constitution Avenue was established in the 1870s as B Street over what had originally been the Washington Canal, which replaced Tiber or Goose Creek in the 1830s.

The date when Pennsylvania Avenue was cut through in front of the White House is uncertain; it may have been as early as 1796 or as late as ca. 1820. East Executive Avenue was established in 1869 and closed to vehicular traffic in 1981. West Executive Avenue was established in 1871 and closed to vehicular traffic in 1945.

The general design of the north drive on the White House grounds dates from the Jackson administration (1829–37). The drive to the West Wing on the north is a result of the 1902 renovation under the guidance of the architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White. The drive follows the general route of an earlier access road to greenhouses and other outbuildings. The present circular drive on the south lawn of the White House dates from the 1935 Olmsted plan and replaced an earlier fiddle-shaped drive created during the Grant administration.

Hamilton and State Places were established in conjunction with the Treasury expansion of the 1850s and with the construction of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in the 1880s. Portions of E Street were established soon after the turn of the century and expanded between 1933 and 1940 on the recommendations of the Olmsted brothers and other professionals. E Street's present status as a main arterial stems from traffic studies in the 1930s and continuing into the 1960s, which resulted in the combining of E Street and State Place into a major roadway system bisecting the site.

The circular roadway on the Ellipse (dating from the 1880s) is based on Andrew Jackson Downing's 1851 plan. Four secondary curved roadways on the corner of the Ellipse were also established during the 1880s; the northwest roadway was eliminated in the 1930s when E Street and State Place were incorporated in the municipal traffic system.

Other Site Elements

Fencing, sidewalks, benches, trash receptacles, street lighting, and similar items in President's Park date from ca. 1948 to the present. The 1819 White House gates were replaced in 1976 with reproductions based on the original design. The gate piers at the north entrances were erected in 1819–21 and moved 50 feet to the east and west in 1833. Later piers were designed to match the original north elements. The boulevard lamps atop the north piers were in place by 1858.

The various monuments and similar installations in President's Park were established between 1853 and 1991. Many are illustrative of the City Beautiful movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They consist of statuary, monuments, and memorial plantings.

The Historical Development of the Landscape

The major plans that have affected the development of President's Park from 1791 to the present are summarized below. A more complete description of plans and projects is included in appendix B.

Pierre Charles L'Enfant, 1791

L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the federal city (revised by Andrew Ellicott and others in 1792) is still obvious in today's city. The city was planned on a series of terraces oriented toward the river. Most important to L'Enfant's vision was a decentralized city, with specific locations for the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. Broad avenues would radiate from park and plaza areas, providing impressive urban and ceremonial vistas. Overlaid on this radial pattern of avenues would be a street grid system. The Mall and what would become President's Park would form a large L-shaped sward, with the axis point at the mouth of Tiber (Goose) Creek on the Potomac River. L'Enfant envisioned a palace, surrounded by stately grounds, and offices for the executive facing the river and connected to the Capitol by a broad ceremonial avenue later known as Pennsylvania Avenue. President's Park and its uninterrupted vista across the Washington Monument grounds to the Jefferson Memorial serve as the northern arm of the Mall axis and constitute one of the major elements of L'Enfant's plan.

Thomas Jefferson, ca. 1804

Thomas Jefferson's specific plans for the White House and the adjacent grounds remain uncertain. However, it is clear that he felt L'Enfant's park to be too extensive for the president of a republic. He attempted to reduce the substantial acreage of the house site in a number of ways. He envisioned the future Lafayette Park (known then as the President's Square) as a public space more oriented to the city and its citizens than to the president. He called for a stone wall to be built around the immediate house grounds in an attempt to scale the property to the

house and to separate this area from the executive office buildings to the east and west. Jefferson added east and west service additions to the house as colonnaded Palladian arcades. A vault was built for the treasury to the southeast of the house.

Some of Jefferson's schematics for the landscape survive. Drives from Pennsylvania Avenue into President's Park on the south were designed as romantic serpentine paths in the manner of English landscapes in an effort to minimize the extent of the landscape. The north approach was to be more formal, with allées of trees repeating the radial lines of the streets on the north lawn with a central north-south drive approaching the north entrance. The Pennsylvania Avenue terminus at 15th Street was marked by a classical Roman triumphal arch designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe and decorated with fasces topped with Phrygian liberty caps (ca. 1806). The lands south of the immediate grounds remained undeveloped. Jefferson also envisioned street plantings of Lombardy poplars along Pennsylvania Avenue to visually link the Capitol and the President's House. Jefferson's vision for the property dominated its development until the mid-19th century.

Andrew Jackson Downing, 1851

Downing's 1851 plan for President's Park is the first detailed development plan. While this plan respected L'Enfant's initial concepts, it also reflected Victorian approaches to design. The design for what was then Lafayette Square continued to reflect a space more related to the surrounding neighborhood than to the White House, with a central elliptical walkway bisected on the north and south by two additional walkways curving in toward the middle of the park. In the center of the park a pedestal was installed as a base for an equestrian statue of Andrew Jackson dedicated in 1853.

Downing designed the Ellipse as a broad, flat acreage bordered by a circular drive with a walk lined by trees. The remainder of the property was evidently to be heavily planted with small wooded areas and traversed by winding walkways and paths. Downing envisioned the Ellipse as both a military parade ground and as a place for public celebrations and recreation.

It is unclear how much of the plan was initiated before Downing's death in 1852; however, portions of the Lafayette Square plan were implemented. The L'Enfant and Downing plans remained the general standard for landscaping until the Olmsted plan of the 1930s.

Senate Park Commission Plan (McMillan Plan), 1901

The 1901 Senate Park Commission plan (the McMillan plan) used L'Enfant's original design as a base and refined some concepts concerning the Mall and President's Park. As promoters of the City Beautiful movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the commission members (Daniel H. Burnham, Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., Charles F. McKim, and Augustus Saint-Gaudens) traveled to Europe to survey works that might have influenced L'Enfant. The Treasury Building, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (then called the State, War, and Navy Building), Downing's "Parade," and the general plan for Lafayette Park were left intact, and East and West Executive Avenues remained. However, this plan proposed that the Ellipse become a circle, and that the dogleg drives at the corners be removed; these plans were never initiated. Tree plantings were designated along the east and west borders of the Ellipse, leaving the bulk of the southern property open. The plan had little specific effect on President's Park except in a general sense, acknowledging the property as an important element in the overall fabric of the Monumental Core.

McKim, Mead & White, 1902

A major renovation of the White House in 1902 that was overseen by the firm of McKim, Mead & White changed the formal business and reception orientation of the building and grounds. The East and West Wings became primary entrance and exit points, while the north and south porticoes were used more for ceremonial functions. A drive was retained from the north to the West Wing, leading to the "temporary" office established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1902.

Olmsted Brothers, 1935

The plan formulated by Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and his associates reemphasized the importance of the L'Enfant vistas to the south and north and called for the removal and addition of plantings to complement this concept. The Grant administration's fiddle-shaped drive immediately south of the White House was replaced by a circular roadway, with a sunken south drive running from east to west. While Olmsted concentrated on "matters of appearance," seclusion, and privacy for the first family, he also addressed parking, service and delivery areas, communications, circulation, and formal gardens. Olmsted particularly wanted to see the formal entrance to the White House reestablished at the north portico instead of the East and West

Wings as designed by McKim, Mead & White in 1902. Olmsted's 1935 plan, based on previous work by Downing as well as L'Enfant, has served as the guide for all landscape work within the White House fence to the present day.

The Olmsted brothers discouraged the use of East and West Executive Avenues as major traffic routes. They did suggest E Street as an east-west traffic route (later reinforced by the use of State Place). Maps as early as 1932 show plans for extending E Street through the property, and by 1936–40 the roadway was in operation. When E Street was connected to freeway systems on the west in the 1960s, a major arterial thoroughfare bisected President's Park.

National Park Service, ca. 1935

Lafayette Park (renamed from Lafayette Square in 1933) was substantially reworked by the National Park Service in the 1930s. Many of the Downing-inspired serpentine secondary walks were removed and new walks installed, based on the Downing scheme. Plant material was reworked, with thoughts to opening the vista to the north. The two bronze urns placed in the park in 1872 were relocated to the eastern and western edges of the park.

The Truman Renovation, 1949–52

The grounds of the White House served as a construction yard between 1949 and 1952 while the mansion was extensively renovated. As a result, the grounds required complete relandscaping, accomplished for the most part by the National Park Service. Many individual elements were replaced, removed, or relocated; however, the Olmsted plan of 1935 served as the guiding principle in restoring the grounds and the major roadways and configurations.

John Carl Warnecke & Associates, 1962–69

As previously mentioned, this work focused on Lafayette Park. The 1930s walk design, based on the Downing plan, was retained, with the walks paved in brick. Two fountains were built east and west of the Jackson statue in place of the bronze urns (dating from 1872). The urns were moved to the park's central entrance on the south, where they remain today.

The Landscape Today

The character of President's Park is complex, consisting of both built and natural components that have developed over 200 years. Its present ambience is created by a combination of individual elements — historic districts and buildings, monuments, structures, landscapes, roadways, and plantings — that combine to produce a special feeling and sense of place. However, the overall effect has been diminished over the years by the inconsistent use of site details and landscape treatments.

The White House and President's Park

President's Park retains its original spatial arrangement and purpose as the setting for the official home and office of the president and as a place of assembly for the nation at large. The site's architectural character conveys the importance and dignity of the presidency, while the landscape fulfills a similar role, reflecting the classical principle of decorum — the selection of building styles and sites to evoke an appropriate public message of power and respect (Calloway and Cromley 1991). As the site of the home and office of the president, this is a traditional cultural landscape and is ceremonial by design. The landscape also serves to frame L'Enfant's ceremonial vistas and to provide an appropriate setting for the executive buildings.

President's Park reflects the landscape design tradition of the early republic and a combination of French and English traditions. The Ellipse, the south lawn of the White House, and Lafayette Park act as a "sequence of open spaces," framing the White House and enhancing its grand vistas and axial relationships as set out by L'Enfant in his plan for the city. President's Park also evokes the 19th century English Romantic period, where nature no longer was seen as something to be conquered but rather as integral to the human environment — "a friendly and equal partner which could provide inexhaustible interest, refreshment and moral uplift" (Jellicoe and Jellicoe 1987). This philosophy can be seen in curvilinear path and roadway systems, the use of various plant materials, and the picturesque and irregular massing of trees and shrubs.

The 1850s design for the Ellipse by Andrew Jackson Downing is based on this English Romantic tradition. Downing designed these large open spaces as gathering places and points of assembly for official and unofficial uses in the center of the city — a function they continue to serve. The City Beautiful movement at the turn of the 19th century also affected President's Park by introducing a number of monuments and statuary into the landscape.

To this day, the landscape components of President's Park remain generally informal and romantic. However, the overall spatial landscape arrangement in relation to other public open spaces is formal, based on a series of classical circular and elliptical forms from north to south, widening in size and scale as the landscape opens to what was the original river vista, now occupied by monuments.

Even though President's Park is comprised of three separate parts (Lafayette Park, the White House grounds, and the Ellipse), they are all aesthetically linked. Within these major divisions are separate park areas with distinctive site characters, such as Sherman Park, the First Division and Second Division Monuments, and the Boy Scout Memorial. It is important that there be continuity among all of these discrete elements so they contribute to the overall park environment.

The Urban Setting

How one enters and moves through President's Park affects how one perceives this area. When entering the site from adjacent neighborhoods to the west, north, and east, one is aware of passing from densely developed urban streetscapes into an open area with lawns, trees, and statues before attention is drawn to the White House and its grounds. When entering the site from the south, one is aware of a gradual transition from large ceremonial and memorial spaces within the Monumental Core to President's Park and then to an urban setting. Within President's Park one can sense the symbolism of the urban design and the reciprocal linkages to both the Monumental Core and downtown Washington.

While L'Enfant's intent — that the home of the president be the focus of broad vistas and grand approaches — was never fully realized, his conception of how President's Park relates to the city plan is still valid. Today, the basic urban design form evident in and adjacent to President's Park must be considered as a composite of landscape and architectural features, streetscapes and buildings, site-specific details and long-range views. These basic forms are articulated and tied together by major public walkways and thoroughfares. The complementary

relationship between the home of the president and the city is symbolized by views toward the White House that are just as dramatic as those from the mansion's north door or the south portico. Over the past 200 years surrounding urban development has become dominant and out of proportion to the scale of the White House as a building, but the distinctive setting of the executive mansion within President's Park still emphasizes its importance.

Historic Structures and Districts

President's Park includes five historic districts and 69 separate elements that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, that are designated as national historic landmarks, or that are recognized by the District of Columbia (see appendix C). The various designations are listed in table 1; the districts are shown on the Historic Districts map.

In addition, memorials, structures, and general plans within President's Park are listed on, or may be individually eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places. Many have been designated as national historic landmarks because of their associations with important designers, planners, and artists (see the Memorials / Monuments map).

The historic buildings within President's Park are administered under a variety of jurisdictions — the Executive Office of the President, the Executive Residence at the White House, the General Services Administration, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the National Park Service. Each entity has separate historic preservation and curation programs for its buildings and collections.

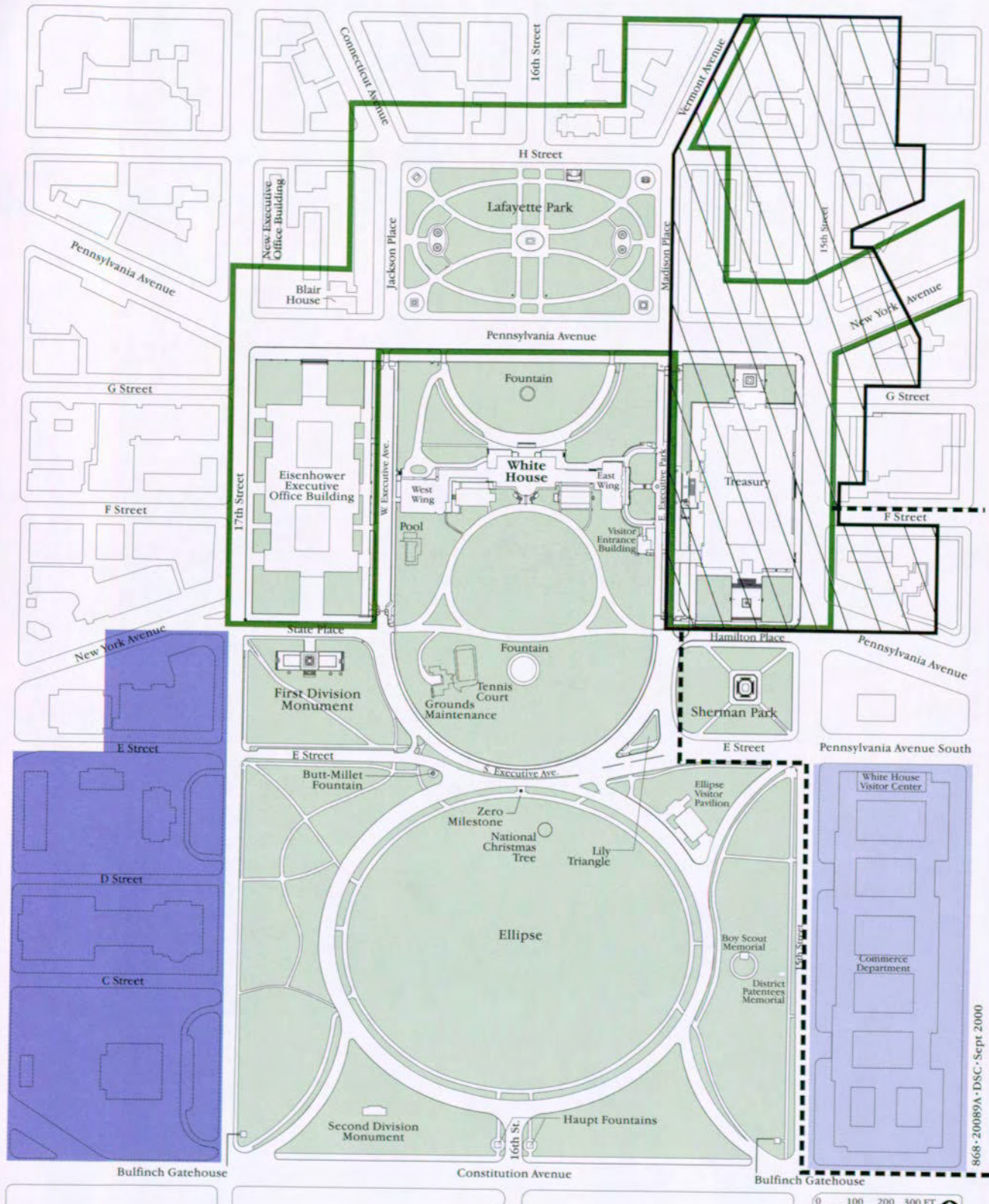
Commemorative Plantings

The 41 commemorative trees planted by presidents and first ladies on the White House grounds date from as early as 1829–37, when President Jackson planted southern magnolias near the south portico. An American elm that dated from the earlier presidency of John Quincy Adams has been reestablished with a graft of the original tree. A commemorative shrub hedge of English and American boxwood was planted by President Truman in 1952. These are shown on the Commemorative Plantings and Gardens map.

TABLE 1: HISTORIC STRUCTURES, SITES, AND DISTRICTS IN AND NEAR PRESIDENT'S PARK

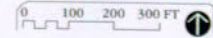
HISTORIC STRUCTURE, SITE, OR DISTRICT	DESIGNATION
The White House and President's Park	
Lafayette Park Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District Von Steuben Statue Rochambeau Statue Kosciuszko Statue Lafayette Statue	National Register of Historic Places — 1970; National Historic Landmark — 1970; District of Columbia Historic District — 1973 National Register of Historic Places — 1970, 1977 National Register of Historic Places — 1970, 1977 National Register of Historic Places — 1970, 1977 National Register of Historic Places — 1970, 1977
White House Complex White House Treasury Building Eisenhower Executive Office Building	National Historic Landmark — 1960 National Historic Landmark — 1971 National Historic Landmark — 1971
President's Park South First Division Monument Sherman Monument Butt-Millet Memorial Fountain Zero Milestone National Christmas Tree District Patentees Memorial Boy Scout Memorial Bulfinch Gatehouses Second Division Monument Haupt Fountains	National Register of Historic Places — 1980 National Register of Historic Places — 1978, 1980 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1973, 1978 National Register of Historic Places — 1978
Structures and Districts Adjacent to the White House and President's Park	
Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District Decatur House St. John's Church Ashburton House Blair House U.S. Chamber of Commerce Building Treasury Annex Renwick Gallery	See above. National Historic Landmark — 1960 National Historic Landmark — 1960 National Historic Landmark — 1973 National Historic Landmark — 1973 National Register of Historic Places — 1970, 1992 National Historic Landmark — 1971
Seventeenth Street Historic Area Corcoran Gallery of Art Organization of American States Building (Pan-American Union) The American Red Cross National Headquarters Daughters of the American Revolution Memorial Continental Hall and Constitution Hall	District of Columbia Historic District — 1968 National Register of Historic Places — 1971 National Register of Historic Places — 1969 National Historic Landmark — 1985 National Historic Landmark — 1972, 1985
Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site	National Register of Historic Places — 1966; National Historic Site — 1966; District of Columbia — 1973
Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District	District of Columbia — 1981 Eligible for National Register of Historic Places — 1984
Federal Triangle Historic District	District of Columbia — 1968

NOTE: Many elements have multiple listings; for further information see appendix C.



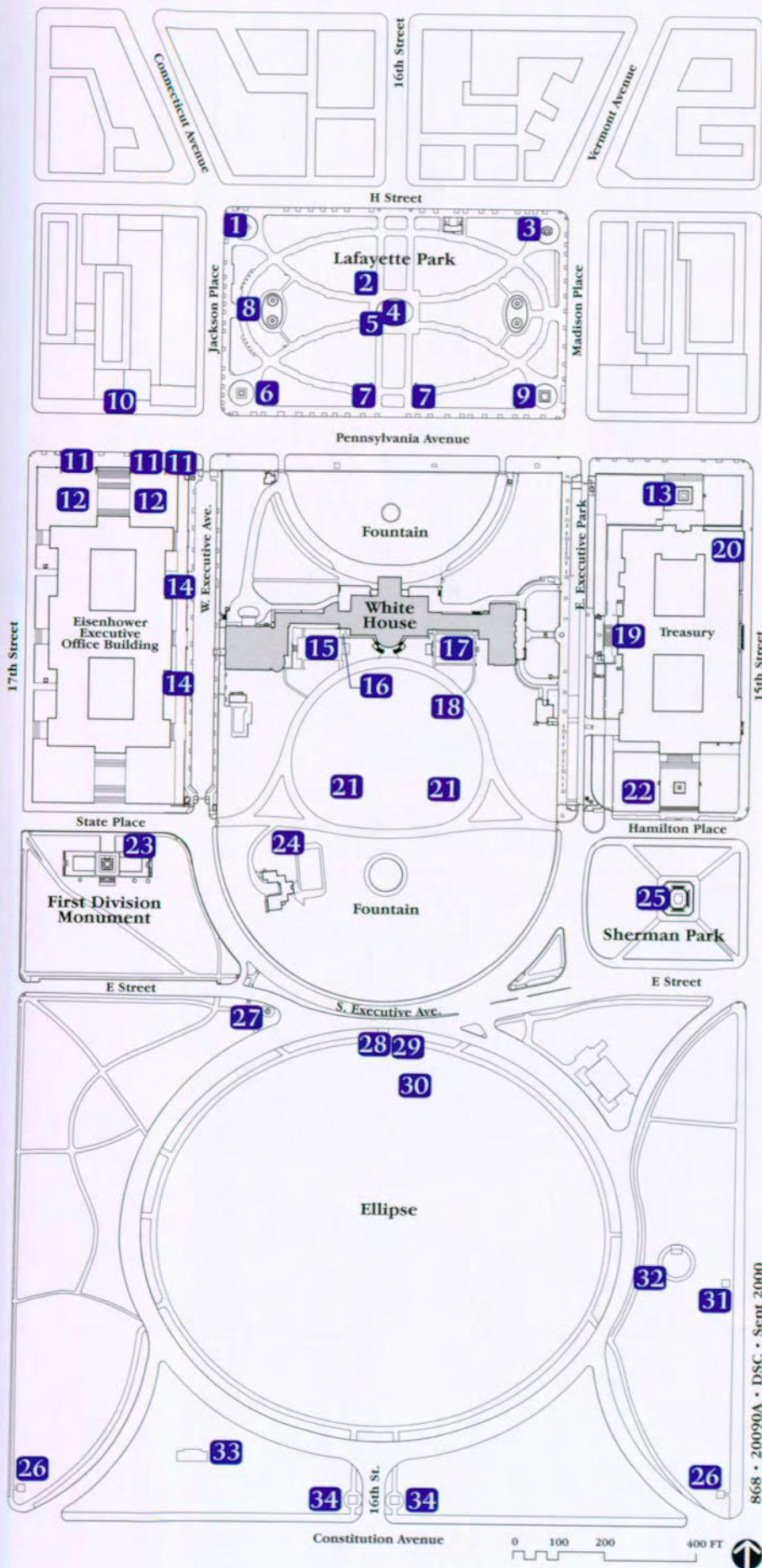
868-20089A • DSC • Sept 2000

- Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site 1966 (NR - NHS)
- Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District 1970 (NHL)
- Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District (Determined NR Eligible) 1984 *Owner Objection
- Federal Triangle Historic District 1968 (DC)
- Seventeenth Street Historic Area 1968 (DC)



Historic Districts





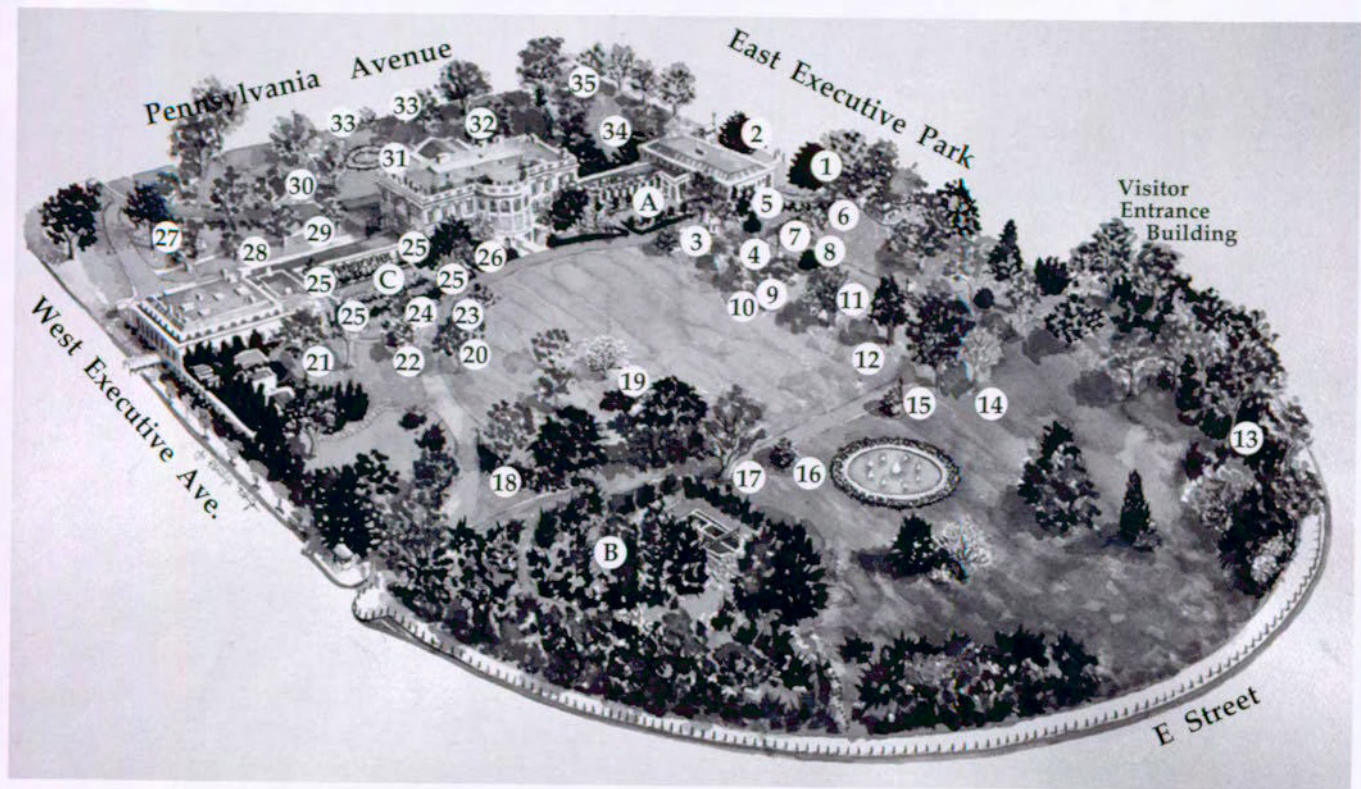
Memorial / Monument

- 1 Von Steuben Statue
- 2 Bernard Baruch Bench of Inspiration
- 3 Kosciuszko Statue
- 4 Jackson Statue
- 5 Jackson Cannon (4)
- 6 Rochambeau Statue
- 7 Memorial Urns (2)
- 8 Old Dominion Foundation Marker
- 9 Lafayette Statue
- 10 Lee House Marker, Reserve Officers Association, Blair House Markers (3), Leslie Coffelt Marker, and Entrance Gardens Marker
- 11 Markers: State, War & Navy Building, War Cannon, and National Register (3)
- 12 Spanish-American War Cannon (2)
- 13 Gallatin Statue
- 14 Anchors (2)
- 15 Presidential Rose Garden
- 16 Time Capsule
- 17 Jacqueline Kennedy Garden
- 18 Jackson Milk Trough
- 19 Liberty Bell Replica
- 20 Webster-Ashburton Treaty Marker
- 21 Jefferson Mounds (2)
- 22 Hamilton Statue
- 23 First Division Monument
- 24 Children's Garden
- 25 Sherman Monument
- 26 Bulfinch Gatehouses (2)
- 27 Butt-Millet Memorial Fountain
- 28 Zero Milestone
- 29 Civil Engineering Marker
- 30 National Christmas Tree
- 31 District Patentees Memorial
- 32 Boy Scout Memorial
- 33 Second Division Monument
- 34 Haupt Fountains (2)

868 • 20090A • DSC • Sept 2000

Memorials / Monuments





Commemorative Trees and Shrubs

1. *Southern Magnolia* - Franklin D. Roosevelt (1942)
2. *Southern Magnolia* - Warren G. Harding (1922, replanted 1947)
3. *Willow Oak* - Ronald Reagan (1988)
4. *Small-leaved Linden* - George Bush & Queen Elizabeth II (1991)
5. *White Pine* - Gerald Ford (1977)
6. *Eastern Redbud* - George Bush (1990)
7. *Northern Red Oak* - Dwight D. Eisenhower (1960)
8. *Patmore Ash* - George Bush (1989)
9. *White Dogwood* - Bill & Hillary Clinton (1995)
10. *White Dogwood* - Bill & Hillary Clinton (1996)
11. *Purple Beech* - George Bush (1991)
12. *American Elm* - John Q. Adams (original 1826, Barbara Bush 1991)
13. *White Oak* - Herbert Hoover (1931)
14. *Willow Oak* - Bill & Hillary Clinton (1993)
15. *Japanese Maple* - Rosalyn Carter (1978)
16. *Japanese Maple* - Frances Folsom Cleveland (1893)
17. *American Elm* - Bill & Hillary Clinton (1993)
18. *White Dogwood (3)* - Hillary Rodham Clinton (1994)
19. *Cedar of Lebanon* - Jimmy Carter (1978)
20. *White Oak* - Herbert Hoover (1931)
21. *Pin Oak* - Dwight D. Eisenhower (1958)
22. *Small-leaved Linden* - Bill Clinton (1993)
23. *Small-leaved Linden* - Franklin D. Roosevelt (1937)
24. *Willow Oak* - Lyndon B. Johnson (1964)
25. *Saucer Magnolia (4)* - John F. Kennedy (1962)
26. *Southern Magnolia (2)* - Andrew Jackson (1830)
27. *Sugar Maple* - Ronald Reagan (1984)
28. *Fern Leaf Beech* - Patricia Nixon (1972)
29. *Fern Leaf Beech* - Lady Bird Johnson (1968)
30. *American Elm* - Betty Ford (1975)
31. *English and American Boxwood (shrub)* - Harry S. Truman (1952)
32. *Red Maple* - Jimmy Carter (1977)
33. *White Saucer Magnolia (2)* - Nancy Reagan (1982)
34. *White Oak* - Franklin D. Roosevelt (1935)
35. *Scarlet Oak* - Benjamin Harrison (1889)

Gardens

- A. *Jacqueline Kennedy Garden* (1965)
- B. *Children's Garden* - Lyndon B. Johnson (1969)
- C. *Rose Garden*

White House Grounds: Commemorative Plantings & Gardens

United States Department of the Interior / National Park Service



Site Capacity

The maximum number and level of services and functions that can be provided or accommodated within President's Park, and specifically the White House and its grounds, directly affect the preservation of resources and the character of the site. Present uses include functions related to the White House as the home and office of the president (access for public tours, official visitors, staff, and the press and media; security; and deliveries) and to President's Park as a setting for state events, national marches and demonstrations, special events, and First Amendment activities. The fact that President's Park is in the center of a vibrant urban area means that thousands of vehicles pass alongside and through the site daily.

The number of people taking the White House public tour has fluctuated over the years. Visitation increased after World War II, and in the 1950s and 1960s it reached all-time highs, with as many as 11,000 visitors over an entire day. Currently, about 5,000 people visit the White House daily (over a four-hour period five days a week). Thousands more come because of official functions and daily activities. Based on these uses, it appears that the current tour volume is the capacity of the house. This number could be refined in the future as a result of a visitor experience / resource protection analysis (see appendix F).

In addition to public tours, a variety of other demands are made on the White House and its infrastructure. Deliveries (from chairs and tents to flowers and food) are made daily at various entrances. Installations for special events require the removal and replacement of turf. In the case of a state visit, buses for honor guards and bands are parked on E Street and in the Ellipse area, while artillery is set up on the Ellipse proper to render a 21-gun salute to the visiting head of state. Over a year's time as many as 10 such visits, along with many additional smaller affairs requiring less equipment, may also be held on the site.

Traffic and the need to provide parking has played a significant role in the evolution of the site. Since the Executive Residence was between Georgetown and Capitol Hill, there was an early need for east-west access routes. In more recent times these roads have become major thoroughfares that bisect the park. Parking has been congested since the 19th century when large stables were built on the grounds for workers and visitors. Formal events turned the Ellipse area into a carriage lot for White House guests. The development of streets like East Executive Avenue, West Executive Avenue, State Place, and Hamilton Place further fragmented the site following the Civil War.

The arrival of automobiles created additional transportation problems, which were accentuated during the 1920s and 1930s by the construction of buildings such as the Department of Commerce. To improve access, E Street was extended through the southern half of the site in the 1930s. World War II compounded traffic and parking problems when temporary barracks were erected south of the First Division Monument and elsewhere. Continuing pressure in the 1950s and 1960s by both federal government employees and the general public caused areas like the Ellipse roadways to be used increasingly for parking rather than as formal drives. While the subway system alleviated some traffic pressure, it created new problems by making the area easily accessible to large numbers of visitors.

The White House and President's Park traditionally have been a point of public assembly, both to celebrate national events and to petition the president. Citizens have regularly assembled to hold vigils, to honor a new president, to mourn the death of a president, and to protest government policies as an exercise of their rights to public assembly and free speech.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Lafayette Park became a focus for demonstrating groups, even though in the past all public portions of the site have been used for such purposes. Some demonstrators are found daily on the curb across from the north entrance of the White House; others appear as the situation requires. Demonstrations have been the subject of various court decisions, resulting in regulations about the numbers of participants and the locations of demonstrations.

The effect of all these demands is that today many of the resources of the White House and President's Park are at their limits.

Resource Conservation and Management



Rows of parked cars around the Ellipse obscure sight lines and create congestion on the site.

Deliveries are made through every entrance of the White House complex, conflicting with other site functions.



Fine and decorative arts in the White House collection, such as this chair from the Monroe administration, are used daily. There is no curatorial facility onsite where inadvertent damage to items in the collection can be assessed.



Vendors line 15th Street near Constitution Avenue, block views, and create an atmosphere that conflicts with the expected dignity and decorum of the White House and President's Park.

The Home and Office of the President

The White House is first and foremost the home of the president and the first family. Second, it is the site of the office of the president. Until the early 1900s various rooms on the second floor of the White House were used as the office of the president. During the administrations of Theodore Roosevelt and William Taft the office was moved from the Executive Residence to a newly created Executive Office Building on the west side of the house (now referred to as the West Wing). In 1911 President Taft began using the newly completed Oval Office.

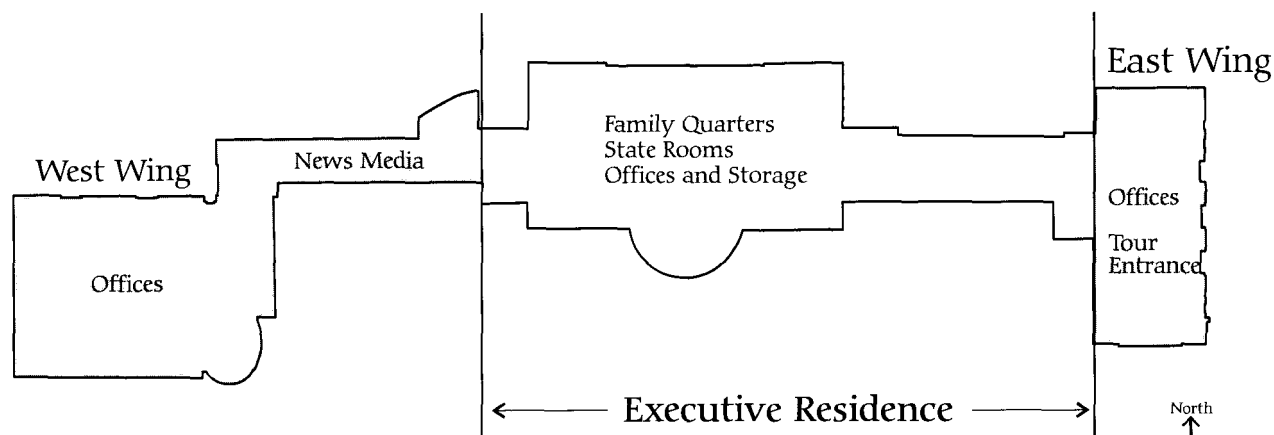
As the home and office of the president, the White House and the surrounding grounds accommodate a variety of uses related to the presidency. For example, the Rose Garden on the west and the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden on the east provide outdoor spaces for official events and activities, while the south grounds provide the setting to formally welcome visiting heads of state.

The White House began as a site where ordinary citizens could wander freely about the grounds. Those wanting to see the president sometimes came unannounced and sat waiting in the first floor cross hallway. Changing conditions and increasing complexity have gradually resulted in a more structured access system, with visitors now required to enter only by appointment through security gatehouses.

Interior structural changes have occurred throughout the history of the house, reflecting the tastes of the residents as well as contemporary interior design styles and technological innovations. The house was completely refurbished in 1902. In 1927 a third floor was added. Porticoes had been added to the north and south sides in the 1800s, and a balcony was added on the south side of the house during the Truman administration. Between 1949 and 1952 the building was completely renovated to correct structural deficiencies.

The design of the grounds has also evolved, with influences varying from presidents such as Jefferson to landscape designers such as Andrew Jackson Downing and Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. These landscape designs continue to guide present management of the grounds.

White House: Functional Relationships



Executive Residence

Family Space

First families currently use portions of the second and third floors of the White House as family quarters, with the ground and state floors largely reserved for official events and gatherings, as well as public tours. There is little informal space within the White House that families can use for recreation.

A theater is available for use by the first family. During the Nixon administration a single bowling lane was added in the basement area adjacent to the house. The lane is accessed through basement utility corridors and is often used for storage when not being used by the first family. The indoor swimming pool installed during the Franklin Roosevelt administration was covered during the Nixon administration so this area could be used by the press corps.

Private, outdoor space for the first family is provided on the south grounds of the White House. An outdoor swimming pool, a tennis court, a small putting green, a basketball hoop with a small asphalt half court, and a narrow running track along the edge of the south grounds drive are available. Several garden areas on the south grounds provide shade and private areas for the first family.

Public Access

An open, accessible White House is viewed as an important aspect of our democracy, and where possible events and staff schedules are adjusted to accommodate public tours. Public White House tours are conducted Tuesday through Saturday (for details see "Visitor Use, Services, and Experience," pages 46–48).

The privacy needs of the first family must be continually balanced with the business uses of the house and the desire for public access. To help accommodate all uses, staff of both the Executive Residence and the Executive Office of the President coordinate with tour operations. White House events can cause tours to be suspended for a day or a portion of a day. Sometimes events in one portion of the state floor allow for tours to continue, with just one or two rooms being closed to the public.

Storage

Every part of the house is used to store supplies, materials, and equipment. Makeshift workspace is often created to meet temporary needs, such as using the Family Dining Room as catering space during state dinners and arranging flowers outside in the small service drive on the east.

Items from the White House collection that are not currently in use are stored offsite. Damaged furnishings and objects must be transported offsite for repair, increasing the possibility of further damage in transit.

Utilities

Recent projects that have updated utilities include new fire detection/suppression systems in the Executive Residence; new electrical wiring throughout the residence; renovation of the heating/air conditioning/ventilation system; and the replacement of transformers, electrical panels, and automated system controls for the residence.

Executive Office Support Services

The Executive Office of the President consists of 13 entities — the White House Office, the Office of the Vice President, the Council of Economic Advisors, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Executive Residence, the National Security Council, the Office of Administration, the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of National Drug

Control Policy, the Office of Policy Development, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, and the Office of the United States Trade Representative. The number of employees and others who work within the complex (including the New Executive Office Building) ranges from 4,000 to 4,500, of whom as many as 3,000 may be on duty in the complex at any given time.

Visitor Arrivals

Thousands of diplomatic and business visitors enter the White House complex each year; in addition, thousands of individuals attend meetings and events at the White House. Visitors use various entrances into the complex. Business visitors often enter through the East and West Wings, while ambassadors and heads of state enter through the more ceremonial north and south porticoes. Dinner guests during large events often enter through the East Wing.

Meeting Space

White House officials host hundreds of meetings each day, ranging from as few as a half dozen participants to as many as several hundred. The lack of meeting space within the White House complex has been identified as one of the major workplace problems.

Meeting spaces within the White House complex were never designed for today's large gatherings and multimedia needs. There is limited meeting space in the West Wing, and often historic rooms in the White House and the Eisenhower Executive Office Building are used for meetings because they are the only spaces large enough. These spaces do not have up-to-date electronic equipment or the flexibility to accommodate groups of varying size. This use is affecting historic furnishings and fabrics, as well as limiting or precluding public tours. Poor acoustics in the large rooms of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building affect meetings and gatherings held there.

The White House Conference Center on Jackson Place, which was constructed to address the need for meeting space, has five general use conference rooms, ranging in capacity from 10 to 100 people. The conference center is used more the 65% of the time available (100% utilization is not feasible since there are periods such as holiday weeks when the center is not fully used). The Eisenhower Executive Office Building has five meeting rooms, with capacities ranging from 24 to 220, and the New Executive Office Building has two, ranging from 30

to 100. Average use of these rooms during prime meeting times (10 A.M.–noon and 2–4 P.M.) ranges from 80% to 95% year-round, depending on the room; smaller rooms are used less than larger rooms. At peak times, for example, during budget preparations with the Office of Management and Budget, use is 100% for weeks on end. It is not unusual to find large groups crowded into small offices. In some cases meetings have to be canceled with no notice and participants turned away because the limited meeting space available is needed by the president or vice president at the last minute.

Staff Parking

Parking is provided for all but two of the entities that comprise the Executive Office of the President (Office of National Drug Control Policy and the United States Trade Representative). Currently, 1,400 parking permits are issued; allowing for both shift work and normal travel and leave, this number exceeds the number of parking spaces available (see table 2). In addition, parking is required by and provided for staff of the many support organizations, including the U.S. Secret Service, the General Services Administration, the National Park Service, military support staffs, contractors, a small number of other agency staff temporarily assigned to interagency task forces meeting on the site, and entities housed in the townhouses on Jackson Place.

Various functions within the White House complex operate around the clock, such as communications, computer support, national security, presidential and physical security, building maintenance, and support

TABLE 2: PARKING SUPPLY FOR STAFF IN THE PRESIDENT'S PARK AREA

TYPE / LOCATION	NUMBER OF SPACES
Secured Parking Spaces	
• EEOB courtyards	49
• West Executive Avenue	106
• East Executive Avenue	17
• Treasury Building moat	11
• Offsite	<u>50</u>
Subtotal	233
Unsecured Spaces within President's Park	
• Staff Permit (EEOB, White House, Treasury)	820
• NPS Permit	<u>26</u>
Subtotal	846
Official Business	61
Total	1,140

SOURCE: BRW, Inc. 1994b; National Park Service.

to the first family. While evening and midnight shifts operate during off-hours when on-street parking may be available, staff are required to report during (or their shifts overlap into) times when daytime and rush-hour parking restrictions are in effect, or their shifts end or begin at times when public transit is unavailable. In addition, many staff are on-call at all hours, and the normal workday for most does not begin or end at a predictable time. In some operations staff work in excess of 12-hour days and six or seven days a week.

To accommodate the staff parking demand, permit parking spaces are shared by shift workers; parking in fringe areas is provided for staff on fixed shifts. Also, shuttle transit services are available for staff who divide their time between the White House complex and remote locations. Incentives are offered for employees who car pool when parking permits are allocated.

When the historic buildings within the White House complex were built, the future need for parking was not a consideration, and there are limited opportunities now to retrofit these structures to provide parking. As a result, parking at this site is not comparable to parking normally provided for modern office buildings, hotels, or the U.S. Congress. Currently, the Ellipse roadway and streets surrounding the White House are used to provide permit parking for staff.

The parking supply in President's Park fluctuates based on competing demands for the use of specific spaces. The number of spaces available can be affected by construction, temporary or permanent roadway closures, or security needs. The permit parking areas are at capacity during the day.

Deliveries

Between 500 and 600 deliveries are made to the White House complex each week. For special events or holiday preparations, that number increases substantially. Deliveries consist of mail; supplies, furniture, and equipment for staff; food for the cafeteria and caterers for special events in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building; food and supplies for the White House mess in the West Wing; food, supplies, and furnishings used by the first family; and supplies and equipment used for events in the White House and on the grounds, including stages, audio equipment, tents, tables, and chairs.

Deliveries are made through all entrances to the site, resulting in a haphazard appearance with delivery trucks, vans, and hand trucks crossing paths with people taking public tours, business visitors, diplomatic arrivals, media equipment, and staff moving from place to place.

Deliveries to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building must often use West Executive Avenue for access and staging, further clogging and congesting this area.

Due to inadequate storage space, many items must be stored offsite and repeatedly transported to and from the complex as needed. The staging of deliveries is a major logistical operation, with materials and equipment thoroughly checked by security each time they are brought into the complex.

