

LIGHT

*of the George Washington
Masonic National Memorial*



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Historic Landmark Dedication Ceremony Held

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial was recently added to the United States government's official list of National Historic Landmarks and to the National Register of Historic Places. In celebration of this, officials from the National Park Service and many officers of the Memorial Association were on hand as the historical plaque bearing the designation was unveiled in a public ceremony held on the Memorial's front steps, Saturday morning, February 27, 2016.

Among the dignitaries present were: Ridgely H. Gilmour, President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association; George D. Seghers, Executive Director of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association; Paul D. Dolinsky, Chief, Historic American Landscapes Survey, National Park Service; Robert Vogel, Director of the National Capital Region, National Park Service; Alex Romero, Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway; and Perry Wheelock, Associate Regional Director of the Office of Resource Stewardship & Science, National Park Service. After inspiring and insightful remarks by several officials, the bronze plaque was unveiled by Association President Ridgely Gilmour and Park Service National Capital Region Director Robert Vogel.

Freemasons everywhere were proud when the Secretary of the Interior designated the George Washington Masonic National Memorial as a National Historic Landmark. By coincidence, the official announcement fell on August 4 — the 262nd anniversary of Washington's raising as a Master Mason in Fredericksburg in 1753. The designation recognizes



Four officials spoke at the unveiling ceremony (left to right): Ridgely H. Gilmour, President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association; George D. Seghers, Executive Director of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association; Paul D. Dolinsky, Chief, Historic American Landscapes Survey, National Park Service; Robert Vogel, Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Custodians of a Living Memorial

by Ridgely H. Gilmour



On February 27, 2016, we held the unveiling ceremony of the newly installed plaque

near the front steps of the Memorial designating our building as a National Historic Landmark. It was a beautiful, cool, sunny morning, and the event was well attended by members of the Fraternity and their families as well as members of the public. Several people spoke, including Paul D. Dolinsky, Chief, Historic American Landscapes Survey for the National Park Service, and Robert Vogel, Director of the National Capital Region for the National Park Service, who both gave short talks on the importance of the designation. Authorized by the Secretary of the Interior, this designation recognizes the importance of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial as an American National Landmark.

Standing on the steps that morning, I happened to glance over at the Memorial's cornerstone about 40 feet away, and started thinking back to November 1, 1923, when the cornerstone was laid. 93 years earlier, there were an estimated 13,000 people on the hill where

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the special significance of our Memorial, which was conceived, funded, built, and maintained by the Freemasons of the United States as a testimony of our admiration of George Washington.

According to the National Park Service, every National Historic Landmark possesses “exceptional value and quality in illustrating... the heritage of the United States.” The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is honored to be acknowledged as such a distinctive institution. The Park Service referred to 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.” The Memorial truly expresses Masonry’s admiration for George Washington.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

we were standing. In the crowd were President of the United States Calvin Coolidge, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and former President William Howard Taft, Governor of Virginia Elbert Trinkle and Mayor of Alexandria William Smoot, as well as Grand Masters and other Masonic dignitaries and attendees from every state in the Union. The ceremony that day was an event of national importance justifying the attendance of so many dignitaries and attendees because of the recognition of the importance of one man – President and Brother George Washington – to both the nation and the Masonic Fraternity. Through the hard work of the Masons involved in the conception, funding and building of the Memorial, and who presented us with this incredible gift (and related responsibility), our Fraternity was able to stand on the national stage that day and confirm the importance of Freemasonry in the United States. George Washington was such an incredible man of action and so much a part of our Fraternity that he stands out as our most important representation to the world of Masonry in action.

Relating the two events, the thought comes to mind that wonderful as designation and the accompanying recognition as a National Historic Landmark is, we should not lose sight of the fact that the Memorial is much more than an historic building. The Masons of the United States are custodians of a living memorial with a mission and purpose more relevant, important and valuable today than in 1923. The virtue, character and vision of George Washington should be held high today as examples of behavior, ethics and integrity so desperately needed in today’s world, and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is here to provide the way to accomplish this goal. The examples set by our first President throughout his entire life and the contributions he made to this country cannot and must not be forgotten.

That is the mission of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. On behalf of 52 Grand Lodges

The National Historic Landmark designation does not entail Federal funding for the Memorial. In fact, the inclusion of the Memorial by the Historic American Buildings Survey is based upon the fact that it is a private institution funded by Freemasons themselves. It is not just that the building alone is historic, but more so the fact that it represents the collective effort of Masons around the country to honor George Washington, not only as the father of our country, but as a brother of the Craft – built and maintained strictly through private donations.

Your ongoing support is essential to our current restoration effort. To see how you can help, please read “Restoring the Memorial’s Grandeur: How You Can Participate,” on page 8.

in the U.S. who are our active members, and ultimately on behalf of the Masons of America, our job is to preserve the memory of George Washington and his relationship in our Fraternity in a living Memorial. We accomplish this by being good custodians of the physical building our Masonic forebears gave to us, by making sure the thousands of visitors who come through the building every year have the enjoyable opportunity to learn about Washington and the Masonic Fraternity, and to provide educational and support services to our active member Grand Lodges. It is a huge endeavor, one that requires constant dedication, faith and yes, financial support to succeed.

