

# Republic of Texas Legation to the United States Memorial Site Selection Study

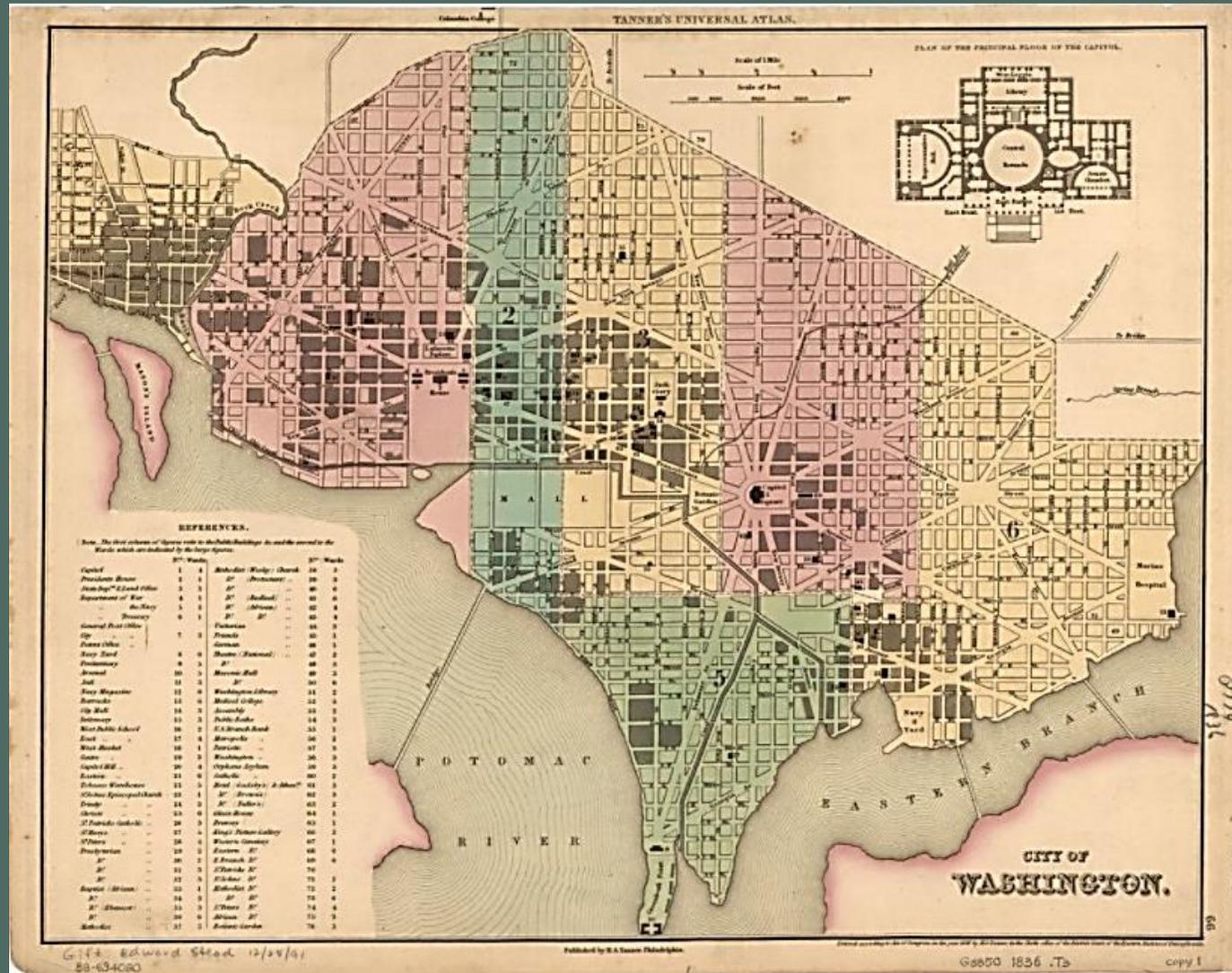
Daughters of the Republic of Texas  
Elisabet Ney Chapter DC, VA, and MD  
Kitty Mellen Hoeck



A Glimpse of the Capitol, William McLeod, 1844. Photo by Will Brown, courtesy Diplomatic Reception Rooms, United States Department of State.

# Site Selection Study: The Republic of Texas Legation Memorial

Figure 2



City of Washington

H.S. Tanner, 1836 Map

As an independent, sovereign nation, the Republic of Texas existed from 1836 to 1845. The Texas Republic dispatched members of its diplomatic corps to London, Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam and Washington D.C. The Legations ceased to operate when the Texas Republic was admitted as a state into the United States of America.

Tanner, Henry Schenck. *City of Washington*. [Philadelphia: H.S. Tanner, 1836] Map. <https://www.loc.gov/item/88694080>

# The Republic of Texas Legation to the United States Memorial

In compliance with Public Law 116–248 116th Congress,  
SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH  
COMMEMORATIVE WORK. (a) IN GENERAL. —The  
Daughters of the Republic of Texas may establish a  
commemorative work on Federal land in the District of  
Columbia and its environs to commemorate and honor  
those who, as representatives of the Republic of Texas,  
served in the District of Columbia as diplomats to the  
United States and made possible the annexation of Texas  
as the twenty-eighth State of the United States.

## **Memorial Program**

The Republic of Texas Legation to the United States

memorial’s program is a site at or near one of eight sites in  
Washington DC where diplomatic ministers from the Republic  
of Texas lived and did their diplomatic work. DRT envisions a  
small plaque or marker stone in a contemplative area  
associated with the Texas Legation historical areas—mounted  
on an existing building or small feature in a park.

## **Size**

The memorial will be of a modest size and envisioned as no  
larger than 100 square feet. The memorial is envisioned as a  
plaque mounted on a small marker stone, a bench, or other

small monument. The memorial could potentially include a small map illustrating the locations where the Texas diplomatic ministers lived and worked in Washington D.C.

### **Uses and Users**

Visitors from the United States, Texas, and international travelers will come to the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as they do in London and Paris (see Appendix 1). The memorial will tell the story the Republic of Texas and of the Republic of Texas's diplomatic ministers. Part of the story may be told on the marker and other parts may be told

in literature, or on a website. Many Texans that live in the Washington area will celebrate Texas Honor Days with small ceremonies at the memorial.

### **Landscape or Focal Feature**

The memorial is envisioned as a singular focal feature such as a plaque or small stone monument that may or may not be accompanied by a small amount of accessory landscaping and features such as a bench. The entire site is envisioned to be less than 100 square feet, but may be as small as the footprint of a singular plaque or pedestal (<20 square feet)

Figure 3 To the Men and Women of Big Flats, IL



# Republic of Texas Legation Memorial Design Ideas

Figure 4 Jefferies Creek Plaque, SC (front)

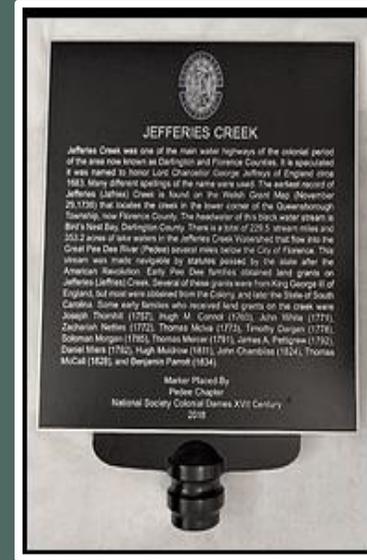


Figure 5 Jefferies Creek Plaque, SC, (back)

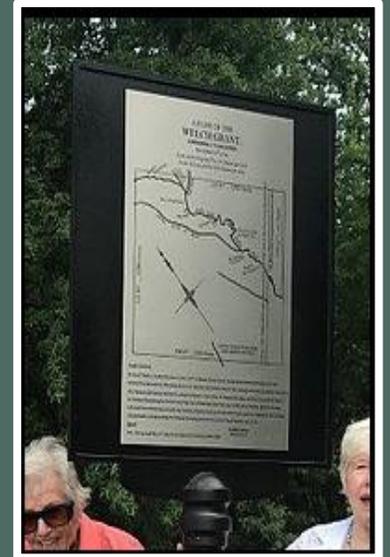


Figure 6 Vietnam in Memory Plaque, DC



Figure 7 The Heritage Plaza Plaque, Pella, IW



Figure 8 Bob Dole Plaque WWII Memorial, DC



# Site Selection Study: Site Selection Criteria

Figure 9



East branch of Potomac R. Washington,  
1839

Artist Augustus Kollner

The eastern branch of the Potomac River  
reveals a pastoral setting.

Kollner, Augustus, Artist. *East branch of Potomac R. Washington*. Washington D.C. United States Anacostia River, 1839. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2004662006/>.

**Figure 10**

<b>Site Selection Criteria</b>	
Proximity to the original sites/ Program/Suitability	Memorial site selection must comply with Public Law 116-248, which was signed into law on December 22, 2020.
Thematic Nexus	The memorial site should be located close to one, but preferably several sites, associated with the historic Texas Legation and/or the Republic of Texas Navy and Legation memorial plaque in the Navy Heritage Center at the Navy Memorial.
Site Prominence	The memorial site should be easy to locate and visible to pedestrians.
Transportation	The memorial should be near public parking and public transportation. Appendix 2 has a chart of parking near the original boardinghouse sites and near where the future memorial might be located.
Universal Accessibility	The memorial should meet universal accessibility standards.
Tranquility	The memorial location should be as peaceful and free from distractions as possible. A green landscaped area can provide some sense of tranquility even when traffic noise cannot be avoided.
Shade	The memorial location should include shade as a respite from the heat. While shade from trees is preferable, shade from adjacent buildings would also be acceptable.
Infrastructure	A memorial site with minimal required changes to roads and utilities is preferred.
Site Availability	The site needs to be available through federal, district or private properties. Properties not currently under the jurisdiction of the NPS or GSA will require permission and coordination with the landowner and NPS on whether a transfer of jurisdiction can take place. The site should not have known opposition to the placement of a memorial.

# Criteria for the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial

The most important criteria for the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial are proximity to the original sites/ program suitability, thematic nexus, as well as site prominence.

## **Program Suitability**

The memorial should be as close as possible to one, or several, of the original boardinghouse sites where the Republic of Texas Legation to Washington lived and conducted their diplomatic work. Although none of the original boarding sites still exist, the boardinghouse locations have been documented through historical research.

Historic Texas Legation sites are defined as any location where a diplomatic minister lived and worked on behalf of the Texas Republic. Merriam Webster Dictionary defines a legation as

a body of deputies sent on a mission specifically a diplomatic mission in a foreign country headed by a minister” or the “official residence and office of a diplomatic minister in a foreign country.” Texas ministers worked out of boardinghouses in Washington, D.C. The practice of working out of boardinghouses was well-documented during the 19<sup>th</sup> century—senators, congressmen, and others who came to Washington engaged in the practice of living and working out of boardinghouses. See Figure 14 for the locations of the original boardinghouse sites used by the Texas Legation (red boxes numbered 1-8).

See Figure 15 for the location of prospective memorial sites identified based on the historic locations associated with the Texas Legation.

## Thematic Nexus

The memorial sites considered have a geographic thematic nexus to locations associated with the Texas Legation. Figure 14 illustrates an area where five original sites are located within an area covering approximately 8 city blocks. Additionally, a plaque for the Republic of Texas Navy is located nearby at the Naval Heritage Center.

The following list includes additional information concerning the Republic of Texas diplomats' travels to Washington and locations associated with the Texas Legation. City Directories, Congressional Directories, and other primary sources from the 1836-1845 time were used to identify the locations of the original boardinghouses.

- An advertisement in the *Madisonian Newspaper*, 5 Oct.

1837 for Mrs. Page's boardinghouse, notes, "Persons visiting Washington can be comfortably entertained by the day or the week."

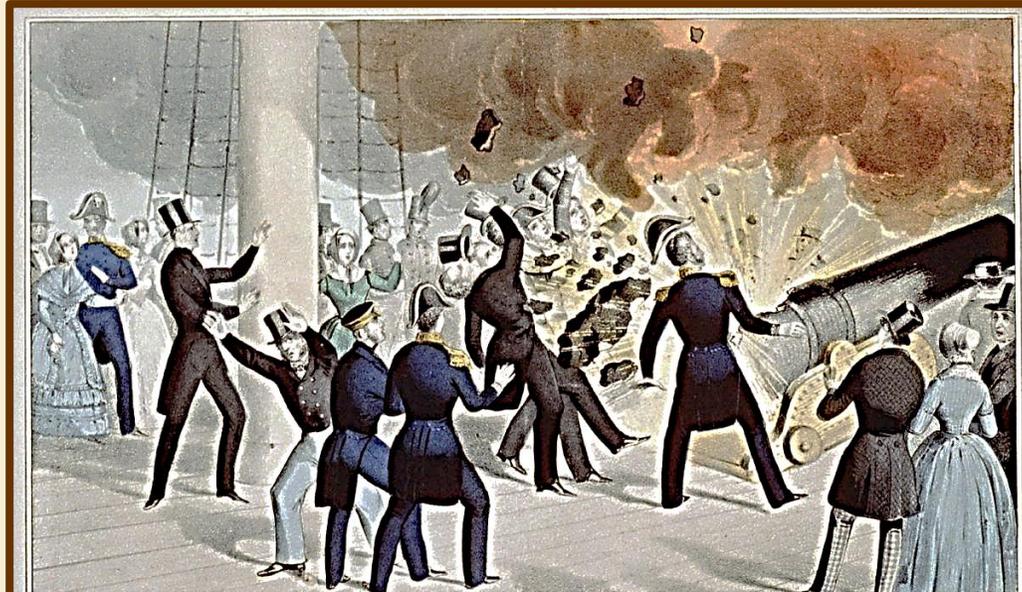
- In 1839 Minister Plenipotentiary Anson Jones, of Republic of Texas, boarded at Mrs. Pittman's boardinghouse. Previously in 1837, Congressman Amasa Parker drew a diagram of Mrs. Pittman's boardinghouse and sent it to his wife. Congressman Parker's sketch reveals critical details about Mrs. Pittman's boardinghouse. The dining area shows a large dining room table with names of congressmen, senators, a few their wives, and some future presidents. Note a separate room for other guests dining. The building was made up from a series of connected buildings.
- In 1839, artist Augustus Kollner drew a sketch of the Centre Market area along Pennsylvania Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The sketch reveals part of the area opposite the Centre Market.
- In 1837-1838 Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary Memucan Hunt stayed at Mrs. Page's boardinghouse located opposite of Centre Market.

