



## Board of Directors Holds Semi-Annual Meeting

The Board of Directors of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association met at the Memorial for a Semi-Annual Meeting on August 21–22, 2015. The Board received reports from the Memorial Staff covering the projects, programs and exhibitions underway at the Memorial. The major restoration projects are the Tower Exterior Restoration, the South Lodge Room, and the East Stairwells. Another major project is the installation of an emergency generator. When the installation is complete, the generator will have the capacity to handle the requirements of the entire building, including the elevators. Planning this project began two years ago and the generator will be functional this autumn. The Board affirmed its commitment to the restoration, upgrading and continuing maintenance of the Memorial.

The Board received a report from the Memorial's investment managers and a report on the operating budget of the Memorial. The Board addressed the need to generate additional income to continue the restoration of the Memorial, fund its operations and provide educational programs for our members and the public within the guidelines of our Strategic Plan and our Mission.

Under the leadership of President Gilmour, a major focus of the Board Meeting was the establishment of two task forces. One to address increasing funding for the Memorial Association and one to develop an effective outreach program with an emphasis on education and our Ambassadors.



*The current Board of Directors of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### *Sharing Our Light*

*by Ridgely H. Gilmour*



Those of you who have visited the Memorial in the last two years will have noticed the scaffolding placed around the upper portion of the tower. It's obvious that restoration work is being done, but I thought you would be interested in hearing some details on the work. The forces of nature and time itself over the last ninety-plus years have deteriorated the grouting and even moved some of the massive granite blocks by small but noticeable increments.

Over the years, some repairs, although done with the best intentions, have created serious problems. Modern caulking, for instance, was used many years ago to seal the deteriorated mortar joints, not knowing that in a relatively short time, it would deteriorate and instead of keeping the moisture out, would sometimes have the reverse effect of sealing the moisture inside the joints. The Memorial Association management, using operative masons of great skill, is regrouting the structure using proper materials and techniques so that the building will stand tall for another 100 years.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

With operative masons working on the structure, the Memorial Association's speculative Masons are working just as hard to implement our mission to inspire and educate humanity about the character and virtues of George Washington. This singular individual, with such strength of character and willingness to work for the common good, and whose deeds and actions left us with such an incredible heritage, becomes the representation of Masonry in action. The man becomes the message. The forward-thinking Masons and Grand Lodges who spearheaded the development of the Memorial a century ago knew this. In our ever-changing society, it is our hope and prayer that we will never forget this. That is the mission of the GWMNMA, and it is a mission we take very seriously.

You too, can be a part of this mission. The Association has several programs that you can become part of to help with funding this important work.

One very rewarding program that I call your attention to is the George Washington Memorial Society. For a joining fee of \$1000 and a yearly donation of \$250, you can be part of a group of individuals who understand the importance of the mission and also enjoy being continually involved in the organization.

For the men and women who belong to this dedicated group, there is a feeling of being involved in something greater than yourself — of being involved in something very worthwhile and necessary for the good of humanity. Their ongoing, annual commitment to support our work helps us share our Light with all those who visit the Memorial daily. To them, and to all of our supporters, I express my thanks.

## The Association Welcomes New Board Members

Seven new Board Members were elected and one Officer was re-elected at the Memorial Association's Annual Meeting held in Vancouver, British Columbia, in February. These Brethren will serve until February 22, 2018.



Orville R. Armstrong  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Tennessee*



Philip G. Buchholz  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Wyoming*



John M. Chambliss, Jr.  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Virginia*



Richard J. Elman  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Indiana*



Mansour Hatefi  
*Past Grand Master*  
*District of Columbia*



Douglas W. McDonald, Sr.  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Georgia*



Thomas K. Sturgeon  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Pennsylvania*



J.F. "Jeff" Webb  
*Past Grand Master*  
*Louisiana*



## MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDRIA

### *The Importance of Restoration*

by George D. Seghers



The view from the top of the Memorial never fails to amaze and inspire me. The Washington Monument and our Nation's Capital are to me dramatic visible reminders of George Washington and what he accomplished and also how much we are indebted to him. Washington did more, gave more, and sacrificed more for the creation of this great nation than anyone. We should never forget that he risked all — his fortune, his future, his family and his life — so that we may live in the greatest, most secure and surely the most free nation in the history of mankind.

Under the guidance and direction of the Officers and the Board of Directors the restoration of the Memorial continues and will continue for the next few years. Last year at this time, the Tower Pyramid was covered with scaffolding. Now, the seventh through the ninth levels of the Memorial are encased in scaffolding as we continue the arduous and necessary process of restoration. We will continue to work our way down the Memorial: sealing, restoring and cleaning.

The beauty and magnitude of the exterior stone work is absolutely astounding when seen up close. The attention to detail and the craftsmanship is truly something to behold.

As we move down from level to level, we will be installing new exterior LED lighting fixtures which will enable us to highlight the wonderful architectural features of the Memorial.

We are also restoring the Memorial's interior. The southeast stairwell and the South Lodge Room and Ante Rooms were just completed. Grand Masonic Hall, the North Lodge Room and the northeast stairwell are the next areas that will be restored. Access ramps have been installed throughout the public areas of the Memorial to provide access for all of our guests.

Restoring the Memorial is a challenging and a rewarding experience. Just as Masonry teaches us to improve ourselves daily, we are striving to improve the Memorial daily, to make visiting the the Memorial a pleasant, enjoyable, educational and inspiring experience. The work that is being done here is only possible with your support and involvement. The Freemasons and Friends of the Memorial built the Memorial eighty-three years ago, the Freemasons and Friends of the Memorial are now returning the Memorial to the condition it was when dedicated in 1932 as a symbol of the admiration and respect that the Freemasons of America had and have for George Washington. Thank you for your continued support of our work.



