National Desert Storm War Memorial Board

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Regulatory Framework

- Memorial Background
- Re-Evaluation of Sites
- Site Design Context
Regulatory Framework


Memorials and Museums Master Plan (2001)

Monumental Core Framework Plan (2009)
Memorials and Museums Master Plan (2001)

Existing Sites
- Of the 228 existing museums and memorials in Washington (at the time when the 2M Plan was developed), the majority were clustered in or near the National Mall and Pennsylvania Avenue. This had been the pattern for more than 100 years.

Proposed Sites
- With the increased number of new museum and memorial proposals, the heart of the Mall, known as the Reserve, was declared off limits. Adjacent sites in Area I were and currently are restricted to works of "preeminent historic and national significance." The remaining sites identified in the 2M Plan are spread throughout the city.

Prime and Candidate Site Locations
- The 2M Plan established a framework for organizing the 100 candidate sites. This framework focused on the emerging waterfront and the key, radiating avenues of the L'Enfant plan. Twenty prime sites were identified for memorials of the highest order because of their high visibility and strong axial relationships with the U.S. Capitol and the White House. Six identified sites have been occupied by new memorials.
Memorial Background

- Regulatory Framework
- Re-Evaluation of Sites
- Site Design Context
NATIONAL DESERT STORM AND DESERT SHIELD MEMORIAL

NDSWM Site Selection Process

The National Desert Storm War Memorial (NDSWM) Association, the sponsoring organization for the Desert Storm Memorial, conducted a site selection study in 2015-2016 in cooperation with the NPS and staff from NCPC, CFA, and the DC State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The Association and the NPS developed a series of criteria in order to identify a suitable location for the memorial on a site that supports the stated purpose of the memorial. These site identification criteria included:

- Within the District of Columbia
- At least 1.5 acres in size and able to accommodate a minimum of 80-100 people
- Accessible to pedestrians, transit, and visitors and meet ABAAS standards
- Near other visitor destinations
- Thematically connected to the content of the memorial
- Minimal infrastructure improvements
- Appropriate environment for reflection
- Safe environment for both visitors and memorial features; minimal potential maintenance issues
- Resilient to the environment and the potential effects of climate change; enable sustainable practices

These criteria were applied to the 100 potential memorial sites listed in NCPC’s Memorials and Museums Master Plan. Many of the sites in the document did not meet the criteria; however, the Association and the NPS identified fourteen viable sites and areas that merited further consideration based on overall location and size. The Association presented its finding to National Capital Memorials Advisory Committee on January 28, 2016 and again on May 16, 2017. The Association presented the site selection process, including criteria at the 2016 meeting and NCMAC recommended the siting of the Memorial within Area I as defined by the Commemorative Works Act. Congress authorized siting within Area I in March 2017.

After multiple iterations, the full Site Selection Study evaluated a total of 18 sites. Two sites were selected as the most appropriate for further analysis and to explore potential concepts for how the site could accommodate a memorial. These two finalist sites include the Memorial Circle Area, Site 1, Memorials and Museums Master Plan and the Constitution Avenue Terminus Area, Site 6, Memorials and Museums Master Plan.
The Association presented the Memorial Circle Area and Constitution Avenue Terminus Area sites to NCPC on July 13, 2017 and CFA on July 20, 2017.

NCPC found that the Memorial Circle Area site is “currently challenged by pedestrian – vehicular conflicts” and noted that the site’s “adjacent road network may detract from a contemplative and safe environment necessary for a successful memorial.”

CFA expressed concern about the suitability of the Memorial Circle Area site, noting that the site is “layered with many other commemorative associations” and “found that a site less laden with established commemorative meaning would provide a better setting for the Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.”

Comments received during the site selection public scoping period noted that locating the Desert Storm Memorial at the Memorial Circle site would be disconnected and isolated from the other commemorative works both on the Washington and Arlington side of the Potomac River.

Based on this feedback, the Association found that the Memorial Circle Area site poses difficult challenges and removed the site from further consideration.

