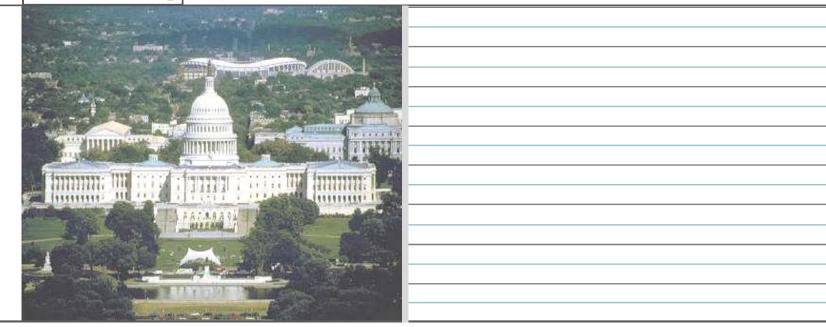


Capitol Building

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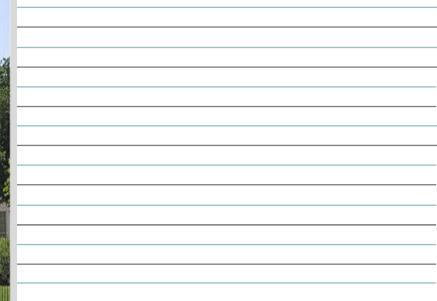
Washington Monument

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| | | Click here to read about the history of the white house: |

The White House

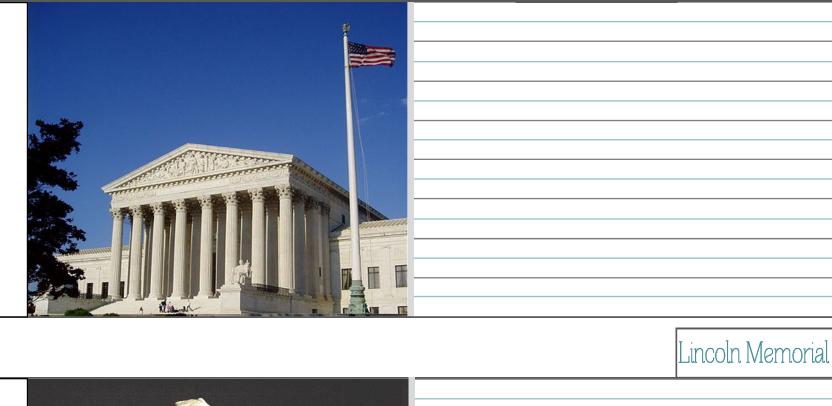
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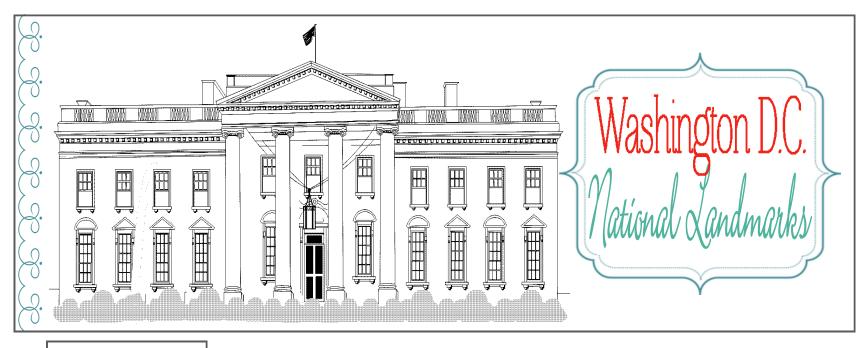
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U.S. Supreme Court