*High on a scaffold on the eastern face of the Eighth Floor (Templar Chapel), workers carefully remortar the Corinthian pilasters.*



*Guests enjoy refreshments and fellowship at the reception in Memorial Hall during the 2015 George Washington's Birthday Gala at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Entertainment and a banquet complete the formal event, held annually.*

## Plan Now to Attend Our 2016 Washington's Birthday Celebration

Each year, Freemasons, their friends and families gather at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial to honor the life of Brother Washington on the anniversary of his birth. A special event this year will be tied in to our recent designation as a National Historic Landmark (see page 11 for more information).

### *Monday, February 22*

- *Wreath Laying at the Tomb of Brother Washington*, Alexandria-Washington Lodge N° 22, at Mount Vernon, 8 a.m.
- *National Historic Landmark Unveiling Ceremony*, outside the Memorial's entrance, 10:00 a.m.
- *George Washington Symposium* — North Lodge Room, 1:00 p.m. (see story below for details)
- *Reception* — Memorial Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- *Entertainment* — Memorial Theater, 6:45 p.m.
- *Banquet* — Grand Masonic Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- *Presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award* — Grand Masonic Hall, 9:00 p.m.

Tickets for the Monday evening black-tie events are \$125, and may be purchased on our website, <http://gwmemorial.org>. Limited seating is available. For more information, contact Shawn Eyer, Director of Communications, via e-mail at [seyer@gwmemorial.org](mailto:seyer@gwmemorial.org).



*The George Washington Symposium is held in the Memorial's beautiful North Lodge Room. Each year, notable speakers present fascinating perspectives on the life and impact of George Washington. The event is free and open to the public.*

## Scholars to Speak at the 2016 George Washington Symposium

Each year, leading scholars of the life and era of George Washington are invited to the Memorial to share their insights. The theme of next year's George Washington Symposium is "From Relics to Repositories: Preserving George Washington's Legacy Yesterday and Today."

Three speakers are scheduled for the 2016 Symposium. Carol Borchert Cadou is the Senior Vice President for Historic Preservation & Collections at George Washington's Mount Vernon. Martha Custis Peter is a sixth-generation granddaughter of Martha Washington. Timothy K. Winkle is the Archivist of Alexandria-Washington Lodge N° 22, and Curator at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

The George Washington Symposium is held annually on Washington's Birthday to provide the public with enlightening contemporary research on the life of George Washington. Mark Tabbert, the Memorial's Director of Collections, serves as the Symposium's Master of Ceremonies. Admission is free. Attendees are asked to preregister at <http://gwmemorial.org>.



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# The Memorial Temple: The Designer and the Design, 1920–1921

by Mark A. Tabbert

On a cool October morning in 1921, New York architects Frank J. Helmle and Harvey Wiley Corbett traveled to Alexandria, Virginia, to meet members of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. After greeting them at Union Station, the railway stop at King Street, Memorial President Louis A. Watres and Charles Callahan led the way to nearby Shutters Hill. As they walked up the grassy slope, Watres and Callahan expressed their vision for a great stone Masonic memorial temple dedicated to George Washington. Watres, a Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and Callahan, then Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, peppered their conversation with many symbolic ideas that must have been new to the two architects, who were not Freemasons. The conversation must have changed to patriotic sentiments when they reached the summit. There, they beheld the Potomac River Valley stretching from the obelisk of the Washington Monument in the north, to nearby church spires of Alexandria, and then downstream toward Washington's Mount Vernon in the south.

Descending the hill, they next visited Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22's apartments and museum on the second floor of City Hall. They viewed many valuable Washington artifacts, including the silver trowel used at the 1793 cornerstone ceremony for the United States Capitol. After an enjoyable lunch, Helmle and Corbett caught an afternoon train home. Along the way, Corbett made his first sketch of the memorial temple (see page 6 of the last issue for an image of this drawing). Back at their offices, they quickly developed the sketch into design drawings. A few days later, at the October 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Memorial Association's Executive Committee, they presented their design.

That meeting was held in Helmle & Corbett's offices in the Bush Terminal Sales Building in Brooklyn, which Corbett had recently designed (see the illustration on page 6). There, Louis Watres, William S. Farmer (New York), Melvin M. Johnson (Massachusetts) and J. Claude Keiper (D.C.) officially approved the proposed "memorial temple plans" as a "general scheme." The committee also requested that detailed plans and costs be submitted at its November meeting. They also secured S. Eugene Osgood of Grand Rapids, Michigan — who, with his father, had designed more than a dozen Masonic temples — as a consulting architect.