- Documentary evidence suggests that in 1839 Minister Plenipotentiary, Anson Jones of Republic of Texas, stayed at the National Hotel on "Pa. av. corner of 6th street." An 1842 National Hotel advertisement in Craig's Business Directory and Baltimore Almanac includes an advertisement for the National Hotel (also known as the Gadsby Hotel), which was owned by a "Gadsby and Newton. The Texas Legation was billed on May 23, 1839, for the use of a room by Dr. Anson Jones for \$66 by a "Gadsby and Newton." The receipt address and National Hotel address are the same, indicating that the Texas Legation member stayed at the hotel.
- James Reily complains to Isaac Van Zandt about Mrs. Bowen's "Starvation Hall" in a letter. 1843.
- Charges d' affairs Isaac Van Zandt writes in a letter to his wife, Frances, concerning his difficult trip to Washington D.C. Van Zandt and family left Texas in a carryall buggy. The Van Zandt family traveled by way of Shreveport, Louisiana, Coffeyville, Mississippi, and in Tennessee, Isaac Van Zandt left his family with relatives.

He continued towards Washington when ten miles south of Cincinnati Van Zandt, on the Juanita, describes floating in a sea of ice when the Juanita's the engine broke down. From Cincinnati, he took a stagecoach in the snow. The last 65 miles before reaching Cumberland, Maryland he took a sleigh. At one point Van Zandt needed to walk. Isaac Van Zandt finally boarded a train from Cumberland to Washington DC.

- Charges d' affairs Isaac Van Zandt's boardinghouse on F Street, between 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets, was next door to John Quincy Adams's house. Van Zandt's son, KM Van Zandt, writes in his autobiography, that John C Calhoun lived on the other side of Van Zandt. Since Adams was against Texas annexation and Calhoun was for the annexation, it is not difficult to image the social interaction between these neighbors on F Street.
- Acting Charges d' affairs Chas H. Raymond, writes in a letter about how expensive it is to live at his boardinghouse in Washington D.C., "Grubbs has "riz" to \$6 and I can't stand it. Tomorrow I leave for old quarters at Madam Bowen's. I have taken the room formerly occupied by the Doct. at \$4 per week."

**Figure 11**



Explosion of the USS Princeton's long gun, the Peace-maker, 28 February 1844 while Isaac Van Zandt was on board.

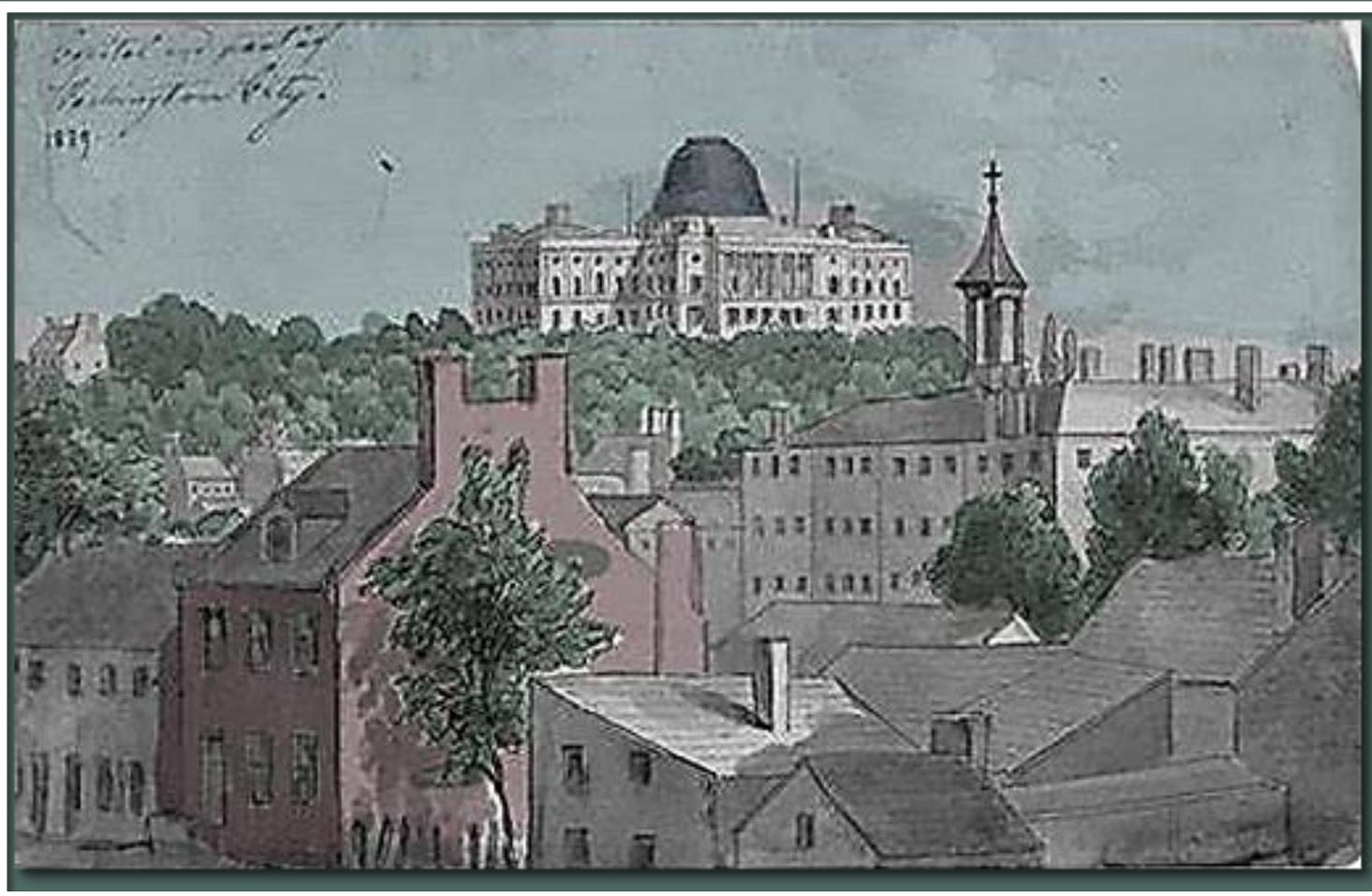
- On February 28, 1844, the USS Princeton exploded on the Potomac River, near Washington DC. Charges d' affairs Isaac Van Zandt was on board. This accident caused the death and maiming of many on board the USS Princeton including U.S. Secretary of State, Abel Upshur. Upshur and Van Zandt had nearly completed their negotiations for the United States to annex Texas. Upshur's death was a setback for annexation. See Figure 12

### **Site Prominence**

Site Prominence is the third most important criteria. The memorial should be easily seen and located by visitors.

# Site Selection Study: Memorial Sites to be Studied

Figure 12



The Capitol and Part of  
Washington City, 1839

by Augustus Kollner  
and  
colorized by David McKenzie

Kollner, Augustus, Artist. *Capitol and part of Washington City*.  
Washington D.C. United States, 1839. Photograph.  
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2004662004>. Non  
Non colorized version

# Documented Historical Locations Associated with the Republic of Texas Legation to the U. S.

1837-38

**1** Memucan Hunt  
Minister Plenipotentiary and  
Envoy Extraordinary  
Mrs. Page's boardinghouse  
Opposite of Centre Market  
Today it is The Navy Memorial.

1839

**2** Anson Jones  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Mrs. Pittman's boardinghouse  
Third Street  
"w side 3w btw Pennsylvania av  
and Cn, nr cen."  
Today it is The William B. Bryant  
Annex to the E. Barrett Prettyman  
U.S. Courthouse

1839

**3** Anson Jones  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Gadsby's Hotel  
Pennsylvania av, NW  
Today it is the Johns Hopkins  
Campus, Pennsylvania and 6<sup>th</sup>  
Street.

1840-42

**4** Bernard E. Bee, Sr.  
Charges d' affairs  
M. Lawrence's, near Gadsby's  
M. Lawrence was not in the 1846  
directory but there was a  
Mr. Lawrence listed near the Gadst  
Hotel as a tobacconist  
"n Penn av btw 4-1/2 and 6 w",  
(nr 4-1/2 in 1843 directory)NW  
Today it is the Canadian Embassy.

1843

**5** Isaac Van Zandt  
Charges d' affairs  
Mrs. Bowen's boardinghouse  
Sixth Street  
"w 6 w, btw D and E n, nr D", NW  
Today it is the Patrick Henry Building

1843-44

**6** Isaac Van Zandt  
Charges d' affairs  
Boardinghouse  
One square west of the War  
Department, Pennsylvania av  
Today it is a commercial building  
Pennsylvania Avenue between 17<sup>th</sup>and  
18th St. NW.

1844

**7** Isaac Van Zandt  
Charges d' affairs  
F Street between 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets  
Today it is a commercial building on F  
Street.

1845

**8** C. H. Raymond  
Acting Charges d' affairs  
New Jersey av. and Capital Hill  
Mr. Underwood's  
The 1846 directory shows a Mr. Underwood,  
"chief clerk, 1st Auditor's Office, e side NJ av, btw B and C  
St."  
Today the Cannon House Office Building.

Figure 13

Red squares with a number are original Texas Legation sites.



DC Atlas Plus, DC GIS | Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Figure 14



Original Republic of Texas Legation Boardinghouse Sites and Candidate Sites to Consider

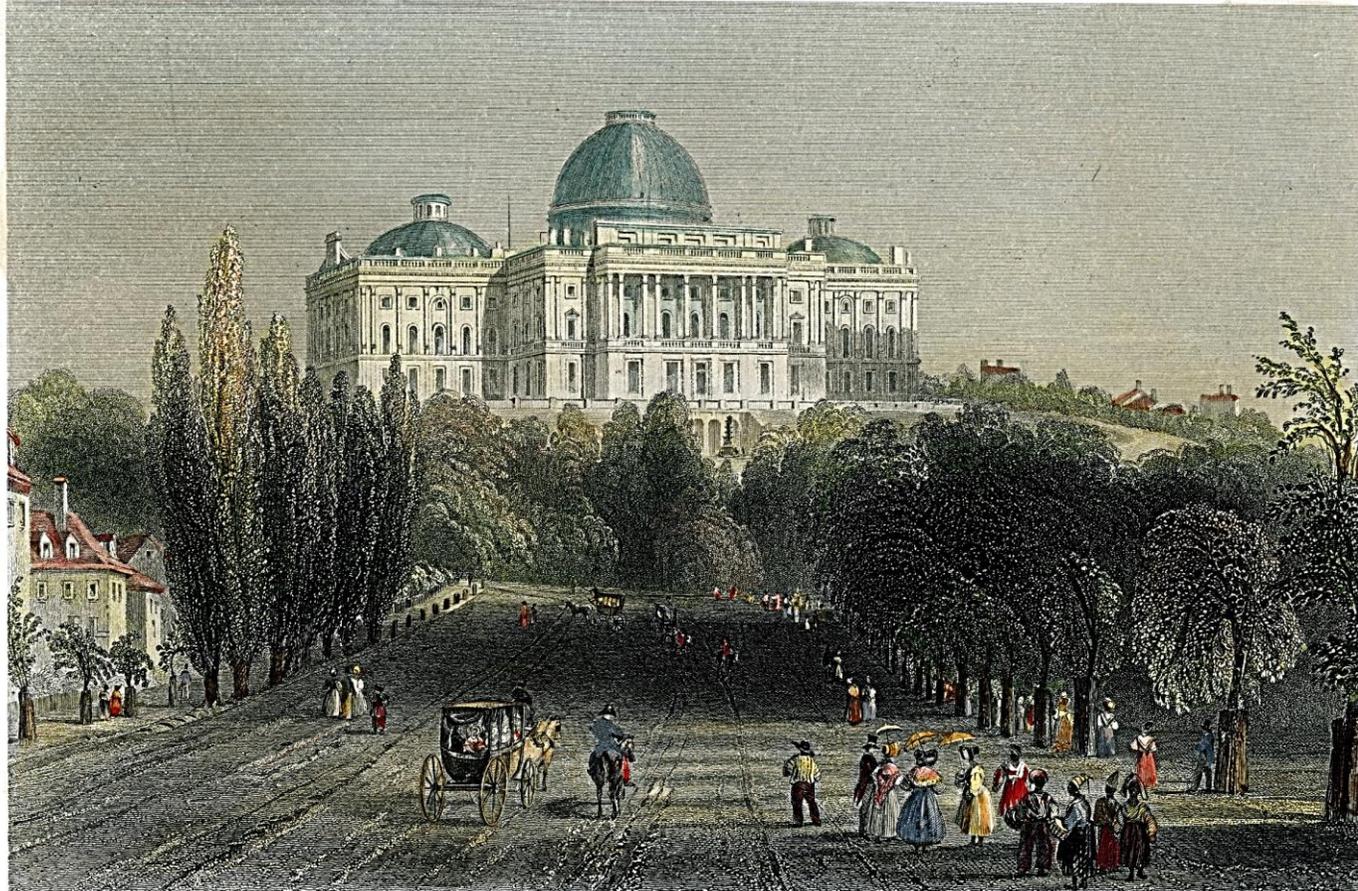
1. Mrs. Page's	A Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street, NW, Res. 553	I	G Navy Memorial sidewalk to 3rd Street, NW	I/II
2. Mrs. Pittman's	B Louisiana Avenue, C Street and 1st Street, NW, Approved site location for Peace Corps Commemorative Park	II	I Edward R. Murrow Park between 18th and 19th Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Res. 31	II
3. Gadsby's or National Hotel	C John Marshall Park, Pennsylvania Avenue next to the Canadian Embassy, NW	I	J Walt Wittman Park along E Street between 19th and 20th Street, NW, Res. 11	II
4. M Lawrence's	D Indiana Avenue between 6th Street and D Street, NW, Res.187 The District of Columbia is interested in this site.	II	K New York Avenue between 11th and 12th Street, NW, Res. 172	II
5. Mrs. Bowen's	E Navy Memorial Area just outside Area I to north Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II	L New York Avenue and H Street, NW, Res.173	II
6. One Square West of the War Department	F Indiana Avenue and 7th Street, NW, outside Area I to the east, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II	M Northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Independence Avenue, SE, Res.37	II
7. F Street between 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW				
8. Mr. Underwood's				

-  Navy Heritage Museum
-  Center Market/ National Archives

Numbers are original Republic of Texas Legation sites. Letters indicate Candidate Sites for a memorial.