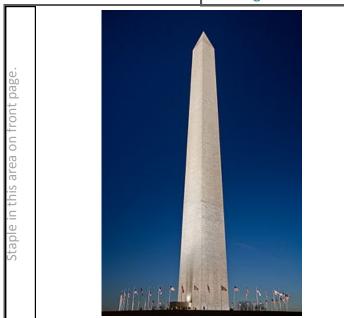


Capitol Building



The United States Capitol is the meeting place of the United States Congress, the legislature of the federal government of the United States. Located in Washington, D.C., it sits atop Capitol Hill at the eastern end of the National Mall. In spring 1792, Thomas Jefferson proposed a design competition to solicit designs for the Capitol and the President's House, and set a four-month deadline. The prize for the competition was \$500 and a lot in the federal city. At least ten individuals submitted designs for the Capitol; however the drawings were regarded as crude and amateurish, reflecting the level of architectural skill present in the United States at the time. A late entry by amateur architect William Thornton was submitted on January 31, 1793, to much praise for its "Grandeur, Simplicity, and Beauty" by Washington, along with praise from Thomas Jefferson. Thornton was inspired by the east front of the Louvre, as well as the Paris Pantheon for the center portion of the design.

Washington Monument



The Washington Monument is an obelisk (tall, narrow, four-sided, tapering monument which ends in a pyramid like shape at the top) near the National Mall in Washington, D.C. It was built to commemorate the first American president, General George Washington. The monument is made of marble, granite, and sandstone. It is both the world's tallest *stone* structure and the world's tallest obelisk, standing 555 feet 5 ½ inches . The actual construction of the monument began in 1848 but was not completed until 1884. This halt in construction happened because of co-option by the Know-Nothing party, a lack of funds, and the intervention of the American Civil War. Because of the length of time between start and finish of the monument – the builders were unable to find the same quarry stone used in the initial construction. So the bottom third of the monument is a slightly lighter shade than the rest of the construction.

The White House

Click here to read about the history of the white house: http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/inside-white-house



The "President's House," built under George Washington's personal supervision, was the finest residence in the land and possibly the largest. In a nation of wooden houses, it was built of stone and ornamented with understated stone flourishes. It did not fit everyone's concept for the home of the leader of the young democracy. Abigail Adams found it cold; Thomas Jefferson thought it too big and impractical. He added gardens, a cooking stove, and storage. The site was selected in 1791. The cornerstone was laid in 1792 and a competition design submitted by Irish-born architect James Hoban was chosen. After eight years of construction, President John Adams and his wife, Abigail, moved into the unfinished house in 1800. During the War of 1812, the British set fire to the President's House in 1814. During Monroe's administration, the South Portico was constructed in 1824, and Andrew Jackson oversaw the addition of the North Portico in 1829. During the late 19th century, various proposals were made to significantly expand the President's House or to build an entirely new house for the president, but these plans were never realized.

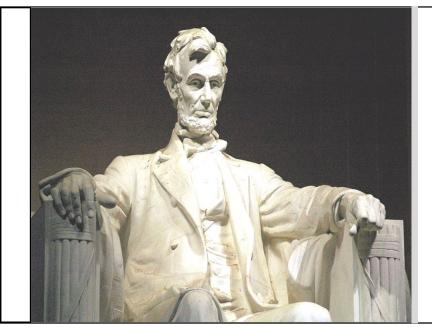


U.S. Supreme Court

The Supreme Court Building is the seat of the Supreme Court of the United States. Built in 1935, it is situated in Washington, D.C. at 1 First Street, NE, on the block immediately east of the United States Capitol.

The Supreme Court is the only Court established by the U.S. Constitution. The Supreme Court first met in 1790. Supreme Court Justices serve for as long as they choose. They can only be removed through impeachment or by resigning. The number of Justices on the Supreme Court is determined by Congress. Since 1869, the Court has consisted of nine justices. Each justice has an assigned seat on the Supreme Court bench. The Chief Justice, who is the leader, sits in the middle. Justices, by tradition, wear black robes while in Court.

Lincoln Memorial



The Lincoln Memorial is a United States Presidential memorial built to honor the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. It is located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. and was dedicated on May 30, 1922.

The building is in the form of a Greek Doric temple and contains a large seated sculpture of Abraham Lincoln and inscriptions of two well-known speeches by Lincoln, the Gettysburg Address and his Second Inaugural Address. The memorial has been the site of many famous speeches, including Martin Luther King's *"I Have a Dream"* speech.

The stone for the building is Indiana limestone and Yule marble, quarried at the town of Marble, Colorado. The Lincoln sculpture within is made of Georgian marble, quarried at the town of Tate, Georgia. The statue stands 19 feet 9 inches tall and 19 feet wide.