## *Building a Partnership*

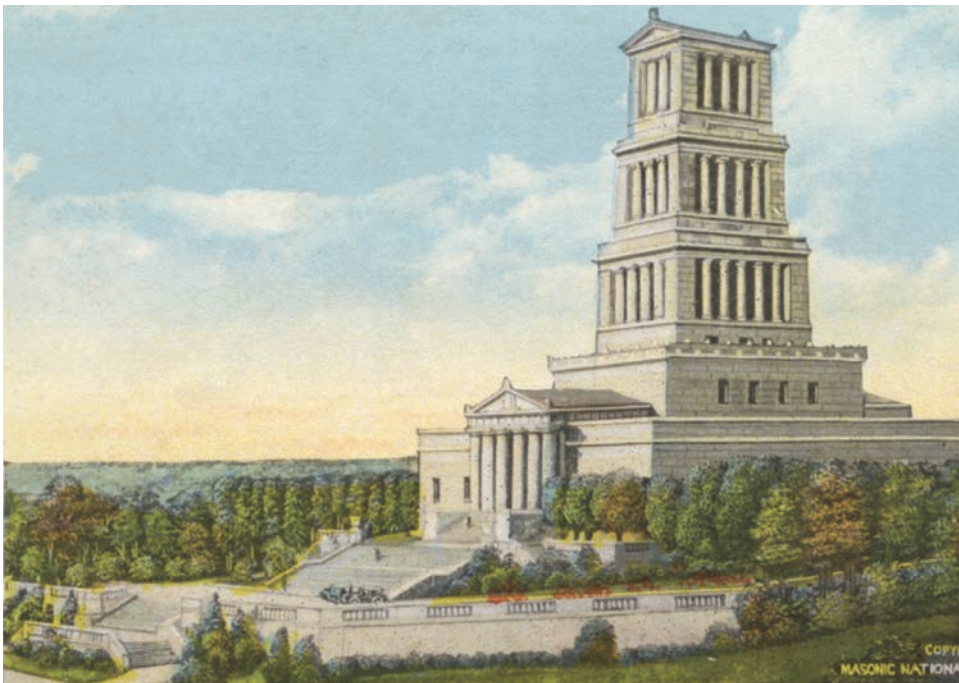
Helmle's and Corbett's partnership began in 1912. Frank J. Helmle (1869–1939) was born in Marietta, Ohio, and studied at Cooper Union and the School of Fine Arts of the Brooklyn Museum. In 1891, after briefly working for McKim, Mead & White, he opened his own studio. Partnering with other architects, Helmle worked

on many buildings in Brooklyn and Manhattan. His reputation for designing fireproof, multistory buildings may be why he and Corbett were so highly recommended to Louis Watres.

Although both Helmle and Corbett worked on the Memorial's plans, the overall design was Corbett's vision. Corbett (1873–1954) was a native Californian who graduated from the University of California and from the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. In 1900, he began his career working for Cass Gilbert (1859–1934), who had designed the Minnesota State Capitol (1895) and would design New York's Woolworth Building (1913). Corbett's first major commission was the Springfield Municipal Group in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1913 (see page 6 of the last issue of *LIGHT*). By 1920, he had partnered with Helmle and had built the Bush Terminal Co. buildings in New York and London.



*A native of San Francisco, Harvey Wiley Corbett was a visionary American architect who trained in the Beaux Arts tradition and later became one of the leading designers of Modernist skyscrapers.*



*This early postcard illustrates Corbett's early concept of the Memorial, featuring a shorter tower with a gabled roof.*

After finishing the design for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Corbett would initially assist designing 30 Rockefeller Center before concentrating on the Metropolitan Life North Building in lower Manhattan. Originally designed to be a 100-story skyscraper, the onset of the Great Depression caused it to be downscaled to 32 floors. Also in the 1930s, he designed the New York City Criminal Courts Building and chaired the architecture committees for both the 1933 Chicago and 1939 New York World's Fairs.

Corbett's work is still greatly admired. He is remembered for him many step-back skyscrapers. His modernist aesthetic has influenced generations of urban planners, and his futuristic visions continue to inspire science fiction writers and movie set designers.

### *A Lighthouse Takes Shape*

On November 26<sup>th</sup> 1921, the Memorial Association's executive committee re-convened at Helmle & Corbett's office. Consulting architect S. Eugene Osgood also attended. Together, Helmle and Corbett presented detailed drawings and a scale model of their George Washington Memorial Temple. The design incorporated elements of different classical buildings, but its basic shape was that of a lighthouse, as is fitting for a monumental structure in a port city named Alexandria. Corbett did not, however, follow the design of the ancient Egyptian lighthouse. Instead, he modeled the three-step tower on the ancient lighthouse of Ostia, the port of Rome. Each step of the tower created a smaller temple, with the top ending with a gabled roof. The three temples would employ different architectural orders: climbing up from Doric to Ionic to Corinthian.



*The Bush Terminal (1916–1918), designed by Corbett.*

The Memorial's broad base, or podium, had at its center a portico in the Doric order inspired by the Parthenon of Athens. As at the Acropolis, to reach the temple visitors would ascend several flights of stairs. After passing through great bronze doors, they would enter Memorial Hall and encounter a colossal statue of George Washington. The total cost to erect the Memorial was estimated at \$5 million (\$67 million in 2015 dollars).