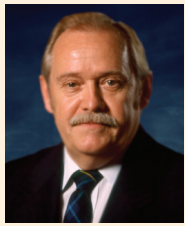
On behalf of the Memorial Association, I would like to personally thank the many Grand Masters or Past Grand Masters of all of our jurisdictions who are or have been willing to serve on our Board of Directors. The collective wisdom, energy and dedication of these men is, and has been, incredible. I would also like to thank the Grand Lodges as well as the individuals from both within and without the Fraternity who have provided financial help to allow us to pursue our ongoing mission. We have worked hard to renovate our 90-plus year old building so it will last another 100 years. We have accomplished a lot, although we still have more to do. We are working on improving and expanding our Ambassador educational programs so we can bring our message to, and be of more service to, our constituent Grand Lodges.

We are thankful, pleased and honored to have been designated a National Historic Landmark and are grateful to those who have worked hard to help us achieve that honor. With this status and with the support of Masons everywhere, we will move forward to fulfill 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.*”

MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDRIA

In Pursuit of a Grand Vision

by George D. Seghers



On March 23, 1797, George Washington wrote to the Citizens of Alexandria, “No wish in my retirement can exceed that of seeing our Country happy; and I can entertain no doubt of its being so, if all of us act the part of good Citizens; contributing our best endeavors to maintain the Constitution, support the laws, and guard our Independence against all assaults from whatsoever quarter they may come. Clouds may and doubtless often will in the vicissitudes of events, hover over our political concerns, but a steady adherence to these principles will not only dispel them but render our prospects the brighter by such temporary obscurities.” Today more than ever, we need the example and model of good citizenship that Washington personified.

The incivility which encompasses our nation can and must be dispelled. Perhaps, as a nation, we are suffering for not teaching our citizens their own history. Perhaps we no longer effectively teach civics, which explains the duties, responsibilities and privileges of citizenship. Our Founding Fathers gave us this wonderful gift of a nation that provides security, opportunity and freedom on a scale never seen before. It seems that, as a people, we take this incredible gift for granted and do not understand nor practice good citizenship. The mission of the Memorial is, “*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.*” As part of this mission, in the last year the Memorial has distributed more than 60,000 copies of *George Washington’s Rules of Civility*. As Freemasons and as admirers of George Washington, we should be in the forefront of restoring civility and good citizenship to our nation. Here at the Memorial we are doubly bound to not only practice and promote civility and good citizenship but also to educate our members and the public about George Washington, the one man who did more, sacrificed more and gave more for the creation of our nation than any other.

The Officers, members of the Board of Directors, and staff members are working diligently to accomplish our mission. Our Officers and Board Members give of their time and resources to further the goals of the Memorial Association and insure the perpetuation of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Recently, eighteen of our twenty-one Board Members traveled to Madison, Wisconsin at their own expense to attend our Board of Directors and Annual Meetings. We will miss the

following Board Members who have completed their three-year term of office: John V. Egan III from Colorado; Andrew U. Hammer from Alexandria-Washington Lodge N° 22; Stephen J. Ponzillo III from Maryland; and Gail S. Turner from Missouri. All have been active, committed, and contributing Board Members, and we are confident they will continue to promote and support the Memorial. We also welcomed the following new Board Members in February: Marty P. Alexander from Hawaii; Michael P. Bible from Alexandria-Washington Lodge N° 22; Douglas L. Caudle from North Carolina and Jimmie L. Windham from Mississippi. Also, returning to the Board are Robert P. Conley from Michigan and Claire V. Tusch from Maine. We are fortunate to have these leaders, drawn from across our nation, working to preserve and promote the Memorial and its mission to inspire and promote the virtues, character, and vision of George Washington.

Just as our Founding Fathers gave us the gift of this incredible nation, our Masonic Forefathers gave us the gift of this incredible Memorial to Brother George Washington. Just as it is our duty and our honor to promote and perpetuate the legacy of George Washington, it is also our duty and honor to perpetuate the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. The restoration and preservation that has been accomplished is the result of the generosity and support of the Grand Lodges, Lodges, Masonic Organizations, Freemasons and Friends of the Memorial. Under the guidance and leadership of present and past Officers and Board Members, we have completed approximately fifty percent of the restoration and preservation of the Memorial. We have accomplished much, but we have much more to do. To learn how you can help us complete the restoration of the Memorial, see “Restoring the Memorial’s Grandeur: How You Can Participate,” on page 8 of this edition of *LIGHT*. By offering many avenues for support at all levels, we are inviting everyone to be a part of our efforts to fulfill the mission of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. And we are working on ways to make it even easier and more convenient to participate in this crucial work.

On behalf of the Officers and the Board of Directors, I extend our sincere thanks and appreciation. We hope that you will soon have an opportunity to visit your Memorial and enjoy its important message in person. I know that you will learn new things about George Washington and Masonic history, and leave refreshed and inspired to emulate that Worshipful Brother who we so dearly respect and honor here.

Celebrating the 284th Birthday of George Washington

One of the Memorial's most important traditions is our celebration of George Washington's Birthday, which is attended by guests from across the nation and around the world. This year, the Memorial celebrated the anniversary of Brother Washington's birth with a variety of observances and special events that truly reflected our mission to honor the Father of our Country.

