



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Mall and Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024-2000

May 1, 2015

Mr. David Maloney
State Historic Preservation Officer
District of Columbia, Office of Planning
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650
Washington D.C. 20024

Subject: Development of World War I Memorial in General John J. Pershing Park- Initiation of Section 106 Consultation

Dear Mr. Maloney:

The World War I Centennial Commission, per authorization of Public Laws 112-272 and 113-291 and in cooperation with the National Park Service (NPS), proposes to develop a permanent memorial in Pershing Park honoring the service of members of the United States Armed Forces during World War I. The NPS would like to formally initiate consultation for this undertaking with the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office, in accordance with 36CFR800.3 of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

On December 19, 2014, Congress enacted Public Law 113-291 Section 3091, which officially redesignated Pershing Park as a "World War I Memorial." The law calls for the enhancement of the site to honor the service of members of the United States Armed Forces in World War I and may include commemorative elements such as sculptural and overall landscape design. The project area, formerly known as Pershing Park, is located one block to the southeast of the White House and is bounded by Pennsylvania Avenue NW to both the north and south, and 15th Street NW and 14th Street NW to the west and east, respectively. This site is also a component of the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site, an administrative unit of the National Park Service (NPS) and managed by the National Mall and Memorial Parks. The World War I Centennial Commission (the Commission) is a Congressionally-established organization responsible for planning, developing, and executing programs, projects and activities to commemorate the centennial of World War I. The Commission, along with the National Park Service (NPS), and in cooperation with the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) is responsible for the overall planning, design and construction of the new Memorial, and once completed, The Secretary of the Interior, through the NPS, will assume responsibility for administering the site.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the NPS will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify alternatives and analyze impacts potentially resulting from the establishment of the proposed memorial. Concurrent to the NEPA process, the NPS and the Commission will conduct consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA). The NPS plans to consult with the public per 36 CFR 800.3(e) by holding public informational meetings and through its Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website (parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=58434). The NPS anticipates that these outreach efforts will accommodate the requirements of both NEPA and the Section 106 process. To that end the

NPS and the Commission will hold a public scoping meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. at the Jones Day offices, located at 51 Louisiana Avenue NW, in Washington, D.C. During this open house, the project team will be available to discuss alternatives and site characteristics. As part of the consultation process with the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office, you or a member of your staff are cordially invited to attend the scoping meeting and offer comments.

Although we have initially drafted a proposed area of potential effect (APE) for this project (see attachment), we have not made a determination of effect. However, the site is within the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site National Register District and contains the General John J. Pershing Memorial, which consists of a statue of Pershing with a bench and two inscribed walls. We are also aware that this project may affect other National Register eligible or listed properties.

We look forward to working with you on this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Dewey, Chief of Resource Management, at catherine_dewey@nps.gov.








Sincerely,



Karen L. Cucurullo
Acting Superintendent
National Mall and Memorial Parks
Attachment

World War I Memorial - Draft Area of Potential Effects

LEGEND

-  Project Site
-  Draft Area of Potential Effect (APE)
-  Lafayette Square Historic District
-  Fifteenth Street Financial Historic District
-  Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site
-  Federal Triangle Historic District
-  Individually Listed Historic Properties

1. Stephen Decatur House
2. Lafayette Square
3. Cutts-Madison House (Dolly Madison House)
4. Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House
5. Union Trust Company
6. Treasury Annex
7. Riggs National Bank
8. American Security and Trust Company
9. Rheim & Hensley Building
10. Hibbs Building (Folger Building)
11. National Savings and Trust Company (National Safe Deposit Company)
12. Bond Building
13. Commercial National Bank
14. Riggs Building (Albee Building)
15. National Metropolitan Bank
16. Garfinckel's (Julius Garfinckel & Co.)
17. Federal-American National Bank
18. Westory Building
19. Hotel Washington
20. Willard Hotel
21. Warner Theater Building
22. Evening Star Building
23. Old Post Office and Clock Tower
24. District Building (John A. Wilson Bldg)
25. Washington Monument
26. Bullfinch Gatehouses / Gateposts
27. The Ellipse (President's Park South)
28. U.S. Department of the Treasury Building
29. White House and Grounds
30. U.S. State, War, and Navy Building (Old Executive Office Building)
31. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
32. Blair House
33. Renwick Gallery
34. American Peace Society (Charles Glover House)