# Site Selection Study: Sites that Form a Cluster

Figure 15



W. H. Bartlett

C. J. Bentley

VIEW OF THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON.

View of the Capitol at Washington,  
1837

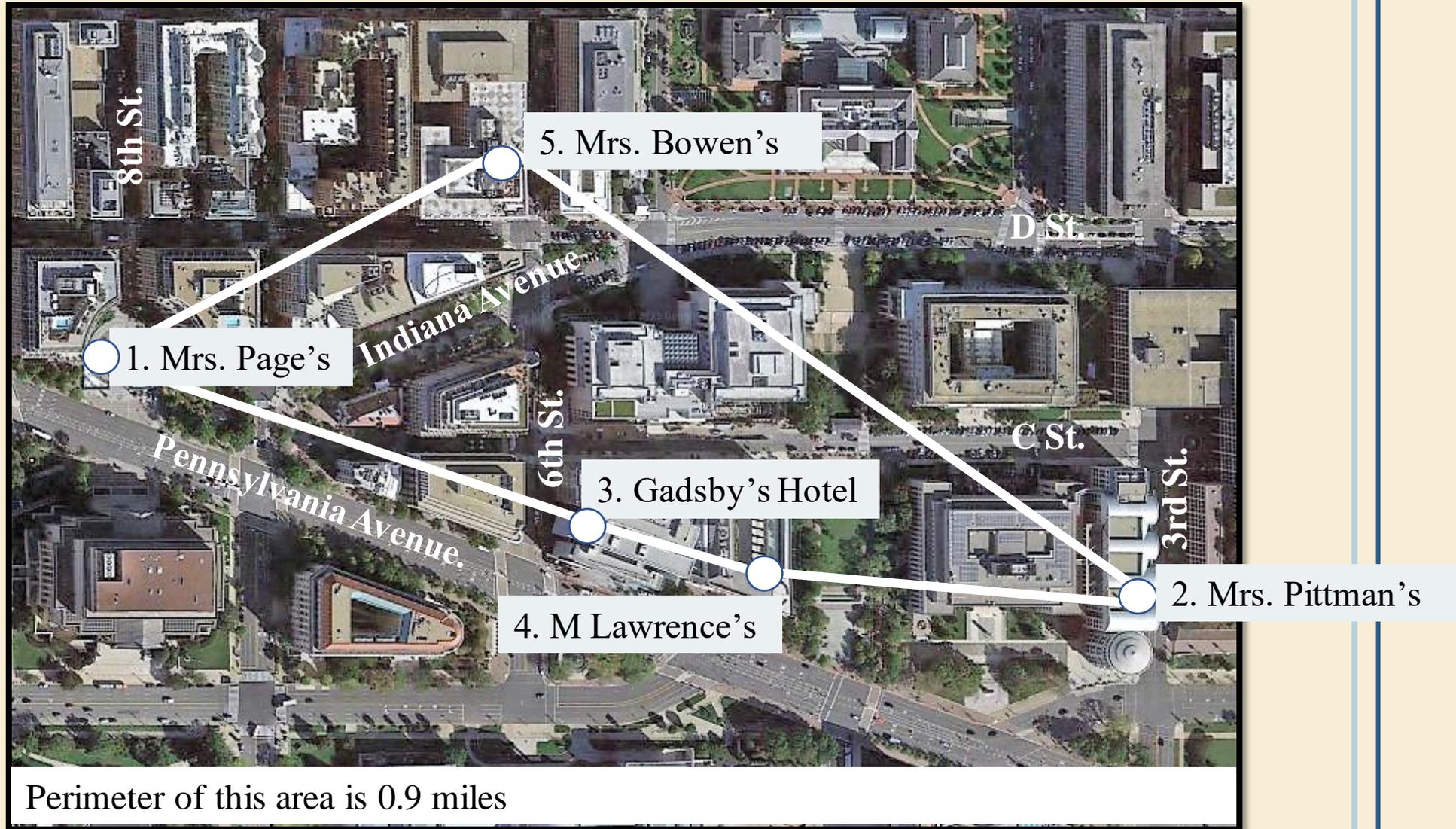
Artists W.H. Bartlett and C.J. Bentley  
Kiplinger Washington Collection

The Capitol's west front is facing Pennsylvania Avenue. There are the famous Lombardy Poplar trees, and a dirt street covered with the ruts of carriages.

"A View of the Capitol at Washington" 1837 courtesy of Kiplinger Library Collection

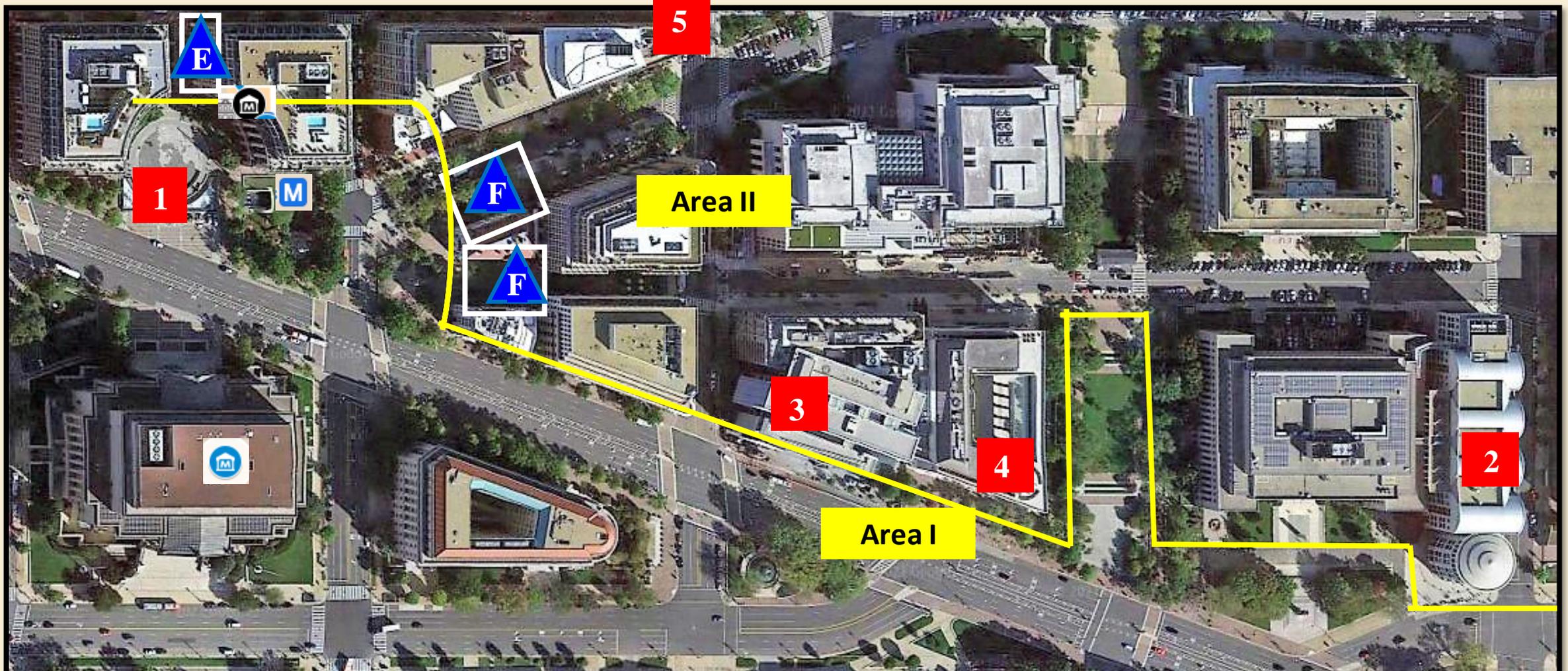
Figure 16

Five Original Republic of Texas Legation Boardinghouse Sites.



Google Earth image

**Figure 17** Red squares with numbers are original Texas Legation sites. Blue triangles with letters are potential sites for the memorial.

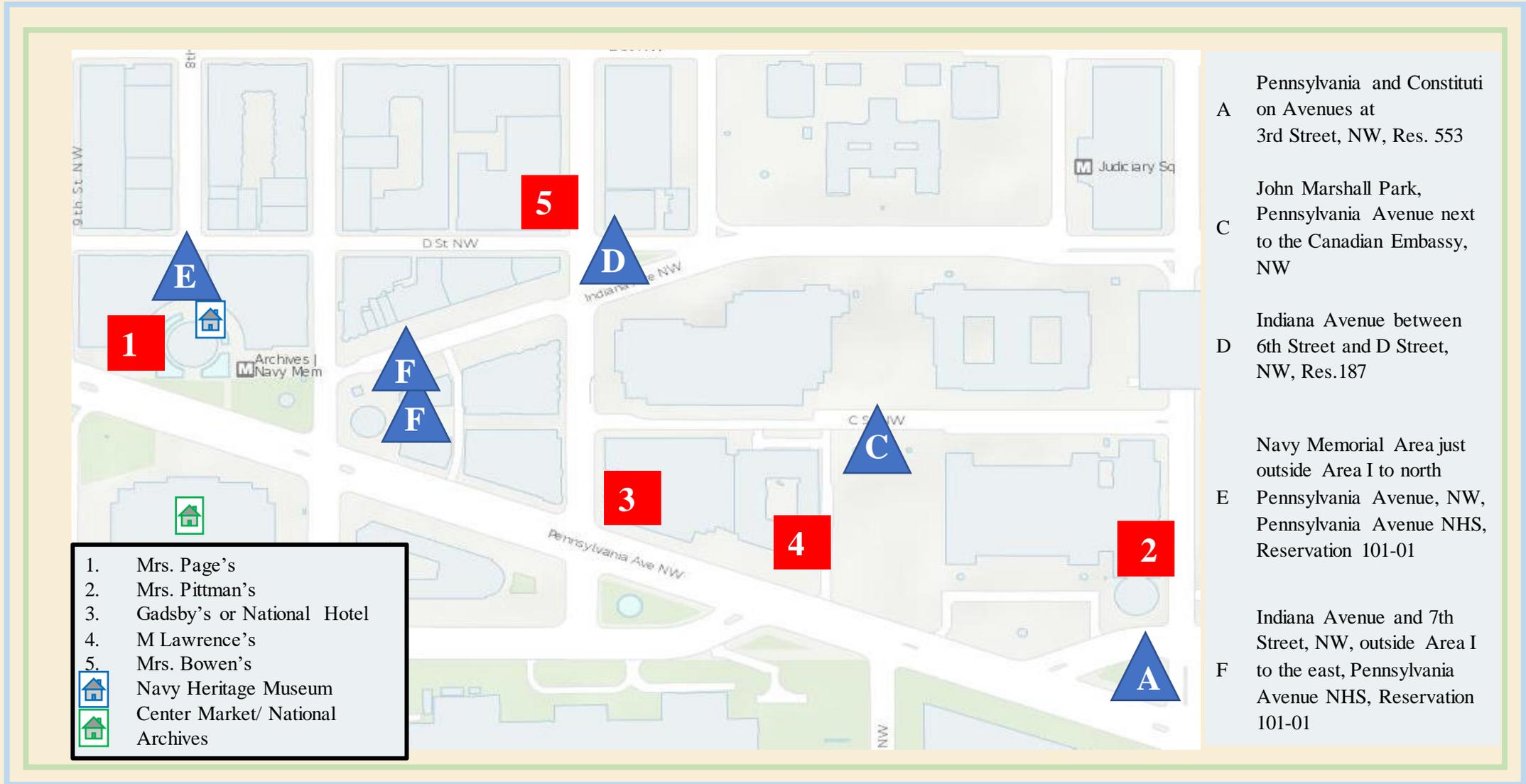


Candidate Site F(Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01) is a potential area to place a memorial to the Republic of Texas Legation and is near five Legation sites. Numbers 1-5 indicate original boardinghouse sites. Candidate Site F spans both Areas I and II, only Area II is being considered. The yellow line is the border between Area I and Area II

Google Earth image

There are five boardinghouse sites in a cluster. All five sites are within an area of 0.03 square miles. This map is like Figure 17 but presented as a map versus a photograph.

**Figure 18**



Numbers are original Texas Legation sites. Letters are candidate sites for the memorial.  
 DC GIS | Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

## Site Selection Study: Other Sites

Figure 19



Potomac River, Chain Bridge  
at Little Falls,  
1839

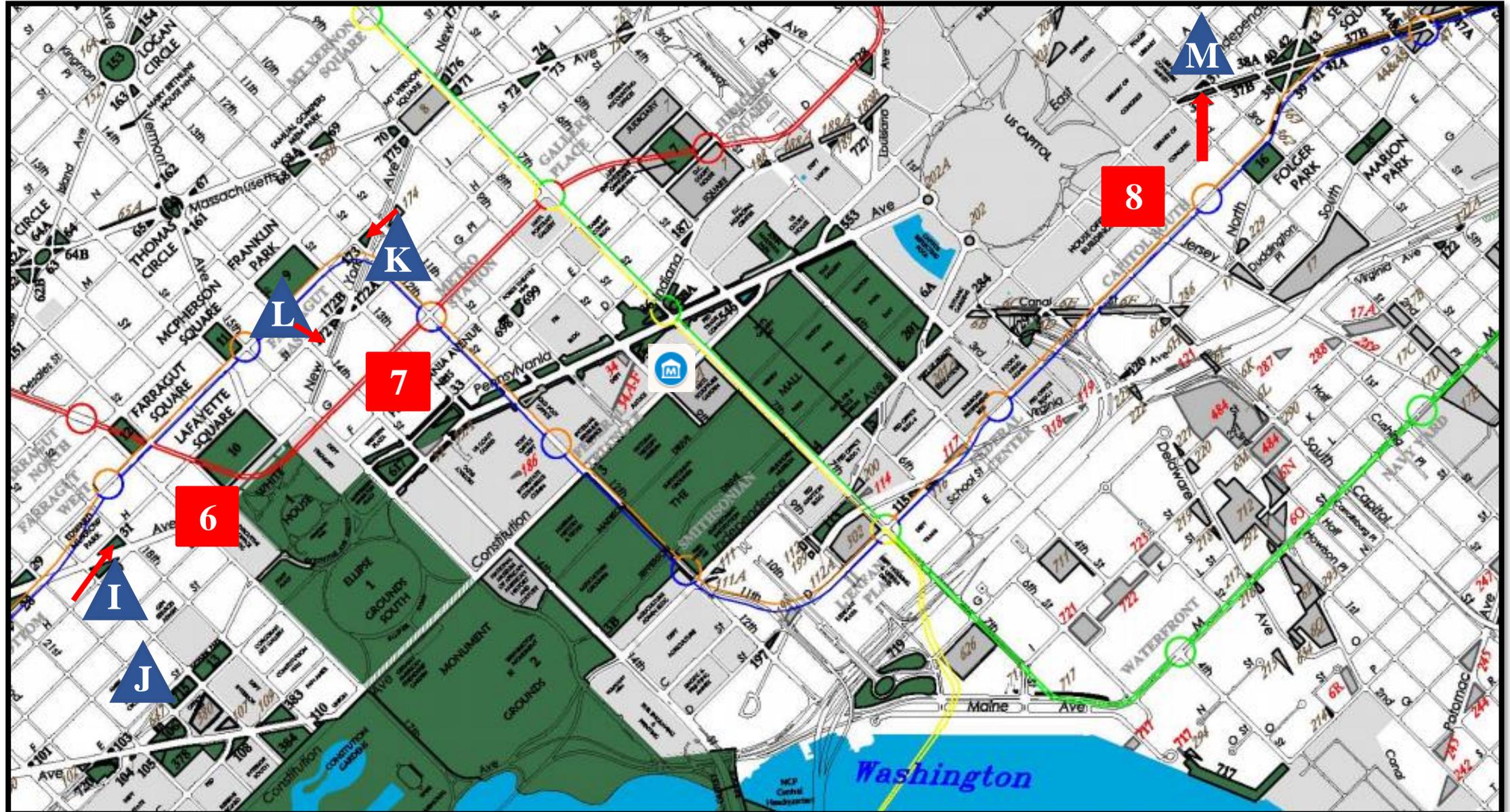
Artist Augustus Kollner

Kollner, Augustus, Artist. *Potomac River, Chain Bridge at Little Falls*. United States Potomac River, 1839.  
Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2004661958/>.