At the July 20, 2017 CFA meeting, the Commission encouraged further study of potential sites. Based on CFA's feedback, the Association conducted a new comprehensive evaluation of five sites, including three sites from the full Site Selection Study and two new sites, as well as a new approach to selecting a site for the memorial. The Association presented these five sites and new approach to CFA on October 19, 2017. CFA endorsed the further exploration of the Constitution Avenue Terminus Area site and Walt Whitman Park, Site 11, Memorials and Museums Master Plan, as well as recommended that the Constitution Avenue Belvedere site be included in the next phase of site selection.
"The [NCPC] Commission...finds the Constitution Avenue site provides a pedestrian-accessible location in close proximity to the National Mall, along with a strong thematic connection to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial."

- July 13, 2017 NCPC Commission Action

"...the [NCMAC] Commissioners noted that the presenters, as well as the accompanying written testimony, provided a strong case that the Memorial should be eligible for inclusion within Area I. By consensus, the Commission recommended inclusion within Area I..."

- April 28, 2016 NCMAC letter to the NDSWM Association
# First Round Site Identification (14 Initial Sites + 4 Additional Sites)

## 14 Initial Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Memorial Circle area at George Washington Memorial Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>E Street Expressway Interchange that is southeast of the Kennedy Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Freedom Plaza on Pennsylvania Avenue NW, between 13th and 14th Streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Western terminus area of Constitution Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>East Capitol Street east of 19th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Situated within the Reserve on the National Mall between the Vietnam Memorial and Constitution Gardens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor) E Street between 19th and 20th Streets NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Former Liberty Loan building between Maine Avenue west of 14th Street, SW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>In East Potomac Park on the Potomac River at the rail bridges and Ohio Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Anacostia River waterfront south shore in Anacostia Park SE</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Hains Point Area</td>
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<td>On Maryland Avenue SW between 12th and 14th Streets SW</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Franklin Square, between I, K, 13th and 14th Streets NW</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Rock Creek &amp; Potomac Parkway at Pennsylvania Avenue</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## 4 Additional Sites (Based on NCMAC Comments)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10th Street Overlook/Banneker Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/23</td>
<td>Poplar Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>St Elizabeths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39/40</td>
<td>South Capitol Street Oval</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Site numbers are from the Memorials and Museums Master Plan*
# First Round Site Identification (18 Total Sites)

## Summary of Consideration of Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Program Suitability</th>
<th>Accessibility</th>
<th>Site Prominence &amp; Visibility</th>
<th>Site Context</th>
<th>Infrastructure Requirements</th>
<th>Tranquility</th>
<th>Security &amp; Maintenance</th>
<th>Resiliency &amp; Sustainability</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Site numbers are from the Memorials and Museums Master Plan*

- 🌟 Meets Criteria
- 🌟 Partially Meets Criteria
- 🌟 Does Not Meet Criteria

**Notes:**
- Site numbers are from the Memorials and Museums Master Plan.
Second Round Site Evaluation (6 Sites)

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*Site numbers are from the Memorials and Museums Master Plan*
Third Round Detailed Site Analyses (3 Sites)
Regulatory Framework

Memorial Background

Re-Evaluation of Sites

Site Design Context
Re-Evaluation of Sites (5 New and Reconsidered Sites)
Updated Evaluation Criteria

As part of the site selection process, multiple considerations influence decisions related to the location of the memorial. In response to the thoughtful review comments received from NCPC and CFA, the evaluation criteria was updated to better inform the overall suitability of each potential memorial site.

The updated criteria would allow for a memorial that would:

- **Establish a prominent place of honor.** The site should be deemed a lasting and preeminent commemorative place suitable for recognizing the unique and historically significant role of Desert Shield/Desert Storm in history.

- **Complement existing attributes of the site.** These include topography and vegetation, notable surrounding and nearby buildings and monuments, views into and out of the site, pedestrian and vehicular access routes to/from the site, universal accessibility, drainage and floodplains, and solar and wind exposure.

- **Maintain the civic quality of open space.** The memorial should be sited so that open space can continue to serve the general public as gathering and/or recreation areas, rather than an area serving solely as a memorial precinct.

- **Respect the established context.** The site should recognize its existing historic context, viewsheds, and cultural landscapes while offering potential for integration of other commemorative associations; the site should not preclude the presence of future memorials.

- **Allow for future connections.** The site area should be adaptable to new physical and programmatic approaches to civic space, including open space, infrastructure, or ceremonial linkages.

- **Enable a compact design with a low, horizontal profile.** The scale and design of each alternative will be studied in relation to site attributes, but will occupy less than one-quarter of an acre.