The day began with a National Historic Landmark Unveiling Ceremony, held on the front steps of the Memorial at 10 a.m. (See the story on page 1.)

Then, our annual George Washington Symposium convened in the North Lodge Room at 1 p.m. This year's symposium was on the theme *From Relics to Repositories: Preserving George Washington's Legacy Yesterday and Today*. Three noted scholars addressed the guests on topics pertinent to Brother Washington's life and influence.

As evening fell, our Washington's Birthday Gala began, starting with a Special Reception reserved for Charter Members of the George Washington Memorial Society in the George Washington Museum. This reception is an important way to honor those who have made an ongoing commitment to supporting the Memorial.

Then, at 5:30 p.m., our Gala Reception began. Guests enjoyed soothing piano music and refreshments while socializing in Memorial Hall. The rarely-seen Watson-Cossoul Apron, once owned by Brother Washington, was on display during this time of fellowship.

Next, the evening's entertainment began. A piper led the assembled guests into the Memorial Theater, where Scottish folk dancing was performed by the Granfling Highland Dancers, and Scottish music was performed by the Washington Scottish Pipe Band.

Then, all were invited into Grand Masonic Hall for our Washington's Birthday Gala Banquet. Executive Director George D. Seghers welcomed the guests, and introduced many dignitaries. Memorial Association President Ridgely H. Gilmour led the evening's program, which included customary toasts to Freemasonry, to the United States of America, and to Brother George Washington.

The highlight of the banquet was President Gilmour's presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award to Carol Borchert Cadou, Senior Vice President for Historic Preservation & Collections at George Washington's Mount Vernon. (See the story on page 10.)

Plan now to attend next year's events, to be held on Saturday, February 25, 2017. We'd love to see you there!



Memorial Hall provides an inspiring setting for our Gala Reception, February 27, 2016.



Enjoying the Scottish music and dancing at the Gala were (left to right): Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg, Ann Gilmour, wife of President Ridgely H. Gilmour, President Gilmour, Glenda Palmer, and John Palmer, Past Grand Master of Tennessee and past Board Member.



Guests enjoyed a fine meal and an inspiring program at the Gala Banquet in Grand Masonic Hall.

Breaking Ground for the Memorial Temple

by Mark A. Tabbert

On Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1922, Grand Masters of the United States assembled in Alexandria as the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association to unanimously approved an audacious design for a memorial temple to George Washington.

Organized in 1910, the Association spent its first twelve years as a volunteer collection of Grand Lodge representatives who met annually to discuss a theoretical memorial to George Washington. After February 22, 1922, that dream became real. Prior to this, the American Grand Masters might have liquidated the accumulated assets, sold off the land, and quit the idea. Or they might have been satisfied with a smaller Masonic temple and museum.

But after February 22, 1922, American Freemasonry was officially launched upon a great and noble enterprise that could expect support from every American Master Mason.

Naturally, after committing to build the Memorial, the next questions many asked were "How soon do we break ground?" and "When can we conduct a Masonic cornerstone ceremony?" The first event happened just a few weeks later, while the cornerstone would wait another 20 months. Between the first spades

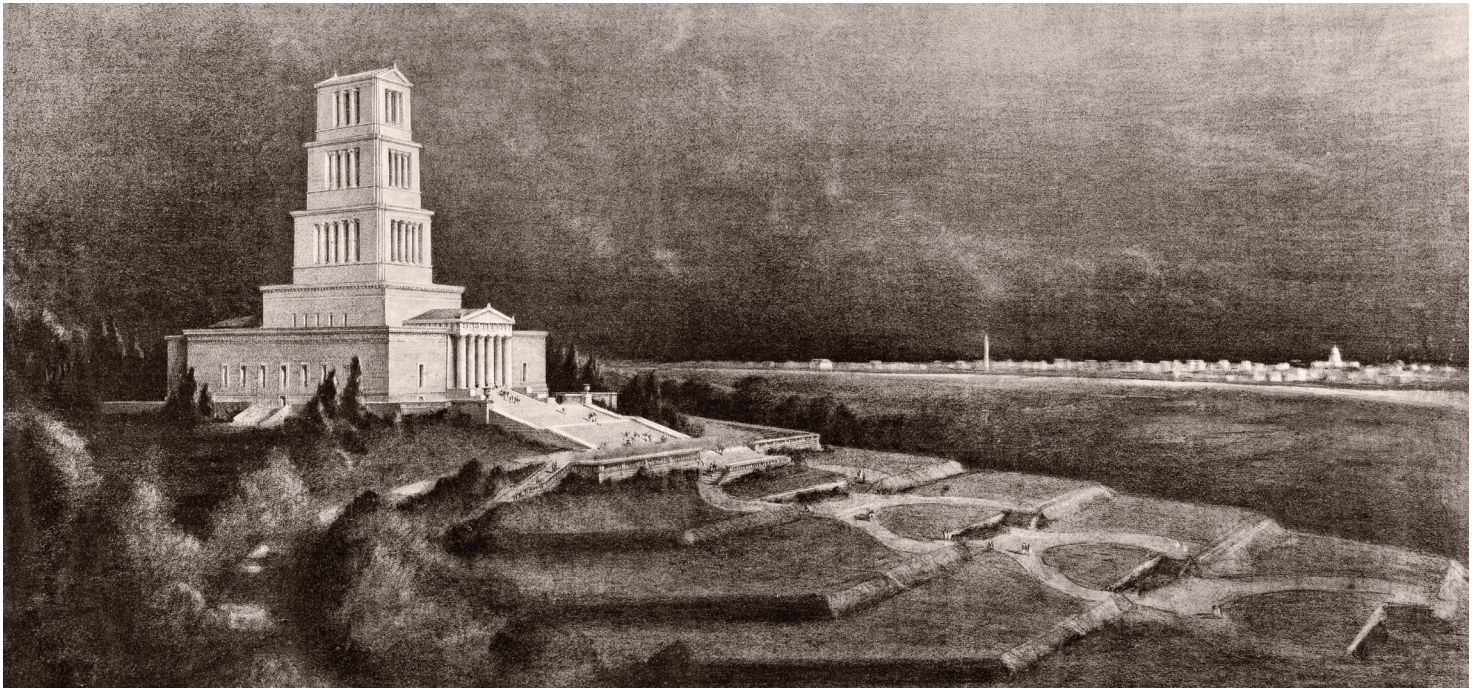
of dirt and the greatest assemblage of Freemasons in American history, the Craft's intentions would be put to another great test, culminating in one more vote.

