9.0 APPENDICES
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9.1 TIERN I FINAL EIS DESIGN PRINCIPLES

As explained in the Tier I Final EIS, “the design principles below are a refinement of the overarching principles that informed the development of the six Build Alternatives for the National Museum of African American History and Culture that are analyzed in this Tier I FEIS. The principles reflect the analysis summarized in the overarching principles matrix and supporting documents (Robinson & Associates, 2008) that are the result of discussions with the Section 106 Consulting Parties and others, and that are intended to help in setting priorities for key critical issues that must be considered by future design architects” (Smithsonian Institution, 2008a).

These Tier I Final EIS principles represent the Smithsonian Institution’s preferred approach to the design of the NMAAHC as informed by the Smithsonian Institution’s consideration of the views expressed in the context of the Section 106 consultations that have taken place during the Tier I NEPA process. The Tier I Final EIS design principles are provided herein.

A. General Composition of the National Mall:
The National Mall presents a unity of overall spatial design but is composed of distinct parts, including the Mall, the Washington Monument Grounds, and West Potomac Park. Though administratively separate, the Ellipse and White House Grounds are also part of this extended landscape composition. The museum site occupies a highly prominent and pivotal location next to both the continuous east-west axis of the National Mall from the U.S. Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial and the north-south axis from the White House to the Jefferson Memorial.

- The design should respect the character and history of the monumental core as it has evolved through seminal plans, most notably the L’Enfant Plan and the McMillan Plan, but also including Victorian-era and mid-20th-century plans.
- The spatial organization of the National Mall is cross-axial and the design of the proposed museum should not detract from this central idea.
- Impacts on panoramic views that open and widen on the approach to the Washington Monument Grounds from the National Mall or the Ellipse should be minimized.
- The design of the museum must consider long views within the National Mall, as well as distant views from higher locations, such as Arlington Cemetery the Old Post Office Pavilion, from the air and from the Washington Monument itself.
B. Context of the Washington Monument Grounds:
The site is located on the Washington Monument Grounds. The setting of the tallest and most prominent structure in the monumental core, this 72-acre reservation is characterized by Olmstedian design principles, notably open lawns, curvilinear paths and roads, and selective groupings of trees.

- The design of the museum must be respectful of the prominence of the Washington Monument and its scale and design character.
- The design of the museum should be informed by the distinct characteristics of this historic environment, which include picturesque, irregular, and asymmetrical forms, and the topography of the grounds.
- The design of the museum and its site should be responsive to other structures and features on the Washington Monument Grounds, such as the Monument Lodge, the Bulfinch Gateposts, the curvilinear pathways, tree placement and landscape features.
- The design of the building should take into consideration the physical definition, character, and views of the Washington Monument Grounds as seen and experienced from within the reservation.

C. Relationship to Adjacent Architectural and Urban Context:
The site is located to the west of 14th Street, NW, which forms the western end of the Mall. Between the Mall and Constitution Avenue is a series of museum structures with an established pattern of height, setbacks, and site coverage; these help define the formal landscape of the Mall with its expansive panels of lawn flanked by double allees of trees. The composition of the National Mall landscape and the large museums is further framed by the monumental Federal Triangle to the north.

- The museum should not project beyond the existing screening of trees along the southern line of the row of museum structures.
- Given the context of the site, setbacks should respect the general character of the National Mall side of Constitution Avenue on the north, the tree buffer along 14th Street and should maximize views of the monument and grounds on the West.
- The height of the museum should be compatible with that of the predominant massing of the row of museum structures to the east.
- All sides of the building, including the roof, will be highly visible and should be treated as public facades. The appearance of service and support functions should be eliminated to the greatest extent possible by placing them below grade.
- Any requisite perimeter security should be designed and integrated into the facility from the earliest concept design and be compatible with the character of the new building and site.
9.2 NMAAHC DESIGN COMPETITION

The Smithsonian Institution began the architectural programming phase for the NMAAHC in October 2007. The architectural programming phase provides research and decision-making on the scope of the museum. Space and systems requirements for the major physical components of the museum were determined, including the size of the auditorium, exhibit space, and offices, as well as the energy usage requirements. The Smithsonian Institution initiated the architectural design process on July 10, 2008 when it issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to architectural firms inviting them to submit professional qualifications to design the NMAAHC. The Smithsonian Institution posted the RFQ on fedbizopps.gov, the federal business opportunities website, and advertised nationally using methods designed to reach the greatest number of firms. Additionally, the Smithsonian Institution performed outreach initiatives to attract bids from minority architectural firms.

In January 2009, an evaluation board narrowed the field of applicants to six firms and turned the process over to a design competition board, which included outside experts and Smithsonian Institution professionals. The design competition board reviewed the finalists’ concept designs and presentations and the highest-ranked firm was asked to submit a formal proposal and subsequently begin contract negotiations with the Smithsonian. The architectural team Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup was selected and announced at a press conference at the Smithsonian Castle on April 14, 2009. They were among six architectural firms that entered the design competition in January 2009 from a total of 22 firms that responded to a RFQ issued during the summer of 2008.

The design competition submissions featured the following concepts by six notable architects:

Devrouax & Purnell Architects/Planners and Pei Cobb Freed & Partners Architects

"Our team began by discussing the importance of this project to our nation and the unique opportunity it affords to give voice in architecture to the African American experience. Equality, Journey, Change and Permanence are four words that resonated. Equality defined the objective. The Journey is what we celebrate. Change is what was necessary. And Permanence must be embodied in the outcome. These ideas inspired and informed our search."
“It is essential that this project is approached from the outside in and the inside out. Namely that the new building must succeed in its context and its function, but above all, as a symbolic response to such an important subject ... This museum explores and elucidates the impact on the nation of the complex history and rich culture of African Americans. It reminds us of what we were and the challenges we still face, and guides us toward what we can become. The museum is designed to be a place of meaning, a journey of memory and of reflection, a haven of music and laughter and a beacon of hope.”

