

Fallen Journalists Memorial SITE SELECTION STUDY

U.S. Commission of Fine Arts Submittal
April 20, 2023

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or ***abridging the freedom of
speech, or of the press***; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,
and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

-U.S. Constitution Amendment I

*The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation may establish a
commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and
its environs **to commemorate America's commitment to a free press** by
honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.*

-Public Law 116-253

Introduction

The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation has initiated a site selection study to identify and evaluate potential locations for a new Fallen Journalists Memorial. As stated in Public Law 116-253, "The Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause." Furthermore, Public Law 117-328 authorizes location of the memorial within Area I, as defined by the Commemorative Works Act (CWA)

This site selection study seeks to illustrate context, provide data, and articulate memorial goals to guide the selection of an appropriate site for the new memorial. The site selection begins with an initial inventory of potential locations, followed by comparison of each site with site evaluation criteria. From there, four sites were considered potentially viable, and therefore received additional analysis. Finally, two sites were studied to understand conceptually the specific design considerations.

Significance of the Memorial

The enabling legislation calls for the commemoration of "America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause." Although the memorial will honor journalists who have died carrying out their profession, the primary commemoration is of freedom of the press as listed in the Constitution. As a result, the pre-eminent historical and lasting significance of the Fallen Journalists Memorial to the United States is illustrated by the:

- Role of a free press and the First Amendment in advancing and preserving freedom at key junctures in American and world history
- Function of journalism as a watchdog to hold government institutions accountable to the public
- Service to the public as witnesses to history, even while standing in harm's way
- Provision of news and information ranging from the local community to global scale
- Inspiration to the world as a beacon of freedom
- Values and service that transcend technological change

The memorial sponsors have invited academic scholars, historians, prominent journalists, and other experts in the field of journalism to provide commentary on the previously listed topics.

"An independent press is the essential addition to the three branches of government."

– Tom Rosenstiel, Author

"A free and robust press represents one of our most essential institutions at a time when its future remains unclear."

– Rick Hutzell, Former Editor of the Capitol Gazette

"Journalists in other countries have perished in larger numbers because they dared to report honestly about their governments, corruption, crime and human rights. In many cases, their inspiration has been the tradition of American journalism that has held power accountable ever since the early days of our republic."

– Leonard Downie Jr., Weil Family Professor of Journalism, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Arizona State University

Goals

The intent of the memorial is to balance the duality of providing a place of commemoration and serving as an inspiration for journalists and the public. The following identify the goals of the memorial.

Commemoration

- Recognize and honor journalists' heroism and lives sacrificed in service to democracy.
- Convey the dangers journalists face in protecting and documenting the truth enabled by freedom of the press.
- Provide a place for reflection and intimate contemplation for the public and serve as a focal point for those personally connected to fallen journalists.

Inspiration

- Serve as a beacon for freedom of the press and emphasize that a free and independent press is a worthy cause in the past, present, and future.
- Showcase America's commitment to a free press as a world-wide example and source of aspiration.
- Inspire young memorial visitors to consider a career in journalism.

Education

- Raise awareness and educate visitors about risks to a free press and the contributions of journalism as a pillar of democracy (i.e., the Fourth Estate).
- Illustrate journalists' role in witnessing, recording, and documenting historic events and seminal moments from diverse backgrounds and perspectives.
- Convey the breadth and depth of the various forms of journalism protected by free press principles.

Program

To advance the goals of commemoration, education and inspiration, the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation envisions that the Memorial will include an outdoor site with a commemorative feature and other elements, such as a plaza, benches, or interpretive signage.

These physical elements would be supported by online educational information. Combined, the Memorial will serve as:

- A daily place of reflection to inspire respect for the sacrifice made by journalists in the cause of seeking truth to preserve our freedoms, and for family and friends to remember those journalists who have given their lives
- A focal point for understanding the First Amendment and how it has enabled the work of journalism in seeking truth to advance democracy and maintain freedom
- A convening place for commemorative events to honor journalists and to study the future of journalism in an evolving world
- An attraction that stimulates visitors to the Nation's Capital to access online educational programming to learn more about the importance of a free press to a functioning democracy

Site Criteria

Site Criteria	Details
Program Suitability	The site should provide adequate space for a physical memorial and group gatherings and programmatic events. A memorial at the site should protect public space and enhance public use while avoiding encroachment or interference with existing memorials.
Thematic Nexus	The context of the site should be thematically or conceptually connected to the purpose or content of the memorial. In addition, it should be in close proximity to the three branches of government. This will illustrate America’s commitment to a press that is free from government control or oversight, while also critical to a functioning democracy.
Universal Accessibility	The site should be readily accessible not only to pedestrians and visitors to the nation’s capital, but to journalists who live and work in the area.
Site Prominence and Visibility	The site should be visible to government leaders and visitors in a way that reinforces America’s commitment to the freedom of the press.
Independence	The site should be nonadjacent to government buildings, highlighting the independent and essential role that journalists play in holding democratic institutions accountable to their citizens.
Site Availability	The site should be available through federal, District, or private properties. The site should not have known opposition to the placement of a memorial.
Transportation Access	This site should be accessible via public transportation.
Tranquility	The site should be a place that can offer a tranquil environment for reflection, commemoration and learning. Excessive noise, traffic, and other potential distractions are not desirable.
Infrastructure	The site should require minimal infrastructure improvements. Required changes, such as roadway improvements or relocated utility lines, would make potential sites more challenging.

National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission

The Foundation presented its site selection study and justification for establishment of the memorial within Area I, as defined by the CWA, to NCMAC on October 5, 2021. The site selection study analyzed 24 potential memorial sites for their suitability based on the Foundation’s memorial program and selection criteria. Four sites were identified for further analysis: Site A in the eastern portion of Freedom Plaza, Site D at Pennsylvania Avenue and Constitution Avenue NW, Site O at Maryland and Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW, and Site T at Edward R. Murrow Park between 18th and 19th Streets NW. Sites D and Site O are located within Area I.

NCMAC provided specific comments on three sites:

- **Maryland and Independence Avenues at 3rd Street (Site O).** This site is compelling due to its direct views to the U.S. Capitol and a thematic connection to the nearby Voice of America headquarters
- **Edward R. Murrow Park (Site T).** This site may offer an impactful and rich visitor experience, but the triangle parks surrounded by roadways may present design challenges. A memorial should focus on one of the triangles. This site is located in Area II
- **Freedom Plaza-East (Site A).** The site presents practical issues, including the relocation of the General Casimir Pulaski statue. Furthermore, the thematic connections to Washington’s historic “newspaper row” are no longer evident, as much of media activity has moved from the Pennsylvania Avenue corridor

The CWA allows for the location of a memorial within Area I if it is determined that the subject “is of preeminent historical and lasting significance to the United States.” NCMAC recommended inclusion within Area I for the Fallen Journalists Memorial, which was subsequently enacted in Public Law 117-328.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The NPS and Foundation will initiate the 30-day NEPA scoping process on April 4, 2023, which would extend to May 5, 2023. A public site selection scoping meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2023. A second public scoping process will occur for the design phase. The NPS and the Foundation will produce an Environmental Assessment (EA) following the design scoping period.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

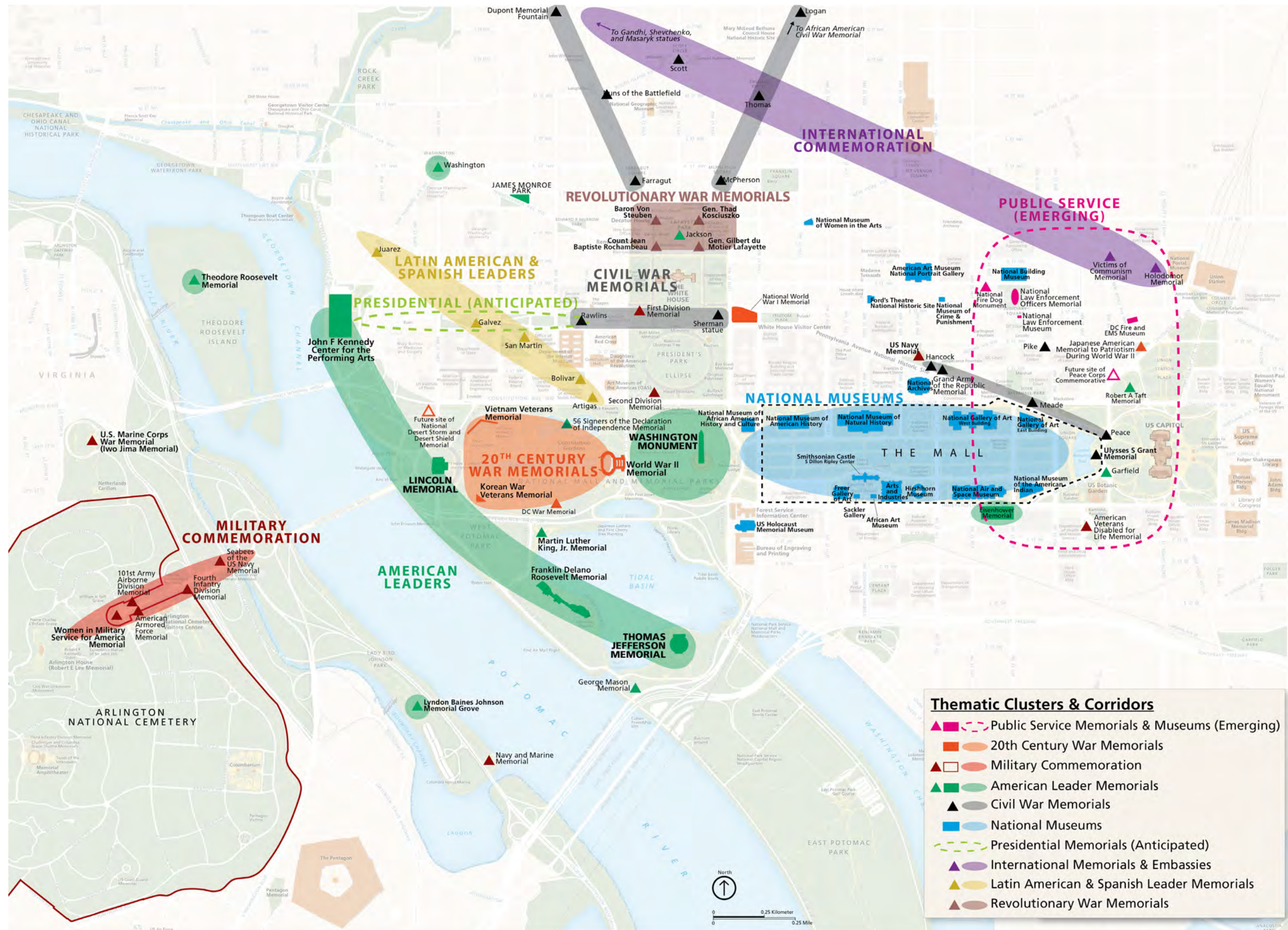
The NPS and Foundation initiated consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA with the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in 2021. Initiation letters to tribal communities with an interest in the region will also be sent. The NPS and Foundation will notify the SHPO and tribal communities of the site selection public scoping period and provided access to the related materials for review. The NPS and Foundation will continue to consult with these and other interested parties as the project advances.

SITE SELECTION MEMORIAL CONTEXT

Prominent Government and Journalism Locations in Washington

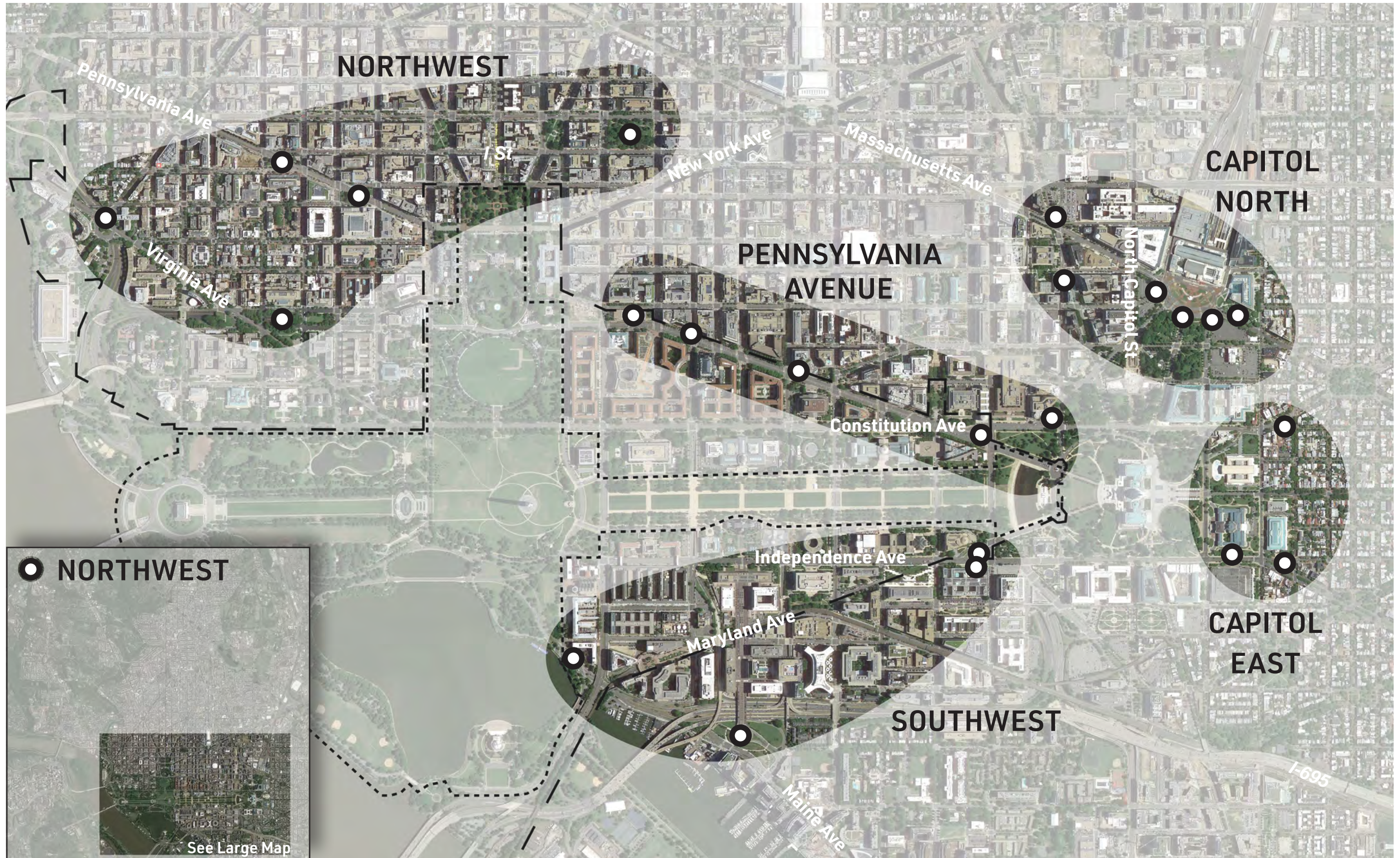


Memorial Thematic Clusters in Washington



POTENTIAL SITES: INITIAL INVENTORY

Potential Sites: Initial Inventory (24 Sites)



Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Pennsylvania Avenue



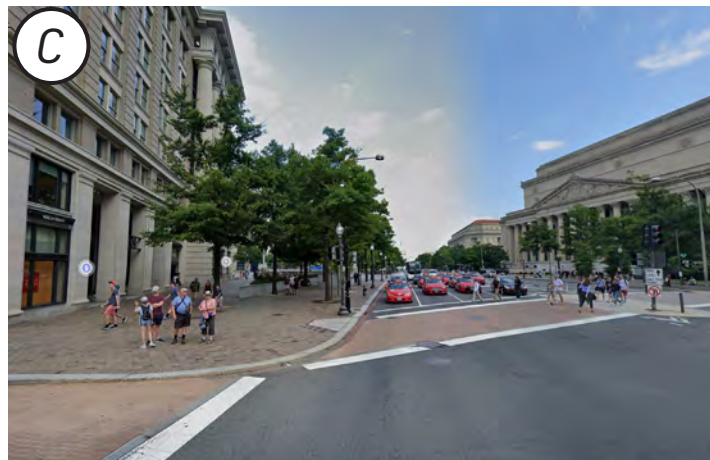
Freedom Plaza

View north from Pennsylvania Avenue



Pennsylvania Avenue at 12th Street NW

View towards the U.S. Capitol down Pennsylvania Avenue NW



Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street NW

View of the U.S. Capitol down Pennsylvania Avenue NW



Pennsylvania & Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street NW

View southwest



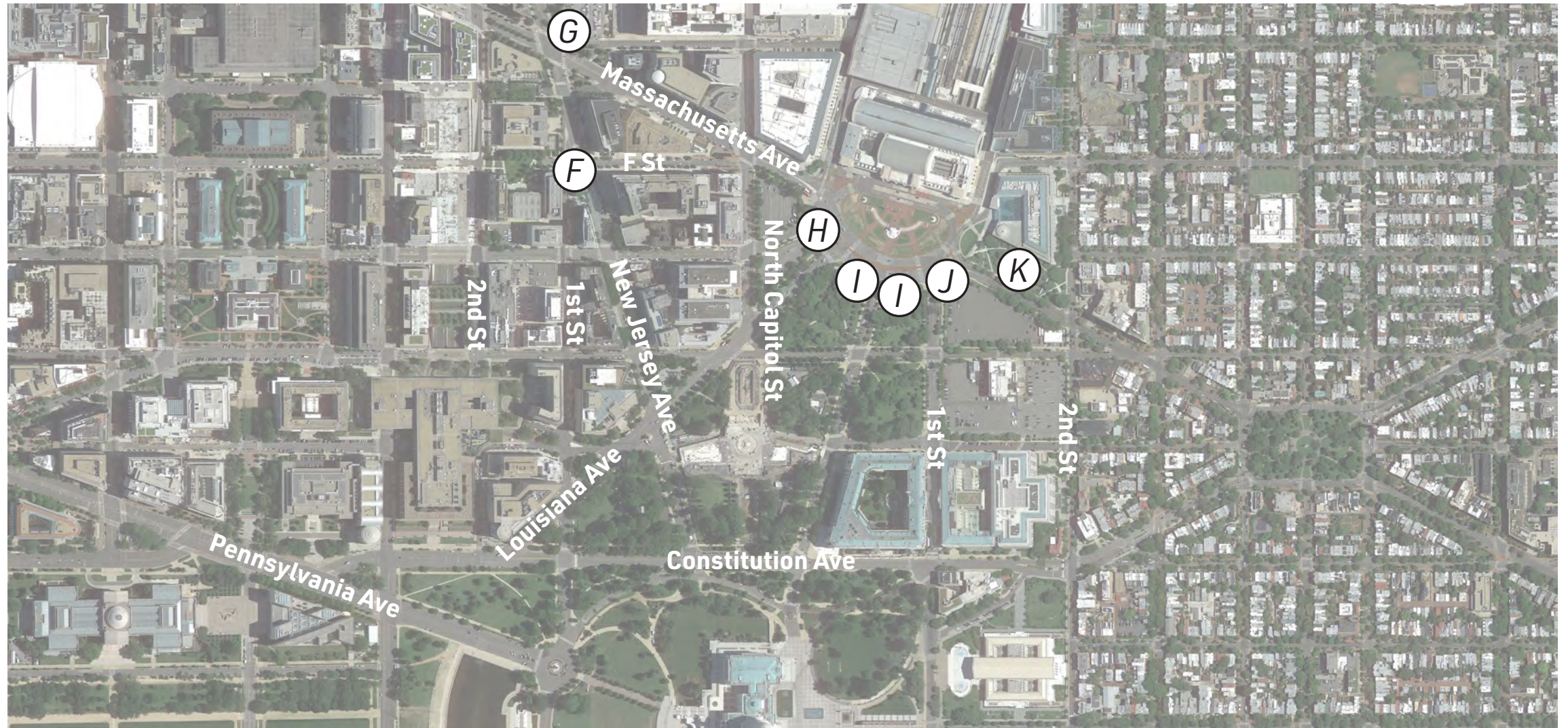
Constitution & Louisiana Avenues at 1st Street NW