- **Create an intimate visitor experience.** The memorial should include a meaningful, sacred space for reflection and healing; the sense of contemplation should be protected by sensitive buffers that minimize disruption to visual and acoustic quality.
Noise Exposure

Note: Noise levels based on initial decibel readings at site visit.

Approximate Noise Levels Including Air Traffic

- High (>75 db)
- Medium (72-75 db)
- Low (<72 db)
Memorial Avenue provides an example of a commemorative corridor as a forecourt to Arlington National Cemetery.
Memorial Niches

Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Pennsylvania Avenue contains niche sites in a more dispersed pattern.
Memorial Niches

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Site Attributes</td>
<td>Niche sites are extremely small and often disconnected from related thematic elements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Open Space</td>
<td>An additional niche memorial would enable corridors to maintain their civic function.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Other Memorials</td>
<td>Other commemorative works could be placed with or without relationship to the memorial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Connections</td>
<td>Niche locations would not preclude new physical improvements that could be proposed for the various corridors in the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compact Memorial Design</td>
<td>Niche locations require an extremely compact memorial design due to placement within confined area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Experience</td>
<td>Niche locations would offer a passer-by experience due to the recessed placement of memorial, rather than an intimate reflective experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Acoustic Buffers</td>
<td>Niche locations may be conducive to visual or acoustic buffer by allowing a backdrop to shield unwanted distractions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Considerations</td>
<td>Memorial Drive is <strong>not</strong> within District of Columbia boundaries, as required by authorizing legislation; and due to its proximity to Arlington National Cemetery would result in a memorial associated with fallen soldiers, thereby diminishing the importance of the international coalition. Pennsylvania Avenue is intended as a ceremonial boulevard connecting two branches of government. Massachusetts Avenue is intended for international leaders and causes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Niche locations would not provide the desired intimate, reflective visitor experience.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Fourth Infantry Division Memorial**
- **American Armored Force Memorial**
Pennsylvania/Constitution Avenues Intersection

This highly prominent triangular park faces the National Gallery of Art East Wing and the U.S. Court House. It offers striking views of the Capitol and its location on Pennsylvania Avenue gives the site a high degree of visibility and urban design significance. Existing conditions are generally level, with established trees and landscape elements. The physical presence of the U.S. Capitol and the Pennsylvania Avenue Monumental Corridor greatly influence the site. Adjoining landscape elements generally offer open conditions that reinforce the dramatic visual impact of the Capitol and its extensive grounds. These visual connections to the Capitol provide design opportunities for physical improvements to the site. Potential site development is constrained by existing utilities.

Since this parcel is within the Pennsylvania Avenue right-of-way and provides outstanding views of the U.S. Capitol, it offers both symbolic and ceremonial amenities of the highest order. Future commemorative use of the site must maintain the existing vista along the Avenue to the Capitol. Another important consideration is the prominent Meade Memorial at the Prettyman Court House. Nevertheless, the site could incorporate an understated landscape feature with design elements that provide commemoration and interpretation opportunity while enhancing the linkages that characterize the historic corridor.

Highly prominent triangular parcel could support a future commemorative element that would complement the importance and ceremonial sequences of Pennsylvania Avenue.
Pennsylvania/Constitution Avenues Intersection

Current Photograph
Pennsylvania/Constitution Avenues Intersection

Thematic Context

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
Corridor links two branches of government: the executive and legislative branches.

U.S. NAVY MEMORIAL
Honors the men and women of the U.S. Navy—past, present, and future.

U.S. CAPITOL
U.S. Capitol houses the legislative branch, which authorized military force in Iraq in 1991.

AMERICAN VETERANS DISABLED FOR LIFE MEMORIAL
Honors military veterans who have been injured in the line of duty.
### Pennsylvania/Constitution Avenues Intersection

