National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2023



Washington Square

Independence National Historical Park

Table of Contents

Introduction

General Information

Concurrence Information

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Uses

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Washington Square

Resource Classification: Component Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 300193

Parent Landscape: 300151

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Independence National Historical Park

Alpha Code: INDE

Park Organization Code: 4450

Park District: INDE

Region: Northeast

Restricted: Yes

Landscape Description:

Washington Square is part of Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Established in 1948, the park was created to protect the historic places associated with the birth of the American republic, standing as icons of freedom and democratic ideals for people around the world. The park spans more than 51 acres within the City of Philadelphia, preserving and interpreting a rich collection of the country's Colonial, Revolutionary, and Federal period heritage. Washington Square has been part of Independence National Historical Park since 2005 when the city of Philadelphia donated the land title and an easement to the National Park Service.

Washington Square, first known as Southeast Square, was part of a group of five squares initially laid out by William Penn and his surveyor-general Thomas Holme in 1682 when they established the street grid for Philadelphia. Of the original five squares, Washington Square is the only one to receive a patent specifically for burials. Until 1794 the square functioned as a potter's field, as well as the site for burials associated with the Revolutionary War and for victims of the yellow fever epidemic. These numerous burials represent a significant archeological resource within Washington Square. The existing design characteristics and features date primarily to the 1950s redesign of the urban square but also reflect elements of the Bridgeport (1816), Dixey (1881), and Olmsted Brothers (1915) designs implemented during the square's more than 300-year history.

Washington Square comprises an entire city block, 6.4 acres in size, bordered by Walnut Street (north), South Sixth Street (east), South Washington Square (south), and West Washington Square (west). South Seventh Street cuts diagonally through the northwest corner of the square. The landscape today reflects the layout of the Olmsted Brothers firm (1915) with improvements made by G. Edwin Brumbaugh with the addition of the perimeter wall (1956) and the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, including the central fountain and sarcophagus containing the remains of a Revolutionary War soldier (1957), as well as rehabilitation work completed 1997-2004. Brick sidewalks surround the square and are separated from the interior by an approximately four-foot-high Colonial Revival-style brick wall. The brick sidewalks transition to bluestone pavement at the square's four primary corner entrances, from which diagonal bluestone walkways lead to a central circular plaza and fountain encircled by planting beds. The orthogonal and diagonal walkways define a series of grass panels informally planted with mature specimen trees that provide ample summertime shade. Wooden benches and Colonial Revival-style lights are located along the

walks. The Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier forms a rectangular courtyard west of the central plaza, with fourteen flagpoles representing the original colonies and the nation's first flag. A statue of George Washington stands in front of an inscribed wall, while an eternal flame rises from the pavement in front of the statue. Numerous small memorials and interpretive signs are scattered along the existing paths, and two small buildings, formerly guard houses, lie on the diagonal paths near the northwest and southeast corners. The square is popular with residents, dog walkers, office workers, and tourists. (CLR 2011: 0.5)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Washington Square is significant at the national and state levels under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A, C, and D. Under Criterion A – events that have made a substantial contribution to the broad patterns of our history – Washington Square is significant in the areas of Community Planning and Development, Ethnic History-Black, Conservation, Other-Commemoration, and Other-Public Horticulture. The site is associated with the founding of Philadelphia in 1682 and the nation during the American Revolution, and with the city's African American history. It is significant for its role in the national commemoration of George Washington and the Revolutionary War and the larger historic preservation movement in the America. It is also significant as a continuously maintained urban space with a diverse tree collection that illustrates the relationship between the square and Philadelphia's important role in developing horticulture in America. Under Criterion C – works that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction – Washington Square is significant in the area of Landscape Architecture. The site is an early extant example of one of the first urban squares in the United States and an integral component of William Penn's plan for Philadelphia. The design evolutions represented by the Bridport (1816), Dixey (1881), and Olmsted Brothers (1915) plans are also an important facet of the square's history. Under Criterion D – a property significant for its ability to yield important information about prehistory or history – Washington Square is significant in the area of Archeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal). The site includes known and unknown graves of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people, including prisoners of war held by British forces during the Revolutionary War, enslaved and free Black men, Christian Native Americans, women and children, and victims of the yellow fever epidemic. Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries is applicable to Washington Square for the many unmarked burials associated with the Revolutionary War and the Colonial history of Philadelphia. Lastly, Criterion Consideration F: Commemoration is applicable to Washington Square, given the visual importance of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, the replica Statue of George Washington, and the large number of plaques and smaller commemorative objects in the square. The period of significance for Washington Square is 1682-1957, beginning when William Penn first proposed the square as part of his plan for Philadelphia and ending with the completion of the Monument to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of the Washington Square landscape is evaluated by comparing the landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1682–1957) with existing conditions in 2021-2022. Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. These include buildings and structures (the perimeter Colonial Revival-style wall and the two guard houses), constructed water features (the central fountain and the Philadelphia Fountain Society watering trough), and the pedestrian circulation system of brick and bluestone paved walkways. Some vegetation also contributes to the integrity of Washington Square, including the diverse collection of shade trees that arch over expanses of turf. The individual features that comprise the 1957 Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, including the statue of George Washington, the sarcophagus, the limestone benches and wall, and the rows of flagpoles also contribute as small-scale features to the integrity of the landscape. Beneath the above ground features are hundreds of burials that remain,

Washington Square retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, materials, and association. The city plan of Philadelphia, drawn by Holme in 1683, identifies the boundaries of Washington Square; thus, it retains integrity of location. Given that the square has been redesigned numerous times throughout its more than 300-year history, the landscape retains varying levels of integrity relative to each phase of design. With respect to the most recent redesign of the square by architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh in the 1950s, the square retains a high level of design integrity, diminished only by changes in furnishing and small-scale features and a change in surface material at the perimeter of the square. In addition, since the 1950s, some new trees and shrubs have been introduced, as well as herbaceous plant material on an ongoing basis by the Society Hill Civic Association. These additions are not historic but are compatible with the historic character. The integrity of setting and association is preserved in the relationship between the square and the surrounding urban streetscape. Integrity of workmanship is retained in the built features of the landscape, the perimeter wall, and contributing memorials, and in the arching branches of the tall deciduous

trees.

Condition:
The overall condition of Washington Square is evaluated as “Good.” This assessment indicates the square’s landscape shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The square’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Washington Square is a component landscape within the parent cultural landscape of Independence National Historical Park. Including Washington Square, there are eight park landscapes that function as component landscapes: First and Second Bank of U.S. (Area A), Rose and Magnolia Gardens (Area B), Franklin Court (Area C), Graff House (Area D), Welcome Park (Area E), Deshler Morris House, and Independence Square. The park also manages and operates three other legislated national park units in and around the city of Philadelphia: Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site, Gloria Dei Church National Historic Site, and Thaddeus Kosciusko National Memorial.

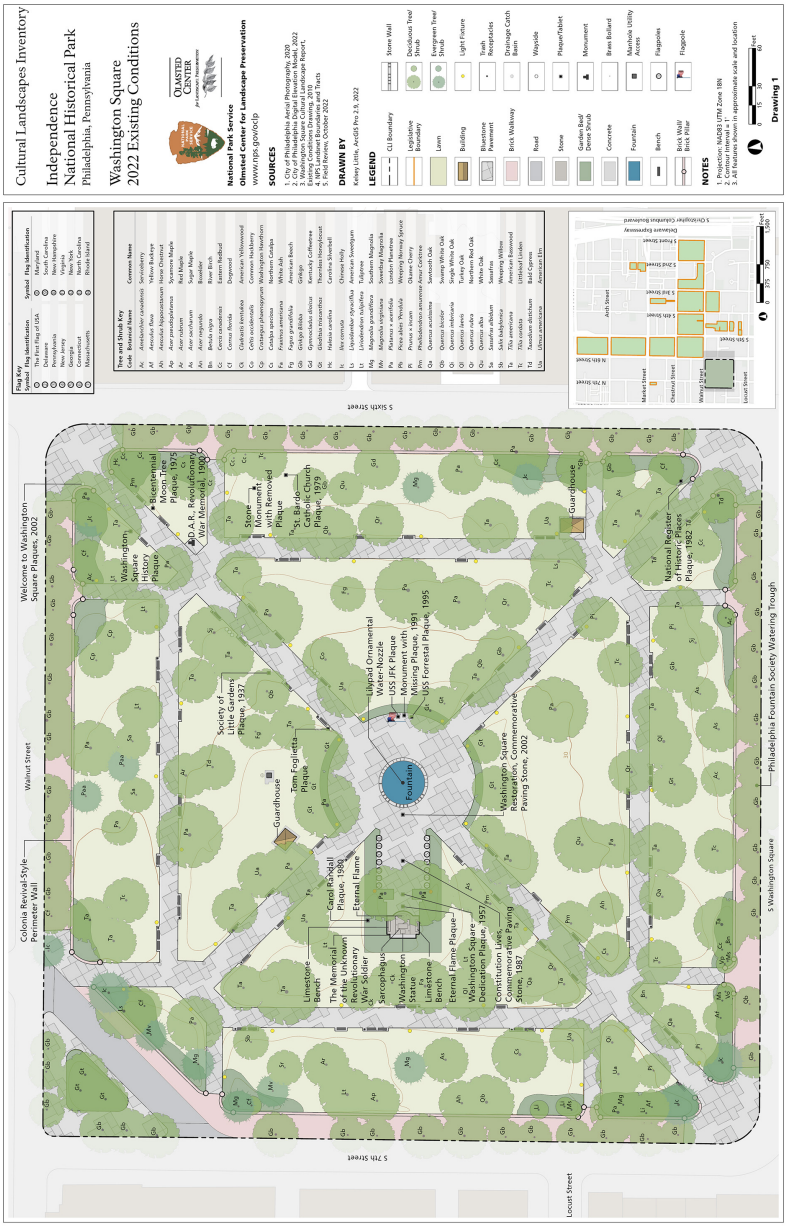
Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name:	Southeast Square	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	South East Square	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Potter’s Field	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Potter’s Square	**Other Name Type:**	Historic

Site Plan



Site plan, 2023. (OCLP)

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/27/2023

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Jennifer Hanna, Historical Landscape Architect with the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in Boston, MA, conducted field photographic documentation and historical research, and drafted this CLI in fall 2022 and spring 2023. Mapping was completed by Kelsey Little, GIS Specialist with the Olmsted Center. The draft CLI was reviewed Jeff Killion, Regional Cultural Landscape Inventory Coordinator, at the Olmsted Center. The cultural resource contact for Independence National Historical Park is Marilou Ehrler, Chief of Cultural Resource Management, who may be reached at marilou_ehrler@nps.gov or 917-831-8820.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Washington Square
Independence National Historical Park

Independence National Historical Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Washington Square, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Washington Square is hereby approved and accepted.



Digitally signed by Alexcy Romero
Date: 2023.09.27 17:02:14 -04'00'

Superintendent, Independence National Historical Park Date

Park concurrence form, September 27, 2023.

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1
North Atlantic-Appalachian
1234 Market Street, 20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

1.2.A.(IR1-RSS)

Andrea Lowery
PHMC Executive Director/State Historic Preservation Officer
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
State Historic Preservation Office
Commonwealth Keystone Building, Second Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Dear Ms. Lowery:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for Washington Square at Independence National Historical Park. We seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of previously unevaluated resources identified in this CLI for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation and staff at Independence National Historical Park. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently undertaking a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 1 of 8.

others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For example, the NPS Historic Structures Inventory (formerly List of Classified Structures) includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

Previous Historic Property Evaluation:

Washington Square is part of Independence National Historical Park, established on June 28, 1948. The park was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 16, 1966, with passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Washington Square, which dates to the late seventeenth century, was listed on the National Register prior to its inclusion into the park in 2005.

On June 14, 1971, Washington Square was included within the boundaries of the "Society Hill Historic District." The district's Inventory-Nomination Form indicated national-level significance for the 150-acre historic district in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Religion/Philosophy, and Urban Planning. The overall period of significance was identified as the eighteenth through twentieth centuries (no specific date given). The nomination focused on eighteenth and nineteenth century commercial, residential, and religious structures, but did not specifically identify or describe the square or its resources. On July 27, 1987, the form was revised to acknowledge a boundary increase. Additional significance was identified in the area of Ethnic History. The form described Washington Square and noted it was "one of the five original squares of Thomas Holmes' original 1682 plan for Philadelphia commissioned by William Penn."

On September 14, 1981, Washington Square was listed in the National Register through the Inventory-Nomination Form, "The Four Public Squares of Philadelphia Thematic Resource." The nomination indicated state-level significance for the site in the areas of Community Planning, Conservation, Landscape Architecture, and Sculpture (Logan and Rittenhouse Squares only), stating, "Philadelphia's four public squares are significant because they are among the few manifestations left relatively intact of William Penn's seventeenth century utopian dream." The overall period of significance was identified as 1600-1900-x (no specific date given). For Washington Square, the nomination identified significance for the 6.64-acre site in the areas of Community Planning, Conservation, Landscape Architecture, and Sculpture, stating, "the importance of Washington Square to its neighborhood over almost two centuries has remained even as its immediate surroundings changed from residential to commercial and institutional." The nomination emphasized Washington Square's design history, particularly the Bridport and Olmsted Brothers' plans, and its use as a potter's field for burials. The nomination described the

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 2 of 8.

square's trees, lawns, walkways (gravel and flagstone), lights, benches, fences, walls, water feature, flagpoles, monument to the Unknown Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution, statue of George Washington, a brick utility building, and changes over time in the park's design. Based on this nomination, five records were prepared for the NPS Historic Structures Inventory (HIS, formerly List of Classified Structures): fountain, flagpoles and plaques, paving, perimeter wall, and Revolutionary War Memorial.

On March 4, 1988, documentation of Independence National Historical Park resources was completed through an Inventory-Nomination Form, "Independence National Historical Park." The nomination identified national-level significance for the 39.5-acre historic district in the areas of Archeology-Historic, Architecture, Economics, Invention, Politics/Government, and Religion. The overall period of significance was identified as 1700-1899, with specific dates of 1774-1824, beginning when the First Continental Congress met in the newly-built Carpenter's Hall and Philadelphia became the nation's capitol, and ending when several key buildings were completed. On October 12, 2001, the form was revised to include a statement of significance and associated resources related to the Underground Railroad and anti-slavery movement. Additional significance was identified in the areas of Ethnic Heritage-Black, Law, and Social History, and a new end date for the period of significance, 1861, when President Abraham Lincoln spoke at Independence Hall. Washington Square was not included in either the 1988 nomination or the 2001 amendment because it had not yet been incorporated into Independence NHP.

Washington Square is included in updated documentation that is underway (July 2023) for the park in the Inventory-Nomination Form, "Independence National Historical Park." The nomination identifies national-level significance for the 44.2-acre historic district in the area of Archeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal), Architecture, Conservation, Landscape Architecture, Philosophy, Politics/Government, and Science. The overall period of significance is identified as 1774-1976, beginning when the First Continental Congress met in the newly-built Carpenter's Hall and Philadelphia became the nation's capitol, and ending with the country's Bicentennial and opening of the park's new visitor center, Franklin Court, and the Liberty Bell Pavilion. For Washington Square, significance is identified under Criterion C in the areas of Community Planning and Development and Landscape Architecture, and Criterion D in the area of Archeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal). The 2023 nomination documentation form notes the square's design elements, association with William Penn's plan for the city of Philadelphia, and former use as a burial ground. The form identifies several contributing resources at Washington Square: grass, D.A.R. Revolutionary War Plaque, guardhouses (2), watering trough for dogs and horses, ginkgo trees lining perimeter sidewalks, Society of Little Gardens Plaque, Seventh Street cut-off, concrete perimeter paving at 7th Street traffic island, perimeter Colonial Revival brick wall and granite footer, George Washington Statue, Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary Soldier, pool and fountain, and Franklin-Style Colonial Revival lights (53).

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 3 of 8.

Current Findings:

The enclosed CLI for Washington Square fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the site's landscape retains integrity to the areas of Community Planning and Development, Ethnic History-Black, Conservation, Other: Commemoration, Other: Public Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, and Archaeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal). As noted previously, some of the property's features compiled on the attached list have already been evaluated in the National Register. The CLI identifies an additional fourteen resources related to vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, constructed water features, and small-scale features that contribute to the significance and historic character of the property. An additional twenty-two features have been evaluated as noncontributing because they are not historically significant. A total of five features have been evaluated as undetermined because future research is needed to determine their significance.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, Boundary Description, National Register Information and the Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of resources and features identified in this CLI:

- Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development for its association with the founding of Philadelphia in 1682 and the nation during the American Revolution, including the square's role in the African American history of Philadelphia.
- Washington Square possesses state-level significance under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black for its association with the early history of African Americans in Philadelphia.
- Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the area of Public Horticulture for its part in Philadelphia's contribution to the development of the field of horticulture in America.
- Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the areas of Conservation and Other (Commemoration) for its association with early commemorative activities and the larger historic preservation movement.
- Washington Square possesses state-level significance under Criterion C in the area of Landscape Architecture as an example of a nineteenth to early twentieth-century urban square that evolved based on design plans by noteworthy designers – including George Bridport, William Dixey, and the Olmsted Brothers – and is reflective of broader contemporary trends in American park design.
- Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal) for its colonial history as a burial ground of the unmarked graves of numerous people, including prisoners of war held by British forces during the Revolutionary War; enslaved and free Black men, women and children; and victims of the yellow fever epidemic in 1793, among others.

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 4 of 8.

- Washington Square meets Criterion Consideration F: Commemoration, for the visual importance of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, the replica statue of George Washington, and the large number of plaques and smaller commemorative objects in the square.
- The period of significance for Washington Square is 1682-1957, beginning when William Penn first proposed the square as part of his plan for Philadelphia and ending with the completion of the Monument to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.The categorization of contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined landscape characteristics and features (see attached list).

If you concur with these findings, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, Interior Region 1 CLI Coordinator, by email: jeff_killion@nps.gov. We would appreciate your response in **30 days**, if possible. Thank you for your attention to this inventory. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 508-455-8540 (telework cell).

Sincerely,

JONATHAN MEADE

Digitally signed by JONATHAN MEADE
Date: 2023.08.03 08:10:05 -04'00'

Jonathan Meade
Associate Regional Director
Resource Stewardship and Science
National Park Service
IR1- North Atlantic-Appalachian

Enclosure/Attachment

cc:
Superintendent, Independence National Historical Park

I concur with the National Park Service categorizations of the landscape resources and features for Washington Square, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.

Andrea MacDonald — Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer

9/12/2023 — Date

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 5 of 8.

NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory – Washington Square
Independence National Historical Park
List of Contributing, Non-Contributing, and Undetermined Landscape Features
July 2023

Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places. Features marked with a (*) were listed or described in updated draft National Register documentation dating to 1981.

Vegetation
- Ginkgo Trees along Perimeter Sidewalks
- *Shade Trees
- *Lawns
- Shrubs along the Perimeter of the Square
- Plantings around Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier

Circulation
- *Interior Bluestone Walkways
- Concrete Perimeter Walk at Seventh Street Traffic Island
- *Perimeter Walkways
- Central Plaza

Buildings and Structures
- Guard House at Southeast Corner
- Guard House at Northwest Corner
- *Perimeter Wall

Views and Vistas
- Diagonal Views Along Walks to Central Fountain and Plaza
- Axial Views east/west from the Central Fountain to Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Solider
- View into Independence Square from Washington Square

Constructed Water Features
- *Central Fountain
- Watering Trough for Dogs and Horses

Small Scale Features
- *Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier
- *Sarcophagus
- *Limestone Benches
- *George Washington Statue

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 6 of 8.

*Memorial Limestone Wal
*Flagpoles
D.A.R. Revolutionary War Plaque
Washington Square Dedication Plaque
Society of Little Gardens Plaque

Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Vegetation
Herbaceous Plants
Shrub Plantings flanking Entrances

Small Scale Features
Franklin-style Light Fixtures (53)
Streetlights
Bollards on Northern Side of Square (6)
Trash Receptacles
Teak Benches
Interpretive Waysides and Directional Signs
Catch Basins
Washington Square Restoration Plaque, 1991-2002.
Welcome to Washington Square Plaques
Bicentennial Moon Tree Plaque
Saint Bardo Catholic Church Plaque
National Register of Historic Places Plaque
Carolyn Randall Plaque
Tom Foglietta Plaque
U.S.S. JFK Plaque
Monument with Missing Plaque
U.S.S. Forrestal Plaque
Washington Square Restoration Commemorative Paving Stone
Constitution Lives Commemorative Paving Stone
Irrigation System

Undetermined Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Small-Scale Features
Eternal Flame
Spotlights at the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier (2)
Washington Square History Plaque
Stone Monument with Missing Plaque
Eternal Flame Plaque

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 7 of 8.

bcc:
Stephen Pisani, Region 1 Historic Architecture Program
Dennis Montagna, Region 1 History Program
Bethany Serafine, Region 1 History Program
Robert Page, Director, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation

SHPO concurrence letter, September 12, 2023, page 8 of 8.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia County

Size (Acres): 6.64

Land Tract Number(s)

04-113, 6.64 acres, more or less

Boundary Description:

The Washington Square CLI boundary is within the authorized boundary of Independence National Historical Park. When the National Park Service acquired an easement on the 6.64-acre square on May 18, 2005, from the City of Philadelphia's Fairmount Park Commission, it assumed responsibility for the care and control of the landscape. The granite curb lines of Walnut Street to the north, South Sixth Street to the east, South Washington Square to the south, and West Washington Square to the west, form the boundaries of Washington Square. The boundary, associated with the 1683 Thomas Holme plan of the city of Philadelphia and all subsequent historic periods, has remained consistent, except for street widening during the twentieth century and the addition of the Seventh Street cut□off in 1947. (CLR 2011: xii–xiii,3.2)

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
Aerial Photograph	Area	39.947926	-75.153184	
Aerial Photograph	Area	39.947714	-75.15117	
Aerial Photograph	Area	39.946154	-75.151481	
Aerial Photograph	Area	39.946428	-75.153453	

Location Map:



Map of Independence National Historical Park and other park units in the Philadelphia area. (National Park Service, Foundation Document 2017: 3)



Washington Square is located in Independence National Historical Park shown above in green. Washington Square is in lower left. (Independence National Historical Park--hereafter NHP--website)

the

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Washington Square lies within the Atlantic Coastal Plain, which stretches over 2,200 miles in length from Cape Cod to the Mexican border and southward another 1,000 miles to the Yucatan Peninsula. The plain slopes gently seaward from the inland highlands in terraces and continues into the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, forming the continental shelf. Philadelphia is at the confluence of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers on the eastern border of Pennsylvania. The Appalachian Mountains to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east moderate the climate and eliminate temperature extremes. Precipitation falls throughout the year, with maximum amounts during the summer months.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Washington Square is a part of Independence National Historical Park, occupying over fifty acres in the Old City section of Philadelphia. The park was established in 1948 to preserve and interpret the buildings, sites, and artifacts associated with the American Revolution and Philadelphia's founding role as the nation's capital. The park includes nationally significant historic buildings and landscapes such as Independence Hall (also a UNESCO World Heritage Site), Congress Hall, Old City Hall, and Independence Square, as well as other features that provide educational and museum experiences for park visitors, including the Liberty Bell Center, Independence Visitor Center, and the National Constitution Center located on Independence Mall. All the sites help to tell the national story of the country's founding to millions of visitors. In 2018, more than 18 million people visited cultural sites in Philadelphia's center city. In addition, Washington Square serves as a green oasis and a neighborhood park in the Society Hill section of Philadelphia, as the surrounding large office buildings, once populated by important insurance and publishing companies, are converted into residential uses. (CLR 2011: 4.3)

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Washington Square is in Philadelphia, which, according to the 2020 Census, has a population of approximately 1,584,064 (see Regional Landscape Context graphic). The city of Philadelphia shares boundaries with Philadelphia County and covers an area of roughly 135 square miles in southeastern Pennsylvania at the confluence of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. Washington Square is in the Society Hill neighborhood, east of the center city business district and south of Independence Square.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/27/2023

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Washington Square meets the requirements of the management category, “Must Be Preserved and Maintained” because the property is related to the park’s enabling legislation. On June 28, 1948, Congress authorized the establishment of Independence National Historical Park, “for the purpose of preserving for the benefit of the American people as a national historical park certain historical structures and properties of outstanding national significance located in Philadelphia, and associated with the American Revolution and the founding and growth of the United States…” The enabling legislation allowed the Secretary of the Interior to accept donations of real estate interests. (Public Law 80-795). (FD 2017: 40)

On July 10, 1991, Bill No. 1478 authorized the Philadelphia Commissioner of Public Property (as the owner of Washington Square) and the Executive Director of the Fairmount Park Commission to enter into an agreement with the US Department of the Interior allowing the transfer of an easement in Washington Square for the government’s management and operation of the square. On May 24, 2005, the city of Philadelphia granted to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, an assignable easement in perpetuity, consisting of the right, but not the obligation, to protect, control, maintain, restore missing landscape features of significance, and to manage the land of Washington Square in accordance with federal law. Within the easement, the City of Philadelphia reserved certain rights intended to allow for future use by the city, its successors, and assigns, which will not negatively impact the significant architectural, archeological, cultural landscape, or interpretive values of the site. In all cases, such values shall be carried out in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable to the National Park Service. (Independence National Historical Park, Washington Square Easement, May 18, 2005: Deed No. 162)

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Memorandum of Understanding

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

On November 25, 1991, the City of Philadelphia and the National Park Service entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU authorized the Secretary of the Interior and the Fairmount Park Commission to work collaboratively to “preserve, protect, interpret and maintain” Washington Square in recognition of its importance to the history of the American Revolution.