After that February meeting, the Association Executive Committee, chaired by Pres. Louis A. Watres, next met on April 29th, in the New York office of the architects, Helmle & Corbett. While the attendees celebrated the approval of the Memorial's design, Watres quickly sobered the mood. What was once a "Masonic public relations campaign" was now a highly complex and daunting construction project. For the next several years, the committee needed to balance the demands of labor, materials, cash flow, Masonic support, and public interest to erect a reinforced concrete tower over 330 feet high with a stone façade. They had the design, \$500,000 in the bank, 2.5 million Freemasons in the country, nearly 35 acres of land, and a dedication target date of 1932 — the bicentennial of George Washington's birth.

Watres' first order of business was to legally transform the Association. The committee unanimously agreed to transfer all the Association's assets, liabilities, contracts and obligations into a chartered corporation of the Commonwealth of Virginia. With



On June 5, 1922, Association President Louis A. Watres, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (left shovel), and Charles A. Callahan, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia (right shovel), break ground for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Family, friends, Alexandria city officials, and local Masonic brethren witnessed this historic event.



The central panel of the triptych, showing the Memorial with the District of Columbia in the distance. Gift of Sharon Lodge No. 327, McLean, Virginia (1998.05.01).

this action the Association was no longer a collection of volunteer Freemasons, but a legal entity answerable to the law.

Next was to ensure the Memorial would rest on a sound foundation. The committee authorized two engineers to separately make tests on Schuter's Hill to determine if it could support such a great structure. They also authorized the Cranford Company of Washington, D.C., to estimate the cost to prepare the hill for construction. The meeting closed with the attendees confident that real work on the Memorial would soon begin.

On a wet and rainy June 5, at high noon, ground for the Memorial was broken. After an invocation was delivered by the Rev. Bro. W.J. Morton, the simple ceremony was witnessed by city officials, contractors, and brethren from Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 and other local lodges. President Louis Watres and Charles Callahan, presiding Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, turned the first shovels, and the construction was officially underway.

A month later, Watres reconvened the Executive Committee in New York City and received reports from the two engineers and the Cranford Construction Company. Happily, both consulting engineers agreed that the hill, comprised of largely of clay, was "ample, sufficient, and would hold for all times." And the Cranford's bid of \$37,500 to clear, lower, and level the hill by 17 feet was accepted. Secretary-Treasurer Claude Keiper reported total funds available surpassed \$700,000, so it was agreed to fund construction from the base up to the first 14 feet of the ground floor.

Looking forward, the committee discussed three more issues: landscaping, promotion and the cornerstone ceremony. For several years, the Olmsted Brothers of Massachusetts had worked on

landscape plans, but due to construction costs and miscommunications, the plans were tabled in 1922.

Promotion, however, was discussed in detail, especially as it connected to increasing financial donations and attracting greater Masonic participation in, and press coverage of, the future cornerstone ceremony. Special charcoal-etched renderings of the Memorial were presented and the committee approved these first drafts. The images and other materials would be reviewed and approved for distribution in October. The triptych lithograph showed an interior view of Memorial Hall, a panoramic view of the Memorial with the District of Columbia in the distance, and a close-up view of the Memorial's façade. Hundreds of prints were distributed to grand lodges and lodges throughout the nation.

Lastly, the committee turned eagerly to discussing the cornerstone ceremony. They agreed to invite U.S. President Warren Harding (a Mason), Chief Justice and former President William H. Taft (also a Mason), the Governor of Virginia, and all levels of government, civic, religious, and Masonic leaders. But a date could not be set until the construction's speed was determined.

