

Every obstacle in life has a design solution.

July 2019, Volume 5, Issue 55

Who We Are

In a few days it will be the 243rd anniversary of the date of the Declaration of Independence of the 13 Colonies of America from its parent nation Great Britain. We generally refer to this date, July 4th as the birthday of the United States of America. However, our nation was not truly formed until our Constitution was ratified some ten years later in 1786. Our first President, George Washington's memory was honored with monuments through out the country and of course the largest is in Washington DC. The Iconic building of the Month for July is the Washington Monument in Washington DC.

Our nation has gone through many changes to attempt to uphold the promise of a representative democracy. We are still working towards that famously worded goal "a more perfect union". A union where persons of all ages, religions, creeds, national origins, races, sex, sexual preferences, temporary disability, permanent disability, status and wealth are all treated equally by all aspects of our society. Now is the time for all of us to take responsibility to raise our society to its highest standards as human beings, treating each other with the highest of respect and equality.

Unfortunately, we are now faced what our military leaders referred to in their Congressional testimony as "the greatest threat facing the United States. The threat they were referring to was that of climate change.

Photo
credit:
Wikipedia



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Did You Know ?

We are the leading local provider of tools and resources for people planning on adding on to, renovating or building a home.

We have several consumer guilds to help you.

One of our recent publications is...

"The 10 Advantages of Design Build"



Download it
here and
share it with

Archi-fact.

Our Iconic Building of the Month is The Washington Monument in DC

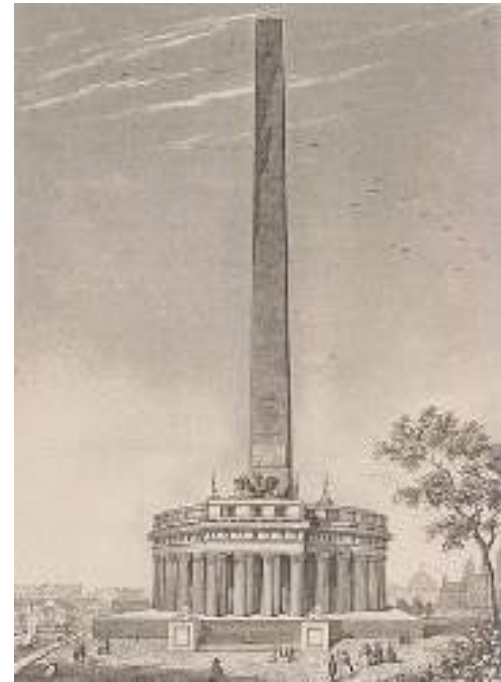
It is 555 feet 5 1/8 inches tall. The walls are 125 feet thick at the base and 1.5 feet thick at the top. The walls of the pyramid are only 7 1/2 inches thick.

The apex is an aluminum pyramid with inscriptions on each side some of which are still legible.