“The NMAAHC will sit on a historically charged site ... both the somber history of African American slave labor and spectacular, pivotal democratic events such as Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech and the Inauguration of the first bi-racial president. The painful struggles and glorious achievements of African American history and culture must be embodied through the inextricable bond of building and site. Rather than passively sitting on the ground, the new building emerges from the ground as if its seeds were always planted but not yet germinated.”
Moody Nolan in association with Antoine Predock Architect

"The living atmosphere of our proposal absorbs and illuminates the teachings, struggles and triumphs of African American culture, which then become lessons—inextricably connected to each visitor. The atmosphere...highlights the culture’s circuitous, yet persistent movement towards brighter futures, and translates the trajectory of pitfalls and accomplishments that define African American culture. Our proposal offers a resounding celebratory means of navigating the building that synthesizes the African American experience of ascendance with the visitor’s path of travel."

Source: National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution, 2009

Moshe Safdie and Associates

"Two separate thoughts—one about urban design, the other about the museum’s organization, merged into a singular concept for the project. The first insight ... was to reduce the mass of the building ... placing over one third of the program below street level. This minimal footprint was bisected by two view corridors. The primary one on the axis of the Washington Monument ... We felt that the building above ground should be kept simple and austere, focusing its expressive power on the entry and primarily on the Memorial Pavilion, which we set forward into the landscape, in its scale harmonious with the other memorials on the National Mall."

Source: National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution, 2009
Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup

“At its best, architecture is the physical manifestation of a culture’s highest ideals. The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC)—the institution and the building—embodies the African American spirit. Majestic yet exuberant. Dignified yet triumphant. Of the African Diaspora yet distinctly African American. The NMAAHC will be a building worthy of the museum’s vision—and its prominent place on the National Mall.”
9.3 DRAFT NMAAHC SECTION 106 EFFECTS ANALYSIS

The analysis of concept alternatives and their effect on cultural resources used a matrix format which will lead to the identification of a culturally preferred alternative. The three initial design concepts studied for the EIS were the Plinth, Plaza and Pavilion and a fourth concept, the Refined Pavilion, is included as a natural evolution taking the best elements from each of the three initial concepts. Therefore, for the EIS, there are four concepts analyzed.

The matrix did evaluate a fifth option for Section 106 Historic Preservation purposes, the Blended scheme, and while included in this Appendix, was not included for continued analysis of environmental impacts.

The matrix is focused specifically on impacts to cultural resources and used the framework of the Design Principles developed in Tier I and refined in Tier II. The variables for analysis considered for effects are those that primarily impact views and vistas and the characteristics of the landscape treatment. They are related to the placement of elements on the site, the scale of these elements, the above grade features of the construction, and the integration of building and landscape features on the site.

The matrix looked at 34 individual elements in three geographic categories; the General Composition of the National Mall, the Context of the Washington Monument Grounds, and the Relationship to Adjacent Architectural and Urban Context features. While most of the impacts were found to have a major adverse effect because they alter the existing open condition of the site, there were some interesting adjustments within the schemes that did minimize these impacts. The chart below, graphically illustrates that the Pavilion and Refined Pavilion are more successful in minimizing impacts. The Refined Pavilion was found to have the least impact of the four alternative concepts, primarily due to the reduced size in plan, height and volume of the principal element, the corona. In addition, the more fluid open landscape and the placement of the corona on the southern portion of the site opened up greater views to the Washington Monument and the Federal Triangle, while providing more pedestrian access on a gently rolling topography. While there were some specific advantages to the Plinth and Plaza schemes, overall there were greater negative impacts to cultural resources. At this time, the Refined Pavilion has the least impact on cultural resources.

Graphic illustrating consolidated effects of the four alternatives as they relate to the impact on cultural resources. As the color band moves towards the yellow zone, there is greater minimization of impacts due to the location of the building, the landscape treatment, the size and massing of the building and impacts on views and vistas of cultural resources in the area. The Refined Pavilion has the least impact on cultural resources.

Plinth: 
Plaza: 
Pavilion: 
Refined Pavilion: 

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APPENDICES 9-7
**DRAFT NMAAHC SECTION 106 EFFECTS ANALYSIS MATRIX***

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<td><strong>Top of Corona:</strong> 118'-0&quot; msl</td>
<td><strong>Top of Corona:</strong> 118'-0&quot; msl</td>
<td><strong>Top of Corona:</strong> 118'-0&quot; msl</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Top of Penthouse:</strong> 134'-6&quot; msl</td>
<td><strong>Top of Penthouse:</strong> 134'-0&quot; msl</td>
<td><strong>Top of Penthouse:</strong> 132'-6&quot; msl</td>
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<td><strong>Ground Floor Area:</strong> 66,580 SQF</td>
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<td><strong>Site Area:</strong> 232,998 SQF</td>
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<td><strong>Coverage:</strong> 29%</td>
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*This Effects Analysis Matrix is derived from the Design Principles developed specifically by the Smithsonian – through Section 106 consultation with interested parties, including the National Capital Planning Commission, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, the D.C. Historic Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation – to guide the design process for the proposed National Museum of African American History and Culture. The Design Principles summarize the analysis of the historic character of the National Mall, the selected museum site, and the surrounding urban context and articulate parameters for avoiding or minimizing the adverse effects of new construction.

***Major Effect: The serious adverse effect would diminish overall integrity, or alter a character-defining feature(s) of the National Register eligible/listed property.

**Moderate Effect: The adverse effect is apparent and would diminish overall integrity, or would alter a character defining feature(s) of the National Register eligible/listed property.

*Minor Effect: The adverse effect is detectible, but slight, and would minimally diminish overall integrity, or affect the character-defining feature(s) of the National Register eligible/listed property.

**GENERAL COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL MALL**

1. The character, history, and existing hierarchies of the Monumental Core as it has evolved through seminal plans, most notably the L’Enfant Plan and the McMillan Plan, but also including the Victorian-era and mid-20th-century plans. The addition of a large new building in the midst of this historic environment must be accomplished in a way that is harmonious and respectful of existing hierarchies.