Three original Republic of Texas Legation boardinghouse sites  
are located outside of the cluster of five.

Figure 20

Red squares with a number are original Texas Legation sites. Blue triangle with letters are potential sites for the memorial.



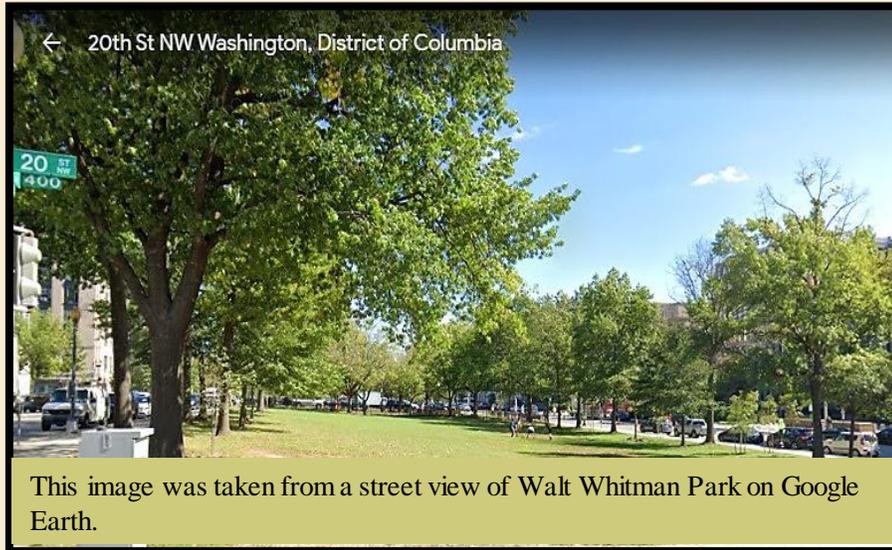
**Figure 21**



**I – Edward R. Murrow Park, Pennsylvania Avenue between 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Streets, NW I/Res. 31**  
**J –Walt Whitman Park, E Street between 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Streets, J/Res. 715**  
**6 - Pennsylvania Avenue between 17<sup>th</sup> Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Street**

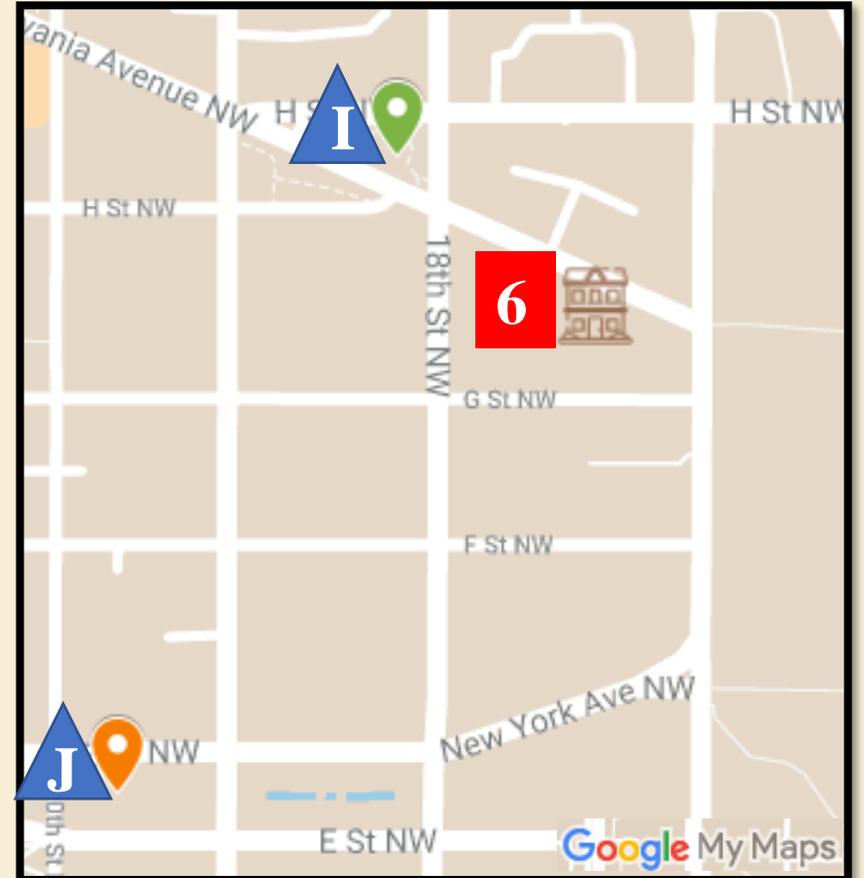
**I/Res. 31**  
**Edward R. Murrow Park**

**Figure 22**



**J/ Res. 715**  
**Walt Whitman Park**

**Figure 23**

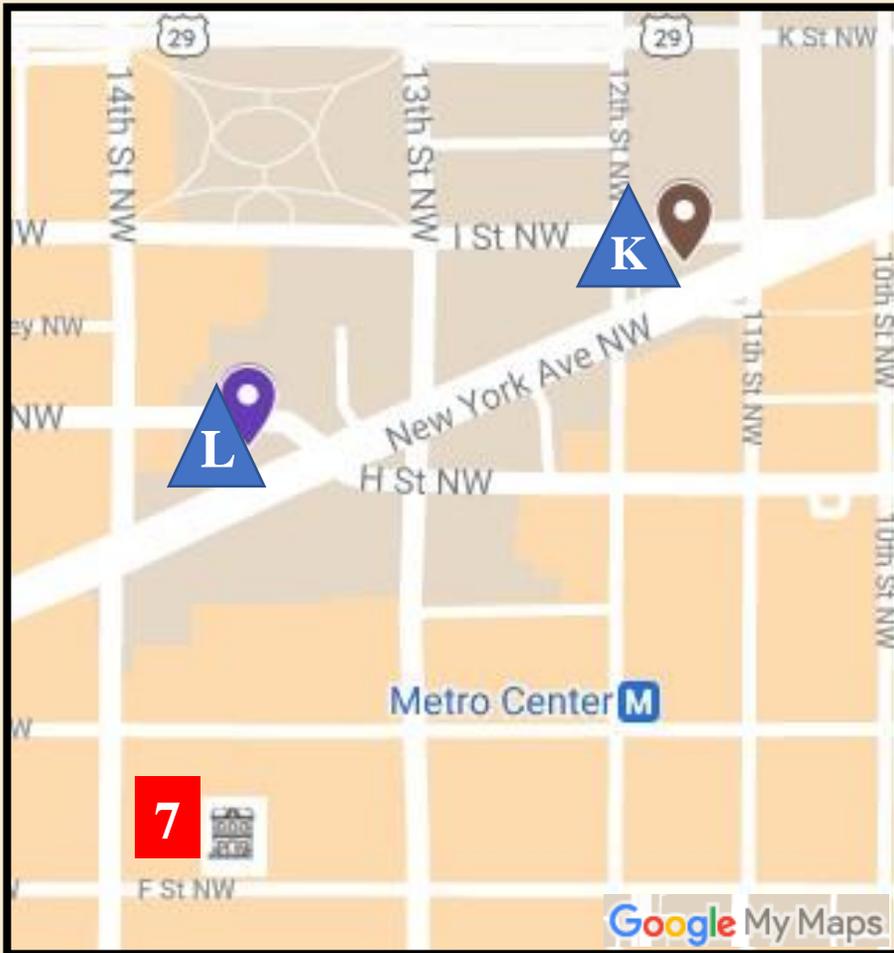


**K/Res. 173-New York Avenue between  
11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets**

**L/Res. 172-The intersection of New York  
Avenue and H Street**

**7 –F Street Between 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets**

**Figure 24**



Numbers are original Republic of Texas Legation sites. Letters are Candidate sites for a memorial.

**Figure 25**

**L/Res. 172**



**Figure 26**

**K/Res. 173**



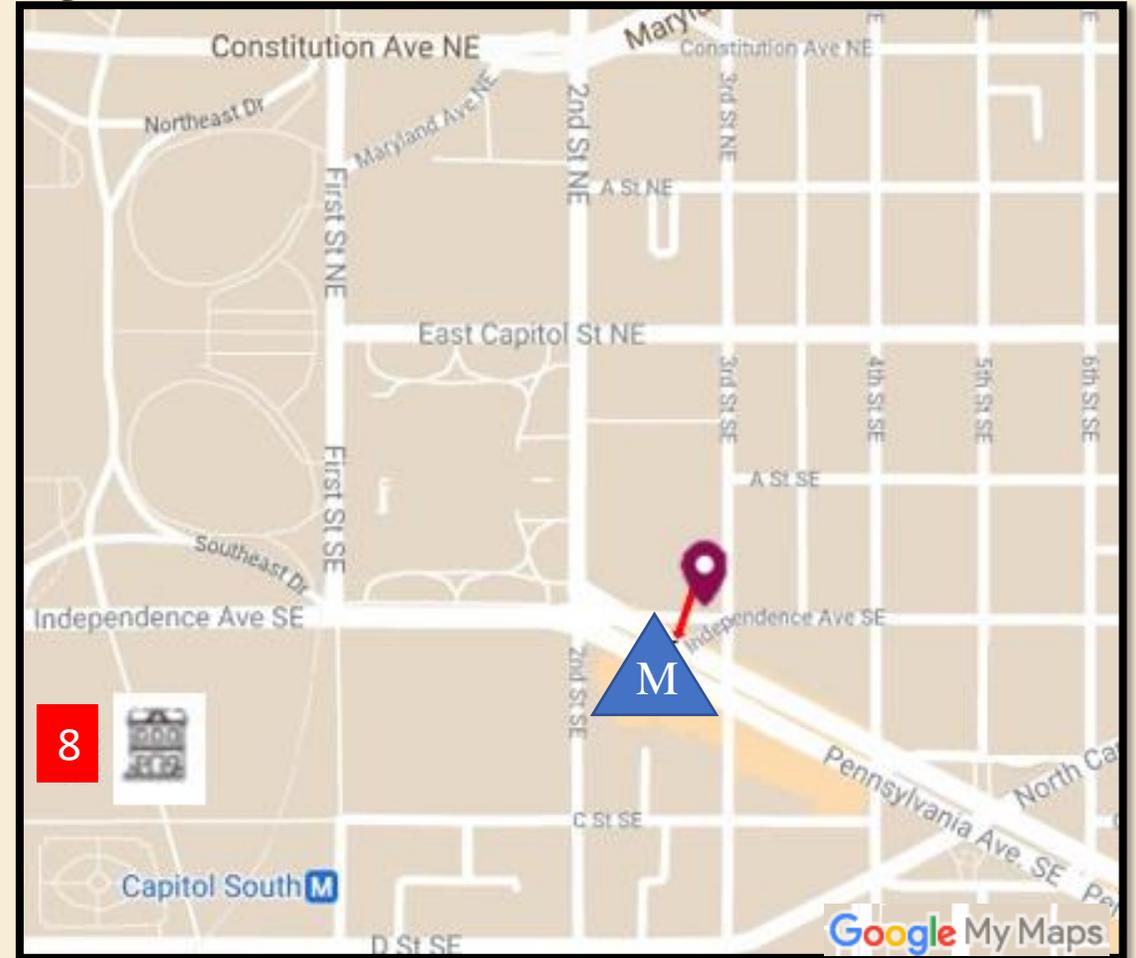
**M/Res. 37**  
**Northeast corner of Pennsylvania**  
**Avenue and Independence Avenue, SE**

8 – New Jersey Avenue and Capitol Hill

**Figure 27**



**Figure 28**



**M/Res. 37**

# Site Selection Study: Site Evaluation Charts

Figure 29



City of Washington from Beyond the  
Navy Yard  
Artist George Cooke,  
1833

Here is a view of Washington City from the Anacostia River. Note the Capitol on the right hill and the White House on the left hill.

Wikimedia Commons contributors, "File:City of Washington from Beyond the Navy Yard by George Cooke, 1833.jpg," *Wikimedia Commons, the free media*

*repository*, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:City\\_of\\_Washington\\_from\\_Beyond\\_the\\_Navy\\_Yard\\_by\\_George\\_Cooke,\\_1833.jpg&oldid=354632717](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:City_of_Washington_from_Beyond_the_Navy_Yard_by_George_Cooke,_1833.jpg&oldid=354632717) (accessed May 17, 2021).