Through an amendment to the MOU in 1993, the City of Philadelphia and the Secretary of the Interior acknowledged the role of the American Revolution Patriots Fund, as a party to the MOU to “raise and manage funds to accomplish the goals of the MOU.”

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

On May 24, 2005, the title to Washington Square was granted in perpetuity through the donation of an easement on the land at 600 Walnut Street, from the City of Philadelphia through its Fairmount Park Commission to the United States of America, Department of the Interior, National Park Service. The easement granted the National Park Service the right, but not the obligation, to protect, control, maintain, restore missing landscape features of significance, and management the land [of Washington Square] in accordance with federal laws and regulations pertaining to unit of the NPS in connection with the operation, construction, management, development, use and maintenance of the land.

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Less Than Fee Simple

Narrative: Washington Square is owned by the city of Philadelphia. On May 24, 2005, an easement in perpetuity was granted from the City of Philadelphia through its Fairmount Park Commission to the United States of America, Department of the Interior, National Park Service on the property at 600 Walnut Street, Washington Square.

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands are outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park. The perimeter streets and street life are key features in the historic setting of Washington Square. The street curbs also serve as the square's boundaries and, as such, define the relationship of the square to the surrounding city. Four city streets border Washington Square: Walnut Street to the north, South Washington Square to the south, Sixth Street to the east, and Seventh Street (West Washington Square) to the west. At the northwest corner of Washington Square, a cut□off connects Washington Square West to the intersection of Seventh Street and Walnut Street. The building facades that comprise the streetscapes surrounding Washington Square enclose the square and contribute to its integrity. (CLR 2011: 2.3)

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Washington Square is part of Independence National Historical Park, established on June 28, 1948. The park was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 16, 1966, with passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Washington Square, which dates to the late seventeenth century, was listed on the National Register prior to its inclusion into the park in 2005.

On June 14, 1971, Washington Square was included within the boundaries of the "Society Hill Historic District." The district's Inventory-Nomination Form indicated national-level significance for the 150-acre historic district in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Religion/Philosophy, and Urban Planning. The overall period of significance was identified as the eighteenth through twentieth centuries (no specific date given). The nomination focused on eighteenth and nineteenth century commercial, residential, and religious structures, but did not specifically identify or describe the square or its resources. On July 27, 1987, the form was revised to acknowledge a boundary increase. Additional significance was identified in the area of Ethnic History. The form described Washington Square and noted it was "one of the five original squares of Thomas Holmes' original 1682 plan for Philadelphia commissioned by William Penn."

On September 14, 1981, Washington Square was listed in the National Register through the Inventory-Nomination Form, "The Four Public Squares of Philadelphia Thematic Resource." The nomination indicated state-level significance for the site in the areas of Community Planning, Conservation, Landscape Architecture, and Sculpture (Logan and Rittenhouse Squares only), stating, "Philadelphia's four public squares are significant because they are among the few manifestations left relatively intact of William Penn's seventeenth century utopian dream." The overall period of significance was identified as 1600-1900-x (no specific date given). For Washington Square, the nomination identified significance for the 6.64-acre site in the areas of Community Planning, Conservation, Landscape Architecture, and Sculpture, stating, "the importance of Washington Square to its neighborhood over almost two centuries has remained even as its immediate surroundings changed from residential to commercial and institutional." The nomination emphasized Washington Square's design history, particularly the Bridport and Olmsted Brothers' plans, and its use as a potter's field for burials. The nomination described the square's trees, lawns, walkways (gravel and flagstone), lights, benches, fences, walls, water feature, flagpoles, monument to the Unknown Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution, statue of George Washington, a brick utility building, and changes over time in the park's design. Based on this nomination, five records were prepared for the NPS Historic Structures Inventory (formerly List of Classified Structures): fountain, flagpoles and plaques, paving, perimeter wall, and Revolutionary War Memorial.

On March 4, 1988, documentation of Independence National Historical Park resources was completed through an Inventory-Nomination Form, "Independence National Historical Park." The nomination identified national-level significance for the 39.5-acre historic district in the areas of Archeology-Historic, Architecture, Economics, Invention, Politics/Government, and Religion. The overall period of significance was identified as 1700-1899, with specific dates of 1774-1824, beginning when the First Continental Congress met in the newly-built Carpenters' Hall and Philadelphia became the nation's capital, and ending when several key buildings were completed. On October 12, 2001, the form was revised to include a statement of significance and associated resources related to the Underground Railroad and anti□slavery movement. Additional significance was identified in the areas of Ethnic Heritage-Black, Law, and Social History, and a new end date for the period of significance, 1861, when President Abraham Lincoln spoke at Independence Hall. Washington Square was not included in either the 1988 nomination or the 2001 amendment because it had not yet been incorporated into Independence NHP. Washington Square will be included in updated documentation that is underway (July 2023) for the park in the Inventory-Nomination Form, "Independence National Historical Park."

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance for Washington Square are not adequately documented in previous National Register documentation. The existing documentation does not adequately describe the site's historic resources that contribute to its significance. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, Washington Square is considered "Entered-Inadequately Documented."

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 09/12/2023

Concurrence Narrative:

The Virginia SHPO concurred with the findings of the CLI.

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Contributing

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

Washington Square is significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning and Development, Ethnic History-Black, Conservation, Other-Commemoration, and Other-Public Horticulture. Washington Square is also significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Landscape Architecture. Lastly, Washington Square is significant under Criterion D, Archeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal). Washington Square also meets Criteria Considerations D (Cemeteries) and F (Commemorative Properties). The period of significance for Washington Square is 1682-1957, beginning when William Penn first proposed the square as part of his plan for Philadelphia and ending with the completion of the Monument to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.

CRITERION A

Community Planning and Development:
Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development for its association with the founding of Philadelphia in 1682 and the nation during the American Revolution, including the square's role in the African American history of Philadelphia. The square has been continuously maintained for public use since its inception in 1682 as part of William Penn's ideal city. As one of the first urban squares established in the American colonies, the square has been used by the public as a gathering space since its inception in 1682 as part of William Penn's plan for Philadelphia. First illustrated in Thomas Holme's 1683 drawing, Washington Square appears to be the most intact remnant of Penn's social ideals, for the basic tenet of the original plan, a landscaped square bounded by four city streets, remains unchanged. Penn was interested in parks and gardens partly because he realized some of the dangers inherent in the seventeenth-century city related to health and design and the potential threat of fire after London burned in 1660. Penn's vision represents an early attempt to preserve open space for city residents. This concept was carried further by reformers in the nineteenth century in cities including New York, Buffalo, and St. Louis.

Ethnic Heritage – Black:
Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black for its association with the early history of African Americans in Philadelphia. In 1706 William Penn granted the mayor of Philadelphia a patent to use the square as a burial ground. In 1782 James Dexter, a formerly enslaved man and activist, petitioned the city with six other men to install a fence around "Potter's Square," which he called Philadelphia's black burial ground. In the eighteenth century, "Potter's Square" had become a gathering place for free and enslaved Blacks to organize and build community through cultural traditions of dance, language, and music. Despite many complaints against them, their continued gatherings are well documented in the Annals of Philadelphia. Likely as a response to years of documented grave disturbance and body stealing from a professor of Anatomy and Surgery associated with the College of Philadelphia, in May 1790 the Free African Society, a mutual aid society established by Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, attempted to lease the Potter's Field to officially turn it into a Black cemetery under the Society's control. City leaders denied their request. As a result, the Black community continued to gather in the square and developed a tradition of watching over the unfenced Black burial

ground through the eighteenth century. (CLR 2011: 2.18-2.19)

Other – Public Horticulture:
Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the area of Public Horticulture for its part in Philadelphia's contribution to the development of the field of horticulture in America. This is reflected in the diversity of trees found in the earliest plant lists for Washington Square. By 1816, George Bridport and others recommended introducing many trees cultivated from native North American species instead of those brought to the New World by European settlers. Indeed, the earliest native trees cultivated in the United States included American elm, sugar maple, red oak, catalpa, and sweetgum, which, except for red oak (first recorded in 1842), are all recorded at Washington Square in 1816. The early plant lists for Washington Square include a diverse list of species that were not yet widely available commercially or for which hardiness still needed to be widely documented. Many did not survive. This intense focus on tree planting in the square and Philadelphia as a whole came at a pivotal time in the development of horticulture in the United States, for there was a scarcity of nurseries in America. Philadelphia's leadership intended to spur public interest and investment in the nascent field of horticulture through the public display in Washington Square. As a continuously maintained urban space with a diverse tree collection, Washington Square remains an important public arboretum. (CLR 2011: 2.23)

Conservation and Other (Commemoration):
Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion A in the areas of Conservation and Other (Commemoration) for its association with early commemorative activities and the larger historic preservation movement. The Washington Square Planning Committee and the Washington Square Planning Association played an important role in the rehabilitation of Washington Square in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including the memorialization of George Washington and Revolutionary War soldiers. The first evidence of commemoration is the re□naming of Southeast Square as Washington Square, which was first proposed in 1816 and appears on the original Bridport plan but was not officially approved until 1825. The Centennial of Washington's birthday also sparked interest in a commemorative monument, but public subscriptions were not sufficient to fund a monument so only a cornerstone was laid in the square in 1833. The Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876, which had national influence on the appreciation of American's design history and the resulting interest in Colonia Revival design, may have influenced William Dixey, who completed important design plans for both Independence and Washington Squares. Dixey's plan for Washington Square recommended a single major monument in the center of the square, and the Washington Grays monument was placed there in 1891, later moving to another location in Washington Square before it was finally relocated to Fairmount Park in 1954 at the same time G. Edwin Brumbaugh (1890□1990) was completing plans for the rehabilitation of Washington Square. Brumbaugh introduced Colonial Revival features and a major memorial commemorating George Washington and the Revolutionary War soldiers buried in the square. (CLR 2011: 2.19-2.20)

As the twentieth century began, the historic preservation movement responded to the revival styles popular in American design. Between 1920 and 1950, a variety of preservation-related events raised awareness of historic preservation. They include the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg in the 1930s, the Historic Building and Sites Act of 1935, the chartering of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1949, and the Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) established a Committee on Preservation of Historic Monuments in 1898 and in the 1920s, the Philadelphia AIA focused on colonial buildings and a general interest in the colonial period in Philadelphia with an important plan for Independence Square completed in 1916-1917. (CLR 2011: 2.20)

Though not nationally known, G. Edwin Brumbaugh was an important figure in the preservation movement in Pennsylvania. Born in 1890, Brumbaugh graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1908, working in the architectural offices of Mellor and Meigs and Charles Barton Keen until he opened his own firm in Philadelphia in 1926. He had a strong interest in the early architecture of Pennsylvania. Beginning in 1926, Brumbaugh's design work appears to be solely in the Colonial Revival style, which led to an increasing focus on the restoration of colonial period buildings. Thus by 1950, he had established a very successful restoration practice, including architectural preservation projects for Independence Hall, Gloria Dei and the Daniel Boon Homestead. Throughout his career, Brumbaugh was known for his attention to accuracy and historical documentation, which is reflected in the Colonial Revival style wall for Washington Square, and perhaps for the Washington monument that graces the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. While little has been written about the contributions of G. Edwin Brumbaugh,

his design work for Washington Square introduced prototypical Colonial Revival elements such as the perimeter wall and modified replica lights, as well as finally realizing a permanent memorial commemorating George Washington and the soldiers of the Revolutionary War. In this way, it is both atypical (landscape) and typical of Brumbaugh's work, illustrating the integration of his dual interests in the Colonial Revival with the preservation of an important eighteenth-century historic site. (CLR 2011: 2.20)

CRITERION C

Landscape Architecture:
Washington Square possesses state-level significance under Criterion C in the area of Landscape Architecture as an example of a nineteenth to early twentieth-century urban square that evolved based on design plans by noteworthy designers – including George Bridport, William Dixey, and the Olmsted Brothers – and is reflective of broader contemporary trends in American park design. George Bridport's 1816 design for Southeast Square (now Washington Square) formed the basis of improvements to the square in the first half of the nineteenth century and created a pleasure ground with a promenade and open lawn shaded by large deciduous trees, characteristic of contemporary urban parks in other large American cities. Bridport introduced diagonal entrances at each corner of the park; two concentric circles, at the center and inside the perimeter; and four circular paths at the intersection of the diagonal entrances with the outside circular path.

In 1875 William Dixey assumed the position of City Commissioner of the Departments of Markets and City Property, and at the Fairmount Park Commission, and in 1881 he redesigned Washington Square. Dixey's design realigned the paths from a circular design into straight walks on the diagonal and at right angles to adjacent streets. The new design paved the gravel walks with "flagstone" and removed the perimeter fence, resulting in more efficient connections through the square, perhaps in response to the commercialization of the surrounding neighborhood.

The Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, which formed in 1898 following the retirement of Frederick Law Olmsted, created a series of plans for Washington Square between 1913 and 1914. At the time, they worked on numerous projects in Philadelphia and major park projects in Washington, D.C., and Denver, Colorado. The Olmsted Brothers' plan created an ordered, symmetrical system of pathways, emphasizing the diagonal connections to each of the four corners, with a central circle. In the design, interior paths paralleled each of the four streets and scattered large specimen trees punctuated swaths of grass in the grass. The designers retained and incorporated many of the trees from existing plantings and added masses of shrubs to define the edges of the cross-axis and open beds. The Olmsted Brothers presented a well-ordered and functional plan that suited Philadelphia and restored Washington Square to an urban promenade from an efficient path network, as previously implemented by Dixey. The basic form of the Olmsted design carried through into G. Edwin Brumbaugh's plan and exists today. (CLR 2011: 2.9-2.20)

CRITERION D

Archeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal):
Washington Square possesses national-level significance under Criterion D in the area of Archeology-Historic (Non-Aboriginal) for its colonial history as a burial ground of the unmarked graves of numerous people, including prisoners of war held by British forces during the Revolutionary War, enslaved and free Black men, Christian Native Americans, women and children; and victims of the yellow fever epidemic in 1793, among others. While the evaluation of archeological resources is beyond the scope of the cultural landscape inventory, documentary, and physical evidence proves the presence of extensive human remains within the square.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATION D

Cemeteries:
Washington Square meets Criterion Consideration D: Cemeteries, for the many unmarked burials associated with the Revolutionary War and the Colonial history of Philadelphia.

CRITERION CONSIDERATION F

Commemorative Properties:
Washington Square meets Criterion Consideration F: Commemoration, for the visual importance of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, the replica statue of George Washington, and the large number of plaques and smaller commemorative objects in the square. The Brumbaugh Memorial has some significance, for its artistic qualities reflected in the ensemble of features, including the monument, sarcophagus, flag court, and fountain, and given Brumbaugh's contributions to architectural preservation in Pennsylvania during the early-mid twentieth century. It is not likely that sufficient time has elapsed since the construction of the Memorial to determine if it has acquired additional significance through age, tradition, or symbolic value. (CLR 2011: 2.42)

National Register Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

National Register Criteria Consideration:

D -- A cemetery

F -- A commemorative property

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1682 - CE 1957

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Peopling Places	Development of the Colonies	Physical Development	
Transforming the Environment	Historic Preservation	Regional Efforts: Mid-Atlantic States, 1860-1900: Memorials To The Revolution;	
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	Colonial Traditions In The New World	
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	Urban Planning In The Nineteenth Century	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Historic-Non-Aboriginal

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Community Planning and Development

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Ethnic Heritage

Area of Significance Subcategory: Black

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Other

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative: Commemoration

Area of Significance Category: Other

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative: Horticulture

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Society Hill Historic District
NRIS ID:	71000065
Primary Certification Date:	06/14/1971
NRIS Name:	The Four Public Squares of Philadelphia Thematic Resource
NRIS ID:	81000558,
Primary Certification Date:	09/14/1981
NRIS Name:	Independence National Historical Park
NRIS ID:	66000683
Primary Certification Date:	03/04/1988

