

Washington D.C.



Washington is an extraordinary city, one with multiple personalities: a working federal city, an international metropolis, a picturesque tourist destination, an unmatched treasury of the country's history and artifacts, and a cosmopolitan centre that retains a neighbourly small-town ambience. The role Washington plays as the capital of the United States often overshadows its lively local history and its complex political, economic, and social issues. About half the land in Washington is owned by the U.S. government, which pays no taxes on it. Several hundred thousand people in the D.C. metropolitan area work for the federal government.

Washington D.C. is an independent federal district. It is bordered by the state of Virginia to the southwest, and Maryland to the north, east and south.

It was designed by Pierre Charles L'Enfant

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/636322/Washington>

George Washington

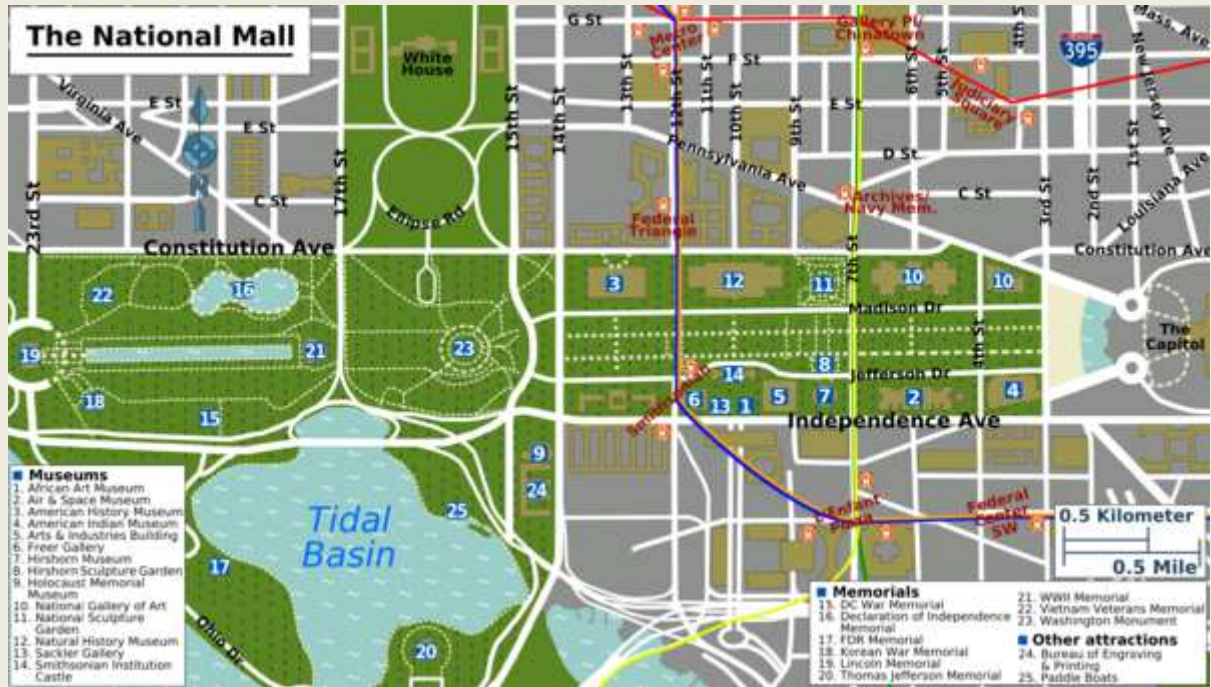


- American general and commander in chief of the colonial armies in the American Revolution (1775–83) and subsequently first president of the United States (1789–97).