View east

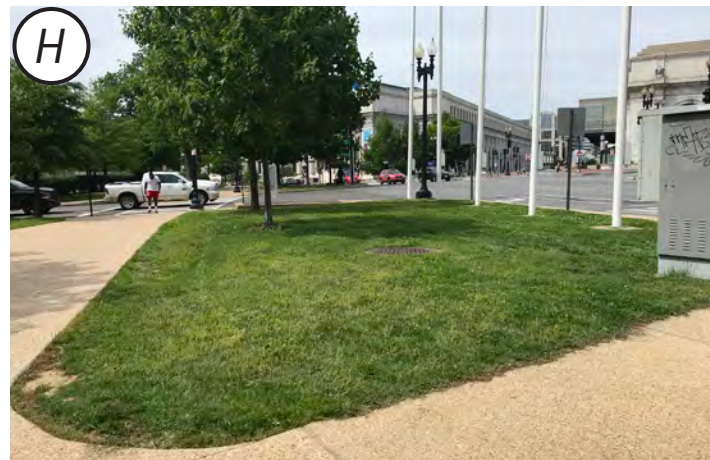
Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Capitol North



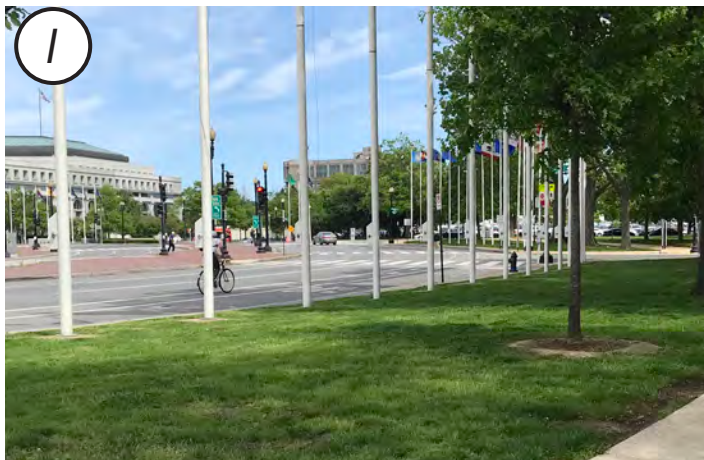
New Jersey Avenue at 1st Street NW
View south



Massachusetts & New Jersey Avenues at 1st
View east



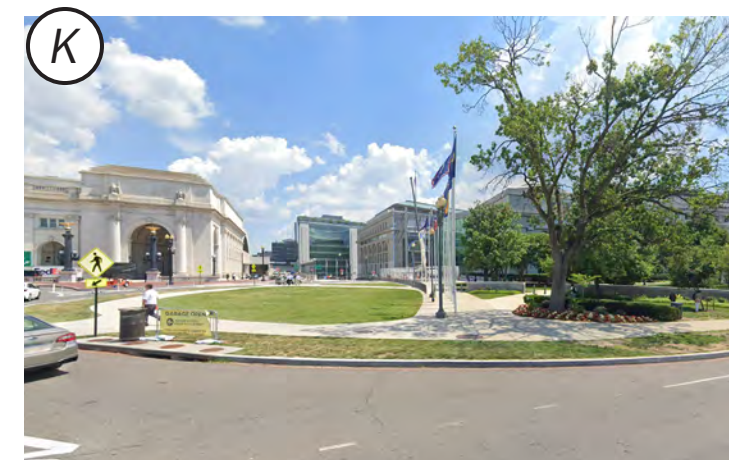
Columbus Circle NW West
View north



Columbus Circle NW South
View toward the Judiciary Building



Columbus Circle NW East
View southeast



Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building lawn
View north towards Union Station

Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Capitol East



Maryland & Constitution Avenues at 3rd St NE

View southwest



Pennsylvania & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SE

View west



Library of Congress South Lawn

View east



Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Southwest



Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW

View of the U.S. Capitol



Independence Avenue SW along Voice of America

View west



Benjamin Banneker Park

View north



Maine Avenue SW

View east

Potential Sites: Initial Inventory - Northwest



Franklin Square
View west from intersection



Edward R. Murrow Park
View southeast on north side of Pennsylvania Ave



James Monroe Park
View north



Virginia Avenue at New Hampshire Avenue NW
View west



Tenley Circle Reservations at Wisconsin Av NW
View southeast



Walt Whitman Park
View from 20th St, facing south

Site Evaluation

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	26	✓
Freedom Plaza	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐	24	✓
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	23	✓
Edward R. Murrow Park	◐	◐	●	○	●	●	●	◐	●	22	—
LOC South Lawn	●	●	◐	●	○	○	●	●	●	22	—
Walt Whitman Park	●	○	○	○	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	◐	19	✓
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	●	○	●	◐	○	○	●	◐	●	19	—
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	◐	◐	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Columbus Circle South	◐	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	●	18	—
Voice of America Yard	○	◐	◐	◐	○	◐	●	○	●	17	—
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	○	◐	○	●	●	○	◐	○	●	17	—
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	○	○	○	◐	●	●	◐	○	●	17	—
James Monroe Park	◐	○	○	◐	○	●	●	◐	●	17	—
Banneker Park	◐	○	○	○	●	●	○	◐	●	17	—
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	○	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	16	—
Tenley Circle	○	○	○	○	●	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle West	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle East	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	○	○	○	◐	◐	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Franklin Square	◐	◐	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	15	—
Maine Ave SW	◐	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	◐	●	15	✓
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	○	○	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●	15	—

Suggested Ratings: ○ Site would not provide ◐ Site would partially provide ● Site would fully provide Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site Evaluation: Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	26	✓
Freedom Plaza	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐	24	✓
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	23	✓
Edward R. Murrow Park	◐	◐	●	○	●	●	●	◐	●	22	—
LOC South Lawn	●	●	◐	●	○	○	●	●	●	22	—
Walt Whitman Park	●	○	○	○	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	◐	19	✓
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	●	○	●	◐	○	○	●	◐	●	19	—
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	◐	◐	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Columbus Circle South	◐	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	●	18	—
Voice of America Yard	○	◐	◐	◐	○	◐	●	○	●	17	—
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	○	◐	○	●	●	○	◐	○	●	17	—
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	○	○	○	◐	●	●	◐	○	●	17	—
James Monroe Park	◐	○	○	◐	○	●	●	◐	●	17	—
Banneker Park	◐	○	○	○	●	●	○	◐	●	17	—
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	○	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	16	—
Tenley Circle	○	○	○	○	●	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle West	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle East	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	○	○	○	◐	◐	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Franklin Square	◐	◐	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	15	—
Maine Ave SW	◐	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	◐	●	15	✓
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	○	○	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●	15	—

Suggested Ratings: ○ Site would not provide ◐ Site would partially provide ● Site would fully provide

Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site Evaluation: Program Suitability

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	26	✓
Freedom Plaza	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐	24	✓
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	23	✓
Edward R. Murrow Park	◐	◐	●	○	●	●	●	◐	●	22	—
LOC South Lawn	◐	●	◐	●	○	○	●	●	●	22	—
Walt Whitman Park	●	○	○	○	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	◐	19	✓
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	◐	○	●	◐	○	○	●	◐	●	19	—
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	◐	◐	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Columbus Circle South	◐	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	●	18	—
Voice of America Yard	○	◐	◐	◐	○	◐	●	○	●	17	—
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	○	◐	○	●	●	○	◐	○	●	17	—
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	○	○	○	◐	●	●	◐	○	●	17	—
James Monroe Park	◐	○	○	◐	○	●	●	◐	●	17	—
Banneker Park	◐	○	○	○	●	●	○	◐	●	17	—
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	○	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	16	—
Tenley Circle	○	○	○	○	●	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle West	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle East	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	○	○	○	◐	◐	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Franklin Square	◐	◐	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	15	—
Maine Ave SW	◐	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	◐	●	15	✓
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	○	○	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●	15	—

Suggested Ratings: ○ Site would not provide ◐ Site would partially provide ● Site would fully provide Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site Evaluation: Thematic Nexus

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	26	✓
Freedom Plaza	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐	24	✓
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	23	✓
Edward R. Murrow Park	◐	◐	●	○	●	●	●	◐	●	22	—
LOC South Lawn	●	●	◐	●	○	○	●	●	●	22	—
Walt Whitman Park	●	○	○	○	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	◐	19	✓
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	●	○	●	◐	○	○	●	◐	●	19	—
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	◐	◐	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Columbus Circle South	◐	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	●	18	—
Voice of America Yard	○	◐	◐	◐	○	◐	●	○	●	17	—
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	○	◐	○	●	●	○	◐	○	●	17	—
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	○	○	○	◐	●	●	◐	○	●	17	—
James Monroe Park	◐	○	○	◐	○	●	●	◐	●	17	—
Danneker Park	◐	○	○	○	●	●	○	◐	●	17	—
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	○	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	16	—
Tenley Circle	○	○	○	○	●	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle West	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle East	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	○	○	○	◐	◐	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Franklin Square	◐	◐	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	15	—
Maine Ave SW	◐	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	◐	●	15	✓
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	○	○	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●	15	✓

Suggested Ratings: ○ Site would not provide ◐ Site would partially provide ● Site would fully provide Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site Evaluation: Universal Accessibility

Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	26	✓
Freedom Plaza	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐	24	✓
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	23	✓
Edward R. Murrow Park	◐	◐	●	○	●	●	●	◐	●	22	—
LOC South Lawn	●	●	◐	●	○	○	●	●	●	22	—
Walt Whitman Park	●	○	○	○	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	◐	19	✓
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	●	○	●	◐	○	○	●	◐	●	19	—
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	◐	◐	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Columbus Circle South	◐	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	●	18	—
Voice of America Yard	○	◐	◐	◐	○	◐	●	○	●	17	—
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	○	◐	○	●	●	○	◐	○	●	17	—
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	○	○	○	◐	●	●	◐	○	●	17	—
James Monroe Park	◐	○	○	◐	○	●	●	◐	●	17	—
Banneker Park	◐	○	○	○	●	●	○	◐	●	17	—
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	○	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	16	—
Tenley Circle	○	○	○	○	●	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle West	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle East	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	○	○	○	◐	◐	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Franklin Square	◐	◐	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	15	—
Maine Ave SW	◐	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	◐	●	15	✓
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	○	○	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●	15	—

Suggested Ratings: ○ Site would not provide ◐ Site would partially provide ● Site would fully provide Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

Site Evaluation: Best Suited for Memorial

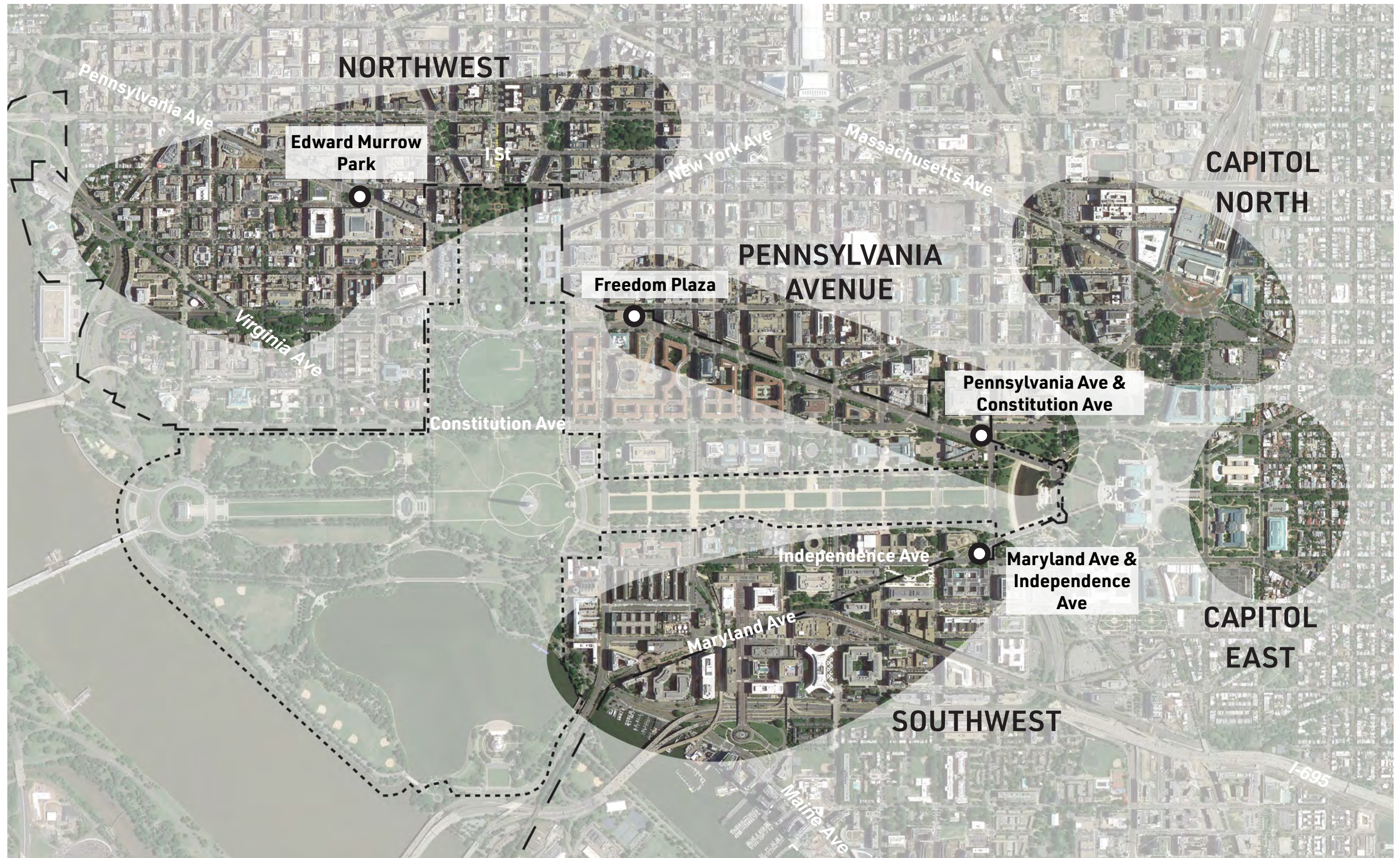
Site	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Universal Accessibility	Prominence and Visibility	Independence	Site Availability	Transportation Access	Tranquility	Infrastructure Suitability	TOTAL SCORE	Area I
Criteria Priority	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low		
Maryland & Independence Aves at 3rd St SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	26	✓
Freedom Plaza	●	●	●	●	●	◐	●	◐	◐	24	✓
Pennsylvania Ave & Constitution Avenue NW	◐	●	●	●	●	●	●	◐	○	23	✓
Edward R. Murrow Park	◐	◐	●	○	●	●	●	◐	●	22	—
LOC South Lawn	●	●	◐	●	○	○	●	●	●	22	—
Walt Whitman Park	●	○	○	○	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 9th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	●	19	—
Pennsylvania Ave & 12th St NW	○	◐	○	●	◐	●	●	○	◐	19	✓
Thurgood Marshall Building Lawn	●	○	●	◐	○	○	●	◐	●	19	—
Maryland & Constitution Aves at 3rd St NE	◐	◐	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	●	19	—
Columbus Circle South	◐	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	◐	●	18	—
Voice of America Yard	○	◐	◐	◐	○	◐	●	○	●	17	—
Constitution & Louisiana Aves NW	○	◐	○	●	●	○	◐	○	●	17	—
Pennsylvania & Independence Aves at 3rd St SE	○	○	○	◐	●	●	◐	○	●	17	—
James Monroe Park	◐	○	○	◐	○	●	●	◐	●	17	—
Banneker Park	◐	○	○	○	●	●	○	◐	●	17	—
Virginia & New Hampshire Aves NW	○	◐	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	16	—
Tenley Circle	○	○	○	○	●	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle West	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Columbus Circle East	○	○	◐	◐	●	○	◐	○	●	16	—
Massachusetts & New Jersey Aves & 1st St NW	○	○	○	◐	◐	●	◐	○	●	16	—
Franklin Square	◐	◐	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	●	15	—
Maine Ave SW	◐	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	◐	●	15	✓
New Jersey Ave & 1st St NW	○	○	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	●	15	—

Suggested Ratings: ○ Site would not provide ◐ Site would partially provide ● Site would fully provide Under Architect of the Capitol Jurisdiction

VIABLE SITES

Second Round Site Evaluation

Viable Sites: Additional Studies (4 Sites)

