

Memorandum of Agreement Status Report to Consulting Parties, September 2023

Rehabilitation of the Lincoln Memorial

The following status report provides updates on the progress of mitigations measures as outlined in the 2018 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the National Park Service (NPS), the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) regarding the rehabilitation of the Lincoln Memorial. Additional project materials are available at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/LincolnMemorialRehab>.

Stipulations and Status Report

1. **Design Review.** The NPS shall review the proposed final design documentation focusing on any changes from the design as presented at the February 21, 2018, Consulting Parties meeting, and make a determination as to whether the proposed final design may result in new adverse effects that have not already been resolved and/or the intensification of known adverse effects on historic properties. If the NPS determines that a new or intensified adverse effect will result, the Signatories will consult further to determine whether additional mitigation and/or an amendment to this MOA will be necessary. Any such amendment will be addressed in accordance with Administration Stipulation d.

Status: NPS has continued consultation on design refinements and developments, specifically on temporary accessibility and comfort measures. To accommodate accessibility into the chamber, a temporary ramp will be installed on the east stairs to allow for visitor access throughout the duration of the rehabilitation project while the elevators are being replaced. The elevators will remain operable until construction of the ramp is complete.

2. **Bronze Door and Masonry Preservation and Documentation.** The NPS shall retain the bronze doors and representative samples of the existing granite and concrete block that will be removed as part of the installation of the new 72-inch doors. The bronze doors and the representative granite samples will be added to the park museum collection in accordance to Director's Order 24: NPS Museum Collections Management and stored at the Museum Resource Center in Landover, Maryland. Prior to the removal of the existing bronze doors, the NPS shall complete HABS documentation for existing conditions of the north and south plazas, including the east elevations of the Lincoln Memorial.

Status: The historic north bronze door installed in 1927 will be removed and accessioned into the museum collection. HABS documentation was completed in February 2023.

3. **Historic Structure/Landscape Preservation Maintenance Plan.** Based on the historical documentation, analysis and treatment recommendations documented through the preparation of the West Potomac Park–Lincoln Memorial Grounds Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) and the Lincoln Memorial Historic Structure Assessment Report (HSAR), the NPS shall within seven (7) years of the

execution of this agreement develop a preservation maintenance plan to guide the long-term care and stewardship of the historic structure and cultural landscape. The plan will prescribe maintenance procedures, techniques, strategies, and schedules that focus on preserving important individual features and the overall character of the memorial and landscape. The plan will facilitate maintenance operations by integrating preservation recommendations and guidance provided in the CLR and HSAR with field activities.

Status: As funds are unavailable, there are no updates for this mitigation.

4. **Conserve and Protect Historic Graffiti.** The NPS shall conserve and protect the graffiti in the undercroft that dates to the period of construction (see Appendix E) through the following: (a) creating an archival record of the graffiti, which allows for a permanent record of the graffiti as a resource for future research, mitigation against loss or damage to the original, and use as a management tool to monitor both the graffiti and substrate. (b) securing the graffiti from deterioration and vandalism.

Status: The graffiti found in the undercroft has been secured during the construction process. An archival record of the graffiti was created in October 2022, with images tagged to specific map locations.

5. **Interpretative Materials.** The NPS shall prepare interpretative materials that broadly address the construction of the Lincoln Memorial, including the undercroft, and its grounds. Public interpretation may include, but not necessarily be limited to, exhibits within the undercroft visitors' center, ranger interpretation, and internet-based content. The type of materials produced and their method of distribution shall be determined by the Interpretation Division of NAMA.

Status: Exhibit design for interpretive content on the design and construction of the memorial, including the Undercroft and grounds, was completed in August 2022.

6. **Jules Guerin Murals.** The NPS shall develop a plan to conserve the "Unity" and "Emancipation" murals by artist, Jules Guerin. The plan will allow the park to prepare a scope of work for professional condition assessments and conservation, and to seek cost estimates and funding. Due to the significant cost associated with this conservation work, the plan would be executed in the future once full funding is secured for both the assessment and treatment.

Status: Will undertake this project after completion of the rehabilitation work.