***Major adverse effect
- The building introduces a significant built resource into the historically open grounds of the Monumental Core
- It eliminates a significant portion of the open space of the Washington Monument Grounds
- It alters the visual boundaries of the northeast corner of the grounds
- It alters the perceived boundaries of the historic Mall2 by extending the existing row of museums into the Washington Monument Grounds

***Major adverse effect – same effects as the Plinth Scheme

***Major adverse effect – same effects as the Plinth Scheme

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1 As defined by the National Mall Plan, the National Mall is a large-scale cultural landscape made up of smaller landscapes such as Union Square, the Mall, the Washington Monument Grounds, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, and Constitution Gardens.

2 As defined by the National Mall Plan, the historic Mall is bounded by bound Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues on the north, 1st Street on the east, Independence and Maryland avenues on the south, and 14th Street on the west.
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The long views within the historic Mall</td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect</em>&lt;br&gt;- The location of the building within the NMAAHC site and the massing of the Corona and plinth do not substantially alter the key vistas looking east to west along the historic Mall from the center panels.</td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect</em> – same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The distant views from higher locations such as Arlington Cemetery, the Office tower, the Washington Monument, and from the air</td>
<td><em><strong>Major adverse effect</strong></em> on views from the top of the Washington Monument and from the air&lt;br&gt;- The building is a prominent new feature on the landscape&lt;br&gt;- It eliminates a significant portion of the historic open space of the Washington Monument Grounds&lt;br&gt;- It alters the visual boundaries of the northeast corner of the grounds&lt;br&gt;- The formal, rectilinear approach to the landscape design and the scale and character of water elements within it depart from the informality and picturesque quality of the Washington Monument Grounds</td>
<td><em><strong>Major adverse effect</strong></em> – same effects as the Plinth Scheme except:&lt;br&gt;- Together, the Corona and the support building have the greatest footprint of all the schemes, and, from a distance, the two buildings read as a single mass&lt;br&gt;- The landscape design of the Plaza Scheme features the most hardscape of all the schemes</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td><strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong> on views from the Old Post Office tower&lt;br&gt;- The height of the building positions the roofline above the visible point at which the base of the Washington Monument meets the ground, altering the existing view of the entire Monument from the Old Post Office tower&lt;br&gt;- It eliminates a portion of the open space of the Washington Monument Grounds, altering the visual relationship between the Federal Triangle and the grounds</td>
<td><strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td><strong>No effect</strong> on distant views from Arlington Cemetery</td>
<td><strong>No effect</strong>—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td><strong>No effect</strong>—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
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<td>• From this distance, the distinction between the historic Mall, the Federal Triangle, and the Washington Monument Grounds is difficult to distinguish, and the building appears as part of the general building massing in the area</td>
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| 6 | The panoramic views that open and widen on the approach to the Washington Monument Grounds from the historic Mall or the Ellipse | ***Major adverse effect** on the panoramic view that opens and widens on the approach to the Washington Monument Grounds from the historic Mall  
• The building eliminates a significant portion of the open space of the Washington Monument Grounds  
• It constricts the wide-angle panoramic view of the grounds that opens from the historic Mall  
**Design Advantages**  
• *The Plinth Scheme Corona does not project as far south on the NMAAHC site as the Blended, Plaza, and Refined Pavilion schemes and therefore has less effect on the panoramic view from the historic Mall* | ***Major adverse effect**—Same effects at the Plinth Scheme, except:  
• The Plaza Scheme has the greatest adverse effect on the wide-angle panoramic view of the Washington Monument Grounds that opens up from the historic Mall because the Corona is located the farthest south on the site of all four schemes  
**Design Advantages**  
• *The Pavilion Scheme building does not project as far south on the NMAAHC site as the Plaza, Blended, and Refined Pavilion schemes and therefore has less effect on the panoramic view that opens on approach to the Washington Monument Grounds.* |
| 7 | **Moderate adverse effect** on the panoramic view that opens and widens on the approach to the Washington Monument Grounds from the Ellipse  
• Although the building appears distant as viewed from the Ellipse, the oblique angle of view creates a wide frontage within the panoramic view and can be seen in direct relation to the Washington Monument, diminishing its prominence  
• The height of the building also projects vertically above the predominant tree line | **Moderate adverse effect**—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme          | **Moderate adverse effect**—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme          |
### Context of the Washington Monument Grounds

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| 8 | The cross-axial spatial organization of the National Mall, marked by the Washington Monument at its crossing | ***Major adverse effect  
- The building alters the perceived boundaries of the National Mall by extending the existing row of museums into the Washington Monument Grounds, modifying the cross-axial spatial organization of the Monumental Core | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 9 | The "hinge" site within the larger composition of the National Mall where the surrounding frame of buildings reaches its closest approach to the Washington Monument | ***Major adverse effect  
- The directional (north-south) massing of the building, caused by the north and south extension of the plinth, does not respond to the hinge site  
- It alters the character of the Washington Monument Grounds within the spatial conception of the Monumental Core | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The plaza element of the landscape design provides a transitional space indicative of the site's role as a hinge  
- Design Advantages  
- Unlike the Plaza, Blended, and Refined Pavilion schemes, the Pavilion Scheme is consistent with the established setbacks of the museum buildings along the National Mall and does not project as far south into the project site |
| 10 | The scale, design character, and preeminence of the Washington Monument | ***Major adverse effect  
- The height, massing, and location of the building diminish the visual impact of the Washington Monument by competing for its prominence within the Washington Monument Grounds | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |

**APPENDICES**

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| 11 | The naturalistic topography of the Washington Monument Grounds and the distinct characteristics of this historic environment, including the peripheral "flats" and central mound.  
*Minor adverse effect*  
- The building eliminates a portion of the peripheral flats of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The rectilinear treatment of the building and the formal treatment of the landscape design conflicts with the naturalistic topography of the Washington Monument Grounds | **Moderate adverse effect**  
- The building eliminates a portion of the peripheral flats of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The rectilinear treatment of the building and the formal treatment of the landscape design conflicts with the naturalistic topography of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the topography of the Washington Monument Grounds because it occupies the largest footprint of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as Plinth Scheme | *Minor adverse effect – Same effects as Plinth Scheme* |
| 12 | The distinctive characteristics of the historic environment of the Washington Monument Grounds including the Monument Lodge, the Bulfinch Gateposts, and the curvilinear pathways.  
***Major adverse effect** on the Bulfinch Gateposts  
- The location of the building within the Washington Monument Grounds alters the setting of the gatepost  
- The northern extension of the plinth element and the ground-level build out at the northwest corner of the building reduce setbacks from the gatepost, further impacting its setting  
**Major adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
- The location of the building within the Washington Monument Grounds alters the setting of the gatepost  
- Unlike the Plinth, Plaza, Blended, and Refined Pavilion schemes, the Pavilion Scheme building is located in the center of the site within the established setbacks of the adjacent buildings along Constitution Avenue and farthest from the gatepost  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds | **Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  
**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The height and massing of the building diminish the visual impact of the Monument Lodge within the setting of the Washington Monument Grounds  
**Moderate adverse effect**– Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on the Monument Lodge because it is located the farthest south on the NMAAHC site of all the schemes  |
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| 14| **Moderate adverse effect** on the distinctive circulation features of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The building removes open circulation from a portion of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The formal character of the landscape design of the NMAAHC site is a departure from the curvilinear configuration of historic circulation within the Washington Monument Grounds | **Moderate adverse effect**—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The two building configuration and plaza element acknowledge the existing diagonal pedestrian movement through the site. | **Moderate adverse effect**—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The formal character of the landscape design south of the Corona is a departure from the curvilinear configuration of historic circulation within the Washington Monument Grounds. |
| 15| The definition, character, and views of the Washington Monument Grounds as seen and experienced from within the reservation as a whole | ***Major adverse effect** on long views within the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The height and massing of the building obstructs the long, panoramic views of the National Museum of American History and the Federal Triangle from the Washington Monument Grounds | ***Major adverse effect**—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
*** Major adverse effect**—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
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| 16 | ***Major adverse effect** on pedestrian-level views from the Washington Monument looking northeast  
• The building obstructs views to the Old Post Office tower and blocks views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle  
• The northern extension of the plinth partially conceals a portion of the south facade of the U.S. Department of Commerce building  
• The southern extension of the plinth conceals a portion of the west facade of the National Museum of American History  
• The perceived proximity to the row of museum buildings along the historic Mall is reduced, with the building becoming the closest building to the Washington Monument in this direction | ***Major adverse effect**  
• The Corona partially obstructs views of the Old Post Office tower and conceals a portion of the west facade of the National Museum of American History  
• The Corona and the support building block views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle  
• The support building conceals a portion of the south facade of the U.S. Department of Commerce Building  
• The facade of the support building, visible from the Washington Monument Grounds, is a significant departure from the picturesque character of the grounds  
• The perceived proximity to the row of museum buildings along the historic Mall is reduced, with the buildings becoming the closest buildings to the Washington Monument in this direction | ***Major adverse effect**  
• The building obstructs views to the Old Post Office tower and blocks views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle  
• The perceived proximity to the row of museum buildings along the historic Mall is reduced, with the building becoming the closest building to the Washington Monument in this direction.  
**Design Advantages:**  
• Unlike the Plinth Scheme, the U.S. Department of Commerce building remains visible |
| 17 | ***Major adverse effect** on the view looking north along 15th Street  
• The building blocks the south elevation of the U.S. Department of Commerce building including its distinctive portico and tile roof | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
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|    | **Major adverse effect** on views of the Washington Monument Grounds at night  
• Although the exterior night lighting of the building and the NMAAHC site are designed to complement and not compete with nearby landmarks, the lighting - including exterior lighting of outdoor gathering and circulation spaces, water elements, pool surfaces, and architectural features - will illuminate a portion of the Washington Monument Grounds previously unlit at night (except for perimeter street lights)  
• This will alter multiple nighttime views of the Washington Monument Grounds and detract from the prominence of the Washington Monument | **Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | **Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 19 | **Major adverse effect** on the spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds  
• Located along Constitution Avenue between 14th and 15th streets, the building eliminates a significant portion of the historic open space of the Washington Monument Grounds and diminishes the prominence of the Washington Monument as the central organizing feature of the grounds  
• The building also alters the spatial conception of the historic boundaries of the Washington Monument Grounds by extending the existing row of museums along the National Mall into the grounds | **Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | **Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
• The relationship with the row of museums along the National Mall is emphasized by the fact that the center line of the Pavilion Scheme aligns with the center line of the museum buildings. (See also effects on the site’s unique position at the western end of the sequence of museum buildings facing the National Mall) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PLINTH</th>
<th>PLAZA</th>
<th>PAVILION</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| 20 | ***Major adverse effect** on the significant vegetative features of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The footprint of the building eliminates a large portion of the open lawn that defines the ground plane of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The landscape design features water elements and hardscape areas that occupy additional areas of open lawn and changes the character of the vegetation on the site  
- The building diminishes the visual impact of the street trees that delineate the perimeter of the Washington Monument Grounds. | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The Plaza Scheme has the greatest footprint of all the schemes  
- The landscape design for this scheme features the most hardscape | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The Pavilion Scheme occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes |
| 21 | ***Major adverse effect** on the established land uses of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The building's footprint occupies a significant portion of the site, reducing the amount of public gathering and recreational space, eliminating the site's use as a permanent special event area, and constituting a change in the historic use of the land for expression of First Amendment freedoms  
- The landscape design introduces formalized spaces and alters the traditional informal setting of the Washington Monument Grounds. | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The plaza element between the support building and the Corona has the potential to create an active public outdoor space and special event area | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The Pavilion Scheme occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes |
| 22 | The surrounding larger landscape and fluidity of movement across the site | ***Moderate adverse effect**  
- See effects on the topography of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- See effects on the circulation features of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- See effects on the spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds  
- See effects on the vegetative features of the Washington Monument Grounds | ***Moderate adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Moderate adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
<table>
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<th>PLINTH</th>
<th>PLAZA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RELATIONSHIP TO ADJACENT ARCHITECTURAL AND URBAN CONTEXT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 23 | The site's relation to each of its adjacent contexts – the historic Mall, the Washington Monument Grounds, and the urban grid of the adjacent city | ***Major adverse effect*** on the site's relation to the urban grid of the adjacent city  
  - The building alters the visual setting of the Federal Triangle  
  - The Corona has an atypical visual character that diverts attention from the buildings of the Federal Triangle  
  - The building intrudes upon the historic setting of the Federal Triangle buildings by altering their relationship with the open space of the Washington Monument Grounds | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
  - The facade of the support building, composed of a minimally detailed curtain wall, contrasts with the prevailing vocabulary of the buildings along Constitution Avenue | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 24 | | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 25 | | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 26 | The site's unique position at the western end of the sequence of museum buildings facing the historic Mall | **Moderate adverse effect**  
  - Although located outside the boundaries of the historic Mall, the NMAAHC site will be perceived as an extension of the museum buildings along the north side of the historic Mall  
  - The building, which is one-dimensional and directional (axial north-south), is inconsistent with the existing east-west axial arrangement of the museum buildings along the north side of the historic Mall | **Moderate adverse effect**  
  - Although located outside the boundaries of the historic Mall, the NMAAHC site will be perceived as an extension of the museum buildings along the north side of the historic Mall, which serve to reinforce the channel of space and vista between the Capitol and the Washington Monument  
  - The Corona, which is located south on the NMAAHC site beyond the existing setbacks of the museum buildings along the historic Mall, is inconsistent with the Mall's spatial organization  
  - The Corona violates the McMillan Plan setback, established to be 445’0” from the centerline of the historic Mall | *Minor adverse effect*  
  - Although located outside the boundaries of the historic Mall, the NMAAHC site will be perceived as an extension of the museum buildings along the north side of the historic Mall, which serve to reinforce the channel of space and vista between the Capitol and the Washington Monument  
  **Design Advantages**  
  - *The center line of the building aligns with the center line of the museum buildings along the historic Mall*  
  - *The building's location on the site is consistent with existing setbacks*  
  - *See also effects on the spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds* |