The Smithsonian Institution



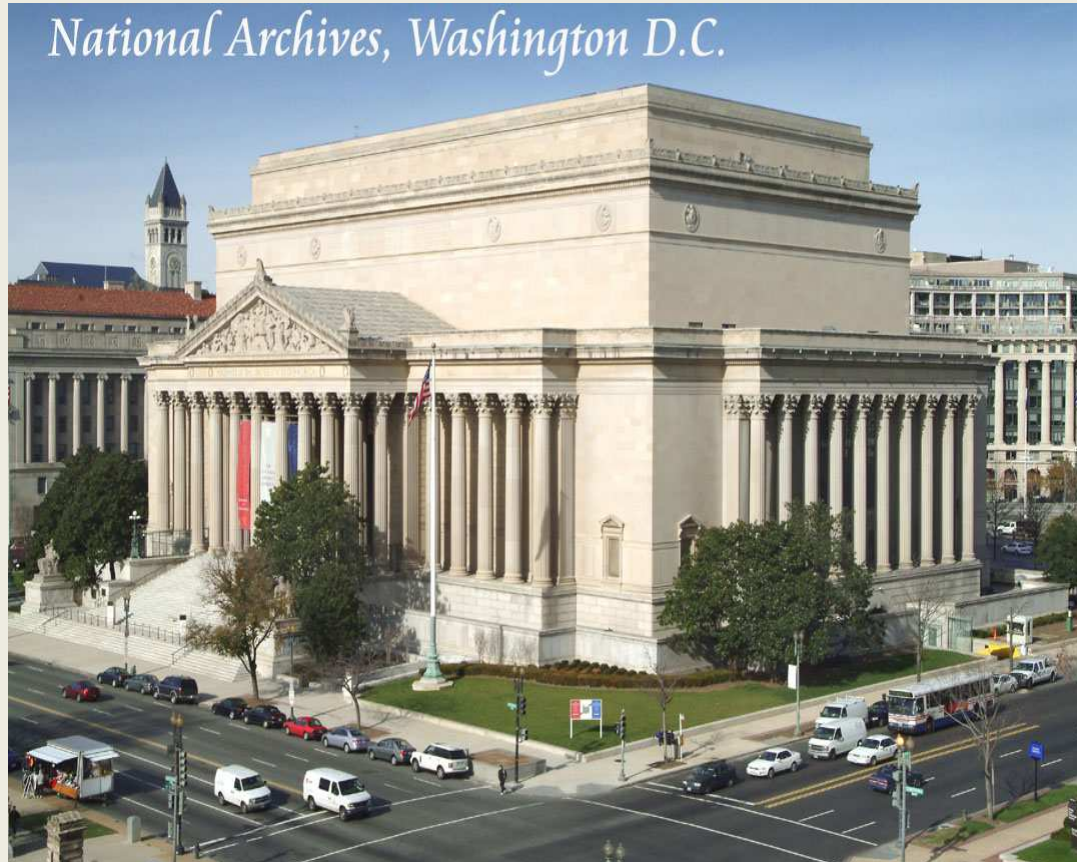
The Mall



Even Washingtonians whose daily pursuits rarely take them to the Mall regard this magnificent open expanse as the heart of the city. A grassy park with carefully preserved trees, the Mall stretches 2.5 miles (4 km) from the Capitol to the east to the Potomac River, just beyond the Lincoln Memorial, to the west. Alongside and nearby are the core symbols of the city and the nation: memorials to past suffering and triumphs, the workplaces of the federal government, and the Smithsonian Institution museums, entrusted with “the increase and diffusion of knowledge.” The Mall also serves as a national public square – it fills to capacity for the dazzling Fourth of July celebration and fireworks display, while the Smithsonian Folklife Festival brings food, dance, storytelling, and crafts from all over the world. And the space is enlivened daily with ordinary people jogging, strolling, or just enjoying the extraordinary views.

[http://womenworld.org/travel/washington-d-c---around-town--the-mall-and-federal-triangle-\(part-1\)-.aspx](http://womenworld.org/travel/washington-d-c---around-town--the-mall-and-federal-triangle-(part-1)-.aspx)

The National Archives



The Rotunda of the National Archives Building in downtown Washington, DC, displays the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence.

Capitol Hill



The White House



Supreme Court



The Washington Monument



A Nation Honors its Founding Father

The Washington Monument is the most prominent structure in Washington, D.C. The 555-foot, 5-1/8" marble obelisk honors the nation's founding father George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory, and then became the nation's first president under the Constitution.

<http://www.nps.gov/wamo/index.htm>

The Lincoln Memorial

