

# Washington Monument Physical Security Project

Washington, D.C.

## Project Purpose

To provide an aesthetically acceptable “safe zone” around the Washington Monument.

Intent is to prevent potential attacks against this iconic Memorial while maintaining site characteristics.

Project elements include design and installation of a structurally sound physical barrier 200 to 400 feet from the Monument; and accomplish related landscape, lighting, and irrigation upgrades.



## Special Factors

Budget considerations were a constant “moving target”.

The Irrigation Consultant was eventually contracted to three involved parties.

Directive to perform feasibility study for possible Tidal Basin water source.

With much currently being made of possible “stimulus” funds being made available for renovation of the remainder of the Mall, the benefits of automated irrigation will be readily observable to the public.

## Significance

Additional major design constraints included:

NPS-mandated “no additional above-ground” equipment – regardless of 100-year and 500- year flood plains.

Event tenting on major lawn areas presents a potential hazard to irrigation lines. Consequently, in areas outside the secure oval, the depth of bury was specified as minimum 42 inches of cover, while inside the oval the NPS has mandated “no tenting allowed”.

## Role of Irrigation Consultant

The irrigation consultant provided:

- initial Water Use Study for approximate 64 acres of irrigated area (overall site = ~72 acres).
- Feasibility Study for potential use of Tidal Basin (Potomac River) water.
- multiple contract documents submissions and redesigns based on budgetary considerations. Final design involves approximately 19 acres in-ground, zoned system and ability to operate up to eight Rain Cannons and multiple quick-coupling valves.