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1683	Platted	Thomas Holme surveys Philadelphia and dedicates squares – Northeast, Northwest, Southeast (now known as Washington), Southwest, and Center Squares – “for the like uses as the moorfields in London.” The squares become known by these geographical names in accordance with Quaker tradition which avoids naming land features for persons.
CE 1706 - 1794	Established	William Penn issues a patent for Southeast Square designating the use of the property as a potter’s field, primarily for internments of poor people, suicide victims, free and enslaved members of the Black community, people unaffiliated with a church, “strangers,” and prisoners.
CE 1708	Farmed/Harvested	Joshua Carpenter acquires a 21-year lease to use Southeast Square as a pasture for cattle with the stipulation that he enclose the square with a fence at his own expense. Lease is signed on March 30, 1708, but when and if Carpenter encloses the area with a fence is unclear.
CE 1722	Established	Joshua Carpenter is buried in the center of Southeast Square in a small area surrounded by a brick wall under an apple tree. His wife, Elizabeth is buried alongside her husband on October 30, 1729. The area is between twenty and forty feet square.
CE 1730 - 1765	Farmed/Harvested	Jacob Shoemaker acquires leases to use Southeast Square for 35 years if he keeps fences in good repair and buries any bodies at least four and a half feet deep.
CE 1745	Built	Loganian Library is built at the northwest corner of Sixth and Walnut Streets, facing the State House Yard (now Independence Square) and is the only building adjacent to Southeast Square until 1776.
CE 1745 - 1750	Built	Timothy Matlack describes a “duck pond” located in Southeast Square.
CE 1763	Established	Sixty-five Native Americans, housed in barracks in Philadelphia awaiting transport to New York, die of smallpox and are buried in a corner of Southeast Square.
CE 1765	Altered	Dr. William Shippen begins the theft of bodies in Southeast Square to preform medical studies and members of the Black community begin a decades long tradition of guarding the burial ground at night from theft.
CE 1766	Platted	John Lukes documents the vicinity of Southeast Square through a topographic survey.
CE 1766 - 1780	Farmed/Harvested	Jasper Carpenter is the last lessee of the grounds from 1766 to 1780 from the Corporation of the City of Philadelphia, as it ceases to exist at the expiration of his lease.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1766	Platted	John Luckens Survey Book and Scharf and Westcott's History of Philadelphia note a hollow, where a stream flows from a pond located near the southeast corner of Seventh Street.
CE 1773 - 1775	Built	The Walnut Street Gaol (Prison), designed by noted Philadelphia architect Robert Smith, is constructed at the southeast corner of Sixth and Walnut Streets.
CE 1777 - 1778	Established	Under British occupation, prisoners of war in the Walnut Street Gaol die of cold and hunger. Trenches are dug in Southeast Square for mass graves. Scharf and Westcott describe pits as 20 by 30 feet located along Walnut Street near Seventh Street, with a second set of trenches dug the entire width of the southern border of Southeast Square. In addition both British and Colonial soldiers are buried in Southeast Square.
CE 1782	Established	James Oronoko Dexter, African American activist, and others petition the city to install a fence around "Potter's Square," which they refer to as Philadelphia's black burial ground, but are unsuccessful.
CE 1785	Built	A debtor's prison is added to Walnut Street Prison at Prune Street (now South Washington Square).
CE 1792	Planned	In 1792, citizens petition the mayor for tree planting in the five public squares, which they cited as "public nuisances" out of neglect. They urge tree planting to improve the general health of the City, and write to the mayor, "it is an established fact that trees and vegetation" contribute to "the increased salubrity of air."
CE 1793	Established	Some 1,334 victims of the Yellow Fever epidemic (about 1/3 of the dead) are interned in Southeast Square. The Free African Society is the primary group that helps bury the dead.
CE 1794	Planned	A detailed Plan of the City and Suburbs of Philadelphia, drawn by A.P. Folie in 1794, shows the southwest corner of the square bordered by unbuilt, open lots.
CE 1794	Abandoned	City of Philadelphia ends the use of Southeast Square for burials.
CE 1794	Planted	Rows of Lombardy poplars are planted on all sides of Southeast Square.
CE 1794 - 1795	Planted	Alice B. Lockwood describes in her writings that two additional rows of Lombardy poplars are planted.
CE 1795	Built	The Common Council meeting minutes indicate that Southeast Square is now enclosed by a board fence.
CE 1795	Established	In the center of the square a small portion of ground is enclosed with a brick wall and used as a burial place by members of the J. Carpenter family
CE 1795	Built	On May 4, 1795 the joint Councils passes a resolution to open Seventh Street, allowing it to pass through the square.
CE 1796	Developed	A map by John Hills "Plan of the City of Philadelphia" shows several houses on the west side of the square to the north of South Washington Square.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1797 - 1815	Developed	A cattle market opens on Dock Street, and shortly thereafter is moved to Seventh Street between Walnut and Prune Street (now South Washington Square) adjacent to Washington Square.
CE 1799	Built	Development along the west side of the square culminates with the construction of Samson's Row on Walnut Street near the Seventh Street intersection, a row of stately Federal style houses designed by architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe.
CE 1800 - 1825	Built	Between 1800 and 1825, several poor Black families live in homes along with south side of the square.
CE 1800	Established	The capital of the United States is moved from Philadelphia to Washington D.C.
CE 1802	Built	The City Council directs the City Commissioners to construct a walk on the west side of Sixth Street with a fence to protect pedestrians from traffic in the adjacent street, provided the costs to the city are defrayed by private contributions.
CE 1802	Removed	Several buildings at the corner of Seventh Street and the horse market are directed to be removed at this time.
CE 1802	Planted	City Commissioners plant a second row of trees along Sixth Street.
CE 1802	Removed	City Commissioners are directed to remove several buildings at the corner of Seventh Street and the horse market/
CE 1803 - 1816	Altered	The City Councils jointly authorizes the City Commissioner to culvert underground the Dock Creek tributary running from Walnut Street to Sixth Street through the northeast corner of the square. A resolution authorizes the action in 1805, though documentation suggests the culvert is not complete until 1816.
CE 1805	Graded	The City of Philadelphia passes a resolution to grade and level Southeast Square in a more orderly fashion.
CE 1805	Altered	Walnut Street is paved from Seventh to Eighth Street.
CE 1809 - 1812	Farmed/Harvested	East and west portions of Southeast Square are rented by the City to private individuals, likely for continued use as pastureland.
CE 1812	Built	City Council resolves to surround the square with a suitable fence.
CE 1815	Built	By 1815 Southeast Square is completely surrounded by buildings.
CE 1816	Designed	In November 1816, George Bridport draws a plan for Southeast Square that establishes two diagonal walks across portions of the square, and two walks running mid-block perpendicular to adjacent streets, all meeting at a round plaza at the square's center. The proposed plaza features a central circular focal point and semi-circular areas in each quadrant of the plaza. Two circuit walks are also proposed within the interior of the square, with semi-circular approaches at the square's corners.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1816	Removed	In 1816, the Councils orders that the city carpenter shop on Locust Street (now South Washington Square) be removed to Lombard Street and rubbish used to fill the uneven terrain of the square. This order suggests that the culvert was complete by 1816, as the carpenter shop is no longer needed.
CE 1817	Planted	By 1817, Southeast Square is densely planted by gardener Andrew Gillespie.
CE 1817	Built	Bricks are used to pave the sidewalks surrounding the square, and interior walks are surfaced with gravel.
CE 1818 - 1825	Established	Southeast Square is identified as Washington Square in city directories and the name is used colloquially. It is officially renamed to honor George Washington in 1825.
CE 1818 - 1837	Altered	Between 1818 and 1837, reflecting lamps are installed in the square.
CE 1820 - 1822	Built	The Classical Revival style First Presbyterian Church, designed by architect John Haviland, is constructed on south side of square. It is demolished in 1939.
CE 1822 - 1832	Built	Between 1822 and 1832, a small grouping of homes of poor Black families living on the south side of the square are torn down and replaced by six new houses between 1822 and 1832, which are then occupied by prominent white Philadelphia families.
CE 1822	Removed	Seventh Street, running through the square, is completely removed.
CE 1822	Platted	William Rush completes a survey of Washington Square.
CE 1825	Built	A painting by John Carr shows improves to the square including, a white paling fence surrounding the square, gas lamps, and an early guard box like those that stood in Independence Square circa 1785. The foliage of a weeping willow tree is also visible in the distance.
CE 1828	Designed	John Haviland is commissioned to design new lamps for the square.
CE 1828 - 1827	Planned	An 1828 etching in the collection of the Library Company of Philadelphia titled “Promenade in Washington Square” is the earliest drawing to show circular walks in place on the square.
CE 1830	Planted	More than fifty varieties of trees are noted as growing in Washington Square.
CE 1830	Platted	In 1830, a committee of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society describes the layout of the square, which is measured, mistakenly, at eight acres: four diagonal walks, thirty feet wide, leading to a circular plot in the center of one hundred and twenty feet diameter; around this is a walk forty feet wide; and another circular walk twenty feet wide, extends to within twenty-five feet of the side of the square; where this walk intersects the diagonal, are circular plots thirty-five feet in diameter. Thus forming a handsome, recreative [sic], and interesting promenade, amongst fifty varieties of trees, seven of which a portion of which are from distant parts of the Union.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1830	Planted	Frances Trollope describes the square as having “an excellent crop of clover . . .This pretty Washington square is surrounded by houses on three sides, but (lasso!) has a prison on the fourth.”
CE 1833	Memorialized	Washington Monument cornerstone is placed in the center of the square.
CE 1836	Purchased/Sold	Walnut Street Gaol (Prison) is sold for $299,000.99 for redevelopment.
CE 1836	Built	Wooden paling fence is replaced with a high iron fence set on cut granite stone blocks. The principal entrances at each corner of Washington Square are controlled with “heavy iron gates, supported by blocks of marble. The square [could] also be entered by small gates on either of its four sides.”
CE 1837	Demolished	Walnut Street Gaol is demolished by John Moss.
CE 1837	Built	Gas lamps are installed in Washington Square.
CE 1842	Platted	A lithograph plan is drawn by M. Schmitz [sp] P. Kereven, the chief gardener of both Washington and Independence Squares, from a survey by John B. Colahan.
CE 1869	Built	The Philadelphia Fountain Society erects a granite fountain for watering on the north side of Washington Square bordering Walnut Street, one of dozens erected by the group. The fountain is designed with separate basins on the street side to provide water for horses and dogs, and a lion’s head on the sidewalk side of the fountain with a spout to provide water for passersby.
CE 1880 - 1883	Built	A low granite coping, nine inches in height, replaces the 1836 wall and iron fence previously surrounding the square.
CE 1881	Designed	Following his plan for Independence Square, in 1881, William Dixey prepares a plan for a redesign of Washington Square. The plan eliminates the circular walks that characterized the Bridport design and establishes a geometric grid of paths designed to intersect at the center. Like Independence Square, each corner of the square has three entrances, one directly on the corner and one on each of the two adjacent streets, sixteen entrances total. The design is based on the re□routing of walks to follow social paths by pedestrians taking shortcuts and is intended to provide the greatest convenience to pedestrians. It is approved by the Councils in 1881.
CE 1881	Altered	Walks in the square are surfaced with flagstone, replacing the gravel walks installed in the early 1810s. The new main diagonal walks are twenty feet in width; minor walks are twelve feet wide.
CE 1883	Altered	A resolution calls for the addition of benches around the center of Washington Square and Independence Square, perhaps because benches were not originally included in Dixey’s design.
CE 1890 - 1899	Built	In the 1890s the Fairmont Park Commission constructs a moveable guard house in the south corner of Washington Square.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1898	Planted	Washington Square is resodded.
CE 1898	Altered	Repairs are made to the lavatory located near the northeast corner of the square. This is the first documentation of the lavatory, which is last documented in 1952.
CE 1898 - 1916	Altered	The Washington Grays monument is moved from its original location near the intersection of Broad Street and Girard Avenue to a new location in the center of Washington Square facing Seventh Street. The monument remains there until 1916 when it is relocated to the western side of the square until 1954.
CE 1900	Memorialized	In 1900, the Quaker City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution construct a small memorial dedicated to the soldiers who died in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary War. The memorial consists of a large boulder with a plaque inscribed “in memory of the many American soldiers, who during the war for independence, died prisoners of war in the jails of Philadelphia, and were buried in this ground during the years 1777 and 1778.
CE 1900 - 1910	Developed	Shortly after the turn of the century, printing and publishing houses are established in the buildings located on the streets surrounding Washington Square.
CE 1908	Platted	In 1915, William F. Dreer undertakes an existing conditions inventory of the square with Raymond Pond, the new City Forester in preparation for working with the Olmsted Brothers, landscape architects. They identify three hundred and eight trees of one hundred and sixteen varieties. They also earmark trees to be removed.
CE 1912	Built	The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company constructs a building at the location of the former Walnut Street Gaol.
CE 1913	Platted	Olmsted Brothers document the existing Washington Square landscape as having 308 trees, about one third of which are over eight inches in diameter, with many larger (21 of these were 2.5-4 feet in diameter). Among the most noteworthy trees are American elm, planetree, silver maple, catalpa, ash and two varieties of oak. At the time, the square contains a mixture of both gas and electric light fixtures, which are scattered throughout without regard to an orderly scheme.
CE 1913	Designed	Olmsted Brothers submit a preliminary design for Washington Square, which rotates the interior paths so that they are parallel with the surrounding streets, and adds shrubbery.
CE 1916	Moved	In 1916, the Bureau of City Property relocates the 1869 watering trough from its original location on Walnut Street near Seventh Street to the north side of Locust Street (now South Washington Square) in conjunction with narrowing the sidewalk along Walnut Street to make way for two trolley lines.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1916	Planned	The Bureau of City Property reports contracting for the relocation of the Revolutionary War Soldiers' monument to the northeast quadrant of the square. This location is consistent with the Olmsted Brother's revised design plan. It is unclear, however, if the monument is ever placed on the northern side of the square, mid-block, as recommended on the Olmsted Brothers' revised design plan.
CE 1916	Planted	Photographs reveal that shrub planting is undertaken along the perimeter of the square to provide a sense of enclosure, consistent with the Olmsted Brother's recommendations.
CE 1916 - 1954	Moved	The Washington Grays monument is moved from the center of the square to the western side of the square, where it remains until 1954.
CE 1920 - 1927	Planted	J.K. Lloyd prepares a plan for additional tree planting, approved in early 1921, that calls for the addition of 63 street trees in the sidewalks surrounding the square, as well as 17 new trees within the square, along its perimeter, including ash, elm, gingko, honey locust, horsechestnut, Kentucky coffeetree, red oak, silver linden, sycamore, maple, tulip poplar and Umbrella magnolia. Though street tree species are not indicated, a photograph from 1941 shows mature gingkos surrounding the square.
CE 1930	Built	A 20-story addition to the Penn Mutual Life building at the intersection of Sixth and Walnut Street results in more office workers in the neighborhood of Washington Square.
CE 1935 - 1939	Built	A guard house is constructed in the late 1930s to the northwest of the center of the square. The building features a concrete block addition that is used as a maintenance building, which is removed during the rehabilitation of the square in the early 2000s.
CE 1937	Planted	The Society of Little Gardens plants five trees in Washington Square. They include a tulip poplar, sweet gum, pin oak, Washington thorn, and serviceberry/shadblow. By 1965 only the pin oak remains.
CE 1947	Built	To address traffic issues, the Fairmount Parks Commission approves the construction of the Seventh Street cut-off, which creates a traffic island at the northwest corner of the park.
CE 1948	Established	Congress authorizes Independence National Historical Park (NHP) for the purpose of "preserving for the benefit of the American people, historical structure and properties of national significance associated with the American Revolution and the founding and growth of the United States."
CE 1952	Removed	The last documentation of a lavatory occurs in 1952. Constructed in the late nineteenth century as an eighteen-foot square structure, it is separated into two spaces for men's and women's restrooms.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1953 - 1954	Designed	A joint committee from the Fairmount Park Art Association and the Committee for the improvement of Washington Square, selects Edwin Brumbaugh, architect, and Thomas Sears, landscape architect, to renovate Washington Square. The plans call for the “removal of 36 of the present 255 trees, the planting of 4 new trees, the extensive planting of shrubs, dogwood, and bulbs as ground cover as well as the placing of spring and fall flowers.”
CE 1954	Removed	Forty trees are removed from Washington Square by the Fairmount Park Commission.
CE 1956	Built	Brumbaugh’s Colonial Revival style wall is constructed around the square, a distance of 1,884 feet. The wall is intended to “unify the area and to provide a background for the memorial . . .the wall is patterned after those often built around the burial grounds of Colonial churches.”
CE 1956	Built	Installation of 54 new Franklin-style lights, which are modeled after the 1916 American Institute of Architects lighting designed for Independence Square. The lights are mounted 13 feet above ground on cast iron posts specified to be painted white and lamps painted black. The posts are square with beveled edges, to mimic the wooden posts used in the colonial period.
CE 1956	Designed	The Washington Square Planning Committee commissions G. Edwin Brumbaugh to design a monument to be located on the northern side of the square off of the central plaza, although ultimately the statue is erected with the Revolutionary War monument centrally located on the west side of the square.
CE 1956	Built	The monument to Washington as a part of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier is constructed, including the circular pool and fountain, now known as the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
CE 1956	Established	Independence National Historical Park is officially established on July 4th.
CE 1965	Planted	Planting of trees is undertaken in Washington Square, funded in part by the Washington Square Association.
CE 1973	Platted	A report by Atlantic Tree Company indicates that there are 194 trees in the square, the largest and oldest are sycamore and elm, and also clusters of large male and female hollies.
CE 1975	Built	As part of the preparation for the Bicentennial, new bollards, benches, a bronze plaque, and plantings are added around the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
CE 1975	Built	As designed by Brumbaugh, a propane fueled eternal flame is added to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
CE 1975	Built	Additions of new benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, hose outlets, and shrub plantings. The fountain pump house is relocated, and some walkways and repaired and widened.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1975	Planted	The Bicentennial “moon tree” is planted from one of the four hundred seeds brought to the moon by NASA astronaut Stuart Rosa in 1971.
CE 1976 - 1977	Built	The City erects playground equipment in the square during the Bicentennial, but removes it in 1977.
CE 1981	Established	Washington Square is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of “The Four Public Square (s) of Philadelphia.
CE 1991	Established	The Secretary of the Interior and the Fairmount Park Commission sign a Memorandum of Understanding to work collaboratively to “preserve, protect, interpret and maintain” Washington Square in recognition of its importance to the history of the American Revolution. The National Park Service (NPS) agrees to add the square to Independence NHP once it is “restored, repaired and rehabilitated.”
CE 1991 - 2004	Rehabilitated	From 1991-2004, renovations are completed to satisfy the Memorandum of Understanding between the NPS and the City of Philadelphia and the transfer of title of Washington Square to the NPS in 2005. Specific improvements addressed by Fairmount Park Commission include reconstruction in kind of the limestone wall of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, conservation of the sarcophagus of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolutionary War, conservation of the limestone benches that for a part of the memorial, mechanical improvements to the eternal flame, removal and replacement in kind of other existing benches in the square with no change in the number or location of them, rehabilitation of the maintenance building and the Centennial era guard house, and landscaping improvements and lawn restoration.
CE 1995 - 1999	Altered	In the late 1990s fifty-three lights are staggered along both sides of the bluestone walkways. They replace the replica Benjamin Franklin lights designed for the square by Brumbaugh, with only slightly different proportions.
CE 2000	Removed	Existing benches on slate pads that had been added to the square in the 1970s are removed and not replaced so that the grass/landscaped areas can be returned to a more appropriate character and to reduce overall maintenance. Groupings of wooden benches around the perimeter of the square dating to the Bicentennial celebration are removed.
CE 2000 - 2005	Removed	The concrete block addition to the late 1930s guardhouse to the northwest of the center of the square is removed.
CE 2002	Built	Installation of interpretative panels and wayfinding signage in the square is completed based on the plan by Joel Katz Design Associates.
CE 2003	Rehabilitated	The eternal flame, as part of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, is rebuilt.
CE 2004	Planted	Society Hill Civic Association plants thousands of flowers in the square, including English bluebells, pansies and daffodils.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 2004	Damaged	In spring 2004, a thirty-eight linear foot section of the wall is damaged by a vehicle, which strikes the wall knocking it off its footing. Wall is repaired by the NPS.
CE 2004	Rehabilitated	The Commission completes restoration, repair, and rehabilitation work in Washington Square, which allows for the NPS to accept an easement one year later.
CE 2005	Planted	Volunteers plant daffodils, chrysanthemums, and pansies.
CE 2005	Conserved	In 2005, the city of Philadelphia's Fairmount Park Commission grants the title to an easement for the 6.4-acre Washington Square, which becomes part of Independence NHP.
CE 2006	Planted	Sixty rose bushes are planted along the approach to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier and 60 boxwood shrubs are added at the corner entrances of the square.
CE 2006	Planted	Volunteers plant perennials at the corner entrances to the square.
CE 2007	Built	The lily pad sculpture is installed in the fountain at the center of Washington Square.
CE 2008	Planted	The Society Hill Civic Association plants (non specified)vegetation.
CE 2009	Planted	A hybrid chestnut tree is planted near the Seventh Street diagonal.
CE 2009	Planted	Volunteers plant perennials by square's entrances.
CE 2011	Altered	The National Park Service replaces Washington Square's irrigation systems.
CE 2016	Planted	Plantings surrounding the central fountain and Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier are replaced.
CE 2022	Destroyed	Vandalism occurs to the Memorial of the Unknown Revolutionary War Solider when two bronze bollards (one from the front and one from the northwest corner near the wall), one rosette on the wall, and all spans of bronze chain, except one, are stolen.
CE 2022	Rehabilitated	Updates to the central fountain, including the addition of a pump and filter, are made by the NPS.
CE 2022	Rehabilitated	Spotlights on the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Solider are renovated.
CE 2022	Altered	New benches and trash receptacles are installed.

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on Washington Square's physical development and evolution, organized by time periods. The square's has been addressed in numerous studies, including a 1981 "National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, Four Public Squares of Philadelphia Thematic Resource," Denise Rabzak's 1987 "Washington Square in Historic Society Hill Philadelphia: A Site Plan Chronology 1683□1984," two archeological reports by John Milner Associates (1996, 2000), Anna Coxe Toogood's two□volume 1998 "Cultural Landscape Report for Independence Square," Wendy Woloson's 2000 "Washington Square: Bibliography of Source Material," and a 2007 and 2022 "Tree Inventories and Condition Assessments" by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The following narrative is excerpted from the 2011 "Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square" by DHM Design, Pressley Associates, RK&K Engineering, and staff at Independence National Historical Park and the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The following narrative is also informed by the 2022 draft "Cultural Landscape Report Addendum for Washington Square, Conditions, and Treatment Recommendations" prepared by Morgan Cutter, Landscape Architecture Associate with the National Park Service. Please see the cited studies for detailed information on the physical landscape evolution of Washington Square.

This section includes a summary of the physical development of Washington Square, initially called Southeast Square, beginning with its layout as one of the five original squares of William Penn's plan for the City of Philadelphia, through the transfer of the square's management from the City of Philadelphia to the National Park Service in 2005, to the present day. Seven historic periods correspond with major periods of landscape change, and include the colonial period (1682□1776), the era of capital city improvements (1776□1815), the Bridport design period (1815□1881), the Dixey plan period (1881□1913), Olmsted Brothers plan period (1913□1952), the Brumbaugh plan period (1952□1990), and the transition from Fairmount Park Commission to the National Park Service (2005 to the present). Additional information on the history of individual landscape features is included in the Analysis and Evaluation section of the Cultural Landscape Inventory.

COLONIAL PERIOD, 1682-1776

Between 1682 and 1776, Southeast Square was established as part of the urban fabric of Philadelphia, based on Thomas Holme's plan for the city, authorized by William Penn in 1682 (Figure 1). During the colonial period, the landscape of the square consisted of a duck pond with two small streams running through the southeast and northeast corners of the site, converging on the eastern side of the square (Figure 2). This stream eventually flowed into Dock Creek. The shape of the square and the adjacent streets were established by 1683. Sometime after 1706, the square, then under lease by Joshua Carpenter, was fenced by David Evans (Figure 3). A portion of the square was leased for pasture from 1706 to 1814.

By the first quarter of the 1700s, the Carpenter and Story families created a small brick wall-enclosed plot at the center of the square for family burials (Figure 4). Before Philadelphia became the young nation's capital city in 1790, residents used the landscape of Washington Square for a wide variety of purposes, including as a potter's field for burials of free and enslaved blacks, Native Americans, victims of suicide, prisoners of war from the Walnut Street Gaol, Revolutionary War Soldiers from the Independence Hall hospital, and victims of the 1793 Yellow Fever epidemic (Figure 5). The square was also a popular location for gatherings and celebrations within the Black community, as well as the location of a community cemetery. Through the 1770s, African Americans guarded their burials in the Potter's Field against theft for use in the local medical school. (CLR 2011: 1.12)

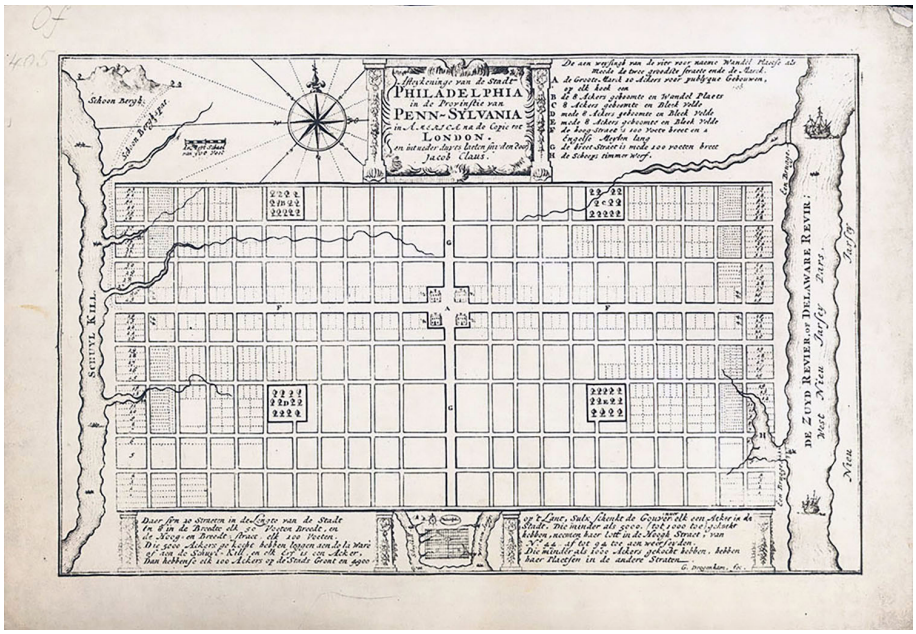


Figure 1. The 1683 plan of Philadelphia titled "A Portraiture of the City of Philadelphia in the Province of Pennsylvania in America by Thomas Holme, Surveyor General. Sold by Andrew Sowle in Shoreditch, London." Southeast Square [Washington Square] is shown in the lower right quadrant of the map. Note the presence of Dock Creek with a wider block on the street grid between Walnut and Spruce Streets. (The Map Collection, Free Library of Philadelphia)

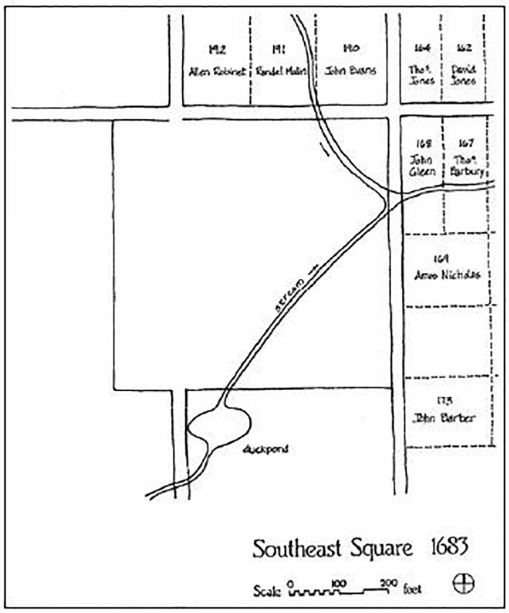


Figure 2. Period diagrams for Washington Square, 1683, by Denise Rabzak shows the two creeks that converged on the square. (Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square--hereafter CLR--2011, citing Rabzak, Washington Square in Historic Society Hill: A Site Plan Chronology, 1683□1984, 1987)