**APPENDICES**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>27</th>
<th>The prevailing height and the prevailing setback of the primary building volumes (not terraces) of the museums along the historic Mall and Constitution Avenue</th>
<th>*Minor adverse effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* The Plinth Scheme is the tallest of all the schemes. The height of the building (134'6&quot; to the top of the penthouse) exceeds the height of the National Museum of American History (106'6&quot; to the top of the penthouse) and the height of the U.S. Department of Commerce building (126'4&quot; to the top of the ridge)</td>
<td><strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* The setback of the Corona aligns with the setback of the south facade of the National Museum of American History, and the setback of the southern extension plinth aligns with the south facade of the National Museum of Natural History</td>
<td>** The Plaza Scheme has the greatest impact on prevailing setbacks and building heights in that it extends the farthest into the setbacks along the historic Mall and Constitution Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* The height of the Corona building (134'0&quot; to the top of the penthouse) exceeds the height of the National Museum of American History (106'6&quot; to the top of the penthouse) and the height of the U.S. Department of Commerce building (126'4&quot; to the top of the ridge)</td>
<td>*Minor adverse effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Advantages</strong></td>
<td>* The center line of the building aligns with the center line of the museum buildings along the historic Mall</td>
<td>* The building's location on the site is consistent with existing setbacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect on compatibility with the adjacent architectural context</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The building has an atypical visual character that diverts attention from and alters the setting of the buildings and buildings in the vicinity of the NMAAHC site. (Note: Additional analysis of effects of perimeter security will be included as more information becomes available.)</td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Compatibility of all four facades and the roof, service/support functions, and perimeter security to adjacent architectural and urban context</td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Note: Additional analysis of effects of perimeter security will be included as more information becomes available.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLINTH</th>
<th>PLAZA</th>
<th>PAVILION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 29 *Minor adverse effect on compatibility with the adjacent urban context  
- The water element at the site's periphery introduces a new landscape element within the urban context  
- The service entrance along 14th Street alters the street's existing character.  | **Moderate adverse effect  
- The support building alters the established setbacks and building edge character along Constitution Avenue, and the water element at its periphery introduces a new landscape element within the urban context  
- The service entrance along 14th Street alters the street's existing character.  | *Minor adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 30 The important non-cardinal views and directions of approach of the corner street crossings  | ***Major adverse effect  
- The location and massing of the building blocks views of the lower half and base of the Washington Monument and a large portion of the Washington Monument Grounds when viewed from the corner of 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, widely perceived as a "gateway" view  | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
- The location of the Corona alters the established end point of the row of museum buildings along the historic Mall  
- The height of the building projects vertically above the predominant tree line defining the eastern edge of the Washington Monument Grounds  |
| 31 The important non-cardinal views and directions of approach of the historic Mall pathways  | ***Major adverse effect  
- The building intrudes into the pedestrian-level views of the Washington Monument Grounds from pathways along the western end of the historic Mall and can be seen in direct relation to the Washington Monument, diminishing its prominence  
- The location of the Corona alters the established end point of the row of museum buildings along the historic Mall  
- The height of the building projects vertically above the predominant tree line defining the eastern edge of the Washington Monument Grounds  | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
- The "gateway" view of the Washington Monument from 14th Street and Constitution remains obstructed, although the landscape design of the Plaza Scheme features a public plaza between the support building and the Corona  |