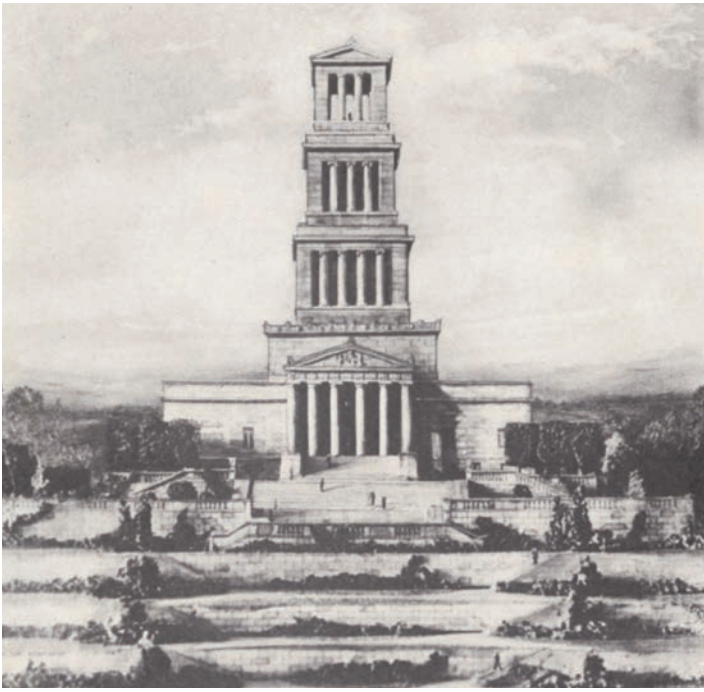
Although the executive committee approved the design, Eugene Osgood expressed concerns and made several recommendations to reduce the size and overall cost of the construction. Between the November meeting and February 1922, Helmle and Corbett met with Osgood and Keiper, the Association's Secretary/Treasurer, to refine the design and reduce the budget. During this period, Corbett was initiated, passed, and raised a Master Mason in Sagamore Lodge N<sup>o</sup> 371, New York City.

### *Planning the Interior*

But it would not be the external design alone that would recommend the Memorial for approval. From December 1921 to January 1922, Corbett laid out the internal floor plans. The Memorial Hall would be supported by eight Composite columns and contain a thirty foot high niche for the Washington statue. Near the entrance would be Alexandria-Washington's Replica Lodge Room, a space to permanently display many priceless Washington artifacts owned by the lodge.

He placed Masonic lodge rooms to the north and south of Memorial Hall. The south would be for the exclusive use of Alexandria-Washington Lodge N<sup>o</sup> 22, and the north would be available to all area and visiting Masonic bodies. The ground floor





A drawing that Corbett presented during the 1922 meeting of the Memorial Association.

was planned for administrative offices and a large reception hall supported by massive solid granite Tuscan columns. A Roman-style theater, two stories in height, would be built to the west.

The tower floors presented many design challenges. The first issue to solve was the construction method. Helmle's expertise allowed the building to be composed of steel-reinforced concrete. Concrete would be less expensive than blocks of stones, and it would also allow for more floor space. A granite façade would protect the concrete and affirm Freemasonry's enduring principles. Corbett's design enclosed the lower two tiers, with one designated for a museum and the second a library. The top "temple" would be an open-air observation level.

### *"It Shall Tower Above"*

The twelfth annual convention of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association opened on February 22, 1922. President Watres called the meeting to order, with Grand Masters of most American jurisdictions present. Harvey Wiley Corbett unveiled a scale model of the building and grounds of the proposed Memorial. The attendees were invited to examine the model and ask questions, then and during the luncheon break.

Prior to recessing for refreshment, President Watres spoke:

*It was our beloved [President & Brother] McKinley who said, "Every monument to Washington is a monument to patriotism."*

*Our monument to Washington will be that, but it will be more than that. As it shall stand in its beauty and majesty on the banks of the Potomac, it will emphasize, because Washington subscribed thereto, the basic teachings of Freemasonry, to wit, the Father-*



Detail of a 1575 map of Ostia by Antonio Lafreri, depicting the ancient lighthouse.

*hood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.*

*As it shall rise above its beautiful environment on King's Highway and in plain sight of the Nation's Capital, it will eloquently speak of the fundamental principles of our fraternity, principles upon which our government is founded — Liberty, Justice, Equality.*

*As it shall tower above the City of Alexandria, and in view of historic Mount Vernon, it will bring to mind another of our tenets, the immortality of the soul.*

Reconvening at 1:30 p.m., Corbett addressed the assembly and answered a few last questions. On a motion by Cooper H. Prickett, Past Grand Master of New Jersey, the Association unanimously voted to approve the model and plans in principle. It had been just four and a half months since the Executive Committee had first set foot in Helmle & Corbett's office.

A million details and several million dollars stood between the groundbreaking and the dedication, but with the blessings of Deity, and the fixed and steady purpose of Louis Watres and Charles Callahan, the Freemasons of America had designs upon the tracing board.

The 1922 convention adjourned. The assembled brethren then "made a pilgrimage to Mount Vernon and there placed a wreath of flowers on the tomb of Brother George Washington."

*Mark A. Tabbert is the Director of Library & Museum Collections of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.*

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# The Eye of Providence: A Journey into Masonic Symbolism

by Shawn E. Eyer

Each year, the Memorial Association creates a commemorative holiday ornament featuring a theme from Freemasonry, George Washington, or the Memorial building itself. This year, our holiday ornament is The Eye of Providence (see page 16 for more information). It is a symbol recognized by Freemasons everywhere as a beautiful representation of the watchful care of the Supreme Architect. But its history as a symbol reveals ancient roots that antedate its inclusion in our Craft by millennia. Learning more about those roots can help us to better comprehend what our ancient brethren understood when they contemplated this beautiful emblem.