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Site Attributes</td>
<td>Site would accommodate program; floodplain and existing roadway network pose challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Open Space</td>
<td>Memorial would not diminish the site's civic open space character, which currently appears as a traffic island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Other Memorials</td>
<td>Site would not preclude integration of future memorials, although direct adjacency would be limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Connections</td>
<td>Site would not preclude future symbolic connections between Pennsylvania Avenue and the Mall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compact Memorial Design</td>
<td>Site would accommodate a compact memorial design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Experience</td>
<td>Due to proximity to Congress, the creation of a meaningful visitor experience is available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Acoustic Buffers</td>
<td>Flat site would require visual or acoustic buffers through vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Considerations</td>
<td>Although the site could accommodate a compact memorial, the site would likely solely serve that function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Site enables a compact memorial design in a prominent location, but would not offer desired visitor experience; it would not preclude future improvements to the civic space and commemorative works in the District.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Freedom Plaza

**Framework Context:**

Freedom Plaza is located on Pennsylvania Avenue near the White House in the heart of the Downtown Core and Federal Triangle area. The site location on Pennsylvania Avenue, the site does not suffer from adverse air quality.

- **Transportation Conditions:**
  - This site location, along a Monumental Corridor, is a centerpiece of the Urban Design Framework. The site location on Pennsylvania Avenue, and include a signifi-
  - The site could consist of a primary memorial, and/or potential associated memorials. Any future memorial should utilize and take advantage of the importance of the Wilson Building.
  - The opportunity exists to redevelop either portions of the site area or the entire plaza in conjunction with a new building. Amenities such as parking and visitor services, including restrooms, gift shops, and food concessions should be developed on-site or in nearby buildings if possible.
  - Due to the open, urban character of this location, there are few natural resources associated with the site. The site area is bounded generally by Pennsylvania Avenue, the site does not suffer from adverse air quality.

- **Environmental Conditions:**
  - The site area is generally level. Any future development would not require major sitework other than removal of the existing plaza.
  - The site could include a primary memorial, and/or potential associated memorials. The design of any future memorial should be oriented to the appropriate placement and design of a memorial. Any future memorial should be designed to be an urban plaza, this plaza has not achieved the vibrancy of public use that the original design concept intended. The memorial could draw visitors to the plaza and into Downtown Washington, D.C., and other sites that draw tourists and visitors.

- **Economic Conditions:**
  - The site area is an active business district, and is to be used as commercial, retail, and other sites that draw tourists and visitors. A memorial at this location could include a primary memorial, and/or potential associated memorials. Any future memorial should represent the U.S. Capitol and the White House.

- **Framework Elements:**
  - The opportunity exists to redevelop either portions of the site area or the entire plaza in conjunction with a new building. Amenities such as parking and visitor services, including restrooms, gift shops, and food concessions should be developed on-site or in nearby buildings if possible.

- **Framework Considerations:**
  - Any design should recognize the importance of the monumentality of the Wilson Building. Such as parking and visitor services, i.e., restrooms, gift shops, and food concessions should not change the primary axial relationships along Pennsylvania Avenue, and include a significant public gathering place. Any future memorial should be designed to be an urban plaza, this plaza has not achieved the vibrancy of public use that the original design concept intended. The memorial could draw visitors to the plaza and into Downtown Washington, D.C., and other sites that draw tourists and visitors.

- **Commemorative Opportunity:** Design Considerations:
  - Any future memorial should respect and relate to its neighbors. Greater street-level retail opportunities do exist in the area, but the site's strongest economic potential is likely as a mixed-use redevelopment with commemorative and commercial activities integrated on-site. The Navy Memorial Foundation has proposed to purchase land adjacent to this site for a potential museum or visitor center.

- **Context:**
  - The view shown above is looking east along the axis of Freedom Plaza. The site location is bounded generally by Pennsylvania Avenue and 13th, 14th, and E Streets, NW. The Federal Triangle area. The site location is near the White House Visitors Center and maintenance building, and it is not close to additional tourist attractions or historic landmarks.

- **Historic Context:**
  - The site is a major transportation thoroughfare. The closest Metrorail station is Metro Center (less than 1,000 feet), through which the Red, Blue and Orange lines can be accessed. The Federal Triangle Metrorail Station is also less than 1,000 feet from the site.

- **Development Opportunities:**
  - The site is generally level. Any future development would not require major sitework other than removal of the existing plaza.

- **Colonial-era Design Considerations:**
  - The Wilson Building, a landmark mid-rise office building, is located on Pennsylvania Avenue near the White House and the Capitol. The building was designed by architect Cass Gilbert in 1913 and constructed between 1914 and 1918. The building was originally intended to be the site of the National War Memorial, but the site was later used for other purposes, including as a government building.