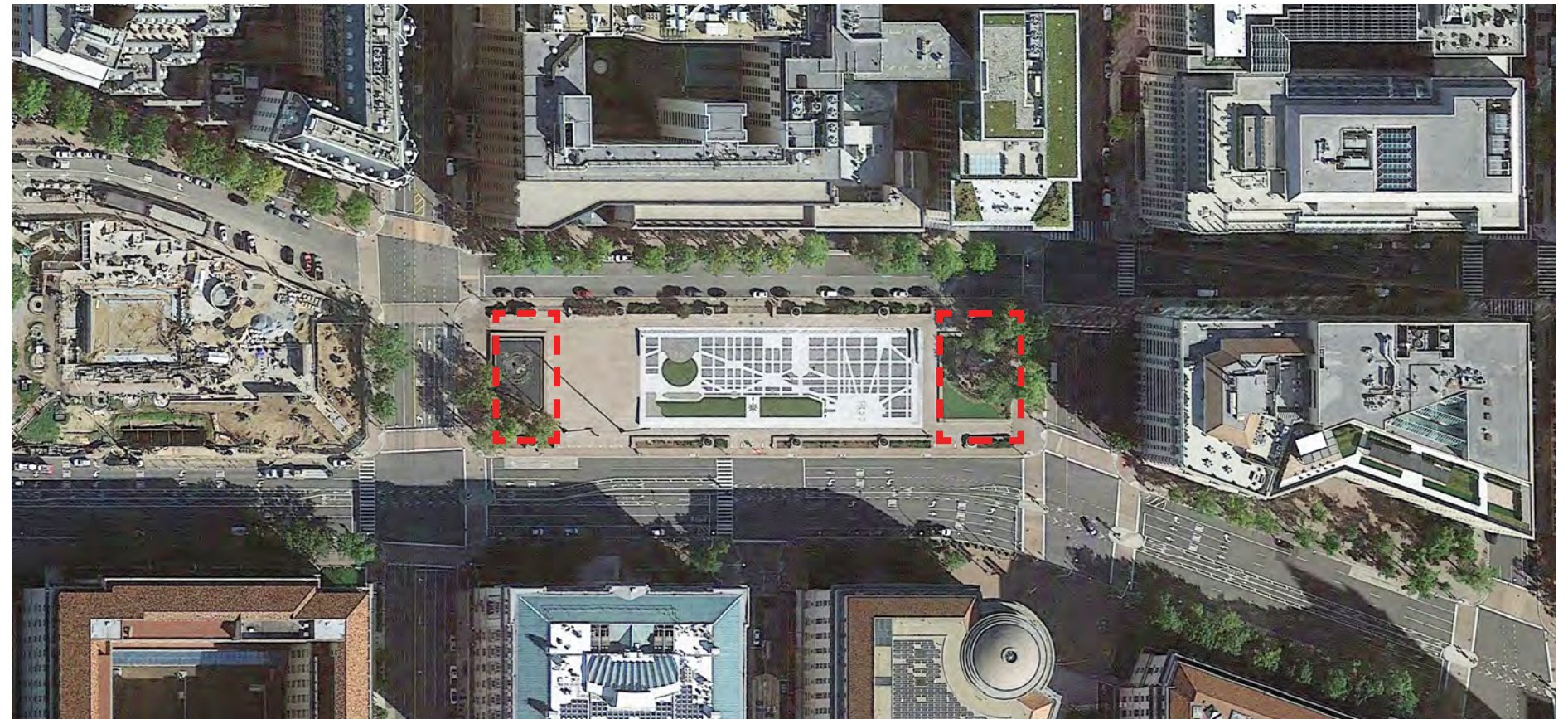


..... Reserve — Area I ● Viable Site

Viable Site A: Freedom Plaza (intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)



Site Location: Northwest **Site Size:** ~0.28 acres **Area I Location:** Yes



Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Offers opportunity for commemoration and permitted space for events; would require relocation of Pulaski statue
Thematic Nexus	Near National Press Club, one block from Evening Star Building, four blocks from National Archives, direct view of U.S. Capitol dome along Pennsylvania Avenue NW; recognized in Washington as a point of 1st Amendment expression
Universal Accessibility	Served by Metrorail stations; offers opportunity for new reports from site
Site Prominence and Visibility	Located along iconic Pennsylvania Avenue NW; adjacent to National World War I Memorial; one block from Presidents Park; two blocks from White House
Independence	Bordered by roadways on three sides, public space on one side
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 4-minute walk from the Metro Center and a 3-minute walk from the Federal Triangle Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Infrastructure	Metrorail tunnels and utility lines located under plaza



1: View southwest

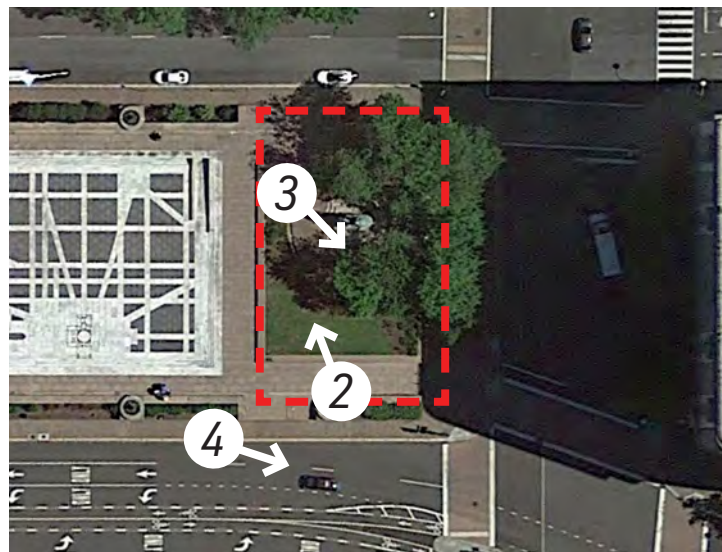
Viable Site A: Freedom Plaza (intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)



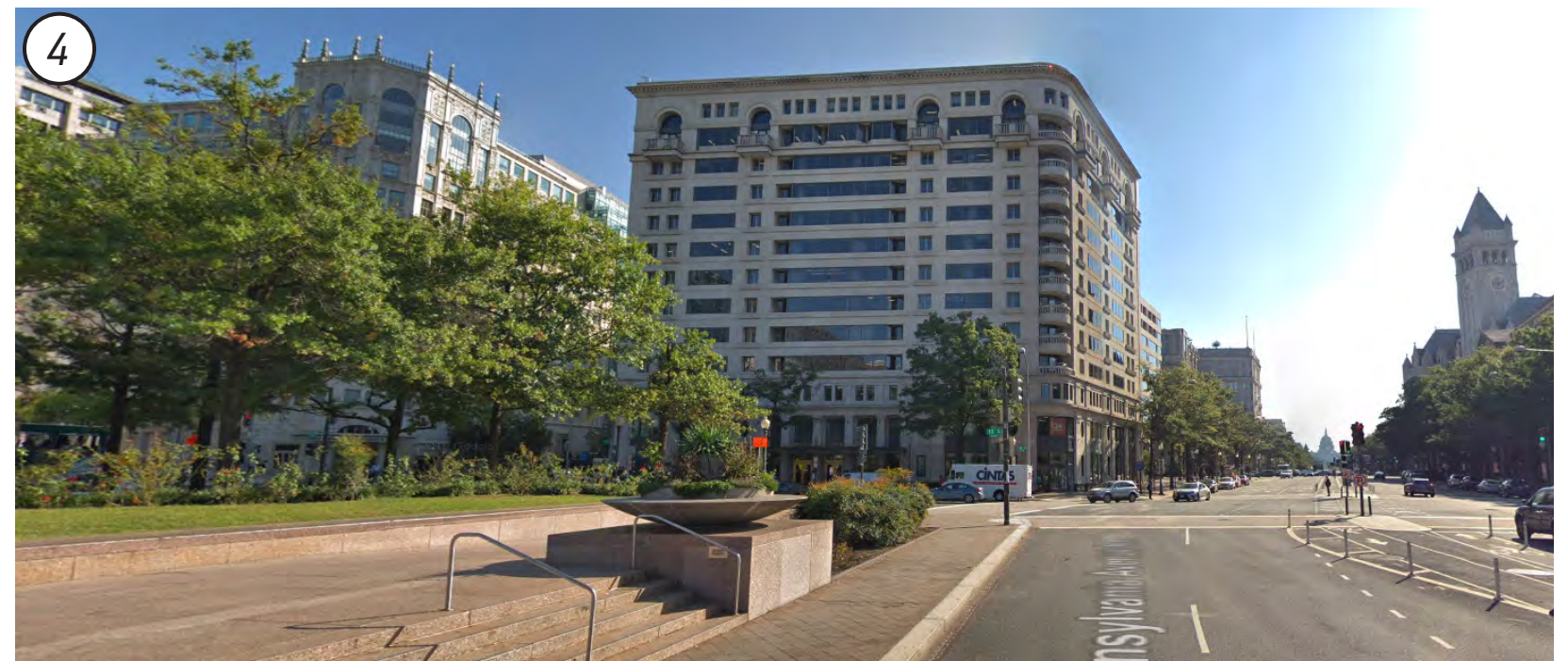
2: View north from Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



3: View southeast from within park (AECOM, 7/2021)









4: View of the U.S. Capitol down Pennsylvania NW (Google Street View, 10/2018)

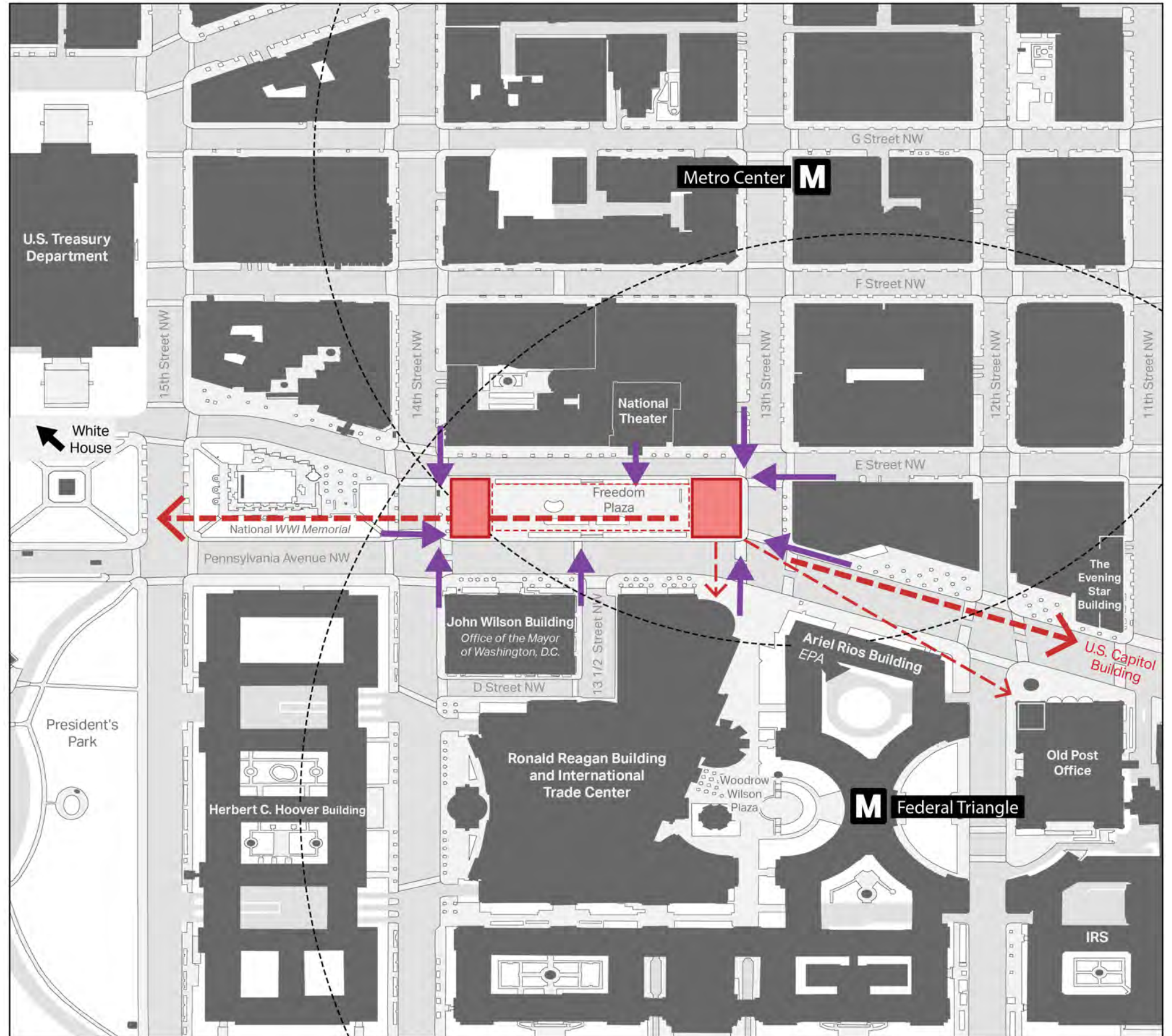


Site Analysis: Site A

Freedom Plaza (Intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)

- The site is a 4-minute walk from the Metro Center Metrorail Station (Red/Blue/Orange/Silver Lines), and a 3-minute walk from the Federal Triangle Metrorail Station (Blue/Orange/Silver Lines)
- The primary viewsheds are southeast along Pennsylvania Ave NW to the U.S. Capitol Building and east across Freedom Plaza and towards the National World War I Memorial and President's Park. Secondary views are to south towards the Ronald Reagan Building and southeast toward the old post office tower.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels
- The site has the potential to accommodate large special events on the adjacent Freedom Plaza
- The Pulaski statue would require relocation to another, as yet undetermined, site.

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station



Thematic Links: Site A

Freedom Plaza (Intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and 13th Street NW)

1. Pennsylvania Avenue + US Capitol Building

Adjacent to Pennsylvania Avenue and with a direct, axial view of the Capitol Building, the site has strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government. Its location adjacent to the Federal Triangle provides a strong visual connection to neoclassical buildings that house government offices.

2. John A. Wilson Building - Executive Office of the Mayor and Council of the District of Columbia + Boss Shepherd Statue

The historic John A. Wilson building houses the Executive Office of the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia. The statue of Alexander 'Boss' Shepherd stands at the northwestern corner of the Wilson Building. Shepherd was the second Governor of the District of Columbia (1873-1874) and early owner of the Evening Star Newspaper.

3. First Amendment Gatherings

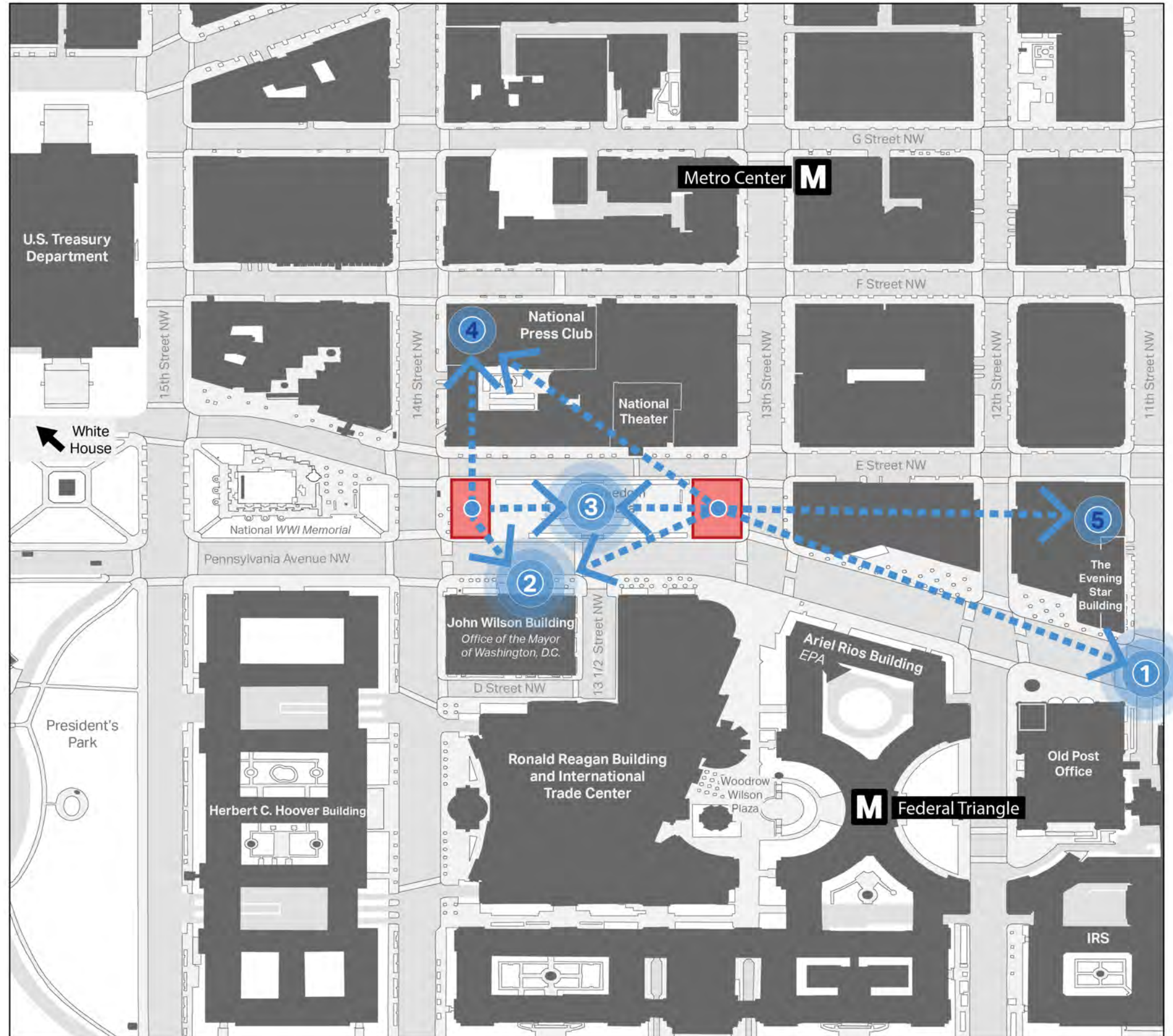
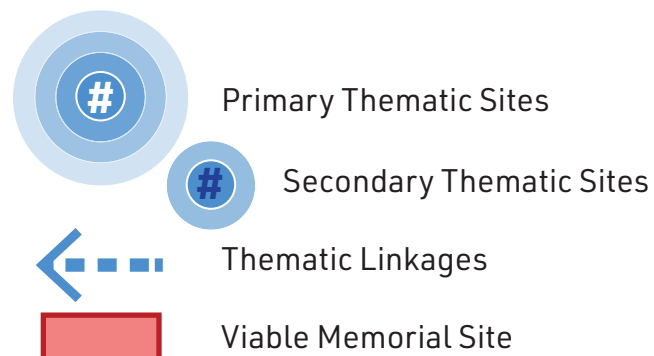
Freedom Plaza is a popular public space for first amendment gatherings and is named in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. who worked on his 'I Have a Dream' speech in the nearby Willard Hotel.