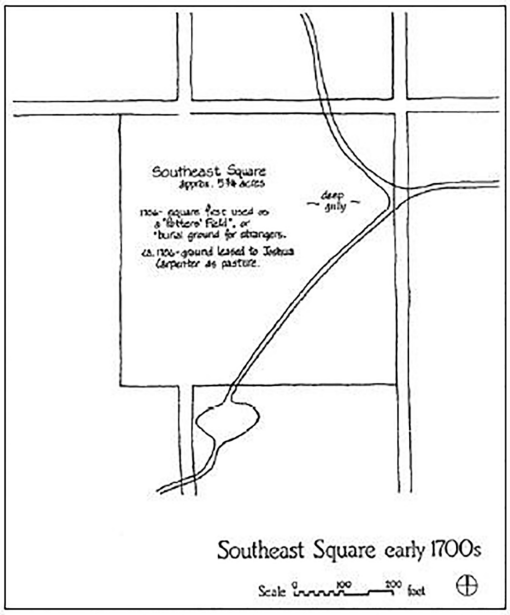


Figure 3. Early 1700s period diagram by Rabzak shows initial use of the field for pasture. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

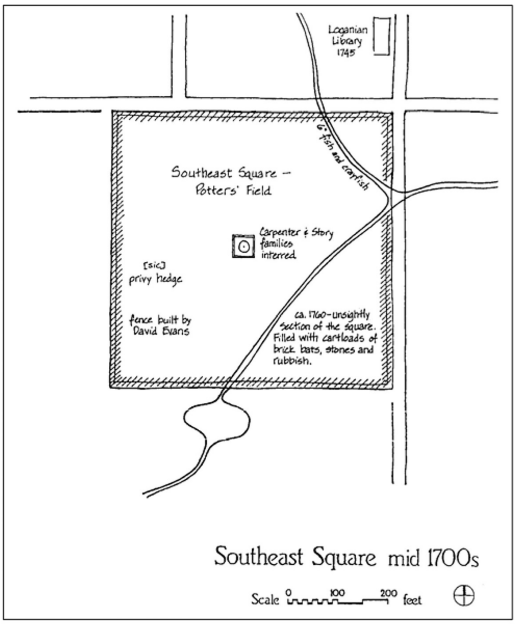


Figure 4. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, mid-1700s, showing the square fenced with the Carpenter family burial plot at its center. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

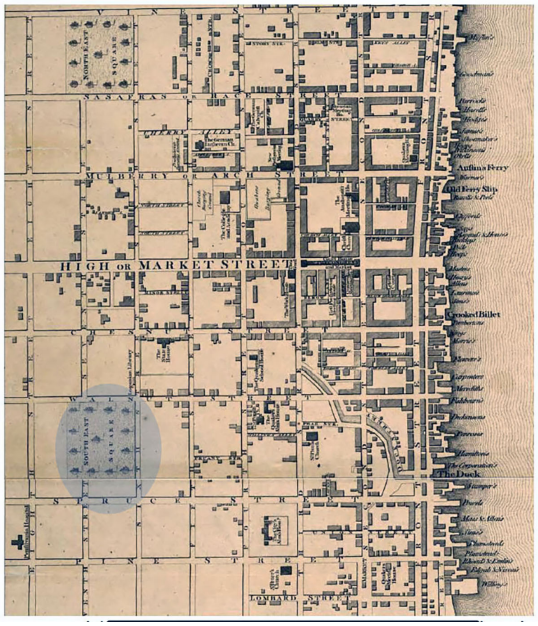


Figure 5. Detail of 1776 "Plan of the City of Philadelphia, the Capital of Pennsylvania from an actual survey by Benjamin Eastburn, Surveyor General." Note that in 1776, the streets had yet to be laid on the southern and western sides of the square and that the developed portion of the city scarcely skirted the square. South East Square is highlighted. (The Map Collection, Free Library of Philadelphia, annotation by Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation--hereafter OCLP)

CAPITAL CITY IMPROVEMENTS, 1776-1815

By 1776 the square was enclosed by a board fence, and continued to be used for burials (Figure 6, see also Figure 5). During the 1793 Yellow Fever epidemic, so many people were buried in the Potter's Field, according to Scharf and Westcott, that no more could be buried without disturbing the remains of those previously interred. In 1794 the city closed the Potter's Field to burials. (CLR 2011: 1.12, citing Scharf and Westcott 1884: 2356)

Soon after, rows of Lombardy poplars were planted around the perimeter of the square and along Seventh Street, which bisected the square beginning in 1795 (Figure 7). Shortly after the turn of the century, citizens petitioned the city for improvements to the square. A new walk was constructed on the west side of Sixth Street with a new fence, and additional tree plantings. In 1797, a livestock market opened along the western side of the square and remained in operation until 1815. In 1803 the sloping terrain of the square was partially leveled, and the city authorized the Dock Creek tributaries to be channelized into a culvert in 1805 (Figures 8, 9). Sometime soon after the turn of the nineteenth century, Sixth Street was paved along the square, with Walnut Street paved after 1811. The topography remained relatively uneven, however, and it was not until after 1815 that the character of Southeast Square began to resemble an urban park. (CLR 2011: 1.28)

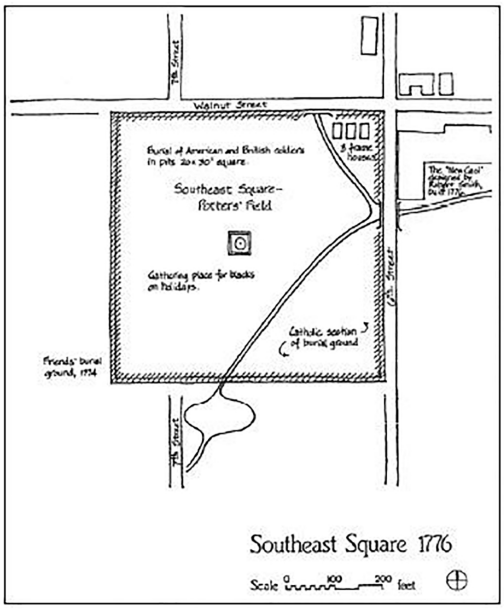


Figure 6. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1776, showing three frame houses referenced by historian and author Watson, across Sixth Street from the Walnut St. Goal. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

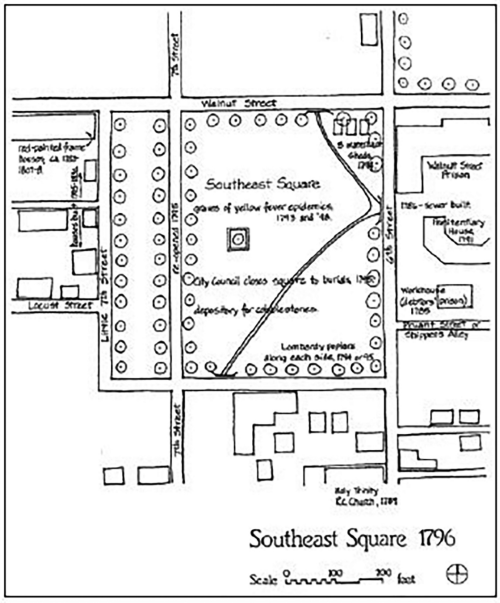


Figure 7. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1796, showing Seventh Street open through the square and Lombardy poplars along the perimeter. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)



Figure 8. Detail of "A Ground Plat of the City of Philadelphia Marking the as[…] of Streets, elevation for the Regulated Curbstone, and e[x]hibiting the main Tunnels &c. [For particulars see the Book corresponding herewith. [March] 15th 1809. Reading Howell." (City Plans Division of the City of Philadelphia, Bureau of Survey and Design)

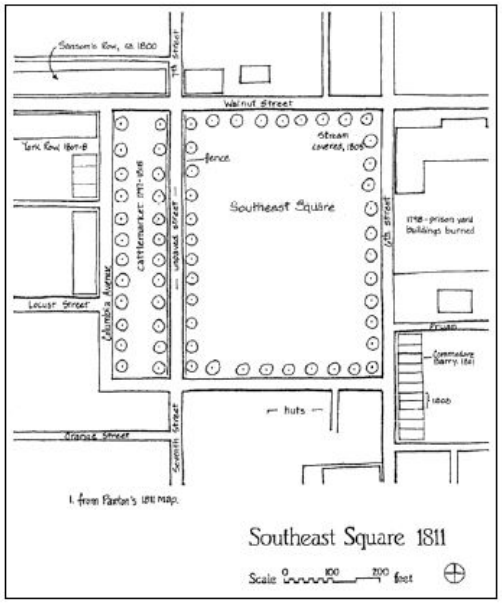


Figure 9. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1811, showing the watercourses covered and buildings removed from the northeast corner of the square. However, later evidence shows that the northern watercourse was not completely covered until 1816. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

BRIDGEPORT'S DESIGN, 1815-1881

This period represents a critical point in the evolution of the purpose, use, and character of the Washington Square landscape. In 1815 the City Councils and Commissioners began work on the improvement of Philadelphia's public squares. At Southeast Square, improvements began with a new white paling fence enclosure and planting (Figures 10-11). In 1816, George Bridport, English landscape painter and informal architect, who had worked with Benjamin Henry Latrobe in Washington, D.C., drew a new plan for Southeast Square that dramatically changed its character (Figure 12). As it was ultimately executed, the plan included an iron fence surrounding the square with diagonal gravel paths across the square that met a circular path at the center, with a second circular path, located closer to the perimeter, and additional diagonal paths and smaller circles intersecting near each of the four corners. The areas between pathways were planted in grass and specimen trees under the direction of Andrew Gillespie. While the square acquired a more formal and urbane character and became the setting for promenading, the grass appears to have been maintained at a relatively tall height, as it was continuously used for hay production well into the mid□nineteenth century.

As early as 1816, the City Councils proposed changing the square's name to Washington Square, but this change was not officially achieved until 1825. At that time, the desire to commemorate George Washington was paramount, and both the Society of the Cincinnati and the Washington Monument Committee endeavored to raise funds through subscriptions to support construction of a monument to Washington, though neither group raised sufficient funds. Despite numerous design proposals, only a cornerstone for the monument was laid in 1833 (Figures 13-14).

That same year, efforts began on replacing the wood fence with an iron fence and gates at key entrances, and in 1837 the City Councils voted to illuminate the square with gas lamps (Figure 15). Plans from 1843-1849 show the fencing, lights, paths, and trees (Figures 16, 17, 18). In 1853, Andrew Jackson Downing described Washington Square as a "really admirable city arboretum of rare trees…Which probably contains more well grown specimens of different species of forest□trees, than any similar space of ground in America." There is little record of activity on the square in the early 1860s, perhaps on account of the Civil War, although by this time the density of surrounding buildings had increased substantially (Figure 19). The last major change to the square during this period occurred in April 1869, when the Philadelphia Fountain Society erected a granite fountain on the south side of Walnut Street bordering Washington Square (Figure 20). (CLR 2011: 1.56)

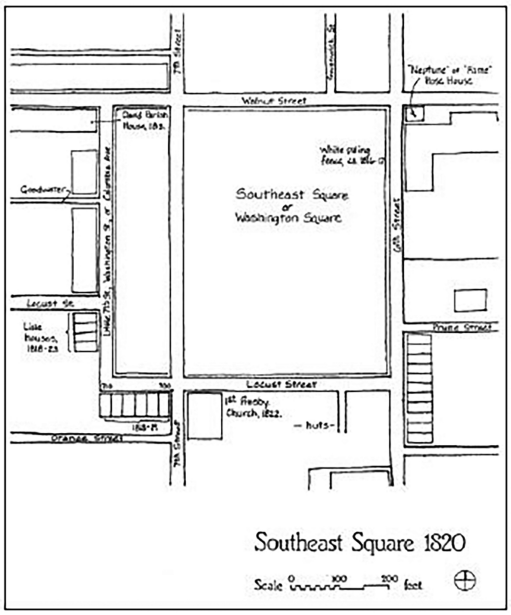


Figure 10. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square,1820, showing Seventh Street extending through the square and the white paling fence in place. This diagram assumes that the Bridport design was not implemented until later. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)



Figure 11. "Boys Playing Marbles in Washington Square" by John Carr, 1825 showing the white paling fence (installed in 1796, replaced ca.1836 with an iron fence) and a cylindrical structure within the square, which appears to be an early guard box. (The Library Company of Philadelphia)

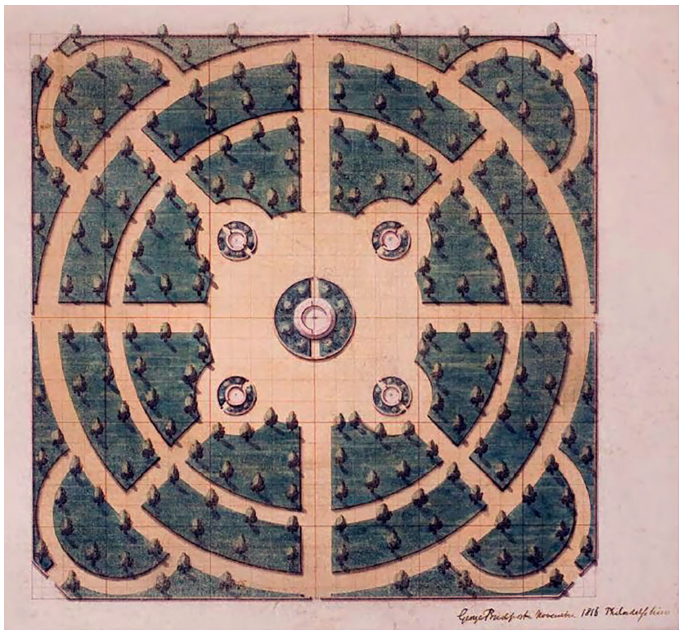


Figure 12. George Bridport's November 1816 proposal for Washington Square, showing a central focal point and radiating pathways. (The Library Company of Philadelphia)

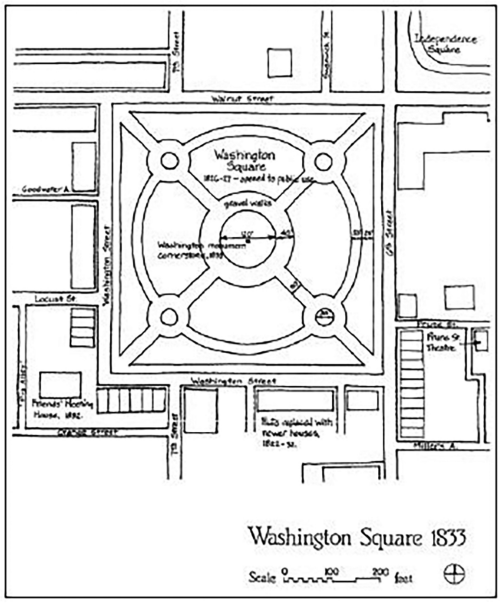


Figure 13. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1833, showing gravel paths. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)



Figure 14. View of South Washington Square with the meeting house (center) and the First Presbyterian Church (left), designed by John Haviland, now the site of the Hopkinson House apartment building. The absence of a fence surrounding the square suggests that this photograph was taken in the early 1830s, prior to the completion of the iron fence. Its granite base is visible at right. (Print & Picture Collection, Free Library of Philadelphia)



Figure 15. A 1836 watercolor by David J. Kennedy (1816/17□1898) showing the northwest corner of Washington Square with iron fencing, piers, and gates, as well as the residence of Josiah Randall, which was George Head's Hotel in 1824. (The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, by David J. Kennedy)

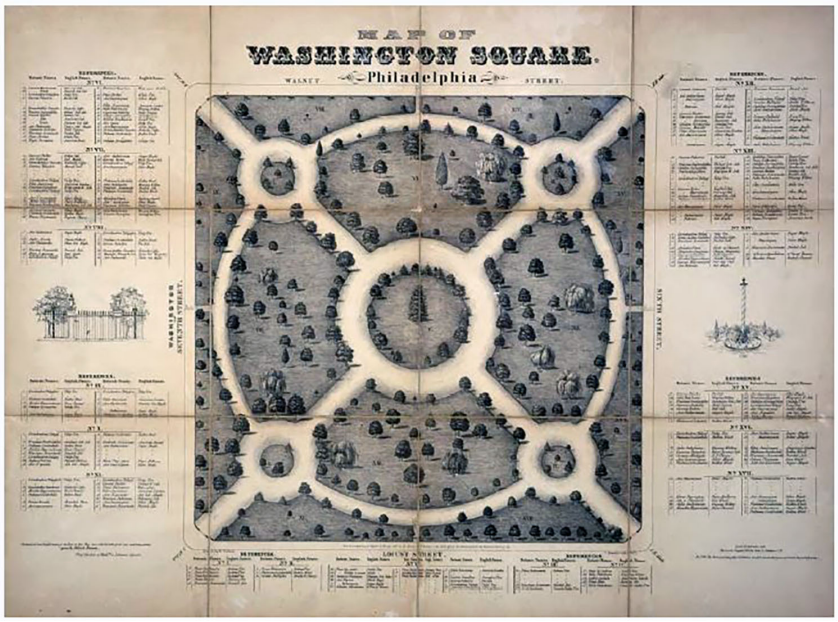


Figure 16. A 1843 lithograph of an August 1842 survey by John B. Colahan entered according to an 1843 Act of Congress by M. Schmitz, P. Kereven in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Eastern District of PA. By this time, the iron fence shown at left was in place. The memorial shown at right is a Colahan's proposal for a monument to Washington. (The Historical Society of Pennsylvania)

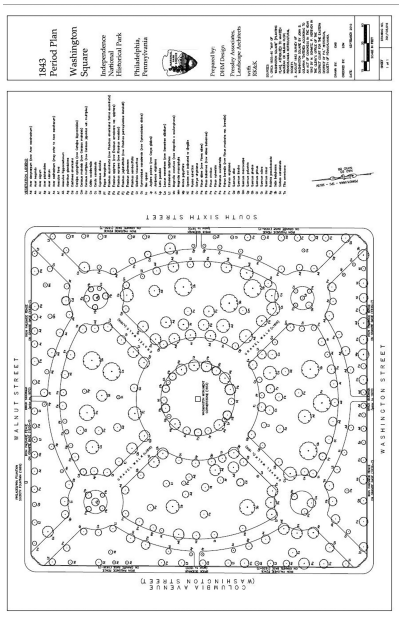


Figure 17. Period Plan, 1843. (CLR 2011)

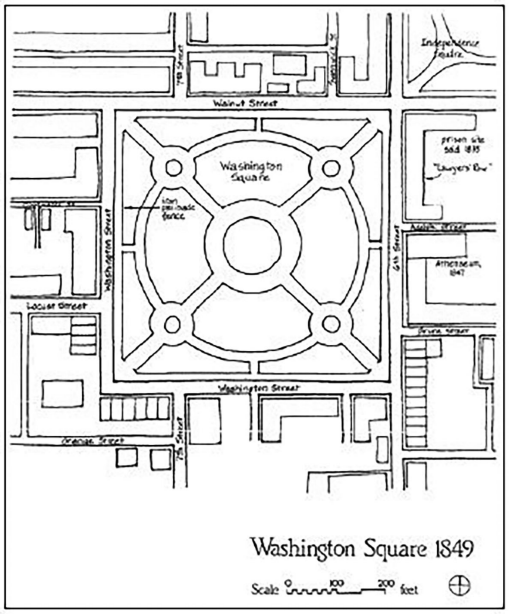


Figure 18. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1849, showing gravel paths and the iron palisade fence complete. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

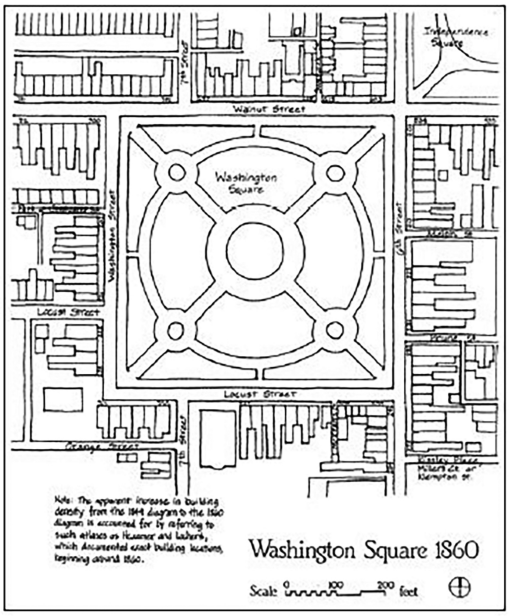


Figure 19. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1860, showing greater detail in the development around the perimeter of the square. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)



Figure 20. Circa 1870 stereoscopic view of the Philadelphia Fountain Society's first drinking fountain, located on the north side of the square near Walnut and Seventh Streets. The iron fence set on granite base surrounding the square is shown beyond. (The Library Company of Philadelphia)

DIXEY PLAN, 1881□1913

The 1881 redesign of Washington Square by William Dixey changed the overall layout by realigning paths from a circular design into straight lines placed on the diagonal and at right angles to the adjacent streets (Figures 21-22). The new walks were paved with "flagstone," replacing the gravel material associated with the Bridport design. A low nine-inch-high granite coping replaced the wall and iron fence enclosing the square. With the redevelopment of buildings along the periphery of the square into important collection of publishing houses, and the continued popularity of the square for public promenading, this era was marked with improvements to the square, spurred by public advocacy. Benches were returned to the square in 1883 and trees were maintained under the care of the first city forester, John C. Lewis. In 1896, the Washington Grays monument was moved to the center of the square in 1898, and the Daughters of the American Revolution constructed a monument to the Revolutionary War soldiers in 1900 (Figure 23). The Fairmont Park Commission added decorative guard houses to the square and the city continued to maintain the landscape as a significant public open space. The relationship between Washington Square and Independence Square was reinforced through the diagonal walkways and similar vegetation (Figures 24-25). (CLR 2011: 1.77-1.78)

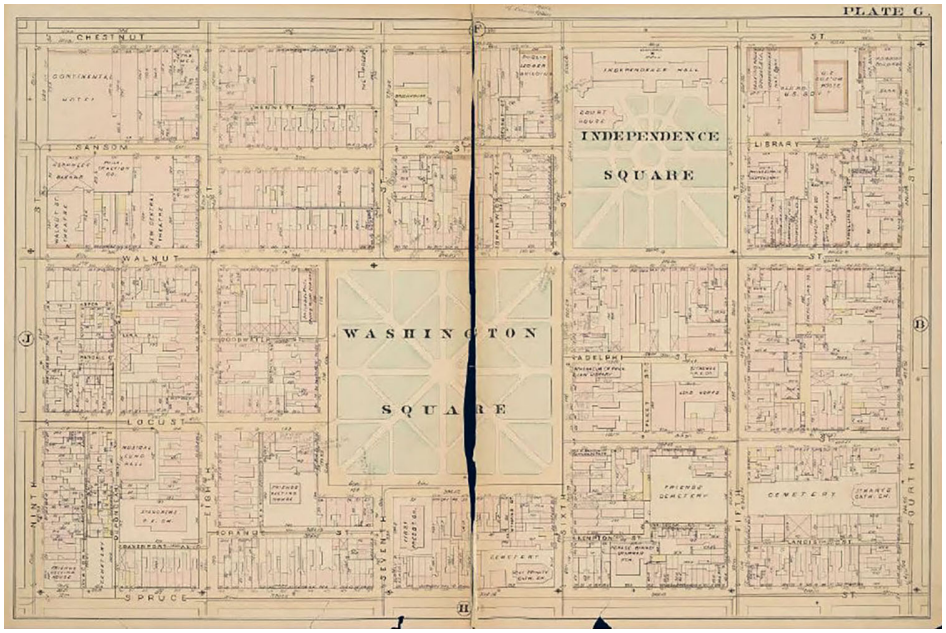


Figure 21. The 1885 "Atlas of the City of Philadelphia" by Geo. W. & Walter S. Bromley, Civil Engineers shows Washington Square's diagonal paths as implemented in Dixey's 1881 design. (Athenaeum of Philadelphia)