Staff Circulation

Staff require access between the East and West Wings, as well as to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the Treasury Building. On a typical day there are several hundred staff trips between the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the West Wing for meetings and to deliver mail and packages. Staff move across the site by way of a small corridor north of the house, which is also used to transport most materials and to store items used for special events. This situation results in inefficient, crowded, and unsafe conditions, and it infringes on privacy for the first family.

News Media Facilities

When the West Wing was built in 1902, a small room to the right of the front (north) entrance was provided for use by the press. Current media facilities are in the west colonnade and include a briefing room with a camera platform, media-assigned office carrels, tape-reviewing offices, recording booths, and vending and restroom areas.

The number of journalists assigned to the White House has expanded greatly, now more than filling one and a half floors in the west colonnade. The press booths and work areas are small and cramped. There is no adequate space for photographers to store equipment while onsite, and space is limited for foreign and out-of-town press representatives.

The existing presidential briefing space is relatively small, with 48 seats for the press. During press conferences journalists often crowd into the adjacent room and downstairs. The briefing space does not have the audiovisual capabilities normally associated with modern briefing or speaking facilities. With inadequate storage space, ladders and wheels of cable fill the aisles of the briefing room and any other available space.

The Home and Office of the President



Television cables are stored inside the west colonnade. Chairs, lights, and equipment are stacked outside along West Wing Drive.



This narrow corridor below the north portico provides access for the movement of staff, supplies, and materials across the site. Items are often stored on both sides of the corridor.



Motorcades for the president, vice president, and visiting dignitaries are staged throughout the site on a regular basis.



With limited support space, some functions take place out of doors in all kinds of weather. Here the east service drive on the north side of the White House is used for storage.



The 48-seat White House briefing room in the west colonnade lacks storage space, and photographers' ladders and television cabling are stored in every available space.

Visitor Use, Services, and Experience

The current visitor experience at the White House and President's Park consists of several facets — public tours of the residence, museum displays, brochures, guided tours, planned programs, and coincidental events. Unplanned experiences include individual exploration of the site and witnessing various happenings — motorcades, helicopter landings, state visits, protests, celebrations, public recreation, and various special events. Many of these events happen simultaneously and are important to the dynamic experience. Visitors are both fascinated and confused by what is happening, and there is little explanation of how uses interrelate or their significance.

Who comes to the White House has changed over the years to include a gradually wider segment of the population than in Thomas Jefferson's time — for example, few women would have entered the White House unescorted except for servants, and black visitors, whether slave or free, would have had little opportunity to be welcomed. American Indians were invited to see the president as members of formal groups, but only rarely. Not until the second half of the 20th century has public access to the White House broadened to include a wider spectrum of the nation's population.

In addition to public visitors to the White House, President's Park serves a wide array of users, highlighting the park's value as well-designed open space at the heart of a vibrant urban area. Local workers take advantage of the park's shaded spaces for quiet lunches. Teams from throughout the city play sports within sight of the White House. Citizens exercising their First Amendment rights place President's Park in the eye of the world. The role of President's Park is constantly redefined as a reflection of the needs of the users.

Public Access to the White House

Historical Overview

Visitors started coming to the White House when it was under construction, and officials had to restrict access by issuing official passes. John Adams limited visitors to officials, but Thomas Jefferson began the

tradition of opening "The People's House" to the public, establishing a precedent of welcoming the American public to the house and grounds. The north forecourt became a public park during Jefferson's administration and later became known as Lafayette Square.

By the time of Andrew Jackson, the public increasingly saw the house and grounds as public domain, illustrated by the fact that immediately after his inauguration hundreds of supporters jammed the White House to celebrate. Jackson's administration also saw the first attempted assassination of a president, and from the 1830s security concerns increased, but the house remained open. Band concerts were given on the grounds, and citizens regularly wandered through the gardens. Access remained informal, but security concerns slowly tightened over the years.

During the Civil War President's Park was turned into an armed camp. Easy access was no longer allowed to the house or the grounds. At the end of the war the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took over administrative responsibilities. Security concerns increased after Lincoln's assassination in 1865, and visitation became more restricted and formalized.

By the beginning of the 20th century, changes in the concepts of both recreation and tourism had great implications for the White House and President's Park. Public use of the property increased despite two additional presidential assassinations, creating security problems and safety concerns. Nevertheless, celebrations, demonstrations, and official events continued to be held at the house and on the grounds, including state receptions, Fourth of July celebrations, gatherings of military, religious and political groups, and public protests.

With the invention of the automobile and the radio, the demand for access to the park and house increased dramatically. Events on the grounds, such as the traditional Easter egg roll and the Christmas tree lighting (dating from the 1920s) also increased public use. Radio programs broadcast from the White House, such as President Roosevelt's fireside chats, caused Americans to identify more closely with the White House than ever before. As a result, visitors increased to 10,000 over a full day, complicating both security and presidential privacy. The White House was closed to the public for five years during World War II and during the renovation from 1949 to 1952.

The National Park Service assumed responsibility for the property in 1933. In the 1950s the Park Service established a formal interpretive division, and NPS interpreters made their initial tour of the White House on March 18, 1959. In the 1960s a structured visitor information program was established for the site, including information kiosks,

Visitor Use and Services



Visitors gather at the south fenceline, next to E Street, to view the White House and take pictures.



Visitors on public tours have few opportunities to pause and enjoy a longer look at state rooms in the White House.



Pedestrian movements are hampered by private vehicles and tour buses parked south of East Executive Park.



Visitors queue for the White House public tour on the Ellipse.

brochures, and rangers trained to assist the public. As in the past, however, tours of the Executive Residence were conducted by officers of the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division.

In fall 1975, in preparation for the Bicentennial celebration, the National Park Service instituted a visitor program and ticketing process for people taking public tours of the White House. The visitor program, which operated during the busy visitation periods, included entertainment for visitors waiting to tour the mansion. Over the years the Park Service has offered various interpretive activities and special events throughout President's Park, ranging from walking tours of the Ellipse and Lafayette Park to Twilight Tattoos on the Ellipse presented in cooperation with the U. S. Army. President's Park rangers have provided interpretive slide shows in regional schools, have led special educational White House tours for schoolchildren, and have assisted in the spring and fall White House garden tours.

Current Visitation and Projected Trends

Today visitation to the White House averages about 5,000 visitors a day. The visitor experience has been somewhat improved as a result of opening a visitor center in Baldrige Hall in the Commerce Building and a visitor pavilion just northeast of the Ellipse.

Visitation numbers have remained relatively stable from year to year, as shown in table 3, because the number of people on daily White House tours is limited by the size of the structure and routine operations. Generally, the demand for White House tours exceeds the available tour capacity. Yearly variations in total visitation are attributable to tour cancellations because of White House events and seasonal variations in visitation.

TABLE 3: NUMBERS OF VISITORS ON WHITE HOUSE TOURS

YEAR	CONGRESSIONAL TOURS	PUBLIC TOURS	TOTAL TOUR VISITATION
1987	329,000	749,000	1,078,000
1988	299,000	791,000	1,090,000
1989	247,000	814,000	1,061,000
1990	243,000	847,000	1,090,000
1991	198,000	742,000	940,000
1992	241,000	824,000	1,065,000
1993	258,000	837,000	1,095,000
1994	256,000	869,000	1,125,000
1995	223,000	808,000	1,031,000
1996	255,000	814,000	1,069,000

In 1996 the White House visitor center (which opened in 1995) hosted 836,996 visitors. A substantial portion of this use was by people acquiring public tour tickets. However, during the peak season many visitors are unable to acquire tickets because of the high demand. These visitors can now look at videos and exhibits in the visitor center, giving them some understanding of White House functions and history. In 1996 at least 22,500 people visited the center but did not go on the public tour.

As future visitation to Washington, D.C., increases, use of the White House visitor center is also expected to grow. Approximately 20 million visitors came to Washington in 1995 (visitation varied from 18.5 to 20.4 million between 1987 and 1996; Washington, D.C., Convention and Visitors Association 1996). Visitation is projected to increase to 21–22 million visitors in the next five to eight years. As a result, it is expected that more and more visitors will only go to the visitor center because they cannot be accommodated on public White House tours. Thus, a visitor center or education center will play an increasingly important role in providing White House related experiences.

Who Visits the White House and President's Park?

Public tour visitors are diverse in their group sizes, group type, age, and number of times they have taken the White House tour. A 1989–91 survey of visitors during spring, summer, and fall showed the following (Univ. of Idaho, CPSU 1993):

Group size — Most commonly, groups consisted of two (31%) or four (18%) people, but they varied throughout the year. The most common group size was two people in the fall (45%) and spring (30%), and four people in the summer (24%).

Group type — Families were the most common group type (54%) taking the tour. During summer 64% of the visitor groups were families, compared to 51% in spring and 49% in fall.

Age — The most common visitor ages were 36–45 (24%), followed by children 15 years or younger (21%). During summer children 15 years or younger were the most common (30%); during fall this percentage fell to 10%.

Number of times on the White House tour — Eighty percent of the visitors were on their first tour, while 17% had taken the tour two to four times. Slightly more spring visitors (83%) were on their first tour than fall (80%) or summer (79%) visitors.

The survey showed that 46 states were represented on White House tours, along with the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Visitors from California made up the largest proportion of visitors (13%). Other states frequently represented were New York (12%), Pennsylvania (6%), Texas (5%), Florida (5%), and Virginia (5%).

Overall, 14% of the visitors surveyed were from other countries — principally Great Britain (12%), Germany (10%), Canada (9%), Sweden (6%), Austria (6%), France (5%), and China (4%). The proportion of international visitors varied by season: 24% of the fall visitors, 14% of the spring visitors, and 8% of the summer visitors.

Demographic profiles of current and potential tourist markets conducted by the National Park Service, using the 1989–91 visitor survey data and correlating it with census and commercial data, reveal clear patterns of participation and underrepresentation in White House public tours (NPS 1995b). The analysis showed that regional visitors — defined as residents living within a 3½-hour drive of the White House — made up only 12.6% of domestic visitors, while visitors from outside the region accounted for a higher than expected proportion of visitors. Using trip times as an indicator of the relative cost (in time and money) of visiting the White House, this finding indicates that nonregional visitors can afford to and will visit the White House despite relatively high costs, while regional visitors have a lower than expected rate of participation in tours.

The Visitor Experience

Visitor Information and Orientation

The 1989–91 visitor survey showed that visitors learn about public tours of the White House from various sources. Almost half (42%) consulted a tour guide or tour book for information, 36% received information from friends or relatives, 21% knew about the site from previous visits, and 15% contacted their congressional offices or saw signs around the White House. Ten percent of visitors did not receive any information before their visits.

Within President's Park there are orientation exhibits at either end of East Executive Park, plus a staffed information booth at the Ellipse visitor pavilion. However, most onsite visitor orientation and information is provided at the White House visitor center.

NPS rangers and volunteers provide information throughout the day and assist visitors as they wait for tour tickets. White House brochures in some foreign languages are available upon request.

Visitor Center

The White House visitor center is open daily 7:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. year-round except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days. Although not designed to provide in-depth educational experiences, the visitor center includes static exhibits organized along the following themes: architectural history of the White House, symbol and image, first families, the working White House, ceremony and celebration, and White House interiors. An interpretive videotape, which provides an overview of the history and use of the White House, is shown in the east end of the hall. Because the video is shown in an area where visitors queue for tickets and is not available when tickets are being distributed, most visitors who see the presentation do so after their tour. Only those who arrive a day early view it before their tours.

Since the visitor center has been in operation, the perception by visitors of the overall quality of services and facilities has notably increased. A survey of visitors using the visitor center in the last week of October 1995 showed that of the visitors who responded to the survey, 64% thought the overall quality of services and facilities was very good, 34% rated them as good, and 2% as average. Items that were rated included directional and safety signs, prompt and courteous service, cleanliness of visitor center facilities, quality of audiovisual programs, quality of brochures/maps and exhibits, quality of recreational opportunities, and quality of educational opportunities (Univ. of Idaho, CPSU 1995).

Interpretation and Education

The visitor center affords the major opportunities for interpretive information about the White House and President's Park. NPS publications are limited. The White House Historical Association sells an array of educational materials about the White House, presidents, and first ladies.

Interpretive services throughout President's Park are limited. A recorded message about the history of the White House is broadcast from small speakers along the fence line.

Within the White House exhibits in the east colonnade provide a quick overview of White House history and can cause bottlenecks as visitors stop to read them. There are descriptive signs in some rooms.

All interpretation within the White House is provided by police officers from the Uniformed Division of the U.S. Secret Service. These guides escort congressional and passholder tours before the public tours start. Once public tours start, guides are stationed in the rooms on the state floor to answer questions.

During the White House garden tours visitors can read signs placed about the grounds and a descriptive booklet produced for the event.

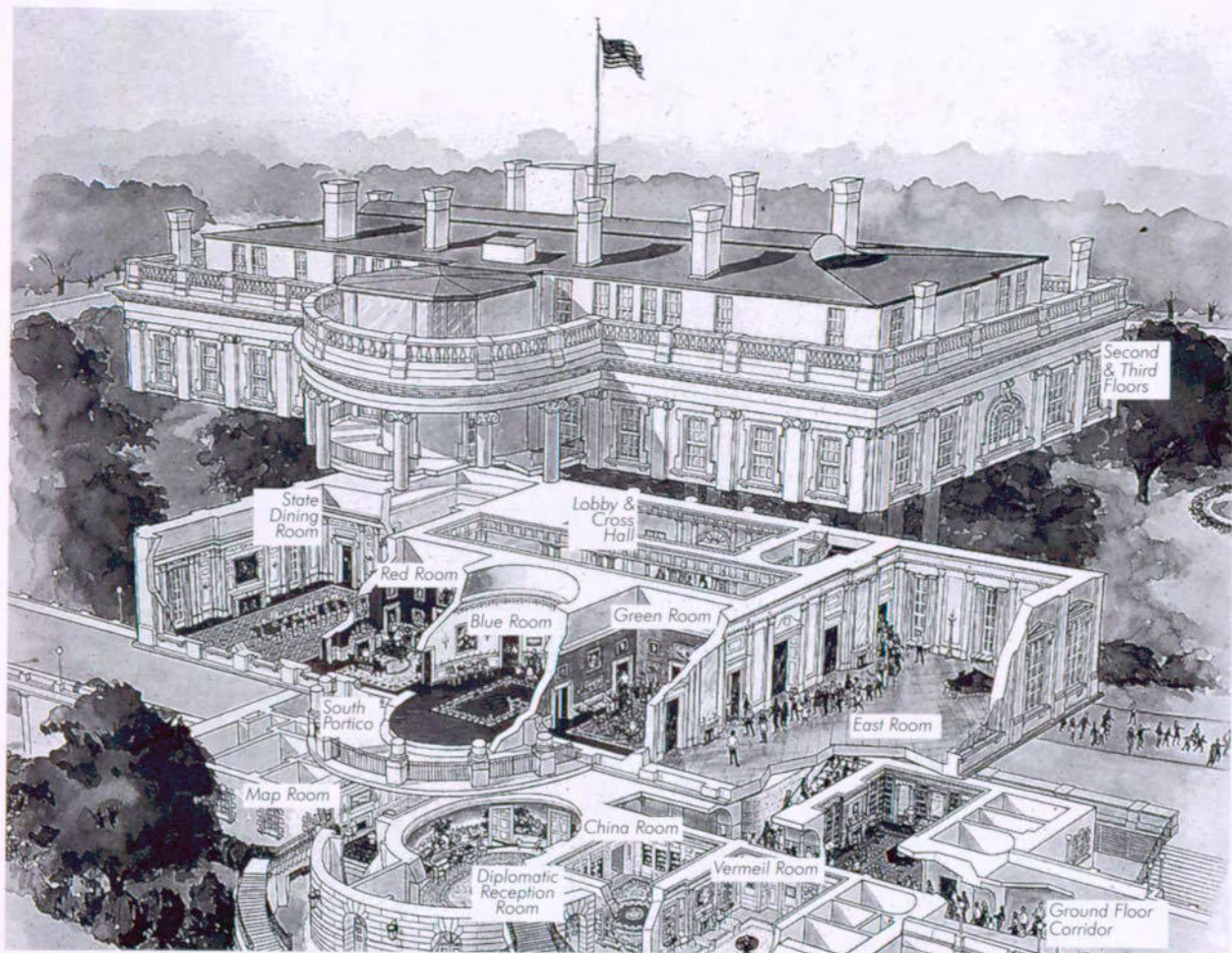
Bus companies provide a number of tours of the Washington, D.C., area; however, none is specific to the White House or focuses on President's Park.

White House Tours

White House public tours, along with occasional park interpretive tours, are managed by the National Park Service. Congressional tours are arranged through the offices of individual members of Congress, as are most group tours. Tours are sometimes interrupted due to state functions or special events. Congressional and passholder tours are generally in the house between 7:45 and 9:45 A.M., when groups of about 75 are led by officers through the Vermeil, China, and Diplomatic Reception Rooms on the ground floor and all rooms on the state floor. Personnel from the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division provide information and stories about what visitors are seeing.

Public tours are between 10 A.M. and noon Tuesday through Saturday. From March to Labor Day public tour visitors pick up free tickets (indicating a specific tour time) on the day of the tour at the visitor center. Tickets are available beginning at 7:30 A.M. and are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. At 15-minute intervals NPS personnel take groups of up to 300 visitors across E Street to stand in line along the White House fence before going through security in the visitor entrance building and entering the East Wing of the White House. During the rest of the year visitors proceed on their own directly to the visitor entrance building.

Public tour visitors glance into the Library and Vermeil Rooms on the ground floor before proceeding upstairs to the state floor. On the state floor officers of the U.S. Secret Service are stationed in each of the main rooms, where they give short talks and answer questions as individuals



White House Public Tour Route

move from room to room. A public tour participant generally spends less than half an hour in the house. Although visitors may stop in a room if they would like a longer view, they do not know this and they are not encouraged to do so, and the influx of visitors behind them frequently pushes them along.

Visitors to the White House express interests in many areas. History, first families, official events, and daily activities top the list. Many are interested in the architecture, furnishings, and art. For most visitors, though, a tour of the White House takes on a symbolic meaning beyond being a sightseeing or educational stop. For these visitors access to the house is enough and the actual tour is incidental; visitors frequently pause on the north lawn as if to reflect on where they are. For other visitors, the tour is too fast as people are pressed to move from room to room, with little opportunity to linger for a longer look. For the most part, however, visitors are satisfied that they have been in the White House.

Visitors have varying opinions about the quality of each of the services and facilities they use during their public tour. On the 1995 visitor survey, information and interpretive services were rated as good or very good (maps/brochures, 74%; NPS ranger assistance, 72%; and the NPS information kiosk, 70%). The White House room guides were rated as good or very good by 64% of the visitors. Educational sales in the visitor center were rated as good or very good by 63% (Univ. of Idaho, CPSU 1995).

Other Tours and Interpretation

Public tours of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the Treasury Building are conducted on Saturdays by volunteer docents. These tours are only by reservation, which can be made by calling the curator's office for the respective building.

Museums adjacent to the site include the Renwick Gallery, Corcoran Gallery, Decatur House, National Aquarium, and Octagon House. The displays at these sites are specific to their histories or functions, however, and none has extensive displays relating to the White House and President's Park.

Tourmobile Sightseeing, Inc., a concession operation under contract to the National Park Service, operates four tour routes, with onboard interpretive services for each tour. Two routes are entirely within the Monumental Core area — the Washington Mall tour and the Arlington National Cemetery tour; the other two tours go to Mount Vernon and the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site.

The 13.3-mile Washington Mall tour includes President's Park and the White House, plus the Smithsonian museums, Union Station, the U.S. Capitol, the Holocaust Museum, the Washington Monument, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Jefferson Memorial, West Potomac Park, the Lincoln Memorial, and Arlington National Cemetery.

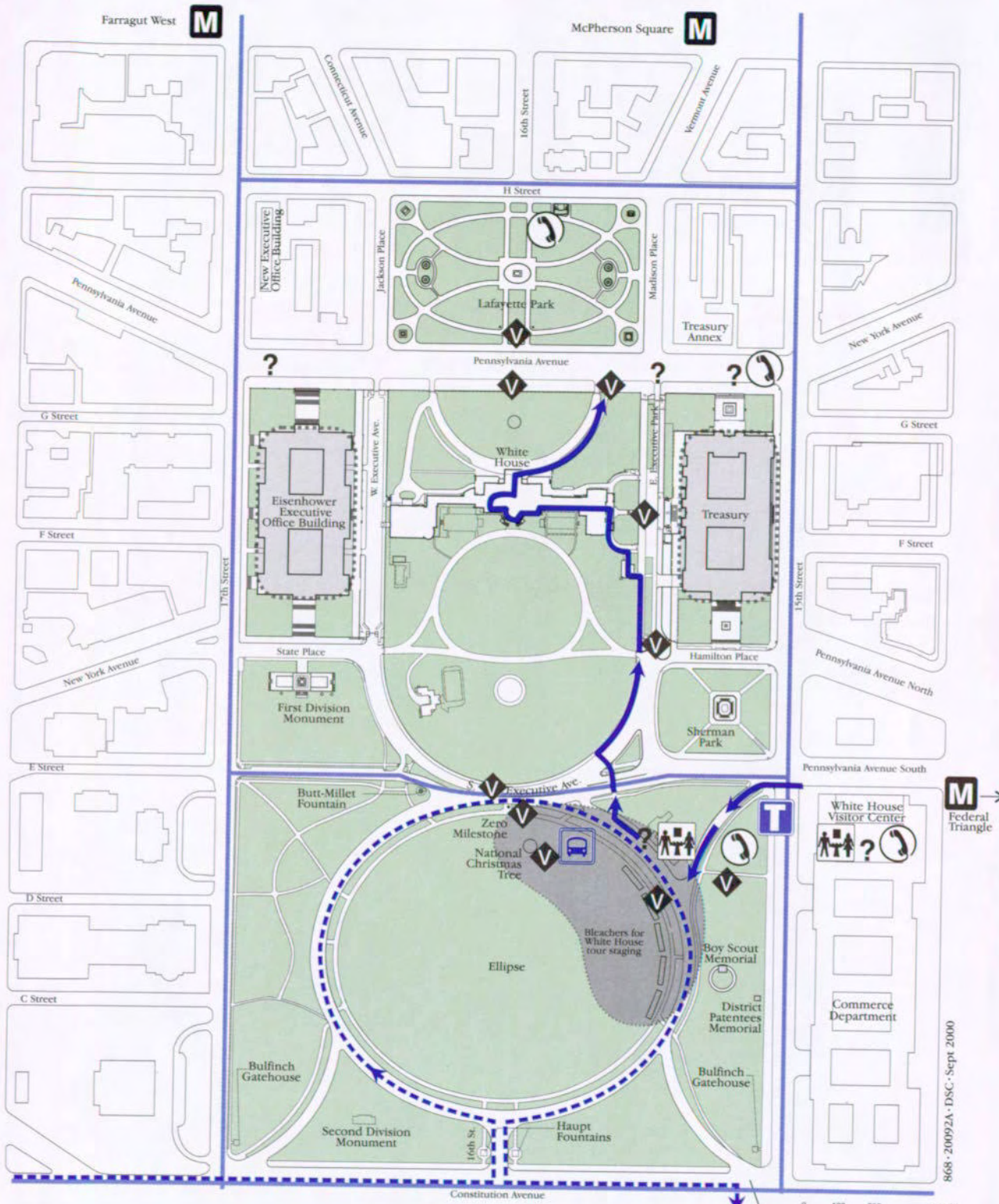
Various organizations interested in the visitor experience work with the National Park Service. These include the White House Visitors Office, the Washington, D.C., Convention and Visitors Association, the White House Historical Association, the Smithsonian Institution, the First Division Society, the Military District of Washington, the Neighbors to the President Consortium (including the National Trust for Historic Preservation), the National Archives: Presidential Libraries, and the Christmas Pageant of Peace Committee.

Site Amenities

Few amenities for the visiting public are offered onsite. The visitor center offers water and restrooms, as does the visitor pavilion on the Ellipse. Water fountains are located along East Executive Park during the summer, and benches can be found throughout President's Park. Limited food services are provided at the Ellipse visitor pavilion.

Recreation

Various recreational activities occur throughout President's Park. The Ellipse is frequently used for informal games of softball, football, volleyball, and other activities, and the side panels are used for picnicking. Lafayette Park offers chess and checker tables and is the site of much lunchtime activity. Since Pennsylvania Avenue was closed to public vehicular traffic, in-line skaters have become a common sight in front of the White House.



868-20092A-DSC-Sept 2000

- White House tour staging area (March - Sept.)
- White House tour route (summer)
- Areas of visitor concentration
- Information
- Tourmobile stop
- Tourmobile route
- Tour bus dropoff
- Tour bus route
- Metrorail stops
- Other tour opportunities on site
- Restrooms
- Phones

Visitor Use and Services



Special Events and Demonstrations

The White House, as the home and office of the president of the United States, is the setting for state events, including welcoming ceremonies for visiting heads of state, state dinners, and receptions. However, the White House is also a focus for citizens wishing to petition the president, or those wishing to associate themselves and their events with the U.S. presidency.

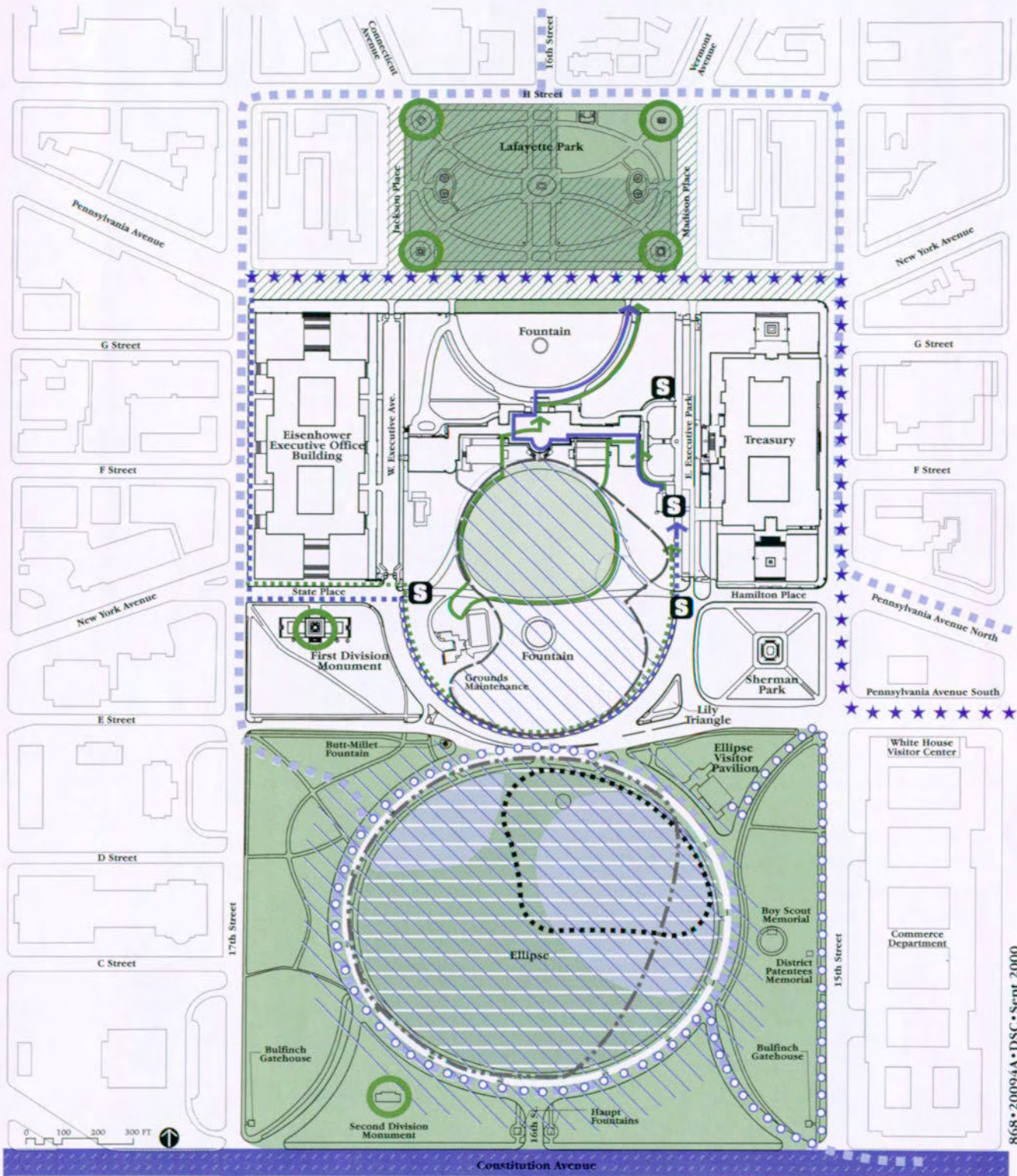
Traditionally, access and proximity have made Pennsylvania Avenue and Lafayette Park the most appropriate place for demonstrations, ranging from Veterans' Day celebrants to antiwar protesters. However, larger groups also use the Ellipse and the Washington Monument as staging areas.

Special events range from the annual Christmas Pageant of Peace celebration on the Ellipse to the egg roll traditionally held on the south White House grounds the Monday following Easter. Other events vary throughout the year and number in the hundreds, from military assemblies to commemorative gatherings at individual memorials, to graduation exercises and state dinners (see table 4). The site accommodates ceremonial access in a variety of ways, from foreign dignitaries to special gatherings of school groups.




















On average, 55 special events and 150 First Amendment activities occur annually within President's Park. These events and demonstrations use many areas within President's Park, as shown on the Special Events map. Between two and five of these events each year are very large, accommodating 50,000 or more people per event.

Regulations

The extent and type of events that may be held throughout President's Park are defined by law and regulation (16 U.S.C. 1, 3, 9a, 462(k); 36 CFR 7.96(g)). By definition, the term "demonstration" includes demonstrations, picketing, speechmaking, marching, holding vigils or religious services, and all other like forms of conduct that involve the communication or expression of views or grievances. These activities may be engaged in by one or more persons, and they generally draw a crowd or onlookers.



868 • 2009-4A • DSC • Sept 2000

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|  | Area of concentration for First Amendment demonstrations |  | Queuing for egg roll tickets |  | Wreath-laying ceremonies |
|  | Demonstration route |  | Entertainment area for egg roll |  | Garden tour route |
|  | Parade route (minimum 4 per year) |  | Security checkpoints for egg roll |  | Queuing for garden tour |
|  | Twilight tattoo |  | Fourth of July |  | Inaugural parade route |
|  | South grounds events |  | Pageant of Peace |  | Staging areas for inaugural parade route |
|  | Periodic special events |  | Candlelight tour route (3 nights) | | |
|  | White House Easter egg roll |  | Queuing for candlelight tour | | |

Special Events



TABLE 4: SPECIAL EVENTS WITHIN PRESIDENT'S PARK

EVENT	LOCATION	FREQUENCY	DESCRIPTION	ATTENDANCE PER EVENT
Lafayette Park / Pennsylvania Avenue				
First Amendment Demonstrations — Example: • National Smoke-in • Nuclear Vigil	Southeast quadrant of park	July 4 Continuous	Hemp legalization rally Protesting nuclear arms	1,000 3 to a maximum of 3,000
Presidential Inaugural Parade	Pennsylvania Avenue (Lafayette Park is used for media stands, event staging, and other reviewing stands)	Every four years	Preparations begin in November; facilities are removed by the end of February, with restoration taking place through March.	250,000 to 500,000
White House and Grounds				
State Dinners	White House state rooms	6-10 times per year	Held in honor of visiting heads of state.	130
State Arrivals	White House south grounds and Ellipse	6-10 times per year	Formal military parade on south lawn with 21-gun salute.	4,000
Easter Egg Roll	White House south grounds and Ellipse	Monday following Easter	Young children accompanied by adults. Lines form on or around the Ellipse, with activities provided on the Ellipse and the White House grounds. Free, timed tickets are provided for entry to the White House grounds; additional activities are provided on the Ellipse.	25,000
Spring and Fall Garden Tours	White House grounds	Annually — Second or third weekend in April and October	Includes tours of both the White House and grounds.	25,000
Candlelight Tours	White House state rooms	Annually — Three evenings between Christmas and New Year's Day	Tours of the ground and state floors with seasonal decorations	33,000
Presidential/First Family Social Events	South grounds	5-8 times per year	Events such as congressional barbecues (sometimes tents and stages are required)	1,200 to 5,000
Tapings for TV Broadcast	East Room	3-4 times per year	Tapings of special presentations for broadcast on public TV	200

EVENT	LOCATION	FREQUENCY	DESCRIPTION	ATTENDANCE PER EVENT
Ellipse				
First Amendment Demonstrations • Right to Life March	Ellipse	January 22	Roe v. Wade protest	125,000
Pageant of Peace	Northeast quadrant	3 weeks in December	Northeast quadrant of Ellipse is used as a stage for the lighting of the National Christmas Tree and other holiday events. Construction begins in October; site restoration until May.	270,000
George Washington University graduation	Western half of Ellipse and part of southeast quadrant	mid-May	Chairs, stages, and event infrastructure are erected.	20,000
Military District of Washington Twilight Tattoo	Northeast quadrant	Every Wednesday evening during summer	U.S. Army presentation of ceremonial troops marching and performing drills.	10,000
Parades on Constitution Avenue	Southern portion of the Ellipse	Four times a year (St. Patrick's Day, Cherry Blossom, Safety Patrol, and Fourth of July)	Bleachers and reviewing stands are placed along Constitution Avenue.	20,000 to 100,000

Special events include sports events, pageants, celebrations, historical reenactments, entertainments, exhibitions, parades, fairs, festivals, and similar happenings that are not defined as demonstrations.

Within President's Park special events are only permitted on the Ellipse, except for special wreath-laying ceremonies relating to the statues in Lafayette Park and at the First Division Monument. Permitted demonstrations are only allowed on the White House sidewalk (on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue), in Lafayette Park, and on the Ellipse. Without special permission, no more than 750 persons are permitted to conduct a demonstration on the White House sidewalk at any one time, and no more than 3,000 persons are permitted to conduct a demonstration in Lafayette Park at any one time. No permit will be issued authorizing special events or demonstrations in excess of three weeks on the Ellipse or seven days in the remainder of President's Park.

Other limitations are imposed throughout President's Park for structures, signs, and the like. In Lafayette Park most structures and signs are prohibited. However, as evidenced by long-term First Amendment activists in the park, signs that are not hand-carried and that meet size requirements outlined in the regulations are allowed so long as they are attended at all times.

Special Events

White House Events

A variety of special events are initiated by the White House each year, both public and private. Those of a private nature are usually by invitation only and are specifically organized for the president or the first family. The events may be small or extensive, sometimes taking place in state rooms in the residence and sometimes in large tents erected for the occasion on the south lawn.

Each year the White House, in cooperation with the National Park Service, conducts a number of special public events in the White House or on the grounds, or within President's Park. In addition to public tours of the White House, four other events are conducted, as described below.

Easter Egg Roll

On the Monday after Easter young children who are accompanied by adults may join the annual Easter egg roll festivities on the south grounds of the White House. The National Park Service provides support services by organizing people entering the White House grounds. Activities include the traditional egg roll, egg hunts, a petting farm, celebrity autograph signing, and various entertainment activities. In recent years entertainment and visitor facilities have also been provided on the Ellipse.

Garden Tours

Annual spring and fall garden tours of the White House grounds are conducted during mid-April and mid-October, respectively. This interpretive program was initiated during the Nixon administration and has been enthusiastically received by the public. During garden tours, visitors walk through the south grounds and then tour the ground and state floors of the White House.

Christmas Candlelight Tours

Each year for three evenings between Christmas and New Year's Day candlelight tours of the state rooms of the White House are conducted between 5 and 7 P.M. Participants view the seasonal decorations and listen to holiday music presented by volunteer groups.

Christmas Pageant of Peace

In the second or third week of December the president lights the National Christmas Tree, located on the Ellipse. Following the lighting, entertainment is provided nightly until New Year's Eve. The history and tradition associated with the pageant and the tree lighting date to 1913, when Woodrow Wilson lit the national community Christmas tree on the west front of the Capitol; in 1923 Calvin Coolidge dedicated a tree from his home state on the Ellipse. The annual pageant is sponsored by The Christmas Pageant of Peace, Inc. (including the Greater Washington Board of Trade, the Washington, D.C., Convention and Visitors Association) and the National Park Service.

Infrastructure for this event is extensive, involving the northeast quadrant of the Ellipse. Each year gravel roads, driveways, stages, seating areas, exhibit areas, and boardwalks are constructed beginning in late October. Removal of this infrastructure begins in January and may last until spring.

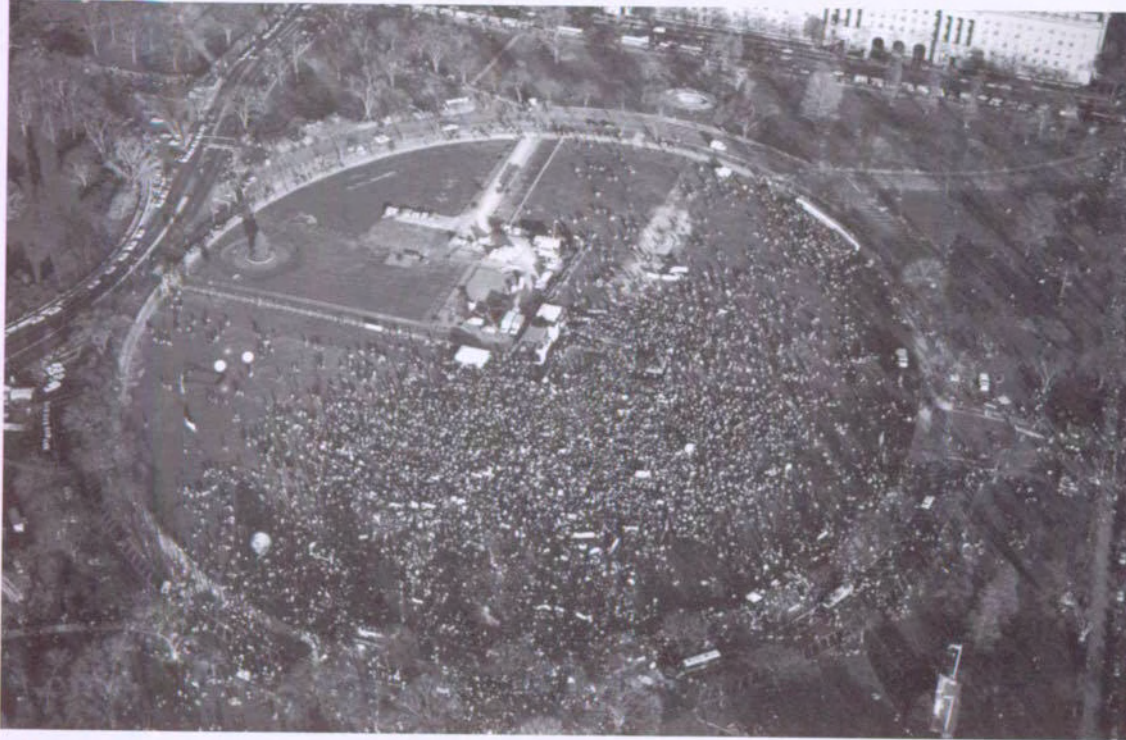
Presidential Inaugural Parade

Following the swearing-in and inaugural address of the president at the Capitol, the inaugural parade begins at 3rd Street, NW, and follows Pennsylvania Avenue westward to 15th Street, where it turns northward a few blocks to rejoin Pennsylvania Avenue and passes in front of the White House and the presidential reviewing stand.

All but the northeast quadrant of Lafayette Park, all of Madison and Jackson Places, and portions of the White House sidewalk and north grounds are used to provide stands, infrastructure, and support trailers. Bleachers are constructed along Pennsylvania Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets. The presidential reviewing box is constructed in front of the White House, and media stands are constructed on the opposite side of the street on the sidewalk and within Lafayette Park.

Portions of the Ellipse are often used for media support, including microwave and satellite trucks. Construction activities usually begin in November with completion by mid-January. Following the inauguration, the dismantling of the structures on the site is normally completed within a month, with restoration following through March.

Special Events



A large First Amendment demonstration on the Ellipse shows the type of use this portion of President's Park receives. The Pageant of Peace site is still being dismantled in the top left of the picture. Portable toilets flank the Ellipse roadway on the top right. Staff parking around the Ellipse has been removed for the day. This photo predates the building of the Ellipse visitor pavilion in 1994.

Transportation



Visitors on public tours of the White House cross at crosswalks. The volume of traffic and pedestrian use frequently causes congestion and safety concerns.

Site Management and Operations



Maintenance operations on the Ellipse increase after large demonstrations or special events.

Transportation

Local Street Network

Physical Characteristics

For purposes of the transportation analysis, the study area is bounded by I Street on the north, 14th Street on the east, Constitution Avenue on the south, and 18th Street on the west. The major east-west roadways are I, H, and E Streets and Constitution Avenue. The major north-south roadways are 14th, 15th, 17th, and 18th Streets. These roadways are generally four to six lanes, except for Constitution Avenue, which is eight lanes.

Constitution Avenue (U.S. 50) is a regional route. Vehicles traveling between east or southeast Washington and Virginia via I-66 use Constitution Avenue or E Street. Four blocks west of President's Park, E Street becomes the E Street Expressway, connecting to I-66. Traffic traveling between I-395 in Virginia, the Anacostia Freeway (I-295), or the Southwest Freeway (I-395) and locations north or northwest of President's Park may also use Constitution Avenue or 15th Street as a route to or from the freeway system. North-south traffic uses 15th and 17th Streets from north or northwest of President's Park to Independence Avenue, a major east-west connection to the freeways. Within the downtown area, Pennsylvania and New York Avenues are all part of the radial street system and converge on President's Park; these roadways are major streets within the District system.

The traffic study boundaries described above outline the primary area where most of the direct effects on traffic and parking are likely to occur. A larger area (outside the downtown area) was not evaluated because of the results of the recent traffic analyses performed by the Federal Highway Administration for public traffic restrictions on Pennsylvania Avenue (FHWA 1997). This study stated there were no important diversions outside of downtown and that the effects of the Pennsylvania Avenue, E Street, and other related modifications and traffic restrictions would be confined to the downtown area. Based on these findings, it was assumed that information or analysis of a larger or secondary study area was not critical for the purposes of a comprehensive design plan for the White House and President's Park.

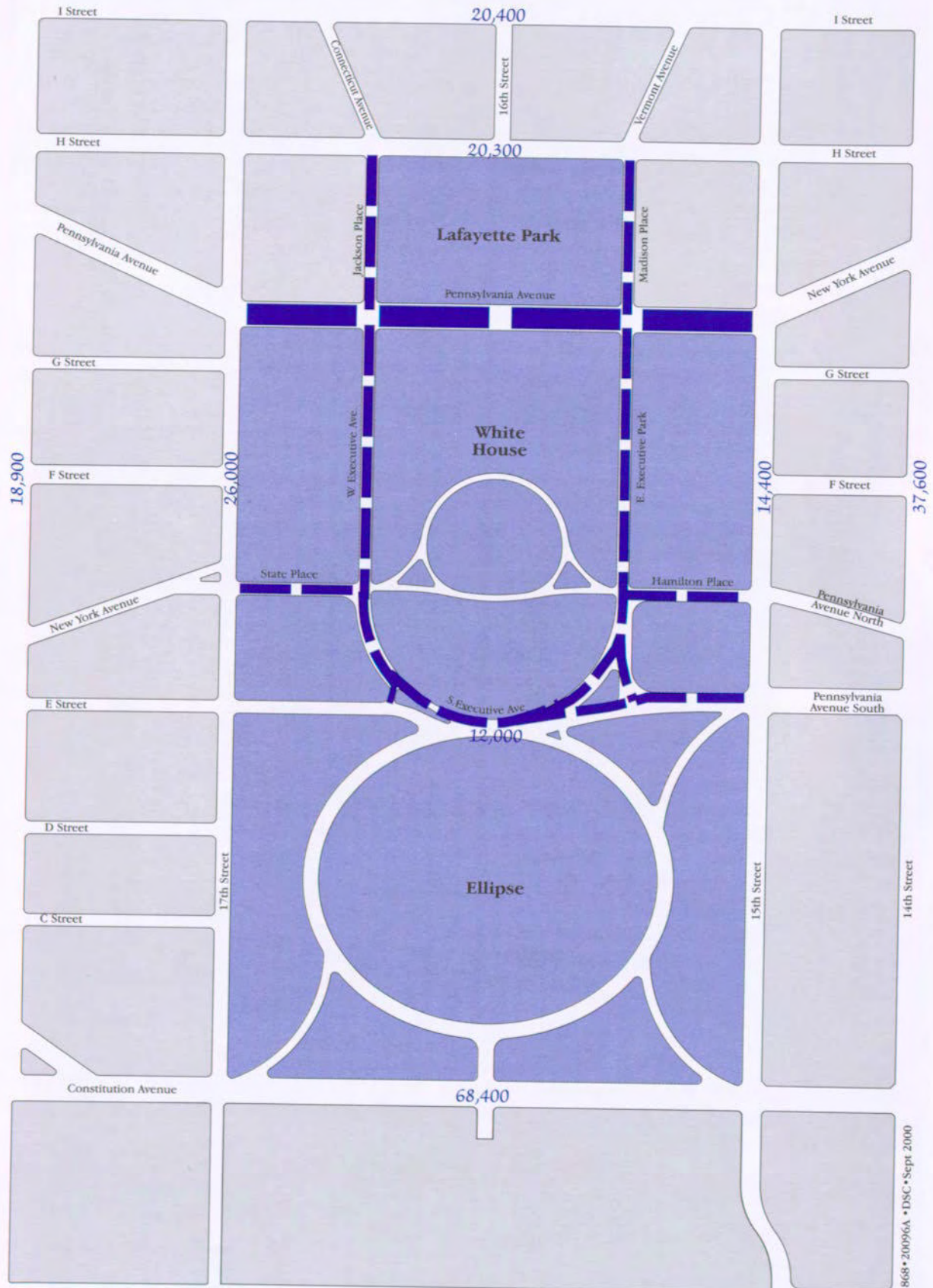
Site-specific projects will require additional traffic analyses for any proposed changes to the street network. Depending on the type of changes, the traffic study area for a proposed project may need to be larger than the primary area identified here.