On July 1 more than 400,000 railway workers went on strike. Lasting until mid-August, the strike brought nearly all rail freight to a standstill. When the Executive Committee met again in early September, construction was working at full capacity, but the strike and other shortages would postpone the cornerstone ceremony until at the earliest late spring 1923.

At that meeting, H.W. Corbett reported that the Memorial's details were sufficiently advanced to provide a fair estimate of the total cost of construction. In conjunction with this cost, the committee would soon need to choose the stone for the tower's façade.



In this early sketch of Memorial Hall, the artist has used the Ionic order.

The committee asked for construction cost estimates with variations for a granite, marble, or limestone façade.

Meeting in October, on the job site, in the office of the Cranford Co., the Executive Committee received H.W. Corbett's construction estimates. They ranged according to the choice of stone to sheath the tower. The lowest cost was for Bowling Green Limestone at \$2 million, with marble in the middle at \$2.4 million and granite, as the high estimate, at \$3 million. Several of the committee members were in favor of economizing by completing the base with granite, but covering the tower in limestone. Corbett strongly recommended using granite for the whole building, and consulting architect, S.E. Osgood, concurred. When all costs of securing various types of limestone or granite combine with labor were compared, the estimated difference was \$500,000, or a nearly 25% variance in total construction cost. President Watres' decided to defer such a (literally) monumental decision to the Association's annual meeting on February 21 and 22, 1923.

The thirteenth annual meeting was held at Alexandria-Washington Lodge with representatives from thirty-four grand lodges. After concluding the usual business, a statement of expenses for the last twelve months left the Association with a balance of \$382,106. However, signed contracts for the next twelve months totaled \$294,563 — leaving a total asset balance of only \$87,543.

President Watres then impressed upon the brethren that sufficient money be always be on account to meet all contracts: "*For if it ever stops coming in, our Memorial, might be like the Washington Monument which stopped midway and stood unfinished for thirty years before the work was recommenced.*" While acknowledging the current pace of fund-raising would meet the estimated total con-



A night view of the Memorial, with a procession entering the illuminated Portico.

struction cost of \$2.1 million, he announced it likely that the total price would rise by over 20% as the cost of materials and labor also rose. Suddenly the Association was faced with a total cost approaching \$2.5 million, and the daunting task of raising at least 10% of that each year for ten years.

Watres, who had served as colonel in the Spanish-American War, charged on unfazed. He then strongly recommended they approve of an additional \$500,000 to sheath the entire Memorial in New Hampshire Pink Granite, "*so that 200 years from now the brethren who mount to that historic tower will not find the material marred and defaced. It must be of granite. In other words, it must be something that will speak for Masonry for all time.*"

After Watres' exhortation, the brethren heard plans for the cornerstone ceremony, discussed modifying the Association's bylaws, received the Treasurer's report, and enjoyed an address by the Rev. Bro. J. S. Durkee, President of Howard University.

Later, at the request of President Watres, both H.W. Corbett and S.E. Osgood explained the need to employ granite for the entire building. After a short discussion, the Masonic leaders of America stayed the course. They unanimously approved, and pledged to voluntarily raise an additional half million dollars, or \$3 million over ten years (equal to \$41,600,000 in current dollars). Then, moving on to the one question everyone really wanted answered, the Association voted that the cornerstone ceremony would be "*some day between the first and twelfth of November 1923, the exact date to be fixed by the Board of Directors.*"

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

Restoring the Memorial's Grandeur: How You Can Participate

by Shawn E. Eyer

Each morning, as the sun rises over the city of Alexandria, Virginia, a beautiful scene unfolds that perhaps not enough Masons have had the pleasure to witness. The morning light bathes the hill on which the Memorial stands, and as the sun ascends the sky, the façade of the building is bathed in warm, golden light. Slowly this light reflects from higher and higher levels of the tower, gleaming intensely until the effect fades away. Recently, pre-dawn storm conditions made for a particularly striking instance of this golden effect, as shown on the next page. Against the dark sky, the Memorial rose like a tower of gold, a beacon of Light to all mankind — exactly as the early leaders of the Memorial Association intended.

Now, responsibility for that beacon is in our hands, and there's work to be done. The quality of the Memorial's original construction was exceptional. That said, nearly a century of regular use, seasonal weathering, and even the effects of the earthquake several years ago mean that it is time for significant restoration work. Regular readers of *LIGHT* are aware that these efforts have been underway for several years. In fact, since 2005, we have invested \$5 million in the Memorial's restoration. Now, we are asking you to help us complete this important work.

So far, we have made some outstanding progress. The most significant part of the work to date has been the restoration of the Pyramid and Observation Deck levels, where granite stones were realigned, water penetration was alleviated, and all mortar was repointed and capped. We are now past the halfway mark in terms of restoring the entire building. We estimate that there is another \$5 million worth of repairs and improvements yet to address as we complete the work that must be done on the remaining floors.