**Figure 30**

**Site Evaluation**

Site	Location	Area I/II	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Site Prominence	Transportation	Universal Accessibility	Tranquility	Shade	Infrastructure	Site Availability
A	Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street, NW, Res. 553	I									
B	Louisiana Avenue, C Street and 1st Street, NW, (already taken by the Peace Corp Commemoration), Res. 25	II									
C	John Marshall Park, Pennsylvania Avenue next to the Canadian Embassy, NW	I									
D	Indiana Avenue Between 6 <sup>th</sup> Street and D Street, NW, Res.187										May not be available
E	Navy Memorial Area just outside Area I to north Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
F	Indiana Avenue and 7th Street, NW, outside Area I to the east, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
G	Navy Memorial sidewalk to 3rd Street, NW	I/II									
I	Edward R. Murrow Park between 18 <sup>th</sup> and 19th Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Res. 31	II									
J	Walt Wittman Park along E Street between 19th and 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Res. 11	II									
K	New York Avenue between 11th and 12th Street, NW, Res. 172	II									
L	New York Avenue and H Street, NW, Res.173	II									
M	Northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Independence Avenue, SE, Res.37	II									
			Suitable	Partly Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Available	Unknown				

**Figure 31**

**Site Evaluation** First Round Elimination – If a site had a box with light blue or dark gray in any of the first three columns, the site was eliminated.

Site	Location	Area I/II	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Site Prominence	Trans- portation	Universal Accessibility	Tranquility	Shade	Infrastructure	Site Availability
A	Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street, NW, Res. 553	I									
B	Louisiana Avenue, C Street and 1st Street, NW, (already taken by the Peace Corp Commemoration), Res. 25	II									
C	John Marshall Park, Pennsylvania Avenue next to the Canadian Embassy, NW	I									
D	Indiana Avenue Between 6 <sup>th</sup> Street and D Street, NW, Res.187	II									
E	Navy Memorial Area just outside Area I to north Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
F	Indiana Avenue and 7th Street, NW, outside Area I to the east, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
G	Navy Memorial sidewalk to 3rd Street, NW,	I/II									
I	Edward R. Murrow Park between 18 <sup>th</sup> and 19th Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Res. 31	II									
J	Walt Wittman Park along E Street between 19th and 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Res. 11	II									
K	New York Avenue between 11th and 12th Street, NW, Res. 172	II									
L	New York Avenue and H Street, NW, Res.173	II									
M	Northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Independence Avenue, SE, Res.37	II									
			Suitable	Partly Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Available	Unknown				

**Figure 32**

**Site Evaluation** Second Round Elimination, If a row has two or more blue and/or gray boxes, that site was eliminated.

Site	Location	Area I/II	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Site Prominence	Transportation	Universal Accessibility	Tranquility	Shade	Infrastructure	Site Availability
A	Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street, NW, Res. 553	I									
B	Louisiana Avenue, C Street and 1st Street, NW, (already taken by the Peace Corp Commemoration), Res. 25	II									
C	John Marshall Park, Pennsylvania Avenue next to the Canadian Embassy, NW	I									
D/187	Indiana Avenue btw 6th Street and D Street NW	II									May not be available
E	Navy Memorial Area just outside Area I to north Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
F	Indiana Avenue and 7th Street, NW, outside Area I to the east, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
G	Navy Memorial sidewalk to 3rd Street, NW	I/II									
I	Edward R. Murrow Park between 18 <sup>th</sup> and 19th Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Res. 31	II									
J	Walt Wittman Park along E Street between 19th and 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Res. 11	II									
K	New York Avenue between 11th and 12th Street, NW, Res. 172	II									
L	New York Avenue and H Street, NW, Res.173	II									
M	Northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Independence Avenue, SE, Res.37	II									
			Suitable	Partly Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Available	Unknown				

**Figure 33**

**Site Evaluation** Third Round Elimination – All Area I sites were eliminated.

Site	Location	Area I/II	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Site Prominence	Transportation	Universal Accessibility	Tranquility	Shade	Infrastructure	Site Availability	
A	Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street, NW, Res. 553	I										
B	Louisiana Avenue, C Street and 1st Street, NW, (already taken by the Peace Corp Commemoration), Res. 25	II										
C	John Marshall Park, Pennsylvania Avenue next to the Canadian Embassy, NW	I										
D	Indiana Avenue Between 6 <sup>th</sup> Street and D Street, NW, Res.187	II									May not be available	
E	Navy Memorial Area just outside Area I to north Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II										
F	Indiana Avenue and 7th Street, NW, outside Area I to the east, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II										
G	Navy Memorial sidewalk to 3rd Street, NW,	I/II										
I	Edward R. Murrow Park between 18 <sup>th</sup> and 19th Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Res. 31	II										
J	Walt Wittman Park along E Street between 19th and 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Res. 11	II										
K	New York Avenue between 11th and 12th Street, NW, Res. 172	II										
L	New York Avenue and H Street, NW, Res.173	II										
M	Northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Independence Avenue, SE, Res.37	II										
			Suitable	Partly Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Available	Unknown					28

**Figure 34**

Prospective sites for further research highlighted in yellow

Site	Location	Area I/II	Program Suitability	Thematic Nexus	Site Prominence	Transportation	Universal Accessibility	Tranquility	Shade	Infrastructure	Site Availability
A	Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues at 3rd Street, NW, Res. 553	I									
B	Louisiana Avenue, C Street and 1st Street, NW, (already taken by the Peace Corp Commemoration), Res. 25	II									
C	John Marshall Park, Pennsylvania Avenue next to the Canadian Embassy, NW	I									
D	Indiana Avenue Between 6 <sup>th</sup> Street and D Street, NW, Res.187	II									May not be available
E	Navy Memorial Area just outside Area I to north Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
F	Indiana Avenue and 7th Street, NW, outside Area I to the east, Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01	II									
G	Navy Memorial sidewalk to 3rd Street, NW,	I/II									
I	Edward R. Murrow Park between 18 <sup>th</sup> and 19th Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Res. 31	II									
J	Walt Wittman Park along E Street between 19th and 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Res. 11	II									
K	New York Avenue between 11th and 12th Street, NW, Res. 172	II									
L	New York Avenue and H Street, NW, Res.173	II									
M	Northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Independence Avenue, SE, Res.37	II									
			Suitable	Partly Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Available	Unknown				

**Figure 35**

Blue triangles with letters are viable memorial sites for the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial.



## Most Viable Memorial Sites for Consideration

- E. Navy Memorial just outside Area I along D Street, NW, is near Mrs. Pages boardinghouse site (Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01)
- F. Indiana Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, is between Mrs. Page's boardinghouse and Gadsby's Hotel (Pennsylvania Avenue NHS, Reservation 101-01)

# Site Selection Study: Viable Site Options

Figure 36



Near Pennsylv. Ave. and 7<sup>th</sup> St. At  
Washington City

Artist Augustus Kollner

Pennsylvania Avenue at 7<sup>th</sup> Street is the address of the Centre Market. Across the street Mrs. Page had a boardinghouse where Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary, diplomat of the Republic of Texas boarded.

Kollner, Augustus, Artist. *Near Pennsylv. Ave. and 7th St. At Washington City*. Washington D.C. United States, 1839. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2004662007/>.

# Figure 37

Site Selection Study- Individual Possible Sites

E - Navy Memorial Area just outside area I to north, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW

1- Mrs. Page’s boardinghouse, opposite Centre Market

Site Criteria	Notes																
Proximity to Original Site/ Program Suitability	One of the original boardinghouse sites was where Memucan Hunt stayed in Washington City, Mrs. Page’s boardinghouse, opposite the Centre Market. Today the National Archives is located where the Centre Market used to be in 1837. Today opposite the National Archives is the National Navy Memorial.																
Thematic Nexus	The <u>1837 Congressional Directory First Session of the Twenty-fifth Congress of the United States of America</u> reads, “General Memucan Hunt, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary, at Mrs. Page’s, opposite Centre Market.”. Mrs. Page placed an advertisement in The Madisonian Newspaper on October 5, 1837, that read, “Mrs. Page’s boardinghouse on Pennsylvania Avenue, opposite the Centre Market. Persons visiting Washington can be comfortably entertained by the day or week” This site can accommodate a small to medium size group of visitors.																
Site Prominence	This area along Pennsylvania Avenue is a popular area. The beautiful Navy Memorial is there, with the National Archives right across the street and beyond that is the National Mall with many Smithsonian museums along the north and south sides. At the Navy Heritage Center, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas have placed a plaque on the Memorial Wall honoring the Republic of Texas Navy. After serving as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to Washington DC, Memucan Hunt served as the Republic of Texas’s Secretary of the Navy.																
Transportation	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Capital bike share</td> <td>Indiana, D Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street</td> <td>Parking meters</td> <td>7<sup>th</sup> Street, Indiana Ave., and 6<sup>th</sup> Sts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commuter Bus Stops</td> <td>At Pennsylvania Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Sts.</td> <td>Parking Garages</td> <td>3 minutes or 2 blocks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metro Bus Stop</td> <td>3 stops in front of Navy Memorial</td> <td>Metro Entrance</td> <td>In front of the Navy Memorial</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major Roads</td> <td>Pennsylvania Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Capital bike share	Indiana, D Street and 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Parking meters	7 <sup>th</sup> Street, Indiana Ave., and 6 <sup>th</sup> Sts	Commuter Bus Stops	At Pennsylvania Avenue and 7 <sup>th</sup> Sts.	Parking Garages	3 minutes or 2 blocks	Metro Bus Stop	3 stops in front of Navy Memorial	Metro Entrance	In front of the Navy Memorial	Major Roads	Pennsylvania Avenue and 7 <sup>th</sup> Street		
Capital bike share	Indiana, D Street and 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Parking meters	7 <sup>th</sup> Street, Indiana Ave., and 6 <sup>th</sup> Sts														
Commuter Bus Stops	At Pennsylvania Avenue and 7 <sup>th</sup> Sts.	Parking Garages	3 minutes or 2 blocks														
Metro Bus Stop	3 stops in front of Navy Memorial	Metro Entrance	In front of the Navy Memorial														
Major Roads	Pennsylvania Avenue and 7 <sup>th</sup> Street																
Universal Accessibility	Visitors from Texas, the United States and foreign countries will visit the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as they do in London and Paris.																
Tranquility	The area between the two buildings at the Navy Memorial has some smaller developing trees, grass, and benches that with some shade from the buildings make this a semi-tranquil area away from the traffic of Pennsylvania Avenue.																
Shade	The main shade will come from the shadows cast by the large buildings.																
Infrastructure	Depending on the exact site there may be a need to place the memorial onto or into the sidewalk or in a planter.																
Site Availability	There are some Area II sites within this area. Additional analysis is needed to determine a more precise location within this potential memorial site area. Site E is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.																

**Figure 38**



**Figure 39**



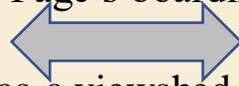
**Figure 40**



**E**–Navy Memorial just outside Area I to the north, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW (Res.101 Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site)

**1**- Mrs. Page’s boardinghouse, opposite Center Market (National Archives)

**Vistas**



Site E has a viewshed to the north to the National Portrait Gallery and American Art Gallery and to the south, to National Archives. From the curb on Pennsylvania Avenue, one can view to the east the US Capitol and to the west the Treasury Building.

Numbers are original Republic of Texas Legation sites. Letters indicate Candidate Sites for a memorial.

**Figure 41**



Site E has an area of interest for a memorial centered along the western side of the courtyard.  
**Figure 42**



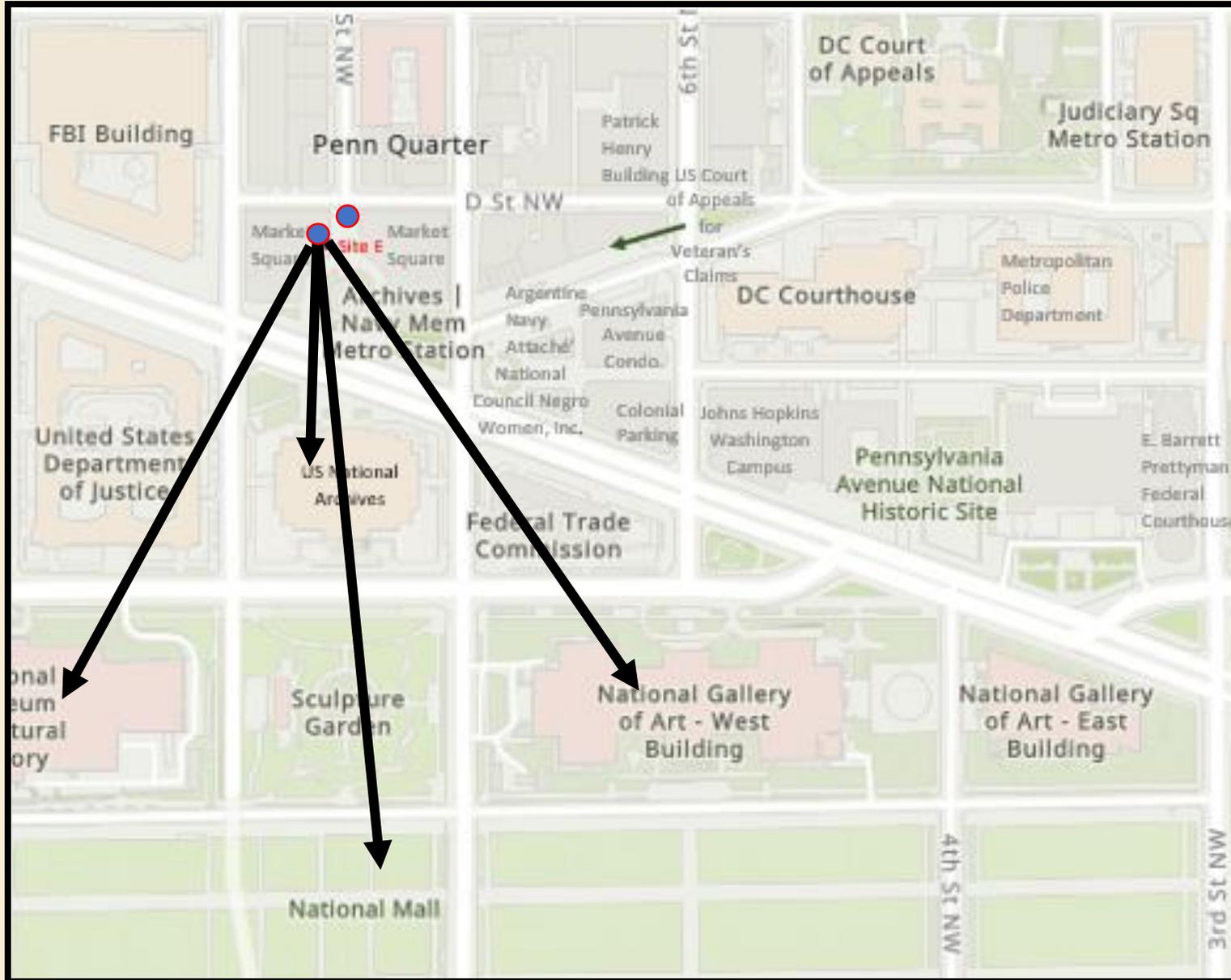
Behind the Navy Memorial is a grass courtyard with concrete benches along the long sides of the grass.