Operational Characteristics

The Average Weekday Traffic Volumes map focuses on streets in the study area. These roadways typically have two weekday peak traffic periods: 7:30–9:30 A.M. and 4:30–6:30 P.M. Peak characteristics in this area are typical of other city center areas. Traffic in the study area can be classified as follows:

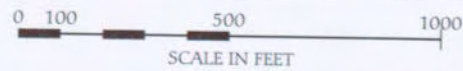
- (1) Commuting or local traffic passing through the area.
- (2) Traffic parking within the study area — Drivers are usually searching for on-street parking or going to one of the off-street parking facilities.
- (3) Tourist traffic viewing the White House and President's Park — These vehicles are driving around the area, with no set circulation pattern. Traffic drives along H Street or E Street, usually at a slower speed than general traffic, with vehicles often stopping in the travel lanes as people take photographs.
- (4) Traffic accessing the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the Treasury Building, or the White House — This group typically uses various access routes and proceeds to either East Executive Park or West Executive Avenue for entrance into the secured area. There is no set circulation pattern.

To determine how well the street system handles traffic volumes, a level of service (LOS) analysis was conducted (FHWA 1997). Most streets in the study area have traffic operational problems during one of the three time periods analyzed (for morning and afternoon peak hours, and for midday); only Constitution Avenue consistently operates at acceptable levels of service throughout the day. In the morning peak period both H and L Streets operate slightly under capacity, and K Street operates at capacity. Within President's Park, E Street operates under capacity during the morning peak period. In the afternoon peak period, E, H, K, and L Streets all operate either at or over capacity. Except for I Street, the westbound streets, including Constitution Avenue, K Street, and M Street, all operate under capacity during both the morning and afternoon peak periods. I Street operates over capacity during both periods (see table 5).



Source: Federal Highway Administration 1997

■ Restricted Traffic
 12,000 Total Average Weekday Traffic Volumes



NORTH
↑

868 • 20096A • DSC • Sept. 2000

Average Weekday Traffic Volumes

United States Department of the Interior / National Park Service



TABLE 5: LEVELS OF SERVICE ON EAST-WEST STREETS ADJACENT TO PRESIDENT'S PARK

	PEAK PERIOD	
	A.M.	P.M.
Eastbound Streets		
• Constitution Avenue	B	C
• E Street	A	F
• H Street	D	F
• K Street	E	F
• L Street	D	E
Westbound Streets		
• Constitution Avenue	C	C
• I Street	F	F
• K Street	D	D
• M Street	D	D

SOURCE: Based on a FHWA survey performed between July and September 1995; FHWA 1997.

NOTE: Level of service (LOS) describes the operation of a segment of road or intersection by a letter grade ranging from A to F. LOS A represents the highest level of service, LOS E represents capacity conditions, and LOS F represents overcapacity conditions. The typical objective is for traffic to operate at LOS D or better. In downtown areas during peak commuting times some level of congestion is both normal and inevitable, and LOS E is often considered acceptable.

For the north-south streets, the following northbound segments operate over capacity in the morning peak period: 17th Street between Constitution Avenue and State Place, 15th Street north of Pennsylvania Avenue, and 14th Street between Pennsylvania Avenue South and New York Avenue. In the afternoon peak period, the north-south streets in both directions generally operate under capacity between Pennsylvania Avenue and Constitution Avenue. North of Pennsylvania Avenue, only the southbound segments operate at or over capacity.

E Street through President's Park is often temporarily closed for special events, dignitaries' arrivals/departures, and presidential motorcades. These closures can last from several minutes to a full day, depending on the event. Short closures of several minutes occur on an average of five to six times per week; closures for an hour, twice per month; and closures for a half day or full day, perhaps five times per year or less. Since these closures are generally not scheduled, no advance notice is given to the public. Consequently, drivers cannot anticipate the closure in time to use an alternate route. This leads to increased congestion in the area as traffic moves around President's Park. The trend in recent years has been for these temporary closures to occur more often.

In addition to walking, numerous transportation modes provide access to President's Park, including private vehicles, transit, taxi, and special transportation services for tourists. Private vehicle use for site access is limited by small amounts of on-street public parking (see the "Parking" section below). Private vehicles are also used for a drive-by experience of the White House, primarily from E Street. Public transit access includes the Metrorail (the subway) and Metrobus. Both of these services provide access within a few blocks of President's Park. Access to the site by taxi is also very easy due to the major roadways in the study area. Special transportation services for tourists include the Tour-mobile, which has a fixed route, and commercial tour buses. People frequently park offsite and use public transit to get as close as possible and then walk to their destinations. The demand or use of these transportation modes varies by the type of user.

People traveling to President's Park can be categorized as visitors (White House tour visitors or general visitors), White House business visitors, and staff (White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Treasury). Information specific to White House tour visitors is presented below.

Table 6 shows the modes of arrival for visitors on either a congressional tour or a public tour of the White House. Following is some of the most important information about the existing transportation characteristics:

- The subway is the most common mode of transportation, used by 34% of the people on congressional tours and 27% of the people on public tours.
- Private vehicles account for 22%–23% of the people on both the congressional tours and the public tours.
- Taxis are used by about 19% of the congressional tour visitors, but only by 6% of public tour visitors. One possible reason for this difference could be the early hour of congressional tours; people do not want to be late, so they are more likely to take a cab.
- Tour buses are more likely to be used by people taking public tours, with approximately 20% of public tour visitors arriving by this mode, compared to only 4% for congressional tour visitors.
- Approximately 14% of visitors on congressional tours and 20% of visitors on public tours walk to the site.

On-street parking spaces were inventoried from the south side of H Street to the north side of Constitution Avenue, and from the east side of 17th Street to the west side of 15th Street. Total staff parking within this area amounted to 846 spaces (see "The Home and Office of the President" section, beginning on page 35). Total public parking spaces within President's Park amount to 103 spaces, 66 of which are time-limited spaces and 37 are metered. Other spaces within this area include 8 spaces for official sightseers and 26 spaces for vendors. Table 7 lists the locations of these on-street parking spaces.

Public, Visitor, and Other On-Street Parking

Public Parking

Another visitor characteristic that may be relevant in analyzing or planning transportation services for visitors to the White House is visitors' lack of familiarity about the best means of getting to President's Park. About 75% of the people visiting the White House are first-time visitors: 73% of the people on congressional tours were visiting the White House for the first time, and 80% of the people on public tours. Less than 1% of all visitors were from Washington, D.C.

MODE	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER	TOTAL
Congressional Tours	21%	22%	25%	23%
• Private Vehicle	28%	34%	39%	34%
• Subway	22%	20%	16%	19%
• Cab	6%	5%	3%	4%
• Bus	8%	3%	1%	4%
• Tour Bus	13%	15%	15%	14%
• Walk	2%	1%	1%	1%
• Other				
Public Tours	24%	18%	25%	22%
• Private Vehicle	30%	22%	28%	27%
• Subway	4%	6%	7%	6%
• Cab	4%	5%	3%	4%
• Bus	14%	27%	19%	20%
• Tour Bus	22%	21%	16%	20%
• Walk	3%	1%	2%	2%
• Other				
NOTE: Sizes of visitor groups sampled: Congressional Tours 692, Public Tours 703				
SOURCE: Univ. of Idaho, CPSU 1993.				

TABLE 6: MODE OF ARRIVAL FOR WHITE HOUSE TOUR VISITORS

TABLE 7: ON-STREET PARKING SUPPLY BY REGULATION AND LOCATION IN PRESIDENT'S PARK

LOCATION	STAFF PARKING*		PUBLIC PARKING		OTHER		TOTAL
	NPS PERMIT	PERMIT & HANDICAP	TIME-LIMITED	METERED	SIGHTSEER	VENDOR	
15th Street (west side)							
• Between Pennsylvania Avenue / New York Avenue and Hamilton Place							0
• Between Hamilton Place and Pennsylvania Avenue South							0
• Between E Street and Constitution Avenue					8	16	24
17th Street (east side)							
• Between Pennsylvania Avenue and State Place		27					27
• Between State Place and E Street			4	9			13
• Between E Street and Constitution Avenue			9	28		10	47
Ellipse and Doglegs	26	469					495
East Executive Park / West Executive Ave.							
• East of White House		87					87
• West of White House		30					30
Constitution Avenue (north side)			53				53
E Street (inside President's Park)		44					44
State Place		52					52
Jackson Place		58					58
Madison Place							0
Hamilton Place		53					53
H Street (south side)							
• Between 17th Street and Vermont Avenue							0
• Between Vermont Avenue and 15th Street							0
Subtotal	26	820	66	37	8	26	
Total		846**		103		34	983

SOURCE: BRW, Inc., parking inventory, Nov. 1994, July 1996, and Aug. 1997.

* Does not include parking spaces inside the security fence. Includes on-street spaces within the inventory area (from the south side of H Street to the north side of Constitution Avenue, and from the west side of 15th Street to the east side of 17th Street).

** Of the total 846 spaces, only 498 are available to the public during weekday evenings or on weekends.

Parking within President's Park

General public parking spaces within President's Park (the same area as defined above) are used by workers in nearby offices, White House business and tour visitors, general visitors to President's Park (non-tour visitors), and business-related visitors. The parking spaces available to the general public on weekdays and weekends within this area are only those spaces not posted for specific users or permit holders.

A total of 103 public spaces are available during the day, including 37 metered spaces and 66 time-limited spaces. Most spaces are restricted in the morning and afternoon peak hours. Other spaces that are restricted by time of day or duration include permit, government, official sightseer, and vendor spaces. All time-limited and metered spaces are short-term, ranging from two to three hours. Of the total 103 public spaces, only 37 are available during weekday afternoon peak hours. No spaces are available during weekday morning peak hours. All 103 spaces are available during weekday evenings (after 6:30 P.M.) and on weekends.

An additional 498 permit spaces and 8 official sightseer spaces (for a total of 506) are available to the general public during weekday evenings or on weekends.

Parking within Three Blocks of President's Park

The parking supply was also assessed for a larger area extending three blocks out from the boundary of President's Park (from Constitution Avenue / Madison Drive to K Street, and from 12th Street to 20th). Public parking was assumed to include primarily metered and time-limited spaces in addition to those spaces not posted for specific users or permit holders. Within this larger area, a total of 2,143 public parking spaces are available, including 1,771 metered spaces and 372 time-limited spaces.

Several other types of parking are available within three blocks of President's Park. For example, vendor parking is provided on the south side of Constitution Avenue between 14th and 15th Streets. Government parking is provided in four locations: along the east side of 15th Street between Pennsylvania Avenue South and Constitution, along the north side of E Street between 18th and 19th Streets, on the south side of F Street between 17th and 19th Streets, and along the east side of 12th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution. Permit parking is available on the west side of Vermont Avenue between K and I Streets, along the east side of Vermont Avenue between I and H Streets, and along the east and west sides of 12th Street between Constitution and Madison.

Tour Bus Parking

Five 2-hour spaces are designated for tour bus parking on the west side of 15th Street between Pennsylvania Avenue South and Constitution Avenue. These spaces are used early in the morning when tour bus operators arrive to secure passes for that day's tour. Tour buses also stop on Pennsylvania Avenue South in front of the White House visitor center during the morning rush hour, even though this is a no-parking zone. Use of the 2-hour tour bus parking along 15th Street is inconsistent and depends on the time of day.

Other tour bus locations within three blocks of President's Park include the east side of 16th Street between H and I Streets, a short segment on the west side of 14th Street just south of Pennsylvania Avenue South, and the south side of Virginia Avenue between 17th and 18th Streets.

Public Transit

Public transit services are provided by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and include Metrorail (a fixed guideway system, which is underground in this area) and Metrobus.

Metrorail

There are four Metrorail stations within several blocks of President's Park and the White House (see table 8). These stations provide access to President's Park and the surrounding area for both commuters and tourists, including White House visitors.

TABLE 8: METRORAIL STATIONS

STATION	LOCATION	LINES SERVED
McPherson Square	I Street and Vermont Avenue	Blue, Orange
Farragut West	I Street and 18th Street	Blue, Orange
Metro Center	G Street and 12th Street	Blue, Orange, Red
Federal Triangle	Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street	Blue, Orange

SOURCE: Metro System Route Map, Virginia and DC, January 1994.

Metrobus

Metrobus routes run along the edge of President's Park; no routes use E Street or 17th Street within President's Park. Metrobus stops include 15th Street northbound at H Street; 17th Street northbound at F and H Streets and southbound at F Street; Constitution Avenue eastbound at 17th Street and westbound at both 16th and 17th Streets; and H Street along the south side between Jackson Place and 15th Street (the bus stops on H Street serve 15 routes, including the terminus for one route). These routes, as well as several other routes, travel through the eastern portion of the study area. Some end at Farragut Square west of the study area. Many routes operate only during the morning and afternoon peak periods, serving predominantly commuters. Some bus routes offer all-day service.

Tourmobile and Tour Bus Circulation

Special transit services for tourists to the President's Park area are provided by privately operated tour buses and the Tourmobile, which operates under contract to the National Park Service. The Visitor Use and Services map (page 50) shows the routes for both systems.

Tour Buses

On a typical peak-season day, an estimated 1,000 tour buses operate within the District of Columbia. These tour buses provide several different services, such as transportation into and around the District for tour groups from outside the area; local transportation for tour groups arriving at the airport; and local transportation for individuals and families who arrive in the District on their own and use the tour bus for informational/interpretive purposes, either on a half- or whole-day schedule.

Relative to the White House and President's Park, tour buses deliver and pick-up visitors taking White House tours, and they offer drive-by views of the White House from E Street. Tour buses do not circulate on Ellipse Drive. Buses serving White House tour participants arrive at the visitor center on Pennsylvania Avenue South to obtain free tour tickets. During the peak season (March-September) buses park in the Constitution Avenue bus zone; through the rest of the year they park along the southbound curb lane of 15th Street. Tour buses do not circulate on the Ellipse.

Tourmobiles

Of the four routes operated by Tourmobile Sightseeing, Inc. (the concession operation under contract to the National Park Service), the Washington Mall tour attracted about 35% of the passengers in 1991 (560,965 of 1,599,034 passengers total). The Tourmobile travels east on Constitution Avenue, enters the Ellipse at 16th Street, and continues clockwise around Ellipse Drive until it reaches the White House stop on the northeast corner of the Ellipse near the visitor center (see the Visitor Use and Services map). From here the Tourmobile proceeds along Ellipse Drive and exits at 16th Street to proceed to the Smithsonian. The White House stop is the fourth highest patronage stop on the entire system. (The three most frequented destinations, in order, are the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington Cemetery Visitor Center, the Washington Monument, and the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum.)

Approximately 15% of White House tour visitors use the Tourmobile services. This usage is low considering that approximately 90% of the White House tour visitors go to multiple destinations within the Monumental Core.

Tourmobiles operate from 9 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. June 15 through Labor Day, and from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. during the rest of the year. Highest use periods are the two weeks surrounding the Cherry Blossom Festival and summer. Lowest use is from November through March; spring and fall are designated as off-peak seasons. The frequency of service (referred to as the time between buses, or headways) is highest during peak seasons (with 10–15 minute headways), slightly less during the off-peak seasons (15–20 minute headways), and lowest during winter (30 minute headways).

Due to heavy vehicular and pedestrian traffic, as well as a wide variety of special events, it is often difficult or impossible for the various transit modes to adhere to a schedule. The Tourmobile trams dispatched at their regular headways experience "bunching" at points along the tour route, creating gaps in service. Specific operational problems within the vicinity of President's Park are

- left turns from Constitution Avenue to Ellipse Drive because of having to cross four traffic lanes on Constitution
- delays on Ellipse Drive because of the narrow roadway and conflicts with parked vehicles and careless parking in difficult spaces
- service disruption when traffic on the Ellipse is halted for helicopter departures from the south lawn area

Pedestrians

Pedestrian volumes were counted at E Street crosswalks and major intersections during peak periods at morning, noon, and afternoon (see table 9). The Pedestrian Street Crossings map shows the locations and volumes of pedestrian crossings for the peak periods.

- ◆ *Weekday morning peak period* — The busiest intersection weekdays from 6:30 to 9:30 A.M. is Pennsylvania Avenue / 17th Street, followed by Pennsylvania Avenue South / 15th Street and New York Avenue / 15th Street. Most of these pedestrians are probably commuters, plus a much smaller number coming from the Farragut West, McPherson Square, and Federal Triangle Metrorail stations. Counts at the Pennsylvania Avenue South / 15th Street intersection include visitors to the White House and the visitor center.

Since morning counts were taken only at the intersection of Constitution Avenue and 15th Street, it is not possible to quantify the number of commuters and visitors entering President's Park during this time from the south.

- ◆ *Weekday midday peak period* — The busiest intersections from 11:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. are Pennsylvania Avenue / 17th Street, New York Avenue / 15th Street, and Pennsylvania Avenue South / 15th Street. Pedestrian concentrations at Pennsylvania Avenue intersections include visitors coming from Metrorail stations, visitors circulating in the area, and local business people. There are fewer recreational users, such as joggers and in-line skaters.

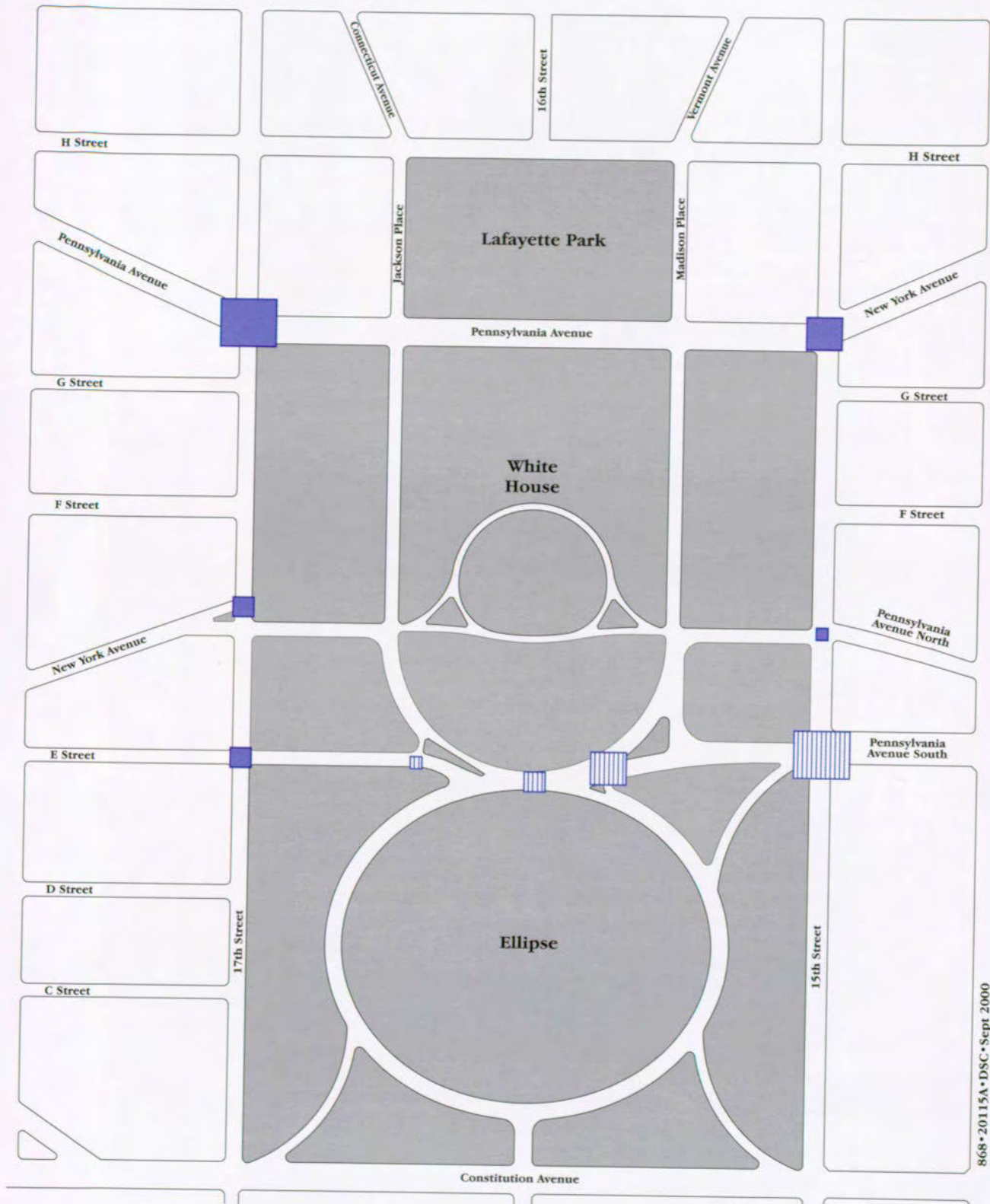
Intersection volumes along Constitution Avenue include visitors, local business people, and recreational users.

TABLE 9: WEEKDAY PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES

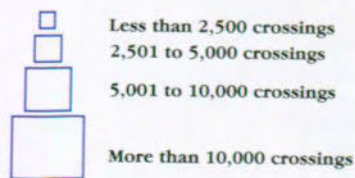
INTERSECTION	6:30–9:30	11:30 A.M.–	4–7 P.M.
	A.M.	2:30 P.M.	
Pennsylvania Avenue / 17th Street	4,500	8,100	5,000
New York Avenue / 15th Street	1,200	4,600	2,100
New York Avenue / 17th Street	600	2,300	1,400
Hamilton Place / 15th Street	500	900	600
E Street / 17th Street	800	2,200	1,300
Constitution Avenue / 15th Street	800	1,000	800
E Street Crosswalks			
Pennsylvania Avenue South / 15th Street	3,300	3,800	2,000
East Executive Avenue	1,100*	2,200	700
West Executive Avenue	300	500	400



SOURCE: Intersection data are from a June–September 1995 survey by the Federal Highway Administration. E Street crosswalk data are from an August 1997 survey by BRW, Inc.

* Does not include White House tour groups.

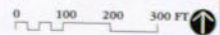


868 • 20115A • DSC • Sept. 2000



Source:  FHWA Survey Date July-September 1995
 BRW, Inc., Survey Date Aug 1997

Note: Three peak period counts are combined (6:30 A.M.-9:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M.-2:30 P.M., and 4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.)



Pedestrian Street Crossings



- ◆ *Weekday afternoon peak period* — Afternoon pedestrian traffic (from 4 to 7 p.m.) is concentrated at the intersections of Pennsylvania Avenue / 17th Street, New York Avenue / 17th Street, New York Avenue / 15th Street, and Pennsylvania Avenue / 15th Street due primarily to commuters leaving the area by means of the Metro system. Pedestrian activity is also concentrated at the intersections of New York Avenue / 17th Street and E Street / 17th Street.

- ◆ *E Street* — Visitors concentrate along E Street because of the location of the White House visitor center on Pennsylvania Avenue South, the White House tour staging area on the Ellipse, and views of the White House from the south fence.

Crosswalks are designated on E Street to the west of West Executive Avenue and East Executive Park. On weekdays approximately 1,660 pedestrians cross at the West Executive Avenue crosswalk during a 12-hour period, and approximately 5,870 at the East Executive Park crosswalk. On White House tour days up to 5,000 additional crossings can be made. In addition, for the same time period, about 3,510 pedestrians (or 32%) cross E Street without using the designated crosswalks (BRW pedestrian count, August 26, 1997). Pedestrian activity was greater on a Saturday than on a Tuesday.

The E Street / 15th Street / Pennsylvania Avenue South intersection also has a high volume of pedestrian crossings as people go to and from the White House visitor center. Approximately 12,340 pedestrian crossings at this intersection were recorded for a 12-hour period on a weekday in August 1997. Again, more pedestrian crossings were recorded on a Saturday than on a weekday.

About 45% of the pedestrians crossed 15th Street on the south side of this intersection. (Crossings are not allowed on the north leg of the intersection, even though people do cross there with some difficulty.) In general, as many pedestrians crossed this intersection going north-south as they did going east-west.

Bicycles

The Long Range Transportation Plan and the Bicycle Plan for the National Capital Region (NCRTPB 1994a, 1995) list no existing or proposed bike paths within the project area. Bicyclists use many streets and sidewalks within the area. Bicycle use in Lafayette Park is in violation of federal regulations.

Table 10 presents daily weekday bicycle volumes at eight intersections and one mid-block crossing in the study area. This information was collected in 1992 and represents the conditions before public vehicular restrictions on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Weekday bicycle volumes generally remain steady or decline slightly through the morning, then gradually peak during the 3:30-6:30 p.m. period. Volumes at the intersections of Pennsylvania Avenue / Madison Place and Pennsylvania Avenue / 17th Street, however, increase rapidly to peak around 11 a.m., at levels far exceeding other intersections in the area, then decrease gradually through the afternoon. Overall, weekend bicycle volumes are 50% lower than weekday volumes.

Weekend traffic increases steadily through the day to peak during the 3:30-6:30 p.m. period, with the heaviest concentration along E Street. The bicyclist figures represent commuters, recreationists, and messenger service.

TABLE 10: WEEKDAY BICYCLE VOLUMES
(Prior to the Closure of Pennsylvania Avenue)

RECORDING LOCATION	VOLUMES		
	7-9 A.M.	10 A.M.-1 P.M.	3:30-6:30 P.M.
Pennsylvania Avenue / Madison Place	94	414	350
Pennsylvania Avenue / 17th Street	75	164	133
New York Avenue / 15th Street	38	53	60
New York Avenue / 17th Street	32	28	103
Hamilton Place / 15th Street	12	8	27
E Street / East Executive Avenue	41	33	49
E Street / 15th Street	83	11	68
E Street / 17th Street	49	44	113
E Street midblock crossing (illegal)	2	1	4
Subtotal	426	756	907
Constitution Avenue / 15th Street	NA	35	183
Constitution Avenue / 16th Street	NA	43	140
Constitution Avenue / 17th Street	NA	75	247
Subtotal	NA	153	570
Total	426	909	1,477

SOURCE: 1992 survey; BRW, Inc., 1993.

NA — Not available.

Site Management and Operations

The White House and President's Park are administered by the executive branch of government under several special jurisdictions. The president's home is in the historic White House (the portion of the building constructed from 1792 to 1800). This part of the structure is administered by the Executive Residence at the White House, an agency headed by the chief usher. The president's offices in the West Wing, as well as staff offices in both the East and West Wings, are maintained by the General Services Administration for the Executive Office of the President.

Jurisdiction and Security

The National Park Service is responsible for historic preservation, major maintenance, and construction in the historic portion of the White House. The Park Service is also responsible for maintaining the exterior of the entire White House, including the East and West Wings, although some work on the wings is done by agreement with the General Services Administration. The Park Service is also responsible for the gardens and grounds of the White House.

The Department of Defense manages some facilities and functions in support of the president's role as commander in chief. In addition, the U.S. Secret Service manages some facilities and functions in support of their security responsibilities.

The museum function of the White House was established by legislation in 1961, and the Office of the Curator and the Committee for the Preservation of the White House were established in 1964. Section 107 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 specifically exempts the White House and its grounds from compliance with the act and its provisions. The White House Curator's Office, the National Park Service, and the Smithsonian Institution cooperate in the curation and storage of the White House museum collection. The American Association of Museums accredited the White House museum program in 1989. In all cases, however, primary emphasis is given to the status of the house and its contents as the residence of the president.

Lafayette Park and the Ellipse are managed by the National Park Service. The grounds of the White House and the Treasury Building are managed by the respective executive agencies, in conjunction with special maintenance arrangements with the Park Service; the grounds at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building are maintained by the General Services Administration. The buildings are managed by the executive departments, with some assistance from other agencies, such as the General Services Administration (the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the East and West Wings of the White House) and the National Park Service (the Executive Residence and structures on the grounds).

Various other agencies and organizations have responsibilities within President's Park. The Commission of Fine Arts, established in 1910, reviews and makes recommendations for new architectural and artistic additions. The National Capital Memorial Commission (1986) recommends the placement of memorials. The White House Historical Association (1961) sponsors various projects connected with the site. The Committee for the Preservation of the White House (1964) oversees the preservation of the "museum character of the principal corridor on the ground floor and the principal public rooms on the first floor of the White House." Additionally, private groups monitor public interests in the district and individual sites. Historical associations for the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the Treasury Building have been established to commemorate and preserve the history of each building, and each association provides tours (by reservation only) for its particular building. (Tours of the Treasury Building are staffed by Treasury employees, who volunteer their time.) The National Capital Planning Commission (started in 1926) reviews and approves projects that directly affect the property and its continuing evolution. The Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (1962-96) implemented the renewal of Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House, including Sherman Park and the eastern side of the U.S. Treasury Building.

Personal security for the president and his family is the responsibility of the U.S. Secret Service, which also has responsibility for police protection of the White House and its contents. The United States Park Police provide general law enforcement in the areas of President's Park outside the White House complex. Law enforcement on most perimeter streets is by the D.C. Metropolitan Police.

The District of Columbia supervises matters of maintenance, traffic, and management, but fee-simple title to the right-of-way and jurisdiction ultimately remain with the U.S. government. Interior streets, such as E Street and State and Madison Places, are administered by the National Park Service.

Maintenance Operations

President's Park

Maintenance requirements for President's Park and the White House visitor center include storage space for equipment, supplies, and bulk materials; space for support services such as carpentry, electrical, and plumbing services; and storage for nursery materials for landscaping. These operations are all located away from President's Park in individual satellite facilities, making the transportation of staff and materials a daily logistical problem. These services were dispersed to satellite facilities in response to needs that were identified at particular times. However, travel times to move people and equipment from outlying bases to President's Park have increased substantially because of traffic congestion. As a result, one-way trips can take up to 2½ hours during special events like the Fourth of July celebration, seriously reducing the efficiency of operations.

Offices for management and administrative staff for the White House visitor center and President's Park are housed in the visitor center in the Commerce Building. The existing operational functions include interpretation and tour staging, as well as maintenance of the visitor center. Daily maintenance for President's Park (mowing, trash removal, and cleanup after White House tours) and setting up for special events and demonstrations are handled out of Hains Point, the location of regional NPS facilities about 1.5 miles away.

Operational needs for demonstrations and special events can vary, but they are generally quite intensive and occur within a short time period. For example, preparation for the egg roll requires approximately three to five days setup time on the Ellipse and White House grounds and two days for site restoration afterwards. For permitted special events, NPS staff provide a number of services, including grass cutting, sanitation, and water. The special event sponsor is responsible for specific costs, such as staff overtime, trash bags, water bubblers, generators, and stages (beyond base daily costs). If the National Park Service cosponsors an event, then it funds all services. Table 4 lists events and demonstrations, and their duration.

Turf maintenance is a continuing problem on the Ellipse, an area 850' by 1,000' — the largest open space in President's Park. Heat from a federally owned steamline running east to west under the middle of the Ellipse (from 17th and C Streets to 15th Street) interferes with grass and promotes weeds and bacteria growth. The dead, brown turf is very apparent on the Ellipse and from popular visitor locations, such as the Washington Monument. Disturbance and compaction from major special events and daily foot traffic and the lack of a sprinkler system

also contribute to the unkempt appearance of the Ellipse throughout the year. The Park Service annually aerates, seeds, and sods areas but is not able to maintain the Ellipse to as high a quality as the White House grounds because of the amount of use and limited operational funding.

The White House

The National Park Service is responsible for maintenance operations on the White House grounds, as well as for West Executive Avenue and East Executive Park. Operations are staged from a maintenance facility on the south grounds, where equipment and materials are stored. Maintenance operations for the White House grounds are independent of operations for President's Park.

Additional NPS facilities serving the White House are scattered throughout the metropolitan area. The functions provided by these facilities include a greenhouse, plant nursery, museum storage, and general storage. Because facilities are several miles from President's Park, additional expense and coordination are required to meet tight delivery schedules.

Utilities

Numerous utilities of various types and sizes serve President's Park. Underground facilities include water, storm, sanitary, steam, gas, electricity, telephone, and telegraph lines. These facilities are concentrated generally in public street rights-of-way, although several utilities also cross President's Park.

Two 18-inch steamlines and one 10-inch condensate line cross the center of the Ellipse from east to west. The lines are buried directly in the soil, with no encasing tunnel. Estimates of the depth of the lines vary between 3 feet and 6 feet (pers. comm., Harry Washington, GSA, Washington, D.C., and Fran Woods, Summer Consultants, Virginia). The lines carry steam at 250 pounds pressure per square inch and at a temperature of approximately 400°F. The exact date of installation is unavailable; however, most steamlines in the District were installed in the early 1970s.

The Ellipse steamlines are integral to the steam system that serves federal facilities in the Washington, D.C., area. They connect two plants (known as the central plant, serving the eastern portion of the city, and the west plant) and associated distribution systems. The west plant is not large enough to handle all building loads west of the Ellipse;

therefore, this cross connection is used throughout the year, including summer, when maintenance outages at either plant require the cross connection to stay active for approximately one month.

NPS records for President's Park indicate that in the past pedestrians on the Ellipse have been injured by steam escaping from the lines; repairs have remedied known problems. An even greater concern is the structural stability of the line. The life expectancy of direct buried steamlines is approximately 15–20 years (pers. comm., Fran Woods, Summer Consultants); thus, many of the lines are at the end of their life span. A failure, such as a large rupture, of the Ellipse steamline could cause a large crater in the Ellipse and possible fatalities if the break occurred when people were in the area. Also, homeless people regularly sleep on the steam grates.



The White House and President's Park



The Comprehensive Design Plan

A Vision for the White House and President's Park

The White House, more than any other public structure in the United States, exemplifies the history of the presidency of the United States of America. Every president has been associated with this building — George Washington selected the site and oversaw initial construction, while all succeeding presidents have lived within its walls. The White House and the surrounding President's Park are enduring symbols of our republican form of government and the democratic principles on which it was founded.

The vision for the future management of the White House and President's Park is to continue to celebrate the rich traditions of the past while adopting technological advances to meet the needs of the future. Through comprehensive planning, the White House will continue to serve the president and the executive branch of government. Public access to the White House, which is symbolic of access to the government of our country, will remain available to all citizens. As a unit of the national park system, President's Park will continue to set preeminent standards for resource protection and design excellence, and its management and use will exemplify the highest ideals of interagency cooperation and public service.

Introduction

The *Comprehensive Design Plan for the White House and President's Park* proposes actions that will best meet the needs of the Executive Residence, the Executive Office of the President, the multiple agencies involved in stewardship or management roles within the study area, and visitors. Fundamental to the success of the plan is a commitment among all the agencies and organizations who have responsibilities at the site to work together to protect nationally significant resources and their historical setting. At the same time support services for daily operations must be flexible to meet the changing needs of the presidency. The plan also recognizes the importance of continued public access to the White House, and the need to balance that access with security for the president and the first family.

The Context for the Plan

The context for the *Comprehensive Design Plan* is based on

- the vision for the White House and President's Park
- statements of purpose and significance
- themes for interpreting to visitors what the White House means to our nation
- *Design Guidelines* that have been adopted for future design elements

Other planning steps that contributed to the plan, including desired future conditions and assumptions that guided the plan, are described in the "The Development of the Plan," beginning on page 87.

The Purpose of the White House and President's Park

Statements of purpose identify why the White House and President's Park were created and have been set aside as important national treasures.

The White House

- ◆ Provide a residence that offers privacy, protection, and recreational opportunities for the first family.
- ◆ Provide a suitable location for the official functions and activities of the presidency.
- ◆ Provide office facilities for the president and immediate staff.
- ◆ Preserve and interpret the museum character of the White House; provide public access to the principal corridor on the ground floor and to the state rooms on the first floor.

President's Park

- ◆ Preserve the cultural resources of the White House — its architecture, artifacts, landscape design, gardens and grounds, and the surrounding parklands — in ways that foster and preserve dignity and respect for the office of the presidency, while still allowing for their use.
- ◆ Provide a dignified transition area from an urban environment to the White House environs.
- ◆ Interpret the history and significance of the presidency, the White House, and President's Park, including their relationship to the American public, our republican form of government, and the growth of Washington, D.C.
- ◆ Preserve existing historic memorials as examples of memorial art.
- ◆ Provide a large open area associated with the White House for freedom of public expression and assembly activities, as well as for public use and enjoyment.
- ◆ Protect and enhance views to and from the White House and provide a setting for viewing the White House.
- ◆ Preserve Lafayette Park as open public space in the foreground of the White House, as a setting for passive activities (reflecting, observing, making a personal connection with the presidency), First Amend-

ment activities within legal limitations, and as a support area for presidential inaugural activities.

- ◆ Preserve and interpret Lafayette Park as one element of the oldest planned federal reservation in the nation, an example of early American landscape design, and the 19th century neighborhood of the president.
- ◆ Provide a setting for viewing the White House and elements of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District.

The Significance of the White House and President's Park

The following statements describe the importance or distinctiveness of the many uses and resources within the White House and President's Park.

The White House

The White House is significant as the official residence and office of every U.S. president and his family except George Washington. It is the only official residence of a head of state in the world that is regularly open to the public free of charge. The White House is also an extraordinary museum comprised of rare and fine arts, furnishings, and objects — many of which are associated with past presidents, making it possible for people to come in direct contact with our nation's history.

The White House is the oldest federally built building in Washington, D.C., and it is one of the foremost examples of 18th century architecture and stone carving in the United States. The White House also serves as a sustaining focal point for an important historic neighborhood.

The White House is a symbol of the power and authority of the U.S. presidency, the center of the executive branch of government, and the focus of diplomatic relations with other countries. As such, the White House is the setting for interactions between the public and the president, as well as between the president and other heads of state. To many the White House is a symbol of a free and democratic nation because it is accessible and open, as is the ideal of the democratic process. Its endurance for over 200 years reflects the stability of our nation. As a result, the White House evokes an extraordinary range and depth of emotions among U.S. citizens and visitors from other cultures and countries.

President's Park

President's Park reflects the growth of the presidency, as well as the evolving social and cultural experiences of our nation. The park is the oldest federal reservation in the nation, and it is a nationally significant historic landscape that continues to reflect the design principles of Pierre Charles L'Enfant in 1791, Andrew Jackson Downing in 1851, and the Olmsted brothers in the 1930s — design principles that have withstood the test of time. President's Park is integral to the historic layout of the city, which was initially designed to physically represent the functional relationships of the three branches of our government. Memorials that have been incorporated into the historic landscape design commemorate significant events and individuals in the nation's history. The White House grounds contain commemorative plantings by presidents and first ladies.

The White House and President's Park contain valuable open space in the center of a densely urban environment. This space is available for use by the president, the first family, and the public. The surrounding President's Park also allows for public access and assembly close to the White House, and it serves as a national and even international stage for the expression of First Amendment rights and for U.S. citizens to petition their government.

Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District, which includes adjacent buildings, represents the president's neighborhood; its function, landscape design, architecture, and social purpose as a place for people to gather are historically significant.

As a focus of national events for over 200 years, the White House grounds and President's Park contain important historic archeological resources relating to the history of the American presidency and to the history of Washington, D.C.

Primary Interpretive Themes

The primary interpretive themes are statements of what ideally every visitor should understand and know about the White House and President's Park. The themes are fully explained in appendix D.

- ◆ The primary function of the White House is to be the home of the president and the president's family.
- ◆ The White House is a symbol of the presidency, of a free democratic society, and through its continuity, of the stability of our nation.

- ◆ President's Park, as a primary element of the federal city, serves as a stage for active participation in the democratic process, and it is linked by Pennsylvania Avenue — America's main street — to the legislative and judicial processes on Capitol Hill.
- ◆ The White House is a mirror and magnifier of the nation's cultural, recreational, and topical history.
- ◆ The White House is the seat of the executive branch of government.
- ◆ Many people from different backgrounds and cultures have been essential in the growth and operation of the White House as the home and office of the president.
- ◆ The White House is an example of the continuum of history — through its stories as well as its artifacts.
- ◆ The stability of the design and architecture of the White House and President's Park is a product of continuing adaptation to changing needs and technology.
- ◆ The responses of presidents and first ladies to the challenges of the presidency provide important lessons in their varying capabilities to handle difficulties.

Design Guidelines

Design Guidelines for the White House and President's Park, approved in 1995, provide a framework of mutually agreed on tenets that guide, but do not dictate, future development. The guidelines identify principles for architecture, landscape architecture, design elements, signs, and temporary facilities. They are based on existing designs in and around President's Park and the White House.

The guidelines emphasize that President's Park will continue to be integral to the design of Washington, D.C., including the historical relationship to the Monumental Core and the National Mall. (The *Design Guidelines* have been printed as a separate volume; see NPS 1997a).

Design Guidelines for President's Park

The following general guidelines define the parameters for design. They are not prescriptive; rather they provide designers a philosophy and a framework within which to provide creative yet appropriate designs for the White House and President's Park.

1. Site elements from earlier significant planning efforts will be respected and conserved, including the classical 18th century forms that are inherent to the layout of President's Park and the city of Washington, D.C. All components of President's Park are designed historic landscapes, and the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation* will be followed in the management and treatment of these landscapes.
2. The distinct character of each of the site's three areas — Lafayette Park, the White House, and the Ellipse — will be respected, while recognizing that together these areas function as a significant design element in the layout of Washington, D.C.
3. The design vocabulary and palette for the site will complement and articulate the dignity and importance of the resource, drawing from the existing appropriate architecture and landscape architecture in and around the site. To this end, proposed design elements will respect the size, scale, mass, proportion, and aesthetics of existing elements, and the spatial relationships between them.
4. The traditional vistas from the White House to the north and south, as well as vistas toward the White House, will be respected at all times.
5. All designs will incorporate sound environmental principles and environmentally and economically beneficial resource management technologies and practices.
6. The quality of the pedestrian experience will remain a high priority in all designs.
7. The needs to accommodate service, security, and ceremonial functions will be met in a manner that is consistent with the dignity and importance of the site.
8. Neither security nor aesthetics will be compromised by actions on site.
9. Design elements that communicate appropriate visual quality, continuity, and consistency will define the boundaries of President's Park and will create a specific identity for the park, but will also complement the design qualities of adjacent areas.
 - ◆ Materials used on the site will be compatible with its unique character. To this end, all items used in the park — benches, stonework, grillwork, fences, light posts, and other elements — will relate to the whole and will complement the overall District of Columbia federal park system.
 - ◆ All elements must be designed to withstand intense use while still imparting a sense of dignity and elegance.
- ◆ Transitions into President's Park should show a connection with the city. The quality and appearance of materials will announce a special precinct. President's Park and the National Mall need special treatment as transition zones that reinforce mutual relationships.
- ◆ Signs and signals will be kept to a minimum within and adjacent to President's Park, consistent with adequate visitor orientation and safety messages.
10. Plant materials will reflect traditional landscape elements in mass and alignment. The choice of specific planting materials will remain flexible but will be guided by the intent of principle 1 and will complement the palette of existing plant materials.
 - ◆ The landscape design will continue to use vegetation to define and refine spatial relationships.
 - ◆ Planting and planting designs outside the White House fence will complement those inside the fence in quality, scale, and selection.
11. Designs for President's Park will remain flexible and capable of being appropriately adapted in response to technological advances, future demands, and changes in adjacent historic and commercial neighborhoods.

The Development of the Plan

In addition to developing a vision and statements of purpose and significance, the following steps were taken as part of the process to develop the plan:

- ◆ *Planning problems, issues, and concerns were identified* — Problems, issues, and concerns are those elements that must be resolved. They may be divided into two categories: (1) those related to operational activities for the Executive Residence and the Executive Office of the President; and (2) those directly affecting the general public, a resource, or a function of major public interest. Problems and concerns related to operational activities (such as presidential security) are not addressed in this document either because they are sensitive or because they are operational concerns that do not affect the public. Problems, issues, and concerns are described as they relate to each part of the plan.
- ◆ *Planning assumptions and program requirements were stated* — The planning assumptions form the framework for future actions at the White House and President's Park. Based on guidance by the Executive Committee, they provide the direction for the plan. They are the specific objectives that must be accomplished to support the many functions within President's Park and the White House. In some cases, the assumptions and requirements limited the range of options that were considered. Design criteria for each element of the plan (for example, the number of staff parking spaces, storage requirements, and space requirements for the education center) are listed in appendix E.
- ◆ *Desired future conditions were articulated* — Desired futures envision what the White House and President's Park should be like 20 years from now. They are phrased in the present tense to emphasize what conditions should exist once the plan has been implemented. The purpose of these statements is to guide planning efforts by ensuring that proposed actions are compatible with the long-range vision for both the White House and President's Park. They were developed by over 80 subject-matter experts and agency representatives during a series of workshops in the fall of 1993 (see appendix G; desired futures relating specifically to the news media are included in appendix H.) Desired future conditions are highlighted at the beginning of each part of the plan.