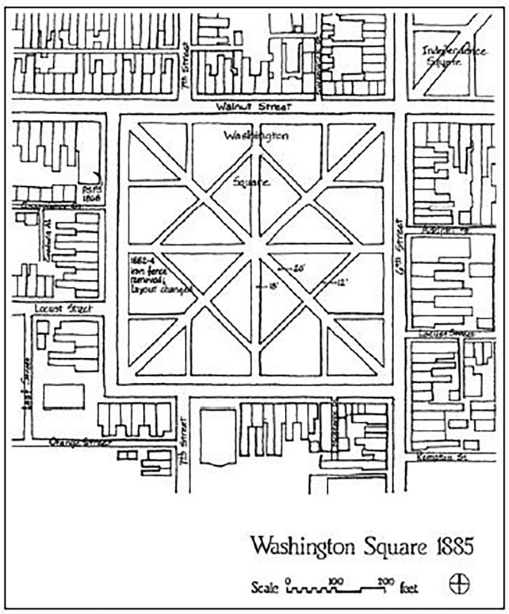


Figure 22. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1885, showing Dixey's new path layout. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

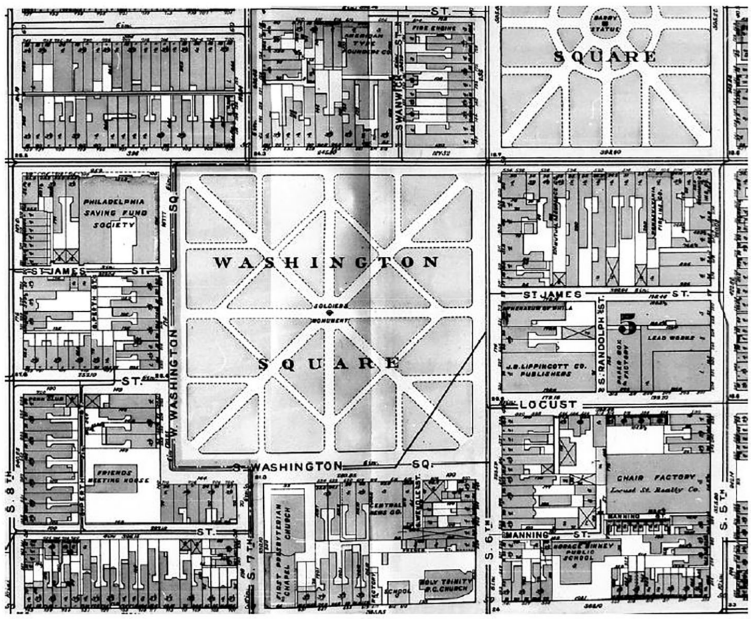


Figure 23. Bromley's 1908 "Atlas of Philadelphia" showing City Commissioner of Property William F. Dixey's path layout for Washington Square in place, including the Washington Gray's monument at the center of the square. (University of Pennsylvania Library)



Figure 24. A 1912 photograph of the Curtis Publishing Company building at the intersection of Walnut and Sixth Streets, showing the diagonal relationship between Washington Square (left) and Independence Square (right), as illustrated in Montgomery Schvyler and Thomas Nolan "A Modern Publishing House," Architectural Record 31. (Independence NHP)

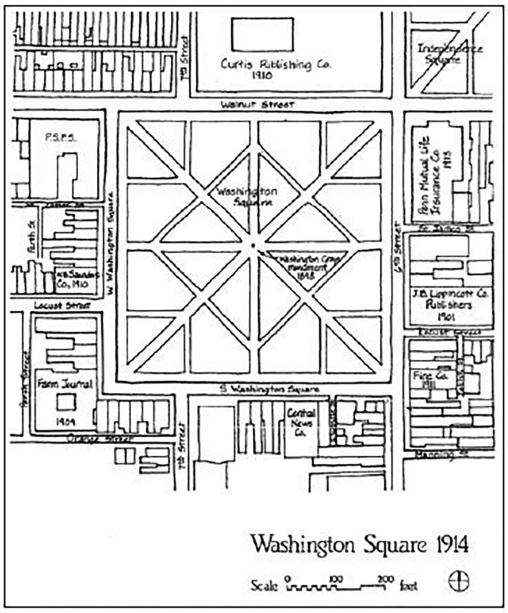


Figure 25. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1914, showing Dixey's design, by this time surrounded by large publishing houses. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

OLMSTED BROTHERS PLAN, 1913□1952

The Washington Square Improvement Association's interest in the square marked the transition from the period of decline associated with the economic hardship of the 1890s toward a renewed civic interest. In 1913 the Olmsted Brothers, a landscape architecture firm from Boston, proposed a simplified circulation system in the square, eliminating the entrances at mid-block (except on south side, along South Washington Square), but retaining the strong diagonal from each corner, with each corner entrance composed of three paths (corner and each perpendicular street) (Figure 26). Another major design change was the realignment of the inner path into a square parallel to the surrounding streets, rather than on the diagonal as they were in Dixey's design. At this time there was renewed interest in continuing Seventh Street directly through the square to improve trolley circulation, but this initiative was not approved by the city.

The Olmsted Brothers' plan was implemented in 1915, when the Fairmount Park Commission assumed control of the square (Figures 27-28). It appears that the existing flagstone (bluestone) pavement was reused from the Dixey era design. Although the Olmsted plan had recommended four specific locations for memorials/monuments at mid-block locations around the periphery of the square, citizens continued to (unsuccessfully) advocate for new monuments in other locations to memorialize prominent individuals, such as General Anthony Wayne. In 1916, the Philadelphia Fountain Society watering trough, Washington Grays Monument, and D.A.R. Monument to the Revolution were relocated within the square. In the 1920s, street trees were added to the sidewalk around the square, as documented in a Fairmount Park Commission planting plan and later photographs (Figures 29, 30, 31).

During this period, citizen committees helped to raise funds for ongoing improvements, including tree planting, electric lights, and benches. In the summer of 1934 the Federation of Women's Clubs sponsored an open-air library in the square, and in 1937 the Society of Little Gardens planted additional trees. In 1947, a proposal to improve traffic flow was implemented by cutting off the northwest corner of the square at the intersection of Seventh and Walnut Street (Figure 32). (CLR 2011: 1.104-1.105)

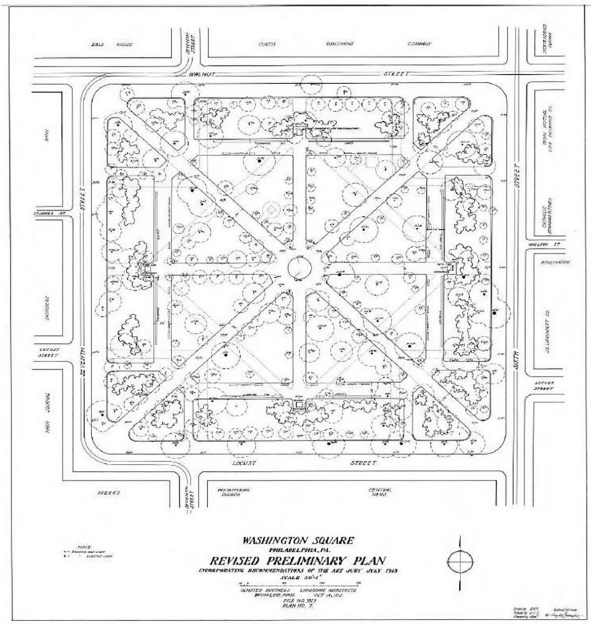


Figure 26. July 1913 Olmsted Brothers' revised preliminary plan for Washington Square "incorporating recommendations of the Art Jury." The revised plan eliminated sand courts, circular flower beds, and the monument at the center of the square and proposed new locations for monuments mid□block along the interior walks. Note the location of the lavatory and the guard house, both shown with dashed lines. (Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, Olmsted Archives)

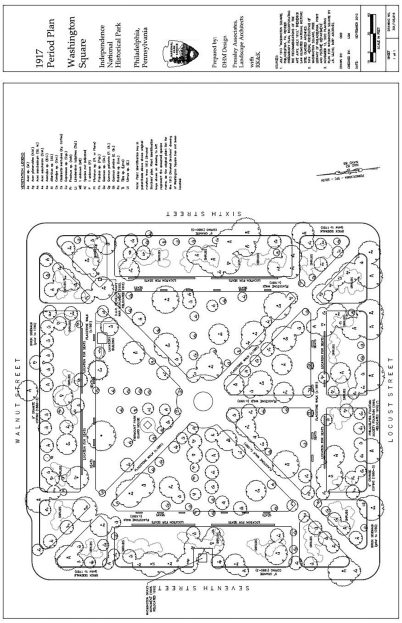


Figure 27. Period Plan, 1917. (CLR 2011)



Figure 28. A 1919 aerial photograph of Washington Square showing the completed Olmsted Brothers renovations. (The Print & Picture Department, Free Library of Philadelphia)

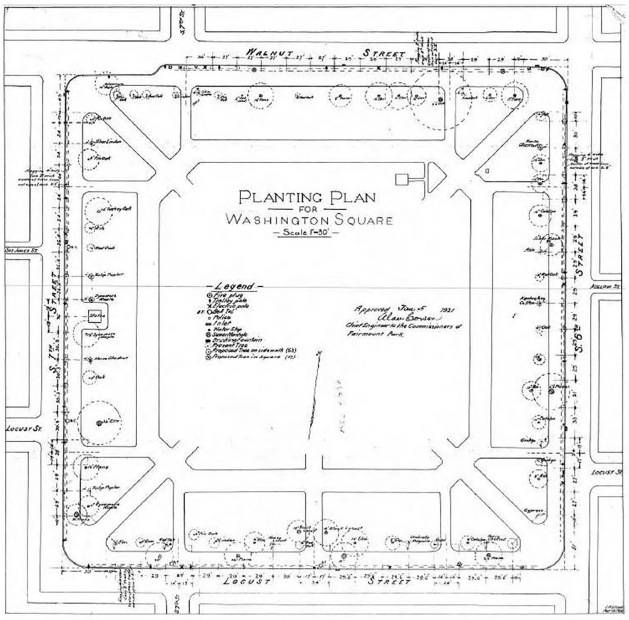


Figure 29. The 1920 planting plan for improvements to the perimeter of the square, including street tree plantings, by J.K. Lloyd, November 13, 1920, approved by the chief engineer to the commissioners of Fairmount Park on January 5, 1921. (Independence NHP)



Figure 30. Circa 1927 view looking north from the eastern side of Washington Square showing a gas lamp. The lavatory building is visible in the background (image left), benches, and trash can. The Olmsted□designed shrub plantings and new, wrapped trees are present at the entranced to the square, marked with stone piers. (The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Penrose Collection)

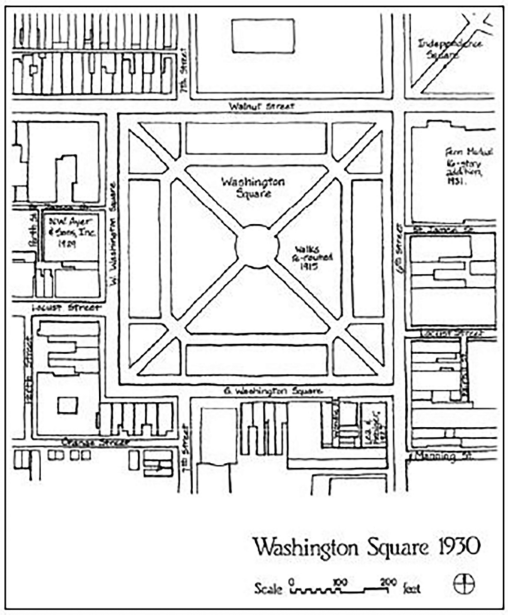


Figure 31. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1930, showing reoriented walks. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

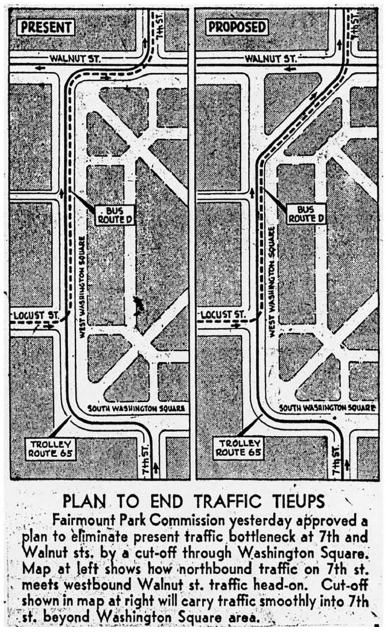


Figure 32. March 14, 1947 diagram from the Philadelphia Inquirer showing the traffic cut□off at the northwest corner of the square, which was implemented later that year. (Philadelphia Inquirer)

BRUMBAUGH PLAN, 1952-1990

Between 1952 and 1990, the public renewed their civic interest in Washington Square and patriotic enthusiasm. In 1952 representatives from eleven corporations organized to chart a course for "rebuilding the square." The following year, the Fairmount Park Art Commission entered into an agreement with the Washington Square Planning Committee, who selected G. Edwin Brumbaugh as the architect and Thomas W. Sears as the landscape architect for the project. In 1954 Brumbaugh presented design plans, including the addition of a Colonial Revival-style wall encircling the square, which was completed by 1956. Brumbaugh also developed plans for new light fixtures based on Benjamin Franklin's gas street lamps, and the city installed fifty-four new lights in the square (Figure 33). Sears recommended removing thirty-six trees, and planting four new trees along with many shrubs and flowering bulbs. The Fairmount Park Commission relocated the Washington Grays monument in 1954 to East Fairmount Park.

In 1956, the Committee commissioned Brumbaugh to design a monument commemorating George Washington and the American Revolution for the square's western side off the central plaza (Figures 34, 35, 36). Brambaugh's monument consisted of a bronze replica of Jean Antonie Houden's standing figure of Washington, set on a granite sarcophagus that held the remains of an unknown Revolutionary War soldier, and backed by a wall inscribed, "Freedom is a light for which many men have died in darkness." The circular pool and fountain in the center of the square were also designed by Brumbaugh and installed at the same time as the memorial.

The continuing impulse for commemoration was also present at Independence Square, where archeologists undertook several investigations in the 1950s, shortly after the establishment of Independence National Historical Park. In the mid-1950s, Mayor Richardson Dilworth's move to the Society Hill (Washington Square East) neighborhood brought a new wave of interest. The Philadelphia City Planning Commission and Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority began urban renewal in the neighborhood, coinciding with Washington Square's improvements.

In 1963 the Washington Square Association, which included representatives of nine companies bordering the square, was established to actively maintain the landscape and monument (Figure 37). The group hired Sears in 1965 to provide tree maintenance and planting services. In 1975 in anticipation of the Bicentennial, the city added bollards and benches to the square, as well as the bronze plaque, eternal flame, and planting around the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. The city also installed play equipment in the square but removed it after a year. In 1981, Washington Square was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the "Four Public Square of Philadelphia Thematic Resources" nomination (Figure 38). (CLR 2011: 1.125)



Figure 33. Circa 1952 sketch by G. Edwin Brumbaugh of the Franklin-style electric lights in Washington Square. (Courtesy, The Winterthur Library: Joseph Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera)

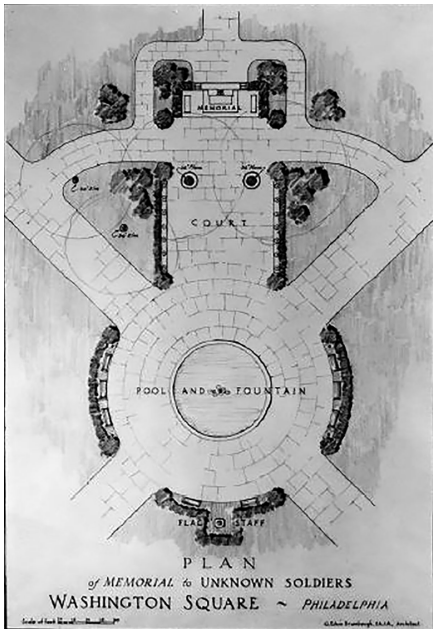


Figure 34. Circa 1952 plan by G. Edwin Brumbaugh of the proposed Memorial to the Unknown Soldiers, now known as the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. When built, the memorial excluded the side and rear approaches. (Courtesy, The Winterthur Library: Joseph Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera)



Figure 35. Circa 1952 sketch by G. Edwin Brumbaugh of the proposed Memorial to the Unknown Soldiers of the Continental Army, now known as the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. (Courtesy, The Winterthur Library: Joseph Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera)

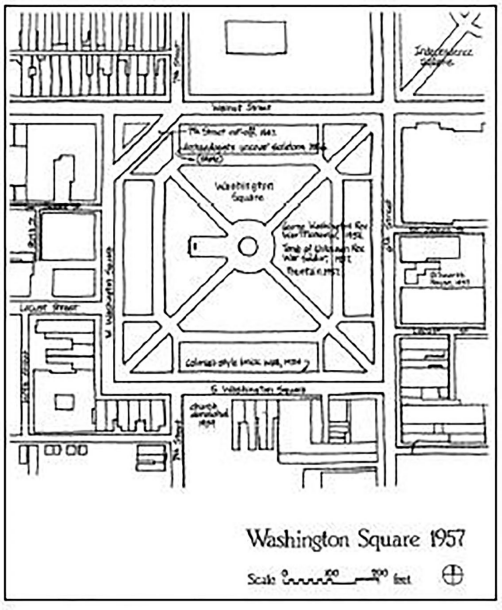


Figure 36. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1957, showing the Seventh Street cut□off, perimeter wall, and Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)



Figure 37. A 1965 aerial view of Washington Square looking northeast. At image upper left is the Curtis Publishing Company, emblematic of the large scale office buildings constructed around the square in the twentieth century. (Photograph by Jack Boucher, HABS File PA□1489□2, Library of Congress)

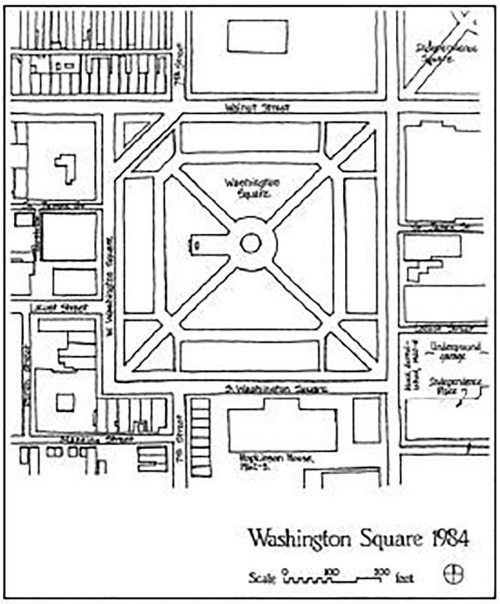


Figure 38. Rabzak's period diagram for Washington Square, 1984, showing the square largely as it exists today with improvements by Brumbaugh and Sears complete. (CLR 2011, citing Rabzak 1987)

TRANSITION TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, 1990-PRESENT

This final period in the history of Washington Square represents the transition of the landscape's maintenance and care from the City of Philadelphia, Fairmount Park Commission, to the National Park Service (NPS), Independence National Historical Park. The change took nearly fourteen years

and was guided by a 1991 Memorandum of Understanding and four amendments to facilitate collaboration between the two agencies and the American Revolution Patriot's Fund.

Through this collaboration, the NPS, the City of Philadelphia's Capital Programs Office, and the Fairmount Park Commission completed an extensive rehabilitation of Washington Square. The Delta Group prepared drawings to repair and replace paths, curbing, walls, and furniture in the square. The rehabilitation restored the historical width of the internal walkways and replaced the Pennsylvania flagstone paving with New York bluestone (Figure 39). New additions to the square included teak benches, trash receptacles, and interpretive signage developed by Joel Katz Design. The Delta Group plans also included substantial planting improvements. The City completed additional improvements in 2000-2002, focused primarily on the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.

The collaboration between the NPS and its partners in the physical work completed in the park between 1993 and 2003 is well documented. Although specific funding sources are less clear, support came from the City's capital budget, the Fairmount Park Commission, grants from the Department of Defense through the Economic Development Administration, the American Revolution Patriot's Fund, and History Now. Upon the Secretary of the Interior's acceptance of the rehabilitation work, the City of Philadelphia donated a permanent easement for the 6.64-acre property to the NPS and transferred the title in May 2005. Since that time, the NPS has been responsible for the ongoing stewardship of Washington Square as part of Independence National Historical Park. The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) has actively cared for the square, working collaboratively with NPS annually to plant flowers and shrubs in all the square's planting beds. In 2007 the SHCA supported the fabrication of the lily pad sculpture for the center of the fountain, as originally designed by G. Edwin Brumbaugh in 1956. (CLR 2011: 1.143)

In the years since acquiring responsibility for the curation and management of Washington Square, the NPS has maintained the property through regular maintenance, including cyclical steam cleaning of the perimeter wall and pruning of the shade trees through contracts with arborists. In 2016, the planting beds surrounding the central fountain and those flanking the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier were renovated. Existing herbaceous perennials and shrubs were removed. An alternating double row of boxwoods was added to the planting beds surrounding the fountain, with Japanese yew accents at each corner of the beds. A single row of boxwood grows in the beds around the perimeter of the fountain plaza. A row of low-growing Panicle hydrangea lines the plaza in front of the boxwood, with a larger growing species planted at both ends of the bed to accent the approach to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. Since the publication of the Cultural Landscape Report in 2010, shrub pruning techniques and styles have changed. At the time of the CLR, the shrubs were maintained in a rounded formal style, which protected views and minimized the overgrowth of the shrubs. Presently, the shrubs are left in a natural appearance in accordance with modern native and natural planting styles. This aesthetic style has allowed the shrubs to grow over the walls at the square's perimeter, and to impact some axial views and views into and out of the square to the surrounding streetscape. (Clutter 2022: 2.20)

Since 2010, a metal edging has been added to planting beds to further define their extents. The irrigation system throughout Washington Square was upgraded to provide better coverage in 2011. Currently, the planting beds near the entrances are planted and maintained cooperatively by the National Park Service and the SHCA. Every fall SHCA is required to submit a plant list of proposed new herbaceous perennials and removals for the following spring. The NPS reviews and approves the plant material proposed for the planting beds near the square entrances. Any changes to the approved list must be reviewed and approved by the NPS. Native and adapted species are given priority in accordance with environmental efforts.