Figure 43

An embedded memorial in the center of the north curb is also a possible idea for Site E.

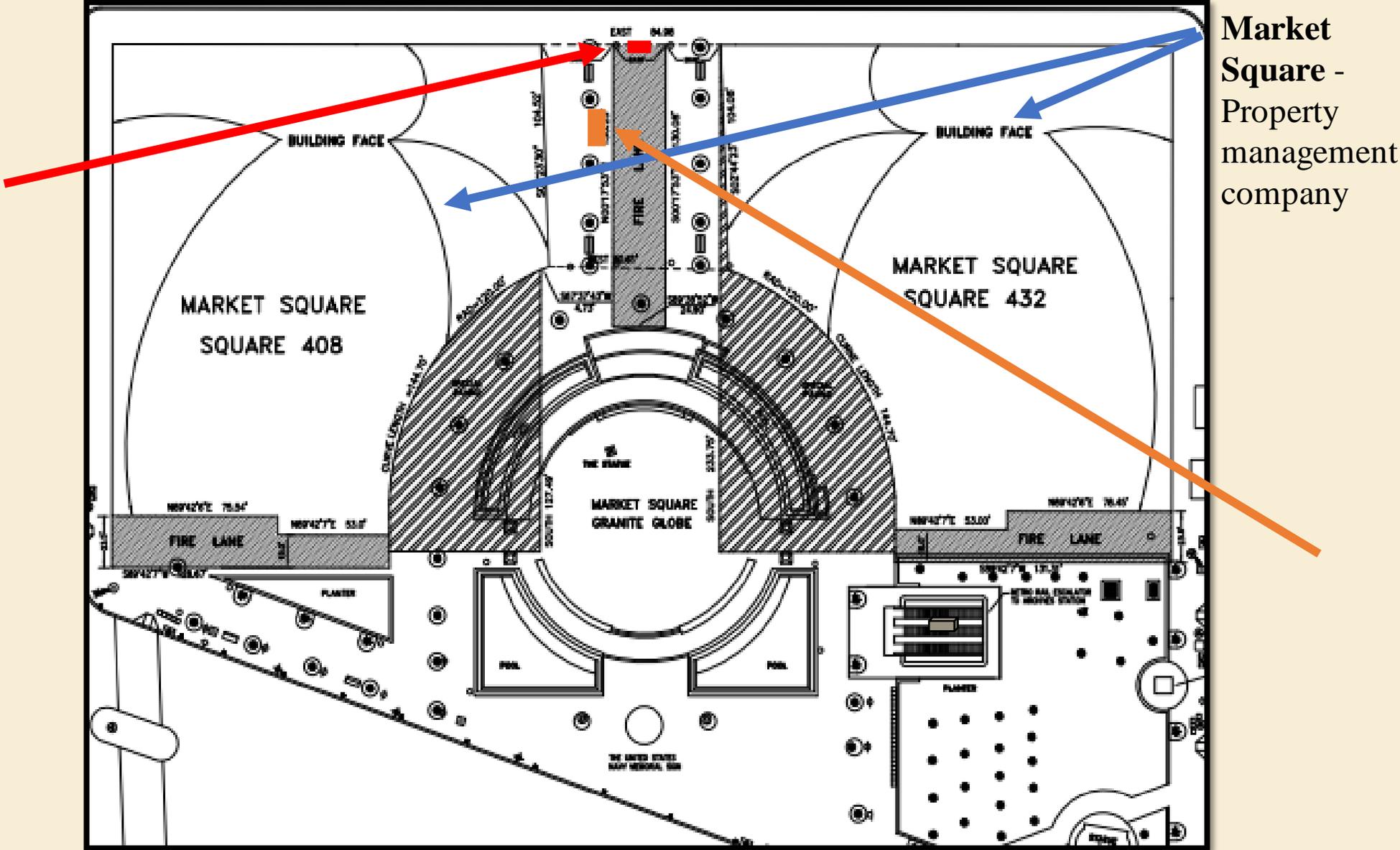


Figure 44 Map of Surrounding Buildings Near Site E



Site E is less than .5 mi from Natural History Museum, National Archives, the National Gallery of Art, and the National Mall.

Figure 45 Site E- NPS map shows ideas for site location.



# Candidate Site E

## Opportunities

1. Meets criteria 1, Site E is within the five original Texas Legation sites cluster. Meets criteria 2, Site E is located near the Texian Navy plaque at the Navy Heritage Center
2. Site will accommodate desired program.
3. Meets eight out of nine the criteria for a Republic of Texas Legation Memorial
4. Candidate Site E has parking, metro bus, Metro, bike share, the national Navy Memorial, the Navy Heritage Center, the National Archives and nearby restaurants.

## Challenges

1. The style of memorial must accommodate the features where it is located. A memorial cannot block foot traffic, its height must not block the viewshed and the area pets must be considered.
2. Site E is in the middle of a viewshed between the National Archives and the old Patent Building
3. As of August 2021, there is a **temporary** orange fence around the grassy area. It is not attractive.
4. Site E is located near a large grassy lawn with little shade from the sun in the summer, except from the buildings around it.
5. The grassy area is the fire lane. The memorial would need to be able to withstand a fire truck driving over it if it is embedded in the curb.

Figure 46

Site Selection Study- Individual Possible Sites

F- Indiana Avenue and 7th Street over to 6<sup>th</sup> Street, NW

1-Mrs. Pages boardinghouse opposite Centre Market (National Archives)

3- Gadsby's Hotel Pennsylvania Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, NW

Site Criteria	Notes																
Proximity to Original Site/ Program Suitability	This site is near three original sites, Gadsby's Hotel, Mrs. Pages and Mrs. Bowen's boardinghouses.																
Thematic Nexus	Site F is near the Gadsby's Hotel or the National Hotel. We have a bill from Newton and Gadsby's for a room for \$66. Newton and Gadsby was the same hotel as Gadsby's Hotel. The 1842 National Hotel advertisement in <u>Craig's Business Directory and Baltimore Almanac</u> , Washington City Section lists Newton and Gadsby as the proprietors of The National Hotel at "Pa av. corner 6th St."																
Site Prominence	This area is next to the National Navy Memorial, Pennsylvania Avenue, and 7 <sup>th</sup> Street to 6 <sup>th</sup> Street																
Transportation	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Capital bike share</td> <td>Indiana and 6<sup>th</sup> Street</td> <td>Major Roads</td> <td>Pennsylvania Ave and 7<sup>th</sup> Street Major Rd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commuter Bus Stops</td> <td>At Pennsylvania Ave and 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Sts.</td> <td>Parking meters</td> <td>Along 7<sup>th</sup> St, Indiana Ave., and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metro Bus Stop</td> <td>3 stops in front of the Navy Memorial</td> <td>Parking Garages</td> <td>3 minutes or 1 1/2 blocks</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Metro entrance</td> <td>Less than 1 block at Navy Memorial</td> </tr> </table>	Capital bike share	Indiana and 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Major Roads	Pennsylvania Ave and 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Major Rd	Commuter Bus Stops	At Pennsylvania Ave and 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> Sts.	Parking meters	Along 7 <sup>th</sup> St, Indiana Ave., and 6 <sup>th</sup> Streets	Metro Bus Stop	3 stops in front of the Navy Memorial	Parking Garages	3 minutes or 1 1/2 blocks			Metro entrance	Less than 1 block at Navy Memorial
Capital bike share	Indiana and 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Major Roads	Pennsylvania Ave and 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Major Rd														
Commuter Bus Stops	At Pennsylvania Ave and 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> Sts.	Parking meters	Along 7 <sup>th</sup> St, Indiana Ave., and 6 <sup>th</sup> Streets														
Metro Bus Stop	3 stops in front of the Navy Memorial	Parking Garages	3 minutes or 1 1/2 blocks														
		Metro entrance	Less than 1 block at Navy Memorial														
Universal Accessibility	Visitors from Texas, the United States and foreign countries will visit the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as they do in London and Paris.																
Tranquility	There are trees growing in this area. The trees provide a tranquil space visually. Between the buildings is less traffic noise than out by Pennsylvania Avenue.																
Shade	There is some shade from the buildings and trees.																
Infrastructure	Depending on the exact site there may be a need to place the memorial onto or into the sidewalk or in a planter.																
Site Availability	Site F is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.																

# Map of Surrounding Buildings Near Sites F

Site F is less than .5 mi from Natural History Museum, National Archives, the National Gallery of Art, and many other cultural and science museums.

Figure 47







Indiana Avenue under NPS jurisdiction, arrows indicate possible memorial site.

Candidate Site F on Indiana Avenue

Figure 50

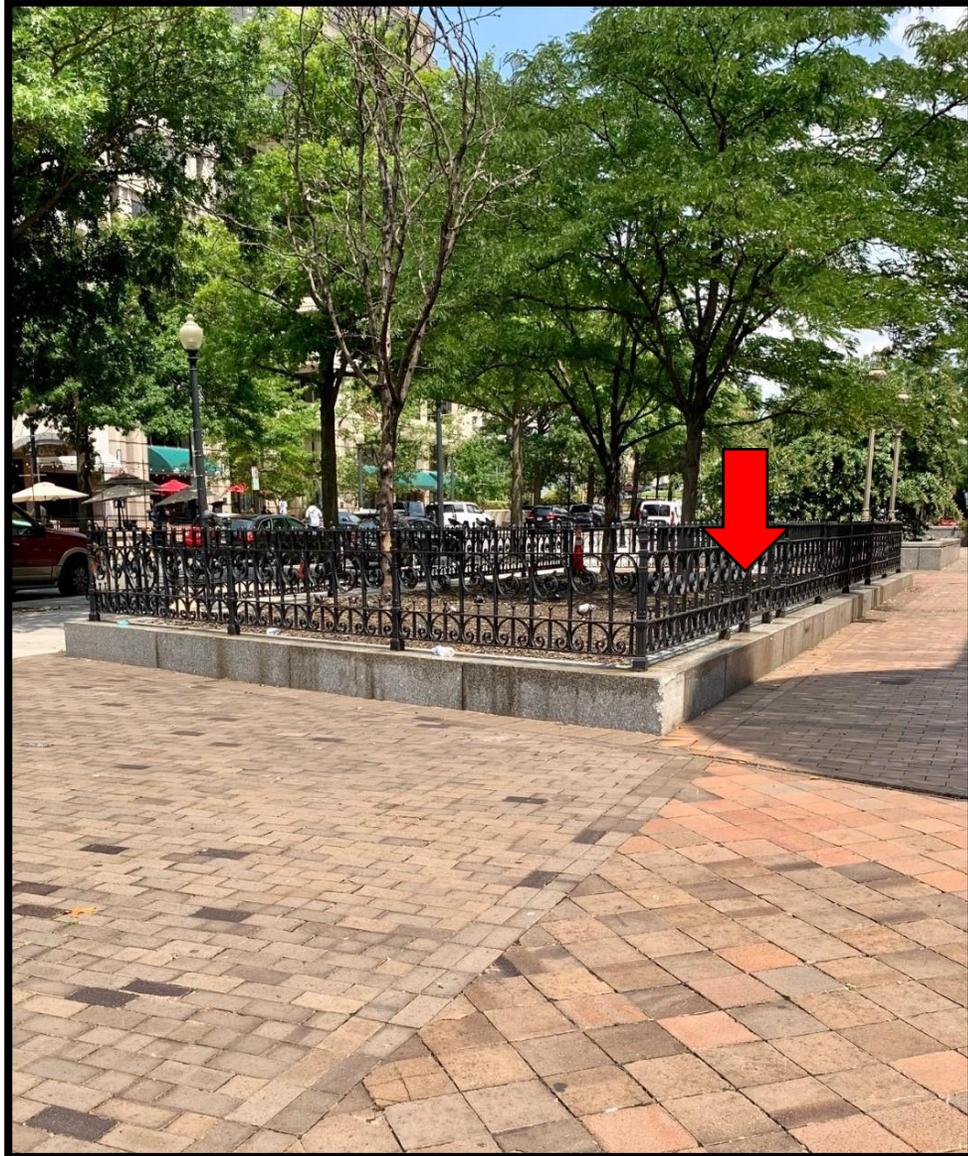


Figure 51



Indiana Avenue under NPS jurisdiction, red arrows indicate possible memorial sites.

# Candidate Site F on Indiana Avenue

## Opportunities

1. Meets criteria 1, Site F is near five original Texas Legation sites and located near the Texian Navy plaque at the Navy Heritage Center.
2. Site F will accommodate the desired program.
3. Meets eight out of nine criteria for the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial. Indiana Avenue is a busy street but the shade and trees give you sense of a semi-tranquil environment.
4. Site F, on Indiana Avenue, has two planters along the south side of Indiana Avenue. One planter has mulch and a two and one half-foot-high decorative fence. The smaller planter has two small trees and some bushes.

## Challenges

1. Site F on Indiana Avenue, may encroach on the Argentine Navy Attaché.
2. Both planters may need a small amount of landscaping.
3. The smaller planter is damaged on the side facing the fire lane, on the corner.

Figure 52

Candidate Site F on *Indiana Plaza*



Argentine Navy Attaché

Viewshed to  
*Indiana Plaza*

Figure 53



National Council of  
Negro Women, Inc.