- ◆ *Alternatives to address the problems and to achieve desired future conditions were developed* — Three preliminary concepts were developed and presented to the public during April and May 1995 for review and comment. The alternative concepts were the subject of widespread radio and television news coverage and were the focus of public forums held at the White House visitor center in Washington, D.C., on April 10 and 11, 1995. These concepts were the basis for the three alternatives that were further refined and analyzed in the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement*.
- ◆ *The proposed actions were selected* — Based on the three preliminary alternatives, actions were selected that would best meet the needs of the Executive Residence, the Executive Office of the President, the multiple agencies involved in stewardship or management roles at the site, and visitors. These actions were presented as the proposed plan in the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement*, along with the three preliminary alternatives and a no-action alternative.
- ◆ *Public review of the alternatives and impact analysis* — The *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* was on review from December 2, 1998, to March 11, 1999. Public comments were analyzed, and a *Final Environmental Impact Statement* was prepared and released for a 30-day no-action period on December 13, 1999. The record of decision documenting the selection of the proposed plan as the approved plan was signed by the director of the National Park Service on March 29, 2000.

Compliance with federal and local laws and policies for natural and cultural resources, mitigating measures to protect resources, construction techniques, phasing for plan implementation, and cost estimates are included in appendix E. Not all costs will be borne by the federal government, and funds to implement certain proposals, such as the news media facility, the education center, and pedestrian corridors, may be contributed from nonfederal sources.

The Organization of the Plan

The *Comprehensive Design Plan for the White House and President's Park* includes seven major parts:

- ◆ *Comprehensive Design* — the overall design for how the White House and President's Park will function in the future for both the executive branch of government and the public

- ◆ *Resource Conservation and Management* — actions to preserve and protect the cultural landscape, including cultural and natural resources
- ◆ *Home and Office of the President* — actions to support the operation of the Executive Residence and the Executive Office of the President
- ◆ *Visitor Use and Services* — actions to improve the interpretation of the site to visitors and public educational opportunities, White House tours, and recreational opportunities
- ◆ *Special Events* — actions to improve the management of public events
- ◆ *Transportation* — actions to enhance visitor access, staff parking, site circulation, traffic, and pedestrian safety
- ◆ *Site Management and Operations* — actions related to utilities, infrastructure, and daily operations

Comprehensive Design

Planning Direction

The following statements or assumptions form the framework for resource conservation and management actions at the White House and President's Park. This direction is based on guidance by the Executive Committee.

Future designs and actions on the White House grounds and within President's Park will respect the significant elements of past landscape designs, including the L'Enfant, Downing, McMillan, and Olmsted plans. Elements may be carefully redesigned to serve modern functions, but their original context will be preserved. The vistas, viewsheds, buildings, roadway and walkway systems, fencelines, plantings, and all other elements that combine to create a ceremonial landscape for state functions will be respected in the design and construction of new facilities. President's Park will continue to be an open area that is visually linked to the National Mall; the traditional vistas to and from the north and south will be maintained. No new surface facilities will be constructed within primary and secondary views within President's Park.*

Facilities and maintenance operations will reflect the dignity, significance, and history of the site and the presidency.

Design guidelines for architecture, landscape architecture, design elements, signs, and temporary facilities will be followed. Quality materials will be used to reflect the importance and dignity of the White House.

Any proposals for Lafayette Park will be considered as part of a long-term design for Pennsylvania Avenue (see page 118).

* Primary views are those seen from principal paths, streets, and observation points located along the main axes of the park landscape. These views may be terminated within the park by architectural monuments and elevations or by historic park topography and vegetation; outside the park they may be terminated by distant views of architectural landmarks or by topography and vegetation.

Secondary views are those seen from paths, streets, and observation points not on the main park landscape axes. These views also may be terminated inside or outside the park by historic architecture or vegetation.

Actions

The historic elements and character of President's Park and the White House, including roadways, boulevards, and walkways, will continue to be respected. This area will still serve as a ceremonial landscape for state events.

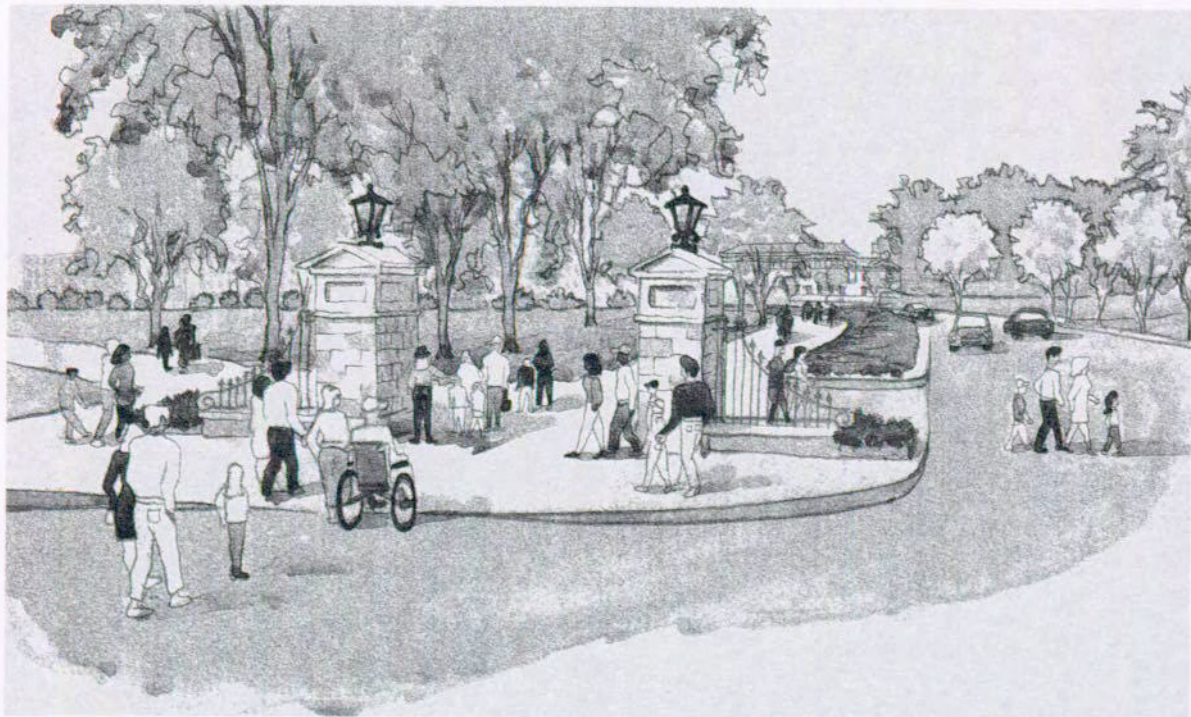
Pedestrian Entryways

President's Park will become a pedestrian-oriented space. While pedestrians may enter from any point around the site, entryways will be created at intersections with the highest pedestrian volumes. These entryways will signify to visitors that they are coming into a special place. Eight entryways will be provided — along H Street at Jackson and Madison Places, and at 15th and 17th Streets at Pennsylvania Avenue, E Street, and Constitution Avenue. (Entryways on H Street and Pennsylvania Avenue will be considered as part of the long-term design plan for the avenue.) The entryways along E Street will be designed to harmonize with the surrounding architectural and site vocabulary, with particular attention to scale and materials. The entryways along Constitution Avenue will incorporate the Bulfinch gatehouses. All entryways will be designed in accordance with the *Design Guidelines*.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Historic design elements have become fragmented over time, leading to a haphazard appearance. For example, the allée of trees around the Ellipse was originally planted in the 1880s; an attack of Dutch elm disease in the 1940s and 1950s led to the removal of many of the trees, and the allée has not been fully reestablished.

The use of various designs and materials in Lafayette Park, around the White House, and on the Ellipse has not been coordinated. For example, East Executive Park and West Executive Avenue do not exhibit a consistent design. As a result, people do not perceive these areas as part of a unified design.



Pedestrian Entryways

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

The dignity and visual quality of the White House and President's Park are degraded by vehicle parking on the Ellipse and areas surrounding the White House, by temporary structures that look out of place (such as bleachers, barricades, stages, and equipment), and by other activities that create a disorganized appearance.

The White House is visually separated from Lafayette Park by the wide expanse of Pennsylvania Avenue. On the south E Street, with its vehicular traffic, visually separates the White House from the Ellipse.

Proposed developments and activities within and adjacent to the study area have the potential to conflict with original site design and development plans. No measures have been taken to promote a consistent design for structures, walkways, streets, or other facilities adjacent to the area.

Facilities

For the location of proposed facilities, two objectives were considered:

- (1) Where possible, use existing buildings (if they meet desired future conditions and program requirements) in order to protect resources, enhance the site character, and minimize new development.
- (2) Where new facilities are needed, relocate as many functions as possible to new underground structures to minimize any new intrusions on the surface; optimize the use of new facilities in order to avoid the creation of numerous small facilities and increased costs.

To meet the requirements of the Executive Office of the President, underground facilities for meeting and conference space, media facilities, parking, and storage will be provided in and near the White House complex.

The White House visitor center will be expanded beneath Baldrige Hall in the Commerce Building. New theaters, a museum, and exhibit and educational program areas will be provided. Visitors will use a naturally lighted, belowground corridor from the education center to the sidewalk just outside the east side of the White House grounds.

The Ellipse

The roadways on the Ellipse will be closed to vehicular traffic except for access by emergency and authorized traffic. While the historic configuration and character of the roadways will be retained, they will be used as wide pedestrian paths to provide access to adjacent gardens and meandering paths. In accordance with the *Design Guidelines*, a combination of aesthetically pleasing materials will be used to replace the asphalt in the Ellipse roadways. The chosen materials will be consistent with other design elements throughout President's Park.

E Street

The reduction of pedestrian/vehicle conflicts is the long-term goal for E Street. However, because traffic circulation problems remain in the downtown area, two-way traffic on E Street will be restored in the interim by the Federal Highway Administration. Long-term recommendations for E Street will be developed as a part of comprehensive transportation planning for the downtown area of the District of Columbia.



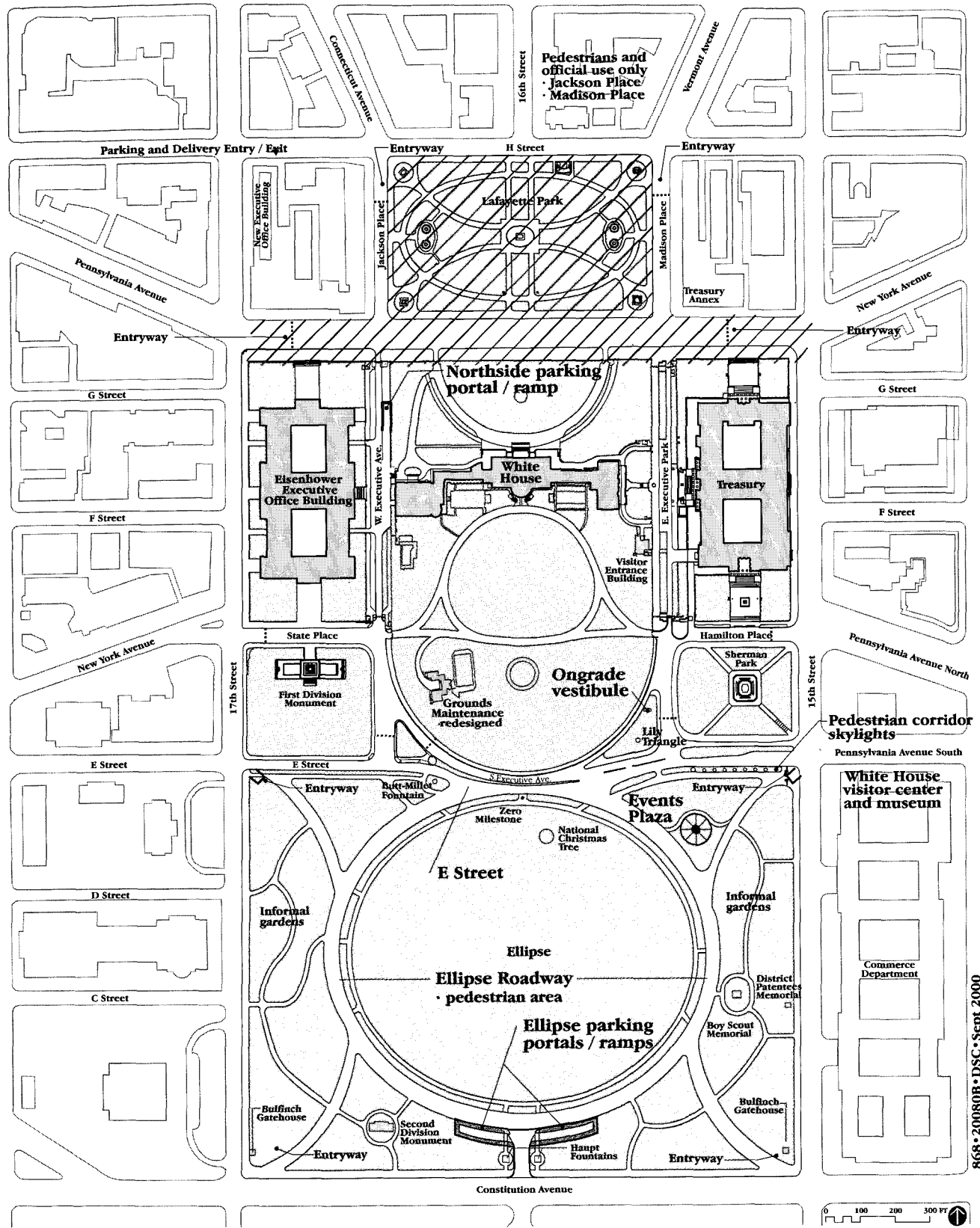
Ellipse Side Panels and Walkways

Public Access and Safety

The concept of the White House being physically and symbolically accessible to U.S. citizens is central to many planning concerns. As the home and office of the president, the White House is a tangible link to the executive branch of government and to the democratic process, and public access to the People's House is perceived as a means of access to the president. In the early 1800s, visitors wandered at will through the White House. However, this openness has been necessarily reduced over time in order to protect the president and the first family. Presidential assassinations, wars, threats of violence, and terror-

ist attacks have resulted in more and more precautions to ensure the protection not only of the first family, but also of visitors and staff who work at the site.

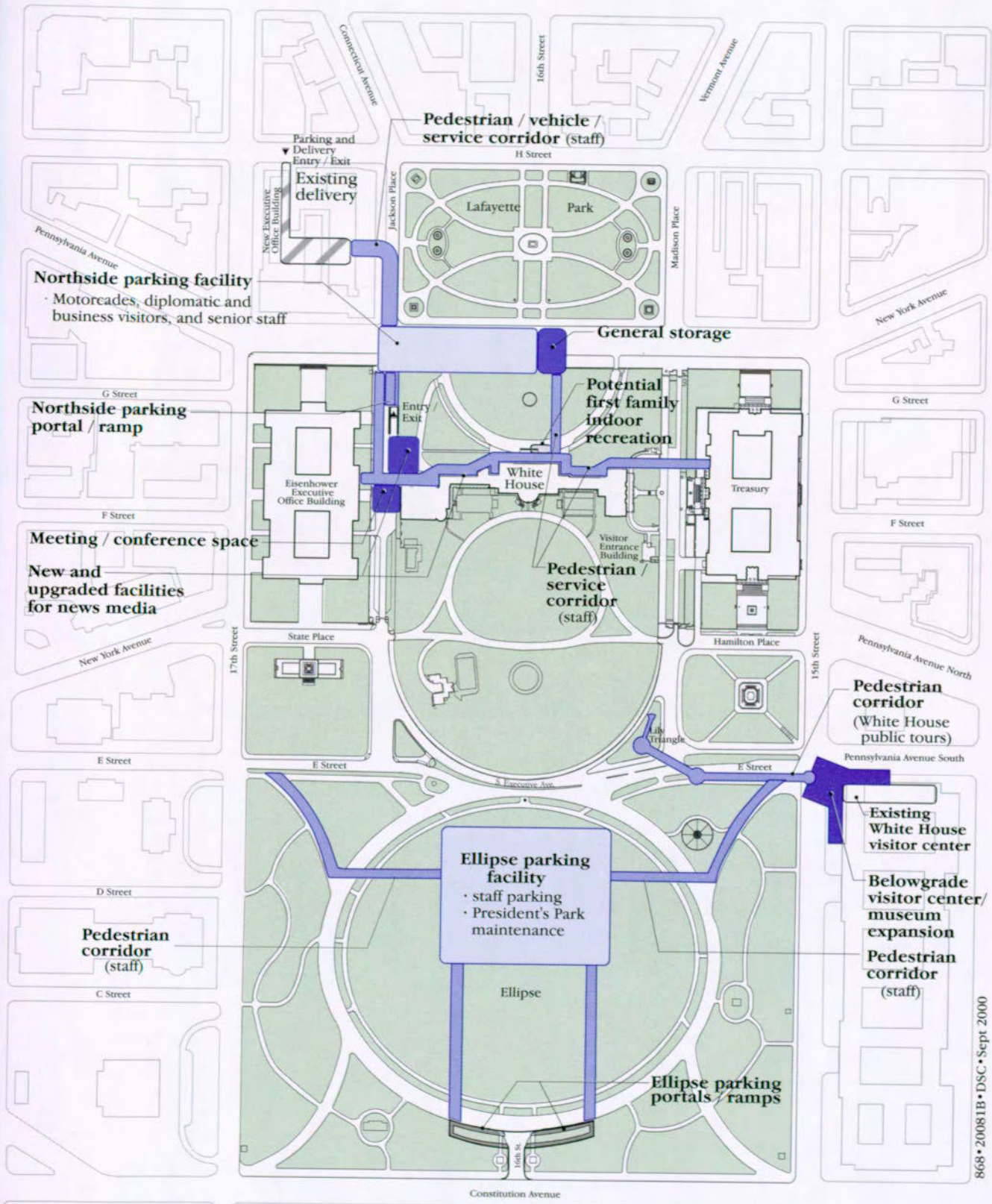
Generally, safety measures have been taken in ways that respect the tradition of public access to the site. However, any loss of access to the White House is perceived as a loss of access to the president and as an infringement of democratic principles. The need to provide security for the White House and its occupants must be balanced with the need to maintain public access to the home and office of the president.



Aboveground Plan



8G6 • 20080B • DSC • Sept 2000



868 • 20081B • DSC • Sept 2000

Belowground Plan



Resource Conservation and Management

Desired Future Conditions

White House: The historical integrity of the White House and its collections is retained.

The Preservation of Significant Cultural and Natural Resources: All significant cultural and natural resources of the White House and President's Park receive high-quality care and maintenance, and their integrity is protected while accommodating contemporary site functions and operational requirements; changes are continually identified and documented through time.

Cultural Landscape — The integrity and character-defining features of the White House and its grounds, Lafayette Park, and the Ellipse are preserved and maintained, while allowing for minor surface modifications to meet contemporary needs.

Visual Character — People experience a special sense of place upon entering President's Park from the surrounding city. The park landscape communicates a sense of openness and access to the White House and the presidency, even when people are unable to enter portions of the area.

Visitor Experience and Expectations — People have the opportunity to experience an immaculately kept, parklike landscape and to enjoy historic vistas without unsightly intrusions when within or viewing President's Park and the White House grounds.

Planning Direction

The cultural and natural resources of the White House and President's Park will continue to receive high quality care and protection. Present uses of the White House collection will continue within the Executive Residence.

All cultural resource programs now managed by various federal agencies having jurisdiction at the White House and President's Park will continue to be administered by the respective agencies. The National Park Service will cooperate with these agencies to foster the exchange of information and the development of cooperative approaches and programs for resource protection.

All memorials established by legislation will be retained. No new memorials will be encouraged.

All programs and facilities will be designed and managed in an environmentally sound manner.

Actions

A cooperative program to encourage the stewardship and management of all cultural and natural resources within President's Park will be implemented among agencies with responsibilities on the site. Elements of this program will include the following:

- ◆ All cultural resource documentation, such as inventories, historic structure reports, and nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, will be kept current.
- ◆ Cyclical maintenance programs, including regular condition assessments and programs for conservation and preservation, will be developed.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Cultural Landscape

The cultural landscape of the White House and President's Park has not been assessed as a unified ceremonial site where many public and private functions of varying complexity and importance occur simultaneously.

Cars, limousines, delivery trucks, and vending vans restrict views, block landscape features, and create congestion in areas such as East Executive Park and the Ellipse. These conditions compromise important elements of L'Enfant's original design, such as maintaining open space around the White House and preserving views extending to the Potomac River.

A Conservation Ethic for the Future

The White House and President's Park, as preeminent American resources, demand a conservation ethic that will guarantee the existence of these resources for future generations of Americans. The National Park Service has provided conservation and resource management since it was placed in charge of the property in 1933. In addition, Congress passed legislation in 1961 stating that the property will be managed in accordance with the NPS Organic Act of 1916. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 underscored the commitment of the federal government to preserve these historic resources within the context of daily official functions and uses.

A conservation charge for the White House and President's Park presents unique administrative challenges. Its landscape is one that is seemingly unchangeable; in reality it has undergone almost constant change to meet presidential needs. A balance is often difficult to achieve and requires prudent consideration and decisions on the part of the administrators who are responsible for protecting the cultural and natural resources. Currently, the National Park Service shares its purview with 10 other federal agencies that have responsibilities at the site. The conservation and preservation of resources cannot be guaranteed unless all agencies resolve to cooperate to achieve that common goal.

The National Park Service is committed to maintaining a constructive dialogue to guarantee continued cooperation in conserving and preserving the resources of the White House and President's Park. The agency will continue to promote communication with cooperating agencies and the coordination of day-to-day activities, respecting the various shared departmental authorities and working toward mutual conservation and preservation goals.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Archeological Resources

Archeological resources on the site have only been addressed on a project-by-project basis. A preliminary archeological survey identified areas of high archeological resource probability, but no full inventory of possible sites has been completed.

Multiple Uses and Site Capacity

Daily uses, such as public tours and large special events, affect resources throughout the site, including the White House and its surrounding grounds, statues and memorials in Lafayette Park and on the Ellipse, and the entire area's historically significant landscape design. For example, high numbers of tour visitors cause inadvertent damage to items on display from the White House collection, and special events requiring supporting facilities or attended by large numbers of people make it difficult to properly maintain lawns and gardens.

The need to provide a high level of security requires systems to be regularly upgraded, traffic to be routed through checkpoints, and security posts to be maintained, straining the sensitive resources on the site.

Multiple uses of the White House and its grounds, as well as of the Ellipse and Lafayette Park, result in damage to various resources. For example, daily deliveries, equipment, and personnel movements create traffic and equipment problems that stretch the capabilities of the site. The White House and President's Park have limited physical capacities to accommodate various events and functions. These capacities cannot be exceeded without affecting the site's natural and cultural resources, which can only be mitigated by intensive management and funding.

- ◆ All historically significant trees and specimen plants will be identified, physically assessed, inventoried, maintained, and replaced with similar plant materials, as needed.

Cultural Resources

Collection Management

Limited public access to the White House collection, with the approval of the White House curator, will be provided. Other agencies within the White House complex will manage their respective collections.

Memorials

All monuments and memorials within President's Park will receive conservation/preservation treatment on a regular schedule and be kept in the best possible condition.

Archeological Resources

Based on an initial archeological survey that has already been accomplished, a comprehensive archeological program will be developed to help ensure the conservation, protection, and proper administration of archeological resources. Archeological recording and monitoring of any ground disturbances, such as construction, will also be conducted within the study area on a project-by-project basis. Recovered archeological resources will be kept as a collection and will be made available for research and interpretation.

Plant Materials

An ongoing monitoring program to assess and control damage to plant materials will be implemented. Resources such as turf, plants, and commemorative plantings will be carefully managed and maintained. Culturally or genetically significant plant materials (such as American elms) will be propagated in an NPS nursery or in cooperation with horticultural institutions. All significant plant materials damaged or lost through natural causes or development actions within President's Park will be replaced with these specially propagated plants.

A comprehensive landscape plan will be developed for the White House and President's Park, including guidelines for maintenance practices. The landscape plan will update the existing Olmsted plan (1935) for the White House grounds. As stated in the *Design Guidelines*, plant materials will continue to reflect traditional landscape design in mass and alignment. The choice of specific plant materials will remain flexible but will be guided by earlier significant planning efforts, including the plans of Andrew Jackson Downing in the 1850s and the Olmsted brothers in the 1930s. The landscape form will continue to use vegetation to define and refine spatial relationships. Plantings and planting designs outside the White House fence will complement those inside the fence in quality, scale, and selection. In developing new landscape plans, consideration will be given to the use of native plant materials where appropriate.

The Home and Office of the President

Desired Future Conditions

As a Home: The White House is a private home that provides for the needs of the first family.

As an Office: The White House is the office of the president, and support services are designed to be flexible to meet the changing needs of the presidency.

Internal Functions:

Space Requirements — Secure space is provided for first family indoor recreational activities. Space is available in or near the White House to store materials and stage meetings and official functions. News media facilities are provided and can be easily upgraded for state-of-the-art communications.

Deliveries — Supplies and materials are delivered efficiently and discreetly to the White House.

Access — Access to the White House for presidential and official visitors remains flexible. All visitors are screened quickly and efficiently and are welcomed in a cordial way, befitting a visit to the home and office of the president.

Infrastructure — Utility and communication systems are upgraded to be efficient, environmentally and visually sensitive, and easily maintained. Temporary systems respect significant site resources and meet the needs of White House events.

Planning Direction

Executive Residence

The White House will continue to serve as the executive residence of the president of the United States. The plan will not address the residential areas on the second and third floors of the White House.

Official functions will continue to be held at the White House and on its grounds.

Vehicular arrivals and departures by the president and official visitors will continue at multiple entry and exit points. The south lawn of the White House and on occasion the Ellipse will be used for air transport.

Safety and security for the president and the first family will be maintained and not compromised. Business visitors, guests for official functions, and staff will be cleared at entrances that are convenient to their meetings or events, or their workplaces.

West Executive Avenue will continue to be within the secured portion of the White House complex and closed to public pedestrian traffic.

New utility systems will be energy efficient, environmentally sensitive, and easy to maintain and upgrade.

Executive Office Support Services

The White House will continue to serve as the president's official office.

Multiple points of access into the White House complex will continue to be available for all presidential guests and visitors.

Space for essential White House administrative and operational functions will be provided within or adjacent to the White House; existing spaces within President's Park may be used.

Staff parking on the Ellipse and adjacent roadways, East Executive Park, West Executive Avenue, and Hamilton, State, Jackson, and Madison Places will be provided elsewhere in order to improve aesthetics and to reestablish the dignity and character of the site. Replacement parking within easy access of the White House will be provided.

News Media Facilities

Facilities will be provided for the news media to maintain direct access to the press secretary and the press staff. Such facilities are in the long tradition of chief executives providing space for the news media so they can provide coverage of, and maintain proximity to, the operations of the Executive Office of the President.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Executive Residence

Public demand for both physical and visual access to the White House and its grounds results in a loss of privacy for the first family. Conversely, the first family's needs for a home, privacy, and recreational opportunities within the White House grounds limit public access.

Accommodating the various residential and first family requirements is difficult because suitable space is not available in the White House. Spaces for moving about the site, working, and storing frequently used items are inadequate and poorly located, hampering efficient operations. Staff move back and forth through the lower corridors of the house, interfering with daily functions, such as tours. Inadequate storage space requires frequent deliveries to be made, often within view of those working at, coming to, or visiting the site. The result is traffic congestion, delays, unsafe conditions for visitors and guests entering the site, and an incompatible visual setting.

Facilities to support White House grounds maintenance are inadequate. Also, utility spaces are small and difficult to maintain.

Actions

Executive Residence

First Family Recreation

Future first families will have multipurpose, informal recreation space in a secure indoor environment either in existing space or belowgrade adjacent to the Executive Residence on the north. This space will be adaptable to the changing needs of future occupants. Access will be from within the Executive Residence. Outdoor recreational opportunities will remain available on the grounds.

Support Functions

Storage. To reduce the repeated shuttling and security checking of some materials now stored offsite, storage for frequently used materials and equipment will be provided in the eastern end of the proposed northside parking facility. An underground corridor will connect the storage area and the Executive Residence. More storage will be provided in the lower level of the west colonnade (currently used by the news media).

Grounds Maintenance. The maintenance facility on the south grounds of the White House will be redesigned for efficiency within the footprint of the current structure.

Infrastructure. Utility systems will be replaced and relocated to meet the changing and expanding needs of the White House complex.

Executive Office Support Services

Visitor Arrivals

Official visitors and White House guests will continue to use multiple entry points, including arrivals on West Executive Avenue. West Executive Avenue will be redesigned to appear similar to East Executive Park.

In conjunction with the proposed meeting facility, a new visitor arrival area will be provided under West Executive Avenue. Diplomats and business visitors may enter the reception area directly from the parking facility under Pennsylvania Avenue and proceed either to the West Wing or the Eisenhower Executive Office Building.



Ellipse

- (2) The long-term goal for the remaining 850 staff parking spaces will be to provide parking under the northern end of the Ellipse and to make it easily available for round-the-clock staff use. This parking facility will not result in any increase in parking within the study area. The option of providing public parking in the facility on weekdays, weekends, and holidays will be considered during design development.

The Ellipse parking facility will be developed to preserve the integrity of the original Ellipse design and the vista. Vehicle access will be through two portals south of the Ellipse roadway (one on either side of 16th Street, with access from Constitution Avenue).

Two pedestrian access corridors (for daily and emergency use) will extend from the garage to the northeast and northwest corners of the Ellipse side panels, emerging near E Street in the vicinity of 15th and 17th Streets. Any surface facilities for stairs, escalators, or elevators coming up to street level will be integrated into the design of the park entryways or the Ellipse side panels (where they may be screened with landscaping); no access facilities will be placed in the center of the Ellipse. Two additional emergency exit tunnels will parallel the vehicle access tunnels, coming out near Constitution Avenue.

Meeting/Conference Space

A new meeting and conference facility under West Executive Avenue will provide up-to-date facilities for presidential and staff meetings and official events within a secured environment near the White House. The meeting facility will provide four to five conference rooms, each capable of accommodating approximately 40 seats. The spaces will be flexible, allowing a variety of configurations to meet specific needs. For example, various sized groups may be accommodated by connecting meeting spaces as needed; if all spaces are joined, auditorium style seating will be available for approximately 200 people. All spaces will be designed with excellent acoustics.

Access and Parking

Motorcades, Diplomatic and Business Visitors, and Staff. Over the long term 1,140 parking spaces for existing staff, as described below, will be provided to replace surface parking that will be removed from East Executive Park, West Executive Avenue, the Ellipse roadways, and Jackson, Madison, State, and Hamilton Places:

- (1) On the north side of the White House complex a 290-space underground parking facility for motorcades, diplomats, business visitors, and senior White House staff will be constructed under Pennsylvania Avenue (extending from Jackson Place east under the 1600 block of the avenue). The facility will be constructed on two levels, and a corridor will connect directly to the meeting facility and the West Wing of the White House. During construction interim parking will be leased nearby.

Vehicle access to this facility will be through an unobtrusive portal on the north side of West Executive Avenue and through an existing entry at the New Executive Office Building. The portal on West Executive Avenue will be placed so as to still allow surface access to Pennsylvania Avenue.

Vehicles using West Executive Avenue (primarily diplomats and other guests) will enter from E Street and be cleared at the southwest gate. Vehicles using the NEOB entrance (primarily senior staff) will use H Street, turning into the garage entrance between 17th Street and Jackson Place. Staff and official visitors will be cleared at this location before vehicles enter the garage. An underground vehicle/service corridor will connect the lower parking levels of the New Executive Office Building to the northside parking facility.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Executive Office Support Services

Meeting spaces for groups of 50 to 200 are very limited. As a result, White House state rooms are used for business meetings; this use increases wear and tear on the historic fabric, as well as limits and sometimes prohibits public tours.

Staff parking is limited, and onsite parking spaces compromise the historic landscape and the ceremonial function of the site and create a visual intrusion for residents and guests in the White House, as well as visitors and passersby. Permit parking spaces near and around the Ellipse and the White House grounds are used by staff; however, more permits have been issued than there are spaces, creating competition for parking. Parking overflows into crosswalks, handicapped access ramps, and turf areas, and it occurs next to fire hydrants. This parking is neither covered nor secure, and poor lighting and the threat of crime and car theft make walking between the White House and staff parking areas in the late evening hours potentially hazardous to employees. Further aggravating the problem is the lack of 24-hour safe public transportation for those employees whose shifts do not coincide with normal transit service periods.

Vehicles used for security, presidential motorcades, and visiting dignitaries are parked in West Executive Avenue and East Executive Park, causing congestion at site entrances (diplomatic, visitor, and tour), as well as unsafe and unpleasant conditions for pedestrians passing through these areas.

Deliveries take place throughout the site, causing conflicts with other site uses. Corridors for staff to move about the site and to deliver supplies and materials are inadequate, resulting in inefficient operations.

The parking garage under the Ellipse is proposed for construction in the final phase of the proposed plan (between years 15 and 20). Until the facility is constructed, interim staff parking spaces will be leased in areas adjacent to the White House and President's Park (the area being considered extends from 14th Street to 19th Street and from Constitution Avenue to I Street). Leased spaces will be in mixed-use parking facilities that operate around the clock. Leases will likely be parking permits and not for designated spaces.

Before undertaking detailed planning for long-term staff parking, various strategies to address parking needs will be evaluated, for example, encouraging the use of alternative modes of transportation, identifying alternative parking garage locations, looking in detail at operations and management, determining funding availability, and implementing the plan in phases.

Deliveries. Most deliveries to the White House complex will be handled underground, with a belowgrade service corridor to various parts of the site.

The delivery facility in the New Executive Office Building (three existing loading docks) will be renovated to handle most daily deliveries to the White House complex. Access to the loading docks will be by way of H Street between 17th Street and Jackson Place (the same entrance as for the northside parking facility). Within the White House complex smaller vehicles will be used to make deliveries by way of underground service corridors. To ensure efficient operation of the docks in the New Executive Office Building, a manager from one agency will be in charge of the loading docks and the coordination of delivery schedules for various agencies.

Some deliveries of large items (such as construction materials) will continue to be made on the surface at various entrances.

Staff Circulation

To separate staff, business, and delivery circulation from daily functions in the White House complex, a new pedestrian corridor for staff and business use will be provided underground on the north side of the White House. The corridor will connect the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the West and East Wings, and the Treasury Building. A separate delivery corridor will parallel the pedestrian corridor and will connect with the delivery corridor from the New Executive Office Building.

**Problems, Issues, and
Concerns**

News Media

The presidential briefing area for the news media and work spaces for media representatives are small, overloaded with equipment, and potentially unsafe.

News Media Facilities

Media facilities for the press (newspapers, radio, and television) will be provided on the first floor of the west colonnade and in a new facility beneath West Wing Drive. The combined facilities will total 10,900 square feet, with approximately 2,000 square feet in the upper level of the west colonnade and 8,900 square feet in the new belowground facility.

The presidential briefing room will be moved from the west colonnade to the new facility. In addition, new audiovisual facilities and areas for interviews, camera operations, photographers, foreign press correspondents, storage, vending, and restrooms will be provided. Media personnel and portable equipment will access the facility by way of a separate entrance near Pennsylvania Avenue or the north end of West Executive Avenue.

Visitor Use and Services

Desired Future Conditions

Orientation and Information:

Pre-visit Information — Pre-visit information is promoted and readily available through a variety of sources. It is comprehensive and facilitates the planning needs for the broadest range of potential visitors.

Site Orientation — Accurate orientation and information about the White House, nearby attractions, and transportation services are easily obtained at various locations and are effective for the full range of visitors (including non-English speaking visitors).

Interpretation and Education:

White House — Visitors are educated, inspired, and empowered by the White House — its rooms, character, many uses, past and present occupants, history, and symbolism — through a variety of interpretive tools, including personal services, programs, and exhibits. Visitors are introduced to the ideals of democracy and understand why it is important to become involved in their country's future.

President's Park Resources — Visitors are educated about other resources of the White House and President's Park, such as natural resources, historic structures, landscapes, monuments, and archeological resources, to increase their personal involvement with the site and thereby contribute to its preservation.

Public Outreach — A plan for public outreach is regularly updated and is used to contact the broadest possible audience.

White House Tours:

Visitor Experience — The process of visiting the White House is efficient, meaningful, and enjoyable for all visitors. Such an experience is facilitated by providing (1) learning opportunities that enhance the actual touring experience; (2) a smooth transition between pre-tour orientation and the tour itself; and (3) a cordial, enthusiastic reception and the opportunity to linger within the White House.

Visitor Screening — Security screening is a pleasant experience that enhances a sense of awareness and appreciation that one is entering the home and office of the president.

Visitor Services:

Basic Services — Safe, comfortable shelter is available during inclement weather, and basic visitor services are provided on the site or are easily accessible.

Ticketing — Opportunities for day-of-visit reservations continue to be available for White House tours.

Recreation:

Traditional passive and active recreational uses continue on the Ellipse.

Planning Direction

The White House and President's Park are integral to the total visitor experience of Washington, D.C. The White House will continue to be open to the general public on a regular basis free of charge. The present White House tour will not change dramatically and will continue to feature rooms on the ground and state floors. Because access to the White House is the most important objective of most visitors to President's Park, this experience will be made as pleasant and convenient as possible.

To ensure adequate visitor orientation to the White House and President's Park and to provide ticketing and staging for White House tours, a White House education center and museum will be provided within easy access of the White House.



White House Education Center and Museum

Actions

Seeing the White House and taking a tour through it are integral to the complete experience of a visit to the nation's capital. These activities are consistently at the top of what visitors want to see and do in Washington, even though the White House is only one of many attractions. Many more people desire to tour the White House than can be accommodated during the limited schedule when it is open to the public. This plan seeks to make the process of touring the White House more convenient, while enhancing the experience for those not able to go on a tour. This will be accomplished by expanding the existing visitor center and creating an education center and museum.

Information and Orientation

The pedestrian entryways will provide information and orientation by means of interactive monitors, personal services, or other appropriate means to welcome visitors to President's Park and the White House. At all entryways visitors will be able to find out about visitor services, tours, and other interpretive opportunities at the White House, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, and the Treasury Building. Information will be provided in various languages to accommodate the needs of international visitors. The appearance of all information facilities will be coordinated, in accordance with the *Design Guidelines*.

The education center, as well as the entryways, will provide information about transportation options in the Monumental Core area, parking, mass transit, food, lodging, and other visitor amenities. Again, the needs of international and foreign language visitors will be accommodated.

Education Center and Museum

The goal of an education center and museum will be to provide opportunities for a comprehensive educational experience related to the White House. The existing visitor center in the Commerce Building will be enlarged to 60,000 square feet by expanding into the two basement levels and under 15th Street.

Visitors will find exhibits and items from the White House collection that will foster an understanding and appreciation of this special place. Displays will provide information about that day's White House activities. Interactive media will allow more educational experiences for

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Locations and activities within President's Park, which are accessible to the general public, may not be accessible to individuals with physical or learning disabilities. The needs of D.C. residents and local workers in terms of educational and interpretive programs are not always considered.

Information and Orientation

Within the study area signs, publications, and other media to orient visitors to the site and tell them about tour opportunities and other information are inadequate or confusing. NPS staffing is insufficient to be distributed throughout President's Park to answer questions and provide directions. Because visitors do not know where to go for information, they may spend considerable time searching for information or assistance. Many visitors arrive without adequate information about tour procedures, and they may miss opportunities for tours. Information on other activities or opportunities (for example, scheduled activities on the Ellipse or the Mall) is not readily available.

Visitors frequently stop at White House gatehouses for information and assistance, diverting time from security functions and congesting entrances. Under these conditions customer service is unsatisfactory.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Interpretation and Education

Interpretive programs at the White House and President's Park do not sufficiently communicate the site's important stories and the significance of its resources, resulting in visitors having less appreciation for the site. Interpretation is lacking about the history of the presidency, about special White House events (such as state dinners), about first families and the people who worked for them (guards, cooks, service staff, etc.), and about the construction and renovation activities at the White House. Nor is interpretive information readily available about L'Enfant's plan for the city and how the White House relates to the city, about Lafayette Square and its famous residents, or about other fascinating details that bring the site to life. Visitor surveys have consistently documented a need for a variety of interpretive and educational programs.

Information and interpretation in languages other than English are inadequate to meet the needs of non-English speaking visitors.

The White House is among the most widely recognized and meaningful of contemporary American symbols; it is both a cultural icon and a site with unusual symbolic significance. Yet not all Americans respond to and interact with the White House in the same way. The perceptions of many segments of American society about the White House have not been fully researched, making it difficult to offer programs that would be appealing and accessible to the full diversity of Americans.

visitors, with information about the White House, presidents and first families, and presidential sites and libraries.

Other services that will be provided include ticket distribution for White House tours, tour staging, educational sales by the White House Historical Association, and personal services, as well as museum workspace and storage. The facility will be a model for how to provide physical access and programs for all people, including those with disabilities.

Interpretation and Education

A comprehensive interpretive/educational program for visitors will be focused at the education center and will be complemented by some interpretive activities at various sites throughout President's Park. Programs will be developed for White House tour visitors and for visitors interested in the site's diverse themes. An active interpretive and community outreach program will ensure continued relevance to local residents.

To fully interpret the White House and what it means to Americans, an ethnographic report will be completed to enhance the interpretation of this uniquely American cultural symbol. The purpose of the report will be to identify public perceptions about the White House and to develop interpretive programs that will be appealing and accessible to the full diversity of the American public. For example, evidence indicates that U.S. visitors experience the White House largely through associations with specific places (for example, the Rose Garden) and things (such as china used by various presidents). Information about what items are most meaningful and for whom, as well as the range of activities that take place around the White House (from picture taking to First Amendment demonstrations in Lafayette Park) will support a broader development of interpretive themes and content for tours and education center exhibits.

A multi-media approach will help provide a context for the White House and prepare visitors for what they will see and hear on the tour. Exhibits will be oriented to people of all ages, diverse backgrounds, and different languages. Exhibits and other interpretive media will feature areas of the residence that visitors never see, reproductions of items that visitors might not notice on their tours, and important objects and correspondence related to presidents and first ladies. Stories about the lives of past presidents and their families could provide a more intimate look at the people who have lived in the White House. Opportunities may also be provided for people to learn about the president's activities and offer feedback on current issues.

Also, exhibits will explore behind-the-scenes White House activities, including preparations for official events. Taped interviews and occasional live presentations by individuals who have worked in the White House will provide a special insight into the workings of the Executive Residence and the privilege of serving the president.

Other opportunities will include an array of interpretive programs and special interest lectures, films, interactive video stations, displays of fine arts and historical objects, and research collections.

An active educational program will be conducted to educate citizens about the many themes surrounding the White House and to encourage active participation in government. Schools and other organized groups will have extensive opportunities to learn about the White House and the presidency through educational services both on- and offsite, including the Internet. Special thematic tours designed for children and adults will be offered in the White House and on its grounds. Additional interpretive programming will result from more partnership activities.

A few wayside exhibits will be installed within President's Park to interpret some of the park's important features and stories. These exhibits will be placed so as not to detract from the historical scene and significant vistas.

The museum function will be coordinated with programs and services offered at other institutions in the D.C. area.

White House Tours

Tour Ticketing and Reservations

Free White House public tour tickets will continue to be available on the day of a tour at the education center on a first-come, first-served basis. Ways for out-of-town visitors to make tour arrangements in advance will be studied.

Tour participants will first go to the education center to pick up tickets and to begin the orientation process and tour. All tour visitors will be encouraged to go through the orientation program.

Reserved tickets for early morning tours, which are arranged through the offices of individual members of Congress, will continue to be available.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

White House Tours

Tuesday through Saturday the White House is open for congressional and passholder tours (7:45 to 9:45 A.M.) and public tours (10 A.M. to noon). Public tour ticketing procedures are cumbersome, with visitors having to line up and wait for tickets on the morning of the tour day. Visitors who are unaware of ticketing procedures may not have enough time or be able to adjust their schedules to take a tour. Families and groups wanting to visit multiple sites in Washington must often split up in order to wait for tickets at various sites. While tour tickets are handed out at the visitor center, visitors must regularly wait outdoors, in all kinds of weather, to start the tours.

Large numbers of visitors, particularly during spring and summer, overextend the White House tour process, resulting in the inefficient movement of people and the inability to accommodate all visitors. For people not able to take a tour, the visitor center provides limited exhibits to learn about the White House. Some visitors feel that the tour is not a quality experience for various reasons.