4. National Press Club

A three minute walk from the site, the National Press Club is a professional organization for journalists and communications professionals. The historic National Press Building was built in 1927.

5. The Evening Star Building

The historic Beaux Arts building was constructed in 1900 by the Evening Star Newspaper Company who occupied it from 1900-1959.



Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Freedom Plaza

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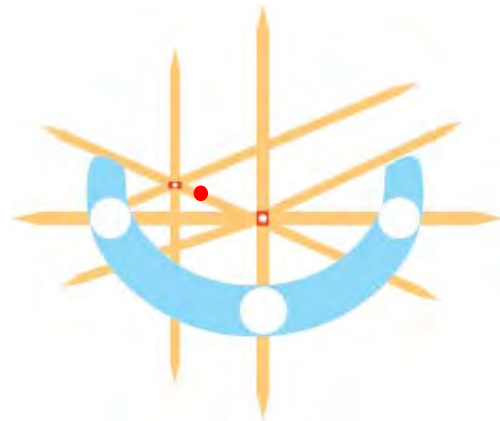
Freedom Plaza on Pennsylvania Avenue NW, between 13th and 14th Streets

Site 5

Location:



Framework Context:



Vicinity:



Site Description Summary

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 is bounded generally by Pennsylvania Avenue and 13th, 14th, and E Streets, NW. The proposed site, which is long and narrow, is currently developed as a formal plaza. The site has an existing scaled reproduction of the L'Enfant Plan for Washington. In addition, there is a fountain on the western edge of the site, a memorial statue of General Casimir Pulaski in the tree-lined, recessed, northeast corner, and a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day time capsule under the plaza. The site area is less than two acres.

Urban Design Conditions

This site location, along a Monumental Corridor, is a centerpiece of the Urban Design Framework. The site location is within walking distance of both the White House and the Capitol, as well as the National Mall. The site area also offers numerous cultural resources, including the National Theatre, the John Wilson Building (the District's City Hall), the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, and the Old Post Office. The site location offers a direct axial view down Pennsylvania Avenue (a Special Street) to the Capitol. The site location has been designated a Special Place and was highlighted as an urban square in both the L'Enfant and the McMillan Plans.

Economic Conditions

The Freedom Plaza site is in an active business district that also draws a substantial number of tourists, due to the nearby retail activities, theaters, and hotels. Much of the area is already economically mature. A memorial would likely rely on existing visitor patterns and spending behaviors in the area and not generate economic impacts independent of 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 mixed-use development could serve as a model for economic planning at the Freedom Plaza site.

Transportation Conditions

This site has an excellent supporting transportation system. 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 (approximately 1,000 feet from the site) and the McPherson Square Metrorail Station (approximately 2,000 feet from the site) both provide access to the Blue and Orange lines. There is also excellent vehicular access to this site complemented by numerous public parking garages and on-street parking opportunities. The Circulator might be routed near the plaza if demand dictates. Metrobus access is excellent.

Environmental Conditions

Due to the open, urban character of this location, there are few natural resources associated with the site. The hard-scaped plaza does not offer soil, water resources, or habitat for animal species. However, a few trees and planting beds line the northeastern edge of the plaza by the Pulaski statue. Although the site receives impacts from traffic along Pennsylvania Avenue, the site does not suffer from adverse air quality.

Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Freedom Plaza

Freedom Plaza on Pennsylvania Avenue, NW between 13th and 14th Streets

Site 5 47

Commemorative Opportunity:

Jurisdiction: Federal – National Park Service

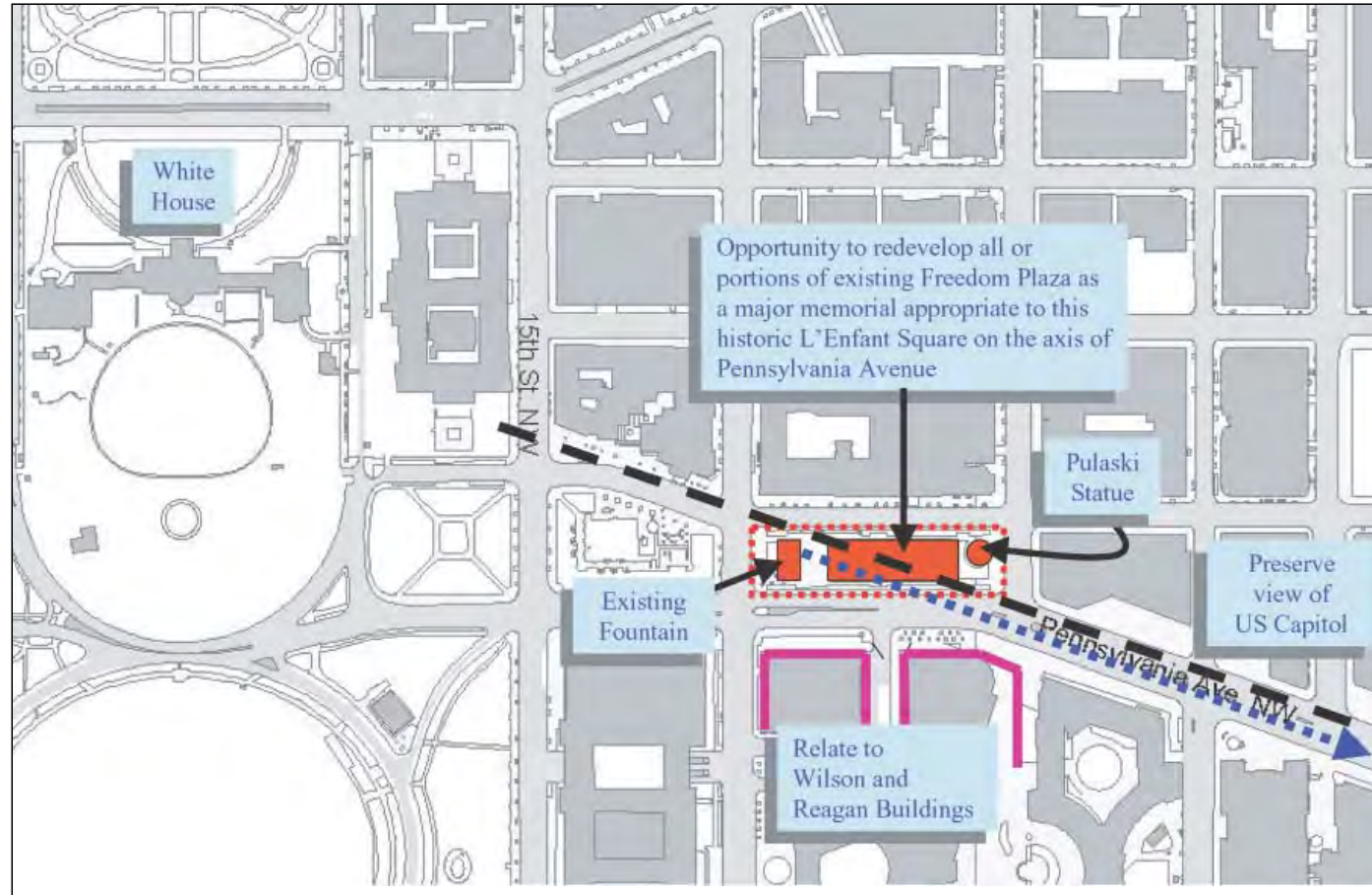
Opportunities exist to redevelop either portions of the plaza or the entire plaza in conjunction with a new primary memorial and/or potential associated memorials. Developing this site location as a destination-type memorial could enhance the axial relationship between the White House and the U.S. Capitol, provide space for commemorative events, and cater to the nearby tourist market. Ultimately, development could transform the site into an important gateway to the Downtown area. A memorial at this location would be able to accommodate a large volume of visitors because of the public transportation capacity of the three nearby Metrorail stations, numerous parking opportunities, and good regional roadway access.

Since the site is generally level, future memorial construction would not require major sitework other than removal of the existing plaza and lowering it to sidewalk level or below. However, developing the site for a higher use may require slight upgrades to utilities, especially lighting. The design principles of the L'Enfant Plan should be enhanced through the appropriate placement and design of a memorial at this location. The memorial should be oriented toward pedestrians and, if related in theme to nearby activities, could encourage additional activity.



The view shown above is looking east along the axis of Freedom Plaza. Although the site location has fulfilled historic design plans by being an urban plaza, this plaza has not achieved the vibrancy of public use that the early city planners envisioned.

Design Considerations:



1. Any future memorial should respect and relate to its location on Pennsylvania Avenue, and include a significant feature at this location. The original design concept for the plaza included two major pylons and sculpture representing the U.S. Capitol and the White House.

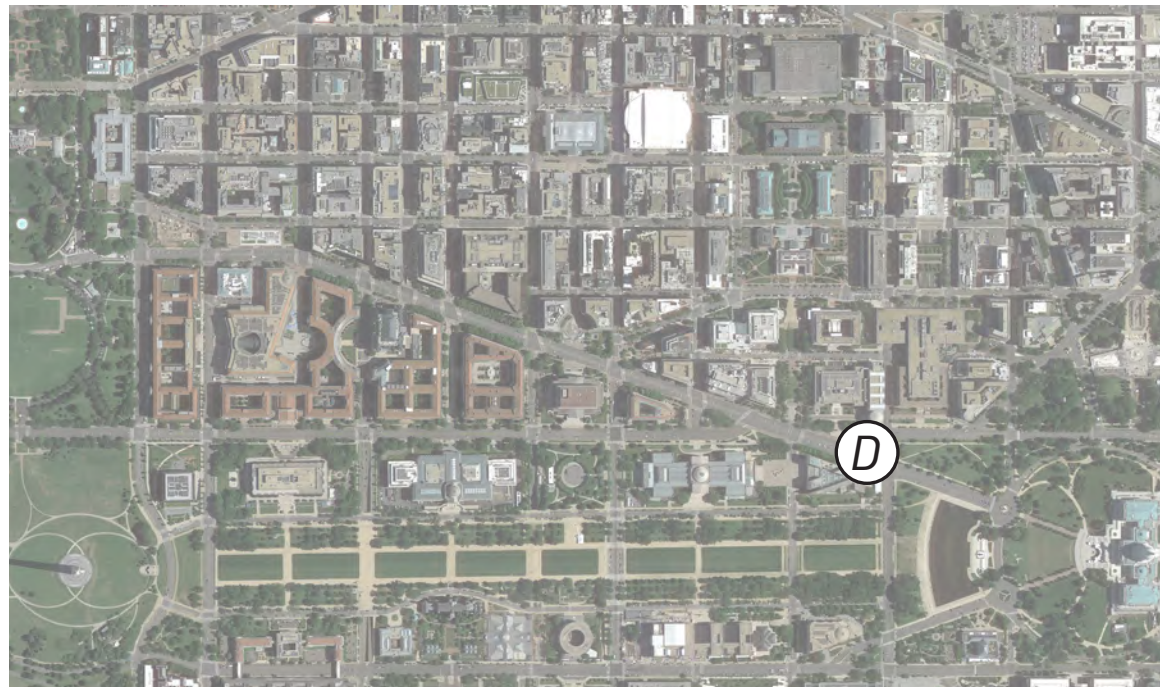
2. The opportunity exists to redevelop either portions of the plaza or the entire plaza in conjunction with a new memorial. The site could consist of a primary memorial, with associated and smaller memorials. Any future memorial should incorporate existing reciprocal vistas along Pennsylvania Avenue. The mass and scale should not change the primary axial relationships along Pennsylvania Avenue, and should not overshadow the importance of the Wilson Building.

3. The location is near the White House Visitors Center and other sites that draw tourists and visitors. A memorial could draw visitors to the plaza and into Downtown through related museums or thematic connections.

4. The design of any future memorial should provide adequate space for commemorative ceremonies and casual gatherings. A memorial at this location could utilize a nearby building for a related museum. Any future memorial should utilize and take advantage of existing infrastructure, including existing street parking and Metrorail and Metrobus access.

5. This site is not appropriate for a building. Amenities such as parking and visitor services, i.e., restrooms, gift shops, and parking, should not be located at this site. Any design should recognize the importance of the Wilson Building as the District of Columbia City Hall.

Viable Site D: Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW



Site Location: Northwest **Site Size:** ~0.19 acres **Area I Location:** Yes

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Site could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings
Thematic Nexus	Adjacent to the U.S. Capitol grounds and with a direct, axial view of the Capitol Dome, Site D has strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government.
Universal Accessibility	Two blocks from Metrorail station. Offers access to iconic Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Site Prominence and Visibility	Site sits directly on Pennsylvania Ave NW near the National Mall at the foot of the U.S. Capitol Grounds.
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 6-minute walk from the Judiciary Square and an 8-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Site is at the intersection of two multi-lane, high-traffic avenues.
Infrastructure	Site contains large vents and sits above I-395.



1: View southeast

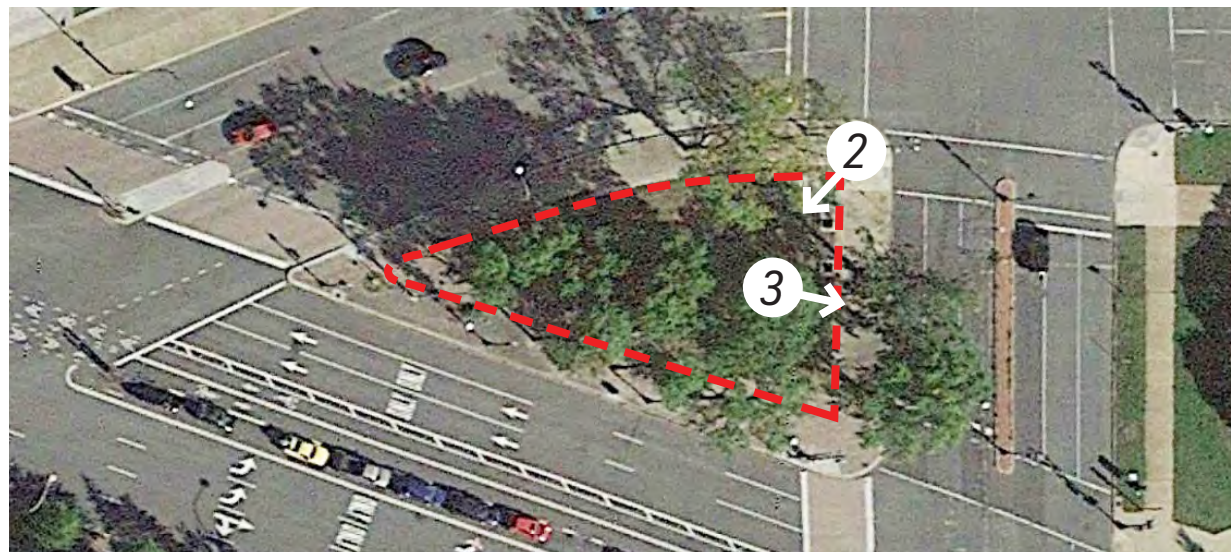
Viable Site D: Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW



2: View southwest across Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)









3: View southeast towards the U.S. Capitol Building (AECOM, 7/2021)

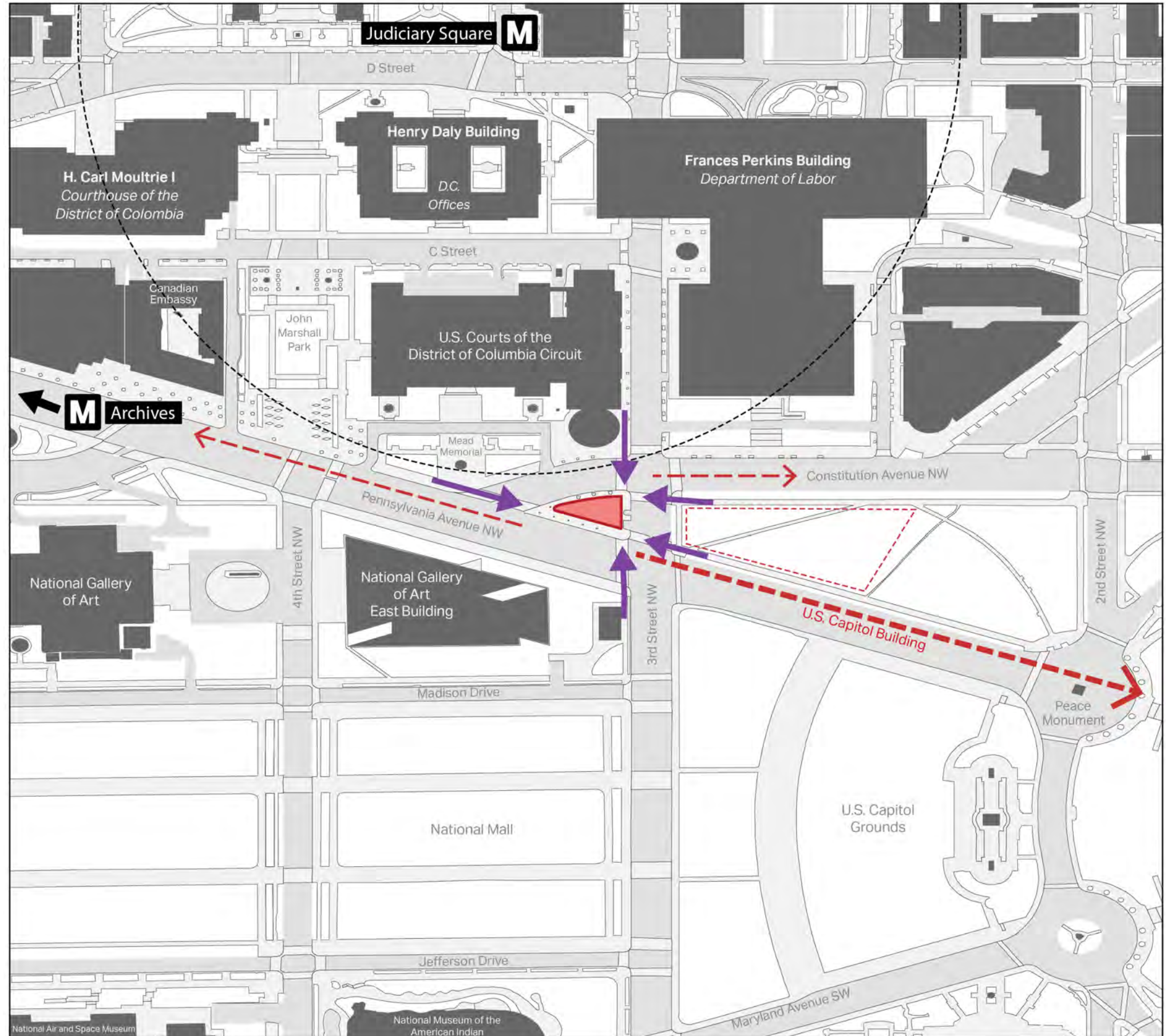


Site Analysis: Site D

Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW

- The site is a 6-minute walk from the Judiciary Metrorail station (Red line) and an 8-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail station (Green / Yellow lines).
- The primary viewshed is southeast along Pennsylvania Ave NW to the U.S. Capitol Building. Secondary, multi-directional views from the site extend east along Constitution Avenue NW, and northwest along Pennsylvania Avenue.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels, but requires crossing at least six travel lanes.
- The site has the potential to accommodate special events in the open space to the east, across 3rd Street NW.
- The site contains multiple utility maintenance and operations access points