In spring 2022, a pump and filter were installed in the central fountain to eliminate the need to drain and clean the fountain weekly during the warm season. The same year, the NPS repaired the spotlights at the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier and replaced all benches in Washington Square and Independence Square. The 2022 teak benches are almost identical in form to the 1990s era benches, except that the new benches include a center arm rest that splits the bench into two sections to allow separate parties to sit more comfortably on the same bench. Also in

2022, the SHCA replaced twenty-seven of the thirty-one previous Victor Stanley trash receptacles with black powder coated, galvanized steel with a metal domed lid receptacle. (Clutter 2022: 2.22)



Figure 39. Bluestone pavement on a walk at Washington Square, 1990s. (Independence NHP)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Field	Agricultural Field	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Scientific Landscape	Arboretum	Yes	Yes	No
Funerary	Grave/Burial	Grave/Burial	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Sculpture (Statuary)	Outdoor Sculpture (Statuary)	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Functional Landscape	Pedestrian Circulation	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Social	Social-Other	Social-Other	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Washington Square is open to the public year around and has no access restrictions. However, all structures in are closed to the public, and the fountain is closed to swimming, wading, or bathing for both humans and pets.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: Yes-Unrestricted Information

Ethnographic Narrative:

In 1994 the report, “Rapid Ethnographic Assessment Procedures (REAP),” was completed for the park. The purpose of a REAP was to provide ethnographic information on local populations in order to evaluate alternatives and assess planning impacts on ethnographic resources and associated user groups. Findings indicated historic connections between the park and African-Americans and Jewish-Americans, but less so between the park and Hispanic-Americans, Asian Americans, and Italian-Americans.

“From the findings we have learned that African-Americans are the most concerned about their lack of cultural representation in the park’s colonial history, that Asian-Americans and Hispanic-Americans are less directly concerned but would like to see their stones integrated as part of the American experience, while Italian-Americans and Jewish-Americans are at best ambivalent about presenting themselves as distinct from other Americans. Three of the cultural groups African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans and Jewish-Americans, mentioned places they would like to see commemorated or markers they would like to see installed to bring attention to their cultural presence within the park boundaries. And many of the cultural groups, particularly the Hispanic-Americans, the African-Americans, and the Asian-Americans, were anxious to have more programming for children and activities for families. The Hispanic-Americans were particularly interested in the recreational potential of the park and their sentiments were echoed by at least few consultants in each of the other cultural groups. Overall there are some distinct messages from each cultural group as well as some general preferences that relate to the majority of the groups.” (Low, et.al. 1994: 4, 10)

The Foundation Document for Independence National Historical Park references the Rapid Ethnographic Assessment and notes that it should be updated to provide current information on how the park and its different sites are being used by various traditionally associated user groups and neighborhood communities. (FD 2017: 36)

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The historic integrity of Washington Square is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1682–1957) with existing conditions as assessed in 2022-2023. Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. The street grid for Philadelphia was established in the 1683 Penn/Holme Plan and formed the square's original boundaries. These boundaries remain largely the same today, except for reductions due to street widening and the addition of the Seventh Street cut□off in 1947. The square's topography is associated with all historic periods, beginning about 1816 with grading by the City Commissioner to accommodate promenading in the square. The views that extend from the square's corners diagonally to its center, along diagonal walks, were first introduced in the 1816 design for the square and remain today. Circulation, including the flagstone walkways' current layout, is associated with the Olmsted Brothers' improvements circa 1913□1916. However, flagstone paving was introduced into Washington Square by Dixey as early as 1881. Sidewalks first appear around the perimeter of the square in Bridport's circa 1816 design. A circa 1870 photograph reveals brick along a section of sidewalk, but most photographs indicate bluestone (flagstone) paving surrounding Washington Square. The present brick sidewalk replaced deteriorated bluestone sidewalks during renovations in the late 1990s. Bluestone remains at the square's four corners where the sidewalk meets the interior walkways. The central plaza has existed in some form since at least 1830. The present plaza configuration, paved in bluestone, is associated with the 1957 Brumbaugh design. The bluestone paving material replaced the deteriorated flagstone in 1998.

The square's canopy of diverse shade trees over a simple grass ground plane began as early as 1816. Street trees surrounding the square were introduced in 1921. Both have been integral to the landscape design of all subsequent periods. In contrast, most ornamental flowering trees, which were not a primary part of the significant twentieth-century designs, have been introduced since the period of significance. The use of shrubs, which currently grow along the perimeter of the square, is first documented in the Olmsted Brothers' 1913 design. Thomas Sears designed hedge planting at the central plaza and near the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier in the 1950s, and this formal concept in vegetation design remains today.

Buildings and structures, including the 1956 Colonial Revival-style brick perimeter wall and the two guard houses, date to the significance period and thus contribute. The Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier was designed by Brumbaugh and completed in 1957 and retains integrity to its construction. Some small-scale features, including the flagpoles, the watering trough, and early memorials, including the D.A.R. Revolutionary War plaque (1900), the Society of Little Gardens plaque (1937), and the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier plaque (1957), commemorate important associations, events, and additions and are significant. Walkway lights, installed in the late 1990s, are associated with Brumbaugh's design, which adapted an original Benjamin Franklin gas lamp design to electricity. Spotlights directed toward the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Memorial may date to the 1950s. (CLR 2011: 2.34-2.40)

Since the end of the period of significance in 1957, some landscape characteristics and features at Washington Square have changed. Current vegetative plantings flanking entrances to the square were added in the last twenty years by the City of Philadelphia and through a partnership between the National Park Service and the Society Hill Civic Association. While the Washington Square Planning Committee first referenced herbaceous plant material in 1954, further research is necessary to determine which species contribute. Later memorial plaques, including the Carolyn Randall plaque (1980) and the USS JFK plaque (1995), among others, commemorate people and events that are locally significant or related to national military events and, therefore, post-date the period of significance. Finally, the existing site furnishings, waste receptacles, benches, bollards, signage, and storm sewer grates, post-date the period of significance but are compatible with the cultural landscape. Overall, Washington Square retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to the period of significance.

INTEGRITY

The National Register of Historic Places defines integrity as the ability of a property to convey its significance through physical resources. The National Register program identifies seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Retention of these qualities is necessary for a

property to convey its significance; however, not all seven aspects must be present to retain integrity. The following evaluation is based on a 1682 to 1957 period of significance for Washington Square. For a more in-depth analysis of the level of integrity of each period of the landscape's design, see the 2011 "Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square."

Location:
Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. Washington Square remains in its original location. As an existing, landscaped square generally consistent with William Penn's concept for an ideal city, Washington Square retains integrity from the Penn/Holme period through 1957.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Given that the square has been redesigned numerous times throughout its three hundred plus□year history, it retains varying levels of integrity relative to each redesign. With respect to the most recent redesign of the square by architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh and landscape architect Thomas Sears in the 1950s, the square retains a high level of integrity, diminished only by changes in furnishings and some small□scale features and a change in surface material along the perimeter. Some new, non□historic plant material has also been added to the square since the 1950s, primarily new trees when the square was renovated by the city prior to the transfer of care to NPS and the new shrubs and herbaceous plant material introduced on an ongoing basis by the Society Hill Civic Association. (CLR 2011: xiii)

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Washington Square remains in a setting that is reflective of the end of its period of significance, surrounded by the city streetscape that has witnessed changes in building heights and massing.

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. Washington Square retains integrity of materials through the brick, stone, and iron found in its walkways, walls, and contributing memorials. It also retains material integrity in the high arching branches of the shade trees.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. Washington Square retains integrity of workmanship in the design and construction of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, the Colonial Revival -style perimeter wall, and in the small-scale contributing memorials.

Feeling:
Feeling is the property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. Washington Square retains its integrity of feeling in the juxtaposition of the shaded vegetated open public open space of the landscape with the surrounding grid of city streets and large buildings of the streetscape.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Washington Square retains its association with Philadelphia's residents and visitors as a passive park through continuation of its historic use, as a memorial to George Washington through retainment of its small-scale features including the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldiers, and to its history as a burial ground through interpretative plaques and waysides.

The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding Historic Structures Inventory (HSI, formerly List of Classified Structures) names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1682-1957), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is non-contributing, it is evaluated as "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape).

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation.

Historic Condition (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
As a small urban square continuously used by the residents of Philadelphia for more than three hundred years, Washington Square has little evidence of natural systems and features. Therefore, there are no natural systems and features that contribute to the significance and integrity of Washington Square.

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces.

Historic Conditions (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
The boundaries of Washington Square and its built features generally define the site's spatial organization. Except for the addition of the Seventh Street cut-off, constructed in 1947 at the northwest corner of the square, this characteristic remains unchanged from the original layout. In contrast, the surrounding landscape has evolved from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries' rural fields on the city's outskirts to streetscapes of three and four-story tall residential homes in the nineteenth century to high-rise apartment buildings today, notably the Hopkinson House (1963) and Independence Place (1982). This change in scale increased the enclosure of the square, already evident in the canopy of shade trees, as did the introduction of the 1957 perimeter wall. East-west axial relationships, introduced with the construction of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, also created a central open plaza near the center of the square (Figure 40). The memorial, along with the central fountain, serve as focal points for the site's circulation systems and lawn areas dotted with vegetation. Specific features that comprise the characteristic of spatial organization are presented below under Views and Vistas, Circulation, Constructed Water Features, Topography, Buildings and Structures, and Small-scale Features. (CLR 2011: 3.1-3.3)

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 40. The central fountain and the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier (image right) serve as the site's focal points. Walkways and plantings are designed around these features. View southwest. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction.

Historic Conditions (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
Historically, Washington Square (formerly Southeast Square) was used as a public gathering space for passive recreation, as a burial ground, and as a place of memorialization. While active burials no longer occur, the site's recognition as a memorial burial ground and as public gathering space for passive recreation remain today. While these continued land uses contribute to the integrity of Washington Square, they are not evaluated as contributing features.

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

Topography is the three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features (such as slope and articulation) and orientation (such as elevation and solar aspect).

Historic Conditions (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
Before the nineteenth century, Washington Square sloped from its western side to a deep gully near the square's northeast corner. Two streams converged here, one from the north and one from the south. In their 1884 History of Philadelphia, authors Scharf and Westcott noted that the eighteenth-century topography of Southeast Square,
"was uneven, and near its southwest corner was entered by a stream which flowed in from beyond Arch Street. A second rivulet, having its source in a pond about where the First Presbyterian Church was afterward built [at the southeast corner of Seventh Street and what is now South Washington Square], met the other west of Sixth Street, and the brook took a course nearly eastward to Fifth Street, and half-way to Fourth Street, where it turned north, then east to about Hudson Street, where it emptied into the northwestern branch of Dock Creek."

John Lukens was the earliest to document the elevation change near the square with measurements in his 1766 survey book. He noted that the grade change along Sixth Street, "from ye South Side of Walnut street to the bottom of the Hallow [sic] between Walnut & Spruce Street (Distance 140 feet) Desent [sic] 5 feet 2 Inches." In November 1805, the Councils directed, "that in order to complete the improvements of the square the city commissioner should erect sidewalls to it [the stream], and cover the little stream crossing it [the square] diagonally from Walnut to Sixth Street to the distance of thirty five feet from Walnut Street, and lay the bottom with condemned logs, or cover or arch the same, so that the flow of water be not impeded."

Thus, shortly following the turn of the century, Washington Square was leveled, and the minor watercourses traversing it were culverted. Following soil leveling in the early nineteenth century, the topography of Washington Square remained the same until the end of the period of significance. (CLR 2011: 3.2-3.3)

The significance of the existing topography of the square relates to early nineteenth-century improvements, including the leveling of the ground plane to support public promenading. The existing topography of Washington Square is generally flat, with all entrances at grade. Topography is raised approximately 4 inches at the center of the square. The average slope on pedestrian walkways within the square is 1 to 2 percent. Therefore, topography poses no impediment to universal public access. The only change to the topography since the period of significance has been through the addition of soil and mulch to planting beds near the entrances, which has raised the grade slightly. The topography of Washington Square is a characteristic that contributes to landscape significance, but no specific topographic features are evaluated.

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. The following narrative organizes vegetation by type including street trees, specimen shade trees, ornamental flowering trees, evergreen trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, and turf.

Historic Conditions (to 1957), Existing Conditions, and Evaluations:
Shade Trees.
Shade trees have played an essential role in defining the character of Washington Square from its first significant planting in 1816 to the present. The design concept of diverse tree species growing in simple swaths of grass within the square has been integral to all subsequent historic periods. The first documented tree planted in Washington Square was an apple tree that sheltered the burial

location of Joshua Carpenter in 1722. Following a citizens' petition in 1794, the city planted rows of Lombardy poplars along the sides of the square.

Gardener Andrew Gillespie undertook the first major tree planting in the square in 1817. In the 1830s, "replantings [sic] were made by a trained Irish gardener, [Patrick Kereven, chief gardener shared with Independence Square,] in order to give focus to the foundation stone of a great projected monument to Washington." "Planting density was increased," as reported in the National Gazette (1833), "leaving scarcely room for another one to be put down, until, from the regularity of the rows, the divisions of the square have assumed a strong resemblance to a common farm orchard." The next major planting phase occurred circa 1915 when the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm suggested additional tree planting. In 1954, the Washington Square Planning Committee undertook significant tree pruning, removal, and replanting under the direction of landscape architect Thomas W. Sears. Work on the trees at this time included the removal of fifty-five (55) of the two hundred fifty-five (255) trees, planting of four (4) new trees as well as an extensive planting of shrubs, dogwood, and bulbs. The Washington Square Association undertook additional planting under the direction of Sears in 1965. (CLR 2011: 3.10-3.12) In 1937, the Society of Little Gardens planted five trees in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the signing of the constitution. Only one of the trees remains. In addition, existing plaques identify the following trees: a white oak (Quercus alba) planted on December 17, 1945; a red oak (Quercus rubra) planted in commemoration of J.B. Lippincott Company's 175th anniversary in 1967; and a London planetree (Platanus x acerifolia, the Bicentennial Moon Tree) planted on May 6, 1975, from a seed brought to the moon by astronaut Stuart A. Roosa. The moon tree has since died and been removed. In 1995, the Delta Group, a consultant of the City of Philadelphia, recommended selected tree removal and additional tree planting based on an analysis of existing trees and historical references to different tree species. The plant list for the work, dated March 5, 1997, includes new shade trees, small and flowering trees, and shrubs.

Today, Washington Square contains approximately 227 trees of 54 species, ranging from large deciduous canopy trees to small flowering ornamental trees. (OCLP, Inventory and Assessment 2022) Of these, the majority are specimen shade trees, including, among others, sugar maple (Acer saccharum), Northern catalpa (Catalpa speciosa), fagus grandifolia (American beech), fraxinus Americana (White Ash), ginkgo (Ginkgo biloba), thornless common honeylocust (Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis), Kentucky coffeetree (Gymnocladus dioicus), American sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), tuliptree (Liriodendron tulipifera), black tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica), amur corktree (Phellodendron amurense), London planetree (Platanus x acerifolia), sawtooth oak (Quercus acutissima), swamp white oak (Quercus bicolor), Pressley turkey oak (Quercus cerris), shingle oak (Quercus imbricaria), Northern red oak (Quercus rubra), black oak (Quercus velutina), Japanese pagoda tree (Styphnolobium japonicum), American linden (Tilia americana), littleleaf linden (Tilia cordata), and American elm cultivar (Ulmus americana cv.)

Most of the largest trees in Independence National Historical Park, and by inference, the oldest trees, are located within Washington Square and nearby Independence Square (37 of the 47 documented largest trees). By cross-referencing historic planting lists and plans for Washington Square, as cited in the 2010 Cultural Landscape Report, with data gathered in the 2022 inventory, the planting periods for individual trees may be inferred. For instance, the Platanus x acerifolia (#690 on the 2022 inventory), located north of the northern Guard House, existed as a 36-inch caliper tree on the 1916 Olmsted Brother's Preliminary Plan for the square. According to research completed for the 2010 Washington Square CLR, Plantanus x acerifolia was first introduced between 1881 and 1913; therefore, the tree may have been planted in the late nineteenth century. A large Gingko biloba (#670) grows southeast of the central fountain. As Gingko trees were first introduced to the square in 1921, this tree may date to the Olmsted development period in the early twentieth century. Several large Tilia americana (#695, 640, 659, 575, and 695) trees, with DBHs greater than 36 inches, may also date to the early twentieth century as they are included on planting lists from 1913. In addition, numerous Platanus x acerifolia (#690, 553, 713, 664, 678, 669, 711, 602, 710, 668, 612, 623, 691, 588, 626) date that to the same 1913 planting. (DHM et.al, 2010: G3-6; see also Independence National Historical Park 2021-2022 Tree Inventory and Assessment arcgis.com).

Further research is necessary to determine the origin of all plantings in the square and the site's status as a "Level 1 Arboretum." More recent introductions of new shade trees include a white oak tree planted near the east wall of Washington Square as a part of Queen Elizabeth's Green Canopy project in honor of her 70-year jubilee in 2022 (Figure 41). (Clutter 2022: 2.19)

Ginkgo Trees along Perimeter Sidewalks.
Ginkgo trees (Ginkgo biloba) were first planted as street trees around the square in 1921, as documented by a 1920 plan (approved 1921) showing proposed landscape improvements to the square. Although the plan does not identify species, 1941 photographs document mature Ginkgo trees surrounding the square. Fifty-seven Gingko biloba were planted in six-and-a-half-foot by seven-foot openings in the sidewalk surrounding the square and on the traffic island formed by the Seventh Street cut-off. When trees die, the City of Philadelphia and the National Park Service replace them in kind. (CLR 2011: 3.10) Street trees surrounding Washington Square date to the period of Fairmount Park Commission's management with the involvement of the Washington Square Improvement Association, and though the individual trees are not contributing, the locations and species of the street trees are contributing (Figure 42).

Evergreen Trees.
In contrast to shade trees, since the beginning of the twentieth century, possibly earlier, evergreen trees have played a relatively minor role in the design of the square. Though evergreens, including a variety of species of pine (such as Pinus palustris and Pinus rigida), were included on planting lists for Washington Square in the early and mid-nineteenth century, by the early twentieth century no evergreens were present. Currently, evergreens include seven small and medium Chinese holly (Ilex cornuta) and two small weeping Norway spruces (Picea abies). Please see Independence National Historical Park 2021-2022 Tree Inventory and Assessment (Arcgis) for additional detailed information regarding existing tree species, condition, and location.

Ornamental Flowering Trees.
Ornamental flowering trees have been found in Washington Square in limited numbers since the early 1800s. Flowering cherry and magnolia trees were planted in the square when the city implemented George Bridport's 1816 design. By the early 1900s, these species were not documented in the square. In the 1950s, landscape architect Thomas Sears recommended the addition of dogwood and Franklinia. In the 1990s and early 2000s, the city planted additional trees in the square, including shadblow serviceberry, redbud, persimmon, Franklinia, Carolina silverbell (no longer extant), and sweetbay magnolia. More recently, the Society Hill Civic Association planted saucer magnolias in the corners of the square in cooperation with the National Park Service. In 2022, 36 ornamental flowering trees grew in Washington Square (OCLP, Tree Inventory and Assessment). The species recorded included serviceberry (Amelanchier canadensis), Eastern redbud (Cercis canadensis), Tennessee pink redbud (Cercis canadensis 'Tennessee Pink'), flowering dogwood (Cornus florida), Kousa dogwood (Cornus mas), crapemyrtle (Lagerstroemia indica), Southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora), saucer magnolia (Magnolia x soulangeana), sweetbay magnolia (Magnolia virginiana), Okame cherry (Prunus x incamp 'Okame'), and Japanese tree lilac (Syringa reticulata). Some ornamental flowering tree species in Washington Square are significant as Bridport specified them in his 1816 design, and/or Sears selected them for his 1950s design, though not the individual trees (Figure 43). For additional information on ornamental tree species historically found in Washington Square, please see the 2010 "Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square, Appendix G, Analysis of Historic Plant Lists."

Shrubs.
In 1915, Olmsted Brothers' landscape plan for Washington Square was the first to introduce shrubs into the design. The firm's redesign of the square provided "an opportunity to plant the borders of the square with clumps of Ornamental shrubbery." (CLR 2011: 3.13-3.14, citing P.G. [Percival Gallagher], Olmsted Brothers, to Charles F. Jenkins, 22 April 1913, 11-12) Shrub planting helped screen the square from perimeter streets. In the 1950s and 1960s, Thomas Sears recommended additional shrubs under the direction of the Washington Square Planning Committee and later the Washington Square Association. The Fairmount Park Commission executed most of the planting. Most recently, the Delta Group recommended the addition of six Japanese holly (Ilex crenata). Shrubs in Washington Square are significant for their association with the design work of the

Olmsted Brothers firm and the work of landscape architect Thomas Sears.

Plantings around the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
The Society Hill Civic Association and the National Park Service planted many of the square's existing shrubs. In 2016, the planting beds surrounding the central fountain and flanking the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier were renovated with new shrubs reflective of the original planting design. The beds surrounding the fountain were replaced with an alternating double row of boxwoods. At each planter end there is a Japanese yew to accent the corners. For the planters flanking the monument, all shrubs were replaced with a new double row of shrubbery. On the exterior of the beds is a single row of boxwoods. The interior row is a low row of Panicle hydrangea (Hydrangea paniculate) with a one larger plant at each end, accenting the approach to the monument (Figure 44). Shrubs found in Washington Square relate to all periods of significance from circa 1913 to the present. (CLR 2011: 3.13-3.14)

Herbaceous Plants.
Herbaceous plant material is integrated into the planting beds that border each entrance to the square and in the planting beds that flank the approach to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. These planting beds are planted and maintained cooperatively by the National Park Service and the Society Hill Civic Association (Figure 45). There is no historical precedent (before the 1950s) for herbaceous plant material in Washington Square. The Washington Square Planning Committee Meeting Minutes from April 27, 1954 refer to planting "spring and fall flowers" in the square by Thomas Sears; however, no herbaceous plant lists have been located. (CLR 2011: citing Washington Square Planning Committee "Minutes of Meeting, 27 April 1954) The Society Hill Civic Association has planted much of the existing herbaceous material, with approval by the National Park Service, in the last twenty years. (CLR 2011: 3.15-3.16; Clutter 2022: 2.29-2.31)

Lawns.
The first historical reference to grass in the square was in the early eighteenth century when Joshua Carpenter leased the land for pasture and hay between 1706 and 1722. Jacob Shoemaker and then Jasper Carpenter leased for hay production from 1730 to 1765 and 1766 to 1780, respectively. In the early 1800s, the public used the square for promenading, though hay continued growing. In the 1830s, caretaker George Hood was responsible for mowing the grass three times each summer, presumably by a scythe. As mechanical lawn-cutting machines popularized in the mid-nineteenth century, public appreciation and expectation of a trimmed lawn developed. Although undocumented, Washington Square was likely first mechanically mown in the 1870s. Today lawns cover approximately four acres, most of the unpaved surface of Washington Square, except within shrub and herbaceous perennial beds. Along interior walkways, low bluestone curbing borders walkways and defines the edges of the grass that borders the walks (see Figure 45). Lawn has covered most of Washington Square throughout all periods of the square's history and therefore contributes to all historic periods.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Ginkgo Trees along Perimeter Sidewalks	201510	Contributing					No
Shade Trees	201511	Contributing					No
Lawns	201512	Contributing			Asset	31239	No
Herbaceous Plants	201513	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	31377	No
Shrubs along the Perimeter of the Square	201514	Contributing			Asset	298645	No
Plantings around Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier	201515	Contributing					No
Shrub Plantings flanking Entrances	201516	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Ornamental Flowering Trees (Bridgport and Sears designs)	201517	Contributing					No
Ornamental Flowering Trees (all others)	201518	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 41. Large deciduous trees shade much of Washington Square's landscape, view east of northern walk toward a large plane tree (Platanus × acerifolia). (OCLP 2022)



Figure 42. View west along Walnut Street showing a row of gingko (Gingko biloba). Street trees surrounding Washington Square date to the period of Fairmount Park Commission's management with the involvement of the Washington Square Improvement Association, and though the individual trees are not contributing, the locations and species of the street trees are. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 43. View southeast showing ornamental flowering trees at the entrance to park at S Washington Square and South Seventh Street. (OCLP 2022)

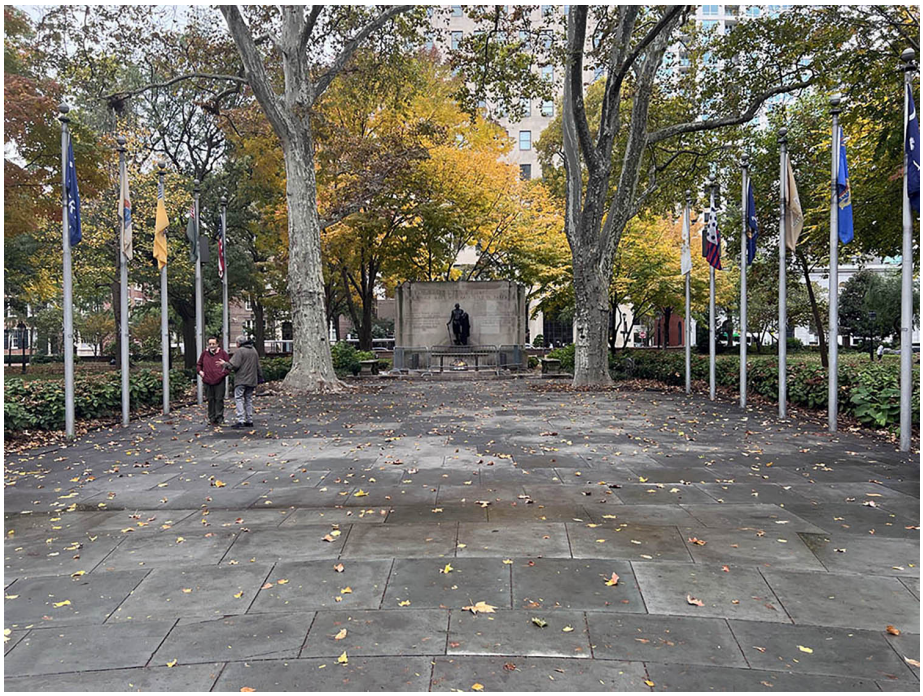


Figure 44. View west from the central fountain to Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier includes the low borders of shrubs first introduced in the 1950s and replaced in 2022. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 45. View along diagonal walk to central fountain, from northeast entrance looking southwest, includes noncontributing herbaceous plantings, and contributing turf. Low bluestone edging defines the walks, visible in the lower left hand corner of the photograph. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Circulation defines the form and design of Washington Square and includes interior walkways, a perimeter sidewalk, and a central plaza. Note: while the streets contribute to the character of Washington Square, they are not included in the title easement or managed by the National Park Service and are not evaluated as contributing features to the cultural landscape of Washington Square.