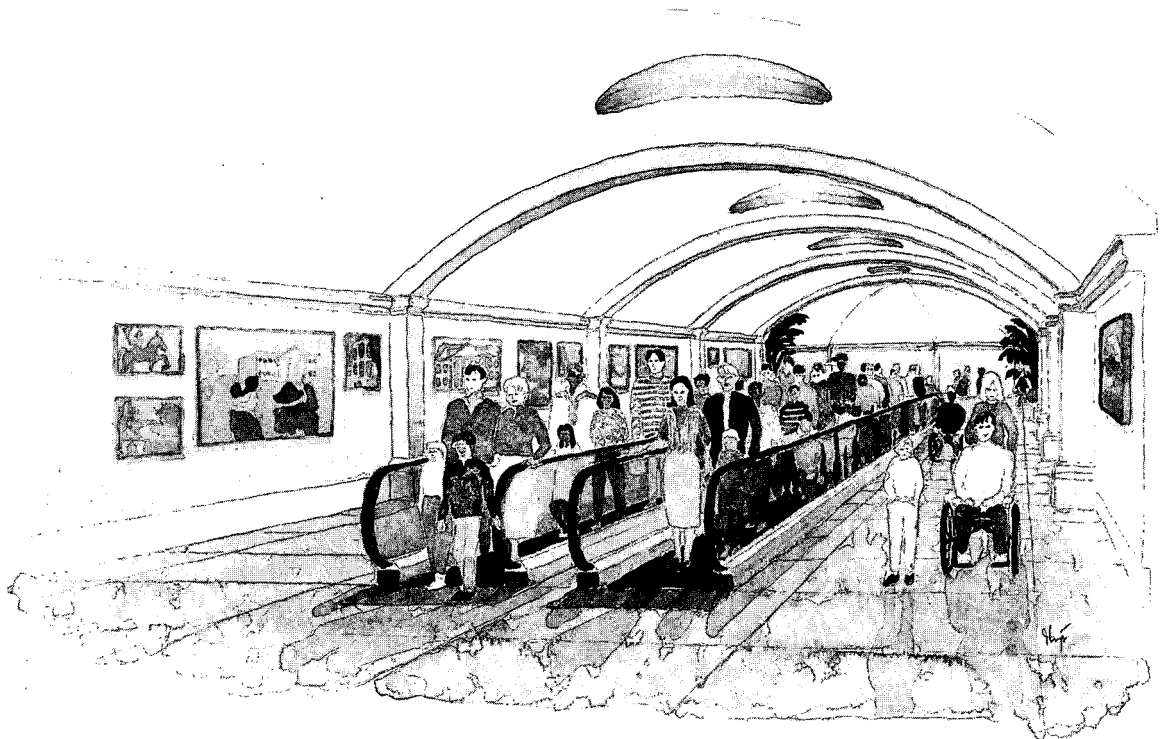
Tour procedures, including what areas are open to the public, are not clearly explained beforehand. If personal items must be left behind, there are no secure places to store them. Many people on public tours feel they are hurried through the White House. The areas where people can go in the White House may not give visitors a sense of being in the home and office of the president because little is on display that provides a personal connection with the first family, and there are limited opportunities to get a behind-the-scenes look at the White House.

Tour Staging and White House Access

Tours will be staged from the education center instead of the Ellipse. The tour staging area and access route to the White House will need to accommodate a maximum of 5,000 visitors over a two-hour period, with a maximum group size of 250. At their designated tour time visitors will enter one of four theaters to watch a 15-minute film on the White House and the tour. Each theater will have a capacity of 250 people, and a group of visitors will be released every five minutes into a corridor that connects to a point near the White House.

The corridor will be spacious and inviting, with skylights and moving walkways to carry visitors beneath the E Street/15th Street intersection. Visitors will use an escalator (or an elevator for the physically impaired) to enter an on-grade vestibule at the area known as Lily Triangle on South Executive Avenue. This structure will be designed to blend with the surrounding landscape. Visitors will move out to the sidewalk along the south fence of the White House and proceed to the visitor entrance building, where they will pass through security.

Visitors will enter through the East Wing of the White House to tour rooms on the ground and state floors and exit through the north



Pedestrian Corridor

portico. Mobility-impaired visitors will continue to use the north entrance and follow the same tour route as much as possible.

All visitor exhibits within the White House will be removed to emphasize the dignity of the home and office of the president. Tour routes will be carefully examined to identify points where visitor flow becomes congested and where it moves more freely. Where possible, areas with less congestion will be used as points where visitors could pause briefly to ask questions or to enjoy a longer look. One such area may be the north side of the East Room, which could be temporarily cordoned off during tours to create an L-shaped viewing area. Providing just one or two such areas will give visitors more time to enjoy their experiences.

Access and programs for visitors with disabilities will be improved; for example, personal escorts and interpretation may be provided on selected tours. Specific solutions, as well as any adjustments to the tour (such as areas for visitors to stop and take a longer look), will be determined through future discussions with the U. S. Secret Service and the White House staff.

Site Amenities

Benches and site amenities such as shaded outdoor gathering places will be provided in Lafayette Park and the side panels of the Ellipse. Food concessions and vending activities, including commercial service vending, will not be provided along sidewalks and curb lanes adjacent to President's Park on 15th and 17th Streets, H Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, or Constitution Avenue. Food services will be available in the many public and private food courts and restaurants adjacent to the site. In addition, partnership programs may be established with restaurants to offer menu items reflective of the park's interpretive themes and events, which could be accompanied by short interpretive descriptions. For example, restaurants could recreate menus from state dinners or offer some dishes particularly associated with former presidents.

Public Recreation

The interior of the Ellipse will be maintained for recreation, including informal games of softball, football, and volleyball. No permanent infrastructure will be provided for any recreational activities. The Ellipse side panels will include informal gardens with shaded sitting areas. Landscaping and vegetation will provide a more intimate scale in the side panels.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Site Amenities

Amenities such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and shaded waiting areas for people taking White House tours are inadequate.

Public Recreation

Although recreational activities are important uses of President's Park, some activities may not be appropriate to the site character, resource protection, or the visitor experience. Activities that require permanent infrastructure or impede other passive uses may cause conflicts with the site's ceremonial purpose.

Special Events

Desired Future Conditions

Event Character: A sense of purpose, quality, and dignity, which complements the purpose and setting of the White House, accompanies all special events in President's Park. The physical characteristics, history, and atmosphere of each of the various spaces within President's Park are preserved and enhanced by these events.

Infrastructure: Utility systems are upgraded to be efficient, environmentally and visually sensitive, and easily maintained. Temporary systems respect significant site resources and meet the needs of President's Park events.

Planning Direction

Special events of varying size, intensity, and significance will continue in President's Park, as well as on the White House grounds. All First Amendment activities will be accommodated in compliance with current law.

Actions

Special events similar to those currently offered will continue to be held on the White House grounds and within President's Park. However, the following criteria will be established to guide the types of events that will be appropriate (these criteria will not apply to First Amendment demonstrations):

- ◆ Events reflect the purpose and dignity of President's Park and the White House.
- ◆ They are small scale and of short duration.
- ◆ Any commercial aspects are minimized, in keeping with the purpose and significance of the site.
- ◆ Events reflect U.S. society and its multiple cultures.

Active planning efforts will continue between the National Park Service and groups currently co-sponsoring or sponsoring special events to ensure that these criteria are met. In addition, operational procedures may be established to limit the extent of resource impacts (for example, allowing only a certain number of days for setup and takedown activities).

The northeast panel of the Ellipse will be redesigned as a special events plaza, with permanent, but unobtrusive infrastructure (such as electrical connections and structural footings to accommodate modular staging systems and lighting). Where possible, adjacent hard surfaces (pedestrian walkways and the Ellipse roadway) will be used for infrastructure in order to minimize impacts on soils and turf.

Temporary facilities for events will need to be energy efficient and exhibit a strong design aesthetic, in keeping with other, more permanent site and design elements. All temporary facilities will have to be promptly removed after the event to reduce visual and physical impacts to the area.

Based on a continuing dialogue between officials of the Executive Residence and the National Park Service, recommendations to help protect resources will be developed for special events on the White House grounds. Such recommendations will provide the highest possible level of resource protection, while allowing flexible use of the gardens and grounds for family and official purposes.

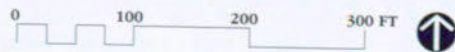
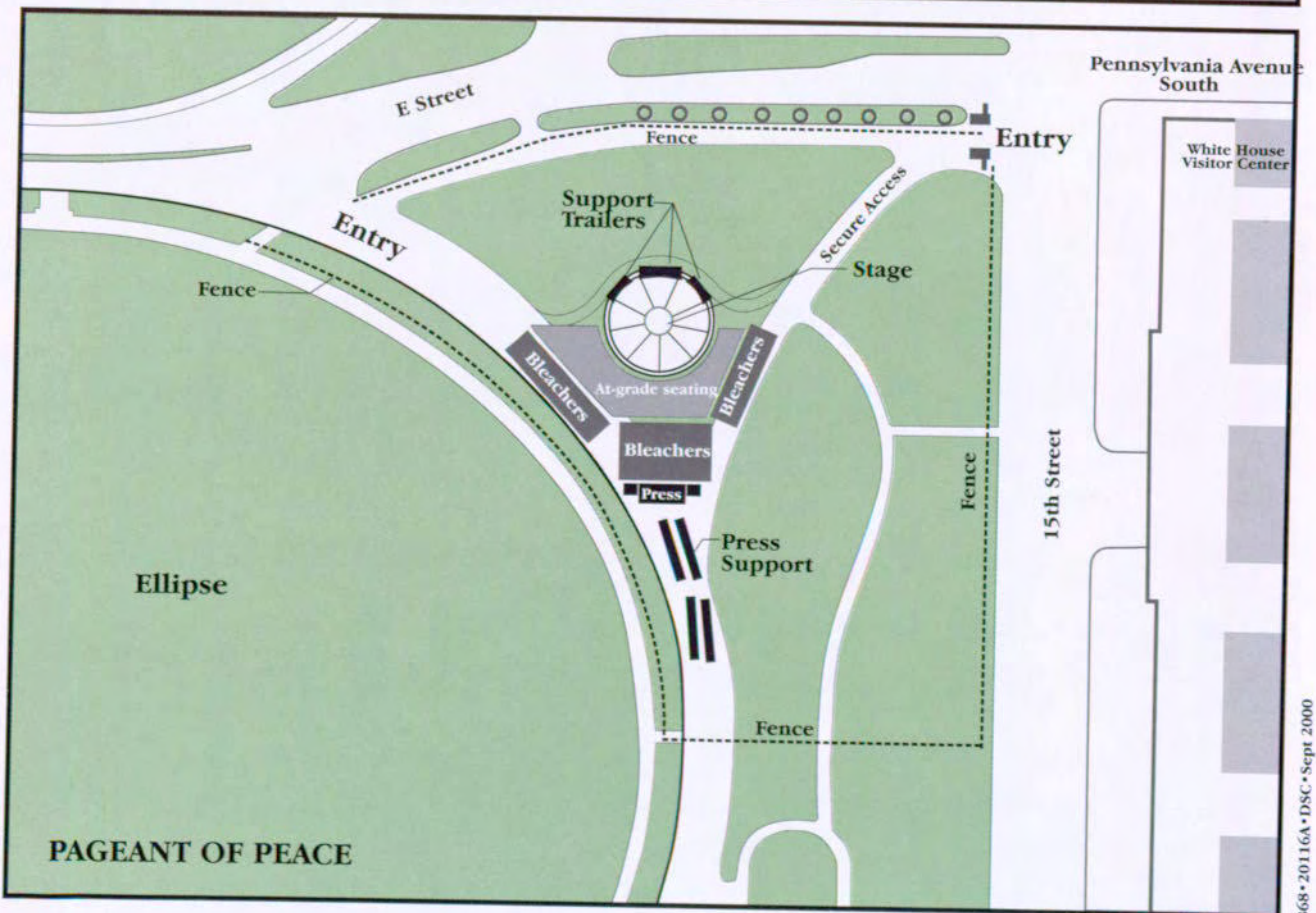
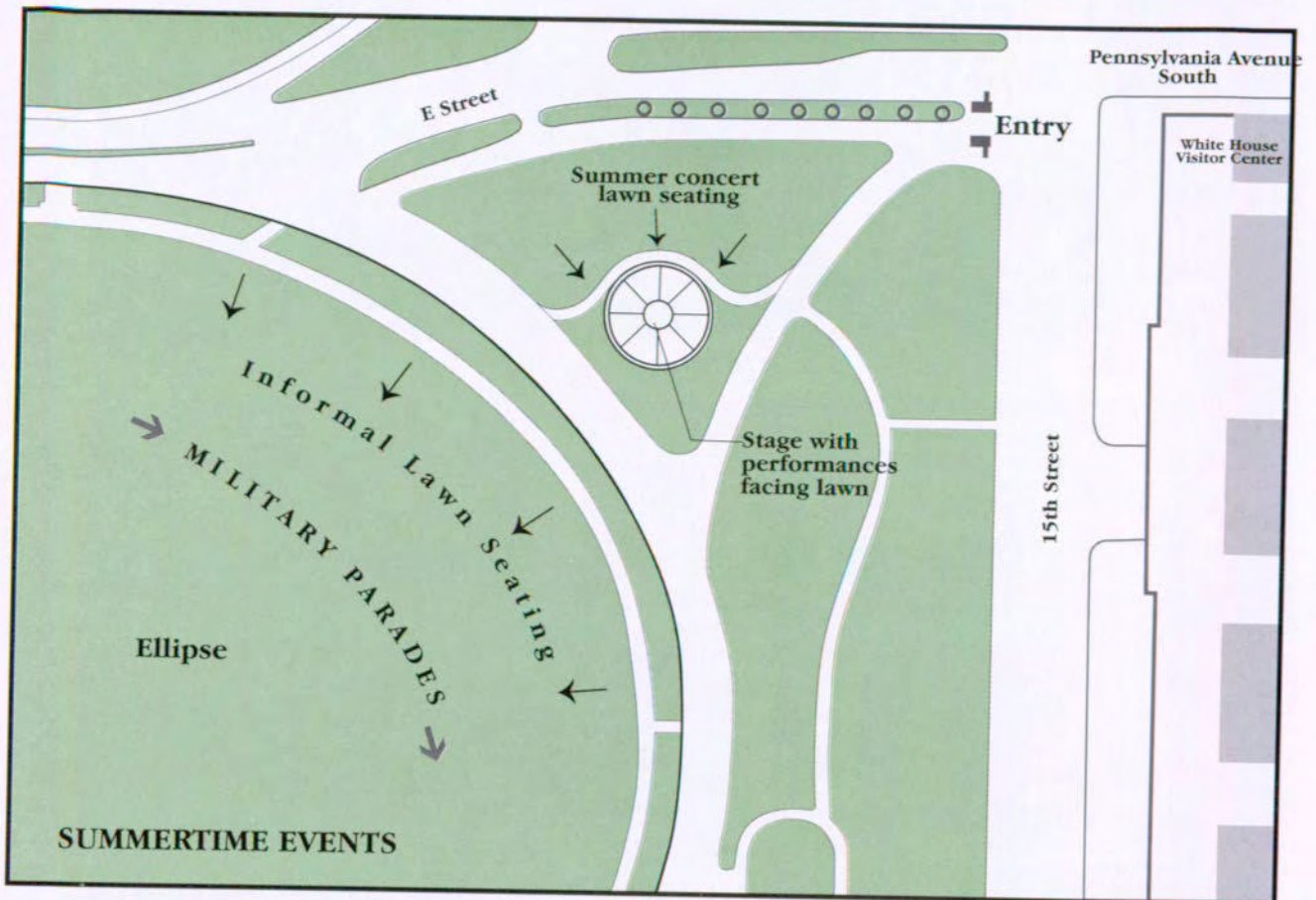
Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Special events include functions such as the annual Easter egg roll, the lighting of the National Christmas Tree and attendant programs during the holiday season (known as the Christmas Pageant of Peace), presidential inaugural parades, and demonstrations and marches attended by hundreds of thousands of people.

Frequently, more people show up for special public events at the White House or on the grounds than can be smoothly accommodated, resulting in long lines as people wait to enter.

Facilities and infrastructure, such as restrooms, drinking water, and utilities, are inadequate to support needs at well-attended events. Temporary facilities are often visually intrusive and aged and do not adequately serve visitors with physical disabilities.

The types of events that are appropriate on the Ellipse have never been defined. As a result, there are major issues related to resource management (resource degradation, site character, operations and maintenance concerns) and transportation (restricted traffic flows and communication problems).



Events Plaza



Transportation

Desired Future Conditions

Access to the Site: Visitors can easily travel to the site by using various modes of transportation, including a convenient visitor transportation system that connects major attractions in Washington's Monumental Core. Transit arrivals and departures are at easily accessible, safe gateway locations on the site.

Parking: Parking for diplomatic and business visitors, as well as staff (Executive Office and Treasury) is provided in secure, out-of-sight locations and within convenient access of the White House.

Site Circulation:

Pedestrian Environment — People are able to walk safely throughout the site, without conflicts with moving or parked vehicles.

Pedestrian Circulation — People travel easily around the site by means of a convenient, easily accessible transportation system (such as a shuttle) that connects with other facilities and visitor opportunities.

Vehicular Circulation — Roadways within and adjacent to the site accommodate diplomatic and presidential motorcades, and other Executive Office functions, in an efficient and safe manner.

Planning Direction

Access, Circulation, and Parking

The National Park Service will enter into discussions with local and regional planning agencies to address traffic concerns in the Washington, D.C., downtown area in a comprehensive fashion while ensuring the protection and preservation of national resources as represented by the White House and President's Park.

Access to the White House and President's Park will be maintained for operational support and emergency vehicles.

Madison, Jackson, State, and Hamilton Places will remain restricted to public vehicular traffic and will become pedestrian-oriented streets.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Access and Circulation

Visitors do not have access to transportation services, such as shuttles, that provide access between outlying parking areas and the Monumental Core, including President's Park.

Automobile traffic constitutes the single most detrimental effect on President's Park and its resources. Traffic flows on E Street bisect the site, and any restrictions or changes in circulation patterns or traffic flow cause problems throughout the area. Also, actions in other parts of the District can affect operations at President's Park in ways that cannot be addressed without the cooperation of all metropolitan administrative entities.

Streets in and adjacent to the study area regularly operate at and above capacity levels.

Activities that often cause traffic delays include tour buses picking up and dropping off passengers, demonstrations, special events, official functions, and the arrivals and departures of the president and dignitaries. Delivery trucks servicing vendors on 15th and 17th Streets double park, often forcing passing vehicles into oncoming traffic.

During special events information is not always exchanged between agencies or shared with the public about route closures and alternate routes. In addition, the traffic signal system is not programmed to reflect temporary street closures or detours, which compounds traffic problems. Any restrictions to the street network in the study area could increase congestion, at least in the short-term.

No vehicle parking will be provided on Jackson, Madison, State, or Hamilton Place; on the Ellipse roadways; or along the curb lanes surrounding President's Park (15th Street, 17th Street, Constitution Avenue, and H Street).

A future long-term design for Pennsylvania Avenue, as well as Lafayette Park, will be considered in a separate planning document.

Mass Transit

The use of mass transit by visitors and staff will be actively encouraged through policy and design. Agencies will work with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to promote this goal.

Actions

Access and Circulation

This plan recognizes that severe traffic problems exist in the downtown D.C. street system. Temporary interim measures involving E Street within President's Park are being undertaken to help alleviate these problems. The Federal Highway Administration, with the cooperation of the District of Columbia and the National Park Service, is currently restoring westbound traffic between 15th and 18th Streets, thus reopening two-way traffic on E Street. Proposals have also been introduced, such as tunnels, that are beyond the scope of this plan, but that may be considered in the future. Reducing surface traffic within President's Park will remain a long-term goal of the proposed plan.

To enhance the pedestrian experience and safety on E Street, the National Park Service will experiment with options such as timed access and crossing assistance.

In the future improvements could be made to enhance E Street's appearance, including pavement and other material changes along the roadway to create a more parklike setting. The intent of all such improvements will be to help blend the road into the vista and minimize its intrusion. Changes in paving patterns or materials would signify a special place for all vehicles entering the park.

Environmental compliance for specific projects or actions affecting the street system will be conducted as required. Before undertaking such actions, the National Park Service will coordinate with all affected agencies, including the D.C. Department of Public Works, the Federal

Highway Administration, and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Public Parking

Surface parking for cars and buses will be prohibited within and immediately adjacent to President's Park. These restrictions will apply to the President's Park side of 15th and 17th Streets from Pennsylvania Avenue south to Constitution Avenue, the south side of H Street, and the north side of Constitution Avenue. Public parking will continue to be available offsite in nearby commercial garages.

The National Capital Planning Commission is proposing to provide parking for visitors to the Monumental Core in lots outside the city, with convenient access to the Metrorail or shuttle service to the National Mall. (Also see the discussion under "Tour Bus Management.")

Visitor Circulation and Way Finding

The National Park Service is currently evaluating a visitor transportation system that will promote the use of the regional transit system and provide access to the Monumental Core. Within the Memorial Core several shuttles will provide frequent service to nearby attractions (including the White House), along with interpretive messages. Visitor dropoff and pickup points will be in front of the White House education center on Pennsylvania Avenue South, east of 15th Street. (To reduce pollution, all shuttles should use alternative fuels.)

Improvements to the Farragut West, the McPherson Square, and the Federal Triangle Metrorail stations will be encouraged so visitors and staff can move easily aboveground from these stations to President's Park. Appropriate signs, paving patterns, and streetscape designs may be used to guide visitors. These elements will be compatible with the *Design Guidelines* for President's Park.

From the Federal Triangle Metro station visitors will be able to move by way of new underground connections to the new Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center and the Commerce Building. From the basement of the Commerce Building, visitors will have to leave the building and enter the education center from the street level.

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Pedestrians, vehicles, and bicyclists intermingle throughout the study area. Heavy vehicular traffic on E Street creates safety problems for pedestrians, particularly as visitors make their way to the White House for tours. Visitors and employees have similar problems crossing 15th and 17th Streets between President's Park and adjacent buildings, particularly the White House visitor center.

Parked vehicles and tour buses restrict the movement of pedestrians, particularly when they block handicap ramps and crosswalks. They also cause safety hazards when they park near fire hydrants, and they limit sight distances. In addition, Tourmobile movements on the Ellipse are restricted or service is delayed because of vehicular congestion and parked cars, particularly during staff shift turnovers and special events. Angle-parking by sport utility vehicles and trucks sometimes prevents the clearance required for access by emergency vehicles.

Parking

Private vehicle parking for visitors and employees is limited throughout the study area.

Tour buses waiting for their passengers frequently double park, blocking vehicular access and parking spaces along 15th Street, Constitution Avenue, and H Street. Both tour bus and taxi drivers are frustrated by the lack of dropoff and pickup points for White House visitors.

Tour Bus Management

To effectively address the management of tour buses on a citywide basis, the National Park Service will cooperate with the National Capital Planning Commission and the District of Columbia in developing a tour bus management plan for the metropolitan area. The plan will identify staging locations for buses, with shuttles to the Monumental Core.

Tour buses will continue to line up in the early morning hours for tour tickets along Constitution Avenue (between 15th and 17th Streets) and along the west side of 15th Street. For White House tours, dropoff and pickup points for passengers will be determined in the future. Short-term tour bus parking (two hours maximum) will be eliminated adjacent to President's Park on 15th Street.

Site Management and Operations

Planning Direction

The White House and President's Park will continue to be managed through interagency cooperation. All buildings and grounds within the White House complex will be managed by the responsible agency or through interagency agreements.

Sites or structures outside the boundaries of President's Park may have to be used in order to meet needs identified in the plan.

Actions

President's Park Maintenance

A new 4,000-square-foot satellite storage and supply facility will be developed within the Ellipse parking garage. Smaller maintenance vehicles that can be accommodated in public parking garages will be used; such vehicles should use alternative fuels, be more cost-effective to operate, and easier to maneuver onsite. A mobile maintenance unit will also be developed to transport supplies and equipment needed for site maintenance. Pending the completion of the Ellipse facility, the National Park Service either will work with the U.S. Department of Commerce to consider the possibility of developing a satellite maintenance facility at the Commerce Building or will find another facility within immediate access of President's Park.

The Hains Point maintenance facility will continue to house equipment used less frequently than that stored in the satellite facility.

Utilities and infrastructure will be replaced or relocated in President's Park to reduce resource impacts. Where possible, existing corridors and conduits will be used.

The proposed landscape management plan for President's Park will include guidelines for consistent maintenance practices.

Lawn irrigation systems in Lafayette Park, on the White House grounds, and at Sherman Park and the First Division Monument will be

Problems, Issues, and Concerns

Inadequate storage and equipment, insufficient staff facilities, limited budgets, and other conditions impede efficient long-term and day-to-day maintenance operations. As a result, President's Park is not always properly maintained. Indicators of poor maintenance and overuse, such as damaged turf, are seen on the Ellipse after special events.

Daily maintenance operations at the White House and President's Park are frequently interrupted by preparations for unplanned events and security needs. The current approach is to shift staff from their programmed work to the installation of physical security barriers or to provide legally required services associated with First Amendment demonstrations. Currently, there is no efficient way to meet unplanned security or demonstration needs while simultaneously meeting maintenance and visitor service needs so that a basic level of routine operations can be provided while still responding to the unique demands of the site.

Various agencies have responsibilities in the study area for law enforcement, maintenance, security, operations, and permits. While some improvements have been made to clarify jurisdictions and responsibilities, the law enforcement and security environment remains complex.

Utilities are poorly located, worn out, and inadequate for special events, as well as daily operations.

Irrigation systems for the White House and President's Park are out of date; an irrigation system for the Ellipse has never been installed. The result is inefficient water usage and higher operations costs.

A variety of street and sidewalk vendors conduct business in and around the study area, causing health, maintenance, and law enforcement problems, access and circulation difficulties, and changes in site character.

replaced with systems designed to incorporate sustainable practices (for example, more efficient water use). An irrigation system will be installed on the Ellipse and its side panels.

Ellipse Steamline

The steamline that currently crosses under the middle of the Ellipse will be relocated. Any proposed relocation alignment will have to meet the following criteria:

- ◆ The relocated steamline and associated facilities (such as vents and access points) do not affect historic tree patterns, cultural resources, or views within President's Park.
- ◆ Intake and exhaust vents are located so as not to encourage use by individuals (i.e., sleeping by homeless individuals). Grates are designed to have minimal visual impact and to blend with adjacent paving materials, in accordance with the *Design Guidelines*. No visible steam is exhausted through the vents.
- ◆ There is no perceptible noise from mechanical equipment (for example, vent fans and pumps).
- ◆ The tunnel is sized to accommodate all regular maintenance actions by using only designated access points. Maintenance access points are away from trees and turf.
- ◆ The abandoned steamline is removed and backfilled to create a suitable environment for turf growth, and the turf on the Ellipse currently affected by the steamline is replaced.

Homeless Individuals

The presence of homeless individuals in public parks is an urban problem. Some are there as a result of circumstances beyond their control, some are there by choice, and still others are there because of physical or mental disabilities. The presence of homeless people is perceived as incongruous with the expected dignity of President's Park, and local workers and visitors sometimes see these individuals as threatening or disturbing. The safety of homeless individuals themselves is often at risk during poor

weather and at night when they are subject to victimization by unscrupulous persons.

To help address the plight of homeless citizens within President's Park, the National Park Service, as one of the federal administrators and stewards of the site, will initiate discussions with the District of Columbia, religious and charitable groups, and the homeless people who inhabit the site to find ways to ensure the safety of all citizens and also to help protect and conserve park resources for the benefit of all the nation's citizens.

Future Studies

The following studies will be undertaken to fully implement the *Comprehensive Design Plan*:

Visitor Use and Services:

- Interpretive plan
- Ethnographic study of what the White House means to all U.S. cultural groups in order to develop appropriate educational and interpretive programs

Resource Management:

- Site capacity determination (visitor experience and resource protection)

Home and Office:

- Long-term parking location study

Site Management and Operations:

- Landscape management plan
- Compatibility of allowing public use in the Ellipse parking garage during evenings and weekends

*The White House
and President's Park*



Appendixes

Appendix A: Legislation

United States Code, Title 3 — The President

White House; Administration; Preservation of Museum Character; Articles of Historic or Artistic Interest

Pub. L. 87-286, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 586, provided: "That all of that portion of reservation numbered 1 in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, which is within the President's park enclosure, comprising eighteen and seven one-hundredths acres, shall continue to be known as the White House and shall be administered pursuant to the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1-3), and Acts supplementary thereto and amendatory thereof. In carrying out this Act primary attention shall be given to the preservation and interpretation of the museum character of the principal corridor on the ground floor and the principal public rooms on the first floor of the White House, but nothing done under this Act shall conflict with the administration of the Executive offices of the President or with the use and occupancy of the buildings and grounds as the home of the President and his family and for his official purposes.

"SEC. 2. Articles of furniture, fixtures, and decorative objects of the White House, when declared by the President to be of historic or artistic interest, together with such similar articles, fixtures, and objects as are acquired by the White House in the future when similarly so declared, shall thereafter be considered to be inalienable and the property of the White House. Any such article, fixture, or object when not in use or on display in the White House shall be transferred by direction of the President as a loan to the Smithsonian Institution for its care, study, and storage or exhibition and such articles, fixtures, and objects shall be returned to the White House from the Smithsonian Institution on notice by the President.

"SEC. 3. Nothing in this Act shall alter any privileges, powers, or duties vested in the White House Police and the United States Secret Service, Treasury Department, by section 202 of title 3, United States Code, and section 3056 of title 18, United States Code."

Note: See appendix A in the *Comprehensive Design Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement* for a complete listing of legislation affecting the administration of the White House and President's Park.

Appendix B: A Summary of Significant Plans and Projects at President's Park

Significant Plans and Projects — 1791–1994

Pierre Charles L'Enfant, 1791

Pierre L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the federal city, which was revised by Andrew Ellicott in 1792 and others, provides the base for today's city. The city was planned to rest on a series of terraces and to be oriented toward the river, making the most of available water features in the manner of the French designer Le Nôtre. Most important to L'Enfant's vision was a decentralized city of radial streets emanating from park and plaza areas, providing broad urban and ceremonial vistas and specific places for the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. The streets followed a grid system overlaid with a series of radial configurations centering on proposed plazas. The National Mall and President's Park combined to form a large L-shaped sward, the axial point of which terminated at the juncture of the Potomac River and Tiber (Goose) Creek. L'Enfant envisioned a palace and offices for the executive branch of government facing the river, framed by substantial grounds and connected to the Capitol by a broad ceremonial avenue later known as Pennsylvania Avenue. President's Park and its uninterrupted vista across the Washington Monument to the Jefferson Memorial serves as the northern arm of the Mall axis and constitutes one of the major elements of this seminal plan.¹

1. Frederick Gutheim for the National Capital Planning Commission, *Worthy of the Nation: The History of Planning for the National Capital* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1977), 15–20; Kenneth Bowling, *Creating the Federal City, 1774–1800: Potomac Fever* (Washington, DC: American Institute of Architects Press, 1988), 87–96, 102–5. Pierre Charles L'Enfant, "Plan of the City Intended for the Permanent Seat of Government of t[he] United States" (1791; published in Washington by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1887), Andrew Ellicott, "Territory of Columbia" (1794), and Thackara and Vallance, "Plan of the City of Washington in the Territory of Columbia . . ." (1792), all as reprinted in John W. Reys, *Washington on View: The Nation's Capital since 1790* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1991) 1–9, 15, 21, 27–28; Roger Trancik, *Finding Lost Space: Theories of Urban Design* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1986), 155–78, passim. See also Elbert Peets, *On the Art of Designing Cities: Selected Essays of Elbert Peets* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1968), and Werner Hegeman and Elbert Peets, *The American Vitruvius: An Architect's Handbook on Civic Art* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1988); Fiske Kimball and George Harold Edgell, *History of Architecture* (New York: Harper Brothers, 1918); and William Ordway Partridge, *Art for America* (Boston: Roberts Co., 1895).

Thomas Jefferson, ca. 1804

President Thomas Jefferson's specific plans for the property surrounding the White House are unknown. However, it is clear that he felt L'Enfant's park to be too extensive for the executive mansion. He attempted to reduce the substantial acreage of the house site in a number of ways. He envisioned the future Lafayette Park (known then as the President's Square) as a public space more oriented to the city and its citizens than to the executive precinct. He called for a stone wall to be built around the immediate house grounds in an attempt to scale the property to the house and to separate this area from the executive office buildings on the east and west. Jefferson added colonnaded Palladian arcades to the east and west as service additions. A vault was built for the treasury to the southeast of the house. It is not known how much of Jefferson's landscape plans were implemented; however, some schematics survive. Drives from Pennsylvania Avenue into President's Park on the south were designed as romantic serpentine paths in the manner of English landscapes in an effort to minimize the immensity of the landscape. This entrance was marked by a classical Roman triumphal arch designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe and decorated with fasces topped with Phrygian liberty caps (ca. 1806). The north approach was more formal in the French tradition, with allées of trees repeating the radial lines of the streets on the north lawn and a central north-south drive approaching the north entrance. The lands south of the immediate grounds remained undeveloped. Jefferson also envisioned street plantings of Lombardy poplars on Pennsylvania Avenue that would visually link the Capitol and the President's House. Jefferson's vision for the property dominated its development until the mid-19th century.²

Charles Bulfinch, ca. 1818

Charles Bulfinch created various plans for the property, but they are now lost. It is thought that he was strongly influenced by Jefferson's earlier plans. Bulfinch planted the north park — later known as Lafayette Square — with close groupings of trees. Bulfinch's plans also included schemes for the National Mall and other adjacent properties.³

2. U.S. Congress, 2 Stat. 175; Thomas Jefferson, Landscape Sketch Map, c. 1802–1805, Library of Congress, as reproduced in William Seale, *The President's House*, 2 vols. (Washington, DC: White House Historical Association, with the cooperation of the National Geographic Society, 1986), illustrations 14, 90, 103, 109, 110, 116; William Seale, *The White House: The History of an American Idea* (Washington, DC: American Institute of Architects Press, 1992), 47, 86; National Park Service, *Lafayette Park*, by George F. Olszewski (Washington, DC: GPO, 1964) vii; Barbara McEwan, *White House Landscapes: Horticultural Achievements of American Presidents* (New York: Walker and Company, 1992), 47.

3. *Van Ness vs. the United States and the Corporation of Washington*, as quoted in *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Public Buildings, October 11, 1856* (Washington, DC: n.d.), 855.

Robert Mills, ca. 1840

Robert Mills's plans for Washington included designs for the Capitol, the Mall, and President's Park. His 1841 plan of the Mall shows the White House and four office structures with an uninterrupted lawn proceeding to the Tiber, by this time a canal. Pennsylvania Avenue between Lafayette Square and the White House had been cut through by ca. 1824.⁴

Andrew Jackson Downing, 1851

Downing's 1851 plan for President's Park represents the first detailed plan for development. Downing's plan respected L'Enfant's initial concepts but also reflected typical mid-Victorian sensibilities. Downing was assisted by botanist W. D. Brackenridge. Under Downing's plan the development of Lafayette Park continued as a space more related to the surrounding neighborhood than to the White House, with serpentine walks on an elliptical plan bisected on the north and south by two additional bowed walks curving toward the center of the park. In the middle a pedestal was installed as a base for an equestrian statue of Andrew Jackson (installed in 1853). Downing designed the Ellipse as a broad, flat acreage bordered by a circular drive with a walk canopied by an allée of trees. The remainder of the property was evidently to be heavily planted with thickets of trees and shrubs and traversed by winding walkways and paths. Downing envisioned the Ellipse as both a military parade ground and as a place of public celebrations and recreation.⁵

It is not known how much of the plan was initiated before Downing's death in 1852. However, portions of the Lafayette Park plan had been undertaken. The Ellipse plan did not become a reality until 1880. The L'Enfant and Downing plans remained the general standard for property development until the Olmsted plan of the 1930s.

Thomas U. Walter, 1852

Upon Downing's death, architect Thomas U. Walter took over the formation of conceptual designs for President's Park. East and West Executive Avenues were proposed, and the east-west street from Pennsylvania Avenue to New York Avenue was improved.⁶

4. Robert Mills, 1841, "Plan of the Mall," as reprinted in Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 53.

5. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 13, 15, 20; Seale, *The President's House*, 295, 300, 310-11, 343; Andrew Jackson Downing, "Plan for the Mall and President's Park" as copied by Bvt. Brig. Gen'l N. Michler, 1867; and "Map of the City of Washington and District of Columbia," no scale (1845), Record Group (RG) 77, F 116 and F 116 no. 2, National Archives (NA); Reps, *Washington on View*, 125, 139, 155, 157.

6. Thomas U. Walter, "Proposal for President's Park, 1852," as redrawn for Arthur Cotton Moore Associates, *The Aesthetic Master Plan of the Main Treasury Building and Treasury Annex* (Washington, DC: ACM/A, 1985), plate 27, p. 41.

Alfred Mullet, ca. 1866–71

Treasury architect Alfred Mullet was responsible for the design and implementation of East Executive Avenue (1866), West Executive Avenue (1871), and the U-shaped drive linking the two south of the immediate White House grounds. Mullet's plans also included a fountain at the east entrance. It is thought that Mullet's plans were a further refinement of Downing's original designs. Mullet also had additional plans that have been lost. Mullet's work coincided with the administration of President's Park by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which began in 1867 and continued until 1933.⁷

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1867–1933

During the period that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had responsibility for President's Park, the philosophical bases for administration were the L'Enfant, Downing, and later the Senate Part Commission plans.

Nathaniel Michler, 1867–71: Michler reviewed the planning being done in the European capitals and specifically called for the preservation of vistas and the connection of the Mall and President's Park by introducing carriageways and walks using both above- and belowgrade connections. Michler felt that the Mall, the Washington Monument grounds, and President's Park should function as a cohesive unit. He also noted the need for recreational space; however, this must be interpreted in the mid-19th century context of the term. Michler began the task of filling in Tiber Creek or Washington Canal (by this time an open sewer), adding fill to the Washington Monument grounds, and establishing roadways lined with trees parallel to the former canal right-of-way. The former canal lockhouse at the intersection of 17th and Constitution was retained. Michler also advocated plans to move the site of the presidential mansion.⁸

Orville E. Babcock, 1871–77: Babcock's work reflected an interest in "scientific" methods. He instituted the first comprehensive inventory of

7. Seale, *The President's House*, 433, 504; *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Public Buildings, October 30, 1866* ([Washington, DC]: no date), 547–48; Seale, *The White House*, 72, 120; Reys, *Washington on View*, 125, 139, 155, 157, 169, 171, 189, 191, 197, 213, 214, 227, 233, 235, 257; Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 64, 83, 152; U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, *Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers, 1868* (Washington DC: GPO, 1868), 10.

8. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 1; U.S. Statutes at Large, XIV, 466; NPS, *The President's Park South, Washington, D.C.*, by George F. Olszewski (Washington, DC: GPO, 1970), 11; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nathaniel Michler, *Communication of N. Michler, Major of Engineers, to the Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds*, 39th Cong., 2nd Sess., Senate Misc. Doc. 21 ([Washington, DC]: February 13, 1867), 1–7; *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1867*, 4–7; *ibid.*, 1868, 6, 10–12, 17–18, 26–27; *ibid.*, 1869, 496–99, 501–2, 511–14; *ibid.*, 1870, 520–23, 528–29; Reys, *Washington on View*, 177–82; "Plan of President's Park," scale 1:80 (1879) O18, 18A, RG 121, NA; "Plan for the President's Stables," no scale (Oct. 28, 1879), 1-1-1.14; "Map of the City of Washington, District of Columbia," scale 4": 1 Mile (1845), RG 121, F 116 no. 2., NA.

plantings and plant materials on the property. Under his direction, water was introduced into Lafayette Square for irrigation purposes, and the wild garlic growing there was removed. Specific mixes of grass seed were used for the White House lawns. Walks were bricked. Animal displays, including prairie dogs and an eagle, were installed in Lafayette Square, and trees were moved from the square to the White House lawns. Two bronze urns were added to the landscape, and a watchman's lodge was built on the square in 1872. By that same year East and West Executive Avenues were connected on the south. Fountains were established on the north and south lawns. The Ellipse (by then referred to as the "White Lot") continued to be filled and graded. Babcock established a work and storage yard for the property on the Washington Monument grounds and also hired the first professional with the title "landscape gardener."⁹

Thomas Lincoln Casey, 1877-81: The Ellipse was brought up to grade in 1879-80. The east-west drive through the "President's Grounds" (in the vicinity of today's Hamilton and State Places) was closed. Experiments continued with grass types, including strains of orchard and blue grass for heavily shaded areas. Ten laborers were working on the White House grounds, and by 1880 the eastern portion of the Ellipse had a parklike appearance.¹⁰

Almon F. Rockwell, 1881-85: Rockwell continued to implement Downing's 1851 plans. President Chester Arthur's attempt to expand the White House failed.¹¹

John M. Wilson, 1885-89: Downing's circular drive and walk were established on the Ellipse and shaded with a row of American elms on either side of the adjacent walk. Ancillary drives north, south, east, and west of the Ellipse were also established. Some granite curbing was installed, and a lawn/rye seed mix was used on the Ellipse. The Bulfinch gatehouses were moved from the Capitol to the southeast and southwest corners of President's Park.¹²

9. *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1871*, 968-70, 971-72; *ibid.*, 1872, 5-7, 9, 23; *ibid.*, 1873, 2-4, 6-7, 11; *ibid.*, 1874, 3-4, 8-9, 11; *ibid.*, 1875, 10-13, 16-17; *ibid.*, 1876, 4, 7, 12-18; *ibid.*, 1877, 6-10; Seale, *The President's House*, 483, 503; Andrew Dolkart for the Executive Office of the President, Office of Administration, *The Old Executive Office Building: A Victorian Masterpiece*, Mina Wright, ed. (Washington, DC: U.S. GPO, 1984), 1, 7-8, 21.

10. *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1877*, 9-10, 12; *ibid.*, 1878, 1345, 1347; *ibid.*, 1879, 1881-82; *ibid.*, 1880, 2339.

11. Seale, *The President's House*, 535-37, 545; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 39-40; *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1881*, 2711-12, 2716; *ibid.*, 1882, 2733-34, 2741-43, 2093; *ibid.*, 1884, 2339.

12. *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1882*, 2094-95, 2099, 2100, 2102, 2105, 2504-5, 2510; *ibid.*, 1885, 2503; *ibid.*, 1885, 2340; *ibid.*, 1888, 2781-88; Dolkart, *The Old Executive Office Building*, 2

Oswald Ernst, 1889-93: Electric lights were installed on the Ellipse, and additional paving was done. The Lafayette statue was erected in 1891. The roadway south of the Executive Office Building was improved. New flagstone walks were installed in front of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue, along with minor repairs. Gardeners catalogued 40,698 plants with both their botanical and common names in use at the White House and on its grounds.¹³

John M. Wilson, 1893-97: Wilson recommended that the president's office be removed from the White House proper. Electric lighting was scheduled for Lafayette Park, along with new fencing in front of the White House. An asphalt walkway 15' wide, with a 30' parkway between the walkway and the road, was scheduled for the Ellipse and presented in plan view. Lafayette Park received a separate designation as Reservation 10 in 1894. The first formal recreation permit was issued for the Ellipse in 1895.¹⁴

John S. Sewell, 1897; Theodore Bingham, 1897-1903: Bingham continued Wilson's crusade for more presidential office space and revived previous plans for White House expansion. Bingham engaged an independent surveyor for the site and also called for removing the presidential stable. His tenure proved to be a great period of technological innovation at the site; however, all development decisions were still based on the L'Enfant and Downing plans. During this period, the Sherman monument was erected in Sherman Park south of the Treasury Building, a bridle path was laid out on the Ellipse, and public recreational demands continued to grow. Bingham's attempt to revamp the White House gave rise to the Senate Park Commission plan (or the McMillan plan) of 1901.¹⁵

Members of the Corps of Engineers continued to manage the property until 1933, when it was transferred to the Department of Interior and the National Park Service. No major changes were made to the property during this time, save for the installation of various monuments on the grounds and the extension and improvement of E Street between 1933 and 1936.¹⁶

13. *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1890*, 3535-36, 3556-61; *ibid.*, 1891, 3907, 3913-15; *ibid.*, 1892, iii, 3385-86, 3390-91, 3393, 3396-98.

14. *Ibid.*, 1893, 4430-31. In the District of Columbia appropriation bill approved July 14, 1892, the secretary of war was authorized to grant permits for the use of public grounds for encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic. Under a joint resolution of Congress approved Jan. 23, 1893, permits were granted by the secretary of war to the Executive Committee on the Inaugural Ceremonies. See previous citation, iii, iv, 4315-16, 4326-31, 4336; *ibid.*, 1894, 3273-75; *ibid.*, 1895, 4139-41; *ibid.*, 1896, 3984; *ibid.*, 1897, 4038. Stanley W. McClure, "Acquisition of Areas in National Capital Parks in Addition to the 17 Original Appropriations," file H26 (History of NCP WHL-AM-005), Records of the Office of White House Liaison, Executive Support Facility, White House Liaison.