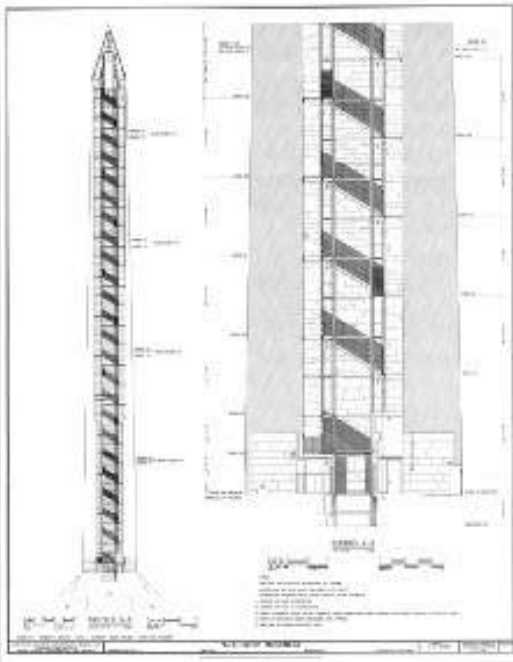
Iconic Building Of The Month

Washington Monument, DC

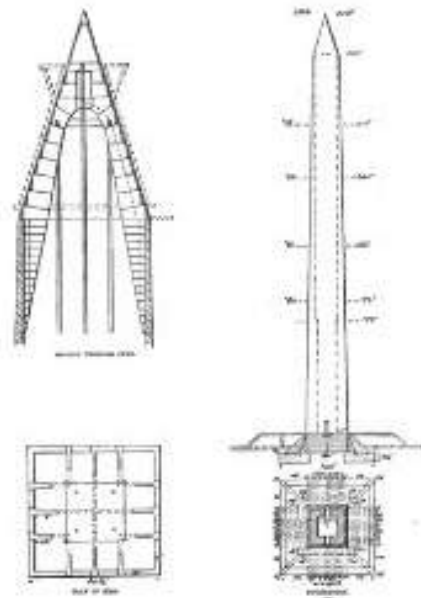
The Washington Monument was built to commemorate Georg Washington. In 1836 the Washington National Monument Society announced a competition for the design of the monument. In 1845 it was announced that a Baltimore architect, Robert Mills and his design was ultimately selected. The original design by Robert Mills was very different than what we have today. His original design was of a Greek column and included a colonnade around the base with a statue of Washington at the top. There was much criticism of Mills design and the estimated costs exceed the equivalent in today's dollars of twenty million dollars. The Society requested Mills to redesign it which he did.



Original Design submitted by Mills
Photo credits:Wikipedia

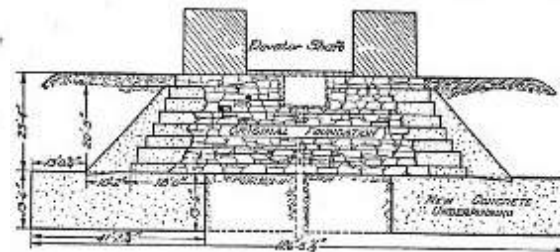


Interior North Wall with its stair and wire screen.
Photo credits:Wikipedia



Monument Plans and timeline of construction

Photo credits:Wikipedia



Cross section of foundation
Photo credits:Wikipedia

The monument is constructed of marble, granite and bluestone with an iron stair case within it. It is the tallest predominantly stone structure in the world and the world's tallest obelisk. It is the tallest monumental column in the world if all are measured above their pedestrian entrances. At the time of its completion it was the tallest structure in the world from 1884 through 1888. At approximately 150 feet up or 27% of its total height from the bottom there is a clearly visible different shade of stone used. This marks the suspension of construction between 1848 and 1888 due to lack of funds, struggle of control of the Washington Monument Society and the intervention of the Civil War. When construction was restarted the exterior marble was provided by a different source.

Archi-Quote

This quote is not from an architect but from an influential person from American History and appropriate for this time of year. Once defeated by the Continental army of the 13 colonies while speaking of George Washington the following was noted...

“The greatest character of the age.”

— King George III.

Who We Are

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The American Institute of Architects at its most recent convention voted to include in the ethics of an architect to strive towards designing all buildings as “net zero” buildings. This means it is now an ethical obligation for architects to show their clients ways to attain “net zero” building designs. A “net zero” building is one which when measuring the total energy consumption of the building on an annual basis is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy created on the site of the building. This will reduce our need for fossil fuels and thereby reduce the creation of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere.

This is now completely doable with off the shelf technology and will save our clients extremely large amounts of money over time and help stem the global rise in temperatures. In the words from the Constitution of the United States of America we owe this ...”to ourselves and our Posterity.

Iconic Building of the Month

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The monument was completed on December 6th, 1884 with the dedication on February 21st 1885 and officially opened on October 9th, 1888.



Photo credit: Wikipedia

Archi-Speaks

Can you find these words?

