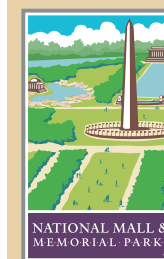


Washington, DC Timeline and Historic Plans: Illustrating the Evolution of the "Monumental Core" of the Nation's Capital

National Mall Plan

National Mall & Memorial Parks • Washington, DC
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



Note:
Historic resources are those extant resources that meet eligibility requirements. It is important to note that conceptual plans are frequently not fully implemented. See related "A History of the National Mall and Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Park" which can be found at

<http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Documents/mallpaavhistory.pdf>.

These plans have been provided to illustrate the evolution of conceptual plans from L'Enfant to Legacy.

- Washington designated the new capital by George Washington
- Charles Pierre L'Enfant hired to develop a plan for the federal city
 - First July 4th celebration in Washington
- First Inaugural parade
- Lafayette Square designated a public park by Jefferson
- Rows of poplar trees planted along Pennsylvania Avenue
- Washington burned during the War of 1812
- Lafayette Square first landscaped for Lafayette visit
 - James Smithson bequeaths gift to the nation
- Washington Monument cornerstone laid
- Installation of gaslights along Pennsylvania Avenue
- Smithsonian "castle" begun
- Virginia portion of District of Columbia returned to Virginia as unneeded
 - Landscape designer Andrew Jackson Downing hired
- Andrew Jackson Downing killed in steamboat accident
- Arrival of the railroad and construction of a terminal on The Mall
 - Armory built on The Mall
- Treasury building portico obstructs view from the Capitol to White House
 - Civil War-soldier encampments on The Mall
 - Lincoln funeral cortege and 2-day parade of the Grand Army of the Republic
- Most streets and avenues in the northwest quadrant paved
 - Nation's Centennial Celebration
 - National Museum built
- Tiber Canal filled in to become Constitution Avenue
- Congress allocates money to dredge Anacostia River, create Washington Channel and East and West Potomac Parks
 - Washington Monument completed
- More than 100 miles of tramway within the city
- Rock Creek Park formed
- Coxe's Army demonstration
- D.C. Commissioners establish first height restrictions within the District
- Dept. of Agriculture opens large office on south side of Mall
- Union Station constructed and old railroad terminal on Mall removed
 - National Museum of American History built
 - Commission of Fine Arts formed by President Taft
 - Lincoln Memorial designed and begun
 - 1,800 Cherry Trees planted around the Tidal Basin
- Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway begun
- Sylvan Theater constructed
 - Federal Triangle project
- Freer Gallery opens
- National Capital Park Commission formed
- Shipstead Act gives government aesthetic control over private or semiprivate buildings adjacent to public buildings and grounds
- Capper-Cramton Act passed providing money to expand the park system of the District
 - Arlington Memorial Bridge completed