15. *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1897*, 4027-32, 4039, 4055-57, 4060-61; *ibid.*, 1898, 3737; *ibid.*, 1900, 5252-53, 5256, 5260; *ibid.*, 1901, 3693.

16. On February 26, 1925, tenure of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Office of Public Buildings and Grounds and the Superintendent of the State, War, and Navy

Senate Park Commission, 1901

The 1901 plan by the Senate Park Commission (also known as the McMillan plan) used L'Enfant's original design as a base and refined some concepts concerning the Mall and President's Park. The commission consisted of Daniel H. Burnham, Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., Charles F. McKim, and Augustus Saint-Gaudens. As promoters of the City Beautiful movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the commission members traveled to Europe to survey works that might have influenced L'Enfant, such as those of Le Nôtre at Versailles and Vaux le-Vicomte. The Treasury Building, the Executive Office Building, Downing's parade, and the general plan for Lafayette Park were left intact, and Mullet's executive drives also remained. However, this plan proposed that the Ellipse become a circle, and that the dog-leg drives at the corners be removed. These items were never initiated. Tree plantings were relegated to the east and west borders of the Ellipse, leaving the bulk of the southern property open. The plan had little specific effect on President's Park except in a general sense, acknowledging the property as an important element in the overall fabric of the Monumental Core.¹⁷

McKim, Mead & White, 1902

A major renovation of the White House was undertaken in 1902. While not specifically tied to the grounds, the renovation changed the formal business and reception orientation of the building and grounds. The East and West Wings became primary points of daily ingress and egress, while the north and south entrances began to be used more for ceremonial functions. A drive was retained

Building as separate administrative entities ended. Under PL 68-478 these duties were combined under one authority known as the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital. As in the case of earlier commissioners before the Corps of Engineers in 1867, the director of public buildings and public parks of the national capital now reported directly to the president. The director was also chosen from the ranks of the Corps of Engineers, now directly by the president. This arrangement had been the *de facto* mode of operation for many years; now it operated under official sanction. This order of things continued until June 10, 1933, when Executive Order 6166 transferred the duties to the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, otherwise known as the National Park Service. See NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 1; *U.S. Statutes at Large*, XIV (Boston 1976), 466; *Annual Report, Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks, 1933*, 1; National Archives and Records Administration, *Records of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, Records Group 42, Inventory No. 16*, compiled by Mary-Jane M. Dowd (Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), 2-3; *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1925, 1935*. Olmsted Brothers, "Report to the President of the United States on Improvements and Policy of Maintenance for the Executive Mansion" (Brookline, MA., 1935), 1-32, *passim*; NPS, *The President's Park South*, plate XXVI.

17. Seale, *The President's House*, 655; Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 118-33; Trancik, *Finding Lost Space*, 155-78, *passim*.

from the north to the Executive Office wing in 1902, servicing the "temporary" office established by President Theodore Roosevelt that same year.¹⁸

The Commission of Fine Arts, 1910–

Established by Congress in 1910, the Commission of Fine Arts evolved as a result of the McMillan Commission and the 1902 White House renovation. It replaced the Council on Fine Arts established by Theodore Roosevelt in 1909. The original commission members were architect Daniel H. Burnham, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., architect Thomas Hastings, sculptor Daniel Chester French, artist Francis D. Millet, architect Cass Gilbert, and Charles Moore, the former secretary to Senator McMillan and the Senate Park Commission. Formed to carry forward the goals of the Senate Park Commission, the Commission of Fine Arts also took on the responsibility to review proposals for the location of monuments, fountains, and statues in the District of Columbia; to select artists; and to advise on the design of public buildings. The commission has reviewed most additions to the landscape of President's Park since 1910: in 1911 it reviewed 41 projects; today it reviews between 400 and 500 per year. The Shipsted-Luce Act of 1930 gave the Commission of Fine Arts jurisdiction over the review of new construction adjacent to or abutting existing or proposed public buildings and parks.¹⁹

George Burnap and Beatrix Farrand, 1913

First Lady Ellen Wilson took personal interest in the establishment of rose garden areas adjacent to the East and West Wings on the south. Designer George Burnap provided plans for the west garden based on Mrs. Wilson's suggestions and provided for a "President's Walk." His design replaced an earlier effort by Edith Roosevelt and White House gardener Henry Pfister to create colonial gardens comprised of an elaborate scheme of parterres adjacent to the West Wing in 1902. Landscape architect Beatrix Farrand provided designs for the east garden. Both designs drew from Italian models reinterpreted in a formal Beaux Arts framework. These designs provided the basis for the west Rose Garden and the east Jacqueline Kennedy Garden as they are known today.²⁰

National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), 1926–

Preceded by the Commission of Fine Arts in 1910 and the National Capital Park Commission in 1924, the National Capital Planning Commission took over

18. *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1903*, 2525; Seale, *The White House*, 166, 185, 204.

19. Sue A. Kohler, *The Commission of Fine Arts: A Brief History 1910–1990* (Washington, DC: The Commission of Fine Arts; 1990), 1–7; Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 200–1.

20. Seale, *The President's House*, 777–79; Seale, *The White House*, 206–11.

many of the duties of the Fine Arts Commission in seeing that the goals of the McMillan Plan of 1901 were carried out. Initial members included Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., Frederick A. Delano, and Charles Eliot. Consultants included city planners and developers such as J. C. Nichols of Kansas City, Missouri, and John Ihdlar of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant III served as a member and as the executive officer of the commission until 1933, when that position was taken over by personnel from the National Park Service. Grant's participation, his position as officer in charge of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital (formerly the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds) for the Army Corps of Engineers, and his supervision of work on the White House grounds provided an important link between President's Park and municipal planning efforts. The commission has since executed many plans of its own for the nation's capital.²¹ Among the most significant are the following:

Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, 1962-69: Beginning in the Kennedy administration, the Skidmore, Owings and Merrill plan also drew inspiration from the Johnson administration's beautification programs of the 1960s. Elaborate plans included an underground Ellipse parking facility and tunneling certain major east-west thoroughfares. The Haupt fountains at 16th Street and Constitution Avenue were installed concurrent with this overall grand design; however, little else was realized due to funding complications and a change in presidential administrations.²²

Advisory Council on Pennsylvania Avenue Master Plan, 1964: The 1964 plan called for, among other things, formal street plantings, with a new plaza at the northwest terminus designed with Renaissance-inspired paving patterns.²³

Joint Committee on Landmarks, 1965: As a cooperative effort of the National Capital Planning Commission, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the District of Columbia, historic preservation considerations were addressed before the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act put such concerns into a legal framework. The committee took a particular interest in Lafayette Park and the preservation of the surrounding neighborhood.²⁴

21. Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 185-87.

22. NPS, *The President's Park South*, plates XXVI through XXXI; Trancik, *Finding Lost Space*, 164; Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 294; Skidmore Owings and Merrill, "Ellipse One- and Two-level Garage Feasibility Studies, Summary Reports," 1967; *ibid.*, "Washington Mall Circulation System," 1973.

23. Trancik, *Finding Lost Space*, 165, plate 25; *The Campidoglio* (engraving by Etienne Duperac, 1569) as reproduced in H. W. Janson, *A History of Art: A Survey of the Major Visual Arts from the Dawn of History to the Present Day* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1966), 363; Thomas U. Walter, "Proposal for President's Park, 1852," as redrawn for Arthur Cotton Moore Associates, *The Aesthetic Master Plan*, plate 25, p. 39.

24. Gutheim, *Worthy of the Nation*, 293.

Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, 1962–96

In 1962 President Kennedy appointed an Advisory Council on Pennsylvania Avenue, chaired by Nathaniel Owings, in an attempt to revitalize L'Enfant's original vision for the avenue. In 1972 the advisory council was replaced by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. This corporation envisioned, among other things, the reconstruction and reinterpretation of the five major squares between the White House and the U.S. Capitol along Pennsylvania Avenue. These five squares are a portion of the some 30 projects sponsored by the corporation. The corporation ceased operations in 1996. The following represent major plans that were sponsored by the corporation and that had an immediate effect on the White House and President's Park:

Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown, 1980: The design for the western plaza attempted to invoke L'Enfant's original city plan in a playful "nonliteral" and "ironic" montage of symbolic forms cast in granite. Venturi envisioned two 86' high pylons to frame the western terminus, referencing both Le Nôtre and L'Enfant and their baroque aesthetics in terminating the ends of vistas with buildings, statuary, or plantings. The pylons were removed from the final plan.²⁵

M. Paul Friedberg, 1981: Friedberg's Pershing Park, a contemporary element with Venturi's western plaza, represents a departure from traditional planning concepts by turning the focus inward to a green and watered refuge from the city. Although controversial, the park has remained extremely popular.²⁶

Other Significant Plans

Olmsted Brothers, 1935

Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and his associates formulated plans specifically for the White House grounds. The plan again emphasized the importance of the L'Enfant vistas to the south and north and scheduled the removal and addition of plantings to complement this concept. The Grant administration's fiddle-shaped drive immediately south of the White House was removed and replaced with a circular roadway with a sunken south drive running from east to west. Olmsted was assisted by Morely Williams, who had been involved with the restoration of the landscape at Mount Vernon. Olmsted concentrated on "matters of appearance," seclusion, and privacy, but also addressed parking, service areas, deliveries, communications, circulation, formal gardens, viewsheds, and related items. Olmsted particularly wanted to see the formal entrance to the White House reestablished at the north portico instead of the East and West Wings as designed by McKim, Mead & White in 1902. Olmsted's 1935 plan has served as the general basis for all landscape work within the

25. Trancik, *Finding Lost Space*, 169–71.

26. *Ibid.*

White House fence to the present day. Although Olmsted discouraged the use of East and West Executive Avenues as major traffic routes, his work concerning the reconfiguration of E Street in the vicinity of Sherman Park, and the final use of State Place as an element of the east-west traffic route across the site further reenforced the bisection of President's Park. Plans for extending E Street through the property appear on maps as early as 1932; by 1936 the roadway was in operation. With the connection of E Street to freeway systems on the west in the 1960s, a major arterial thoroughfare bisected L'Enfant's site.²⁷

National Park Service, ca. 1935

Lafayette Park (renamed from Lafayette Square in 1933) was substantially reworked by the National Park Service in the 1930s. Many of the Downing-inspired serpentine secondary walks were removed, and new walks were installed. A new walk design, based on the original Downing scheme, was installed. Plant material was reworked, with thoughts to opening the vista to the north. The two bronze urns placed in the park in 1872 were relocated to the eastern and western edges of the park. Discussions regarding the removal of the Jackson statue, however, were tabled.²⁸

The Truman Renovation, 1949-52

The grounds of the White House were changed into a construction yard between 1949 and 1952 to accommodate the extensive renovation of the mansion. As a result, the grounds required complete relandscaping, which was accomplished for the most part by the National Park Service. Many individual elements were replaced, removed, or relocated; however, the Olmsted plan of 1935 served as the guiding principle in restoring the grounds, the major roadways and configurations.²⁹

27. Olmsted Brothers, "Report to the President," 1-32, 36-38, 39-55, passim; NPS, *The President's Park South*, plate XXVI.

28. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 7, 44-48.

29. "Immediate Release [Restoration of the Historic Executive Mansion Grounds]," March 19, 1952, Presidential Secretarial Files (PSF), file 3, box 301, Harry S. Truman Library (HSTL); Fanny-Fern Davis, "Report on the Care and Rehabilitation of the Executive Mansion Grounds Incident to the Renovation of the White House, January 1950 to May 1952" (Washington, DC: NPS, 1952), 1-3. Harry S. Truman to Douglas W. Orr, Apr. 13, 1952, Orr to Truman, Apr. 14, 1952, and Truman to Orr, Apr. 18, 1952, all in PSF, file 3, box 301, HSTL; Matthew J. Connelly to Senator Millard E. Tydings, Jan. 23, 1950, Office Files 50, file 2, box 309, HSTL; Seale, *The President's House*, 1050-51; Truman to Mrs. Hazel F. Taylor, Sept. 9, 1951, Office Files, HSTL.

John Carl Warnecke & Associates, 1962-69

From 1962 to 1969 John Carl Warnecke & Associates, in conjunction with Mrs. Paul Mellon and the National Park Service, redesigned Lafayette Park. Warnecke retained the basic 1930s walk design, based on the Downing scheme, and paved the walks in brick. Two fountains were built to the east and west of the Jackson statue in the general areas of the 1872 urns. The bronze urns were then placed in their present-day positions at the central entrance to the park on the south.³⁰

30. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 26-28, 40-49, 60-64; Bernardo Rostad to John C. Warnecke, Dec. 30, 1960, memorandum re: "Meeting 12/27 Lafayette Square," D 18/ Master Plan Lafayette Square (1/1/66 to 1/1/68), accession no. 68A-3201, box 18, Associate Regional Director (ARD), WHL/NPS.

Appendix C: An Inventory and Assessment of Structures and Memorials within and adjacent to President's Park

Historic Structures and Districts

American Red Cross National Headquarters National Historic Landmark. This structure, on the southwest corner of 17th and D Streets, NW, is a white marble structure designed in the Beaux Arts style with traditional classical ornaments. The structure is significant because it symbolizes the social and humanitarian role of the nation's largest official relief organization. (NHL 1985)

American Peace Society National Historic Landmark. This structure is a large Victorian townhouse at 734 Jackson Place dating from the 1860s. From 1911 to 1948 it was the home of the American Peace Society, "the oldest organization in America engaged exclusively in efforts to promote international peace." This structure is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NHL 1974)

American Revolution Statuary. Four sculptures in Lafayette Park — Lafayette, Kosciuszko, von Steuben, and Rochambeau — are included in this nomination for outdoor statues throughout Washington that are maintained by the National Park Service. Their significance, apart from the important people and events in the military and political history of the country, lies in the history of sculpture and the monumentation of the city. These sculptures are also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NRHP 1978)

Ashburton House (St. John's Church Parish House) National Historic Landmark. This residential structure at 1525 H Street, NW, is four stories with a mansard roof, massive stone frame window surrounds, and a "brownstone finish" exterior. The house is significant as the home of the British legation during the 10 months of negotiations that resulted in the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842, resolving the long-standing dispute with Great Britain over major segments of the boundary with Canada. This structure is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NHL 1973)

Blair House National Historic Landmark. This two-story, yellow stucco townhouse at 1651 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, was constructed between 1824 and 1827. It is significant for the great number of nationally prominent dignitaries who have resided or been received here and as a center of social

NOTE: The year that a structure or district was added to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), designated a national historic landmark (NHL), or recognized by the District of Columbia (DC) is shown in parentheses at the end of the listing. Several properties have multiple designations; in these cases only the highest designation is listed.

gatherings, the meeting place of great leaders, and the setting for great events for more than 150 years. The Blair House, also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District, is the presidential guest house. (NHL 1973)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace National Historic Landmark. This three-story structure at 700 Jackson Place, NW, is a modest townhouse constructed in 1860 in the Italianate style. From 1911 to 1948 this structure was headquarters for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a research and educational organization. It is significant for its association with this social/humanitarian organization. (NHL 1974)

Chase's Theater and Riggs Building (Keith's Theater and Albee Building). This theater/office building at the southeast corner of 15th and G Streets, NW, was erected between 1911 and 1912. It was designed by prominent Washington architect Jules Henri de Sibour in the Beaux Arts style. It is significant both for its architecture and for its importance as a center of Washington theatrical life. The rear portion and the theater were demolished in 1979. It is also a part of the Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District. (NRHP 1978)

Civil War Monuments in Washington, D.C. This nomination includes outdoor statues commemorating American Civil War figures maintained by the National Park Service. Four sculptures within and near President's Park are covered by this nomination — Maj. Gen. James B. McPherson, Adm. David G. Farragut, Maj. Gen. John A. Rawlins, and Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. In addition to commemorating significant military and political persons, the statues are significant to the history of sculpture and the monumentation of the city. (NRHP 1978)

Constitution Hall National Historic Landmark. Constitution Hall at 311 18th Street, NW, is a large Neoclassical structure built by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution to accommodate their annual meetings. It quickly became the unofficial cultural center of the nation's capital. It was designed by eminent architect John Russell Pope in 1928–29. The structure's significance lies in its architecture, its design by an important American architect, its importance to the arts, politics, and educational movements in Washington and the country, and its association with an important women's organization. Constitution Hall is part of the Seventeenth Street Historic Area. (NHL 1985)

Corcoran Gallery of Art. The Corcoran Gallery is a French Beaux Arts structure with neo-greque details. It was originally designed by Ernest Flagg in 1894–97 and added to by Charles Adams Platt in 1925–28. It faces east on 17th Street between E Street and New York Avenue, NW. It is significant for its architecture, the fact that it is an important work by two significant American architects, its association with the history of art in America, its association with prominent Washingtonian William Wilson Corcoran, and its educational mission. The Corcoran Gallery is part of the Seventeenth Street Historic Area. (NRHP 1971)

Decatur House National Historic Landmark. This structure at 748 Jackson Place, NW, was constructed in 1819 for Commodore Stephen Decatur. Designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, the most famous U.S. architect of the early 19th century, it is a brick Federal style structure with a stone foundation. It is significant as one of the few remaining structures associated with Latrobe, and the fact that it was the home of a famous 19th century military hero and subsequently the residence of several important Washington political figures. This structure is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NHL 1971)

Executive Office Building National Historic Landmark. The Executive Office Building (today known as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building) was constructed between 1871 and 1888 in the French Renaissance style, after a design by Alfred B. Mullett. The six-story building is of purple-gray granite with purple slate mansard roofs. It is significant for its architecture and for its association with men, events, and decisions of national importance. This structure is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NHL 1971)

Federal Triangle Historic District. Established by the District of Columbia, the historic district includes those neo-classical structures that make up the Federal Triangle complex. Also included is the United States Department of Commerce Building. (DC 1968)

Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District. This nomination covers 22 buildings along 15th Street, NW, between Sherman Park and McPherson Square, all but four of which were constructed between 1900 and 1930. Each building exhibits a monumentality of scale emulating the Treasury Building, a classical vocabulary, stately proportions, white or light colored building materials, and rich sculptural detail. The district is cohesive because designs consciously followed the concepts of the City Beautiful movement in urban planning. Several of the structures are also included within the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District, the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site, or are listed separately on the National Register of Historic Places. Structures within the district include the Treasury Building, National Metropolitan Bank Building, Chase's Theater and Riggs Building (Keith's Theater and Albee Building), National Savings and Trust Company, Riggs National Bank, American Security and Trust Company Building, Hotel Washington, W. B. Hibbs & Company (Folger Building), Playhouse Theater, Union Trust Company (First American Bank), Southern Building, Washington Building, American Security Building, Walker Building, Securities Building, Woodward Building, Bowen Building, Liberty National Bank, Shoreham Building, Lafayette Building, and Davidson Building. The district is significant for its architectural cohesiveness and integrity, its association with significant architects, and its association with the leading financial institutions in the District of Columbia. (NRHP eligible 1984)

Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. The district includes the area generally from 15th to 17th Streets, NW, and from State and Hamilton Places on the south to the north side of H Street, NW, excluding the White House grounds. Properties that contribute to the district are Lafayette Park, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the Treasury Building, Renwick Gallery,

Blair House, the former American Peace Society house, the former Carnegie Endowment for International Peace building, Decatur House, the Chamber of Commerce, the Hay-Adams Hotel, St. John's Episcopal Church and the Ashburton house, the Veterans Administration building, the Cutts-Madison house, the old Cosmos Club annex, the Tayloe-Cameron house, National Courts Building (Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and U.S. Court of Claims), Treasury Annex, Riggs National Bank, American Security and Trust Company, and National Savings and Trust Company. Many of these structures are also separately listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Lafayette Square is, itself, also a part of a larger national historic district nomination for the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia. The district is significant for its association with the L'Enfant plan, for its association with landscape designer Andrew Jackson Downing, and for the architectural significance of the structures surrounding the square that are rooted in the Federal period but express architectural styles through 19th-century Victorianism, early 20th-century Edwardian, and the 1920s Beaux Arts. The landmark district is also significant in the fields of commerce, military, and political affairs. (NHL 1970)

L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia. The L'Enfant Plan listing on the National Register of Historic Places recognizes the plan's significance to the beauty and history of Washington and identifies the remaining aspects of the original plan, as well as those modifications made in accordance with the McMillan plan of 1901-2. The period that is recognized dates from 1791 to World War II. It celebrates the only American example of a comprehensive baroque city plan with a coordinated system of radiating avenues, parks, and vistas laid over an orthogonal system. It is significant for its relationship to the creation of the new United States and its capital; for its design by L'Enfant, and the subsequent development and enhancement by numerous significant persons and groups responsible for the city's landscape architecture and regional planning; and for its well-preserved, comprehensive, classical Beaux Arts design. Included in the listing are Lafayette Park; Federal Reservation 1 (President's Park between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues and between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, except for the White House and grounds); all public streets and avenues throughout the study area; vistas on 16th Street through the study area, on F Street east from the Treasury, on Connecticut Avenue north from the White House, on New York Avenue north from the White House and south from the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, on Vermont Avenue north from the White House, and on Pennsylvania Avenue. (NRHP 1997)

Lock Keeper's House, C & O Canal Extension. The Lock Keeper's House on the southwest corner of 17th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, is a 1½ story rectangular Federal style structure with two dormers, gable-end chimneys, and a center doorway. It was built in 1833. Originally 2½ stories, the structure was moved to its present location in the early 1930s. It is significant as the only remnant of an extension built to connect the Washington City Canal with the C & O Canal. (NRHP 1973)

Memorial Continental Hall. Memorial Continental Hall was designed by New York architect Edward Pearse Casey and constructed on the west side of 17th

Street between C and D Streets, NW. It was completed in 1910, a "free adaptation" of Georgian architecture in pale gray Vermont marble. It was designed to be the headquarters and annual meeting hall for the Daughters of the American Revolution but was quickly outgrown and supplemented by Constitution Hall in 1929. The structure is significant as the site of the Arms Limitation Conference or Washington Conference in 1921. Memorial Continental Hall is part of the Seventeenth Street Historic Area. (NHL 1972)

National Metropolitan Bank Building. The National Metropolitan Bank Building was constructed between 1905 and 1907 at 613 15th Street, NW. The architects were B. Stanley Simmons of Washington and the New York firm of Gordon, Tracy, and Swartout. Although designed by different architects than the Chase's Theater and Riggs Building next door, it was designed to work with that building to present a unified Beaux Arts front. The structure is significant both for its architecture and for the prominence of the bank in the Washington financial community beginning in 1814. This structure is also a part of the Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District. (NRHP 1978)

National Savings and Trust Company. This high Victorian structure at 15th Street and New York Avenue, NW, was built in 1888 and enlarged in 1916 and 1925. Constructed of brick, sandstone, and bronze, the building was designed by James Windrim, a prominent Philadelphia architect. One of Washington's finest commercial buildings, it stands in marked contrast to the neighboring Beaux Arts structures. It is significant for its architecture and as a prominent, long-time Washington banking concern. (NRHP 1972)

Pan American Union. The Pan American Union is on the block bounded by 17th, 18th, Constitution, and C Streets, NW. It is the secretariat of the Organization of American States, which works to promote economic, social, juridical, and cultural relations among all member states. The property consists of three structures, a stable designed by Benjamin Latrobe (1816), a residence originally designed for the secretary general, and a main building that blends the classical style in vogue at the time of construction (1908-10) with Latin American motifs. The residence and main building are the work of Philadelphia architects Albert Kelsey and Paul P. Cret. The structure is also significant in the history of Pan-American relations. The Pan American Union is part of the Seventeenth Street Historic Area. (NRHP 1969)

Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site. This area includes a portion of Pennsylvania Avenue and many of the structures on both sides from Capitol Hill to the White House. The structures span the period from the 18th to the 20th century and include Ford's Theater, several blocks of the city's commercial district, and numerous federal structures. The avenue is significant for its relationship with the L'Enfant plan and its ceremonial function for inaugural parades, state funeral processions, victory parades, and other public ceremonies. The structures along its route are also significant for their architecture or historical significance to the city and the nation. (NRHP 1966)

President's Park South. This historic park includes the area bounded by State Place, South Executive Avenue, and Hamilton Place on the north, 15th Street on the east, Constitution Avenue on the south, and 17th Street on the west. It

is significant as an important element of L'Enfant's 1791 plan for Washington and as the primary remnant of Andrew Jackson Downing's 1851 landscape design for the National Mall and the adjoining area. Its most prominent feature is the Ellipse. It is also the location of the National Christmas Tree, the Bulfinch gatehouses, the Sherman statue (also included in the nomination for Civil War monuments in Washington D.C.), the First Division Monument, the Butt-Millet memorial fountain, the Second Division Monument, the Zero Milestone, the Original Patentees of the District of Columbia memorial, the Boy Scout Memorial, and the Haupt fountains. (NRHP 1980)

Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution National Historic Landmark. Constructed in 1859–61 on the northeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street, NW, this structure was designed in the French Second Empire style by James Renwick and Robert Auchmutz for its benefactor, William Wilson Corcoran, Washington banker and philanthropist. It is significant for the excellence of its architectural detail and its seminal position in the development in the United States of the Second Empire style. It is also significant for its use during the Civil War as the Clothing Department for the Union Army, for its place in the history of American art as one of the earliest public art galleries, and for its use by the U.S. Court of Claims. (NHL 1971)

Riggs National Bank. Riggs National Bank was constructed between 1899 and 1902 by the prominent New York firm of York and Sawyer at 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. It was designed in the popular Beaux Arts style known as Neoclassical Revival, featuring a white granite facade, Ionic columns, and a pedimented bay over the entrance. It is significant for its architecture and its association with a prominent Washington banking institution since 1836. Often referred to as the "President's Bank," Riggs has served many noted military, political, and civic leaders and has handled many important federal financial transactions, such as cashing the draft paid to Russia for the purchase of Alaska. Riggs National Bank is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District and the Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District. (NRHP 1971)

Seventeenth Street Historic Area. The area was established by the District of Columbia as a historic neighborhood comprised of four important Beaux Arts buildings. The buildings, constructed between 1897 and 1930, flank the western edge of the Ellipse and President's Park South. They include the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the American Red Cross, the Daughters of the American Revolution (including Constitution Hall and Memorial Continental Hall), and the Pan American Union. Also included is the Van Ness stable, a building related to an early 19th century residential complex designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe and located at the rear of the Pan American Union property. (DC 1968)

St. John's Church National Historic Landmark. Benjamin Latrobe designed St. John's, which was constructed in 1815–16 in the form of a Greek cross. A later addition transformed it into the Latin Cross extant today. On the northeast corner of 16th and H Streets, NW, it is of brick and yellow stucco with white trim. A lantern cupola sits above a flat dome at the intersection of the wings. An entrance portico with Doric columns fronts the west addition. The structure

is significant as the work of a master architect, as a notable example of late Federal architecture, for its association with various presidents and other important American statesmen, and as one of three original structures remaining around Lafayette Park. St. John's Church is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NHL 1960)

Union Trust Company. Constructed at 740 15th Street, NW, in 1906–7 in the Neoclassical Revival style, the building was expanded in 1927 and again in 1980–83. It is a nine-story concrete and steel structure with granite ashlar facing. The outstanding feature of its two facades is a Corinthian colonnade supporting a simple molded entablature and decorated cornice. It is significant as an excellent example of Neoclassical Revival architecture by the well-known Washington architectural firm Wood, Donn, and Deming. The Union Trust Building is also a part of the Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District. (NRHP 1984)

U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This structure at 1615 H Street, NW, is a four-story limestone Beaux Arts classical revival building that was designed by Cass Gilbert (one of the most accomplished architects of the early 20th century); it was completed in 1925. While the colonnaded corner building has been altered over the years, its appearance from the street is virtually unchanged. It is significant for its association with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which has represented American business interests in Washington since its inception in 1912. The building is also a contributing element of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District. (NRHP 1992)

U.S. Department of the Treasury National Historic Landmark. The Treasury Building was constructed in stages between 1836 and 1869 and is the work of Robert Mills (1836–42), Ammi B. Young and Alexander H. Bowman (1855–61), Isaiah Rogers (1862–64), and Alfred B. Mullett (1867–69). It is regarded as the most outstanding example of Greek Revival civil architecture in the United States. It was the largest nonmilitary structure undertaken by the government at the time, and it influenced numerous other examples of civil architecture across the country. The building is also a part of the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District, the Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District, and the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site. (NHL 1971)

Washington Monument. The Washington Monument nomination roughly covers the area between 14th and 17th Streets and between Constitution Avenue and the Tidal Basin. It includes three structures and a historic marker — the Washington Monument, the survey lodge, the memorial lodge, and the Jefferson pier marker. The Washington Monument was constructed between 1848 and 1885 as an Egyptian Revival obelisk 555' tall, 55' wide at the base and tapering to 34' at the top. It is granite with a white marble overlay. Inside a flight of 899 steps, surrounding a central elevator, climbs to an observation deck in the "pyramidion" that caps the shaft. There are 198 commemorative stones lining the walls of the stairway. The survey lodge, formerly known as the "boiler room," is a small, one-story structure constructed in 1886 of refuse marble and granite. Its basement originally housed the boilers that provided steam to run the elevator in the monument. The memorial lodge was built in

1888, also of refuse granite and marble, to provide restrooms for visitors, Washington National Monument Society records, and a residence for the monument custodian. It is a flat-roofed, one-story structure with a partial basement. The east front consists of a central porch recessed into the front wall and screened by two marble columns. The Jefferson pier marker is a small monument west and north of the Washington Monument that marks the spot of an earlier marker placed to identify the original L'Enfant-proposed location of the Washington Monument. The Washington Monument is significant as the nation's foremost memorial to the first president, as a major example of 19th century Egyptian Revival architecture, and as a notable accomplishment in structural engineering for its period. It and its landscaped grounds are literally central to the Monumental Core of the nation's capital. (NRHP 1966)

The White House. The White House at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, was originally constructed between 1791 and 1800, the work of James Hoban. It was reconstructed in 1815 after being burned by British soldiers during the War of 1812. It has been the home of every president of the United States since John Adams. The exterior of the main structure, despite some additions and minor changes, remains much as it was in 1800; the interior has been completely renovated using the historic floor plan. It is significant for its Federal architecture, as a symbol of the presidency, and for the important decisions made within its walls over the years. (NHL 1960)

Winder Building. The Winder Building occupies the northwest corner of 17th and F Streets, NW. It was built in 1847–48 as a commercial venture and later sold to the federal government, although it has always been occupied by governmental agencies. It is a five-story brick building with a basement. Although altered on several occasions, it retains its significance as one of the few remaining pre-Civil War office buildings in Washington. It is notable for its early use of iron beams and its central heating system. The building's main significance lies in its history of military and governmental use. (NRHP 1969)

Memorials

Lafayette Park

Jackson Statue

Sculptor: Clark Mills

Dedication: January 8, 1853

Authorized under an act of Congress on March 3, 1853, with \$20,000 appropriated and \$12,000 donated by the Jackson Democratic Association of Washington, D.C. The statue cost was \$32,000. The cost of the pedestal was \$8,000, with money appropriated by acts of August 31, 1852 (\$5,000), March 3, 1853 (\$3,000), and May 31, 1854 (\$500). The statue represents the first equestrian statue to be cast in Washington, D.C., and the second in the country. It was cast from cannon captured by Jackson at Pensacola, Florida, in 1818. Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois delivered the dedication speech. The inscription "Our Federal Union, It Must Be

Preserved," originally planned as part of the monument, was not added to the pedestal until 1909.¹

Jackson Cannon

Dedication: Date unknown

The four cannon around the base of the Jackson statue were captured in the Battle of Pensacola in 1818. Officials ordered the muzzles of the guns sealed in World War I. The carriages have been replaced and repaired often. The cannon were cast by Josephus Barnola of Barcelona, Spain. Two bear the Spanish coat of arms of Ferdinand VI and the motto *Violati Regis Fulmina* ("Thunderbolts of an Outraged King"). These pieces were cast in 1748 and named for two Visigothic kings of Spain in the late 7th and early 8th centuries — "El Egica" (5'5"; cal. 8.6 cm.) and his son "Witiza" (5'5"; cal. 9 cm.). The other two pieces were cast by Barnola in 1773 and were named "El Apolo" (Apollo; 5'11"; cal. 8.9) and "El Aristeo" (Aristeides; 5'10½"; cal. 8.9) after Greek gods. The first reinforce of one of the pieces is engraved with the date of its capture by Jackson at the fortress of San Carlos de Barnacas, Pensacola, May 28, 1818, and also includes the names of his officers.²

Memorial Urns

In 1872 Secretary of the Navy George M. Robeson ordered two memorial urns to be cast at the Washington Naval Yard brass foundry. Weighing about 1,300 pounds each and 7' in height, they were installed on granite pedestals in Lafayette Park. In 1879 they were fitted with galvanized iron pans and used for ornamental plantings. They have been moved from their original locations a number of times, most notably in 1936 and 1962.³

Bernard Baruch Bench of Inspiration

This bench and plaque, at the northwest corner of the walk around the Jackson statue in Lafayette Park, was dedicated to the memory of financier and

1. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," by Cornelius W. Heine, table IV; NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 29; NPS, "The Statue of General Andrew Jackson," by Stanley McClure, 1430/Histories of Various Statues and Monuments, box 16, acc. 66A-1097, and 1430/Jackson Statue, box 17, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

2. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 29. John Carl Warnecke to Robert W. Andrews, Feb. 3, 1967; Mrs. Mellon to Warnecke, May 23, 1967 (with annotation by Mike Painter June 27, 1967); Warnecke to Mrs. Paul Mellon, June 6, 1967; [] to "Ashton," June 28, 1967; Walton (chairman, CFA) to Jett, Oct. 10, 1966; Ernest Brooks Jr. to Hartzog, Dec. 21, 1965; all in D24/Lafayette Park (1/1/69), box WHL-AM-002, Executive Support Facility, White House Liaison, National Park Service (hereafter cited as ESF/WHL/NPS). Castro to John Walker, Feb. 14, 1969, D24/Lafayette Park (1/1/69), box 28, acc. 79-7524, ESF/WHL/NPS; Michael Painter to Jett, Aug. 30, 1966, D18/Lafayette Park (1963-67), box 21, acc. 72A-6215, ESF/WHL/NPS; "List of Nonferrous Cannon, National Capital Parks Areas, Washington DC," 1430/Tables, Markers, Etc., box 17, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

An article by ex-Senator Hiram Bingham in the August 23, 1942, *Washington Post* gave more detailed information concerning the cannon. Bingham evidently was instrumental in saving the cannon from a wartime scrap drive. See [article by ex-Senator Bingham], *Washington Post*, 8/23/42, pp. 1-2, 1460/Lafayette Park (2), box 17, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

3. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 19.

politician Bernard Baruch in 1960 by the Boy Scouts of America. Baruch spent many days in Lafayette Park, enjoying the site and working out many of his important plans.⁴

Lodge

Architect: Horace Peaslee

Landscape Architect: George Burnap

The first lodge for Lafayette Park was built in 1872 on the north side, including restrooms, a toolshed, and a watchman's booth. Various changes were made until 1913 when Congress appropriated \$3,500 for a replacement. As contractors began construction, neighborhood protests caused the secretary of war to suspend construction. On November 14, 1913, a notice was published for a public hearing on November 18 in the offices of the assistant secretary of war. After the hearing, the secretary decided to resume construction. The contractor restarted on December 12, 1913, and finished on May 15, 1914. The structure is about 12' high and, except for trellises, appears much as it did upon completion. The structure has a tool room, a room for the park watchman, and two restrooms (now closed).⁵

Brigadier General Tadeusz Andrzej Bonawentura Kosciuszko Statue

Sculptor: Antoni Popiel

Dedication: May 11, 1910

Given to the American people by the Polish American Alliance and Polish American people. Cost not available. Accepted by a joint resolution of Congress on April 18, 1904. An act of Congress on February 25, 1910, appropriated \$3,500 for the dedication of the statue.⁶

Major General Frederick William Augustus Henry Ferdinand, Baron von Steuben Statue

Sculptor: Albert Jaegers

Dedication: December 7, 1910

Acts of Congress February 27, 1903, and June 25, 1910, appropriated \$50,000 for the statue and pedestal, with \$2,500 for the dedication.⁷

General Jean Baptiste Donatien de Vimeure, Comte de Rochambeau Statue

Sculptor: M. Hamar, Paris

Dedication: May 24, 1902

A total of \$22,500 for the statue and pedestal was authorized by Congress March 3, 1901 (\$7,500), and February 14, 1902 (\$15,000). On March 21 and May 15, 1902, Congress appropriated an additional \$10,000 for the

4. Smith (chief, Public Use, NCR) to files, May 10, 1960, 1460/Lafayette Park (2), box 17, acc. 66A-1097, WH&WPP files, ARD/WHL/NPS.

5. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 19.

6. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 35-37.

7. NPS, *Lafayette Park*, 37-39.

expenses of the French government and for the Lafayette and Rochambeau families to attend the dedication.⁸

Major General Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette Statue

Sculptors: Alexandre Falguiere and Antonin Mercié

Architect: Paul Pujol

Dedication: Unveiled without ceremony April 5, 1891.

An act of Congress March 3, 1885, authorized the memorial and appropriated \$50,000 for the statue.⁹

Lafayette Square National Historic Site Plaque

Old Dominion Foundation Plaque

Commemorates the support of the Old Dominion Foundation in the restoration of Lafayette Park; 1979.

Lee House 1858 Marker

Commemorates the history of the Lee family of Virginia and their association with the White House.

Dedication: Society for the Lees of Virginia, 1981.

First Home of the Reserve Officers Association 1824–1938

Dedication: Reserve Officers Association, May 1984.

Honors the Blair-Lee house as the first office of this organization.

Blair House Markers (5)

(1) Explanatory history of the Blair house. No date.

(2) National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. No date.

(3) Dedication: Sigma Delta Chi Professional Journalists Society, 1969.
Commemorates the residency of Francis Preston Blair, editor of the *Globe* newspaper during the Jackson administration.

(4) Dedication: President Truman, May 21, 1952.

A memorial in honor of Leslie Coffelt, the Secret Service agent killed November 1, 1950, in the Truman assassination attempt.

(5) Entrance Gardens

Dedication: Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carroll Massey, Nashville, Tennessee, 1988.

U.S. Treasury Building

Alexander Hamilton Statue

Sculptor: James E. Fraser

Architect: Henry Bacon

Dedication: 1923

8. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, "The Marshall Rochambeau Statue," by Stanley McClure, 1430/Histories of Various Statues and Monuments, box 16, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

9. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV.

Albert Gallatin Statue

Sculptor: James E. Fraser

Dedication: 1947

Proposed by the Democratic Party in 1926, funding and World War II delayed the placement of the statue until 1947.

Liberty Bell (Treasury)

This replica of the original bell (cast by Thomas Lester in London in 1752; recast by John Pass and John Shaw in Philadelphia in 1753) is on the west side of the Treasury Building. It is one of 54 bells cast in France and donated to the United States by the six companies representing the American copper industry as part of the Independence Savings Bond Drive, May 15 to July 4, 1950. The bells were given to each state and territory by direction of Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder. The replica was cast at the foundry of the sons of Georges Paccard in Annecy-le-Vieux, Haute Savoie, France, and dedicated on December 1, 1950. The bell is 45" in height, 26" wide and has a circumference of 12'. It weighs 2,000 pounds. The supports for the bells were donated by the American Bridge Company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation. The plaque was donated by Revere Copper and Brass, Inc. The base is of wood. The Ford Motor Company donated transportation services.¹⁰

Webster-Ashburton Treaty Marker

Commemorates the treaty between the United States and Great Britain that was signed in the old State Department building on August 9, 1842, and that established the northeastern boundary between the United States and Canada. Erected by the Kiwanis Club of Washington on April 30, 1929.

White House Grounds

Time Capsule

October 13, 1992

Commemorates the 200th anniversary of the laying of the White House cornerstone.

Jackson Milk Trough

Stone Carver: Robert Brown

Originally installed in an underground room under the north portico either in 1817, when the foundations were laid, or in 1829, when the portico was built. One of a pair of troughs that would have been used for cooling buckets of milk. The area under the north portico would have been close to the original kitchen. As of 1881 the cooling room was converted to a bathroom. After 1902 the space was used for coal storage. When a new kitchen and underground storage space were installed in 1935, this trough and another broken one were discovered. The trough was placed on the northeast edge of the south lawn in 1935. William Seale states that the

10. Status Survey (no date); program: "Dedicatory Ceremonies: Replica Liberty Bell, December 1, 1950 — 12:00 Noon"; Paula Mohr (Dept. of the Treasury, Office of the Curator), to William P. O'Brien (NPS), facsimile, Nov. 11, 1994.

trough was carved for President Andrew Jackson by Robert Brown, one of the original Edinburgh White House stone carvers, in 1834.¹¹

Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building

Cannon

Two 5" brass trophy guns captured by the United States Navy on May 1, 1898, from the Spanish arsenal at Cavete in the Philippine Islands following the defeat of the Spanish naval squadron in Manila Bay. Admiral Dewey had the guns sent to the National Museum (now the Smithsonian Institution), and they are now on loan from the Smithsonian's Division of Armed Forces History. The guns were cast in Seville, Spain, in 1875, according to plaques attached to the tops of the gun barrels. From 1900 to 1943 there were 29 such pieces of ordnance from the Revolutionary, Mexican-American, and Spanish American wars on display around the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. These were later sent to various battlefields or scrapped during World War II.¹²

Anchors

Anchors L1984.A and B are on loan to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building from the Department of the Navy, Navy Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. They are Badlt MFG type anchors 76" high, 58" wide, and 75" across. Both are inscribed with "USN" and weigh 1,011 and 1,027 pounds respectively.

State, War, and Navy Building Markers (2)

- (1) History of the building and a map. No date.
- (2) National Register of Historic Places plaque. 1972.

State, War, and Navy Building

History of the Spanish brass trophy guns. No date.

Eisenhower (Old) Executive Office Building Plaque

Building's history and its placement on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971.

President's Park South

First Division Monument — American Expeditionary Forces, World War I

Sculptor: Daniel Chester French

Designer: Cass Gilbert

Dedication: October 4, 1924

11. Seale, *The White House*, 94; Office of the Curator, White House, "Water Trough on South Grounds," June 5, 1991.

12. John F. Dawson (Executive Office of the President, Office of Administration) to William P. O'Brien, facsimile, Oct. 14, 1993.

A public resolution of December 16, 1921 (H. J. Res. 81), authorized the placement of the memorial on public grounds without expense to the government. Sponsored by the Memorial Association of the First Division of the U.S. Army in the World War. The World War II extension on the west was designed by Cass Gilbert Jr. in 1957 under authority of an act of Congress June 25, 1947 (61 Stat. 178). The Vietnam extension on the east was added under the authority of a 1977 act of Congress.¹³

Sherman Monument

Sculptor: Carl Rohl-Smith with Sara Rohl-Smith, Lauritz Jensen, Sigvald Asbjornsen, Stephen Sinding, and Mrs. Theodore Alice Ruggles Kitson.

Dedication: October 15, 1903

Appropriation from Congress by an act of July 5, 1892, in the amount of \$50,000 and by an act of March 2, 1895, for \$30,000. The Army of Tennessee contributed \$11,000. Carl Rohl-Smith died before the monument could be completed; it was finished under the supervision of his wife, Sara Rohl-Smith. The subfoundation, mosaic, granite curbing, and grounds improvement amounted to \$40,055.05 as of 1952. Lighting, sidewalks, landscaping, curbing, and other work were finished in 1993 by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation.¹⁴

Butt-Millet Memorial Fountain

Sculptor: Daniel Chester French

Architect: Thomas Hastings

Dedication: None

A memorial fountain established by friends in the memory of presidential aide Archibald Butt and Fine Arts Commission member Francis Millet, who died aboard the *Titanic*. A public resolution of August 24, 1912, authorized placement at no expense to the government.¹⁵

Haupt Fountains

Sculptor: Gordon Newell/James Hunolt

Architect: Nathaniel Owings

Engineers: Palmer, Campbell and Reese

Contractors: Curtin and Johnson

Dedication: None

The 18' square/1' thick Minnesota rainbow granite fountains weigh 55 tons apiece. Mrs. Lyndon Johnson made arrangements to install four fountains on the Ellipse to frame the view of the White House in water when seen from the Washington Monument. Through arrangements by Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, president of the Society for a More Beautiful Capital, Mrs. Enid Annenberg Haupt donated two fountains, to be placed on either side of 16th Street south of the Ellipse. The Cold Springs Granite Company

13. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 45-47.

14. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 33; "The Memorial to General William Tecumseh Sherman," 1430/Histories of Various Statues and Monuments, box 16, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

15. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 44-45.

supplied the granite; Wallace F. Whitney, vice president of Hydrel Corporation, supplied the fountain equipment; and Harry M. Atherton Jr., of Macon, Inc., supplied hand-made brick pavers. Nathaniel Owings, chairman of the President's Temporary Commission on Pennsylvania Avenue, offered to design the site for the fountains as a gift to the Ellipse project. The National Park Service supplied the electrical work. Cost, with donations, \$135,653.20.¹⁶

District Patentees Memorial

Sculptor: Carl Mose

Designer: Delos Smith

Dedication: April 25, 1936

Erected by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists at a cost of \$1,000. The memorial consists of a marble cenotaph commemorating the original owners of the land who sold their holdings to the U.S. government in order to form the District of Columbia.¹⁷

Boy Scout Memorial

Sculptor: Donald DeLue

Architect: William Henry Deacy

Dedication: November 7, 1964

Authorized by act of Congress, July 28, 1959 (PL 86-111). Originally scheduled for the Mall, the siting of this monument in President's Park caused controversy in Washington.¹⁸

Zero Milestone

Sculptor: Unknown

Architect: Horace Peaslee

Dedication: June 4, 1923

On June 28, 1919, the U.S. government permitted the National Highway Marking Association to place a plaster monument commemorating the start of an automobile trip to San Francisco on July 7, 1919. Congress authorized a permanent marker on June 5, 1920. Under the auspices of the

16. NPS, *The President's Park South*, 42-43; Ralph E. Becker to W.I.N.A.C. Burlingame, Underwood, Wright, White and Lord, Aug. 11, 1969, D24/Maintenance/ Rehabilitation (1969), box 31, acc. 79-80-0002, ESF/WHL/NPS. Castro to reg. dir., Dec. 19, 1966; Owings to Castro, Jan. 31, 1968; Castro to Owings, Feb. 12, 1968; all in D24/General Beautification (7/1/66-6/30/67) (2), box 21, acc. 72A-6215, ESF/WHL/NPS. Atkins to dir. (NCP and Urban Affairs), memorandum, Mar. 22, 1971; Atkins to dir. (NCP), Aug. 31, 1971; both in D46/General Fountains (1/1/70), box 28, acc. 72A-6215, ESF/WHL/NPS. Atkins to Patricia H. Collins, Aug. 18, 1971; Mrs. Saul (Rose) Zalles to John N. Mitchell, June 24, 1971; both in D22/Central (1/1/69), box 27, acc. 79-7524, ESF/WHL/NPS. Dickenson to Mr. Ralph E. Becker, April 15, 1970, D24/President's Park (1/1/69), box 28, acc. 79-7524, ESF/WHL/NPS. "Status of Haupt Fountains, November 7, 1968"; "Summary of Beautification Matters Requiring Follow-up Information, October 24, 1968"; "Background Information Concerning the Haupt Fountains"; all in A7217/ 1968 ARD Pinks (3 of 4), box WHL-AM-020, ESF/ARD/WHL/NPS.

17. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 34-35.

18. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 35-39; PL 111, 86th Cong., S. 602, July 28, 1959. See also 1430/Boy Scout Memorial, box 16, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

Lee Highway Association, the 4' pink North Carolina granite monument was completed in January 1922 and dedicated in 1923, at no expense to the United States.¹⁹

Civil Engineering Marker (Zero Milestone)

Established by the American Society of Civil Engineers to commemorate the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in 1974.²⁰

Second Division Monument / American Expeditionary Forces Memorial

Sculptor: James E. Fraser

Architect: John Russell Pope

Dedication: July 18, 1936

Sponsored by the Second Division Association at a cost of \$60,000 and built under the authority of a 1931 joint resolution of Congress. Additions were made at later dates.²¹

Bulfinch Gatehouses

Architect: Charles Bulfinch

Dedication: 1828

Originally built as gatehouses for the U.S. Capitol, the structures were moved to the corners of 15th and 17th Streets at Constitution Avenue in 1880 and substantially overhauled in 1939.²²

National Christmas Tree

Dedication: 1923

Lighting of the National Christmas Tree, a Washington tradition since 1923, began on the Ellipse. A cut tree was placed at various sites over the years, but the same site has been used since 1954. In 1973 a permanent tree was planted and was replaced in 1976. In 1978 a 30' Colorado blue spruce was donated by Mr. and Mrs. William E. Meyers of York, Pennsylvania.

National Christmas Tree Plaque

A suggested inscription for the plaque as of August 6, 1974, read "A gift of the National Arborist Association 1973."²³

19. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 29-30.

20. James O. Granum (PE) to Fish, May 24, 1974; John D. Townsley (acting dir., NCP) to Granum, June 28, 1974; both in D66/General Memorials (6/1/74) (2), box 31, acc. 79-77000-3, ESF/ARD/WHL/NPS.

21. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 43-44; NPS, "The Second Division Memorial," by Stanley McClure, 1430/Histories of Various Statues and Monuments, box 16, acc. 66A-1097, ESF/WHL/NPS.

22. NPS, "A History of National Capital Parks," table IV; NPS, *The President's Park South*, 39-42. The only mention of the lodge by the Corps of Engineers is in the *Annual Report, Chief of Engineers, 1881*, which reported that a high water mark was cut in the stone lodge for a flood in February of 1881 (p. 2712). There is no reference in the Corps reports for the actual assembling of the lodges.

23. Art Lamb (chief, Special Events) to assoc. dir. (Professional Services), July 22, 1974; assoc. dir. (Cooperative Activities) to chief (Special Events), Aug. 6, 1974; both in D66/General Memorials (6/1/74) (2), box 31, acc. 79-770003, ESF/WHL/NPS.

Appendix D: Primary Interpretive Themes for the White House and President's Park

1. The primary function of the White House is to be the home of the president and the president's family.

Owned by the American people, this world-class museum, historic site, and public stage is, foremost, the home of the presidential family. Regarded and administered as a house and not a palace, the White House represents the American ideal of "family" and "home" — a home in which normal family events take place: weddings, births, deaths, and other family milestones.

The White House has been the residence of every American president except George Washington, who chose its location and supervised its construction. The privilege of occupying the mansion is granted by the American people, and the routine succession of its inhabitants is a reaffirmation of the ideals of American democracy.

As the home of presidents, the White House must serve the needs of the presidential family, just as any American home serves its occupants. It must offer these active families opportunities for privacy, protection, and recreation. This is increasingly difficult in this very public house. The White House is the only official residence of a head of state that is regularly open to the public free of charge. Additionally, the White House must serve the president as the location for official and ceremonial functions, many of which convey national and international significance. The nation's frontyard is the president's backyard.

The struggle to maintain privacy in this "fishbowl" is intensified by the public's fascination with the private lives of presidential families, both past and present. The prospect of "looking through the keyholes" at life behind the public scene presents opportunities for glimpses of presidents and their families that reveal their personalities and characters. Personal family touches — pictures, pets, etc. — heighten the connections to an interested public. For the informed observer, evidence can be found throughout the mansion and grounds that provide windows into the lives of past presidents and the use of the White House over time.

2. The White House is a symbol of the presidency, of a free democratic society, and through its continuity, of the stability of our nation.

As the preeminent symbol of a stable democracy in an ever-changing world, the White House has come to represent democracy for all the world's citizens, and its occupants serve as the voice of democratic ideals. The continuity of this

image is reinforced by, and in great part derived from, the peaceful transfer of power, from George Washington to the present.

As the embodiment of our nation's point of view, the White House is the world's focal point for people to express *their* views. The story of First Amendment expressions at the White House is a narrative of our nation's changing perspectives and the diversity of opinions held by its citizens. Here individuals learn that through the legal process of petitioning the government they have the power to make a difference. Many also learn that there are costs and rewards for taking an unpopular stand.

President's Park provides a critical role in the right of peaceful protest and petition before the White House. People feel safe and protected as they speak their views at this site. This right is carefully preserved, along with public access to the White House, and is symbolic of our commitment to democracy. Free public access to the White House has been a unique privilege since 1801, a privilege not accorded in other countries.

Although the White House and President's Park continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of the president, efforts are made to maintain the symbolic stability of the site by perpetuating its architectural and landscape integrity. This integrity provides ever-present evidence of the continuity of our ideals and the enduring opportunity for all people to reach out to their leaders.

3. President's Park, as a primary element of the federal city, serves as a stage for active participation in the democratic process, and it is linked by Pennsylvania Avenue — America's main street — to the legislative and judicial processes on Capitol Hill.

The significance of the White House and President's Park can be more fully appreciated and understood when viewed in the context of its cultural landscape. Based firmly on 19th century landscape concepts, the physical relationships embodied in the design and layout of the District of Columbia illustrate the foundation of the American form of democracy — the divisions and connections of power between the three branches of government. The evolution of plans for the federal city, from its original design by Pierre Charles L'Enfant to its present configuration, represent the ongoing evolution of government and philosophically differing points of view regarding the separation of powers.

Throughout the development of the federal city, the White House has remained a pivotal element of the L'Enfant plan. The open spaces of President's Park serve as the focal point of the hopes, moods, and concerns of the local community, the nation, and the international community. These spaces also serve as oases for local residents and visitors seeking quiet and recreation in an urban setting, perceptibly enhanced by its proximity to this greatest of American houses. Special events and First Amendment activities all take on a greater relevancy and sense of excitement in the shadow of the White House.

As the District of Columbia has grown around it, the continuity of the President's Park landscape, its relationship with the other federal government

buildings, and its continued public access symbolize the stability of our government, the growth in prestige of the office of presidency, and the long heritage of all peoples of the country.

4. The White House is a mirror and magnifier of the nation's cultural, recreational, and topical history.

Throughout its history, the White House has reflected, enhanced, and influenced the nation's events and phenomena in a variety of subject areas.

The people of the world look to the White House for expressions of our collective American cultural identity. Presidents throughout the years have attempted to represent and showcase the many cultures that make up American society. This cultural diversity is represented in historical and present-day expressions of the arts, crafts, entertainment, and foods of the United States and the world.

As the premiere American family, the lifestyles of the presidential family exert a great influence on the trends of American culture. The foods, music, and entertainment at White House dinners, both public and private, hold a great fascination for the public and are extensively reported in the news media. Fashions worn at the White House reveal the nation's social and economic climate and are widely imitated for popular use. Foods eaten or not eaten by the president can influence the tastes of people nationwide. Thomas Jefferson's White House macaroni dinners, Ronald Reagan's penchant for jelly beans, George Bush's dislike for broccoli — each has had its influence on the populace. The dining habits of the presidential family can confirm trends, such as the recent shift to healthier cuisines or the past elimination of alcoholic beverages. Equally, the recreational pursuits of the president confirm and set trends in American leisure activities.

Venerated as an icon of the American way of life, the White House has taken on a nearly sacred status in the American psyche. Events of great consequence — both sad and joyful — spontaneously draw large numbers of people to the White House to share in a collective experience.

5. The White House is the seat of the executive branch of government.

From its inception, the White House has been the primary office of the president, in addition to serving as his home and more recently as a museum. The power associated with the White House emanates from this function as the Executive Office of the President. This is the place where people come in direct contact with their highest elected representative. This is the platform from which the president communicates with the world, using the powerful symbolism of the White House to achieve desired behavior and actions. Simply hearing the words "Oval Office" conjures up all the authority and power of the presidency.

The evolution of location and size of the president's office and executive support staff tells the story of the growth in the power of both the United States and

its chief executive. Significant in this story is the development of the West Wing and the Oval Office. Also figuring prominently are the immediately adjacent Eisenhower Executive Office Building and the Treasury Building, as well as their predecessors, the original State, Treasury, War, and Navy buildings. Together these buildings concentrated and defined the power of the president. Today, proximity to the White House is perceived as an expression of executive authority.

Within the White House complex many different government agencies and public institutions must co-exist to serve the president and the public, while preserving the integrity of the White House. Most visible among these is the role played by the news organizations in keeping the connections open between the public and the president.

The White House roles as office and home are most clearly integrated during the many official functions held on the site. Receiving and entertaining guests at the White House serves as one of the president's most powerful tools in communicating with the world.

In addition to serving as the office of the president, the White House serves as the office of the first lady. The development of this function, from a primarily social function to one of administrative importance, chronicles the growth in the public influence of the first lady.

6. Many people from different backgrounds and cultures have been essential in the growth and operation of the White House as the home and office of the president.

The story of the White House and President's Park cannot be told without accounting for the many people behind the scenes that have made it all possible. Frequently, the impacts and contributions of these people have been little understood by the American public.

Few people realize that the original laborers and stonecutters constructing the White House were African-American slaves hired from their masters. Many other cultures were represented at the construction site; most of the crews were comprised of emigrant skilled workers and indentured laborers. As an example of this cultural diversity, the planner of the federal city was French, the designer of the President's House was Irish, and the stonemasons were Scottish.

From cooks to plumbers to U.S. Secret Service agents, a look behind the scenes at today's White House illustrates the diversity of people and professions who come together to make the site work. Permanent residence staff that continue from one administration to the next work closely with special assistants who serve a particular president. Business as usual at the White House may have its routine, but it is never ordinary, for there is a mystique and a special pride to working at the White House. That pride is evident whenever a member of the staff describes the manner in which they serve the president.

7. The White House is an example of the continuum of history — through its stories as well as its artifacts.

The White House is an extraordinary living museum whose collections of rare and fine art, furnishings, and objects, many of which are associated with presidents and their families, make it possible for people to come into direct physical and emotional contact with our nation's history.

The White House has served as a showcase for the best of America, beginning with an exhibition by Thomas Jefferson of objects collected on the Lewis and Clark expedition. Today the White House contains one of the best decorative and fine arts collections in the United States. The careful observer can detect the changes in values and attitudes of different presidential families through the changes in the use of artifacts and decorations.

But what makes the White House truly extraordinary is that it is the only museum in the world in which history is made daily. It is this aspect that makes a visit to the state rooms so exceptional; the rooms in which visitors stand during morning tours are the same rooms where history-making events may take place later in the day.

Echoes of the personalities that shaped our history — their aspirations and political beliefs — and the events that took place here can still be found throughout the White House. John Adams's prayer carved on the mantel of the State Dining Room is an obvious example. Many older visitors to the Diplomatic Reception Room can still hear Franklin D. Roosevelt addressing the nation during his fireside chats. The magic of rolling Easter eggs on the White House lawn is probably much the same today as it was for the first egg rollers in 1879.

If the White House is a capsulized version of American history, then the stories of the men and women who have produced this institution are the stories of America itself. Many were powerful and well-known. Others have labored in obscurity, performing essential tasks. Through the discovery of their stories and the legacy of their material culture, we discover ourselves.

8. The stability of the design and architecture of the White House and President's Park is a product of continuing adaptation to changing needs and technology.

Originally a product of 18th century design, the White House and President's Park exhibit over two centuries of borrowed traditions and American ideals. Employing European models, the original planners and designers — George Washington, Pierre Charles L'Enfant, and James Hoban — created a distinctly American mansion that reflected the mentality of its builders, as well as that of the nation at that time. The resulting building is still thought to be one of the finest examples of American architecture and craftsmanship.

Even though the house and grounds were designed to serve all foreseeable needs of the presidency, it was not long before modifications were introduced to address the needs and attitudes of its changing occupants. These are

dramatically illustrated by the work of Thomas Jefferson, whose building additions and landscape alterations created a more functional and "republican" estate. Over time, greenhouses have been built and removed, wings have been added and modified, gardens and recreation spaces have evolved according to the vision of the presidential family. Presidents continue to affect the landscape of the White House grounds through the planting of commemorative trees. Many technological improvements have been added. Each change has built upon the legacy of the past and has helped ensure a livable, workable complex capable of meeting the needs of the president and the agencies that serve and protect him. Most of the modern changes to the White House complex have occurred in the wings and basements and are not readily visible to the public.

The White House has reflected the personality of each presidential family, mirroring their style of public and private life, as well as their political sensibilities. Yet through all this the White House has remained remarkably stable in appearance. Great care has been taken to maintain its historic image, each president respecting the historical associations of the mansion. As a result, the White House has retained its traditional appearance, much of its furnishings and decor, and even many of the memorabilia of its occupants. A stable White House is a symbol for a stable nation. This symbolism is, perhaps, no better illustrated than President Madison's decision to rebuild the mansion in nearly its exact form after its burning in 1814.

The landscape of President's Park has undergone substantive modifications, yet it too has remained virtually the same since the late 19th century. The other two major buildings of President's Park, the Treasury Building and the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, illustrate the changing fashion of American architecture and the growing power of the U.S. government. Many of the changes in the park landscape reflect the evolution of public use and conceptions of open spaces, and the perspectives of the American people. Memorials throughout President's Park evidence the nature of U.S. heroes. Lawns that once supported Union troops are now the scene for impromptu ball games. These same spaces must also serve as stages for presidential ceremonies, First Amendment demonstrations, and special events.

Stability through flexibility is the keynote of President's Park and the White House.

9. The responses of presidents and first ladies to the challenges of the presidency provide important lessons in their varying capabilities to handle difficulties.

Almost immediately upon occupying the White House, presidents and first ladies often are viewed as heroes of the American culture. The so-called "honeymoon period" at the outset of each new administration is evidence of America's willingness to see a president succeed. Yet, only with a historical perspective can an administration be judged as successful or a president's career as exceptional.

Presidents and first ladies come from all walks of life. Some were perceived as great leaders, both political and inspirational, long before ascending to the

presidency. Others were virtual unknowns who achieved greatness through their deeds while occupying the White House. Some failed to live up to the public's expectations at that time, only to have history appraise their administrations as distinguished.

The political climate and exigencies of the period can significantly influence the character of the presidency and the perceived greatness of a president. Would Abraham Lincoln be exalted among American presidents if there had been no Civil War to challenge him to monumental deeds? Would Lyndon Johnson's Great Society program have placed him on the same level if there had not been the ordeal of the Vietnam War?

First ladies, too, have frequently risen from positions of unsung supporters of their husbands to positions of national influence. The importance of the role of first lady and her ability to make a significant national impact has grown slowly, with the reluctant acceptance by the American people of women in public life. How many potentially great first ladies had to suppress their aspirations or remain hidden behind their husbands? Equally, how many potentially great presidents were never given the opportunity because they were people of color or other minorities?

The perception of greatness is a fluid balance between the realities of the daily challenges demanded by the job and the illusions generated by the aura of the presidency. This perception is enhanced not only by the deeds of these famous men and women, but by the very symbolism of the White House itself. Presidents and first ladies have clearly used this symbology to further their personal and public aspirations, all the while hoping to leave a permanent legacy for the American culture.

Appendix E: Compliance, Mitigating Measures, Construction Techniques, Phasing, and Cost Estimates

Compliance with Laws and Regulations

Federal Compliance Requirements

The *Comprehensive Design Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement* publicly disclosed the planning and decision-making process and the potential environmental consequences of actions and alternatives, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1500 et seq.). The "Record of Decision" for the *Final Environmental Impact Statement* was signed by the director of the National Park Service on March 29, 2000. Appropriate federal, state, and local agencies have been or will be contacted for input, review, and permitting in coordination with other legislative and executive requirements. Compliance actions for implementing the plan are summarized below and are fully described in the *Final Environmental Impact Statement*.

Section 5(a) of the National Capital Planning Act of 1952, as amended, requires each federal and D.C. agency to advise and consult with the National Capital Planning Commission in preparing any plans and programs that affect the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*. This consultation is to occur before any construction plans are prepared or commitments for the acquisition of land are made. The National Park Service, as the lead agency for this planning effort, presented the final plan to the National Capital Planning Commission, in accordance with their requirements.

In compliance with the requirements of the National Geodetic Survey, the National Park Service will notify that agency 90 days in advance of any actions that could disturb or destroy geodetic control monuments so as to allow for their relocation.

Cultural Resource Compliance

The National Park Service preserves and manages cultural resources under its protection in accordance with the NPS Organic Act (16 USC 1) and other specific legislation such as the Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC 431-33), the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470, et seq.), as well as the National Environmental Policy Act. The cultural resources of President's Park will also be managed in accordance with the *NPS Management Policies, Director's Order 28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, as well as the *NPS Museum Handbook, the Manual for Museums*, and *Director's Order 6: Interpretation and Visitor Services Guidelines*.

Under section 107 of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act, the White House and its grounds are specifically exempt from compliance with the provisions of the act. The grounds are defined as the 18-acre parcel within the White House fence.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to consider the effects of actions on properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment. To satisfy the requirements of 36 CFR 800 and the 1995 programmatic agreement between the National Park Service, the National Council of Historic Preservation Officers, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, NPS managers will continue to work closely with both the District of Columbia and the council.

The programmatic agreement of 1995 also provides for a number of exclusions for actions not likely to have an adverse effect on cultural resources (see table E-1). These actions may be implemented without further review by the District of Columbia or the advisory council, provided that the NPS internal review meets specific criteria. As defined in 36 CFR 800, undertakings not specifically excluded by the programmatic agreement must be reviewed by the D.C. historic preservation officer and the advisory council before implementation. There will be early consultation on all potential actions.

Internally, the National Park Service will complete an "Assessment of Actions Having an Effect on Cultural Resources" form before implementing any actions. This form documents any project effects, outlines actions proposed to mitigate those effects, and documents that the proposed action comes directly from an approved general management plan. All implementing actions affecting cultural resources will be reviewed and certified by cultural resource specialists, in accordance with the 1995 programmatic agreement.

Prior to any ground-disturbing action in President's Park, a professional archeologist will determine the need for further inventory or testing and evaluation. These studies will be carried out in coordination with proposed construction and will meet NPS requirements. Large-scale archeological investigations will be accomplished in consultation with D.C. archeological offices.

Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the Park Service to identify and nominate all eligible resources within its jurisdiction to the National Register of Historic Places. The resources of President's Park have been nominated under a series of individual and district nominations requiring information to be updated. This updating will be accomplished in consultation with both the D.C. preservation office and the advisory council as appropriate.

The cultural landscape of President's Park has not been nominated, but it has been documented in various reports.

Natural Resource Compliance

President's Park is outside the 100-year floodplain, and there are no wetlands or prime or unique farmlands. Therefore, no further compliance with Executive

TABLE E-1: ACTIONS REQUIRING FURTHER NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT
CONSULTATION UNDER THE 1995 PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

ACTION	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT
Comprehensive Design	
Closing of streets and redesigning as pedestrian walkways	Further consultation
Entryway design	Further consultation
Rehabilitation of Bulfinch gatehouses in conjunction with entryways as information centers	Further consultation
Installation of site amenities (signs, lighting, benches, water fountains, trash receptacles, walks, fencing)	Further consultation
Removal of surface parking	No consultation
Home and Office of the President	
Collection storage facility	Section 107 exclusion
First family recreation space	Section 107 exclusion
Redesign of grounds maintenance facility	Section 107 exclusion
Construction of the northside parking / storage facility and the Ellipse parking / maintenance facility, including all entrance/exit portals, and pedestrian/vehicle/service corridors	Further consultation
Construction of new media facilities, meeting/conference space, and the east-west pedestrian service corridor from EEOB to the Treasury Building	Further consultation
Interim leasing of parking offsite	No consultation
Visitor Use and Services	
Expansion of the existing visitor center in the Commerce Building and development of an education center	Further consultation
Pedestrian corridor from the education center	Further consultation
Entryway interpretive elements	Further consultation
Interpretive programs	No consultation
Special Events	
Establishment of an events plaza	Further consultation
Site Operations	
Relocation of the Ellipse steamline	Further consultation
Pennsylvania Avenue	Separate environmental assessment; further consultation
E Street	Separate environmental assessment; further consultation

Orders 11988 ("Floodplain Management") or 11990 ("Protection of Wetlands") is required, nor is an analysis of prime and unique farmlands.

President's Park is in a mandatory class II clean air area. Under the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 USC 7401 et seq.), maximum allowable increases of sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxide beyond baseline concentrations established for class II areas cannot be exceeded. During any construction activities, the National Park Service will take all practical measures to limit dust and noise. In accordance with section 118 of the Clean Air Act, the Park Service

will work with the District of Columbia to ensure that all activities in President's Park meet federal and local air quality requirements.

No further compliance is needed with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as no such species or critical habitat would be affected.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 USC 6901) and the implementing rules by the Environmental Protection Agency establish performance standards for generators, transporters, and disposers of hazardous waste. Any such wastes generated or removed from the site will be disposed of through NPS procedures, which are compatible with requirements of the act.

The National Park Service recognizes its responsibility to ensure that any new facilities are constructed in compliance with all environmental/regulatory requirements and that the best available technology is used in instituting pollution prevention practices.

No proposed actions will impact navigable waters, so no further compliance is required under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USE 1344) or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403).

Socioeconomic Impacts

In accordance with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," any anticipated effects, direct or indirect, from a proposed action on minority and low-income populations and communities are to be identified and evaluated, including the equity of the distribution of the benefits and risks. No such impacts were identified in the *Final Environmental Impact Statement*.

District of Columbia Permitting Requirements

During the design and construction permitting process, the National Park Service will contact the District of Columbia to determine application procedures for District utility siting and other permits. Compliance will be made with all applicable requirements.

Mitigating Measures

Cultural Resources

Cultural Landscape

Historic roadways and walkways within historic and ceremonial sight lines will not be used to store equipment or supplies. Mitigation plans will specify how to avoid damage to important aspects of the cultural landscape during excavation and construction.

For commemorative plantings and gardens, measures to address accidental tree and plant damage, root conservation, dewatering, and drainage will be taken, including ways to avoid impacts from equipment and supply staging. (See also the discussion on vegetation below.)

Archeological Resources

Surveys, monitoring, and recordation will be conducted to mitigate the disturbance of any archeological resources. Any construction scope of work, particularly for large-scale excavations, will include this requirement, and mitigation plans will be needed before work is started. Staging areas for excavation and construction equipment will avoid known archeological sites or areas of high probability.

Historic Resources

A mitigation plan will be required before any excavation or construction within or next to historic structures, districts, memorials, commemorative plantings, or historic roadway patterns and systems to show (1) how resource impacts (including those from truck routes and equipment staging) will be mitigated, and (2) how the integrity of these historic resources (including fences and trees) will be protected.

The fragile historic fabric of adjacent structures will need to be considered before any extensive excavation and construction. Foundation stability, vibration, dewatering of foundations, drainage, and similar issues will be addressed before work begins. In areas of intense activity, individual buildings may require fencing, barriers, tarpaulin drape, or other temporary conservation measures.

For memorials, measures to reduce the effect of airborne pollutants, including dust and gases, will be undertaken. In areas of intense activity, individual memorials may require boxing, fencing, wrapping, tarpaulin drape, or similar temporary conservation measures.

Approximately 2,000 square feet of storage space for fine and decorative arts will be located within or immediately adjacent to the White House. This storage will be separate from general storage and will serve as a holding area for items in transit between the White House and offsite storage areas, as a temporary storage space for artifacts during events, and as a workspace to evaluate how damaged items should be conserved.

Natural Resources

Vegetation

A vegetation survey will be conducted before construction to assess variables for each species, including the time of year and duration of disturbance, percentage of root loss, and health of the plantings.

The National Park Service will provide specifications for tree pruning and removal, general planting and transplanting of trees and shrubs, aeration, fertilization, and mulching, along with a schedule for maintenance and planting activities. When feasible, significant plantings will be removed and stored in the NPS nursery for future replanting. The pruning and removal of trees will be monitored by a certified arborist. In conjunction with the planting of replacement trees and shrubs, temporary plantings will be used where possible to provide the best possible appearance of mature shrubbery and trees while the replacement stock is growing to match preexisting conditions. A certified arborist will also conduct onsite monitoring during the construction period.

Protection efforts during construction will seek to reduce damage to trees such as American elms. Equipment and supplies will be staged away from the trees as much as possible. The construction work area will be restricted to the minimum area needed and will avoid all significant vegetation where possible.

Tree preservation areas will be defined by fencing to protect the root area, plus vehicular barricades where needed. (The root protection area is equal to a radius of 1.5' for each inch of the tree's diameter at breast height.) Equipment and materials storage will be prohibited in the root protection area; construction activities will not take place within this area without measures to protect the trunk and roots. Excavations will not be conducted in this area without first root pruning the affected area. (Also see the discussion under "Plant Materials" on page 98 for additional measures.)

Because the interrelationship between soil moisture and vegetation is unknown, soil moisture will be monitored during and after construction. As a result, the capability to water trees may be necessary if moisture sensors indicate a threatening decline in soil moisture.

Soil Compaction, Erosion Control, and Stormwater Runoff

To avoid soil compaction and related effects on vegetation and drainage, safeguards will include restricting the contractor's work area to the minimum area needed. Protective fencing around the perimeter of root zones and prohibiting the storage of materials and equipment within this zone will reduce soil compaction.

A heavy layer of bark mulch will be applied over planting areas to hold in moisture and help reduce soil compaction. Mulch also will lessen the density of compacted soil as organic matter works its way into the soil. For actions outside the White House grounds, the Soil Resources Management Division of the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs requires an erosion control and sedimentation plan and a stormwater management plan for any ground-disturbing activities. The plans must be reviewed and approved by the department's engineers.

To minimize adverse effects from stormwater runoff and erosion, construction areas will be delineated and activities limited within reason to these areas. Techniques to slow runoff will also be implemented. Standard mitigation techniques to control erosion and stormwater runoff include revegetation,

mulches, mats, netting, erosion control blankets, sand bags, silt fences, straw bales, and riprap. New technological solutions will be applied as developed.

Construction Techniques

A number of factors were considered in determining the type of construction techniques that will be the most appropriate for proposed underground facilities within President's Park. The primary consideration is to minimize impacts to adjacent structures, specifically historic buildings and the cultural/natural resources of the site. Quantitative factors like the depth of the excavations, utility size and locations, disruption to local traffic, size of the proposed corridors, geotechnical data, and construction cost were also considered.

Selected Construction Techniques

Most of the considered techniques fall into two general categories: cut-and-cover or tunneled (table E-2 identifies the construction technique for each belowground facility). Cut-and-cover is the simplest and most cost-effective method. It is used for relatively shallow excavations that usually do not exceed a depth of 35' to 40'. Excavation is an open trench where the sides are either sloped back or supported by sheet-pile walls and soldier piles in confined areas. This construction technique will be used for the White House education center, the Ellipse parking structure, the northside parking structure, and portions of pedestrian corridors.

Mined tunnels are constructed with no disruption to the surface except at periodic locations referred to as "mucking shafts" or "jacking pits," which are used for the removal of debris or the delivery of construction materials. A temporary lining is erected as the face of the tunnel is advanced. The most common method is referred to as "jacked pipe tunnel." This technique lessens the potential for settlement to structures and surface improvements, and it is recommended in areas where pedestrian/service corridors cross below streets with major utilities or pass below structures or monuments.

Other Construction Considerations

A number of other factors in addition to the selected construction techniques need to be considered as part of the total construction process. These factors may affect the site or adjacent sites, depending on the type and size of the proposed construction project and generally include the following:

- a staging and mobilization area for the contractor's office trailer, employee parking, stockpiling of soils and materials, equipment and tool storage

- designated construction access for truck routes, detour routes, and traffic control for local commuters and pedestrians (To reduce impacts, the possibility of construction during non-peak or evening hours will be explored.)
- noise control
- infrastructure issues of relocating utilities, disposing of excavated materials, and stockpiling of usable materials; dewatering of the excavations and disposing of the potentially polluted water
- safety and security during construction
- visual shielding of construction projects by fencing materials appropriate to the setting

To avoid affecting cultural and natural resources at the White House and President's Park, all proposed construction projects will require a mitigation plan and meetings onsite with contractors before work is started. Excavation and construction equipment and supplies will be staged away from the site or handled in such a manner as to eliminate any threat to the integrity of resources in the project area.

Phasing for the Proposed Projects

Phasing for proposed projects is based in general on the desired futures for the White House and President's Park. The purpose is to recommend a logical construction sequence for activities that will be compatible with the long-range vision for the White House and President's Park. The actions are grouped in four five-year phases. Specific actions may be moved to another phase at a later date to take advantage of funding or scheduling opportunities.

Phase I

Remodel and expand the existing White House visitor center in the Commerce Building, and develop an education center and museum.

Construct the belowground pedestrian corridor from the new education center to Lily Triangle and the on-grade vestibule.

Develop and landscape Lily Triangle.

Construct the entryway at E Street and 15th Street.

Lease 850 staff parking spaces on an interim basis.

Develop and landscape the informal gardens and walkways on the Ellipse.

Repave the Ellipse drive and doglegs with special pedestrian paving materials.

Construct the special events plaza at the northeast corner of the Ellipse.

Lease an interim satellite maintenance facility for President's Park.

Undertake E Street improvements to create a more parklike setting.

Phase 2

Construct the parking garage and storage area beneath Pennsylvania Avenue; construct the first phase of the West Executive Avenue facility; construct the pedestrian corridor from the garage to the West Executive Avenue complex.

Construct the pedestrian/service corridor from the storage area at the east end of the northside garage to the Executive Residence.

Construct the pedestrian/vehicular corridors between the New Executive Office Building and the northside parking garage.

Remodel the NPS grounds maintenance building on the south grounds of the White House.

Phase 3

Complete the belowground complex at West Executive Avenue, including (1) the news media facility, (2) meeting space, (3) the east-west pedestrian/service corridor from the Eisenhower Executive Office Building to Treasury, and (4) indoor recreation space for the first family.

Complete utilities.

Phase 4

Complete the development of West Executive Avenue with special paving material and landscaping.

Construct the Ellipse parking garage.

Construct the entryways along Constitution at 15th and 17th Streets and at 17th and E Streets.

Complete the sidewalk paving along 17th Street from State Place to E Street.

Complete the sidewalk paving along Constitution Avenue from 15th to 17th Streets.

Complete all remaining special pedestrian paving along East Executive Avenue, Hamilton and State Places, South Executive Avenue.

Cost Estimates

The cost estimates are for capital or development costs only; they do not include annual operating, staffing, or maintenance costs. They are based on generalized unit construction costs and do not reflect all cost variations as a result of site-specific conditions (such as soil and groundwater considerations). More precise costs will be developed during subsequent design phases. The estimates do not include costs for relocating or upgrading utilities; these costs will be estimated during design phases.

TABLE E-2: ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS FOR PROPOSED PROJECTS
FY 1998 Costs

ACTION / FACILITY	BELOWGROUND CONSTRUCTION METHOD	GROSS CONSTRUCTION COST	ADVANCE AND PROJECT PLANNING COST	TOTAL COST																		
■ COMPREHENSIVE DESIGN Install eight pedestrian entryways		5,286,000	448,000	5,734,000																		
Conduct site work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace existing pavement, structures, trees, sidewalks, gates, footings, and curbs. • Install new landscaping — topsoil, plant materials, planters, flower beds, sprinkler systems. • Provide new signs and displays, benches, street furniture, drinking fountains, street lighting. • Bring in fill to improve drainage. 		53,074,000	4,498,000	57,572,000																		
■ HOME AND OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT Executive Residence <i>First family indoor recreation space:</i> Construct new belowground facilities north of White House (3,000 sq ft; if existing space is used, the cost will be less)	cut/cover or tunnel	2,124,000	180,000	2,304,000																		
Onsite storage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General storage for frequently used items — Construct as part of northside facility (10,000 sq ft; 80' x 120') • Fine and decorative arts — Remodel existing space within Executive Residence or immediately adjacent (2,000 sq ft) 	cut/cover	4,720,000	400,000	5,120,000																		
Executive Office Support Functions <i>Parking facilities for motorcades, diplomatic and business visitors, and staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northside — Construct two belowground levels <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Level 1:</td> <td>100</td> <td>vehicles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Level 2:</td> <td>190</td> <td>vehicles</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>290</td> <td>vehicles</td> </tr> </table> • Ellipse parking garage — Construct two belowground levels: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Level 1:</td> <td>350</td> <td>vehicles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Level 2:</td> <td>500</td> <td>vehicles</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>850</td> <td>vehicles</td> </tr> </table> 	Level 1:	100	vehicles	Level 2:	190	vehicles		290	vehicles	Level 1:	350	vehicles	Level 2:	500	vehicles		850	vehicles	cut/cover	20,053,000	1,699,000	21,752,000
Level 1:	100	vehicles																				
Level 2:	190	vehicles																				
	290	vehicles																				
Level 1:	350	vehicles																				
Level 2:	500	vehicles																				
	850	vehicles																				
Belowground pedestrian/vehicle service corridors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEOB to northside garage — pedestrians/service vehicles (310'; 15' high x 40' wide; two 11' vehicle lanes; two 6' moving walkways; 6' utility corridor) • Northside garage to West Executive Ave. facility — pedestrians/service vehicles (240' corridor, with moving walkways; 15' high x 40' wide) • Northside storage facility to White House — pedestrians/service vehicles (220' moving walkway, plus separate vehicle lane; 15' high x 30' wide) • Ellipse garage to northeast Ellipse — pedestrians (500' corridor, 16' high x 20' wide) • Ellipse garage to northwest Ellipse — pedestrians (470' corridor 16' high x 20' wide) • EEOB to Treasury — pedestrians/service vehicles (1,000', 15' high x 40' wide) 	tunnel under townhouses; cut/cover on Jackson Place cut/cover tunnel tunnel tunnel cut/cover; tunnel under north portico	8,852,000 6,855,000 4,712,000 7,139,000 6,711,000 28,556,000	750,000 581,000 399,000 605,000 569,000 2,420,000	9,602,000 7,436,000 5,111,000 7,744,000 7,280,000 30,976,000																		

NOTE: Parking will be provided for employees who must respond within a certain amount of time. For other employees, there will be no costs to the government for leasing parking on an interim basis pending the completion of the Ellipse parking facility; in accordance with federal policy, these costs will be paid by individual employees.

ACTION / FACILITY	BELOWGROUND CONSTRUCTION METHOD	GROSS CONSTRUCTION COST	ADVANCE AND PROJECT PLANNING COST	TOTAL COST
Meeting/conference space: Construct West Executive Avenue belowground meeting facility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby for guests, elevator, small bathroom, drivers' lounge with bathroom (1,000 sq ft; 20' x 50') Conference rooms — four to five, avg. size 40 people (2,500 sq ft); restrooms (2,000 sq ft); common space with elevators (1,500 sq ft) 	cut/cover	620,000	52,000	672,000
	cut/cover	5,310,000	450,000	5,760,000
News media facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct new space belowground (presidential briefing room, press offices, work areas, lobby, reception, storage, lounge, restrooms, interview rooms, elevator/stairs, electrical/mechanical room; 8,900 sq ft; 108' x 82') Upgrade media facilities on upper level of west colonnade (lobby, offices, work spaces; 2,000 sq ft) 		6,066,000	514,000	6,580,000
		566,000	48,000	614,000
■ VISITOR USE AND SERVICES Education Center and Museum Commerce Building: Remodel and expand existing visitor center (60,000 sq ft total): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remodel Baldrige Hall for arrival and welcoming (13,000 sq ft) Complete retrofit of lower levels for museum, sales, educational rooms, labs and storage, restrooms (26,000 sq ft) New construction on lower levels for theaters, circulation and electrical/mechanical (21,000 sq ft) 		4,218,000	358,000	4,576,000
	cut/cover, tunnel	18,762,000	1,590,000	20,352,000
	cut/cover, tunnel	17,346,000	1,470,000	18,816,000
White House Tour Facilities White House access: Construct underground pedestrian corridor from education center to Lily Triangle vestibule (500' pedestrian corridor, with moving walkways; 15' high x 30' wide) Lily Triangle vestibule: Construct ongrade vestibule (escalator, elevator, and stairs to ground level; 800 sq ft; 28' x 28')	cut/cover, tunnel under streets	10,708,000	908,000	11,616,000
		1,440,000	122,000	1,562,000
■ TRANSPORTATION E Street: Replace asphalt with materials to create a more parklike setting; landscape accordingly		4,824,000	409,000	5,233,000
■ SITE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS Maintenance facility: Develop a facility as part of the Ellipse parking facility (4,000 sq ft)	cut/cover	1,180,000	100,000	1,280,000
Total		279,668,000	23,701,000	303,369,000

Appendix F: Determination of Site Use Capacity

Site use capacity (or carrying capacity) is the type and level of visitor use a resource can sustain without the long-term preservation of resources or the quality of the user's experience being compromised. The goal is to safeguard the quality of park resources and the quality of visitor experiences, which are inextricably interrelated.

The concept of capacity, as it relates to visitor use of the White House and other parks, is not so much to identify the numbers of users, but to determine how desired resource and social conditions can be achieved. A site use capacity analysis may or may not specify visitor numbers. If the appropriate resource and social conditions can be measured and maintained, counting visitors is of secondary importance.

Other factors besides use levels affect how resources are protected and the desired visitor experience is achieved. These factors include time, money, and design and program changes. For example, the number of people visiting the White House can remain the same, but the density can be reduced by extending tour hours. Also, the number and scale of special events held on the Ellipse without causing unacceptable impacts on turf is a relationship between the amount of time the site can rest between events and the amount of money spent to mitigate adverse effects. In the case of design and programmatic changes, a well-designed education center may alleviate the need for visitors to see certain objects in the White House. The exact opposite may occur, when, for example, additional information may cause visitors to seek certain features on the tour, resulting in slower movement and additional crowding.

Resource and experience conditions must be carefully analyzed to determine the site's use capacity and to ensure continued resource protection and quality visitor experiences.

How Is It Done?

The first step in determining capacity is the development of management objectives that specify resource and social conditions. These objectives have already been agreed upon as the desired futures for the White House and President's Park. The next step is to translate these futures into measurable indicators of success.

Next, existing conditions (e.g., types of use, site factors, amount of use) and the impacts associated with these conditions must be analyzed. This component implies an evaluative process where value judgments are made about the

appropriateness of various management actions or types of use in context with the acceptability of various impacts.

The management actions needed to achieve desired conditions must be identified, while eliminating actions that are not acceptable. This process requires a continual program of monitoring conditions and evaluating operational effectiveness.

What Remains to Be Done?

Some of the basic steps necessary to define the site's use capacity have been completed. Important resources, use patterns, and visitor use have been mapped, and resource management and visitor experience objectives for the site have been determined. Next, specific resource and visitor experience conditions must be identified to achieve these management objectives.

In respect to protecting the significant resources of the White House and President's Park, the physical capacity (the use limit beyond which unacceptable resource degradation occurs) of each of the site's "zones" (e.g., areas of President's Park or rooms of the White House) must be established. Measurable impact indicators and desired standard conditions for selected resources or experiences provide a means to objectively analyze the site's ability to accommodate varying levels of use. Potential impact indicators include wear on historic materials, use in comparison to building load and code levels, and the schedule of required maintenance and replacement. Standards against which these impacts will be measured will be determined by managers and professional resource specialists.

The definition of quality experiences for visitors often involves value judgments and the understanding that managers can never fully satisfy *all* visitors. For example, some visitors to the White House will only be satisfied if the president is seen working or moving about the mansion. During recent efforts, such as the NPS Visitor Services Project and public involvement for this plan, general comments indicate that visitors are generally satisfied with the current experience, but the expectations that users brought with them were not identified, nor were the features that contributed to a successful visit. More observations, public feedback, and analysis are required to develop accurate, measurable social or educational conditions for a satisfactory visit. Ideally, this will be undertaken by professional social scientists, knowledgeable of interpretation and visitor experiences, working in concert with site managers and planners. Potential indicators may include the perception of crowding, rooms or objects visible on the White House tour, or information received during the visit.

Once quality indicators and specific associated standards have been established for each area of President's Park, it is important to compare desired conditions to existing conditions. After identifying the probable causes of discrepancies between desired and existing conditions, management strategies to address these discrepancies must be agreed upon and implemented.

Information Needed

Some of the questions below can be answered by stewards of the White House and President's Park. Answers for other questions will require additional professional analysis and observations conducted through the assistance of resource specialists and social scientists.

- What are the acceptable standard conditions that ensure continued cultural and natural resource preservation?
- At what level of use do significant cultural and natural resources become degraded below acceptable standards?
- What constitutes a satisfactory experience for most people visiting President's Park and the White House? What conditions exist when this happens?
- At what level of use does the visitor experience fall below a minimum level of satisfaction? What conditions exist when this happens?
- How is monitoring conducted for the conditions mentioned above?
- What are the possible effects on site use capacity of proposed management actions?
- Is there support for limiting use, if use is found to be impacting significant resources or appropriate visitor expectations and experiences?

An Ongoing Process

The process described above is reiterative in application. It requires the continual monitoring of conditions. Managers can use this feedback to ensure long-term achievement of desired resource and visitor experience conditions, in the context of changes in visitor use patterns, desired visitor experiences, and available resources.

The monitoring of the indicator conditions will be undertaken by site managers, resource specialists, social scientists, and surveyors.

Appendix G: Planning Work Group Participants

Desired Futures

Over 80 subject-matter experts participated in eight workshops on October 27–28, 1993, as well as in other meetings, to develop desired futures for the White House and President's Park. The following list of participants is organized by working group.

Resource Conservation and Protection

NPS Group Coordinators: Karen Andrews, William Patrick O'Brien, Mike Eissenberg

Meeting Date: October 27, 1993

Martha Catlin, Historic Preservation Specialist, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Richard Cote, Collection Manager, U.S. Department of the Treasury

Suzanne Ganschietz, Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Division, District of Columbia

Cathy Gilbert, Historical Landscape Architect, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, National Park Service

Laura Henley, Archeologist, Historic Preservation Division, District of Columbia

Daniel P. Jordan, Executive Director of Monticello, Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation

Andrea Mones-O'Hara, Regional Historic Preservation Officer, National Capital Region, General Services Administration

Betty C. Monkman, Associate Curator, The White House

Rick Napoli, Chief, Executive Support Facility, White House Liaison, National Capital Region, National Park Service

Mary L. Oehrlein, FAIA, Oehrlein & Associates, Washington, D.C.