NET ZERO INDEPENDANCE
WASHINGTON MONUMENT

H	W	T	D	V	T	C	K	R	D	I	A	R	Z	X
T	E	O	K	T	W	N	L	J	N	C	N	W	J	Y
N	T	S	E	K	V	L	E	D	O	W	U	V	X	V
M	L	D	U	O	I	H	E	M	O	B	O	P	Q	W
O	T	W	P	K	L	P	M	X	U	F	Y	H	T	F
O	A	C	Q	G	E	G	R	E	V	N	D	J	O	M
N	O	T	G	N	I	H	S	A	W	E	O	S	R	I
A	Q	H	E	T	E	Z	I	X	M	F	D	M	E	X
J	C	N	G	M	U	J	X	L	N	S	O	N	Z	G
T	C	B	R	J	E	R	G	Q	N	Q	X	J	O	V
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W	E	U	I	X	M	T	C	W	X	R	A	G	O	N
I	C	W	J	U	B	K	R	C	P	I	O	Z	Q	M
N	A	E	L	H	B	J	G	Y	V	U	T	K	V	Y
Y	X	G	C	T	C	I	E	W	Z	B	B	E	L	X

Ask M

In the James Bond books and movies the character “M” heads the Secret British Intelligence Service known as MI 6, of which James Bond is Agent 007. When contemplating adding on to your home or building, renovating or building a new home or building you should have someone like “M” on your side. Each month the “Ask M” column will answer a reader’s question to place more information at your finger tips. **This month’s question is...**

I would like to put up a tent in my yard for summer parties. Do I need an architect to design this?

Marty B.

Marty

Will this tent be a rental or will you own it? If you need an architect depends on the requirements of the town you live in. If the town does not require filing of drawings then an architect should not be required. If you rent it the tent rental company should have structural drawings indicating the acceptable types of connections to the ground.

PLEASE remember that a gust of wind can lift a tent and send it flying which can seriously hurt people.

Email your questions to info@designMgroup.com, and in the subject line type in “Ask M”. We look forward to hearing from you and hope we can answer the questions to everyone’s satisfaction.

Want to speak with the Architect

Do you have questions but do not know where to start?

Do you know the legal consequences of starting a project without approvals?

Are you sure you have completed all of the research necessary so as not to waste your money and time during construction?

Are what you think are your NEEDS and OPTIONS truly the best for you and your future?

Does the contractor really have YOUR best interest in mind when suggesting solutions?

Answering these questions and more are the reason for enlisting a Needs and Options Review.

We can help you on your way to a successful project with less hassles and problems.

Visit: www.designMgroup.com

About

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB
President



photo credit: Jenna Glatzer

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB is a leading architect in New York City. He received a Bachelors of Architecture from the prestigious Pratt Institute and a Masters in the Science of Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He received his license to practice architecture in New York State in 1981 and is licensed in a number of other States. Marcus Marino has served on numerous Governmental Panels and serves as an expert consultant to other architectural firms and legal firms. He is the former Vice President of Public Advocacy of the New York State American Institute of Architects.

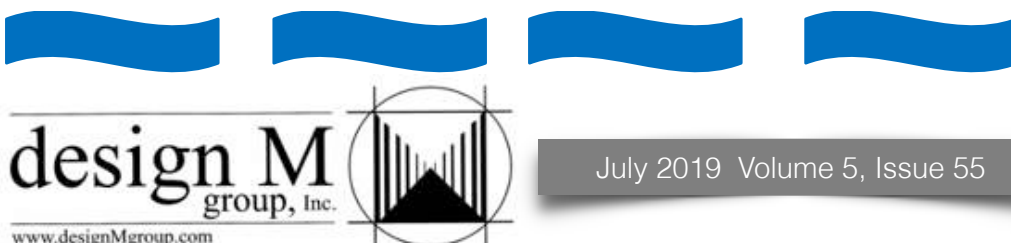
Our core beliefs are ...

Architects have a responsibility to our clients, community and the environment.

Architects should help provide information to our fellow world citizens about their homes, offices and the built environment in general.

Your Home should move you emotionally like your favorite song does.

Let Us Help You Build the Home You Knew Was Always There For You.



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Contact me !

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TOLL FREE

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