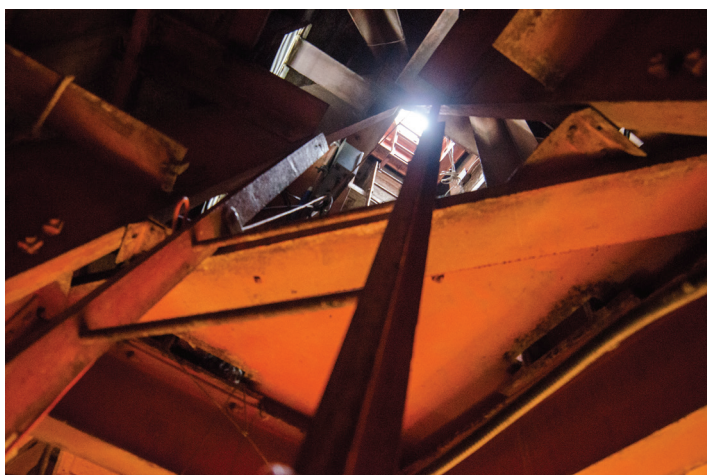
Here are some ways you can help. Each of the following options represents a key aspect of our plan to complete the restoration.

FRIENDS OF THE MEMORIAL. Our Friends of the Memorial program allows any individual, family, or group to support the Memorial at any time, in any amount. Donations are tracked cumulatively, with recognition levels at Silver (\$100), Gold (\$250), Platinum (\$500), and New Century (\$1,000). All donors at Silver level and above are acknowledged in *LIGHT* and in our Annual Report. New Century level donors are also honored with their names on a bronze plaque on display in the Memorial.

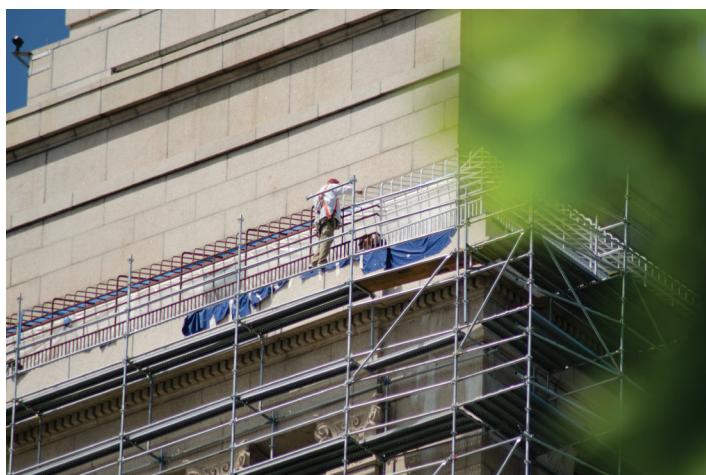
PATRONS. When a participant in Friends of the Memorial surpasses \$5,000 in cumulative giving, the Patron level is reached. Patrons are currently acknowledged in every issue of *LIGHT*, all Annual Reports, and on a bronze plaque displayed in a prominent location in Memorial Hall.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL SOCIETY. The GWMS comprises a select group of individuals dedicated to supporting the Memorial and its mission in the long term. Charter Members donate \$1,000 or more to the Memorial with their original membership application, and \$250 or more per year thereafter. They are honored by a unique hand-crafted patent, a high-quality medal and lapel pin, and are named on a bronze plaque in the Memorial. In addition, Charter Members are invited to a private reception at our annual George Washington's Birthday Gala.

THE SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON LODGES. This special designation is for any regular Lodge that wishes to participate directly in the Memorial's support. Membership is granted for a one-time donation of \$2,500. The names of participating Lodges are published in each edition of *LIGHT*, and displayed on a bronze plaque on view outside the Replica Lodge Room at the Memorial.



The Pyramid's superstructure, now properly drained to protect against water penetration.



At the Observation Deck, a crew works on repainting the safety barrier.

PLANNED GIVING. The Memorial welcomes support in the form of bequests both large and small. Including the Memorial in your estate plans is an ideal way to express your benevolence and dedication to the values of the Fraternity. We are happy to provide assistance to you in connection with any future bequest.

DEDICATORY TREE PROGRAM. The Memorial's grounds provide a beautiful setting for its impressive architecture. Beautifying these grounds is the purpose of our Tree Program. Trees may be dedicated in honor of a special individual or group. For a donation of \$950, a tree is placed with a granite marker indicating the dedication, and each new tree is listed in the *LIGHT* and on our website.