APPENDICES
<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>PLINTH</th>
<th>PLAZA</th>
<th>PAVILION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 32| The important non-cardinal views and directions of approach of the diagonal relationships with the Washington Monument, the Ellipse, and the Old Post Office | ***Major adverse effect on important non-cardinal views and directions of approach from the Washington Monument Grounds  
- The building obstructs views to the Old Post Office tower and blocks views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle  
- The northern extension of the plinth partially conceals a portion of the south facade of the U.S. Department of Commerce building  
- The southern extension of the plinth conceals a portion of the west facade of the National Museum of American History | ***Major adverse effect  
- The Corona partially obstructs views of the Old Post Office tower and conceals a portion of the west facade of the National Museum of American History  
- The Corona and the support building block views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle  
- The support building also conceals a portion of the south facade of the U.S. Department of Commerce Building | ***Major adverse effect  
- The building obstructs views to the Old Post Office tower and blocks views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle  
- The Corona conceals a portion of the west facade of the National Museum of American History | **Design Advantages**  
- The U.S. Department of Commerce building remains visible |
| 33| **Moderate adverse effect** on the important non-cardinal views and directions of approach from the Ellipse  
- Although the building appears distant as viewed from the Ellipse, the oblique angle of view creates a wide frontage within the panoramic view and can be seen in direct relation to the Washington Monument, diminishing its prominence  
- The height of the building also projects vertically above the predominant tree line | **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
| 34| **Moderate adverse effect** on the important non-cardinal views and directions of approach from the Old Post Office  
- The height of the building positions the roofline above the visible point at which the base of the Washington Monument meets the ground, altering the existing view of the entire Monument  
- The mass of the building obstructs the northeast corner of the Washington Monument Grounds, altering the visual relationship between the Federal Triangle and the grounds | **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
### General Composition of the National Mall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Major adverse effect</strong> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</th>
<th><strong>Major adverse effect</strong> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</th>
<th><strong>Major adverse effect</strong> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*This Effects Analysis Matrix is derived from the Design Principles developed specifically by the Smithsonian – through Section 106 consultation with interested parties, including the National Capital Planning Commission, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, the D.C. Historic Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation – to guide the design process for the proposed National Museum of African American History and Culture. The Design Principles summarize the analysis of the historic character of the National Mall, the selected museum site, and the surrounding urban context and articulate parameters for avoiding or minimizing the adverse effects of new construction.

**Major Effect:** The serious adverse effect would diminish overall integrity, or alter a character-defining feature(s) of the National Register eligible/listed property.

**Moderate Effect:** The adverse effect is apparent and would diminish overall integrity, or would alter a character defining-feature(s) of the National Register eligible/listed property.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BLENDED</th>
<th>REFINED PAVILION</th>
<th>COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect</em> on the long views within the historic Mall – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td><em>Minor adverse effect</em> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ***Major adverse effect*** on distant views of the Washington Monument Grounds from locations such as the top of the Washington Monument and the air – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
• The building at the northwest corner of the site - because it is beneath a landscaped roof - reads as open space when viewed from above | ***Major adverse effect***  
• The building is a prominent new feature on the landscape  
• It eliminates a significant portion of the historic open space of the Washington Monument Grounds  
• It alters the visual boundaries of the northeast corner of the Washington Monument Grounds.  
**Design Advantages**  
• It has the smallest footprint, ground floor area and coverage.  
• The rolling topography, broadly sweeping paths, and informal, more naturalistic water elements of the landscape plan are compatible with the picturesque character of the Washington Monument Grounds, and the landscape plan references the Washington Monument Grounds by treating the building as an object in a field surrounded by open ground | • In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, and the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on distant views of the Washington Monument Grounds from locations such as the top of the Washington Monument and from the air by modifying the treatment of the penthouse. In all three schemes the penthouse is located along the north edge of the roof of the Corona. This asymmetrical placement is inconsistent with the placement of the penthouse features of the museum buildings along the north side of the historic Mall. Center the penthouse on the Corona, following the precedent of the other buildings along the historic Mall.  
• In the Plinth Scheme, minimize adverse effects on distant views of the Washington Monument Grounds from locations such as the top of the Washington Monument and from the air by pulling back or reducing the size of the plinth. Viewed from above, the cantilevered plinth increases the perceived mass of the building.  
• In the Plaza Scheme, minimize adverse effects on distant views of the Washington Monument Grounds from locations such as the top of the Washington Monument and from the air by reducing the amount of hardscape in the landscape design. |
<p>| <strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong> on distant views from the Old Post Office tower – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | <strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BLENDED</th>
<th>Refined Pavilion</th>
<th>Comments from Consulting Parties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No effect</strong> on distant views from Arlington</td>
<td><strong>No effect</strong>—Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td>• In the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the panoramic view that opens and widens on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cemetery – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td>the approach to the Washington Monument Grounds from the historic Mall by adjusting the location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major adverse effect</strong> on the panoramic view</td>
<td><strong>Major adverse effect</strong>—Same effects as the Blended</td>
<td>of the Corona. Locate the Corona farther north on the NMAAHC site to be more consistent with the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that opens and widens on the approach to the</td>
<td>Scheme, except:</td>
<td>prevailing setbacks of the museum buildings along the historic Mall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Monument Grounds from the historic Mall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The buildings eliminate a significant portion</td>
<td><strong>Design Advantages</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the open space of the Washington Monument</td>
<td>• <em>The Refined Pavilion Scheme, however, has an advantage</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds</td>
<td><em>over the Plaza Scheme in that the Corona does not</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Design Advantages</strong></td>
<td><em>project as far south on the NMAAHC site and therefore</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• *<em>It has an advantage over the PlazaScheme and</em></td>
<td><em>has less effect on the panoramic view from the historic</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>the Refined Pavilion Scheme in that the Corona</em></td>
<td><em>Mall</em>*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>does not project as far south on the NMAAHC site</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and therefore has less effect on the panoramic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>view from the historic Mall**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong> on the panoramic</td>
<td><strong>Moderate adverse effect</strong>—Same effects as the Plinth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>views that open and widen on the approach to the</td>
<td>Scheme, except:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Monument Grounds from the Ellipse –</td>
<td><strong>Design Advantages</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td>• <em>Its reduced mass and placement on the site reduces its</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>impact on views of the Washington Monument Grounds</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>when approaching from the Ellipse</em>*</td>
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</table>