## *Drawn from the Great Light*

One of the most extensive sources of our symbolism is the Great Light in Masonry. There, we find several references to the all-seeing eye of the Supreme Being, especially in the books classified as “wisdom literature.” Some of the earliest are from the Book of Psalms. The majority of the songs in this book were written between 800 and 600 BC, and were used in the ceremonies held at the Temple of Solomon. The symbol recurs numerous times in these beautiful ancient hymns:

*The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven:  
his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.*

*Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him,  
upon them that hope in his mercy....*

*The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,  
and his ears are open unto their cry.*

Here, the divine gaze is celebrated as profoundly concerned with justice. According to the Psalmists, the Supreme Being observes his creation from the supernal throne in the celestial Temple, gazing with approval on those who are aware of His presence and who follow the moral law. Similar uses of the symbol of the eye of God may be found in the Book of Proverbs, which introduces the idea that “*The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge.*”

Another book — The Wisdom of Ben Sira, also known as Ecclesiasticus — may be one of the most important sacred sources for the symbolism with which we are so familiar. It was written in the second century BC, and it reiterates the theme of omniscience:

*And his eyes are upon them that fear him,  
and he knoweth every work of man.*

Later, Ben Sira uses language that more directly evokes the common iconographic depictions of the All-Seeing Eye:

*... the eyes of the Lord are ten thousand times brighter than the sun, beholding all the ways of men, and considering the most secret parts.*

This image of the divine gaze as more luminous than ten thousand suns, is the source in biblical literature for Western iconography's depiction of the eye of God within a brilliant glory.

The theme of the divine gaze is found in the New Testament as well. The Letter to the Hebrews says:

*Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.*

## *The Emblem in Art & Architecture*

The Eye of God became a popular theme in the art of the Late Renaissance, usually appearing surrounded by rays of light (in reference to the words of Ben Sira). The Eye was often depicted as contained within a triangle, with the three sides of the triangle referring to the three divine persons of the Trinity.

During this period, the symbol appears frequently in church architecture and religious paintings. It also is found extensively in emblem books. During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, small books containing symbolic engravings and short poems were extremely popular in Europe. Filled with allegorical images that required effort to understand, these books made prodigious use of the All-Seeing Eye as a symbol of the awareness of God.

## *Early Masonic Appearances*

Whether from the biblical references, the artistic and architectural examples, or the frequent depiction in emblem books, it is easy to see that the All-Seeing Eye would have been a familiar symbol to the early Freemasons.

The earliest example of such a symbol just might be on a personal seal of Bro. Robert Moray (1609–1673), a Scottish soldier and natural philosopher who was initiated into the Craft in 1641. A partial wax impression of one of his seals is in the shape of a circle, with an eye at the center, radiating in every direction to the circumference. Was it a Masonic reference? There is no way to be certain, but some historians find it quite possible.

The symbol appears in an unmistakable way in the engraved frontispieces of two books of Bro. Fifield D'Assingy (1707–1744):





Detail, American Masonic Tracing Board, oil paint on canvas, ca. 1825. Gift of Claude H. Harris, Past Master, Alexandria-Washington Lodge N<sup>o</sup> 22, Alexandria, Virginia (2014.033).

*An Impartial Answer to the Enemies of Freemasonry* (1741) and *A Serious and Impartial Inquiry Into the Cause of the Present Decay of Free-Masonry in the Kingdom of Ireland* (1744). Each depicts the All-Seeing Eye with rays descending. The 1744 example, which is particularly well-drawn, seems to show a group of Freemasons on their way to the lodge under the protection of the divine gaze, .

Although the All-Seeing Eye was clearly a symbol in the Masonic vocabulary by this time, it was a rather esoteric one, as it does not appear to show up in the Masonic writings of the era. It was an image that many Masons recognized, but did not much speak about either in their rituals or their interpretations of Masonry. That begins to change in the 1770s, during the ascendancy of the great Masonic lecturer, Bro. William Preston (1742–1818). The symbol appears in numerous places and forms in Preston's degree lectures. For example, in his closing ceremony of second degree, the brethren are admonished:

*Then let us consider, that wherever we are, and whatever we do in the character of craftsmen, God is with us, and his all seeing eye observes us: that acting in conformity to our tenets we may declare in his presence that we have endeavored to discharge our duty with fervency and zeal.*

The above example was, obviously, not for publication at the time. But other Masons were mentioning the All-Seeing Eye in print. In 1766, Bro. Isaac Head gave a Charge in the Scilly Isles of England, in which he asked that the brethren remain “*ever mindful that the Eye which pervades the immeasurable Regions of Space, and sees through the thickest Darkness, is ever present with us.*”

Many are aware that the common American lodge working came to us from William Preston via Bro. Thomas Smith Webb (1771–1819), who began publishing an American adaptation of Preston's book. The 1802 edition of Webb's *Freemason's Monitor* documents how the All-Seeing Eye was taking its permanent place among the hieroglyphical emblems of the third degree. In Webb's version, we are urged to remember that:

*... although our thoughts, words, and actions, may be hidden from the eyes of man, yet that ALL-SEEING EYE, Whom the Sun, Moon and Stars obey, and under whose watchful care even Comets perform their stupendous revolutions, pervades the inmost recesses of the human heart, and will reward us according to our merits.*

Reading these words, so familiar to us as American Freemasons, it is easy to see how the symbol of the All-Seeing Eye has retained its ancient meaning from the wisdom literature of the ancient Hebrews, through its role in European art and architecture, into the traditions of our Craft.

Perhaps it is ironic that, today, it is looked upon *primarily* as a Masonic emblem — even by those outside of our Fraternity. For, in truth, the All-Seeing Eye is a profound symbol that belongs to everyone who perceives the reality of an omniscient and just Supreme Being.