Historic Conditions (to 1957), Existing Conditions, and Evaluations:
Vehicular Streets.
Vehicular circulation defines the overall layout of Washington Square. Originally laid-out circa 1683, Philadelphia's streets have had a variety of surfaces throughout their history. Early roads were unpaved and, during wet seasons, impassable. In 1762, the city began a widespread program to pave city streets, provided adjoining property owners paved the 'footways' in front of their properties; however, early paving materials are unknown. In 1801, the city appropriated funds to pave the gutters of Walnut Street between Sixth and Eighth Streets and completed the project during the summer of 1805. In October 1805, Sixth Street was paved between Walnut and Prune (now Locust) Streets. An extension of Seventh Street ran through Washington Square from 1795 until 1822. Initially, the street was fenced on both sides, but was unpaved. Space for Washington Square West (now West Washington Square) was appropriated in 1816. Called initially Columbia Avenue and Little Seventh Street, cattle and horse markets occupied the street until 1815. The removal of the markets coincided with improvements to the street and the square. In 1913, there was a movement to reopen Seventh Street through the square; however, the cut-through remained closed.

Today the boundaries of Washington Square are bordered by city-owned streets, including Walnut Street (north side); Sixth Street (east side); South Washington Square (south side); and West Washington Square (west side). The Seventh Street cut-off connects West Washington Square and Seventh Street at the northwest corner of Washington Square. The general concept of the street grid for Philadelphia was established in the 1683 Penn/Holme Plan and has been retained in subsequent historic periods. All four streets that border the square are paved with bituminous concrete and maintained by the City of Philadelphia. A granite curb defines the street edge, eight inches (8") wide, set flush with the adjacent brick sidewalks, and approximately six inches (6") above the grade of the adjoining street surface. While the streets contribute to the character of Washington Square, the National Park Service does not manage the streets, therefore they are not contributing features to the cultural landscape of Washington Square. (DLH et.al.: 2010: 3.6)

Interior Bluestone Walkways.
Walkways were first laid in Washington Square with crushed stone in 1816. George Bridport's design for the square established the first formal walks with routes that ran from street corner to corner, with a circular interior circuit walk near the square's center and a second circular interior circuit walk near the perimeter of the square. Circa 1881, Commission of City Property, William F. Dixey, redesigned the layout of the walkways to be more geometric and changed their crushed stone surface to flagstone. The Olmsted Brothers' circa 1913 design for Washington Square reoriented the interior circuit walk to parallel the adjacent city streets and established a paved central plaza. They also made adjustments to the walkway intersections near each entrance to the square. The present alignment of the walks reflects both the circa 1913 Olmsted Brothers design, implemented in 1915, and improvements associated with G. Edwin Brumbaugh in the 1950s. In 1975, the perimeter circuit walkways were widened from fifteen feet to twenty-five feet for the Bicentennial celebration. In 1995, the City of Philadelphia narrowed the walkways to the pre-1975 widths and made minor adjustments to the alignment of the walkways at intersections to improve circulation. Before the square's transfer to the National Park Service, the city also replaced deteriorated Pennsylvania bluestone walkways with New York State bluestone that featured a thermal finish set on a bituminous concrete setting bed. The bluestone is very similar in appearance to the Pennsylvania flagstone; however, its greater durability helps to reduce maintenance, and its surface is considerably less slippery when wet. The stone is laid with lateral coursing, and the width of the individual paving stones varies. Along the edges of the walkways that lead from street corner to street corner and serve as entrances to the square, a two-foot-wide band of bluestone defines a clean edge to the paving pattern. At the central fountain plaza, the

jointing in the paving radiates from the circular fountain. Many of the original, low two-inch bluestone curbs that border the walkways remain in place, though some corner curbs are missing or damaged. The primary paths are twenty feet wide, and the secondary paths are fifteen feet wide. Bump outs for the square's teak benches and metal trash receptacles are paved with bluestone and bordered by bluestone curbs (Figure 46).

The layout of the bluestone interior walkways is associated with the Olmsted Brothers' improvements to the square circa 1913-1916. Flagstone paving material was introduced into Washington Square by Dixey as early as 1881 and continued in subsequent alterations. The existing bluestone paving on the walkways, circa 1998, is considered an appropriate in-kind replacement by the National Park Service. Therefore, the interior bluestone walkways contribute to the integrity of Washington Square. (CLR 2011: 3.6-3.8)

Concrete Perimeter Walk at Seventh Street Traffic Island.
The triangular traffic island that now comprises the square's northwest corner is bordered on all sides with concrete sidewalks, separated from the central planting bed by a concrete curb. The concrete sidewalk that borders the traffic island is associated with the Seventh Street cutoff construction in 1947 (Figure 47). Therefore, the walk contributes to the integrity of Washington Square. (CLR 2011: 3.6-3.8)

Perimeter Walkways.
Early maps of Washington Square do not show sidewalks surrounding the square. The earliest maps (from Surveyor General Holme's 1683 plan through Eastburn's 1776 plan) indicate streets running as dead-ends into the square with no perimeter routes around the square. Bridport's circa 1816 design for the square is the first to show perimeter sidewalks, confirmed by renderings of the square from the same era. Until the mid-1800s, the perimeter sidewalks were likely crushed stone, consistent with the walks within the square. A circa 1870 photograph of the watering trough fountain on the square's northern side shows that portion of the sidewalk paved with brick at the time. Later etchings and photographs, however, show stone slab pavement, likely "Pennsylvania flagstone" or bluestone, around portions of the perimeter of the square. The brick perimeter sidewalks now present at Washington Square were laid in the 1990s in conjunction with improvements to the square before its transfer to the National Park Service and replaced earlier flagstone walks.

Perimeter sidewalks around Washington Square have been maintained continuously since circa 1816. Brick was first recorded circa 1870 but later, historic photographs and etchings from 1889 show bluestone pavement. The current brick surface material that covers most of the sidewalks reflects the renovation undertaken in the 1990s, which also replaced the bluestone now expressed only as small paving areas at each entrance. The perimeter sidewalk contributes to the integrity of the design of Washington Square (Figure 48). (CLR 2011: 3.8-3.9)

Central Plaza.
G. Edwin Brumbaugh completed the existing central plaza design in the 1950s in conjunction with the central fountain and the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. It also contains a noteworthy collection of memorials and plaques. The concept of diagonal walks leading to a central open space with a sculptural feature was first introduced in the mid-nineteenth century. The Olmsted Brothers reinforced this concept in their early twentieth-century design. Thus, the central plaza contributes to the landscape of Washington Square (Figure 49).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Interior Bluestone Walkways	201519	Contributing			Asset	1666019	No
Concrete Perimeter Walk at Seventh Street Traffic Island	201520	Contributing			Asset	62878	No
Perimeter Walkways	201521	Contributing			Asset	58337	No
Central Plaza	201522	Contributing			Asset	58336	No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 46. View looking east across the square from southwest entrance illustrates the intersection of numerous paths, as well as large shade trees and small scale features. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 47. View looking southwest from the edge of the sidewalk and median planting bed, bordering the Seventh Street cutoff. The circa 1957 wall around Washington Square is visible at image left. (OCLP 2023)



Figure 48. Both bluestone (at the entrance to Washington Square) and brick walks are shown in this view looking south along S. Sixth Street. The circa 1957 brick wall at image right. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 49. This photograph of the circa 1957 central plaza looking south from the north illustrates the open expanse of the paved plaza. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. The square contains three contributing Buildings and Structures: a Colonial Revival-style brick wall and two guard houses (Figures 50, 51, 52, see also Figure 47).

Historic Conditions (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
Perimeter Wall.
By 1956, the Colonial Revival style brick wall with brick end piers that surrounds the square today was completed under the direction of architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh. Fences and walls have delineated the perimeter of Washington Square at different times since the mid-1700s. In 1816, a white wooden paling fence enclosed the square. This fence was removed by 1867 and replaced with a high iron palisade fence set on a granite base. The iron fence was removed between 1880 and 1883 and replaced by a nine-inch-high granite coping. This low coping defined the edges of the square until the construction of the approximately four-foot-high Colonial Revival-style wall around the square's perimeter in the 1950s. The wall is set in a Flemish bond with a molder brick cap. The brick wall rests on a granite base, likely the same nine-inch coping installed around the square in the 1880s. At each entrance to the square, the brick wall extends beyond the entry piers, curving into the square. The walls terminate at the primary corner entrances as tall brick piers with finials featuring spheres bisected by square planes. At the minor entrances, perpendicular to the adjacent streets, the ends of the walls are marked with lower, wall-height brick piers with stone caps without decorative finials. According to Brumbaugh, the intent of the wall was "to unify the area and to provide a background for the memorial [to the Unknown Revolutionary War Solder] . . .The wall is patterned after those which were often built around the burial grounds of Colonial churches." (CLR 2011: 3.4, citing Ayer and Son 1957: 12)

Guard House in Southeast Corner.
The guard house near the square's southeast corner was constructed without a permanent foundation in the 1890s as a moveable structure. Despite its early estimated construction date, this guard house only appears on plans of the square after the 1950s. The building is seven feet by eight feet, set on grade with bluestone paving on the south and west sides. The exterior of the guard house is paneled with beadboard and ornamented with brackets and scrollwork under the overhanging eaves for an Arts and Crafts-style effect. Each elevation consists of three panels with windows in the central panel of each side. On the four sides, double doors with windows provide access to the interior. Guard houses were first constructed in the Fairmount Park System in 1870 for the Fairmount Park Guard, established the same year, to patrol the park's dispersed grounds. By 1952, 102 guard houses were located within the park system, most of which were of traditional wood construction in varying architectural styles. (CLR 2011: 3.21-3.22)

Guard House near Center of Square.
The guard house near the center of the square was first referenced in the early 1900s in association with the design work of the Olmsted Brothers and a photograph of the square from 1916. A concrete block addition, added to the northwest side of the building sometime in the twentieth century, was removed in the early 2000s. The wood guard house is ten feet by ten-and-a-half feet and rests on a concrete slab foundation surrounded by a concrete sidewalk. The exterior features a single window on three sides and a door on the fourth. A pyramidal hip roof, clad in copper shingles, features angled eaves. An acorn-shaped finial adorns the peak of the roof. The exterior is clad in beadboard.

Evaluations:
The perimeter Colonial Revival style brick wall is significant for its association with the work of the Washington Square Planning Association in the 1950s and with the early historic preservation work of restoration architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh. The Fairmount Park System guard houses are significant as two of the less than twenty remaining guard houses. The buildings are extant relics of Fairmount Park's involvement with Washington Square from 1915 to 2005. The guard house near the southeast corner of the square is exceptionally significant, as it is one of the oldest remaining examples. All three are considered contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Guard House at Southeast Corner	201523	Contributing			Asset	182966	No
Guard House near Center of Square	201524	Contributing			Asset	188770	No
Perimeter Wall	201525	Contributing	638668		Asset	298643	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 50. View looking southwest near the Walnut Street entrance, of the circa 1957 curved brick entrance wall. Note the late nineteenth-century granite block base. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 51. The west and south facades of the contributing southern-most guard house, view looking northeast. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 52. View of the contributing guard house northwest of the central fountain, looking southeast. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Cluster Arrangement

Cluster arrangement is the locations and patterns of buildings, structures, and associated features in the landscape.

Historic Conditions (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
The axial spatial relationship between the features that comprise the circa 1957 Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier (including the memorial's limestone wall, two benches, the bronze statue of George Washington, sarcophagus, and eternal flame), the two rows of seven flagpoles, and the large central fountain, form a cluster arrangement that is a contributing characteristic, but not a feature, of Washington Square. Individual features that comprise this characteristic are evaluated elsewhere in this chapter.

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived.

Historic Conditions (to 1957), Existing Conditions, and Evaluations:
The central circular fountain surrounded by the plaza is the focal point of views along the four diagonal walks leading into the square. Except for the traffic cut-off at the northwest corner of the square (1947) and the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier (1957) near the center of the square, the site's layout is bilaterally symmetrical along the four lines. The concept of this form of symmetry, and its accompanying views, first appeared in the circa 1816 Bridgeport design. The layout also reinforced the diagonal linkage between Independence Square and Washington Square, which is emphasized through views from Washington Square, across the intersection of South Sixth Street and Walnut Street, into Independence Square. Despite changes to the layout since the 1816 design, the primary views across the square from street corner to street corner, and the views from the corners of the square to the center of the square, have been retained throughout all redesigns of the square and thus are contributing.

Following the construction of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier in the mid-twentieth century, the east/west axial views between the Central Fountain and the Memorial, emphasized through the placement of the flagpoles, vegetation, and pavement, are also contributing (Figures 53, 54, 55). (CLR 2011: 3.5)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Diagonal Views Along Walks to Central Fountain and Plaza	201526	Contributing					No
Axial Views east/west from the Central Fountain to Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Solider	201527	Contributing					No
View into Independence Square from Washington Square	201528	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 53. The major views - here from the northeast entrance looking southwest, across the square from street corner to street corner, and at the focal point from the corners of the square to the center of the square - have been retained throughout all redesigns and are contributing. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 54. View east from the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier of the east/west axial views between the Central Fountain and the Memorial, emphasized through the placement of the flagpoles, pavement, and vegetation. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 55. The layout of the square also reinforced the diagonal linkage between Independence Square and Washington Square, which is emphasized through views from Washington Square, northeast, across the intersection of South Sixth Street and Walnut Street, into Independence Square. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features

Constructed water features are built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions in the landscape. Washington Square features two constructed water features, a nineteenth-century watering trough on the sidewalk, mid-block along the curb line of South Washington Square, and a fountain in the center of the square designed by G. Edwin Brumbaugh in the 1950s (Figures 56-57).

Historic Conditions (to 1957) and Existing Conditions:
Central Fountain.
G. Edwin Brumbaugh designed the central fountain in the 1950s with the central plaza and Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. The fountain was completed and dedicated in 1957. Brumbaugh also designed an ornamental bronze lily pad nozzle but it was not installed. A new version of the lily pad was fabricated one-third larger than the original and installed in 2006 to spurt a spray of water straight up. The fountain is constructed of limestone with a 36-foot 8-inch diameter and a two-foot high wall and coping. It is at the square's center, east of the Revolutionary War Memorial.

Watering Trough Fountain for Dogs and Horses.
The watering trough, erected by the Philadelphia Fountain Society in 1869, was the first of dozens built by the society under the leadership of Dr. Wilson Cary Swann. The society intended to relieve animal suffering on hot days while curtailing alcohol drinking and promoting temperance, as many horse owners purchased alcohol at bars in exchange for 'free' water for their horses. The watering trough fountain was constructed on the square's northern side near the intersection of Walnut Street and Seventh Street. The fountain, as initially constructed, stood more than eight feet tall and featured a marble tablet surmounted by a marble hemisphere with a cast iron eagle with outstretched wings. The fountain is currently missing the marble tablet and marble hemisphere. It was designed with two separate basins to provide water for horses and dogs and flowing water intended for people. In 1916, the Bureau of City Property relocated the fountain to the square's southern side along South Washington Square to accommodate a widening of Walnut Street for trolley cars. (CLR 2010: 3.18)

Evaluations:
The central fountain is significant as an integral part of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Solider and for its association with the work of G. Edwin Brumbaugh in the 1950s. Thus, the central fountain is considered a contributing feature. The central fountain's ornamental lily pad water nozzle, fabricated in 2006, is not contributing, though it is compatible. The watering trough fountain is missing its marble tablet and marble hemisphere, but is significant for its association with the Philadelphia Fountain Society and Washington Square from 1869 to the present and thus is considered a contributing feature. (CLR 2010: 3.18)

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Central Fountain	201529	Contributing	637272			247233	Yes
Watering Trough for Dogs and Horses	201530	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 56. This image captures the contributing nineteenth-century watering trough on the sidewalk, mid-block along the curb line of South Washington Square. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 57. View looking southwest at the central fountain, a contributing constructed water feature. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. Washington Square includes numerous contributing and noncontributing small-scale features, including memorials, plaques, flagpoles, and modern site furniture. The most important is the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, which includes a sarcophagus, statue, retaining wall, benches, and an eternal flame.

Historic Condition (to 1957), Existing Conditions, and Evaluations:
Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
G. Edwin Brumbaugh designed the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier concurrently with the central plaza and fountain to the east in the 1950s. Dedicated on June 21, 1957, the memorial consists of a sarcophagus that contains the remains of an unknown Revolutionary War soldier, flanked by two limestone benches. A life-sized bronze statue of George Washington stands on the sarcophagus and is backed by a 19-foot 8-inch limestone wall ornamented with scrollwork. The wall is inscribed with the words, “Freedom is a light for which many have died in darkness.” An eternal flame, added to the memorial at the time of the Bicentennial in 1976, burns at the base of the sarcophagus and is surrounded by bollards linked with a bronze chain (Figure 58). (Survey of Washington Square Plaques & Waysides 2006)

A life-sized bronze statue of George Washington, a replica of Jean Antoine Houdon’s statue of George Washington commissioned by Thomas Jefferson, stands on the sarcophagus of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, and is backed by a 19-foot 8-inch limestone wall ornamented with scrollwork. The statue is placed on an approximately 3 x 2-foot by 3-inch-high granite base. The statue dates from the period of significance and thus is contributing. (Survey of Washington Square Plaques & Waysides 2006)

Flagpoles.
The history of flagpoles in Washington Square is not well documented prior to the design of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier in 1957. There are currently fifteen flagpoles in Washington Square: one flagpole flies an American flag on the eastern side of the central fountain plaza, while 14 flagpoles flank the approach to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier from the fountain plaza. Each of the 14 flagpoles is marked with the name of one of the 13 original colonies as well as one American flag. The flagpoles are associated with the work of architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh, the memorial’s designer, and were installed during the 1950s. All of the flagpoles are contributing features (Figure 59).

D.A.R., Revolutionary War Plaque.
The Daughters of the American Revolution, Revolutionary War Soldiers Memorial is the oldest and most prominent commemorative plaque within Washington Square. Commissioned by the Quaker City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in October 1900, it consists of a large bronze shield engraved with gold lettering inscribed with the words “In memory of the many American soldiers, who during the war for independence, died prisoners of war in the jails of Philadelphia, and were buried in this ground during the years 1777 and 1778.” The plaque is attached to a large rough cut rectilinear slab of granite or limestone approximately five feet high near the Walnut Street entrance. A small irregular area of bluestone pavers is located adjacent to the memorial stone. The date of the bluestone paving is unknown. As the memorial was constructed and dedicated within the period of significance, it is c contributing feature (Figure 60).

Washington Square Dedication Plaque, 1957.
A 17 by 22-inch brass plaque is set flush with the bluestone paving just east of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. Dedicated on June 28, 1957, it is inscribed with the words, “This monument together with its court of flags, the fountain, and the colonial wall surrounding the square were made possible by the generosity of many interested business firms and individual friends of Washington Square.” As this plaque was dedicated within the period of significance, it is considered contributing (Figure 61).

Society of Little Gardens Plaque, 1937.
This small copper plaque, affixed to a small stone, was installed in 1937 to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. The plaque is engraved with the words “The Society of Little Gardens. 5 Trees commemorating the signing of the Constitution 1787-1937.” None of the trees appear to be left. As this plaque was placed in the square during the period of significance, and it aligns with efforts to commemorate the early national history of the country, it is a contributing feature (Figure 62).

Franklin-Style Colonial Revival Lights (53).
From 1818 to 1837, Washington Square was illuminated with reflecting lamps. Gas lamps were installed around 1837, and by 1913 a combination of gas and electric lamps illuminated the square. In the 1950s, the lighting was redesigned by Brumbaugh based on a previous gas lamp designed by Benjamin Franklin. Walkway lights today consist of a stanchion with a lantern-style luminaries, both painted black. Each luminary has four panes of glass held together by a metal cap and base. Fifty-three lights are staggered along both sides of the bluestone walkways throughout the square. The lights were installed in the late 1990s in conjunction with the transfer to the National Park Service and are similar the replica Benjamin Franklin lights designed for the square by Brumbaugh, with only slightly different proportions. Along the brick sidewalks that border Washington Square, acorn-style luminaries with full cut-off fixtures are set on flair top of posts with simple bases. The lights in the Franklin style fixtures are not contributing, but as they represent an in-kind replacement of an early fixture, they are compatible (Figure 63).

Spotlights at the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
At the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier two spotlights illuminate the eastern façade of the memorial. The spotlights are framed with metal boxes attached to metal posts. These lights may be original to the completion of the Memorial in 1957 (Figure 64). The spotlights are contributing as they relate to the work of architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh and the design of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier in the 1950s.