- **Framework Elements:**
  - The site is located within Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Washington, D.C., is a major transportation thoroughfare and has numerous public parking garages and on-street parking opportunities. The Circulator might be routed near this location to provide public transportation to the site area.

- **Commemorative Opportunity:**
  - Any future memorial should represent the U.S. Capitol and the White House. The design of any future memorial should provide adequate space for commemorative ceremonies and other events that draw tourists and visitors. The site area is generally level. Any future development would not require major sitework other than removal of the existing plaza.

- **Environment:**
  - The site area is an active business district, and is to be used as commercial, retail, and other sites that draw tourists and visitors. A memorial at this location could include a primary memorial, and/or potential associated memorials. Any future memorial should represent the U.S. Capitol and the White House.

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  - The site is a major transportation thoroughfare. The closest Metrorail station is Metro Center (less than 1,000 feet), through which the Red, Blue and Orange lines can be accessed. The Federal Triangle Metrorail Station is also less than 1,000 feet from the site.

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- **Framework Elements:**
  - The site is located within Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Washington, D.C., is a major transportation thoroughfare and has numerous public parking garages and on-street parking opportunities. The Circulator might be routed near this location to provide public transportation to the site area.
Freedom Plaza

Thematic Context

White House
Home to the U.S. President and representing the Executive Branch.

U.S. Navy Memorial
Honors the men and women of the U.S. Navy – past, present, and future.

Pennsylvania Avenue
Corridor links two branches of government: the executive and legislative branches.

Smithsonian National Museum of American History
Museum documents the development of the United States.

National Museum of African American History and Culture
Museum devoted to documenting African American life, art, history, and culture.

Pershing Park
Pershing Park commemorates the service of General John J. Pershing and is authorized to become a national World War I Memorial.
## Freedom Plaza

### Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Site Attributes</td>
<td>Site would accommodate program; portions of site are within 500-year floodplain; and presence of existing infrastructure and other commemorative elements present challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Open Space</td>
<td>Site could continue to serve as a civic gathering place with presence of Desert Storm Memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Other Memorials</td>
<td>Site would not preclude integration of future memorials, including the adjacent World War I memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Connections</td>
<td>Site could preclude planned future connections if the entire parcel is re-imagined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compact Memorial Design</td>
<td>Site would accommodate a compact memorial design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Experience</td>
<td>Due to prominence of the site, there is an opportunity to create meaningful visitor experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Acoustic Buffers</td>
<td>Flat site would require visual or acoustic buffers through vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Considerations</td>
<td>The site lies within the Pennsylvania Avenue view corridor, thereby constraining potential memorial locations within the site; the site is within a defined cultural landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Site enables a compact memorial design, but siting challenges would occur due to existing uses and the potential for future re-design of the entire parcel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

The site location along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW, is the Fitzgerald Park area on the east side of the White House. It is bounded on the north by 20th Street, on the west by Virginia Avenue, and on the south by the Potomac River. The site is designated as Rawlins Park, and it is a part of the E Street corridor within the Washington Monument Park, the eastern quarter of the meandering site is playground, while the remainder is landscaped and maintained by the National Park Service.

The location, although somewhat removed from the mall, is accessible via the Potomac River, which is crossed by the Constitution Avenue Bridge. This site is located within a well-established public parkland area that is defined by a perimeter of prominent federal and institutional office uses.

Environmental Conditions

- The Walt Whitman Park site is situated on a relatively flat area with a slight slope to the north.
- The site is characterized by a mixture of open spaces and shaded areas created by mature trees.
- The area is devoid of significant vegetation or natural features.

Transportation Conditions

- The park is located within walking distance of several public transportation facilities such as the Circulator.
- There is a good pedestrian network along the surrounding streets, providing easy access to the site.
- The site is accessible by public transportation, with stops nearby.

Economic Conditions

- The site is located within an established public parkland area that is surrounded by federal and institutional office uses.
- The area is characterized by a high level of daytime activity, with office workers and tourists frequenting the park.
- The site has the potential to attract visitors who are interested in the history and culture of the area.

Commemorative Opportunity: Design Considerations

- The site is suitable for a commemorative feature, possibly in partnership with George Washington University.
- The site offers the potential to accommodate a feature that attracts high visitor traffic, such as a memorial or a park feature.
- The site is located near significant cultural and historical landmarks, such as the White House and the Kennedy Center.
- The site has the potential to transform the E Street corridor into a memorial boulevard.