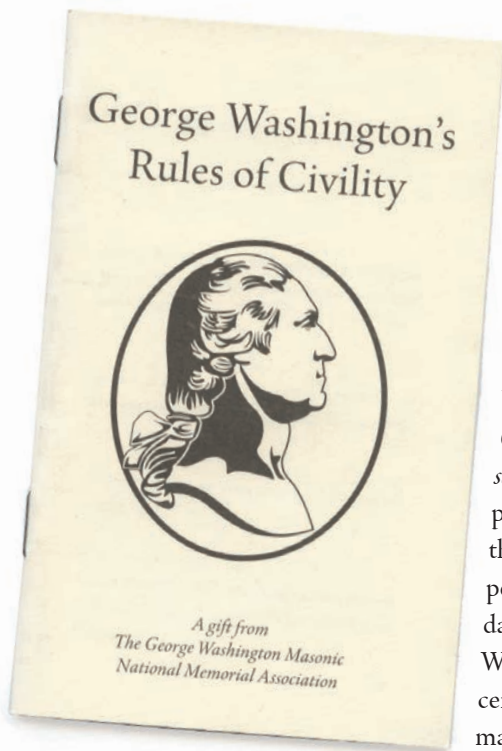
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Shawn E. Eyer is the Director of Communications and Development of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

## OUR GIFT TO YOU

### Washington's Rules of Civility

George Washington's many virtues have, for centuries, led Masons to regard him as a true exemplar of the dignity and morality that our Craft espouses. He was twenty years old when he was initiated into Freemasonry and



became exposed to the beautiful values taught in our degrees. But we know that Washington was already thinking about values and decorum about four years prior to that. Francis Hawkins' 1661 book, *Youth's Behavior, Or, Decencie in Conversation Among Men*, was a popular volume used in the education of young people in Washington's day. At some point during Washington's adolescence, he had occasion to make a copy of a section of this book. While nobody

knows the exact context or reason why, one theory is that he was practicing his penmanship. Or, perhaps he may have simply found the section valuable and desired a full copy.

The section is titled, "The Rules of Civility and Decent Behaviour in Company and Conversation," and Washington's manuscript of it still survives in the Library of Congress. The *Rules of Civility* is a manual of behavior comprising 110 guidelines for maintaining friendly and respectful relations among people. They show young Washington's concern for civil behavior in public, in private, in business, and in all other realms of life.

While some of the rules seem antiquated to us now, most are as useful today as they ever were. They provide important reminders for civil discourse and offer a fascinating window into the values that shaped George Washington from his very youth.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association has republished *George Washington's Rules of Civility* as a 36-page booklet, and we are proud to make it available to you free of charge (North America only). Those who register will also be added to the mailing list for *LIGHT*.

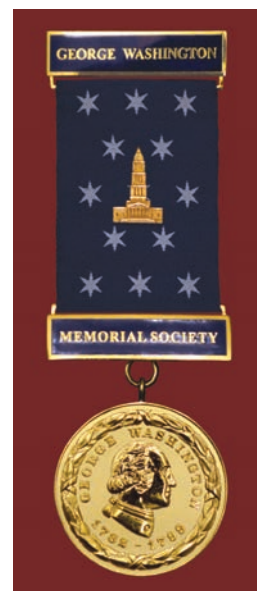
To request your free *George Washington's Rules of Civility* booklet, visit <http://gwmemorial.org/civility/> and follow the directions.

### Join the George Washington Memorial Society

At the 2013 annual meeting of the Memorial Association, the Board of Directors voted to approve extending the opportunity to become a Charter Member of the George Washington Memorial Society. The Society comprises a select group of members dedicated to supporting the Memorial and its mission.

CHARTER MEMBERS are those who donate \$1,000 or more to the Memorial with their original membership application, and \$250 or more per year thereafter. Charter Members will receive a unique hand-crafted patent signifying their membership in the Society, as well as a high-quality medal and lapel pin. Charter Members will be named on a permanent plaque in the Memorial and displayed on our website. Charter Members will also be invited to a reception at the gala celebration of George Washington's Birthday at the Memorial each year. A list of the Charter Members to date may be found on page 12 of this edition of *LIGHT*.

Membership is for individuals only. Applications for membership are available on the Memorial's website, [gwmemorial.org](http://gwmemorial.org). For more information about the George Washington Memorial Society, contact the Memorial's Executive Director George D. Seghers at 703-683-2007 or [gseghers@gwmemorial.org](mailto:gseghers@gwmemorial.org).



### Thank You to the Royal Order of Scotland

The Memorial gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Sir James E. Winzenreid, Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland, USA, for sponsoring this issue of *LIGHT* and for his continuing support of the Memorial. The Royal Order of Scotland is an invitational Masonic Order that preserves and confers two beautiful degrees. To learn more, visit their website at <http://www.yorkrite.com/roos/>.





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# The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is Designated a National Historic Landmark

As you may have recently seen in the news, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial was recently added to the United States government's official list of National Historic Landmarks and National Register of Historic Places. By coincidence, the official announcement fell on August 4 — an auspicious day, being the 262<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Washington's raising as a Master Mason in Fredericksburg in 1753.

This is an exclusive status, reserved only for buildings and sites that possess extraordinary significance to our nation's history.

At last, our Fraternity's beautiful Memorial to the life and character of George Washington has been so recognized.

"The Memorial's importance within the Masonic Fraternity has been long understood," said Shawn Eyer, the Memorial's Director of Communications and Development. "We are delighted that the Memorial is now being recognized as national historic landmark. It is both an impressive local landmark and a striking achievement of Harvey Wiley Corbett, one of the twentieth century's foremost architects."

