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| Location of Meeting | 600 Maryland Ave, NW – 5001 |
| Time of Meeting | 9:38 am – 11:34 am |
| Purpose of Meeting | Discussion of Historic Resources & Preliminary Assessment of Effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington Monument Grounds • Mall • Plan for the City of Washington |
| Attendees: | Sharon Park, SI Jane Passman, SI Harry Rombach, SI Curtis Davis, SI Nancy Witherell, NCPC Matt Larsen, JSA Jane Levinson- NHP Intern Perry Wheelock, NPS/NAMA David Maloney, DC HPO Dreck Wilson, ASLAH George H.F. Oberlander, National Coalition to Save Our Mall Don Hawkins, Committee of 100 Felicia Bell, BCDCH Patsy Fletcher, AAHGS, DC HPO Sally Blumenthal, NPS John Parson, NPS Erik Hein, DCPL Thomas Luebke, CFA Hany Hassan, BBB Matt Larsen, JSA Judy Robinson, Robinson & Associates Erin Brasell, Robinson & Associates Larry Earle, Berger Jill Cavanaugh, Berger Erin Kimsey, Berger |

Sharon Park introduced herself as new Historic Preservation Officer of the Smithsonian Institution.

DISCUSSION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Sharon Park requested that the group determine the historic resources that could potentially be affected, identify the level and priority of that impact/effect, and determine how to best minimize those impacts/effects. Several areas around the site were discussed

The Federal Triangle

- **David Maloney** stated that the knoll, where the Monument sits, provides one of the best views of the whole composition of the Federal Triangle. He suggested that the team should work to add merit to the significance of that particular view. There is an importance in the height of the surrounding buildings that should influence the design of the NMAAHC. Most of the lower portions of the existing buildings are covered by the canopies of the trees. The new building should be below the tree line.

- **Nancy Witherell** noted that there would be a loss of the view of the Mellon Auditorium from the sloped edge of the Washington Monument.

Northwest Rectangle (the area extending from 17th Street West to Constitution Ave North, running east-west from the OAS building to the State Department, centered on Virginia Ave)

The group concurred that this is a transitional area, and impacts are possible at a minimal level.

Lincoln Memorial

- The group concurred that the vista from the Lincoln Memorial is primarily that of the Washington Monument, but the height of the proposed design may have an impact.
- From Arlington Cemetery, the color and height will have an impact and some minimal intrusion, although it is from a distance. There are significant views from Arlington Cemetery.
- The roofline panorama of the Jefferson Memorial will produce associated visual impacts.

Other Views

- **Sally Blumenthal** suggested that one missing view that should be included is the view from the Old Post Office Tower. These impacts will be much more significant than those from the Arlington House. She also added that the edge of the 17th street corridor is also significant.
- **David Maloney** added that the view from the Ellipse could be substantially altered and should also be included.

WASHINGTON MONUMENT GROUNDS (WAMO)

Sharon Park stated that the Washington Monument grounds will receive the greatest impacts due in part to the sheer proximity.

The group concurred on the following statements:

- The Sylvan Theater is not a contributing feature of the Monument grounds.
- The topography and vegetation are overall contributing factors. The knoll on which the WAMO sits on is historic and significant.
- Under the 'land use' the museum should be described as a "building" rather than referring to it as commemorative.
- Moving the Bulfinch Gateposts would result in an adverse effect

PLAN OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

Sharon Park stated that there is no evident effect on the City Plan. The site is set up in a complimentary form along the orthogonal grid and radial avenues. There could be further discussion about the impacts on the President's Park, based on the observations from the Ellipse.

The group concurred on the following statements:

- The words "Streets and Avenues" should replace "Circulation"
- A new category, "Topography", will be added in which the effects on the topographic high points planned by L'Enfant will be discussed.
- The word "commemorative" is used again in the land use section and should also be replaced.
- The presence of an African American museum in a prominent position is highly desirable and that its contribution to scholarship and interpretation would be a benefit.

- This site has 150 years of continuous identity of the use of the land itself, this is a definitive setting. The site has been the location of a variety of historical events. The change from an open space and a change in the traditional use of the space has an impact.

David Maloney, in reference to the Spatial Organization of the Original Appropriation No. 3, stated that there is a substantial effect on the Monument grounds related to perception of the site. The grounds are considered a Federal reservation; they are reserved for the use of the Washington Monument and the other buildings and structures contained within the grounds are only for ancillary support for the Washington Monument. The fundamental changes to the reservation are probably the most important issue to consider in the consultation process. He also noted that it is important to make the distinction that because it is the NMAAHC does not make the impact on the Washington grounds any less severe.

THE MALL

It is important to note the distinction between the Mall and the National Mall. The Mall stops at 14th street and it is a Federal Reservation. The National Mall extends all the way to West Potomac Park.

John Parsons articulated his concern about the symmetry of the space, and the potential for future construction on the south side of the Mall. He suggested the addition of tree plantings to help add balance and symmetry.

DESIGN INTENT

The group concluded that there is no significant value in a designer's intent. Portions of historic plans often never came to fruition. Any non-executed portions of earlier plans are a moot point for Section 106 discussions. There is no point spending time speculating on the design intent.

NEXT STEPS

The next meetings were outlined:

- August 15, 2007- a brainstorming session with the signatories of the PA (SI, Dept of the Interior, ACHP, CFA, DC HPO, and NCPC)
- September 19th
- Possibly October 10th.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am