1791
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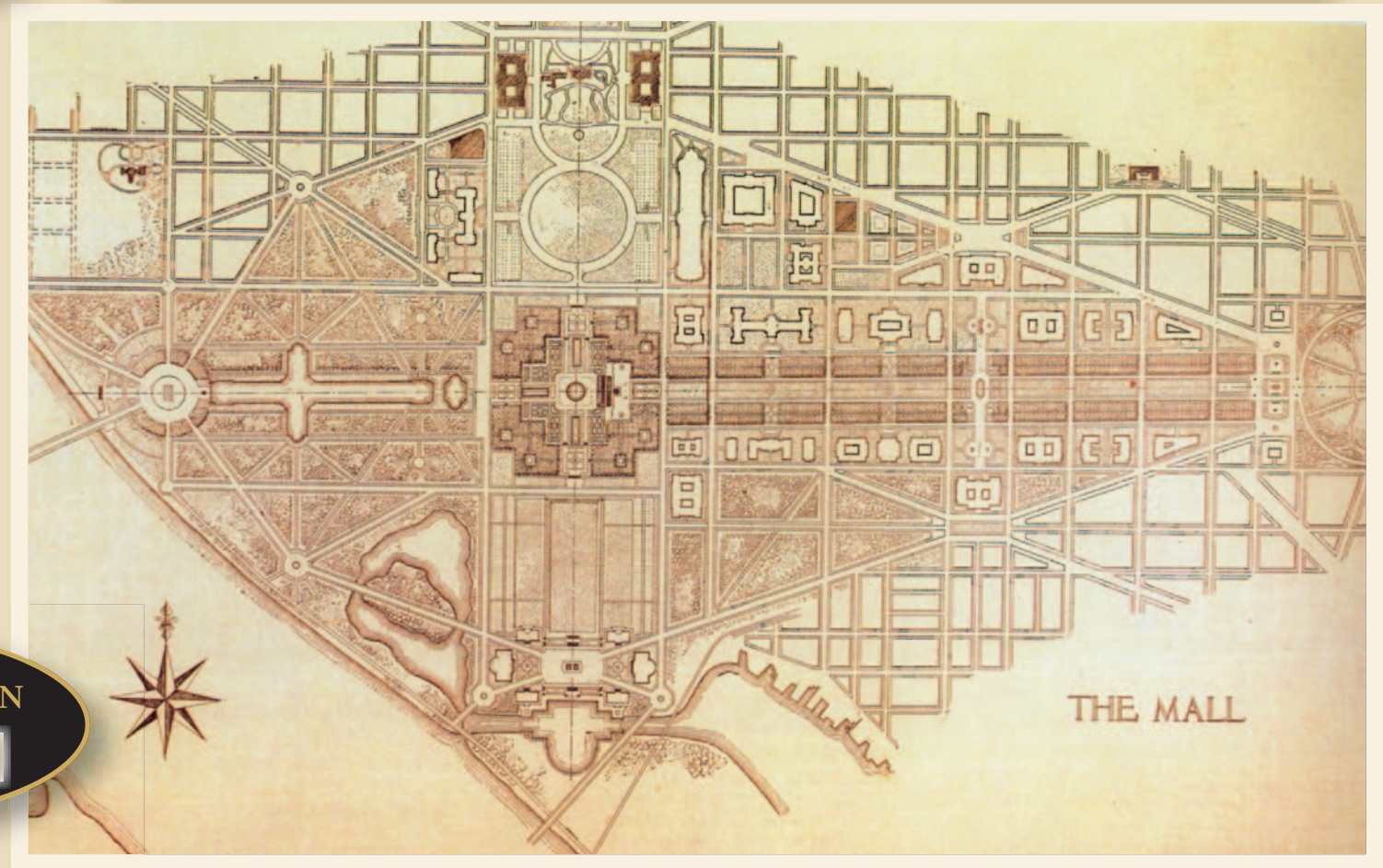
STUDY AREA ACTIONS:

- The Mall
- Pennsylvania Avenue
- Washington Monument
- West Potomac Park

OTHER:

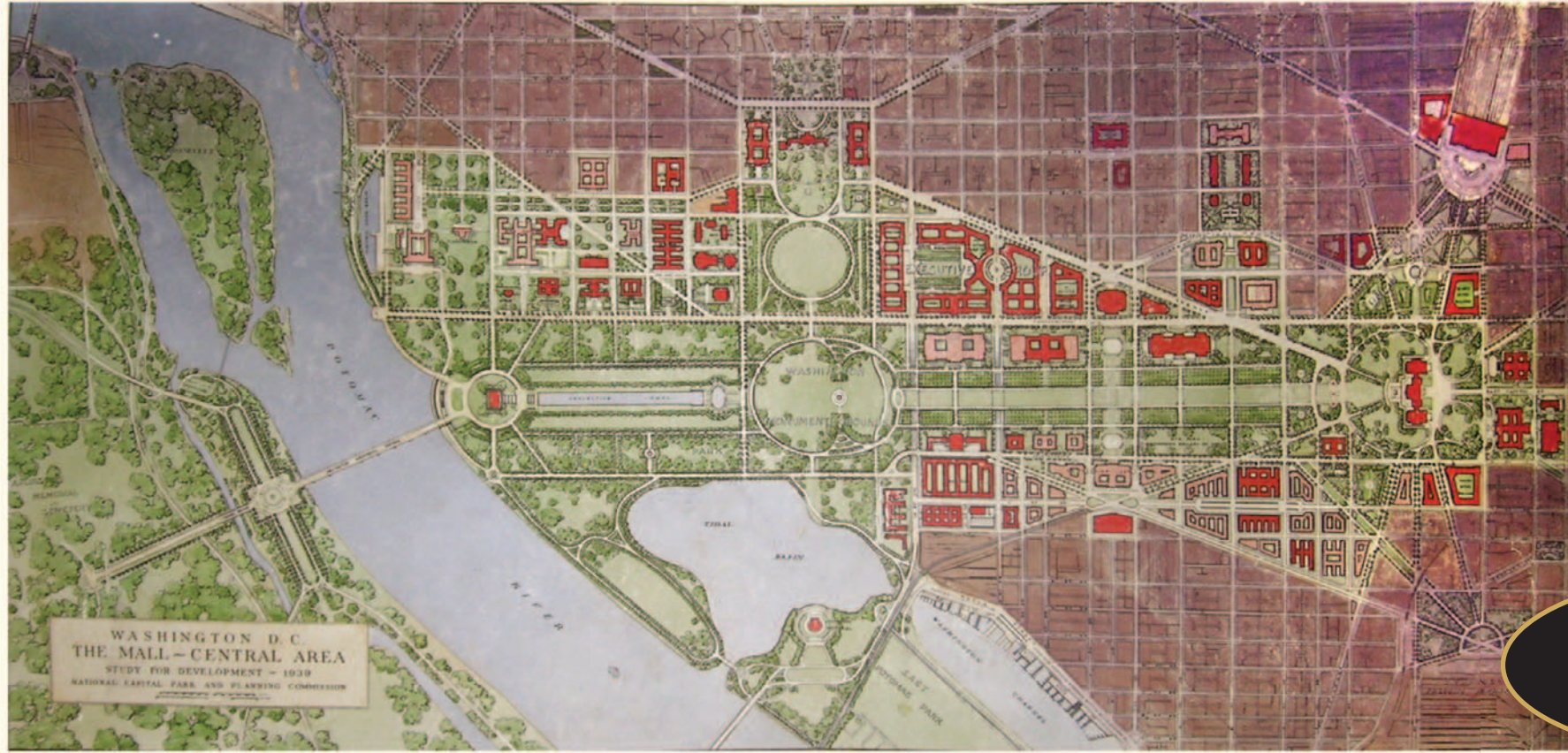
- Miscellaneous events, legislation and construction
- The White House & President's Park

1791 L'ENFANT PLAN
THE NATIONAL MALL



1901 McMILLAN PLAN
THE NATIONAL MALL

WASHINGTON : 1939 - THE MALL



STUDY AREA ACTIONS:

The Mall

Pennsylvania Avenue

Washington Monument

West Potomac Park

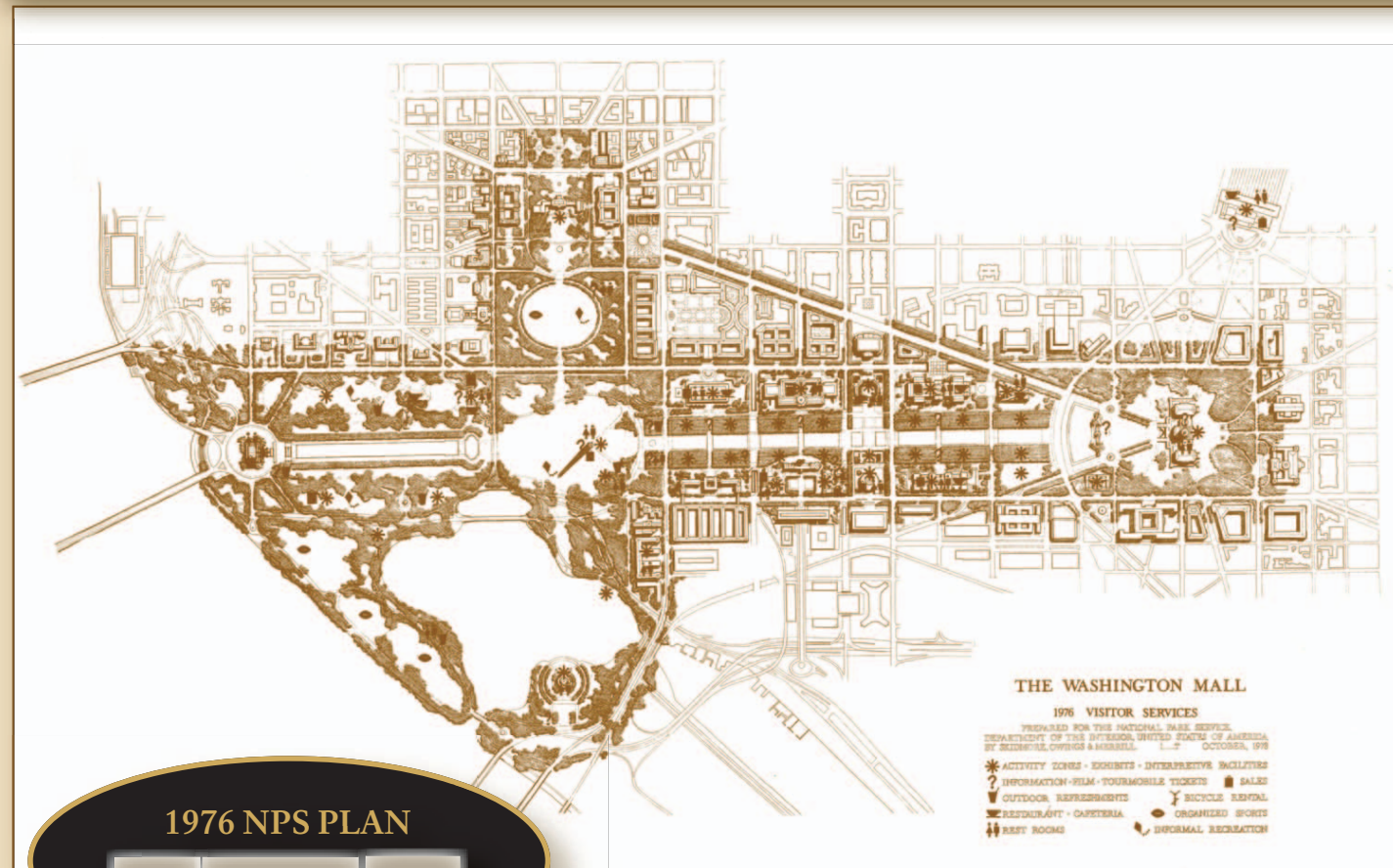
OTHER:

Miscellaneous events,
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The White House & President's Park