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station



Thematic Links: Site D

Pennsylvania Avenue & Constitution Avenue NW

1. U.S. Capitol Building

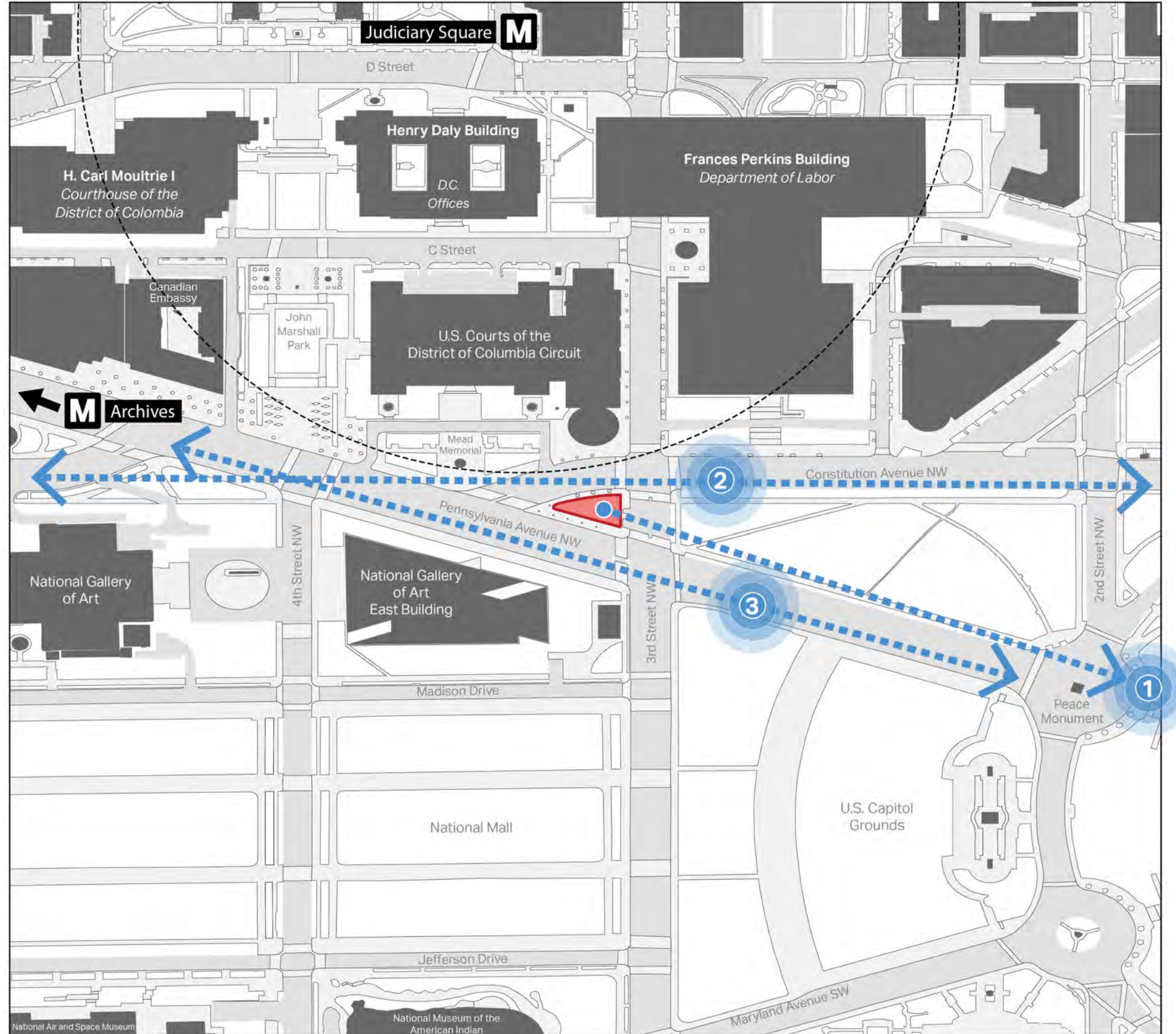
Adjacent to the U.S. Capitol grounds and with a direct, axial view of the Capitol Dome, the site has a strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government.

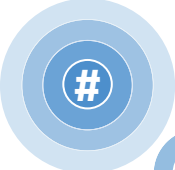



2. Constitution Avenue

Constitution Avenue borders this site, providing a connection to the U.S. Constitution in which freedom of the press is enshrined.

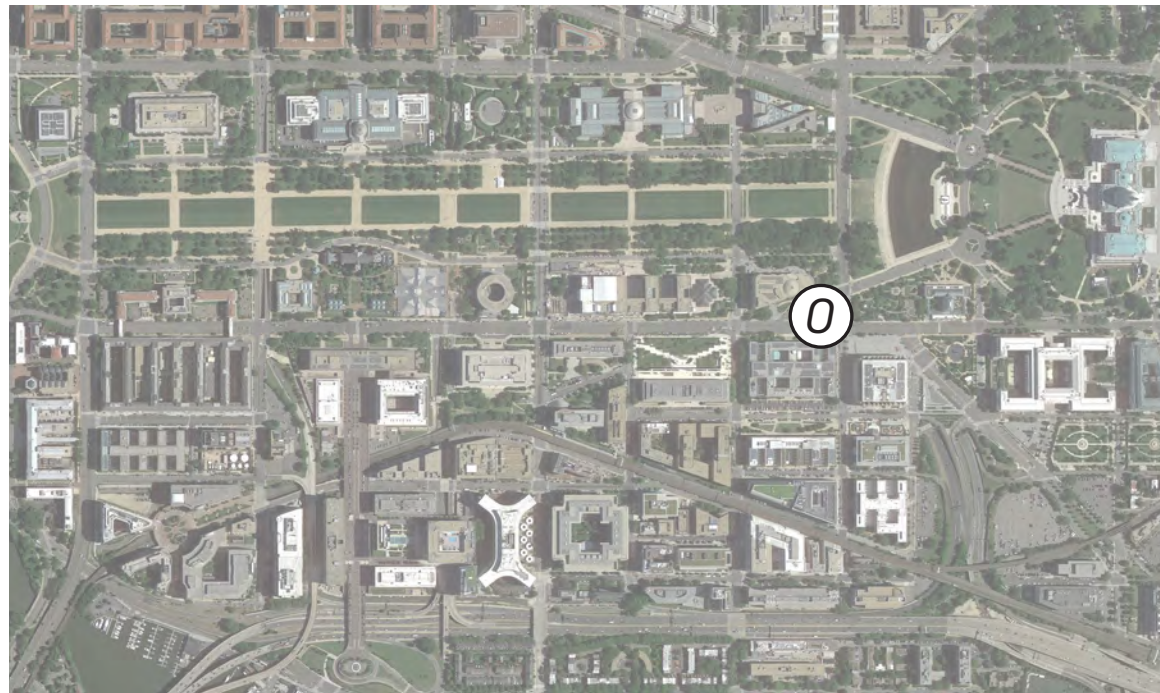
3. Pennsylvania Avenue

Pennsylvania Avenue borders this site, and is a notable street for first amendment gatherings and marches.



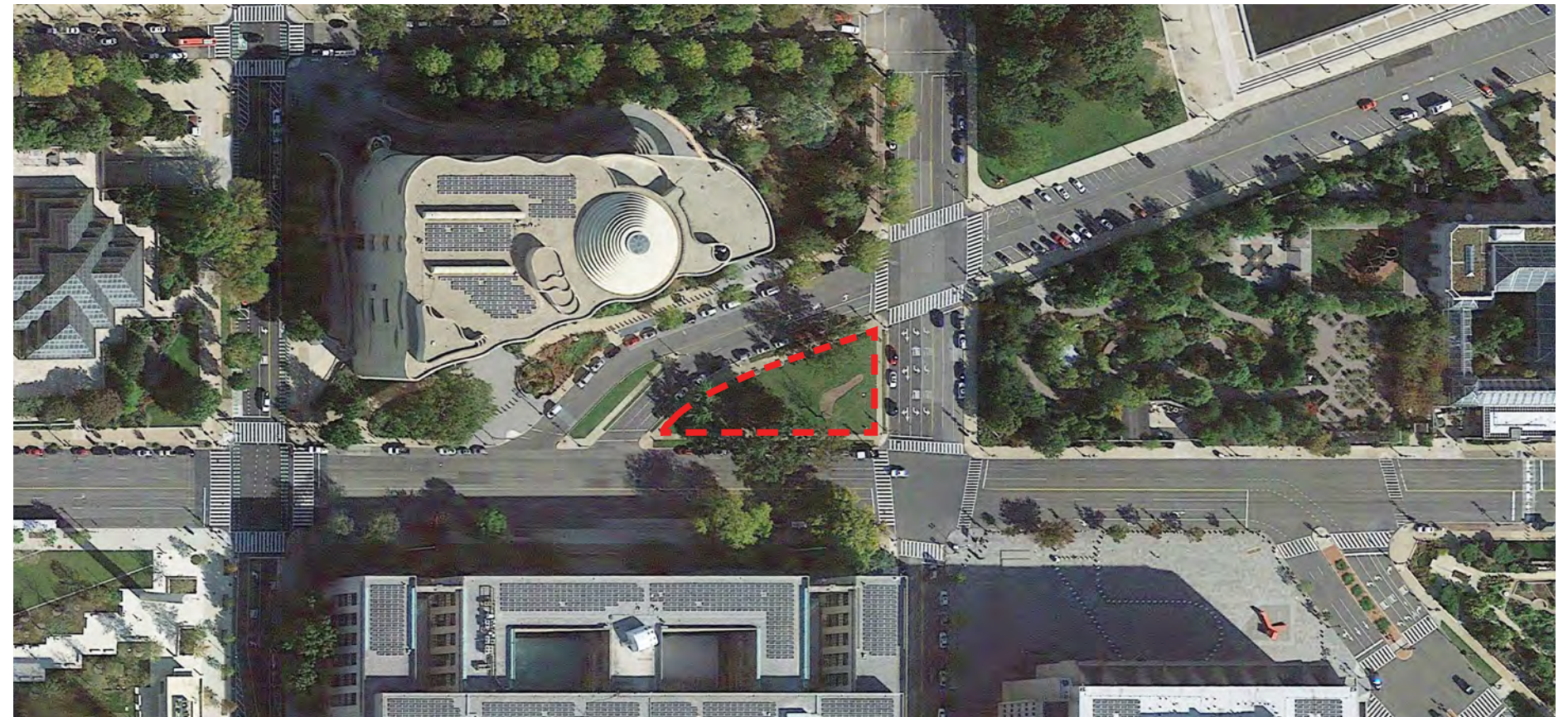
-  Primary Thematic Sites
-  Secondary Thematic Sites
-  Thematic Linkages
-  Viable Memorial Site

Viable Site 0: Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW



Site Location: Southwest **Site Size:** ~0.31 acres **Area I Location:** Yes

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings; possible closure of Maryland Avenue for events
Thematic Nexus	Across Independence Avenue SW from Voice of America Headquarters and two blocks from U.S. Capitol; clear view of U.S. Capitol dome from site
Universal Accessibility	Two blocks from Metrorail station. Offers locations for those covering U.S. government and legislative process
Site Prominence and Visibility	Adjacent to U.S. Capitol Grounds and National Museum of the American Indian; one block from National Mall, Eisenhower and American Veterans Disabled for Live Memorials
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 4-minute walk from the Federal Center SW, a 7-minute walk from the L'Enfant Plaza, and a 16-minute walk from the Archives Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Independence Avenue SW and less busy Maryland Avenue
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present.



1: View northeast

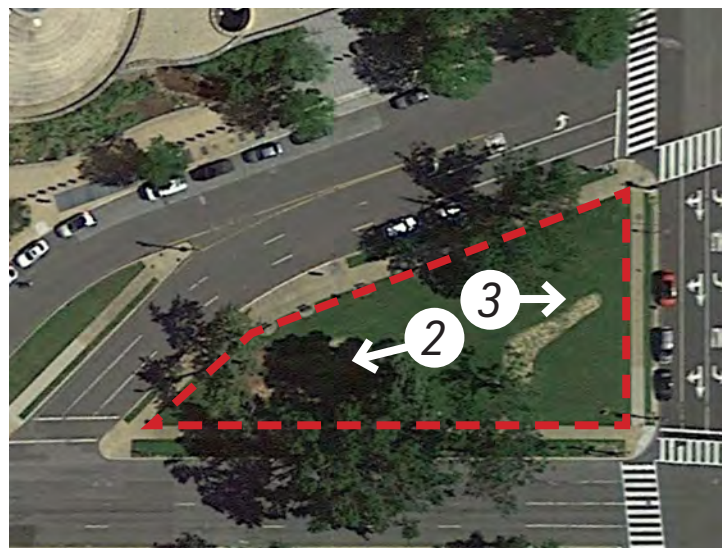
Viable Site 0: Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW



2: View southwest (AECOM, 5/2021)









3: View east (AECOM, 5/2021)

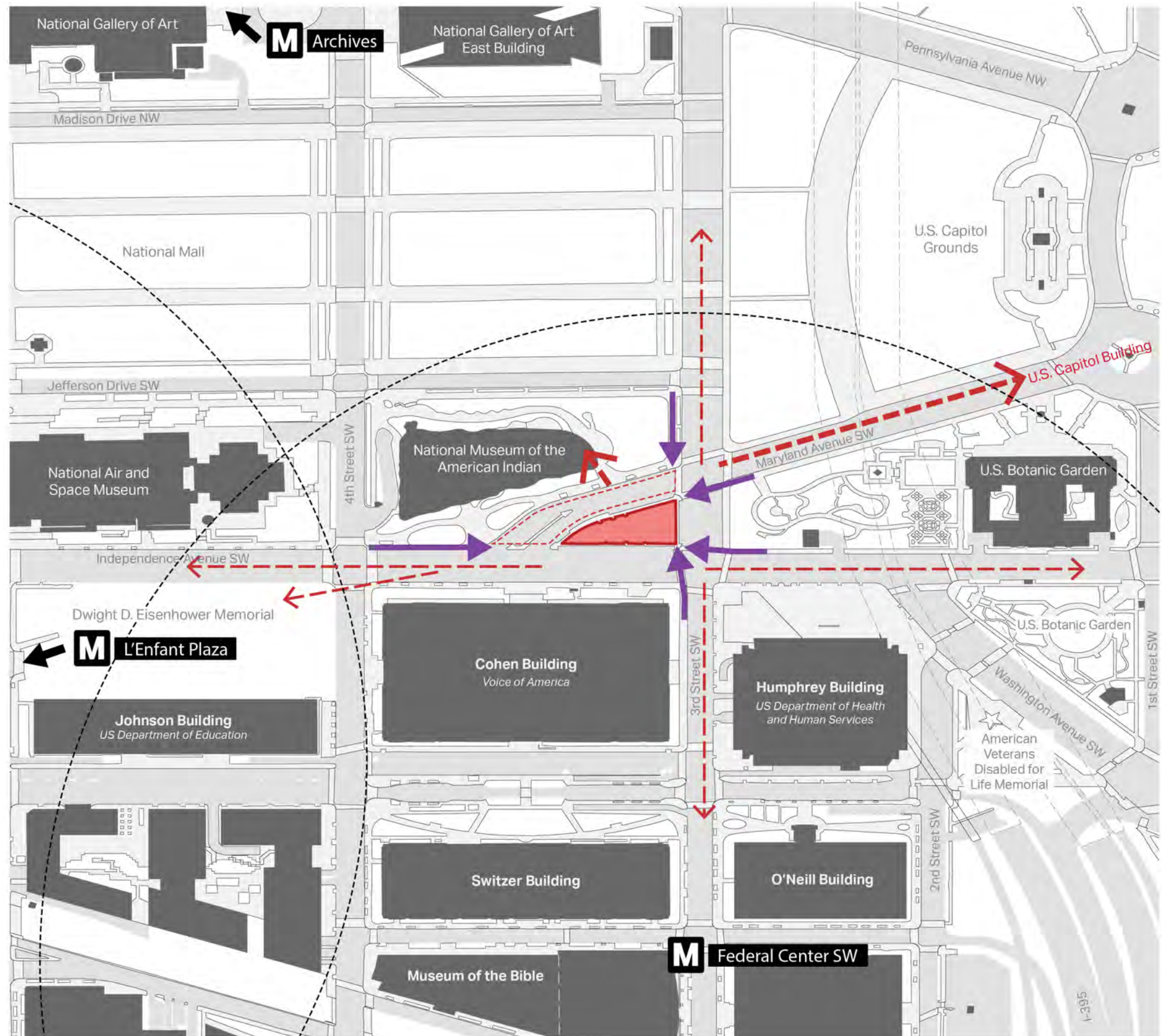


Site Analysis: Site 0

Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd St SW

- The site is a 4-minute walk from the Federal Center SW Metrorail station (Blue / Orange / Silver lines), a 7-minute walk from the L'Enfant Metrorail station (Green / Yellow / Blue / Orange / Silver lines) and a 16 minute walk from the Archives Metrorail station (Green/Yellow lines).
- The primary viewshed is northeast along Maryland Ave SW to the U.S. Capitol Building and immediately north to the east facade of the National Museum of the American Indian. Secondary, multi-directional views from the site extend east and west along Independence Avenue SW, north and south along 3rd Street SW and southwest toward the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels.
- The site has the potential to accommodate special events through the temporary closure of Maryland Avenue between 3rd Street SW and Independence Avenue SW.
- The vicinity of the site contains a rich commemorative landscape honoring presidents and veterans, and potentially EMS workers.