Memorial development would enhance the current open, pedestrian-oriented park character.

Potential Memorial Sites

1. This location along Virginia Avenue is a candidate for a major memorial.
2. The E Street corridor has the potential to become a thematic memorial boulevard.
3. The site location is near the White House and the Kennedy Center, which would make it an appropriate location for a commemorative feature.
4. The site is located within a well-established public parkland area that is defined by a perimeter of prominent federal and institutional office uses.
5. The site is located near significant cultural and historical landmarks.
6. The site is located within a well-established public parkland area that is defined by a perimeter of prominent federal and institutional office uses.
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Current Photograph
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Thematic Context

The U.S. Department of State helps guide the diplomatic efforts of the U.S., an important element of the Desert Storm coalition.

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
ELLIOT SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
The school's mission is to educate the next generation of international leaders, conduct research, and to foster international dialogue and shape policy solutions.

WHITE HOUSE
Home to the U.S. President and representing the Executive Branch.
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Access from Landmarks
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Monumental Core Framework Plan: Proposed Vision

The Framework Plan proposes to "connect the Kennedy Center with the White House and President's Park by establishing the E Street corridor as a commemorative linear park."
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Site Attributes</td>
<td>Site would accommodate program, but is removed from existing visitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Open Space</td>
<td>Memorial could minimally reduce the open space character of the area,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>but could maintain unprogrammed recreation space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Other Memorials</td>
<td>Site would not preclude integration of future memorials along the E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Street corridor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Connections</td>
<td>Site would not preclude future connections between the White House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grounds and the Kennedy Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compact Memorial Design</td>
<td>Site would accommodate a compact memorial design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Experience</td>
<td>Site could allow for an intimate visitor experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Acoustic Buffers</td>
<td>Site would require visual and acoustic buffers through vegetation in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>area that receives moderate traffic activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Considerations</td>
<td>Site is not proximate or directly linked to other visitor attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and feels separated by an even greater distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Site would accommodate memorial program but is removed from other,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>related memorials and attractions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Constitution Avenue Belvedere

The site location is on the Belvedere site at the terminus of Constitution Avenue on the Potomac River. The site is adjacent to the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge and the Lincoln Memorial. Development opportunities exist along the Rock Creek Parkway, as well as at the belvedere site, immediately west of the area depicted.

The site location is an appropriate site for a major fountain. Other future sites might accommodate a memorial statuary or a sculptural element, such as a gatehouse or other gateway entrance into the L'Enfant City from the Roosevelt Bridge.

Memorial design and development should not compete with or interfere with other major landscape elements or scenic vistas, such as the view of the Lincoln Memorial from the Potomac River. The area around these sites includes developed recreational facilities, such as the Rock Creek and West Potomac Parks.

A potential site opportunity exists along the Rock Creek Parkway, as well as at the belvedere site, immediately west of the area depicted.

Transportation

The transportation网络 needs additional access to and from the site. Access from Constitution Avenue, the Potomac River, and Rock Creek Parkway. Waterfront memorials provide opportunities for pedestrian amenities and limited services for tourists at this end of West Potomac Park.

The area around these sites includes developed recreational facilities, such as the Rock Creek and West Potomac Parks.

Environmental Conditions

The environmental conditions need to be evaluated to identify the gateway entrance from the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge to the L'Enfant City and the Monumental Core.

Urban Design Conditions

The urban design conditions need to be evaluated to identify the gateway entrance from the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge to the L'Enfant City and the Monumental Core.

Commemorative Opportunity

The commemorative opportunity needs to be evaluated to identify the gateway entrance from the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge to the L'Enfant City and the Monumental Core.

Site Location

The site location is on the Belvedere site at the terminus of Constitution Avenue on the Potomac River. The site is adjacent to the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge and the Lincoln Memorial. Development opportunities exist along the Rock Creek Parkway, as well as at the belvedere site, immediately west of the area depicted.
Constitution Avenue Belvedere

Current Photograph
Constitution Avenue Belvedere

Thematic Context

Desert Storm/Desert Shield was the first conflict following the Vietnam War that restored faith in the U.S. Military in the eyes of everyday Americans.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia played a crucial role in the conflict by providing logistical and material support to Coalition forces.