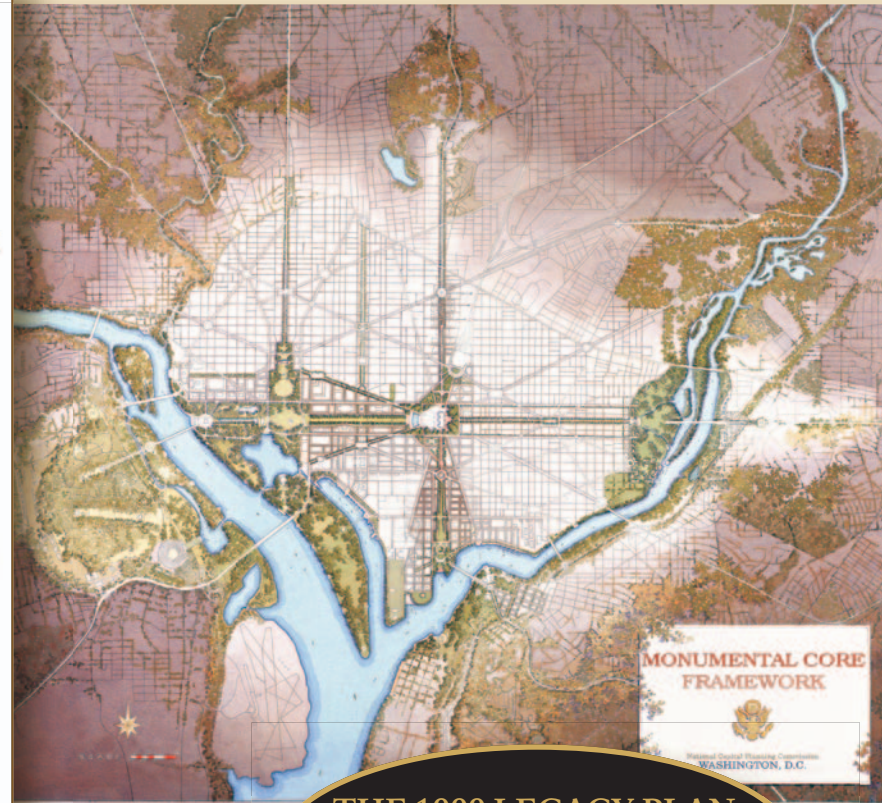
THE 1939 PLAN

THE NATIONAL MALL



1976 NPS PLAN

THE NATIONAL MALL



THE 1999 LEGACY PLAN

THE NATIONAL MALL

- 1933 • National Park Service takes control of the federal reservations
- 1934 • E Street south of White House constructed
- 1935 • Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway completed
• First Cherry Blossom Festival
- 1938 • Jefferson Memorial completed
- 1939 • Marion Anderson concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial
- 1940 • National Gallery of Art constructed
- 1961 • Year 2000 plan developed by NCP
- 1962 • Pennsylvania Avenue Plan developed
- 1963 • "I have a dream" speech by Martin Luther King on steps of Lincoln Memorial
- 1964 • National Museum of Natural History
• Temporary buildings around Washington Monument - reflecting pool demolished
- 1965 • Pennsylvania Avenue designated a national historic site
- 1966 • National Historic Preservation Act
- 1967 • Smithsonian Folk Life Festival begins
- 1968 • National Gallery of Art-East
• Riots following assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King
- 1969 • Subway construction begun
• Tourmobile service begins
- 1970 • Sylvan Theater renovated
- 1971 • Kennedy Center opens
- 1972 • Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation established
- 1974 • Hirschhorn Gallery opens
- 1976 • Mall Circulation Plan developed • National Air and Space Museum opens • Nation's Bicentennial Celebration
• Subway opens • Constitution Gardens opens
- 1978 • West Potomac Park Plan developed
- 1981 • Hirschhorn Sculpture Garden opens
- 1982 • Vietnam Veterans Memorial opens
- 1984 • Memorial to 56 Signers of the Declaration of Independence opens
- 1986 • Commemorative Works Act
- 1987 • Arthur M. Sackler Gallery opens • Penn. Ave. National Historic Site transferred to NPS jurisdiction • National Museum of African Art opens
- 1980s • Security bollards installed at The White House & President's Park
- 1990s • Security bollard and sidewalk replacement projects
• 15th Street realignment
- 1990 • Memorial Day concerts begin
- 1993 • Washington Monument Grounds Plan developed
• Vietnam Women's Memorial opens
- 1995 • Koren War Memorial opens
• Penn. Ave. in front of the White House closed to traffic
- 1997 • Penn. Ave. Development Corporation disestablished
• Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial opens
• Million Man March
- 1999 • The Legacy Plan • The White House and President's Park Comprehensive Design Plan
- 2003 • The Reserve Act
- 2004 • World War II Memorial opens
• National Museum of the American Indian opens
- 2006 • National Mall Plan begins
- 2008 • Planning together for Central Washington