Streetlights.
The streetlights were installed by the Center City District in 2005 under the direction of Urban Engineers with Cope Linder Architects and are maintained by the City of Philadelphia. Two spotlights mounted on top of the walkway lights near the center of the square to provide illumination for the American flag on the eastern side of the central fountain plaza. The streetlights surrounding the square are not historic and are noncontributing, but are compatible.

Bollards on Northern Side of Square (6).
Six cast metal bollards with ball top finials are located in the brick sidewalk on the northern side of the square where South Washington Square intersects with West Washington Square. The bollards are painted black and designed to stop traffic from continuing along South Washington Square into the Colonial Revival style brick wall that surrounds the square. Added to the northern side of the square in 2006, the bollards in Washington Square are contemporary with recent improvements to the square and thus do not contribute. There is no evidence of the presence of bollards in Washington Square prior to 2006.

Trash Receptacles.
While trash receptacles of an unknown design were present during the period of significance, most of the existing receptacles (27) were placed in the park in 2022. The simple steel black round drum style receptacles were designed by Witt Industries, model MAS40P-BK-DT. These receptacles replaced black painted steel receptacles designed by Victor Stanley and installed in the late 1990s. None of the new receptacles are marked for recyclables. As they were not present during the period of significance, the existing trash receptacles do not contribute. Their simple modern design does not detract from the historic nature of the park, and thus they are compatible (see Figure 63).

Benches.
In 1828, seats were first ordered for Washington Square. Benches were in the square during the

nineteenth century, and benches are shown on an existing condition drawing completed by the Olmsted Brothers in 1913. By 1941, benches of varying styles were located within the square. In 1975 new benches were added in preparation for the Bicentennial. Around 1997, 97 six-foot-long benches lined the bluestone walkways and along the perimeter of the central plaza, and new teak benches were added to the square to match the benches in nearby Independence Square. In July 2022 the teak benches were replaced with new benches, in-kind. Benches have been a feature in Washington Square since 1828, and it is this traditional use (sitting) that is significant, rather than the individual bench design that has changed over time. While benches currently found in the square are not historic and do not contribute, their design is compatible with the historic character of the square (Figure 65).

Drainage Catch Basins.
Historical documentation of the drainage system in Washington Square is scarce. Drainage catch basins with metal grates are set along the edges of the bluestone walkways. The grates are eighteen inches by twenty-four inches (18” x 24”). Two types of catch basin covers appear in Washington Square, with two different size slits for water infiltration. In some instances, covers with smaller opening have been replaced with covers with larger openings in order to prevent clogs during heavy rainstorms that carry leaves. The existing drainage system catch basins are modern and are non-contributing, but compatible.

Interpretive Waysides and Directional Signage.
The interpretive waysides and identification signs were designed by Joel Katz Design Associates in conjunction with History Now of the Rittenhouse Foundation and added to the square in October 2002. Visitor regulation signs were added to each entrance to the central plaza in 2019 by the National Park Service. The waysides and signs are contemporary with the phase of improvements prior to easement acquisition by the National Park Service, and thus do not contribute (Figure 66).

Historical Markers (1975-2005).
A variety of commemorative plaques set on finished or natural stone bases are located throughout Washington Square and range from those that commemorate important associations, events, and additions to the square to those that commemorate people and events that are locally significant or related to national military events. Those that were installed after the end of the period of significance, 1957, are considered noncontributing, though they are compatible. The National Park Service currently has a policy of no new plaques or commemorative additions. The existing roster of plaques is as follows:

Washington Square Restoration Plaque, 1991-2002.
A small etched granite paving stone is set into the approach to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier to commemorate contributors to the rehabilitation of the square between 1991 and 2002 (Figure 67).

Welcome to Washington Square Plaques (4), 2002.
Polished granite square plaques are located at each of the four diagonal entrances to the square (Figure 68).

Washington Square History Plaque, date unknown.
A low granite block set with a bronze plaque inscribed with a historical overview of the square’s history is located adjacent to the bluestone sidewalk near the Walnut Street entrance. This feature is evaluated as undetermined, pending future research (Figure 69).

Bicentennial Moon Tree Plaque, 1975.
The Bicentennial Moon Tree plaque, a bronze or copper plaque set on an uncut granite stone, was placed in 1975 to identify the location of the sycamore tree grown from a seed that accompanied a 1971 Apollo mission to the moon. The tree is no longer extant (Figure 70).

Stone Monument with Missing Plaque, date unknown.
This small roughcut stone base is located to the east of the diagonal walk leading from the Walnut Street entrance. Its bronze plaque has been removed and its history and date are unknown.

Evaluated as undetermined pending future research (Figure 71).

St. Bardo Catholic Church Plaque, 1979.
This commemorative plaque was dedicated in 1979 and consists of a approximately three-foot high natural granite stone with a bronze plaque that reads “A tree is a profound wonder of our creation and it is amazing how it is able to draw peoples of the world together. Saint Bardo Catholic Church. Petterweil, Germany. 1979 America Project” (Figure 72).

National Register of Historic Places, Plaque, 1982.
This small plaque is set on a pink granite block and reads, “Washington Square. One of Philadelphia’s original squares planned for by William Penn. 1682. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service. United States Department of the Interior. On the occasion of the tricentennial of the city of Philadelphia, 1982” (Figure 73).

Carol Randall Plaque, 1980.
This plaque, located in the planting bed to the north of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, is affixed to a small granite stone and was placed to mark a tree planted in honor of Carolyn Randall, Supreme President by the California State Association of Emblem Clubs and Nevada Hawaii Clubs (Figure 74).

Tom Foglietta Commemorative Plaque, unknown.
A cut granite base with a bronze relief plaque commemorates the work of Tom Foglietta, inscribed with the words “Tom Foglietta. City Councilman, Citizen of Philadelphia, Ambassador to Italy, Congressman, Champion of Historic Preservation.” As Tom Foglietta was active in government in the 1980s and 1990s, the feature post-dates the period of significance and is noncontributing (Figure 75).

U.S.S. John F. Kennedy Commemorative Plaque, 1995.
The plaque is comprised of a cut granite base with a bronze plaque inscribed with the following words, “In grateful appreciation to the officers and crew of the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) under the command of Capt. J.R. Hutchinson, USN. Capt. Gerald Hoewing, USN. Every morning and evening from November 1993 to September 1995 an honor guard from the Kennedy raised and lowered the American Flag in Washington Square in honor of the thousands of American War heroes buried here. Dedicated by the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution. November 11, 1995.”

Monument with Missing Plaque, 1991.
This feature is comprised of a low, cut stone granite base that formerly supported a plaque that read, “America’s First War Heroes. Revolutionary soldiers who fought and died for this nation’s independence are buried beneath this ground. This brass plate is from the hull of the Aircraft Carrier USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63) which was rebuilt at Philadelphia’s Naval Shipyard from September 1988 until July 1991. During this period the crew of the “Hawk” under the command of Capt. F.L. Tillotson Jr., USN, and Capt. D.L. Rainly Jr., USN, raised and lowered the flags in Washington Square in honor of America’s first war heroes” (Figure 76).

U.S.S. Forrestal Plaque, 1995.
This feature is comprised of a low, rough-cut stone granite base. The plaque affixed to the stone base reads, “Dedicated to the officers and crew of the USS Forrestal (CVT-59) under the command of Capt. R.L. “Bunky” Johnson, U.S.N. From her arrival in May 1992 until her decommissioning in September 1993 the crew of the Forrestal took part in every ceremony in Washington Square honoring the thousands of unknown heroes of the American Revolution buried here. Placed by the American Revolution Patriotic Fund in grateful appreciation. November 11, 1995” (Figure 77).

Washington Square Restoration Commemorative Paving Stone, 2002.
A 32 by 40-inch granite paving stone, set flush into the bluestone paving to the west of the fountain. It is inscribed with the following words, “Washington Square restored through the cooperation of the American Revolution Patriots Fund, Barra Foundation, City of Philadelphia, Fairmount Park Commission, Independence National Historical Park, National Park Service, National Society

Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society Sons of the Revolution and the Color Guard, Washington Square Association, William Penn Foundation. 1991-2002."

The Constitution Lives Commemorative Paving Stone, 1987.
This 12 by 23-inch carved granite paving stone is set flush in the bluestone terrace to the east of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. It is inscribed with the following words, "Through your sacrifice the Constitution lives. We the people. 1787-1987" (Figure 78).

Eternal Flame Plaque, 1976.
This feature, a 12-inch by 12-inch bronze plaque is set flush within the paving stones to the east of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, and is inscribed with the following words, "The eternal flame dedicated in 1976 by Continental Bank in memory of those who fought and gave their lives so that we might celebrate our 200th anniversary as a free people." The evaluation of this feature is undetermined pending future research (Figures 79-80).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier	201531	Contributing	637656		Location	26190	Yes
Sarcophagus	201532	Contributing	637656		Asset	1756672	Yes
Limestone Benches	201533	Contributing	637656		Asset	1680960	No
George Washington Statue	201534	Contributing	637656				No
Memorial Limestone Wall	201536	Contributing	637656		Asset	1756676	Yes
Eternal Flame	201539	Undetermined			Asset	117645	Yes
Flagpoles	201542	Contributing	638865		Asset	1688962	No
D.A.R. Revolutionary War Plaque	201544	Contributing			Asset	259272	Yes
Washington Square Dedication Plaque	201546	Contributing			Asset	259273	Yes
Society of Little Gardens Plaque	201547	Contributing			Asset	259311	Yes
Franklin-style Light Fixtures (53)	201548	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	63763	No
Spotlights at the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier (2)	201549	Undetermined					No
Streetlights	201550	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Trash Receptacles	201552	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Bollards on Northern Side of Square (6)	201551	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1623597	No
Teak Benches	201553	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	58339	No

Interpretive Waysides and Directional Signs	201554	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	251394	No
Catch Basins	201555	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1516525	No
Washington Square Restoration Plaque, 1991-2002	201556	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Welcome to Washington Square Plaques	201557	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	257636	Yes
Washington Square History Plaque	201558	Undetermined					No
Bicentennial Moon Tree Plaque	201559	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	257646	Yes
Stone Monument with Missing Plaque	201560	Undetermined					No
Saint Bardo Catholic Church Plaque	201561	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	257658	Yes
National Register of Historic Places Plaque	201562	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	259254	Yes
Carolyn Randall Plaque	201563	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Tom Foglietta Plaque	201564	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	259338	Yes
U.S.S. JFK Plaque	201565	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	259277	Yes
Monument with Missing Plaque	201566	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1479299	Yes
U.S.S. Forrestal Plaque	201567	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	259310	Yes
Washington Square Restoration Commemorative Paving Stone	201568	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	257653	Yes
Constitution Lives Commemorative Paving Stone	201569	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	259269	Yes
Eternal Flame Plaque	201570	Undetermined	637656		Asset	259272	Yes
Irrigation System	201571	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1734485	No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 58. The Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier is comprised of separate contributing features including, the life-sized bronze statue of George Washington on an approximately 3 x 2-foot by 3-inch-high granite base, the limestone sarcophagus, a limestone freestanding wall approximately 19 feet high by 13 feet wide, an eternal flame, and a low bronze bollard and chain fence. The temporary barriers are there to replace the chains vandalized in 2022. (OCLP 2022)

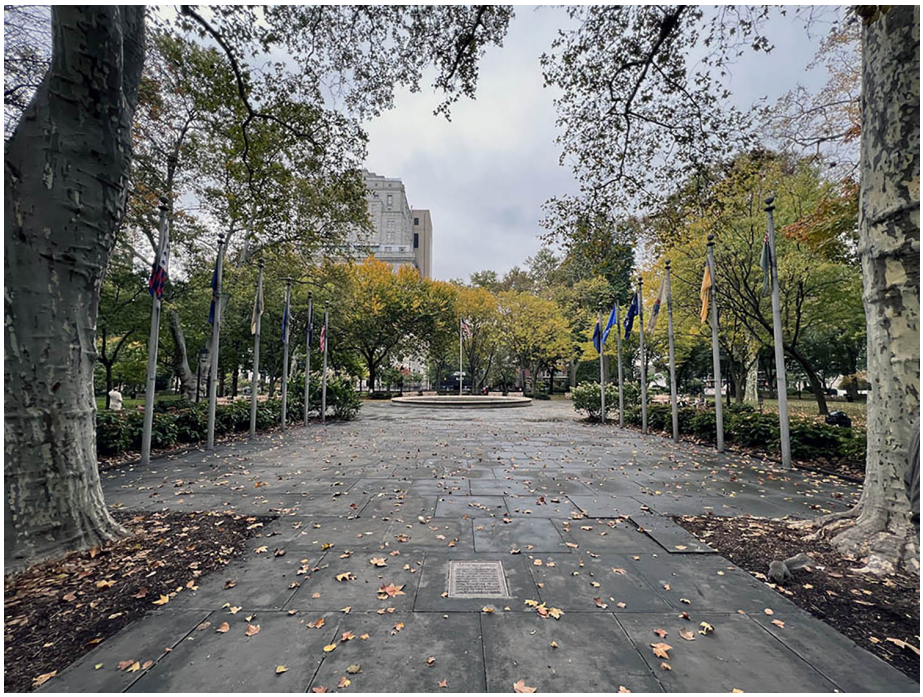


Figure 59. The fifteen flagpoles, in this view east from the Memorial to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, were all installed during the 1950s and relate to the work completed under the direction of G. Edwin Brumbaugh and thus are contributing. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 60. The Daughters of the American Revolution, Revolutionary War Soldiers Memorial, viewed from the sidewalk looking northwest, is the oldest and most prominent commemorative plaque within Washington Square. An inset of the front of the memorial is at image lower right. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 61. A small brass plaque is set flush with the bluestone paving just east of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. It was dedicated on June 28, 1957 and is contributing. It is also visible in the foreground of Figure 59. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 62. View of the Society of Little Gardens plaque. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 63. This photograph of the walk between the Walnut and Sixth Street entrance and the central fountain, facing southwest, shows some of the site's non-contributing small scale features, including the lights, benches, waysides, and trash receptacles. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 64. At the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, two spotlights illuminate the eastern façade. One of the lights, visible between two flag poles at image upper left, may be original to the memorial's completion in 1957. (OCLP 2023)



Figure 65. The 2022 teak benches with dividing central arm are contemporary, and while compatible, do not contribute. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 66. The interpretive waysides, installed in 2002, and directional signs presently in the square, are contemporary with the phase of improvements prior to easement acquisition by the National Park Service, and therefore do not contribute. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 67. The Washington Square Restoration Plaque, 2002 is a small etched granite paving stone set into the approach to the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier to commemorate contributors to the rehabilitation of the square between 1991 and 2002. It is noncontributing but compatible. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 68. View of one of the noncontributing "Welcome to Washington Square" plaques. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 69. Washington Square History Plaque is a low granite block set with a bronze plaque inscribed with a historical overview of the square's history. It is located adjacent to the bluestone sidewalk near the Walnut Street entrance, visible at image left (see detail inset). (OCLP 2022)



Figure 70. Bicentennial Moon Tree Plaque, 1975. This bronze or copper plaque is set on an uncut granite stone to identify the location of the sycamore tree grown from a seed that accompanied a 1971 Apollo mission to the moon. The tree is no longer extant. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 71. Stone monument with missing plaque, unknown date. This small roughcut stone base is located to the east of the diagonal walk leading from the Walnut Street entrance. Evaluated as undetermined. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 72. St. Bardo Catholic Church plaque, 1979. This commemorative plaque consists of an approximately three foot high natural granite stone. Noncontributing. (OCLP 20222)



Figure 73. The National Register of Historic Places plaque, 1982, is visible in this image amongst the hostas. The plaque post dates the period of significance. (OCLP 2022)

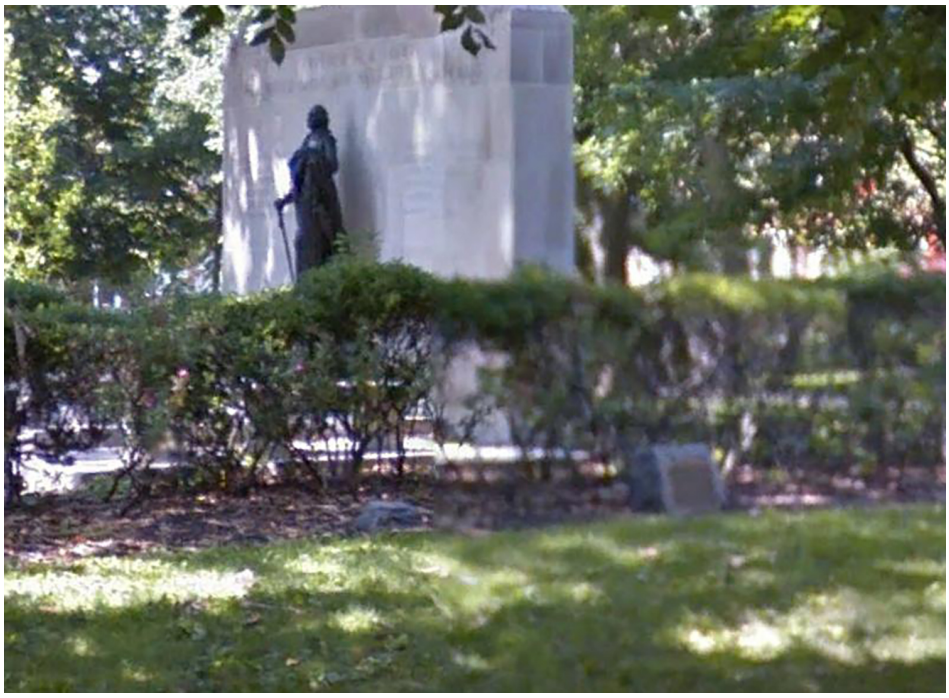


Figure 74. Carol Randall Plaque, 1980, is located in the planting bed to the north of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. It is affixed to a small granite stone and was placed to mark a tree planted in honor of Carolyn Randall, Supreme President by the California State Association of Emblem Clubs and Nevada Hawaii Clubs. It is noncontributing. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 75. Tom Foglietta Commemorative Plaque, date unknown, is comprised of a cut granite base with a bronze relief plaque commemorating the work of Foglietta, a City Councilman who was active in government in the 1980s and 1990s. The feature post dates the period of significance and is noncontributing. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 76. Monument with Missing Plaque, 1991. This feature post-dates the period of significance and it is noncontributing. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 77. The U.S.S. Forrestal Plaque, 1995, is comprised of a low, rough-cut stone granite base and is located near the central fountain. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 78. The Constitution Lives Commemorative Paving Stone, 1987, is a 12 by 23-inch carved granite paving stone set flush in the bluestone terrace to the east of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. (OCLP 2022)



Figure 79. Eternal Flame Plaque, 1976, is a 12 by 12-inch bronze plaque set flush within the paving stones to the east of the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, and is inscribed with the following words, "The eternal flame dedicated in 1976 by Continental Bank in memory of those who fought and gave their lives so that we might celebrate our 200th anniversary as a free people." (OCLP 2022)



Figure 80. The Eternal Flame, 1976, was originally designed by Brumbaugh, but not executed in the 1950s, It was added to the memorial 1975 and features a propane□fueled flame. (OCLP 2022)

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Only sites identified in approved National Register documentation are identified in this report. While Washington Square was used for burials prior to the nineteenth century, Washington Square does not include any archeological sites that are currently listed on the National Register. However, the park's update to the National Register that is currently underway (August 2023) does cite the burials as significant. According to the 2010 Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square, below ground archeological resources, including evidence of past use, features, and human remains, are likely significant, but further work is needed to determine their association beyond the limited study completed to date. At this time, the NPS has no plans to excavate, conduct invasive testing, or disturb any burials at Washington Square. (CLR 2011: 3.29)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 09/27/2029

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/27/2023

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Washington Square is in good condition. This assessment indicates the property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The property's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Issues include deferred maintenance on the perimeter wall, bluestone curbing, the sarcophagus, and storm water runoff. These impacts are drawn from the August 2022 draft Cultural Landscape Report Addendum for Washington Square and confirmed through additional visual analysis in October 2022.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The bluestone curbing defining the edges of walkways has some significant damage, especially in the corners. In many locations, the corner curb stone is missing entirely. At other curb corners, the soil is compacted behind the curb. Since stormwater is designed to flow off the turf and onto the paths, this compaction creates puddles behind the curb, which seldom dry due to regular irrigation.

Date Identified: 05/01/2022

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The sarcophagus' base shows early signs of deterioration and minor cracking, and at the rear of the wall, are some signs of limestone weathering, open mortar joints, and very minor cracking, exacerbated by the vandalism in 2022. Limestone is a relatively soft stone with a shorter lifespan than granite, therefore it is likely the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier will continue to deteriorate, especially in areas that recently required temporary repairs.

Date Identified: 05/01/2022

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The perimeter wall's granite base, which is assumed to be the original 1880s coping, was assessed visually on a site inspection in 2022. Records are unclear if the granite base was renovated in the 1990s as a part of the renovations conducted prior to the transfer of Washington Square to the National Park Service. Primarily on the southern wall, possibly due to moisture from ground water, 65-75 granite blocks have exfoliated in various amounts. The most extreme stones have defaced up to 1" beyond the face of the brick, which rests on the granite curb. The granite itself is consistently moist with the tendency to flake off large chunks of stone. While this does not put the wall in imminent risk of failure, it will require monitoring to see if the condition worsens.

Date Identified: 05/01/2022

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The brick within the perimeter wall has evidence of moisture collection within the wall. Cracking brick, loose mortar, expansion joint degradation, and mild efflorescence is visible. A crack in the wall near the Seventh Street cutoff is caused by an adjacent sweetgum tree. The tree has also lifted bricks on the sidewalk and is creating a tripping hazard.

Date Identified: 05/01/2022

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Storm Water Damage

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Storm water runoff is being blocked from entering the limited number of storm sewer inlets by mulch and debris washing from planting beds in heavy rain events.

Date Identified: 05/01/2022

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type:	Rehabilitation
Treatment Completed:	No
Document Date:	2010-01-01
Title:	Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square
IRMA Link:	https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2180672

Narrative:

The Cultural Landscape Report for Washington Square produced in 2011, recommended Rehabilitation as the treatment choice, given the characteristics of the site, the goals and objectives of Independence National Historical Park, and the current use of Washington Square. Treatment recommendations were updated in 2022 in the Cultural Landscape Report Addendum for Washington Square Conditions and Treatment Recommendations. The recommendations in the Addendum included the following:

• Remove plaques installed after the period of significance (1957).
• Replace missing and damaged bollards.
• Repair and repoint deteriorated stone and mortar joints in the Memorial to the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.
• Regrade planting beds to minimize debris runoff into drainage systems and deposition of sediment onto walkways.
• Repair vertical crack in the perimeter wall at the Seventh Street cutoff.
• Prune all shrubbery to reduce overgrowth, and limit planting of understory trees, flowering trees, and shrubs to landscape beds.
• Replace dead trees as follows: in-kind (same species); another species from the historic list of trees; or a new species of shade tree that further enhances the square's historic role as a Washington Square as an urban arboretum and site of horticultural innovation.
• Preserve 80% shade tree coverage within the park.
• Aerate turf as often as possible, using shorter prongs then usual to limit damage to tree roots and irrigation systems.
• Replace damaged pavers, stone curbs, and bricks as necessary.
• Add interpretive or education materials related to the horticultural history of Washington Square.
• Modify the cyclic (leaf and hardwood) mulching; reduce mulching to every-other-year instead of bi-annually. Fluff mulch in the fall and spring with a rake.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

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