Gary Scott, Regional Historian, Professional Services, National Capital Region, National Park Service

Office Support Services

NPS Group Coordinators: Ann Smith, Richard Turk

Meeting Date: October 27, 1993

Gary Engelstad, Director, Administrative Operations Division, U.S. Department of the Treasury

Jack Finberg, Acting Director, Division of Planning, National Capital Region, General Services Administration

Comdr. Steven W. Johnson, Special Programs Officer, White House Military Office
John F. W. Rogers, Senior Advisor, Baker Institute of Public Policy, Rice University, Houston, Texas
W. David Watkins, Assistant to the President for Management and Administration, The White House

Security

NPS Group Coordinators: Dennis Strah, Jeff Garrett
Meeting Date: October 27, 1993

Donald A. Flynn, White House Security Coordinator, Presidential Protective Division, U.S. Secret Service
Robert Humphreys, Civil Engineer, Design Services Division, Professional Services, National Capital Region, National Park Service
C. M. Sgt. Joe Kraus, Security Officer, Special Programs Office, White House Military Office
Capt. James J. McLaughlin, Commander of Special Events and Assistant Commander, Special Forces Branch, U.S. Park Police
James Novak, Security Officer, White House Liaison, National Capital Region, National Park Service
Comdr. Jerry Simmons, USN, White House Communications, White House Military Office
Richard J. Solan, Assistant Division Chief, Planning and Development, Technical Services Division, U.S. Secret Service
Robert G. Thompson, Assistant Division Chief, Technical Support, Technical Security Division, U.S. Secret Service
Ray Zumwalt, Security Consultant, Austin Texas

Special Events

NPS Group Coordinators: Jan Harris, Chris Schillizzi, Edmundo Nieto
Meeting Date: October 27, 1993

Karin Bacon, Karin Bacon Events Inc., New York City
Benjamin E. Brewer, Jr., FAIA, Gensler and Associates, Houston, Texas
Erin Broadbent, Acting Site Manager, The Mall, National Capital Parks-Central, National Capital Region, National Park Service
Robyn Dickey, Deputy Director, Director of Special Events for the White House, White House Visitors Office (meeting date: October 29, 1993)
Richard Friedmen, Assistant Chief, Uniformed Division, U.S. Secret Service
George Gerba, Concept Designer, Walt Disney Imagineering, Glendale, California
Mel Poole, Manager, President's Park, White House Liaison, National Capital Region, National Park Service
Richard G. Robbins, Assistant Solicitor (National Capital Parks), Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior
Ann Stock, Social Secretary, The White House (meeting date: November 30, 1993)

Executive Residence

NPS Group Coordinators: Richard Turk, Ann Smith

Meeting Date: November 1993

Susan Ford Bales, Tulsa, Oklahoma

James McDaniel, Associate Regional Director, White House Liaison, National Capital Region, National Park Service

Michael Sansbury, Former Executive Residence Staff, Las Vegas, Nevada

Rex Scouten, Curator, The White House

Gary Walters, Chief Usher, The White House

Official Functions

NPS Group Coordinators: William Patrick O'Brien, Rick Napoli

Meeting Date: October 28, 1993

Robert C. Alberi, Special Agent, Presidential Protective Division, U.S. Secret Service

John Hamant, Special Events, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Dr. Elise Kirk, Musicologist, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Ambassador Mary M. Raiser, Chief of Protocol, U.S. Department of State
(meeting date: November 30, 1993)

Dr. William Seale, Historian, Alexandria, Virginia

Ann Stock, Social Secretary, The White House (meeting date: November 30, 1993)

Gary Walters, Chief Usher, The White House

Visitor Use and Services

NPS Group Coordinators: Chris Schillizzi, Jan Harris

Meeting Date: October 28, 1993

Melinda N. Bates, Director, Visitor's Office, The White House

M. J. "Jay" Brodie, Senior Vice President, RTKL Associates, Inc., Washington, D.C.

Conny Graft, Director of Interpretive Education, Colonial Williamsburg

Paul Imbordino, Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge, Uniformed Division, U.S. Secret Service

Dr. Gary Machlis, Cooperative Park Studies Unit, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho

Mel Poole, Manager, President's Park, White House Liaison, National Capital Region, National Park Service

Mary Grace Potter, Director of Visitor Information and Associates' Reception Center, Smithsonian Institution

Hugh Sidey, Washington Contributing Editor, *Time Magazine*

Marie Levin Tibor, Director of Tourism, Washington, D.C. Convention and Visitors Association

Robert W. Weis, Senior Vice President, Walt Disney Imagineering, Glendale, California

Leslie Williams, Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, U.S. Department of Treasury

Transportation

NPS Group Coordinators: Karen Andrews, Dennis Strah

Meeting Date: October 28, 1993

Charles L. Cummings, Vice President/General Manager, Gold Line/Gray Line,
Tuxedo, Maryland

Fred Ducca, Community Planner, Federal Highway Administration, U.S.
Department of Transportation

Don Hunt, Principal, BRW, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Ron Kirby, Director of Transportation Planning, Metropolitan Council of
Governments

Don Myer, Assistant Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts

Clement L. Nedd, Transit Service Planner, Office of Planning, Washington
Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Donald F. Patrick, C.E., Program Engineer, Federal Lands Highway Office, Federal
Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation

George Schoene, Chief, IVHS Operational Tests Division, Federal Highway
Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation

John Sorenson, Land Use Planner, Walt Disney Imagineering, Glendale,
California

Alan Voorhees, Chairman of the Board, Summit Enterprises Inc. of Virginia

Site Character

NPS Group Coordinators: Jeff Garrett, Mike Summerlin, Edmundo Nieto

Meeting Date: October 28, 1993

John N. Barbara, Architect, Special Programs Office, White House Military
Office

Rolf Diamant, Superintendent, Olmsted, Longfellow, and Kennedy National
Historic Sites

Alan Fern, Director, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Reginald Griffith, Executive Director, National Capital Planning Commission

Joseph Kilanowski, Principal Concept Architect, Walt Disney Imagineering,
Glendale, California

Sara Amy Leach, Historic Architecture and Building Survey Historian, Historic
American Buildings Survey

John G. Parsons, FASLA, Associate Regional Director, Land Use Coordination,
National Capital Region, National Park Service

Anne Whiston Spirn, Landscape Architect, Department of Landscape
Architecture and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania

Patsy Thomasson, Special Assistant to the President for Management and
Administration and Director, Office of Administration, The White House

Suzanne Turner, Professor of Landscape Architecture, School of Landscape
Architecture, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

R. Merrick Smith, FASLA, Landscape Architect, National Park Service

Interpretive Themes Workshop

Workshop Date: March 2, 1994

Melinda N. Bates, Director, Visitor's Office, The White House
Rives Carroll, Enrichment Coordinator, John Eaton School, Washington, D.C.
John Dawson, Director, Facilities Management, Office of Administration, The
White House (previously Historic Preservation Officer, Eisenhower [Old]
Executive Office Building)
Laura Henley Dean, Archeologist, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Rex Ellis, Director, Office of Museum Programs, Smithsonian Institution
Joe Geary, former NPS Interpretive Specialist
Conny Graft, Director of Interpretive Education, Colonial Williamsburg
Paul Imbordino, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Presidential Protective
Division, U.S. Secret Service
Caroline Keinath, Chief of Interpretation, Adams National Historic Site
Paula Mohr, Preservation Specialist, Office of the Curator, Department of the
Treasury
Lt. Jeff Purdie, White House Branch, U.S. Secret Service
Rex Scouten, Curator, The White House
Dr. William Seale, Historian, Alexandria, Virginia
Phil Walsh, Chief Ranger, President's Park, National Park Service

NPS Participants:

Jeffrey Garrett, Landscape Architect, Denver Service Center
Jan Harris, Planner/Public Involvement, Denver Service Center
James I. McDaniel, Director, White House Liaison
Rick Napoli, White House Liaison
William Patrick O'Brien, Historian, Denver Service Center
Mel Poole, Manager, President's Park
Christopher Schillizzi, Interpretive Specialist, Harpers Ferry Center
Ann Bowman Smith, Project Coordinator, Denver Service Center

Design Guidelines Workshop

Workshop Date: August 3, 1994

Charles Atherton, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts
Diana Balmori, Landscape Architect, Diana Balmori and Associates
Albert G. Dobbins III, Director, Office of Planning, District of Columbia
Doug Hayes, Landscape Architect
Don Hunt, Principal, BRW, Inc.
William Lam, Architect, William Lam Partners Incorporated
David Lee, Architect/Urban Designer, Stull & Lee Associates
Nancy Miller, Deputy Director, National Conference of State Historic
Preservation Officers
Richard Miller, Deputy Assistant Director, Office of Protective Operations, U.S.
Secret Service
Mary Oehrlein, Architect, Oehrlein and Associates
Gary Walters, Chief Usher, The White House

NPS Participants:

Jeff Garrett, Landscape Architect, Denver Service Center
James I. McDaniel, Director, White House Liaison
Edmundo Nieto, Architect, Denver Service Center
William Patrick O'Brien, Historian, Denver Service Center
John G. Parsons, FASLA, Associate Regional Director, Land Use Coordination,
National Capital Region
Mel Poole, Manager, President's Park
John J. Reynolds, Deputy Director
Ann Bowman Smith, Project Coordinator, Denver Service Center
Michael Summerlin, Project Manager/Architect, White House Liaison
Richard Turk, Project Team Captain/Historical Architect, Denver Service
Center
Terry Wong, Structural Engineer/Architect, Denver Service Center

News Media Working Group

Meeting Dates: March 1995 – January 1996

Doug Allmond, Engineer, ABC News
Tim Aubry, News Pictures Assignment Editor, North America, Reuters, News
Picture Service
Kenneth Blaylock, Engineer, ABC
Jill Daugherty, White House Correspondent, CNN America, Inc.
Peter Doherty, Operations Producer, Washington Bureau, ABC News
John Ficara, Photographer, *Newsweek*
Steve Hirsh, Producer, ABC News
Terry Hunt, White House Correspondent, The Associated Press
Sol Levine, Executive Producer, CNN America, Inc.
Carl P. Leubsdorf, Washington Bureau Chief, *Dallas Morning News*
Peter Maer, White House Correspondent, Mutual Broadcasting System — NBC
Radio
Russ Moore, Senior White House Producer, NBC News
Anne McFeatters, White House Correspondent, Scripps-Howard
Mike McKee (until 10/95), White House Correspondent, CONUS TV
Larry McQuillan, White House Correspondent, Reuters
Stewart Powell, White House Correspondent, Hearst Newspapers
Thomas Seem, Producer, CBS News
Edward Tobias, Assistant Managing Editor, News, Associated Press Broadcast
Denny Vohar, Broadcast Engineer, Associated Press Broadcast
Kenneth Walsh, White House Correspondent, *U.S. News and World Report*
George Berklacy, Former National Park Service Public Affairs Officer
Ellen Cull, Facilitator

Agency Representatives:

General Services Administration
National Park Service
U.S. Secret Service
White House Communications Agency
White House Press Office

Appendix H: Desired Futures — News Media

The following desired futures were developed by members of the news media working group during an August 3, 1995, workshop. The working group was composed of representatives of the White House Correspondents' Association, the White House News Photographers' Association, and the Network Pool. Also attending the session were representatives of the U.S. Secret Service, General Services Administration, White House Military Office, White House Press Office, and the National Park Service (see appendix G).

The desired futures focus on the areas of access, work space, storage, and technical needs desired by news media employees working at the White House complex.

Access

There are few barriers to traffic patterns and open space in both the staff work area and common space.

There is day-to-day free flow, ease of movement, and access.

Reporters can move freely and safely between their work space and the accessible White House offices.

There is continued direct access for accredited press to the press secretary's office.

There is visual access to the president's movements, within press view and not within press view.

The president's business movements and events are easy to image and hear.

It is easy for the press to get to visitors to the president, including access to the West Wing Drive entry.

A president's visitors are visible to and accessible to reporters.

There is physical access to the site, with ease of entry (with equipment) and separate from appointments.

A separate media access entrance exists.

There is vehicle access:

 Search and check in

 Move in and out more quickly

There are multiple access points through security (possibly 15th, 17th, and the northwest gate), with facilities for equipment drive-up.

Oversized parking and delivery facilities are provided.

There is access to other locations (such as the Eisenhower Executive Office Building and Treasury) within the site. Physical barriers are eliminated, and there is free-flowing access to all areas of the complex. There are no physical structural obstacles to access (not to be confused with security barriers).

There is underground movement to a new briefing room.

There are east-west underground people movers and underground parking with movers.

Work Space

Sufficient work spaces exist for reporters, photographers, and news organizations.

An area has been established for visiting reporters and technicians.

This area includes telephones and audio/video connections (incoming and outgoing).

There are individual private work spaces, with consideration for multi-task media within an organization.

Work space provides isolation (separation, private work space, especially audio).

There is space for photographers to be during downtime and space for photographers' computer modems with communications.

There is flexibility with moving walls and seats.

The West Wing work space is modernized and expanded. Some additional space, which is unassigned, is "available/open" to accredited correspondents.

The work space provides for more physical work space which is visually open.

Light is brought into the work space.

The work space provides a direct link to the press staff.

New briefing room.

Present briefing room becomes a reception area that provides link to the press secretary's office, work space, and new briefing room.

Existing briefing room becomes a lobby area, additional media work space, and expanded press office staff space.

News briefings by the president or staff are held in a media friendly environment (state of the art).

A separate interview studio exists.

There is a new briefing room with auditorium design elements (sloped floor, semi-circular space, etc.) for daily press briefings and regular presidential press conferences. It exists underground at the north lawn area. Adequate space exists for camera operations (television and still). It is designed to meet ideal requirements (i.e., tiered space).

Convenient and accessible food service and dining areas exist for the news media working at the White House.

There is a cafeteria for food and drink with 24-hour access.

Adequate restrooms exist for use by the news media.

Restroom facilities are accessible and adequate for the numbers of people.

A modest amount of parking space is provided for regular press in whatever staff parking is provided.

Storage

There is sufficient storage in the new briefing center.

Additional storage space exists behind and beneath the new briefing room and allows flexibility to accommodate future needs.

There are permanent stakeout areas that are pre-wired and preset, reducing the need for moving and storing equipment.

Sufficient technical storage exists for technicians, photographers and news organizations.

There is lots of storage, from coats to cameras.

Storage can be accessed by more than one person at a time.

Storage is accessible without moving other equipment.

Paper storage and distribution are replaced with electronic storage for reporters, news organizations, and press offices.

Technical

There is a plan and a process for continual replacement of technology. It will never be finished.

There is a plan for integration of technology in the design.

Wireless technology is enhanced and supported, providing for the preservation of the facility and less impact on the site.

All public and event areas are wired for audio and video.

Government (WACA) and industry production and technical areas exist for image and audio distribution.

There is an upgraded transmission network into and out of the White House.

Technology is pre-wired and built in as much as possible, and there are more lights.

Computer link-up is permanent.

There is minimal need for technical trucks close to the White House.

Glossary

allée: Defined by *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* as "a walk or path between two rows of formally planted trees or shrubs," and by the *American Heritage Dictionary* as a "path between flower beds or trees in a garden or park." Within the discipline of landscape architecture *allée* has been used to connote a linear and axial design and relationship, as in the formal French gardens of Le Nôtre and others where an *allée* is used to create perspective illusions (i.e., where the entrance is larger than the terminus). For the purposes of this document, however, *allée* is used in its original context to mean a passageway or path bordered by vegetation, regardless of the shape of the walkway.

cultural landscape: A geographic area, including both natural and cultural resources, associated with historic events, activities, or persons. The National Park Service recognizes four general types of cultural landscape categories: historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, historic sites, and ethnographic landscapes.

cut-and-cover construction: A construction technique for belowground construction that is the simplest and most cost-effective method. It is used for relatively shallow excavations that usually do not exceed a depth of 35' to 40'. Excavation is an open trench where the sides are either sloped back or supported by sheet-pile walls and soldier piles in confined areas.

Ellipse: The central oval open space between E Street and Constitution Avenue. It is surrounded by Ellipse Drive. The side panels of the Ellipse extend to 15th and 17th Streets.

environmental assessment: A concise public document prepared by a federal agency to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The document contains sufficient analysis to determine whether the proposed action (1) constitutes a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, thereby requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement, or (2) does not constitute such an action, resulting in a finding of no significant impact being issued by the agency.

environmental impact statement (EIS): The detailed public statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act when an agency proposes a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The statement includes a detailed description of the proposed action and alternatives, as well as the identification and evaluation of potential impacts that would occur from implementing the proposed action or alternatives.

Executive Committee: The committee consisting of the leadership of the stewardship and oversight agencies with congressionally chartered missions at the White House or on the surrounding park lands and city streets. It includes representatives of the Executive Office of the President, the Executive Residence at the White House, the White House Military Office, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the U.S. Secret Service, the National Park Service, the General Services Administration, the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Planning Commission, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the District of Columbia, and the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (the latter until 1996).

mined tunnel construction: Mined tunnels are constructed with no disruption to the surface except at periodic locations referred to as "mucking shafts" or "jacking pits," which are used to remove debris or deliver construction materials. A temporary lining is erected as the tunnel is advanced. The most common method is referred to as "jacked pipe tunnel." This technique lessens the potential for settlement to structures and surface improvements, and it is recommended in areas where pedestrian/service corridors cross below streets with major utilities or pass below structures or monuments.

preservation: The act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity, and material of a historic structure, landscape, or object. Work may include preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, but it generally focuses on the ongoing preservation maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new work. For historic structures, exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate.

President's Park: The area consisting of the White House and its immediate grounds, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building to the west of the White House, the Treasury Building to the east, Lafayette Park to the north, the First Division Monument to the southwest, Sherman Park to the southeast, and the Ellipse and its side panels to the south.

President's Park South: Generally considered to be the area south of the White House, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, and the Treasury Building. This area includes the First Division Monument, Sherman Park, and the Ellipse, as well as its side panels.

primary views: Primary views are those seen from principal paths, streets, and observation points located along the main axes of the park landscape. These views may be terminated within the park by architectural monuments and elevations or by historic park topography and vegetation; outside the park they may be terminated by distant views of architectural landmarks or by topography and vegetation. Also see secondary views.

rehabilitation: The act or process of making possible an efficient, compatible use for a historic structure or landscape through repair, alterations, and

additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, and architectural values.

restoration: The act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a historic structure, landscape, or object as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of removing features from other periods in its history and reconstructing missing features from the restoration period.

secondary views: Those views seen from paths, streets, and observation points not on the main park landscape axes. These views also may be terminated inside or outside the park by historic architecture or vegetation. Also see *primary views*.

Selected Bibliography

Arthur Cotton Moore Associates

- 1985 *The Aesthetic Master Plan of the Main Treasury Building and Treasury Annex*. Washington, DC: ACM/A.

Bowling, Kenneth

- 1988 *Creating the Federal City, 1774-1800: Potomac Fever*. Washington, DC: American Institute of Architects Press.

BRW, Inc.

- 1993 "President's Park Traffic Data and Analysis." Prepared for the National Park Service with Lee Engineering. Denver, CO.
- 1994a "Memorial Core: Draft Transportation Study." Prepared for the National Park Service. Denver, CO.
- 1994b "Parking Inventory." Prepared for the National Park Service. Denver, CO.

Caemmerer, Hans P.

- 1932 *Washington, the National Capital*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.

Calloway, Stephen, and Elizabeth Cromley

- 1991 *The Elements of Style: A Practical Encyclopedia of Interior Architectural Details from 1485 to the Present*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

Cook, Blanche Wiesen

- 1992 *Eleanor Roosevelt*. Vol. 1: 1884-1933. New York: Viking Penguin.

Council of the District of Columbia

- 1977 *District of Columbia Law 2-53: Noise Control Act of 1977*. Vol. 24, DC Register 5293 (December 30).

District of Columbia

- 1995 *Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed D.C. Arena*. A submission requirement for the National Capital Planning Commission. Washington, DC.

District of Columbia, National Capital Planning Commission, National Park Service, Federal Highway Administration, General Services Administration, Smithsonian Institution, Commission of Fine Arts, Architect of the Capitol

- 1993 *Streetscape Manual: Interagency Initiative for National Mall Road Improvement Program*. Washington, DC.

Dolkart, Andrew

- 1984 *The Old Executive Office Building: A Victorian Masterpiece*, edited by Mina Wright. Prepared for the Executive Office of the President, Office of Administration. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.

Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation

- 1997 "Analysis of Transportation Conditions after Traffic Restrictions and Street Modifications in the Vicinity of the White House." Prepared by Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc.

General Services Administration and Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

- 1988 *The Revised Master Plan for the Federal Triangle*. Prepared for the National Capital Planning Commission. Washington, DC.

Gutheim, Frederick

- 1977 *Worthy of the Nation: The History of Planning for the National Capital*. Prepared for the National Capital Planning Commission. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press.

Hegemann, Werner, and Elbert Peets

- 1988 *The American Vitruvius: An Architect's Handbook on Civic Art*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press.

Janson, H. W.

- 1966 *A History of Art: A Survey of the Major Visual Arts from the Dawn of History to the Present Day*. New York: Harry N. Abrams.

Jellicoe, Geoffrey, and Susan Jellicoe

- 1987 *The Landscape of Man*. New York: Thames and Hudson.

Kimball, Fiske, and George Harold Edgell

- 1918 *History of Architecture*. New York: Harper Brothers.

Kohler, Sue A.

- 1990 *The Commission of Fine Arts: A Brief History 1910-1990*. Washington, DC: The Commission of Fine Arts.

Machlis, Gary E., Margaret Littlejohn, and Jeannie Harvey. See University of Idaho, Cooperative Park Studies Unit.

McEwan, Barbara

- 1992 *White House Landscapes: Horticultural Achievements of American Presidents*. New York: Walker and Company.

Marshall, Robert

- 1975 "Artifacts Salvaged from the President's Pool Excavation," (Sept. 8), and "Indian Artifacts from President's Pool Excavation," (Nov. 5). Memorandum reports. On file at the Executive Support Facility, White House Liaison, National Park Service, Washington, DC.

National Archives and Records Administration

- 1992 *Records of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, Records Group 42, Inventory No. 16.* Compiled by Mary-Jane M. Dowd. Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration.

National Capital Planning Commission

- 1983 *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital — Federal Elements.* Washington, DC.
- 1984 *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital — District of Columbia Elements.* Washington, DC.
- 1995 *Federal Capital Improvements Program: National Capital Region — Fiscal Years 1996–2000.* Adopted by the National Capital Planning Commission June 1995.
- 1996 *Extending the Legacy: Planning America's Capital for the 21st Century.* Washington, DC.

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

- 1993 *Transportation Improvement Program for the Metropolitan Washington Area, FY 1994–99.* Washington, DC.
- 1994a *Long Range Transportation Plan for the National Capital Region,* by Timothy Canan, Grove Dixon, and Mark Pfoutz. Washington, DC.
- 1994b *Long Range Transportation Plan for the National Capital Region, Supplement A,* by Pamela Lebeaux, Elizabeth Kaufman, Timothy Canan, Tonia Bleecher and Mark Pfoutz. Washington, DC.
- 1995 *Bicycle Plan for the National Capital Region.* Washington, DC.

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior

- 1953 "A History of National Capital Parks," by Cornelius W. Heine.
- 1964 *Lafayette Park, Washington, D.C.,* by George F. Olszewski. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.
- 1970 *President's Park South, Washington, D.C.,* by George F. Olszewski. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.
- 1981 "Archeological Monitoring, Executive Residence Vault Excavations," by John F. Pousson. On file at the Executive Support Facility, White House Liaison, Washington, DC.
- 1985 *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects with Guidelines for Applying the Standards.* Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.
- 1992 *The White House Grounds and Gardens, 1988–1992.* Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.
- 1993 *President's Park Resource Management Plan.* National Capital Regional Office, Washington, DC.
- 1995a "Archeological Evaluation Report, President's Park, Washington, D.C.," by John F. Pousson and Christine Hoepfner. Eastern Applied Archeology Center, Denver Service Center.

- National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior (cont.)
- 1995b "White House Tour Market Analysis," by Albert Galipeau. Socio-Economic Studies Unit. Washington, D.C.
 - 1996a *Environmental Assessment for the Long-term Design, Pennsylvania Avenue at the White House, President's Park, Washington, D.C.* Denver Service Center.
 - 1996b "Ethnographic Assessment of Domestic Visitor Experience at the White House: A Preliminary Study," by Rebecca Joseph. Denver Service Center.
 - 1997a *Design Guidelines, The White House and President's Park, Washington, D.C.* Denver Service Center.
 - 1997b *Environmental Assessment, Southside Barrier Replacement, Sherman Park / First Division Monument, President's Park, Washington, D.C.* Denver Service Center.
 - 1998a *Comprehensive Design Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement.* Denver Service Center.
 - 1998b *Environmental Assessment, Northside Barrier Replacement, Lafayette Park, President's Park, Washington, D.C.* Denver Service Center.
 - 1998c *Environmental Assessment, Southside Barrier Replacement, Sherman Park / First Division Monument, Amendment, President's Park, Washington, D.C.* Denver Service Center.
 - 1999 *Comprehensive Design Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement.* Denver Service Center.
 - 2000 "Record of Decision: Final Comprehensive Design Plan / Environmental Impact Statement, The White House and President's Park." White House Liaison, Washington, DC.
 - in press *Administrative History, the White House and President's Park*, by William Patrick O'Brien. Denver Service Center.
- Olmsted Brothers
- 1935 "Report to the President of the United States on Improvements and Policy of Maintenance for the Executive Mansion." Brookline, MA.
- Partridge, William Ordway
- 1895 *Art for America.* Boston: Roberts Co.
- Peets, Elbert
- 1968 *On the Art of Designing Cities: Selected Essays of Elbert Peets.* Cambridge: Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press.
- Reps, John W.
- 1991 *Washington on View: The Nation's Capital since 1790.* Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.

- Seale, William
- 1986 *The President's House*. 2 vols. Washington, DC: White House Historical Association, with the cooperation of the National Geographic Society.
 - 1992 *The White House: The History of an American Idea*. Washington, DC: American Institute of Architects Press.
- Skidmore, Owings and Merrill
- 1973 "Ellipse One- and Two-level Garage Feasibility Studies, Summary Reports." Washington, DC.
 - 1973 "Washington Mall Circulation System." Washington, DC.
- Trancik, Roger
- 1986 *Finding Lost Space: Theories of Urban Design*. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 1867- *Annual Reports of the Chief of Engineers*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
 - 1926
- U.S. Department of the Treasury and U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration
- 1997 *Environmental Assessment: Implementation of White House Security Review, Vehicular Traffic Restriction Recommendations*. Washington, DC.
- U.S. Department of the Treasury
- 1997 *Environmental Assessment: Implementation of White House Security Review Vehicular Traffic Restriction Recommendations*. Washington, DC.
- University of Idaho, Cooperative Park Studies Unit
- 1993 *The White House Tours*, by Gary E. Machlis, Margaret Littlejohn, and Jeannie Harvey. Prepared for the National Park Service. Moscow, ID.
 - 1995 "White House Visitor Center; Customer Service Evaluation Report." Prepared for the National Park Service. Moscow, ID.
- Washington, D.C., Convention and Visitors Association
- 1996 *1995 Annual Report and Travel Trends*. Washington, DC.

Planning Team and Consultants

*Planning Team**

National Park Service

Denver Service Center

Ruth Eitel, Visual Information Specialist (1993–96, 1997–99)
Christopher Finlay, Architect/Landscape Architect (1995–98)
Elizabeth Janes, Project Manager (1992–present)
Karen Andrews Lusby, Natural Resource Specialist/Economist (1992–98)
Edmundo M. Nieto, Jr., Architect (1993–present)
William Patrick O'Brien, Historian (1992–present)
Ann Bowman Smith, Project Coordinator (1992–present)
Linda Ray, Visual Information Specialist (1999–2000)
Gregory J. Sorensen, Writer/Editor (1992–99)
Dennis Strah, Landscape Architect (1992–99)

Harpers Ferry Center

Christopher Schillizzi, Interpretive Planner (1992–present)

White House Liaison

Patra Renee Lee, Secretary (1992–98)
James I. McDaniel, Director (1992–present)

Consultants

Lead: BRW, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Don Hunt, Agency Coordinator
David Krutsinger, Transportation Analyst
Lee Kellar, Traffic and Transportation Analyst
Andy Leong, Roadway and Infrastructure (Utility) Engineer
Debra Perkins-Smith, Transportation Task Manager

Other: EDAW, Inc., Washington, D.C.

Cultural landscape analysis

* Parenthetical dates indicate when individuals were actively involved with the planning team. Offices for planning team members are shown for the time the individuals were primarily involved with the development of the plan

Contributors

National Park Service

Denver Service Center

Alison Cook, Landscape Architect (1995–96)
Margaret DeLaura, Outdoor Recreation Planner (1996)
Michael Eissenberg, Mechanical Engineer (1993–99)
Jeffrey Garrett, Landscape Architect (1992–94)
Jan Harris, Public Involvement Specialist (1992–94)
Glenda Heronema, Visual Information Specialist (1992–93)
Maurice Miller, Transportation Planner (1992–99)
Jennifer Shoup, Planning Assistant (1994–95)
Richard Turk, Project Team Captain / Historical Architect (1992–94)
Robert Welch, former Section Chief, Eastern Team (1995–96)
Lori Yokomizo, Visual Information Specialist (1996–97)

White House Liaison

David Krause, Archivist, Executive Support Facility (1992–present)
Richard Napoli, Chief, Executive Support Facility (1992–present)
Tom Peyton, Manager, President's Park (1997–2000)
James Melvin Poole, Manager, President's Park (1992–97)
James L. Novak, Security Office (1992–2000)
Sanna Osborne, Office Service Team Leader (1992–present)
Alicia Overby, Planning and Design Technician (1998–present)
Michael Summerlin, Project Manager/Architect (1992–present)

National Capital Region

John Parsons, Associate Superintendent, Stewardship and Partnerships (1992–present)

U.S. Department of the Interior

Richard G. Robbins, Assistant Solicitor (National Capital Parks), Office of the Solicitor (1992–1999)

*Executive Committee***

Roger G. Kennedy, Director, National Park Service, Chairman
Hon. Jodie Torkelson, Assistant to the President for Management and
Administration, Executive Office of the President
Gary Walters, Chief Usher, Executive Residence at the White House
Comdr. Christopher Schanze, Special Programs Officer, White House
Military Office
Alex Rodriguez, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, U.S.
Department of the Treasury
Richard S. Miller, Assistant Director, Office of Protective Operations, U.S.
Secret Service
James N. Bernard, Jr., Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator, Public
Buildings Service, General Services Administration
J. Carter Brown, Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts
Reginald W. Griffith, Executive Director, National Capital Planning
Commission
Cathryn Buford Slater, Chairman, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
David Colby, Director, Strategic Planning Division, Office of Planning,
District of Columbia
Richard A. Hauser, Chairman, Pennsylvania Avenue Development
Corporation (1993-96)
Robert G. Stanton, Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park
Service

** The officials listed for the Executive Committee represented the member agencies at the time the draft plan was formulated.

Index

A

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, vii, 9, 164, 177, 181, 187, 196
archeological resources, 13, 84, 98, 167
architecture, 5, 47, 82, 83, 84, 85, 90, 141, 142, 144, 145, 146, 147, 160, 161, 188

B

bicycles, 71, 72
Bulfinch gatehouses, 91, 132, 145, 165

C

Capitol, U. S., 15, 17, 18, 48, 56, 74, 128, 129, 130, 132, 137, 155
Christmas Pageant of Peace, 6, 48, 51, 54, 56
commemorative plantings, 14, 23, 84, 98, 161, 167
Commission of Fine Arts, 9, 74, 135, 136, 187
Committee for the Preservation of the White House, 73, 74
Constitution Avenue, 6, 15, 54, 58, 59, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 72, 91, 104, 105, 113, 118, 119, 120, 136, 143, 144, 146, 155, 171, 186
construction techniques, 88, 169
cultural landscape, 21, 89, 157, 164, 166, 186
cultural resources, 82, 88, 96, 97, 122, 163, 164, 186
 archeological resources, 13, 84, 98, 164, 167
 historic resources, 23, 36, 167, 169, 187

D

deliveries, 28, 36, 37, 105, 137
Design Guidelines, 81, 85, 91, 92, 99, 109, 119, 122
Downing plan. *See* landscape design, Downing plan
Downing, Andrew Jackson, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22, 31, 84, 99, 130, 143, 145

Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building, 6, 13, 16, 19, 24, 34, 36, 37, 59, 62, 74, 102, 105, 109, 142, 152, 159, 161, 171, 184, 187
tours, 48

E

E Street, 16, 20, 28, 29, 46, 58, 59, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 69, 71, 72, 74, 91, 92, 103, 104, 112, 118, 133, 138, 141, 165, 170, 171, 173, 186
East Executive Avenue, 16, 19, 20, 28, 35, 69, 72, 130, 131, 132, 138, 171
East Executive Park, 6, 13, 44, 49, 59, 64, 71, 76, 101, 102, 103
East Wing, 13, 19, 20, 34, 37, 46, 73, 74, 105, 112, 134, 135, 137
education center and museum, 43, 87, 88, 92, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 119, 165, 170, 173, 174
educational opportunities. *See* interpretation and education
egg roll, 6, 40, 51, 55, 75, 160
Eisenhower Executive Office Building. *See* Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Ellipse, 6, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 28, 29, 36, 42, 44, 49, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 64, 67, 68, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 92, 93, 101, 103, 104, 105, 112, 113, 115, 118, 121, 122, 123, 130, 132, 133, 134, 145, 153, 155, 165, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 186, 187
 steamline, 75, 77, 122, 165
Ellipse parking facility, 104, 121, 123, 165, 169, 171, 172, 173
entryways. *See* pedestrian entryways
Executive Committee, 8, 87, 90, 187
Executive Office of the President, 9, 23, 33, 35, 73, 81, 87, 88, 89, 92, 101, 158, 187
 motorcades, 39, 61, 103, 172
Executive Residence, 8, 9, 13, 23, 28, 31, 32, 33, 42, 73, 74, 81, 87, 88, 89, 96, 100, 102, 111, 115, 171, 172, 187
 first family recreation space, 32, 82

F

Federal Highway Administration, 58, 69, 92, 118, 119
Federal Triangle Historic District, 24, 142
Fifteenth (15th) Street, 6, 18, 56, 58, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69, 71, 72, 75, 91, 104, 109, 112, 113, 118, 119, 120, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 155, 170, 171, 186
Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District, 24, 141, 142, 144, 145, 146
fine and decorative arts, 13, 167
First Amendment activities and demonstrations, 28, 29, 39, 40, 51, 53, 54, 75, 83, 84, 110, 114, 157, 161
First Division Monument, 6, 22, 24, 29, 48, 54, 121, 145, 152, 153, 187
first family, 19, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 55, 81, 82, 84, 101, 102, 171

G

General Services Administration, 9, 23, 35, 73, 74, 187
grounds maintenance building, 171

H

H Street, 6, 59, 61, 63, 64, 65, 67, 91, 103, 105, 113, 118, 119, 140, 142, 145, 146
Hamilton Place, 16, 28, 64, 69, 72, 101, 103, 117, 118, 132, 142, 144, 171
historic buildings, 23, 36, 169
historic districts, 13, 21, 23
home and office of the president, 82, 84
deliveries, 28, 36, 37, 105, 137
first family recreation space, 32, 82
meeting space, 34, 92, 103, 165, 171
staff parking, 35, 36, 63, 64, 87, 89, 92, 101, 104, 105, 123, 170, 185
storage, 32, 33, 37, 73, 75, 76, 87, 92, 102, 106, 110, 121, 127, 132, 165, 167, 168, 169, 171, 172, 173, 183, 185
support services, 33, 36, 82, 101, 102

I

information and orientation, 44, 108, 109
interpretation and education, 45, 46, 75, 81, 83, 89, 98, 110, 113, 123, 127, 175
interpretive plan, 123
interpretive themes, 84, 110, 113, 156

J

Jackson Place, 6, 14, 15, 56, 64, 67, 91, 101, 103, 105, 117, 118, 140, 141, 142
John Carl Warnecke & Associates, 14, 20, 139
jurisdiction, 73, 74, 96, 135, 164

L

L'Enfant plan, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 128, 129, 130, 134, 137, 138, 145
L'Enfant, Pierre Charles, 5, 17, 84, 128, 157, 160
Lafayette Park, 6, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 29, 40, 42, 49, 51, 53, 54, 56, 71, 74, 82, 83, 90, 110, 113, 118, 121, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 140, 142, 143, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 187
Lafayette Square. *See* Lafayette Park
Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District, 24, 83, 84, 140, 141, 142, 145, 146
landscape architecture, 85, 90, 143, 186
landscape design, 21, 31, 82, 83, 84, 89, 90, 99, 143, 145, 157, 164, 166, 186
Downing plan, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 31, 84, 90, 99, 130, 133, 143, 145
John Carl Warnecke & Associates, 14, 20, 139
L'Enfant plan, 18, 90
Olmsted plan, 16, 18, 20, 84, 90, 99, 130, 138
Thomas Jefferson, 17, 129, 158, 160, 161
landscape management plan, 99, 123
level of service (LOS), 59, 61

M

Madison Place, 6, 14, 15, 56, 64, 65, 72, 74, 91, 101, 103, 117, 118
maintenance, 14, 35, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 90, 97, 99, 102, 121, 122, 165, 168, 170, 171, 175, 187
Hains Point, 75, 121
management and operations, 73, 89, 121, 123, 173
McKim, Mead & White, 16, 19, 20, 134, 137
meeting space, 34, 103, 171
memorials. *See* monuments and memorials
Metrobus, 62, 66, 67
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 119
Metrorail, 62, 66, 69, 119

Monumental Core, 13, 19, 22, 48, 68, 85,
109, 119, 120, 134
monuments and memorials, 16, 21, 22, 23,
51, 74, 82, 90, 97, 98, 133, 135, 145,
148, 150, 153, 154, 155, 163, 167, 169,
187

N

National Capital Planning Commission, 9,
74, 119, 120, 135, 136, 163, 187
national historic landmark, 23, 24, 140,
141, 142, 145, 146
National Mall, 17, 19, 48, 68, 85, 90, 119,
128, 129, 130, 131, 134, 145, 154
National Park Service, 8, 9, 13, 14, 20, 23,
35, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 55, 56, 67, 68, 73,
74, 75, 76, 88, 96, 115, 117, 118, 119,
120, 121, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 140,
141, 154, 163, 164, 165, 166, 168, 182,
186, 187
natural resources, 89, 96, 97, 169, 170, 176
New Executive Office Building (NEOB),
34, 103, 105, 171, 172
news media, 32, 37, 87, 88, 92, 101, 102,
158, 171, 183, 185
northside parking facility, 102, 103, 105,
171, 172

O

Office of the Chief Usher, 73
Old Executive Office Building. *See* Dwight
D. Eisenhower Executive Office
Building
Olmsted brothers, 13, 16, 19, 20, 84, 99,
137
Olmsted plan. *See* landscape design,
Olmsted plan
Olmsted, Frederick Law Jr., 19, 31, 134,
136, 137
Oval Office, 31, 158, 159

P

parking, 19, 28, 29, 35, 36, 58, 63, 64, 65,
66, 68, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 109,
118, 119, 123, 136, 137, 165, 169, 171,
172, 184, 185
Ellipse parking facility, 104, 121, 123,
165, 169, 171, 172, 173
northside parking facility, 102, 103, 105,
171, 172
public parking, 59, 62, 63, 65, 104, 119,
121
staff parking, 36, 63, 64, 87, 89, 104,
105, 170, 185

tour buses, 66, 120
pedestrian corridors, 88, 112, 169
pedestrian entryways, 91, 104, 109, 165,
171, 172
pedestrians, 69, 71, 77, 91, 170, 172
Pennsylvania Avenue, 6, 9, 16, 17, 18, 24,
49, 51, 53, 54, 56, 58, 61, 65, 66, 67, 69,
71, 72, 74, 85, 90, 91, 102, 103, 106,
113, 118, 119, 128, 129, 130, 133, 136,
137, 140, 142, 143, 145, 147, 153, 154,
157, 165, 171
Pennsylvania Avenue Development
Corporation, 137, 153, 187
President's Park
capacity, 28, 123
definition, 6
pedestrian entryways, 91
planning and design, 6, 8, 13, 17, 18, 20,
21, 90, 91, 92, 99, 108, 114, 123,
128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134,
135, 136, 138, 139
purpose, 82
significance, 84
presidential inaugural parade, 6, 53, 56

R

recreational activities, 39, 49, 113, 133
regional transit, 119

S

Second Division Monument, 22, 24, 145,
155
Seventeenth (17th) Street, 6, 56, 58, 61, 63,
64, 67, 69, 71, 72, 91, 103, 104, 105,
113, 118, 119, 120, 141, 142, 143, 144,
145, 146, 155, 171, 186
Seventeenth Street Historic Area, 24, 141,
144, 145
Sherman Park, 6, 22, 74, 121, 133, 138,
142, 187
site amenities, 113, 165
South Executive Avenue, 112, 144, 171
special events, 28, 36, 37, 39, 42, 46, 51,
54, 55, 61, 68, 75, 89, 114, 115, 157,
161, 170, 174
Christmas candlelight tours, 53, 55
Christmas Pageant of Peace, 6, 51, 54,
56
egg roll, 6, 40, 51, 55, 75, 160
garden tours, 42, 46, 55
State Place, 16, 20, 28, 61, 64, 74, 101,
103, 117, 132, 138, 144, 171
steamline, 75, 77, 122, 165

storage, 14, 32, 37, 73, 75, 76, 87, 102,
106, 110, 121, 127, 132, 165, 167, 168,
169, 171, 172, 173, 183, 185

T

tour buses, 62, 66, 67, 120
Tourmobile, 48, 62, 67, 68
traffic, 13, 16, 20, 29, 49, 58, 59, 61, 68,
71, 72, 74, 75, 89, 92, 101, 117, 118,
138, 169, 170
transportation, 29, 58, 62, 63, 67, 75, 92,
105, 109, 119
 access and circulation, 16, 19, 20, 28,
 29, 31, 37, 39, 40, 47, 59, 62, 66, 81,
 89, 92, 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 108,
 110, 112, 118, 119, 121, 122, 137,
 170, 173, 183, 184
 emergency access, 117
 level of service (LOS), 59, 61
 Metrobus, 62, 66, 67
 Metrorail, 62, 66, 69, 119
 public transit, 36, 62, 66
 regional transit system, 119
 tour buses, 62, 67, 120
 Tourmobile, 48, 62, 67, 68
Treasury Building, 6, 13, 19, 24, 35, 37, 59,
74, 105, 109, 133, 134, 142, 146, 150,
151, 159, 161, 165, 184, 187
tours, 48

U

U.S. Park Police, 74
U.S. Secret Service, 9, 35, 42, 46, 73, 74,
127, 150, 159, 187
utilities, 33, 76, 89, 169, 170, 171, 187

V

vendors, 63
views, 15, 22, 67, 71, 82, 90, 122, 137, 187,
188
visitor experience, 118
visitor use, 40, 42, 43
visitors, 8, 28, 29, 31, 34, 36, 39, 40, 42,
43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 55, 62, 63, 65, 66,
67, 68, 69, 81, 83, 88, 89, 91, 101, 102,
103, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 118,
119, 147, 157, 160, 172, 174, 175
 information and orientation, 44, 108,
 109

 interpretation and education, 45, 75, 81,
 83, 84, 89, 98, 110, 113, 127, 156
 visitor experience, 28, 39, 42, 44, 48,
 108, 109, 123, 174, 175, 176
 visual experience, 67, 71, 82, 90, 137

W

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit
 Authority, 66, 118
Washington Monument, 13, 17, 48, 51, 68,
 75, 128, 131, 132, 146, 153
Washington, D.C., 5, 9, 13, 23, 24, 43, 44,
 46, 56, 63, 67, 74, 76, 82, 83, 84, 85, 88,
 92, 108, 111, 117, 118, 120, 127, 135,
 136, 140, 141, 142, 143, 145, 154, 157,
 163, 164, 166, 168, 187
 L'Enfant plan, 13, 15, 17, 18, 22, 90,
 128, 129, 130, 134, 137, 138, 143,
 145
 McMillan plan, 13, 19, 90, 133, 134,
 136, 143
 Monumental Core, 13, 19, 22, 48, 68,
 85, 109, 119, 120, 134
West Executive Avenue, 6, 13, 16, 19, 20,
 28, 35, 37, 59, 69, 71, 76, 101, 102, 103,
 106, 130, 131, 132, 138, 171
West Wing, 13, 16, 19, 20, 31, 34, 36, 37,
 73, 74, 102, 103, 106, 134, 135, 137,
 159, 184
White House
 as symbol, 5, 47, 83, 84
 capacity, 28
 education center and museum, 108, 109,
 110, 111
 public access, 33, 39, 79, 81, 82, 84, 98,
 112, 157, 158
 purpose, 82
 renovation, 19, 20, 134, 138
 significance, 83
 visitor use, 40, 42, 43
White House museum. *See* education center
 and museum
White House tours, 82
 capacity, 28
 congressional tours, 62, 63
 public tours, 28, 32, 33, 34, 36, 39, 42,
 43, 44, 46, 55, 62, 63, 111
 staging, 112
White House visitor center, 9, 43, 44, 45,
 66, 69, 71, 75, 88, 92, 119, 169, 170



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