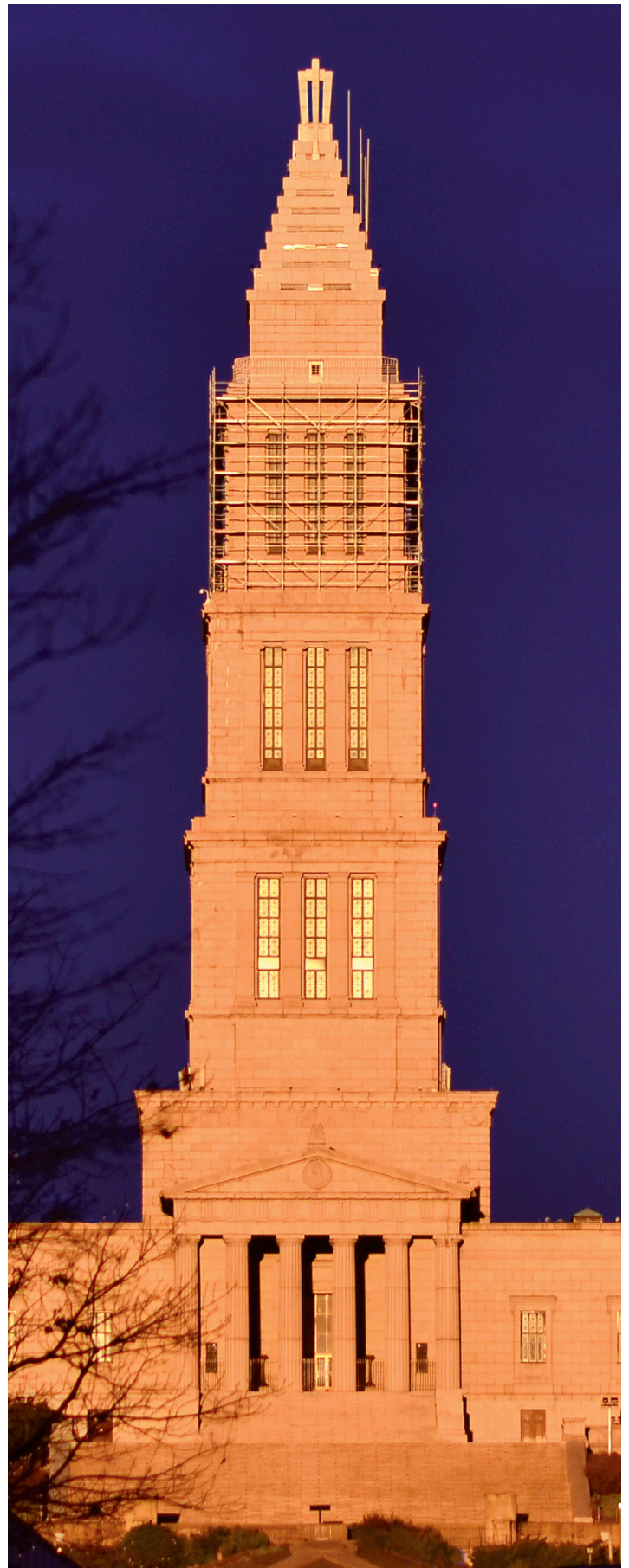
As you can see, there are many different ways to provide support to the Memorial — from individuals, families, Lodges, and other groups. And, because the Memorial is a 501(c)(3) educational foundation, your gift to us is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

In naming the Memorial a National Historic Landmark (see the story on page 1), the National Park Service noted that we are “the only major unified, fully national initiative of the Freemasons and among the boldest attempts by a private organization to memorialize George Washington.” In other words, our new status as a National Historic Landmark is in recognition of the fact that American Masons have built and maintained the Memorial *through private donations*. The National Park Service also expressed that it was their hope 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.”

But, after all, we are Freemasons, and such a “preservation ethic” is innate within our Fraternity, part of our core since the beginning. We preserve our traditions, our ceremonies, and our values. And that is why we are now at work on a full restoration of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Your support is crucial to us at this time! Our intention is not only to restore the Memorial to its original grandeur, but to ensure that the Fraternity's testament to George Washington will stand greater than ever before, and more than ready to fulfill its mission in the new century.

Won't you be a part of that effort? To discuss how you can participate in our restoration work, please contact me by email at seyer@gwmemorial.org, or telephone at 703-683-2007, ext. 2013. I will be happy to discuss the details your gift and how you can best assist us in ensuring that this bright beacon of Masonic Light in honor of our foremost Freemason and Father of our Country can endure for all time.

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



Sunrise at the Memorial, Thursday, February 25, 2016, 2016. Photo by Melvin Waldon.



President Ridgely H. Gilmour presents the George Washington Award to Carol Cadou.

Carol Borchert Cadou Receives the 2016 George Washington Award

Each year the Memorial Association grants the George Washington Award to a leading scholar of George Washington's life and legacy. This year, Association President Ridgely H. Gilmour had the pleasure to present that award to Carol Borchert Cadou. Her award presentation, "First in War, First In Peace, First in the Hearts of His Countrymen: George Washington's Enduring Legacy," was enjoyed by guests at our Washington's Birthday Gala, Saturday, February 27, 2016.

Carol Borchert Cadou serves as Senior Vice President for Historic Preservation and Collections at George Washington's Mount Vernon. Her current research focuses on the objects owned and used by the Washingtons and their household as well as the history and preservation of Mount Vernon through the efforts of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. She is the author of *The George Washington Collection: Fine and Decorative Arts at Mount Vernon* (Hudson Hills Press, 2006).