In the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the panoramic view that opens and widens on the approach to the Washington Monument Grounds from the historic Mall by adjusting the location of the Corona. Locate the Corona farther north on the NMAAHC site to be more consistent with the prevailing setbacks of the museum buildings along the historic Mall.
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<tr>
<th>BLENDDED</th>
<th>REFINED PAVILION</th>
<th>COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td>***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>***Major adverse effect</td>
<td>***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| • The buildings are located within a hinge site where the surrounding frame of buildings along the National Mall and within the surrounding urban context reaches its closest approach to the Washington Monument Grounds  
• The Corona, which is located south on the NMAAHC site beyond the existing setbacks of the museum buildings along the historic Mall, does not respond to this hinge site and alters the character of the Washington Monument Grounds within the spatial conception of the Monumental Core |  |
<p>| Design Advantages |  |
| • It has an advantage over the Plaza Scheme in that it does not project as far south on the site and occupies a smaller footprint |  |
| CONTEXT OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT GROUNDS |  |
| *** Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |  |
| <strong>Design Advantages</strong> |  |
| • It has the smallest footprint |  |
| • In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, the Blended Scheme, and the Refined Pavilion Scheme minimize adverse effects on the Washington Monument by reworking the treatment of the west facades of the Coronas. In all schemes, the west elevations read as side facades, diminishing the prominence of the Washington Monument. Minimize adverse effects by addressing the treatment of the west facades to better relate to the Washington Monument Grounds without detracting from the idea of the entrance facades. |  |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
<th>BLENDED</th>
<th>REFINED PAVILION</th>
<th>COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The sloped landscaped roof of the one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site introduces a new topography to the peripheral "flats" of the Washington Monument Grounds | *Minor adverse effect*  
- The building eliminates a portion of the peripheral flats of the Washington Monument Grounds | • In the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the topography of the Washington Monument Grounds by refining the design of the one-story building element at the northwest corner of the NMAAHC site. The one-story building element, with its sloped roof, introduces a new topography to the peripheral "flats" of the Washington Monument Grounds. Minimize adverse effects by eliminating the building element or reducing the height of the lifted landscape. |
| **Moderate adverse effect**  
- The location of the museum on the Washington Monument Grounds alters the setting of the gatepost located on the southeast corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue | **Moderate adverse effect**  
- The location of the museum on the Washington Monument Grounds alters the setting of the gatepost located on the southeast corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue | |
| **Major adverse effect** on the Bulfinch Gateposts  
- The location of the Blended Scheme’s one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site is directly adjacent to the gatepost located on the southeast corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue and significantly impacts its historic setting | **Major adverse effect** on the Monument Lodge – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
- Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The Corona has the smallest volume and height of all the schemes | **Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- The Corona has the smallest volume and height of all the schemes | • In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, and the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the Monument Lodge by altering the treatment of the landscape design. |

**Comments**

**Moderate adverse effect**  
- The building eliminates a portion of the peripheral flats of the Washington Monument Grounds

**Design Advantages**
- The landscape plan features a rolling topography, broadly sweeping paths, and informal, naturalistic water elements that are compatible with the picturesque character of the Washington Monument Grounds
- It has the least impact on the topography of the Washington Monument Grounds because it occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes

**Major adverse effect** on the Monument Lodge – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme

**Major adverse effect** on the Plinth Scheme

**Major adverse effect** on the Bulfinch Gateposts  
- The location of the Blended Scheme’s one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site is directly adjacent to the gatepost located on the southeast corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue and significantly impacts its historic setting

**Design Advantages**
- The location and size of the Corona provides a greater setback from the gateposts than the other schemes
<table>
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<th>BLENDED</th>
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<th>COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Moderate adverse effect** on the distinctive circulation features of the Washington Monument Grounds – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | *Minor adverse effect*  
- The building removes open circulation from a portion of the Washington Monument Grounds | • In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, and the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the circulation of the Washington Monument Grounds by altering the treatment of the landscape design. The site design is formal in character. Minimize adverse effects by incorporating curvilinear circulation configurations and more open lawn to be more compatible with the informal, picturesque character of the Washington Monument Grounds. |

**Design Advantages**  
- It occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes and features the most open lawn  
- The primary circulation routes of the landscape plan consist of broadly sweeping curvilinear paths that acknowledge and are compatible with the existing pedestrian paths of the Washington Monument Grounds and the Ellipse |

| *** Major adverse effect ** on long views within the Washington Monument Grounds – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- It is lower and has a smaller volume than the other schemes  
- It has the least impact on views of the Federal Triangle |
**BLENDED** | **REFINED PAVILION** | **COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES**
---|---|---
***Major adverse effect*** on pedestrian-level views from the Washington Monument looking northeast
- The Corona obstructs views to the Old Post Office tower and blocks views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle
- It conceals a portion of the west facade of the National Museum of American History
- The one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site is visible from the Washington Monument Grounds, and its raised facade is a significant departure from the picturesque character of the grounds
- The perceived proximity to the row of museum buildings along the historic Mall is reduced, with the building becoming the closest building to the Washington Monument in this direction.

**Design Advantages**
- Unlike the Plinth Scheme, the U.S. Department of Commerce building remains visible
- Since the Blended Scheme has a smaller footprint and is lower than the other alternatives, its impact is slightly less than the Plaza, Plinth, Pavilion, or Blended schemes.

***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme

---

***Major adverse effect*** on pedestrian-level views from the Washington Monument looking northeast

---

In the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on pedestrian-level views from the Washington Monument looking northeast by refining the design of the one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site. This building element is visible from the Washington Monument Grounds, and its glass facade is a significant departure from the picturesque quality of the grounds. Minimize adverse effects by relocating or reducing the height of the lifted landscape.