Figure 54

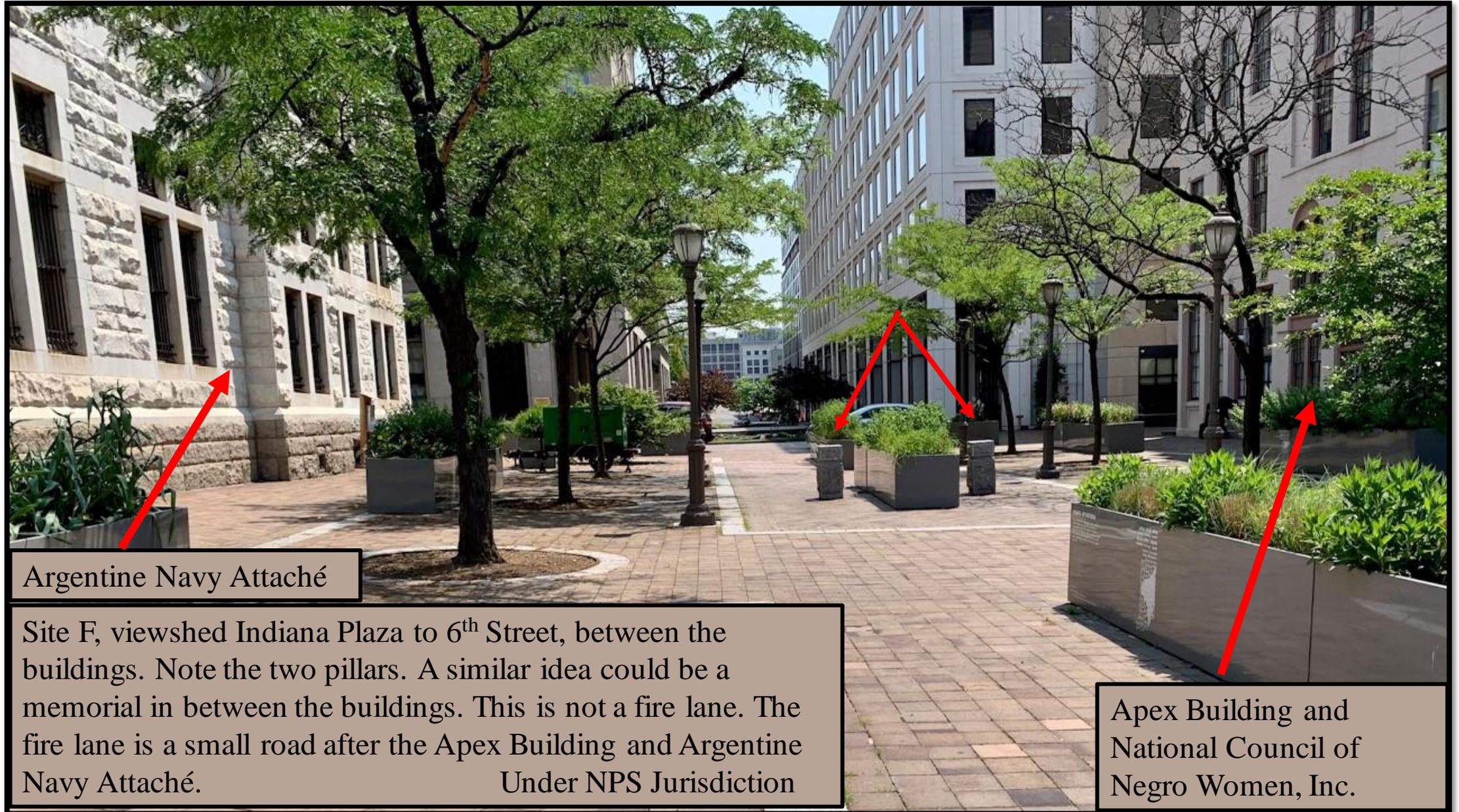
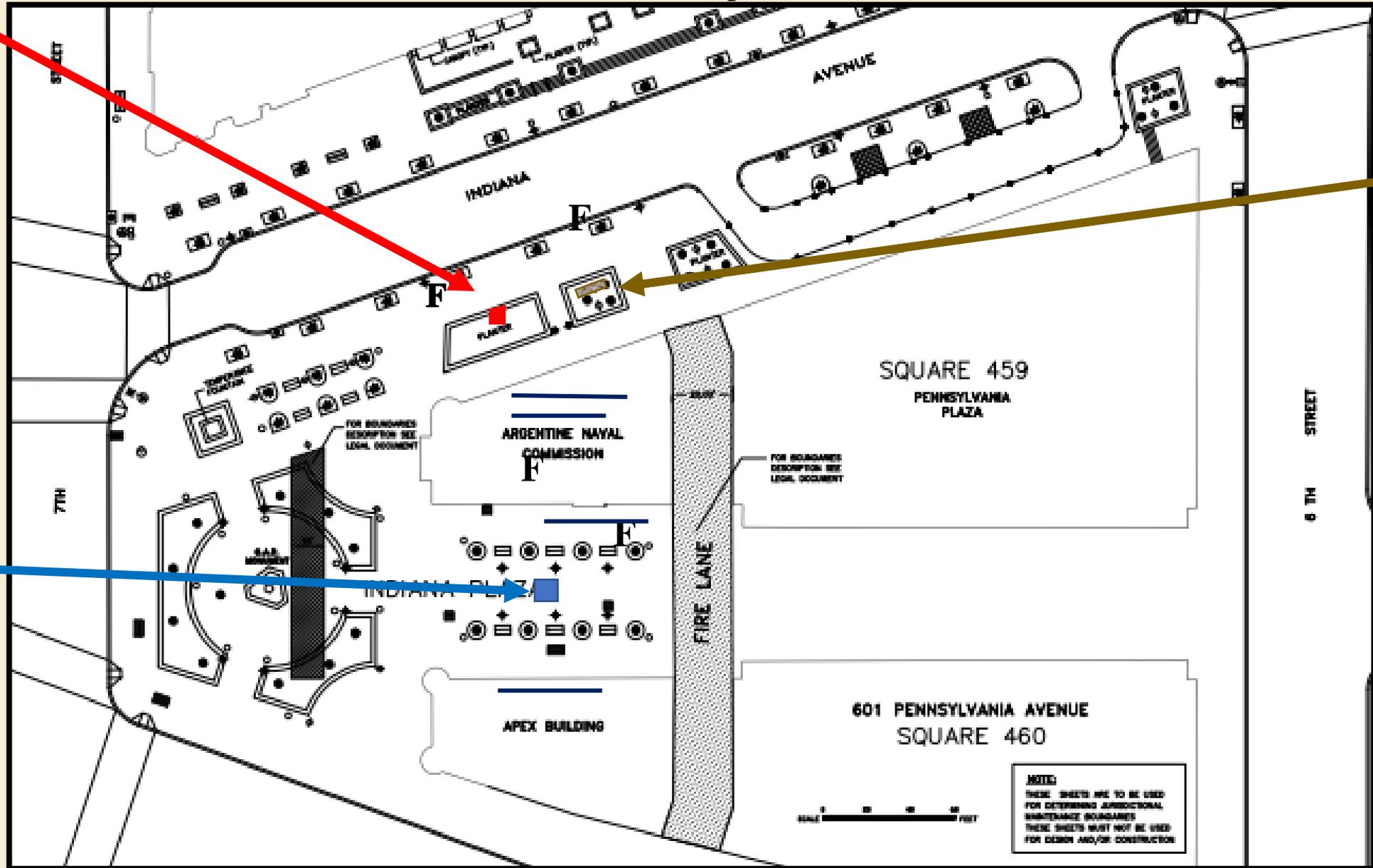


Figure 55

Indiana Avenue/Indiana Plaza with possible ideas for the memorial



# Candidate Site F on Indiana *Plaza*

## Opportunities

1. Meets criteria 1, Site F is near five original Texas Legation sites and located near the Texian Navy plaque at the Navy Heritage Center.
2. Site will accommodate desired program.
3. Meets eight out of nine criteria for the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial. Indiana Avenue is a busy street but the shade, and trees give you a sense of a semi-tranquil environment.
4. . Candidate Site E has parking, metro bus, Metro, bike share, the national Navy Memorial, the Navy Heritage Center, the National Archives and nearby restaurants.

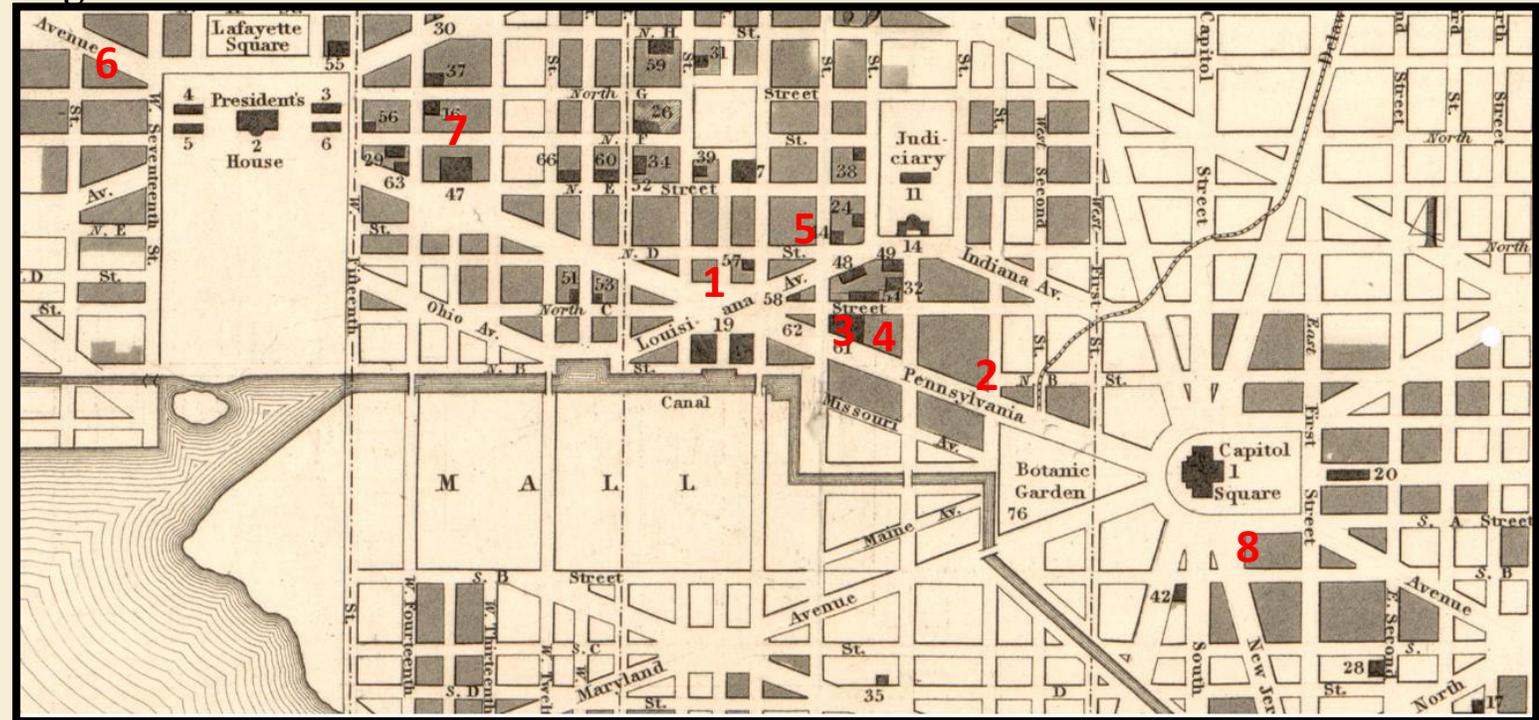
## Challenges

1. Site F on Indiana Plaza may encroach on the Argentine Navy Attaché.
2. Need to be mindful of placing a site in this area that is part of the African American Heritage Trail (The National Council of Negro Women).
3. Colton Atlas, 1855, shows the location of several places located near the National Mall where slaves were auctioned. One site was on square 460 which is the building where The National Council of Negro Women is located today. See Appendix 3. Perhaps a memorial along Indiana Avenue would be more appropriate than in Plaza.

**Pennsylvania Avenue** was designed to be the nation's "Main Street". Pierre Charles L'Enfant called it "The Grand Avenue". It connects the three branches of the United States government.

**Figure 56**

- 1. Mrs. Page's
- 2. Mrs. Pittman's
- 3. Gadsby's or National Hotel
- 4. M Lawrence's
- 5. Mrs. Bowen's
- 6. One Sq W of the War Dept
- 7. F Street btw 13th & 14th St
- 8. Mr. Underwood's
-  Navy Heritage Center
-  Center Market/ Nat Archives



Pictured above is an 1836 close-up map of the President's House, the Capitol, Pennsylvania Avenue, Center Market, Market Square, Indiana Avenue, know as Louisiana Avenue in 1836. Note the open canal running behind Center Market. The canal still exists under Constitution Avenue. In 1836 the canal smelled foul. The streets were dirty with deep ruts and when it rained the streets were muddy. Slaves were bought and sold in some hotels and in a corner of Center Market. Brothels existed on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue. Today this "Grand Avenue" is a place for celebrating inaugurations, war victories, funerals, parades and a place for peacefully protesting injustice.

Figure 57



Artist Augustus Kollner is looking from Center Market across Pennsylvania Avenue, 1839.

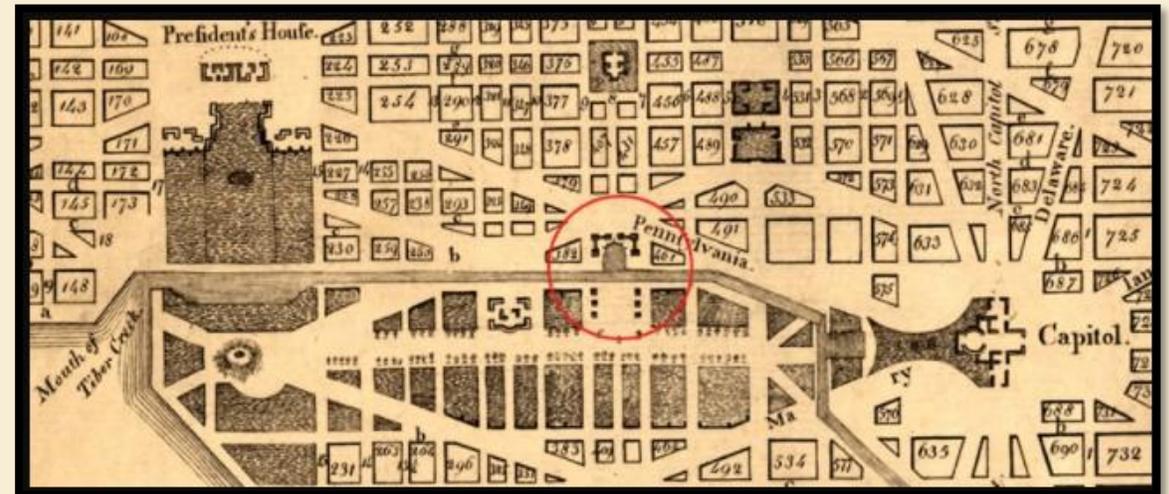
## Center Market and Market Square

Figure 58



Center Market c. 1920. Source: Library of Congress.