## *A "Unified, Fully National Initiative"*

What does this mean from the perspective of the Memorial Association's member jurisdictions? It is important to bear in mind that the designation of the Memorial as a National Historic Landmark does not mean that the Federal government will become involved in the support of the Memorial. This status simply means that there is official recognition that the Memorial is a place that — as the National Park Service puts it — possesses "exceptional value and quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States."

Indeed, the foundation of that historical importance is that this Memorial was conceived, funded, built, and maintained by the Freemasons of the United States as a testimony of their admiration of George Washington. The NPS' statement emphasizes that designation of the Memorial as a National Historic Landmark would "recognize the significance of the Memorial as the only major unified, fully national initiative of the Freemasons and

among the boldest attempts by a private organization to memorialize George Washington," and that being named to the list would "help to ensure that a preservation ethic will guide the future management and maintenance of the Memorial, and encourage civic pride and popular support for the site."

In other words, our new status as a National Historic Landmark is in recognition of the fact that American Masons have built and maintain the Memorial through private donations. We rely upon that ongoing support to fund our very active ongoing

restoration efforts. The donations we receive also allow our many valuable programs to flourish. In short, the Fraternity's support of the Memorial makes the Memorial what it is. This new designation does not change that; it merely recognizes its vital importance in the story of our nation.

The Memorial Association is grateful to all who assisted in making this designation a reality, most notably: Paul Dolinsky, Chief of the Historic American Landscapes Survey Program at the National Park Service; Kate M. Kocyba, 2010 Tompkins Fellow, Historic American Buildings Survey of the NPS; James A. Jacobs, Historian at the Historic American Buildings Survey of the NPS; and Kathryn G. Smith, National Historic Landmarks & National Register Coordinator for the National Capital Region, NPS.



*The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is now recognized as a National Historic Landmark. Important restoration work, shown above, is currently being performed to ensure that the Memorial's mission will continue for generations to come.*

## *Ceremony to Be Held on Washington's Birthday*

Each year, the Memorial celebrates George Washington's Birthday, February

22, with activities that include an educational Symposium and a formal Gala. In 2016, an special ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. near the entrance of the Memorial to unveil the National Historic Landmark plaque. We hope that you will join us in celebrating this important achievement for the Memorial. See page 4 for additional information on all the day's events.

Visit our website at <http://gwmemorial.org/landmark/> to learn more about this important development. If you have any questions about the National Historic Landmark designation, contact Shawn Eyer at 703-400-4950 or [seyer@gwmemorial.org](mailto:seyer@gwmemorial.org).

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### OUR MISSION

*To inspire humanity through  
education to emulate and  
promote the virtues,  
character and vision of  
George Washington,  
the Man, the Mason  
and Father of our Country.*

## Become a Friend of the Memorial

Yes! Count on me to support our Memorial. Enclosed is my contribution of:

- ☐ **\$100 Silver:** Your gift will be acknowledged and you will receive a Friend of the Memorial Certificate.
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- ☐ **\$1000 New Century:** Your gift will be acknowledged, you will receive a Certificate and your name will be cast in bronze and displayed in the main entrance to Memorial Hall.

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- ☐ **\$5,000**
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In addition to the above benefits, all Patrons will receive a plaque and their names will be permanently displayed on a Patrons Wall of Honor recognizing major benefactors prominently located in the Memorial.

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Mail to GWMNMA, 101 Callahan Drive,  
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## MEMORIAL GIFT SHOP FEATURED ITEMS



### 2015 Holiday Ornament

Titled *The Eye of Providence*, the new 2015 ornament features the Masonic symbol of the All-Seeing Eye. Made in the USA. \$25. (Nº 858)



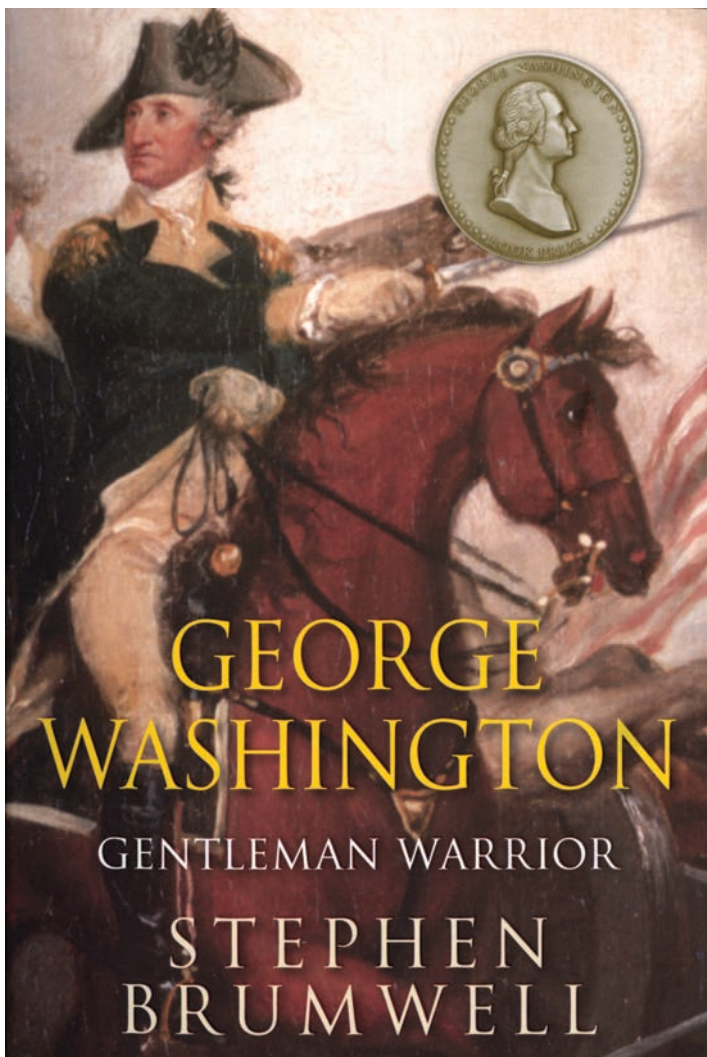
### 2014 Holiday Ornament

Titled *Erected in Strength and Beauty*, this ornament frames the Memorial's Tower with beautiful holiday filigree. Made in the USA. \$25. (Nº 825)