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station



Thematic Links: Site 0

Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd St SW

1. US Capitol Building

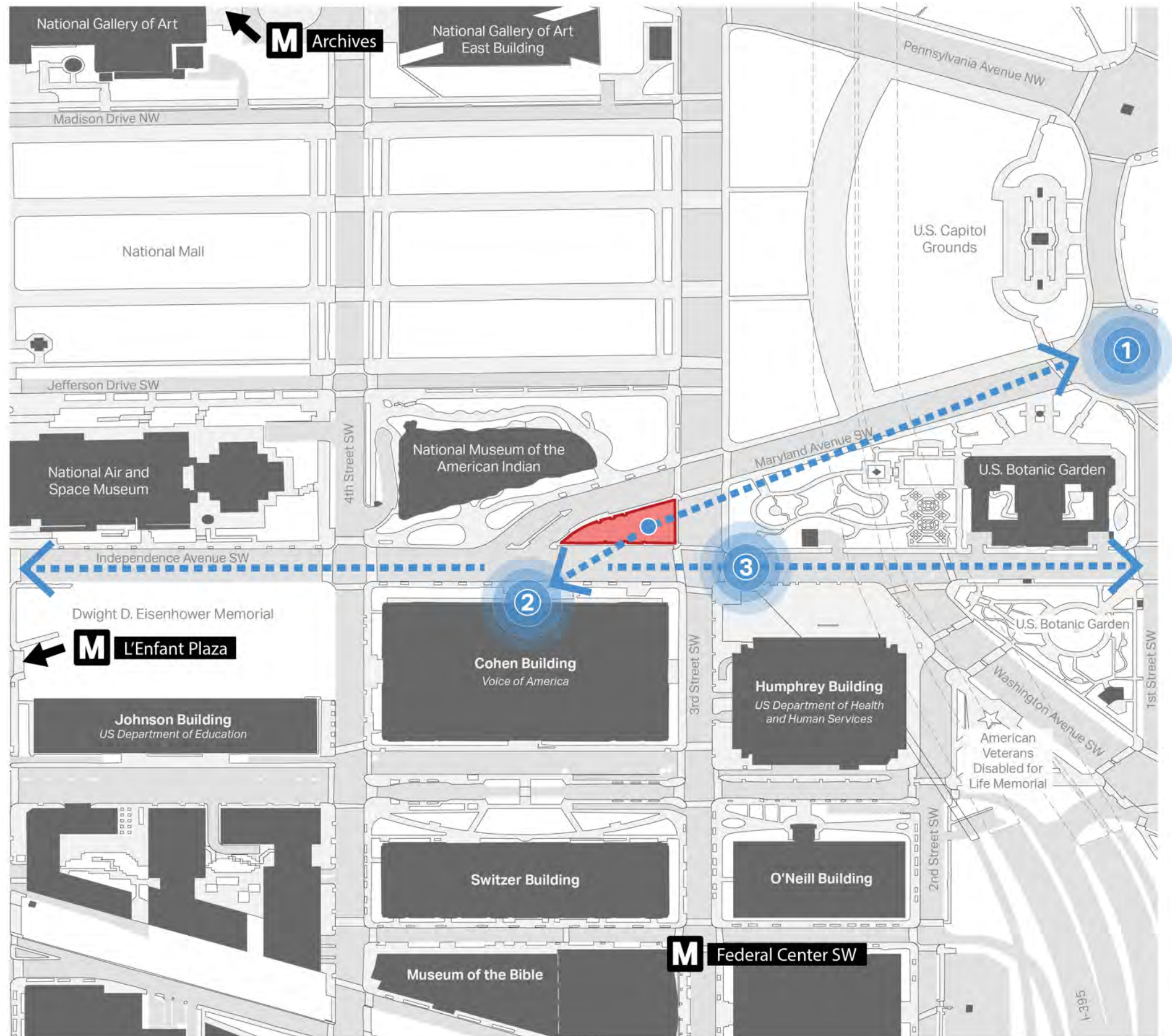
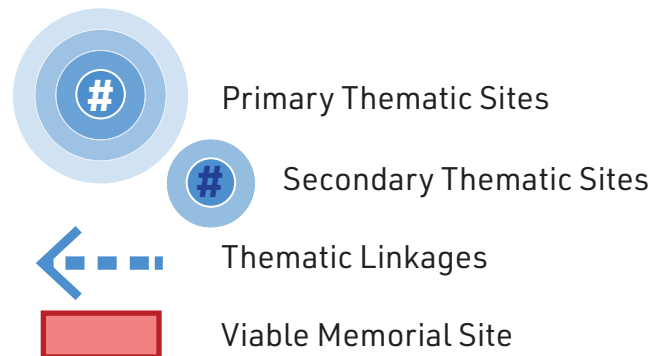
Adjacent to the U.S. Capitol grounds and with a direct, axial, and reciprocal view of the Capitol Dome, the site has a strong visual connection to the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government. This view underscores the relationship between the government and the press.

2. Voice of America (Cohen Building)

Directly north of the Cohen Building, the site has a strong visual connection to the headquarters of Voice of America, the oldest and largest American international broadcaster. Voice of America produces media in 47 languages and distributes throughout the world.

3. Independence Avenue

Independence Avenue forms the southern border of the site, emphasizing the importance of an independent free press.

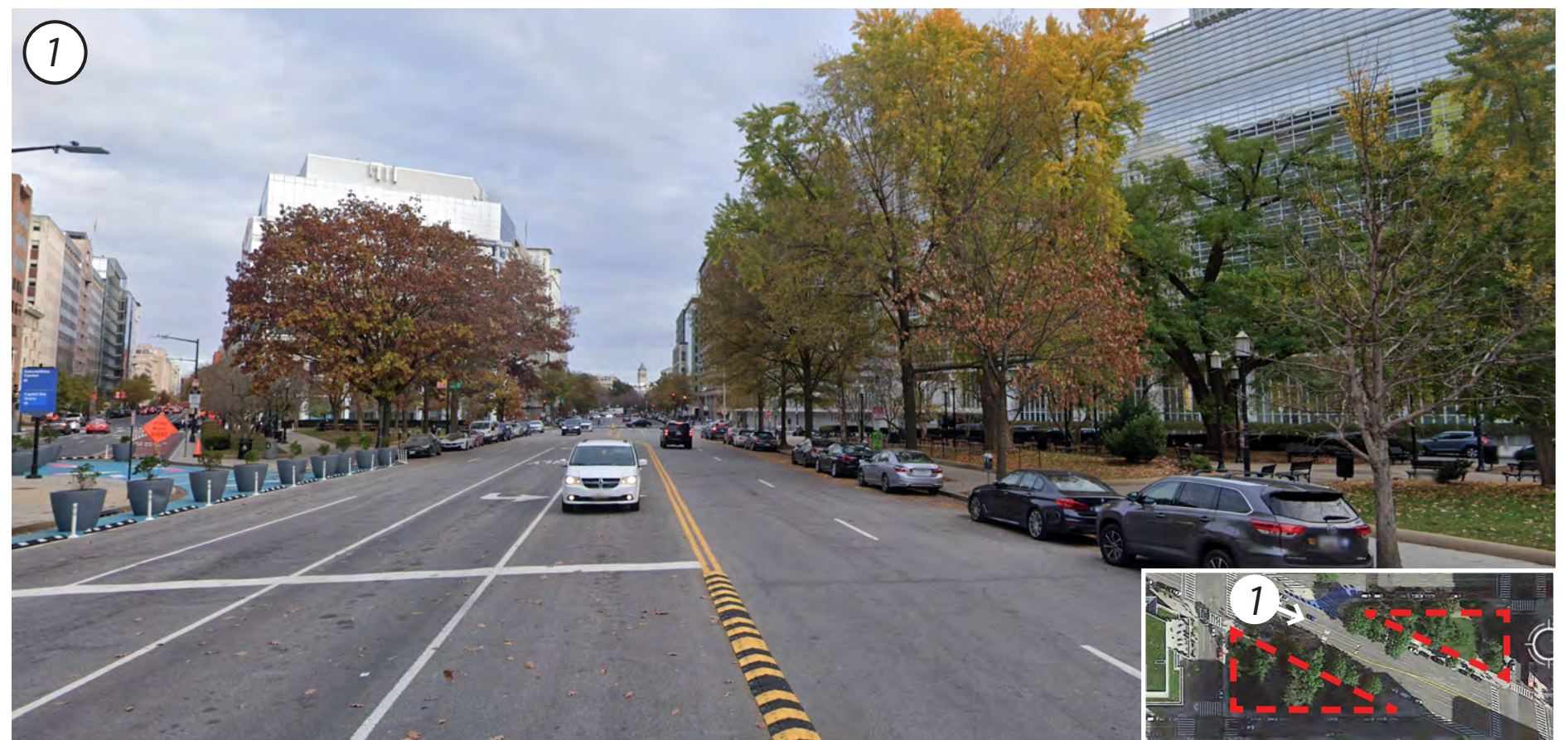
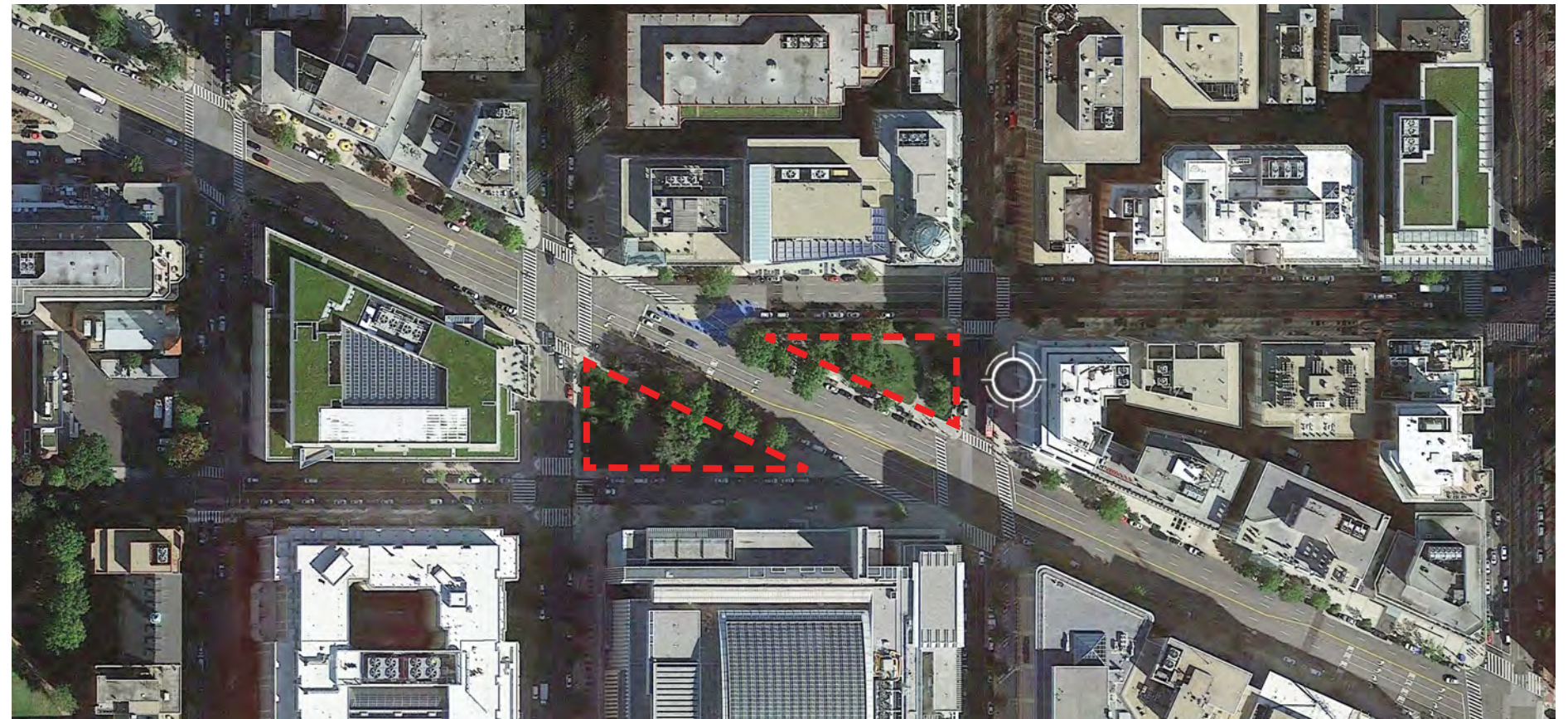


Viable Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)



Site Location: Northwest **Site Size:** ~0.75 acres **Area I Location:** No

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Site could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings
Thematic Nexus	Connection to park's namesake, Edward R. Murrow; two blocks from George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs
Universal Accessibility	One block from Metrorail station. Offers access to iconic Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Site Prominence and Visibility	Location in commercial and institutional area along Pennsylvania Avenue NW; four blocks from White House
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 2-minute walk from the Farragut West and a 7-minute walk from the Farragut North Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present.



1: View southeast along Pennsylvania Avenue NW

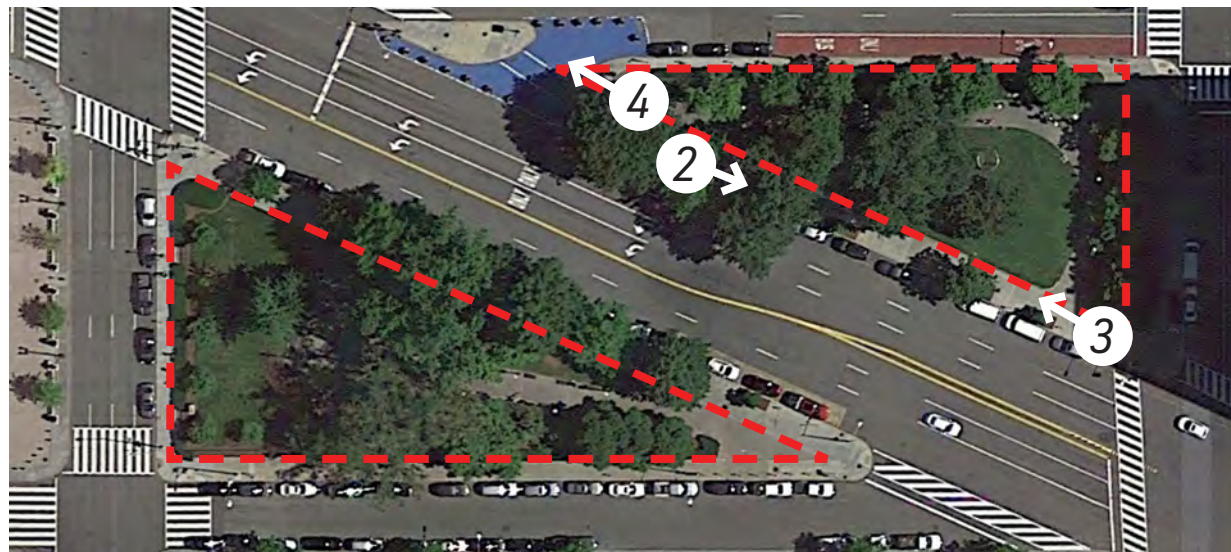
Viable Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)



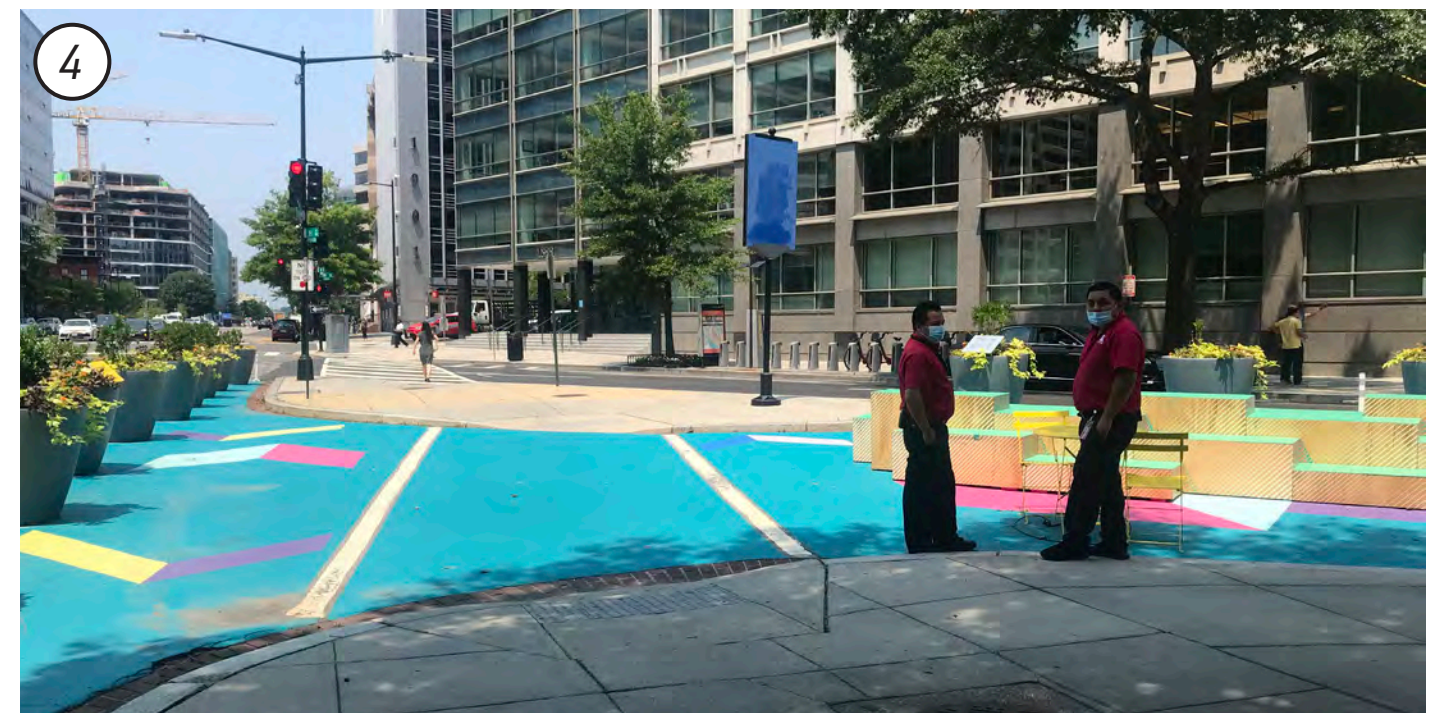
2: View southeast on north side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