Figure 59



Pierre Charles L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the District of Columbia included a two-acre market that was open from 1801 to 1930.

**Figure 60 Early Images of Indiana Plaza and what is today know as Indiana Avenue**



**Figure 61**



HIGH WATER CAUSED BY JOHNSTOWN FLOOD IN 1889  
7TH AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, WASHINGTON, D. C., CENTER MARKET TO THE RIGHT

“The ST. MARC HOTEL” (on the right) “was established in 1865 by John H. Semmes. It became one of the foremost hotels in Washington. Under Semmes' proprietorship, rooms at the ST. MARC rented for \$1-\$2 per night for a single room and \$2-\$3 for a double room. H. C. Bowers secured a lease from Semmes in 1879 after which he completely remodeled and refurnished the building. John F. Fitzgerald became the proprietor of the hotel in 1885 and remained with it until the building was purchased by The Central National Bank in 1887. A commercial guide to Washington published in 1887 noted the ST. MARC's "...elegant apportionments, fine cuisine, and unsurpassed location, being in close proximity to several lines of streetcars and the center of the business part of the city.” HABS DC-229, 1965

**Flood of 1889, 7<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue**

*The Washington Post* observed that: "At various points photographers were busy, and no doubt in a few days views will be on sale, preserving the scenes for future generations." (author's collection).

John DeFerrari, Streets of Washington,  
[November 16, 2020](#)

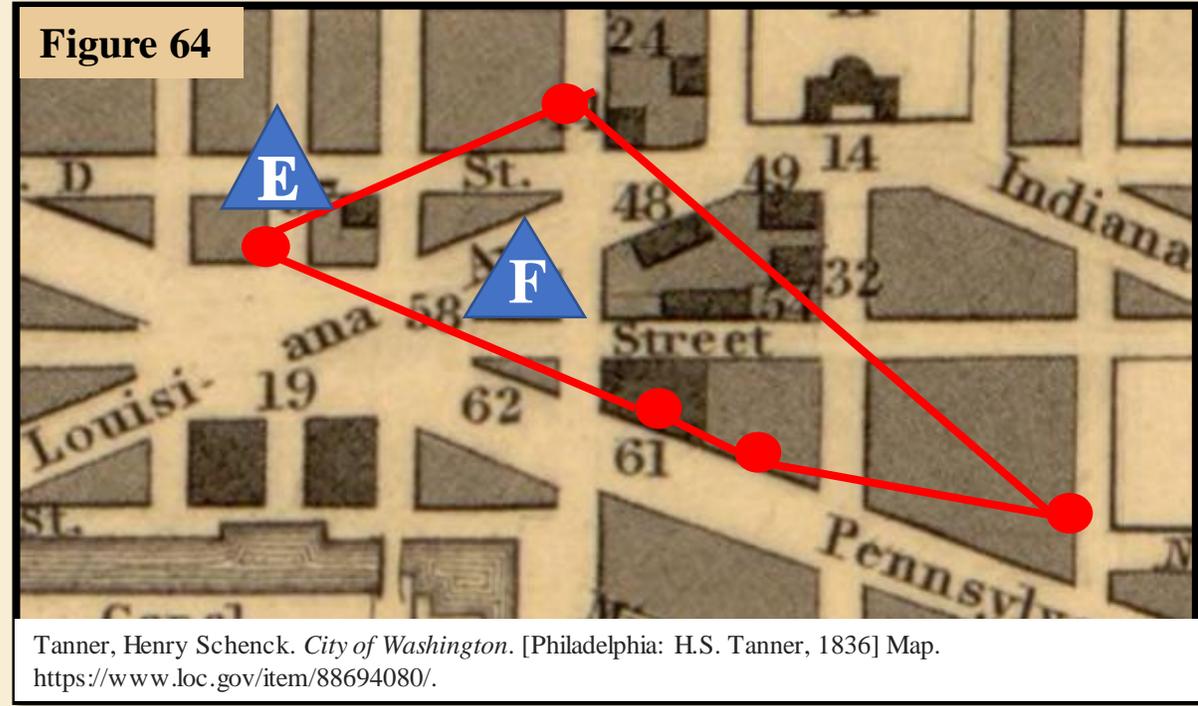
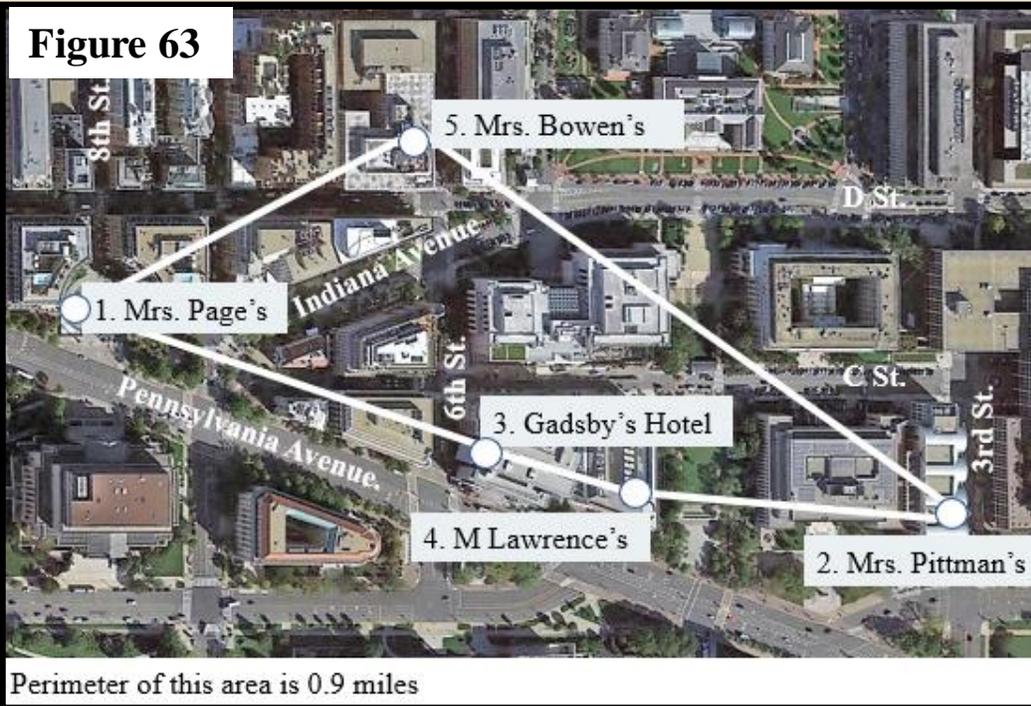
**Figure 62**



Figures 62 and 64 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division  
Washington, D.C. 20540 USA <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

“The Central National Bank Building has stood at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and C Street since the mid-1860’s.”, In 1945, the ground floor was leased by the Apex Liquor store.

The structure was renovated again by 1984 by Sears, and now houses the headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women.



Tanner, Henry Schenck. *City of Washington*. [Philadelphia: H.S. Tanner, 1836] Map. <https://www.loc.gov/item/88694080/>.

### Conclusion

- E and F are part of five boardinghouse sites within area of 0.03 square miles
- The Navy Heritage Center houses a memorial plaque for Texian Navy and commemorates Memucan Hunt as one of the Republic of Texas' Secretary of the Texian Navy and Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to the United States
- Candidate Sites E and F have parking nearby, access to metro bus, access to Metro, a bike share station nearby, many Federal and District offices, and many museums and restaurants
- Sites E and F both meet eight out of nine criteria for a memorial. Sites E and F on Indiana Avenue maybe better choices, out of consideration of the Nation Council of Negro Women, Inc, The African American Heritage Trail, and a slave auction that existed at Site F at Indiana Plaza.

# Site Selection Study: Appendix

Figure 64



In Washington City

Artist Augustus Kollner,  
1839

Washington was a small town during the time when the Texas Legation came to Washington. While streets and squares were already mapped out, animals could graze and wander in open spaces.

Kollner, Augustus, Artist. *In Washington City*. Washington D.C. United States, 1839. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2004661954/>.



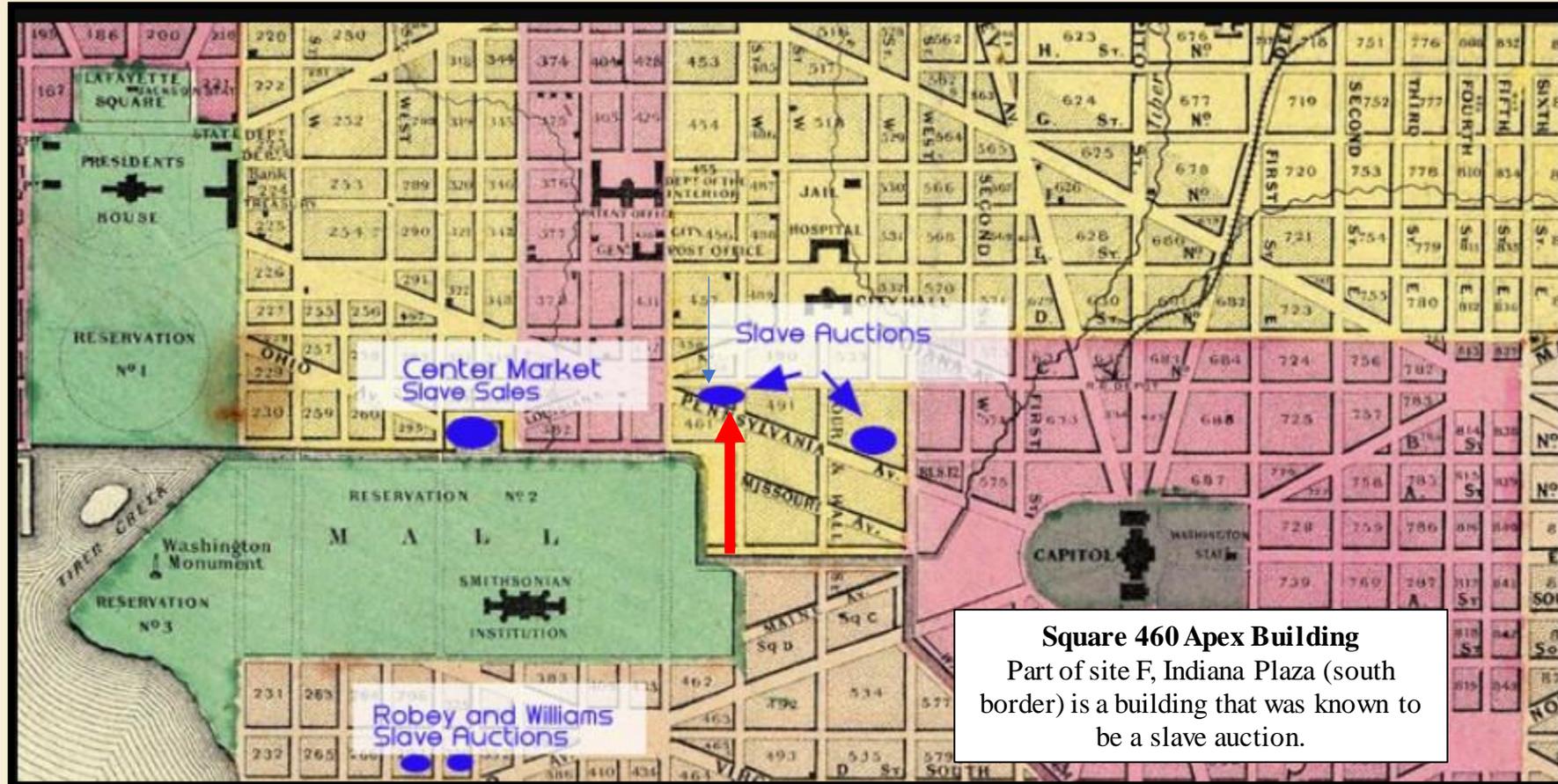
**Commemorative Plaques  
honoring the  
Republic of Texas Legations  
in London and Paris**

## Appendix 2

<b>Parking near prospective memorial sites</b>		
<b>Garage</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Colonial Parking</b>	607 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20004	Around the corner from Original Site 7
<b>Colonial Parking</b>	2000 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20006 (202) 728-0251	Near Original Site 6 Memorial Site I and J
<b>Colonial Parking</b>	601 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20004 (202) 298-7298	Near Original Sites 3 and 4 C, D, E and F
<b>Central Parking</b>	601 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004 (202) 496-4200	Near Original Sites 3 and 4
<b>Near Reagan Building</b>	1301 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004 (202) 638-4760	Near Original site 7
<b>City Center Parking</b>	800 10th St NW, Ste 600, Washington, DC 20001 (202) 289-9000	Original Site 7 Near Memorial K
<b>Parking Management</b>	1729 G St NW, Washington, DC 20006 (202) 347-5468	In the block of Original Site 6 Memorial Site Edward R Murrow Park I
<b>Parking Management</b>	875 D St NW Washington, DC 20004 (202) 785-9191	Near Original Site 1 Memorial Sites E and F
<b>LAZ Parking</b>	600 E St NW Washington, DC 20004 (202) 667-3030	Original Site 5 Memorial Site D
<b>National Parking Place</b>	560 13th St NW Washington, DC 20045 (202) 347-4426	Near Original Site 7 Memorial Site
<b>SP+ Parking</b>	101 Constitution Ave. NW Washington, DC 20001 (202) 589-0545	Near Original Site 2 Memorial Sites A and B
<b>PMI</b>	1325 G St. NW Washington, DC 20005 (202) 347-2914	Near Original Site 7 Memorial Site L
<b>Parking Garage</b>	1750 E St NW Washington, DC 20006	Memorial Site J

“Colton Atlas, 1855, showing former sites of slave trade bordering the National Mall”

### Appendix 3



### Citation

G. W. Colton, “Colton Atlas, 1855, showing former sites of slave trade bordering the National Mall,” *Histories of the National Mall*, accessed September 2, 2021, <http://mallhistory.org/items/show/267>.