### Centennial Medallion

A beautiful two-sided keepsake, featuring Washington's profile on the obverse, and the Memorial's striking crest on the reverse. 1½" diameter. Base Metal \$35. (Nº 439) Gold Plate \$75. (Nº 433) Sterling Silver Gilt \$150. (Nº 434)

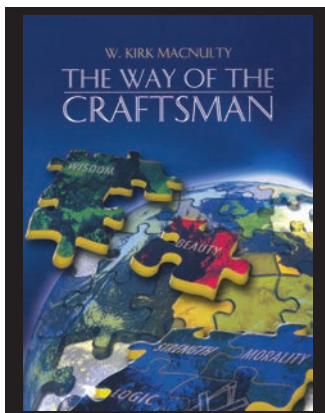


*George Washington: Gentleman Warrior* by Stephen Brumwell. Winner of the prestigious George Washington Book Prize, this book is a vivid recounting of the formative years and military career of "The Father of his Country." It focuses on a side of him that is often overlooked: the ambitious young frontier officer and the early career of the commander of the revolutionaries' Continental Army. Paperback, 512 pages. \$18.99 (Nº 859)

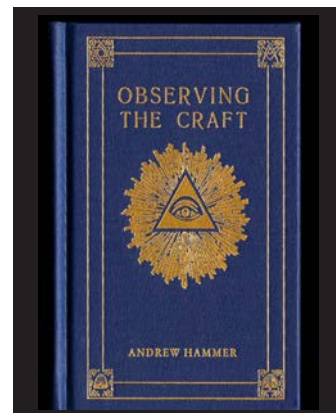


### Pewter Medallion

This attractive memento features the Memorial's eastern face on the front, and the crest of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association on the verso. 1¼" diameter. \$20. (Nº 803)



*The Way of the Craftsman* by W. Kirk MacNulty is a journey into the symbolism and philosophy of Freemasonry from the perspective of Renaissance mysticism and modern psychology. Paperback, 160 pages. \$16.95. (Nº 173)



*Observing the Craft, Classic Edition* by Andrew Hammer. A manifesto of sorts for the observant Mason, who seeks quality over quantity in every aspect of Freemasonry. Hardbound with gilded trim, 248 pages. \$36. (Nº 660)



## MEMORIAL GIFT SHOP FEATURED ITEMS



### Memorial Lapel Pins

Washington Profile pin, 3/4" diameter. \$8.50. (Nº 429). Memorial Crest pin, \$8.50. (Nº 428)



### Memorial Crest Cufflinks

These beautiful cufflinks featuring the Memorial's Crest are the perfect way to show your support. 3/4" diameter with swivel-bar fasteners. \$45. (Nº 604)



### George Washington Cufflinks

These beautiful cufflinks feature George Washington's distinctive profile encircled by a laurel wreath. 3/4" diameter with swivel-bar fasteners. \$45. (Nº 431)



### 100% Silk Centennial Ties

Choose from 1) Navy blue with red and white stripes, George Washington profile, and Washington's signature in gold (left, Nº 698), 2) Navy blue with red and gold stripes, black Square & Compasses, and Memorial crest (center, Nº 700), 3) Navy blue, white stripes and black silk-screened George Washington profile (right, Nº 639). \$38 each.



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# LIGHT

of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

101 Callahan Drive · Alexandria, Virginia 22301-2751

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## 2015 COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT

### The Eye of Providence



The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is pleased to present our 2015 commemorative holiday ornament: *The Eye of Providence*. The Eye of Providence, or the All-Seeing Eye, is an impressive emblem of the omniscience of God and the universality of his mercy. Widely depicted in works of art as well as sacred architecture as surrounded by radiant Light, it is instantly recognizable as a reference to the unbounded care of the Divine for His creation.

As a young man, George Washington expressed faith in “*the all-powerful dispensations of Providence*.” Later, throughout the American Revolution and the early days of our Republic, he often expressed his unshakable belief in the role of divine Providence in the destiny of nations. And, after the American victory, Washington gratefully wrote:

*“When I contemplate the interposition of Providence, as it was visibly manifested in guiding us through the Revolution, in preparing us for the reception of the general government, and in conciliating the good will of the people of America toward one another after its adoption, I feel myself oppressed and almost overwhelmed with a sense*

*of divine munificence.”* In 1782, the All-Seeing Eye was famously emblazoned in the Great Seal of the United States in recognition of “the many signal interpositions of Providence in favor of the American cause.” Within Freemasonry, it is most often described as that “All-Seeing Eye, whom the Sun, Moon and Stars obey, and under whose watchful care even comets perform their stupendous revolutions, pervades the inmost recesses of the human heart, and will reward us according to our merits.”

To order your 2015 ornament, call 703-549-9234, visit our website at <http://gwmemorial.org/shopping/>, or use the order form on page 15 (Item N<sup>o</sup> 858, \$25).

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