3: View northwest on north side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



4: View northwest on north side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



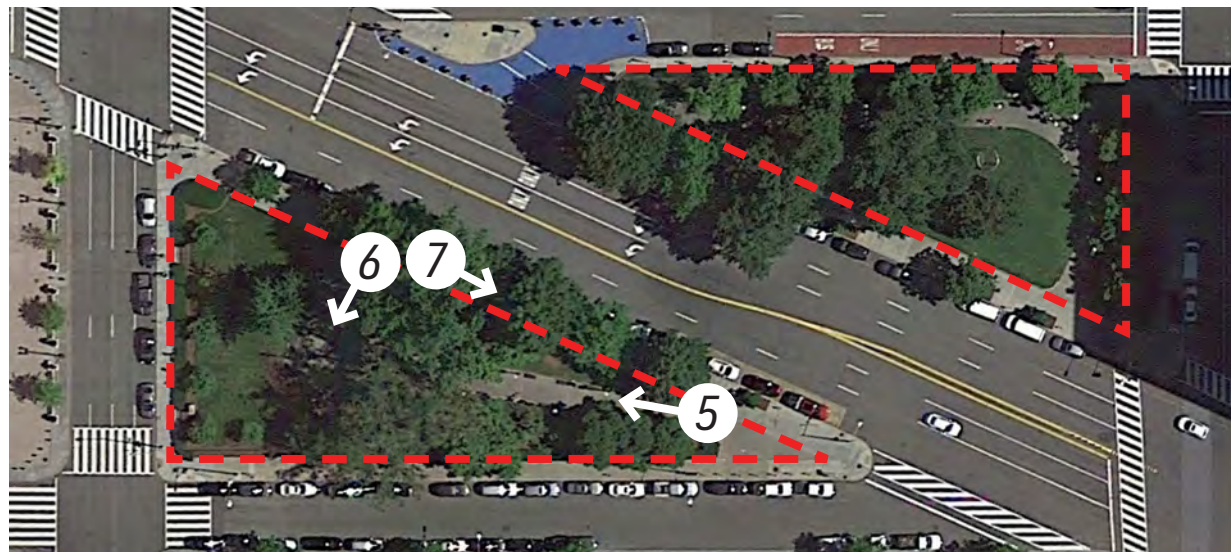
Viable Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)



5: View east on south side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



6: View south on south side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)









7: View southeast on south side of Pennsylvania Avenue (AECOM, 7/2021)



Site Analysis: Site T

Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)

- The site is a 2 minute walk from the Farragut West Metrorail station (Blue/Orange/Silver lines), and a 7 minute walk from the Farragut North Metrorail station (Red line).
- The primary viewsheds are southeast and northwest along Pennsylvania Avenue.
- Pedestrians have multiple access points to the site using crosswalks from adjacent parcels.
- Expanded event space could be achieved with the closure of H St between 18th Street NW and 19th Street NW.

-  Viable Memorial Site
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Views from Site
-  Potential Expanded Event Space
-  Metrorail Station
-  5-minute Walking Radius from Metrorail Station



Thematic Links: Site T

Edward R. Murrow Park (between 18th and 19th Streets NW)

1. Edward R. Murrow Park

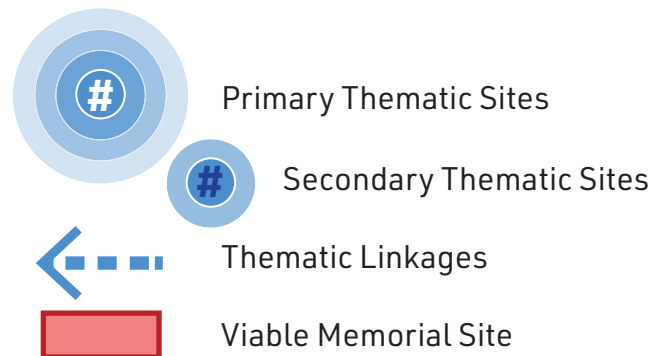
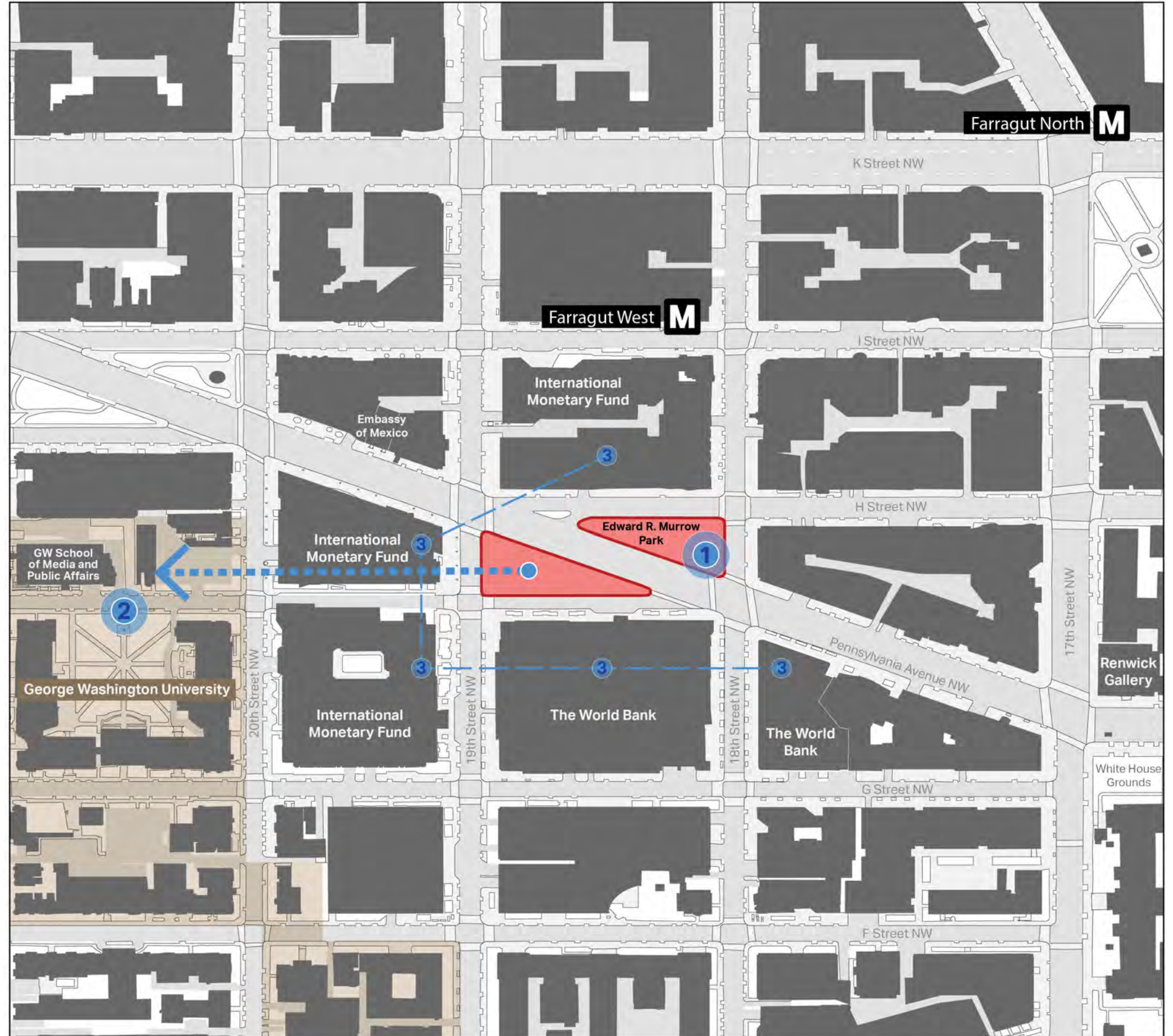
Park dedicated to Edward R. Murrow who was an esteemed and influential American radio and television broadcast journalist and war correspondent. He was appointed director of the U.S. Information Agency in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy. The park's name is not readily apparent to visitors.

2. George Washington University, School of Media and Public Affairs

The nearby GWU School of Media and Public Affairs focuses on the study of communication, journalism and media.

3. International Organizations

Multiple organizations with global missions surround the site.



Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Edward R. Murrow Park

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Edward Murrow Park (18th-19th St) or James Monroe Park (20th-21st St) On Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Site 44

Location:



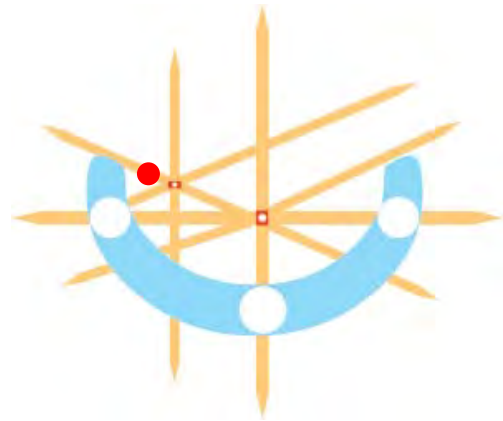
Site Description Summary:

These existing public spaces provide similar passive recreational and interpretive opportunities for residents, employees, and tourists. Their triangular parcels are presently defined by open landscaped spaces that contrast with nearby higher density office and commercial uses. Their location within the highly visible Pennsylvania Avenue corridor makes these parks appropriate for future memorials. Existing conditions include landscaped terraces with seating and generally level terrain. These parcels represent nodes within this prominent corridor from the White House to Washington Circle.

Commemorative Opportunity:

Several opportunities exist to incorporate future commemorative features within these public parks. New memorials within these parcels could include both understated elements that would maintain present conditions or dramatic features that would reshape the character of these sites. This range of potential commemorative actions is possible due to the relative absence of highly visible memorials within this section of Pennsylvania Avenue. This corridor would benefit from greater definition of these existing public spaces. Any memorial planned for Monroe or Morrow Parks should contain ancillary interpretive media on the lives of these historic figures.

Framework Context:



Physical Characteristics:

Location:	Northwest
Acreage:	0.25 - 1.0
Configuration:	Triangular
Overall Character:	Open/Landscaped
Terrain:	Flat
Adjoining Uses:	Mixed Use

Visual Quality:

Prominent Views:	District/Federal Elements
Vistas:	District/Federal Elements
Existing Setting:	Special Street/Parkland
Potential Setting:	same
Gateway Corridor:	Yes

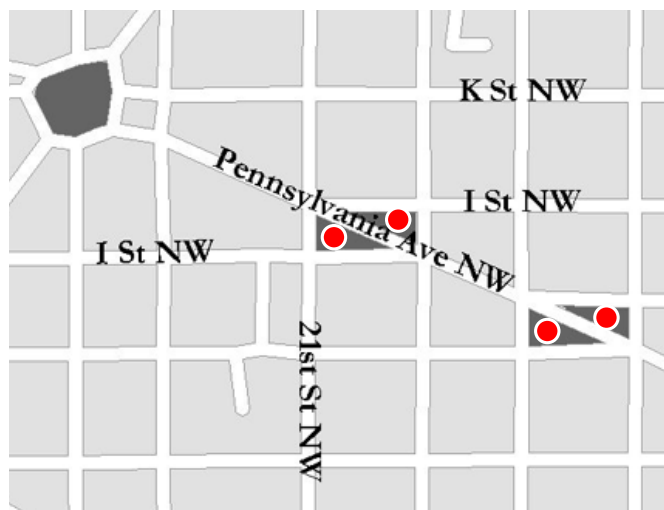
Urban Design Framework:

Relative Prominence:	District/Federal
Comp. Plan Element:	Special Street
Framework Element:	Monumental Corridor
Plan Compatibility:	Consistent
Memorial Proximity:	Walk
Potential Identity:	Yes

Historic & Cultural Resources:

Historic Resources:	Landmark, Special Street
Cultural Resources:	Building, Street, Landscape
Historic District:	NA
Arts/Entertainment District:	Yes
Embassy Proximity:	Yes
Memorial Zone:	2
Museum Proximity:	Walk

Vicinity:



Site Access:

Vehicular Corridor:	Yes - Pennsylvania Ave.
Metrarail Proximity:	Good - Foggy Bottom, Farragut West
Metrobus Proximity:	Good
Pedestrian Access:	Good
Parking Availability:	Good
Intermodal Station Proximity:	Yes - Metro/Circulator
Circulator Node Proximity:	No
Water Access:	No

Site Image



View of park on Pennsylvania Avenue between 18th & 19th Streets that could accommodate a small scale memorial feature within the established setting of this prominent corridor.

Profile:

Development Term:	Present
Ownership:	NPS
ANC:	2A
Current Development Project:	NA
NPS Reservations:	028/030
NPS Park Name:	Triangle
NPS Total Park Acreage:	1.35

Site-Specific Considerations

The following table highlights the relative site-specific considerations for the four initially viable sites. Although these four sites best meets the site selection criteria, each site has specific advantages and limitations related to establishing the memorial. Based on these considerations and input from NCMAC, Maryland & Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW (Site O) and Edward R. Murrow Park (Site T) were advanced for specific site study.

Site	Site Advantages	Site Limitations
Site A: Freedom Plaza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong thematic nexus with a free press as government watchdog and the first amendment • Highly visited and visible location within the urban core 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing memorial (Pulaski) at site, which would need to be moved • Substantial infrastructure at site • Historical thematic nexus of media along Pennsylvania Avenue is not readily apparent to visitors
Site D: Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong thematic nexus with clear view of U.S. Capitol • Proximity to National Mall and visitors to Washington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small size • Current infrastructure at site, including multiple utility access points • A least six lanes of traffic at all adjacent roadways, which are high-volume
Site O: Maryland and Independence Avenues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very strong thematic nexus with clear view of U.S. Capitol and adjacency to Voice of America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combined, these two items represent both commitment to free press and honoring fallen journalists • Proximity to National Mall and visitors to Washington • Opportunities for temporary expansion of space through occasional permitted closures of Maryland Avenue • Primarily open turf with no known established design landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum between the site and National Mall limits its visibility from the highly-trafficked greensward • Vegetation at U.S. Botanic Garden may limit visibility of U.S. Capitol Dome over time
Site T: Edward R. Murrow Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slight thematic nexus with well-known journalist • Mature trees offers shaded setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic link to Murrow is not readily apparent to visitors • Although along Pennsylvania Avenue, White House and U.S. Capitol not visible • Existing designed landscape, which could affect flexibility of design • Not proximate to high-volume visitor destinations in Washington







 Selected for Consideration

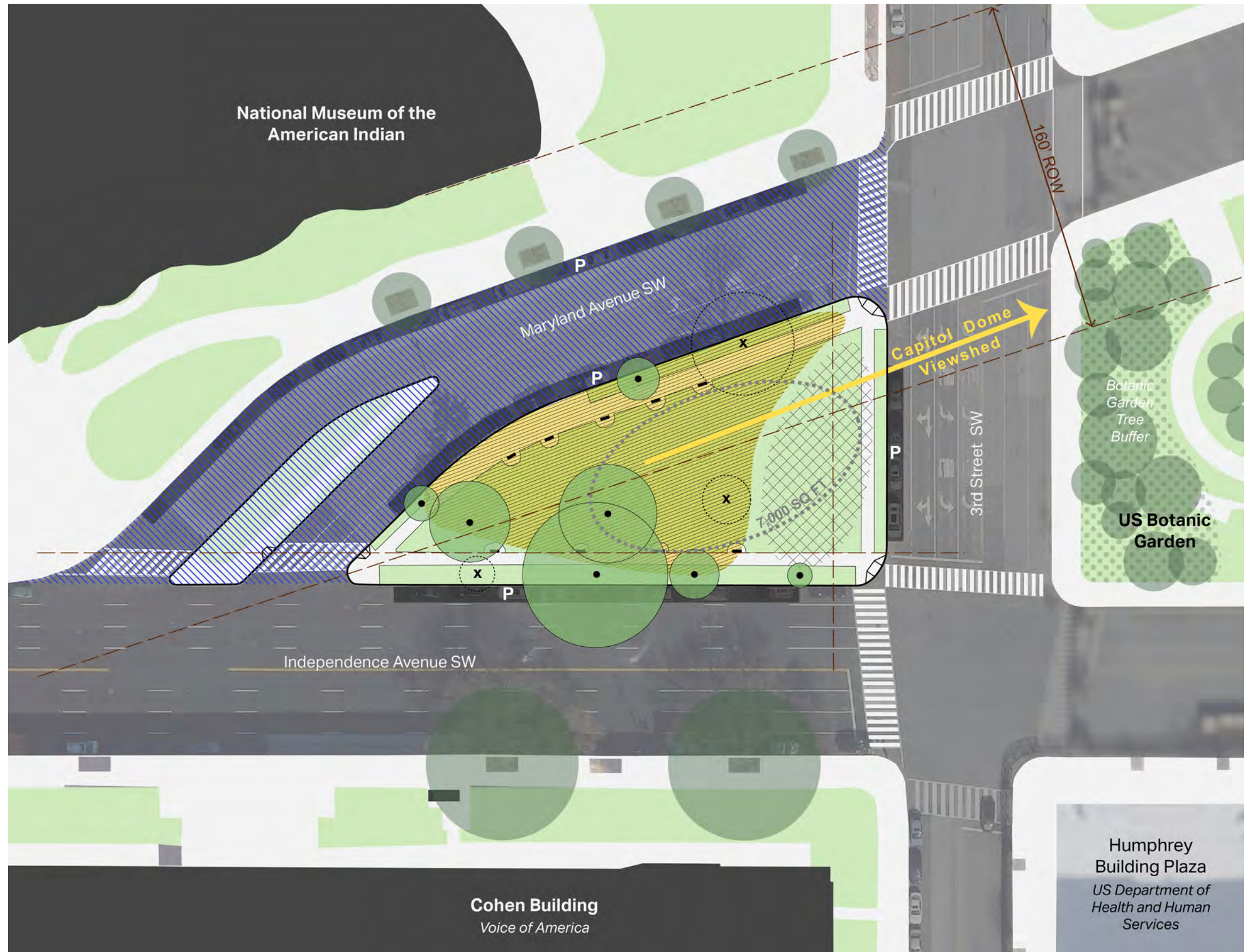
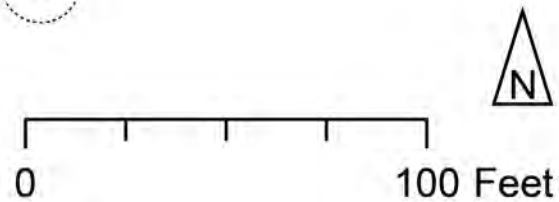
SITE STUDIES

Site Study

Site 0: Maryland Avenue and Independence Avenues at 3rd Street SW

The memorial design for Site 0 would likely be oriented toward the U.S. Capitol, which would be visible from most of the site; views would likely be constrained over time due to vegetation growth at the U.S. Botanic Garden. The site could accommodate a central memorial area of approximately 7,000 square feet. The open turf of the site provides flexibility for the memorial design.