The U.S. Department of State helps guide the diplomatic efforts of the U.S., an important element of the Desert Storm coalition.

The U.S. Institute of Peace focuses on managing conflict and advancing peacekeeping worldwide.

The victory parade on June 8, 1991 showcased public appreciation and military power.

The memorials are linked based on themes of unity, coalition building, and perseverance.

Desert Storm/Desert Shield was at that time the largest deployment of women in the history of the United States, with over 40,000 deployed.

383 service members did not return from Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

Lincoln Memorial

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Arlington National Cemetery

Women in Military Service for America Memorial

U.S. Department of State

U.S. Institute of Peace

Constitution Avenue

Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia

Arlington National Cemetery

Women in Military Service for America Memorial

LINCOLN MEMORIAL

The memorials are linked based on themes of unity, coalition building, and perseverance.

Desert Storm/Desert Shield was at that time the largest deployment of women in the history of the United States, with over 40,000 deployed.

383 service members did not return from Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield.
Constitution Avenue Belvedere

Circulation and Constraints
Constitution Avenue Belvedere

Monumental Core Framework Plan: Proposed Vision

The Framework Plan proposes to "restore the historic terminus of Constitution Avenue at the belvedere" and states that the belvedere "is an important opportunity for a future memorial."
### Constitution Avenue Belvedere

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Site Attributes</td>
<td>Site could accommodate program; floodplain, access, and existing roadway network pose challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Open Space</td>
<td>Memorial would improve site’s civic open space character, which is currently focused on transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Other Memorials</td>
<td>Site would not preclude integration of future memorials, although direct adjacency could be limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Connections</td>
<td>Site would not preclude future connections, and could serve as a fitting terminus for a reconfigured Constitution Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compact Memorial Design</td>
<td>Site would accommodate a compact memorial design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Experience</td>
<td>Due to proximity to roadway, the creation of a meaningful visitor experience would be challenging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Acoustic Buffers</td>
<td>Site offers no visual or acoustic buffers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Considerations</td>
<td>Site’s riverfront location is not consistent with Desert Storm Memorial identity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Site enables a compact memorial design, but would not offer the desired visitor experience.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Desert Storm/Desert Shield was the first conflict following the Vietnam War that restored faith in the U.S. Military in the eyes of everyday Americans.

Desert Storm/Desert Shield were the final major conflicts of the 20th century and the first since the end of the Cold War.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia played a crucial role in the conflict by providing logistical and material support to Coalition forces.

The U.S. Department of State helps guide the diplomatic efforts of the U.S., an important element of the Desert Storm coalition.

The victory parade on June 8, 1991 showcased public appreciation and military power.

The U.S. Institute of Peace focuses on managing conflict and advancing peacekeeping worldwide.

The memorials are linked based on themes of unity, coalition building, and perseverance.

Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Thematic Context
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Monumental Core Framework Plan: Proposed Vision

The Framework Plan proposes "a new ceremonial boulevard and commemorative landscape that will strengthen the visual and symbolic connection between the Kennedy Center and the Lincoln Memorial."
Agreement
"There appears to be adequate space remaining south and west of the Memorial [at the Constitution Avenue Terminus Area site] to construct either PRT [Potomac River Tunnel] scenario."
## Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

### Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Site Attributes</td>
<td>Site benefits from surrounding context, but site attributes pose modest challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Open Space</td>
<td>Site would slightly reduce the area of civic open space behind the Lincoln Memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of Other Memorials</td>
<td>Site would not preclude integration of future memorials within proximity of the Desert Storm Memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Connections</td>
<td>Site would not preclude new connections between the Lincoln Memorial and the Kennedy Center as identified in the Monumental Core Framework Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compact Memorial Design</td>
<td>Site would accommodate a compact memorial design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Experience</td>
<td>Site would enable a meaningful visitor experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Acoustic Buffers</td>
<td>Site near roadway would require visual and modest acoustic buffer through topography and vegetation; upcoming levee design offers additional opportunity for buffering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Considerations</td>
<td>Site's potential infrastructure challenges (DC Water Clean Rivers and levee improvements) also serve as opportunities to address site holistically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>Site would enable the desired visitor experience at a prominent site through a compact memorial design and reinforce thematic and physical connections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Site Selection Conclusions