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 Wash-

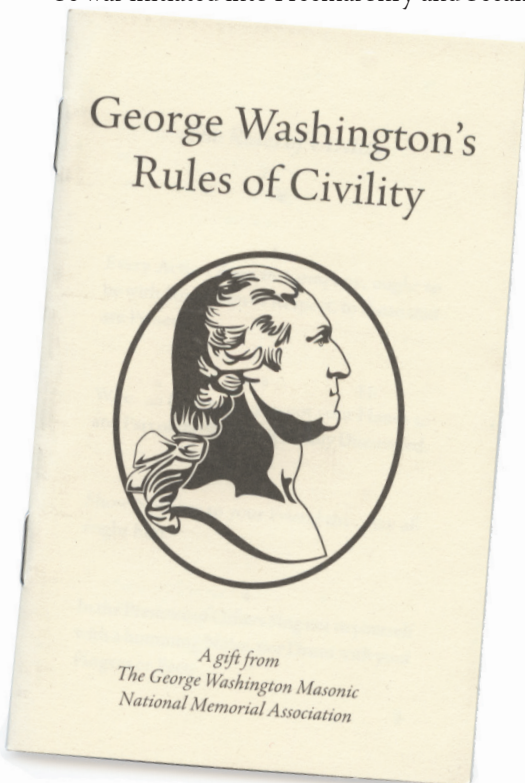
ington's adolescence, he had occasion to make a copy of a section of this book. While nobody knows the exact context or reason why, one theory is that he was practicing his penmanship. Or, perhaps he may have simply found the section valuable and desired a full copy.

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 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.



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Over 20,000 people have already signed up to receive notifications from us. Won't you join them? To add yourself, log in to your



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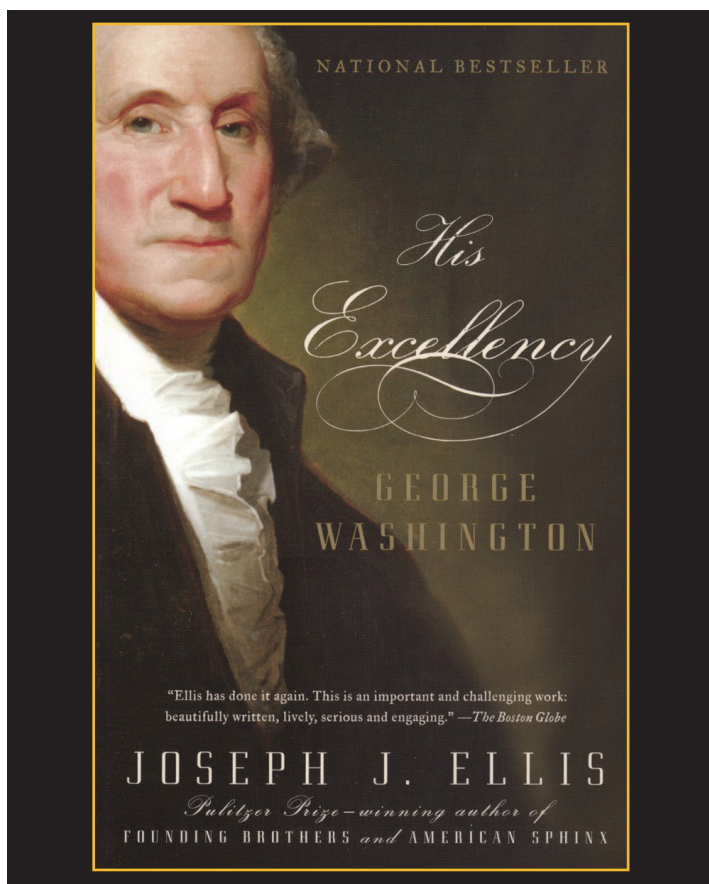
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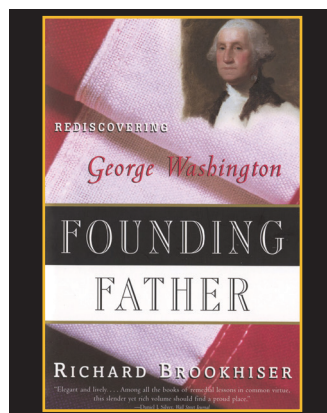
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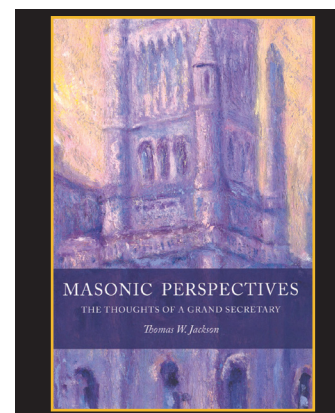


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Grand Lodges of California and Hawaii Join the Memorial's \$1 Per Member Campaign

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is pleased to announce that two new Masonic jurisdictions have joined our \$1 Per Member Per Year Campaign. The Grand Lodge of California overwhelmingly approved a resolution to increase California's annual giving to a level of \$1 Per Member annually at their session in San Francisco, October 9–11, 2015. We express our thanks to Board of Directors Member Kenneth G. Nagel, Past Grand Master of California, and to former Board Member Anthony Wordlow, also a California Past Grand Master, for all of their efforts.

Then, at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, held April 15–16, 2016, in Honolulu, the brethren of that state approved their \$1 Per Member Per Year commitment to the Memorial. Sincere thanks are extended to Board Members Marty P. Alexander, Past Grand Master of Hawaii, and Kenneth G. Nagel, Past Grand Master of California, for their work toward this outstanding development.

There are now twenty-eight Grand Lodges participating in our \$1 Per Member Per Year Campaign. For a complete list, please visit our website at <http://gwmemorial.org>.



Executive Director George D. Seghers (left) expresses his thanks to Board member Kenneth G. Nagel (right).

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