-  Commemorative Focal Area
-  Capitol Dome Visibility
-  Approximation of Future Obstruction of Capitol Dome Visibility Due to US Botanic Garden Vegetation Growth
-  Special Event Space Expansion
-  Right of Way
-  Curb Ramp
-  On- Street Parking
-  Existing Tree
-  Distressed Tree

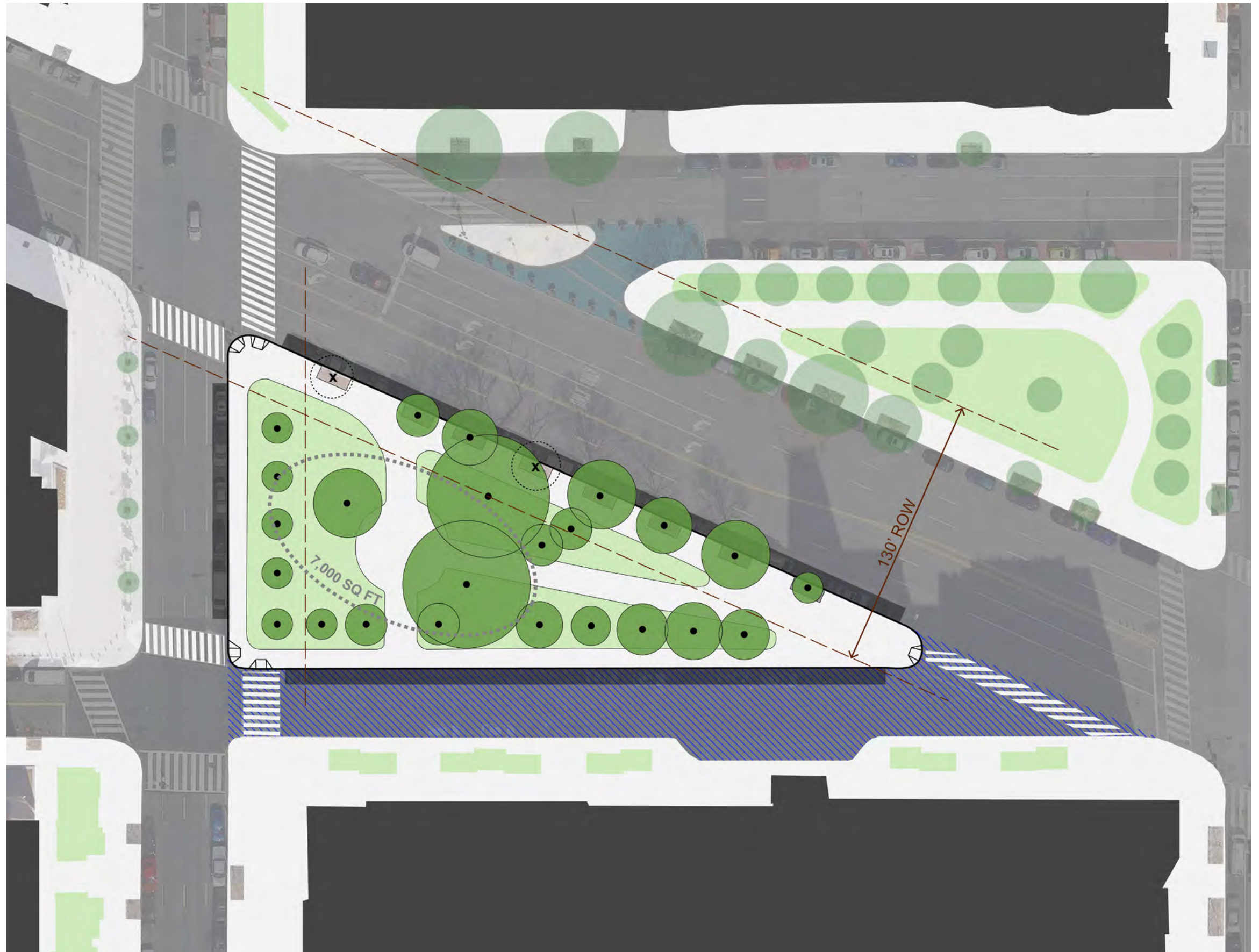
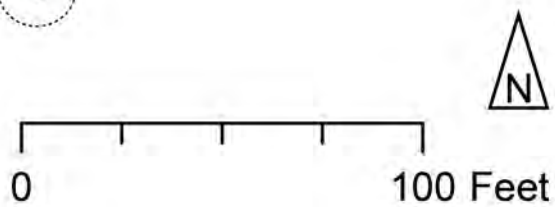


Site Study

Site T: Edward R Murrow Park

Site T is made up of two triangle parcels along Pennsylvania Avenue. The memorial design would likely focus on the southwest parcel and would be oriented east down Pennsylvania Avenue, toward the White House, although this landmark would not be visible from the site. The site could accommodate a central memorial area of approximately 7,000 square feet. The site contains mature trees and an existing designed landscape, which would likely constrain potential changes to the site.

-  Special Event Space Expansion
-  Right of Way
-  Curb Ramp
-  On- Street Parking
-  Existing Tree
-  Distressed Tree



APPENDIX

Additional Site Evaluation

Potential Site X: Walt Whitman Park

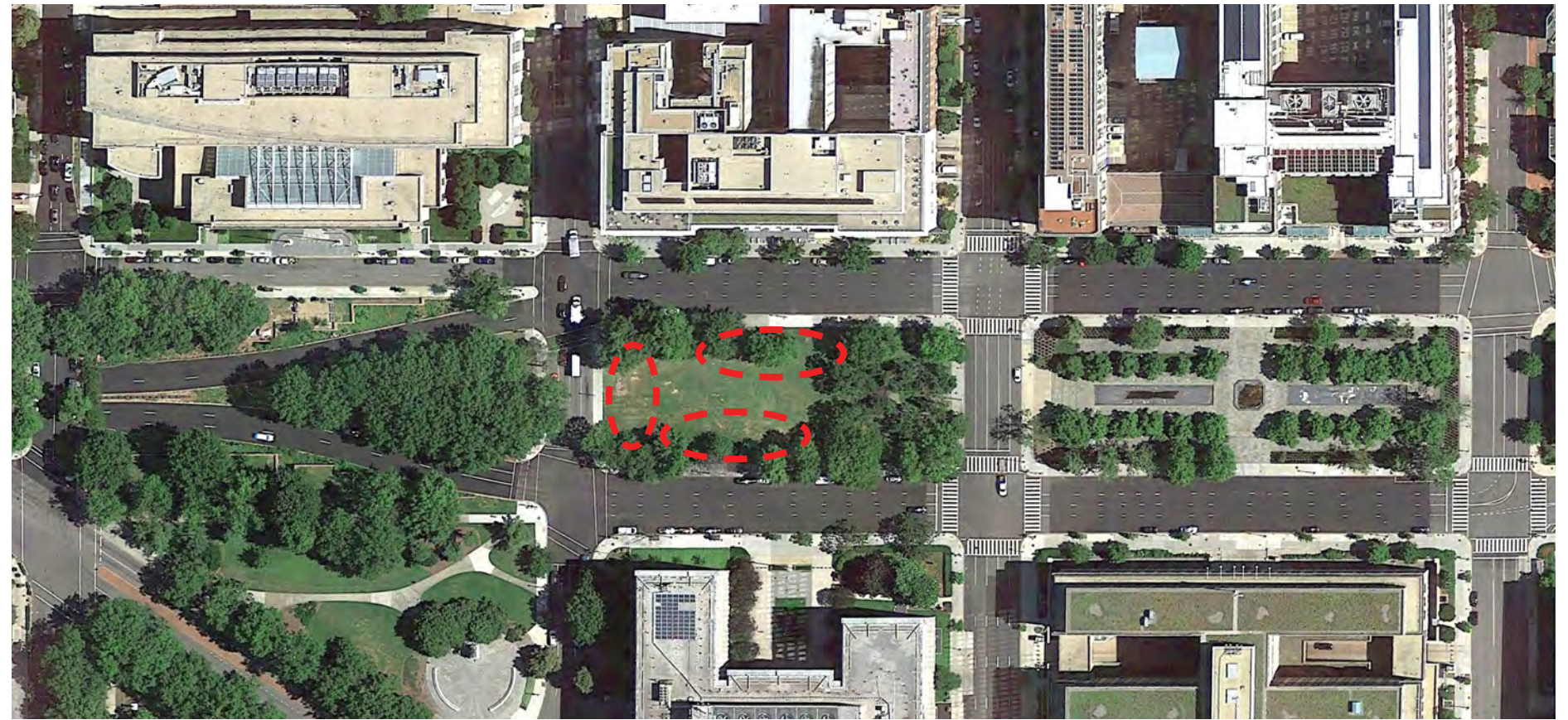


Site Location: Northwest

Site Size: ~0.95 acres

Area I Location: No

Site Criteria	Notes
Program Suitability	Site could accommodate permanent commemorative feature and gatherings
Thematic Nexus	Adjacent to George Washington University's Elliot School of International Affairs
Universal Accessibility	Good pedestrian access from multiple directions; poor Metrorail access, but is served by Metrobus
Site Prominence and Visibility	Site sits along the E Street corridor between the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the White House; located in a federal office building area
Independence	Bordered on all sides by roadways
Site Availability	NPS jurisdiction
Transportation Access	A 10-minute walk from the Farragut West and a 15-minute walk from the Farragut North Metrorail stations
Tranquility	Location along busy E Street NW
Infrastructure	No known conflicts are present



1: View north

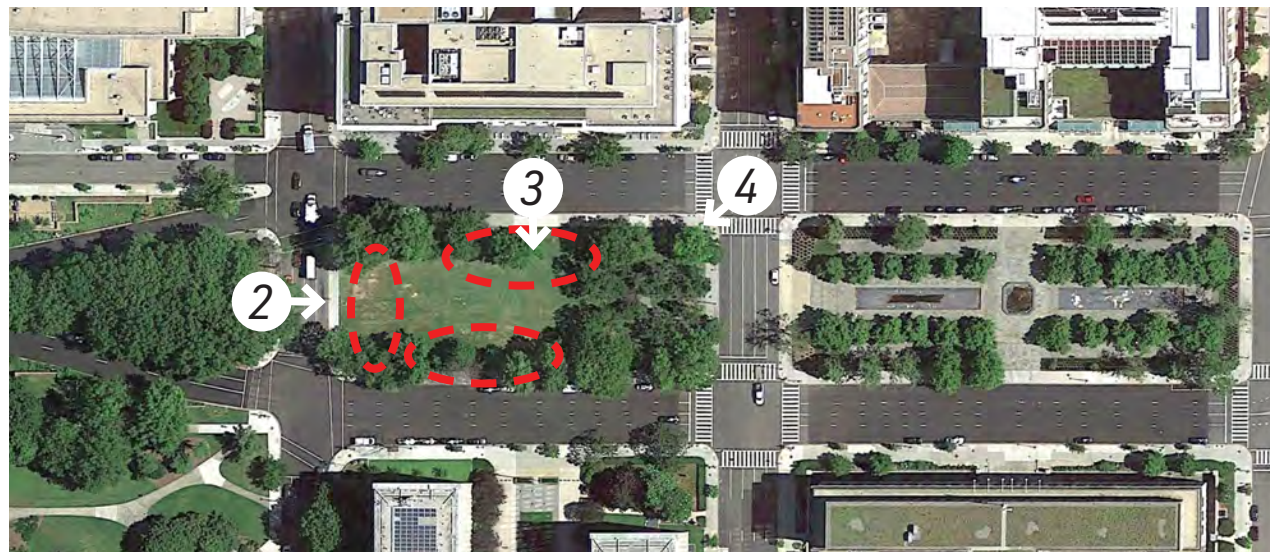
Potential Site X: Walt Whitman Park



2: View from 20th St, facing east



3: View from 20th St, facing east



4: View southwest



Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Walt Whitman Park

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Walt Whitman Park, along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW

Site 11

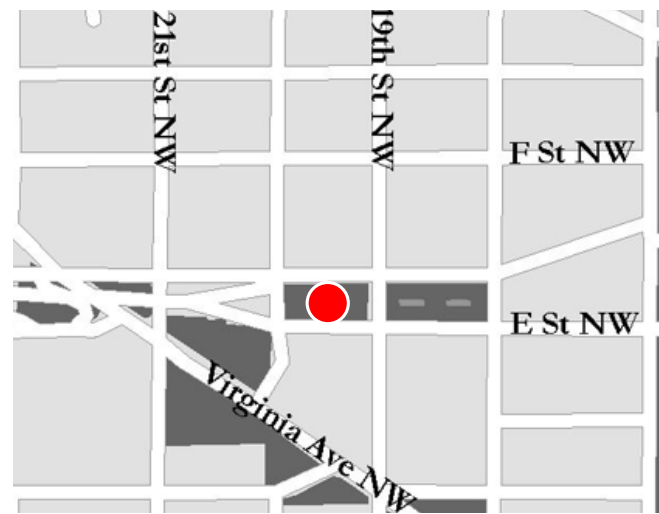
Location:



Framework Context:



Vicinity:



Site Description Summary

This site location, along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW, is in the Foggy Bottom area west of the White House. The site location is along the E Street corridor at the point where the expressway emerges from its tunnel. The two-acre site has a slightly rolling topography and is primarily green with an open, urban feel. Known as Walt Whitman Park, the eastern quarter of this rectangular site is a playground, while the remainder is a landscaped lawn surrounded by a tree buffer.

Urban Design Conditions

Located at a designated Special Place at the intersection of Special Streets, this site location reinforces the Monumental Corridors component of the Urban Design Framework. The east end of the site has an indirect axial relationship with the White House via New York Avenue. Just west of the site is Virginia Avenue, which provides a direct relationship with the Washington Monument. The site location is within walking distance of other historic and cultural resources, including the Kennedy Center and architecturally significant federal office buildings, such as the historic Department of the Interior and the General Services Administration buildings.

Economic Conditions

The Walt Whitman Park site location offers the potential to accommodate a feature that attracts high visitor traffic, such as a major memorial. However, the economic nature of the area, with existing office and State Department buildings, creates questions about how and where new economic activities would occur. With proper incentives and public/private investment, this site would be highly suitable for a commemorative feature, possibly in partnership with George Washington University. The office buildings presently provide daytime economic activity; the challenge would be to bring new economic benefits north of Virginia Avenue on evenings and weekends.

Transportation Conditions

This site has better passenger vehicle access than public transportation access. The park is located one block away from Virginia Avenue, a major vehicular corridor with nearby public parking facilities including both on-street and garage parking. There is poor Metrorail access with the closest station being Farragut West, located approximately 2,500 feet from the site. Metrobus is directly available. There is a possibility that the Circulator might be routed near the park if the demand is high, however, it is more likely that the route will be closer to the Mall.

Environmental Conditions

The site location features slightly rolling topography consisting of an open lawn area, with ornamental trees on the edges. There are no water resources near the site, and no adverse noise or air quality conditions are present. There also is no evidence of contamination on or near the site.

Memorials and Museums Master Plan: Walt Whitman Park

Walt Whitman Park, along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, NW

Site 11 63

Commemorative Opportunity:

Jurisdiction: Federal – National Park Service

This location presents the opportunity to locate one or more small memorials in an existing urban park setting. The park area is approximately one acre in size. The E Street site to the west of 20th Street could also be developed as either a federal memorial location or as a District commemorative site, giving the precinct an attractive pedestrian-oriented park character.

Memorial development would enhance the current open, passive parkland setting of the site in addition to helping transform the E Street corridor into a memorial boulevard space. The transportation characteristics of this site are most compatible with a memorial that will generate a low to moderate number of visitors. A large number of visitors to this location would warrant the provision of additional public transportation facilities such as the Circulator.

Due to the topography, location, and surrounding uses in the area of the site, memorial development would likely require only minor site alterations, including limited grading and no stabilization or utility improvements.

Any future memorial in this location should incorporate some form of interpretive resources related to the life and work of Walt Whitman.

Design Considerations:



This site is located within an established public parkland area that is defined by a perimeter of prominent federal and institutional office uses.



The image above depicts a view looking east from Walt Whitman Park.

1. This location on a major transportation corridor is a gateway to Downtown and is near the White House and President's Park.
2. The E Street corridor has the potential to become a thematic memorial boulevard. This primary location could accommodate a major memorial on the boulevard.
3. The existing urban park is near an enclave of federal office buildings and a memorial could complement these uses. A memorial park would also provide relief to pedestrians and office workers in the area.
4. Memorial design and development in this location should retain and enhance the current urban park setting and open space character, and should respect the urban scale of the park and the surrounding buildings.
5. The opportunity exists to develop a pedestrian-oriented destination memorial at this location.
6. The design should complement the design of nearby Rawlins Park.
7. The site is located where the E Street tunnel rises to grade to become a wide boulevard. The opportunity exists to create a major feature at this point of arrival in the city.