* In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, the Blended Scheme, and the Refined Pavilion Scheme minimize adverse effects on pedestrian-level views within the Washington Monument Grounds by moving security features farther toward the interior of the site. – Minimization suggestion with no corresponding adverse effect in the matrix.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BLENDED</th>
<th>REFINED PAVILION</th>
<th>COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>***Major adverse effect on views of the Washington Monument Grounds at night – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td>***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td>• In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, the Blended Scheme, and the Refined Pavilion Scheme minimize adverse effects on views of the Washington Monument Grounds at night by reducing exterior night lighting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ***Major adverse effect on the spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | ***Major adverse effect – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except: Design Advantages:  
- It occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes  
- The rolling topography, broadly sweeping paths, and informal, naturalistic water elements of the landscape plan are compatible with the picturesque character of the Washington Monument Grounds | • In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, and the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the spatial organization of the Washington Monument Grounds by altering the treatment of the landscape design. In all four schemes the buildings eliminate a significant portion of the historic open space of the Washington Monument Grounds. Minimize adverse effects by designing a landscape that is more harmonious with the informal, picturesque character of the Washington Monument Grounds. Minimize adverse effects by designing the landscape with direct views to the Washington Monument Grounds. |
### **Major adverse effect** on the significant vegetative features of the Washington Monument Grounds – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme

**Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:

**Minimization/Design Advantages**
- It occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes
- The rolling topography, broadly sweeping paths, and informal, naturalistic water elements of the landscape plan are compatible with the picturesque character of the Washington Monument Grounds

### **Major adverse effect** on the established land uses of the Washington Monument Grounds – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme

**Major adverse effect**
- The footprint of the Corona occupies a significant portion of the site, reducing the amount of outdoor public gathering and recreational space and eliminating the site’s use as a permanent special event area and constituting a change in the historic use of the land for expression of First Amendment freedoms

**Design Advantages**
- It occupies the smallest footprint of all the schemes

### **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme

**Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme

- In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, and the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on land use by altering the treatment of the landscape design. In all four schemes the site design features formalized spaces and little public gathering or recreational space. Minimize adverse effects by increasing the opportunity for public-access landscape.
**BLENDED** | **REFINED PAVILION** | **COMMENTS FROM CONSULTING PARTIES**
--- | --- | ---
***Major adverse effect*** on the site’s relation to the urban grid of the adjacent city – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
- The one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site contrasts with the prevailing vocabulary of the buildings along Constitution Avenue  | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  | • In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, and the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the site’s relation to the urban grid of the adjacent city by refining the skin treatment of the Corona and reducing reflectivity.

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<tr>
<td><em><strong>Major adverse effect</strong></em> on the site’s relation to the historic Mall – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
<td><em><strong>Major adverse effect</strong></em> – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme</td>
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| **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | **Moderate adverse effect**  
- Although located outside the boundaries of the historic Mall, the NMAAHC site will be perceived as an extension of the museum buildings along the north side of the historic Mall, which serve to reinforce the channel of space and vista between the Capitol and the Washington Monument  
- The Corona, which is located south on the NMAAHC site beyond the existing setbacks of the museum buildings along the historic Mall, is inconsistent with the Mall’s spatial organization  
- The porch overhang on the south end of the Corona violates the McMillan Plan setback, established to be 445’0” from the centerline of the historic Mall |  |
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| *Minor adverse effect  
- The height of the Corona building (132’6” to the top of the penthouse) exceeds the height of the National Museum of American History (106’6” to the top of the penthouse) and the height of the U.S. Department of Commerce building (126’4” to the top of the ridge)  
- The south facade of the Corona aligns with the south facade of the National Museum of Natural History | *Minor adverse effect  
- The height of the Corona building (122’6” to the top of the penthouse) exceeds the height of the National Museum of American History (106’6” to the top of the penthouse)  
**Design Advantages**  
- It is lower than the height of the U.S. Department of Commerce building (126’4” to the top of the ridge)  
- The north elevation is set back farther from Constitution Avenue than are the other museums along the avenue  
- The south elevation remains within the McMillan setback for the historic Mall | *In the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the prevailing height and the prevailing setback of the primary building volumes of the museums along the historic Mall and Constitution Avenue by refining the design of the one-story building element at the northwest corner of the NMAAHC site.  
- In the Plaza Scheme, minimize adverse effects on the prevailing height and the prevailing setback of the primary building volumes of the museums along the historic Mall and Constitution Avenue by refining the design and location of the support building along the north edge of the site to better recognize the spatial organization of the urban context.  
*Minor adverse effect** on compatibility with the adjacent architectural context – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
*Minor adverse effect* – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme |
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| **Moderate adverse effect** on compatibility with the adjacent urban context  
- The water element at the site’s periphery introduces a new landscape element within the urban context  
- The service entrance along 14th Street alters the street’s existing character  
- The one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site with its sloping landscaped roof alters the established setbacks and building edge character along Constitution Avenue | *Minor adverse effect* – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | * In the Plinth Scheme, the Plaza Scheme, the Pavilion Scheme, the Blended Scheme, and the Refined Pavilion Scheme, avoid the adverse effects of the loading dock on the adjacent architectural and urban context by sharing the loading dock with the National Museum of African American History or minimize its adverse effects by reducing its size or screening it from view. |
| **Major adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme  
- The one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site obstructs views of the Washington Monument Grounds | ***Major adverse effect*** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- *It has an advantage over the Plinth, Pavilion, and Blended schemes in that it is lower and farther south, and therefore blocks less of the Washington Monument* | * In the Blended Scheme, minimize adverse effects on important non-cardinal views from principal corner street crossings by refining the design of the one-story building element at the northwest corner of the site. The location of this building element on the NMAAHC site obstructs pedestrian-level views of the Washington Monument Grounds. Minimize adverse effects by relocating or reducing the height of the lifted landscape. |
| **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme | **Moderate adverse effect** – Same effects as the Plinth Scheme, except:  
**Design Advantages**  
- *Both the height and volume have been reduced, thereby lessening the impact on views from the historic Mall* |  |
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<td>***Major adverse effect – Same effects and Minimization/Design Advantages as</td>
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<td>of approach from the Washington Monument Grounds</td>
<td>the Blended Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The Corona obstructs views to the Old Post Office tower and blocks</td>
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<td>views of several historic buildings within the Federal Triangle</td>
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<td>• The Corona conceals a portion of the west facade of the National</td>
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<td>Museum of American History</td>
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<td><strong>Design Advantages</strong></td>
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<td>• The U.S. Department of Commerce building remains visible</td>
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<td>directions of approach from the Old Post Office – Same effects as the</td>
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<td>Plinth Scheme</td>
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