In response to CFA feedback, the Desert Storm Memorial team conducted a thorough and meaningful re-evaluation of the entire project, including the scale of the Memorial. This re-evaluation also included a re-look at the Mall, revisions to the evaluation criteria, a re-thinking of the sites (old and new), and consultation with historic scholars. Based on this comprehensive re-evaluation, we have reached the following conclusions:

- Memorial Circle Area is not appropriate for Desert Storm Memorial due to the existing cultural landscape and context
- Hains Point Area, as a waterfront site and removed from other visitor attractions would not be appropriate for a monument to Desert Storm
- Freedom Plaza site constrained by location within Pennsylvania Avenue and infrastructure challenges
- The Pennsylvania/Constitution Avenues Intersection site would not provide the desired visitor experience due to its unbuffered location between major roadways
- Niche locations would not accommodate desired program due to lack of gathering space and would not achieve the desired visitor experience
- Three sites provide appropriate settings and contexts for a compact and poignant memorial:
  - The Constitution Avenue Terminus Area Site provides multiple thematic links, consists of an appropriate size in proximity to other 20th Century war memorials
  - The E Street Corridor has thematic connections and would achieve program
  - The Constitution Avenue Belvedere could provide thematic links and proximity to other 20th century war memorials
- Regulatory Framework
- Memorial Background
- Re-Evaluation of Sites

**Site Design Context**
NATIONAL DESERT STORM AND DESERT SHIELD MEMORIAL

Scale Comparison

STUDY SITES

MEMORIAL CIRCLE
SITE NORTH
9.93 AC

MEMORIAL CIRCLE
SITE SOUTH
9.30 AC

HAINS POINT
4.9 AC

CONSTITUTION AVE.
3.8 AC

FREEDOM PLAZA
2.08 AC

E STREET
0.99 AC

BELVEDERE
0.89 AC

PENNSYLVANIA &
CONSTITUTION
AVES INTERSECTION
0.13 AC

OTHER MEMORIALS

FDR MEMORIAL
TOTAL SITE: 7.8 AC
PAVED AREA: 2.4 AC

LBJ MEMORIAL
TOTAL SITE: 7.5 AC
PAVED AREA: 0.3 AC

VIETNAM MEMORIAL
TOTAL SITE: 6.5 AC
PAVED AREA: 0.25 AC

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL
TOTAL SITE: 4.9 AC
PAVED AREA & SCULPTURE GARDEN: 0.76 AC

WWII MEMORIAL
TOTAL SITE: 4.0 AC
PAVED AREA: 2.8 AC

MLK MEMORIAL
TOTAL SITE: 3.2 AC
PAVED AREA: 1.09 AC
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Current Photograph
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Drop-Off/Parking Areas

- Parking & Drop Off
- Potential Handicap Parking
- Bus Stop
- Potential Parking Area
- Pedestrian Circulation
- Vehicular Circulation

+/- 700'
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Noise Impact
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Topography
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Flood Levels Post Levee Work
Constitution Avenue Terminus Area

Size Progression

- 1 ACRE
- 1/2 ACRE
- 1/4 ACRE
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Current Photograph
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Current Photograph
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Historical Photographs
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Drop-Off/Parking Areas

PARKING & DROP OFF
POTENTIAL HANDICAP PARKING
BUS STOP
POTENTIAL PARKING AREA
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Noise Impact
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Topography

- American Red Cross
- Elliott School
- Rawlins Park
- San Martin Statue
- US Dept. of Interior

Elevation:
- +48.5
- +42.0
- +45.0
- +39.0

5.1%
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Size Progression

1 ACRE

1/2 ACRE

1/4 ACRE
Walt Whitman Park (E Street Corridor)

Landscape Character

- **Lawn**
- **Shade**
- **Memorial Area**
- **Views**
- **Symmetry with Rawlins Park**
- **Hardscape**
Conclusion

For the purpose of building a memorial to commemorate and honor those who, as a member of the Armed Forces, served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield, the National Desert Storm Memorial Association requests comments on the selection of the following sites for establishment of the Desert Storm Memorial:

- Constitution Avenue Terminus Area
- E Street Corridor
- Constitution Avenue Belvedere