

Lafayette Park: Renewing the Historic White House Grounds for America's 250th

OUR
Monumental
MOMENT

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE NATIONAL MALL

A Restored Lafayette Park

TO HONOR AND ELEVATE THE HISTORY AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

Located just beyond the White House gates along Pennsylvania Avenue, this formal park and its legacy date back to Pierre Charles L'Enfant's original plans for the city and the American Revolution. Today, the park is the place where visitors first glimpse the White House. The long-overlooked greenspace, its canopy of trees and classic walkways and fountains are in disrepair and will be restored to a level of excellence befitting the park's history and prominent location.

Inspired by the celebration of America's Semiquincentennial in 2026, the new Lafayette Park landscape will feature restored marquee fountains, new plantings, refurbished seating and walkways and will become a more vibrant and thriving park that connects the White House to the city of Washington D.C., to the nation and the world.

OUR VISION + PROJECT GOALS

The Trust for the National Mall is leading the effort to revitalize this historic park, which dates to the American Revolution, in honor of America's 250th anniversary and to celebrate this significant national milestone.

1

Beautify the park's garden elements and green spaces

2

Restore the marquee fountains that flank the park, which sit dormant and have not flowed for nearly a decade

3

Create a safer and well-maintained park, by improving walkways, lighting elements and seating

4

Provide regular care and maintenance through an endowment for the park

RESTORATION PRIORITIES

The Trust and the National Park Service, in partnership with the White House, have identified the following key priorities:

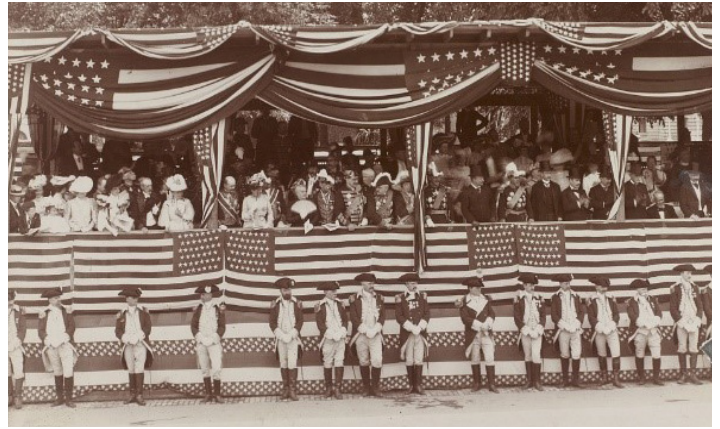
1. Restore the Garden's Marquee Fountains
2. Add Vibrant Garden Plantings
3. Add New Green and Sustainable Turf
4. Restore Site Furnishings and Benches
5. Repair Formal Brick Pathways
6. Restore Historic Bronze Cannons
7. Repair and Maintain Light Fixtures
8. Restore Fencing Throughout



Today's Lafayette Park, in need of restoration.

LAFAYETTE PARK'S HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Originally named “The President’s Square,” Lafayette Park dates to the earliest days of the Republic, with **President Thomas Jefferson** an early advocate for improving the grounds.
- Noted landscape designer **Andrew Jackson Downing** developed the park’s picturesque walkways and ovals in 1851, that now frame historic statues and garden spaces.
- The statue honoring the **Marquis de Lafayette**, French Revolutionary War hero and champion of American independence for whom the park is named, was added in 1891.



President Theodore Roosevelt's reviewing stand in Lafayette Square, 1902.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION EFFORTS SEAL LAFAYETTE PARK'S LEGACY

- The current Lafayette Park was created through a watershed preservation moment in 1962, when **First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy** intervened to prevent the removal of historic buildings that frame the Park.
- Architect John Carl Warnecke conceptualized **Lafayette Square**, restoring the extant Madison Place and Jackson Place and adding stately new federal buildings to complement their historic character. Today, Lafayette Square and its impressive structures and facades now elegantly enclose Lafayette Park facing 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.



LAFAYETTE PARK'S CURRENT SITE CHALLENGES



Signature fountains are out of order and have not flowed for many years



Significant wear due to deferred maintenance, lack of federal funds, and heavy foot traffic



The tree canopy that serves as the architecture of the park is in need of care and restoration.



Landscape elements, including seating, turf and aging plantings need complete overhaul.



View of the north side of the White House from Lafayette Park.

ABOUT THE TRUST FOR THE NATIONAL MALL

The Trust for the National Mall is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to restoring, preserving, and enriching the National Mall and the White House gardens and grounds. As an official partner of the National Park Service (NPS), the Trust secures private funding, in-kind support, and expertise to support time-sensitive restoration projects, educational programming, and volunteer opportunities. The Trust is dedicated to honoring the symbolic legacy of the National Mall and White House, iconic and treasured spaces that inspire, unite and honor our nation's history and founding.

The Trust raises private funds and leads design, construction, and management of projects and programs – delivering them on time, on budget, and at the highest quality befitting the National Mall and the White House.

ABOUT OUR MONUMENTAL MOMENT: The Campaign for the National Mall

Inspired by the 250th anniversary of American independence in 2026, the Trust has embarked on an ambitious campaign for the National Mall – titled Our Monumental Moment – to elevate awareness and raise funds around three critical themes: Restore, Inspire, Endure. The Restoration of Lafayette Park is a marquee project that will be completed in time for the Semiquincentennial in 2026.

For more information, please contact Laura Sildon, Vice President of Philanthropy, lsildon@nationalmall.org



TRUST FOR THE
NATIONAL
MALL

CELEBRATING

250

Future Vision for Lafayette Park

RESTORING THIS FORMAL AND CLASSICAL PARK FOR AMERICA'S 250TH

Inspired by the American Semiquincentennial, the Trust for the National Mall invites you to help create a verdant and vibrant public space in Lafayette Square, across from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, America's most famous address. Join us to honor American history and our nation's founding and to prepare Lafayette Park to greet the 50 million people anticipated to visit for this historic American milestone in 2026...and beyond.



**Rendering of restored Lafayette Park fountains
(Rendering by *Fountains by Waterworks*)**

COST ESTIMATES

PHASE I: INITIAL BEAUTIFICATION FOR 2026

Pre-Construction	\$50,000
Direct Construction	\$6,500,000
Contingency (10% Mandated by National Park Service Guidelines)	\$650,000
Project Management Services and Operations	\$1,440,000
Maintenance Endowment for the Fountain and Landscape	\$5,000,000

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET NEEDED TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION	\$13,640,000
--	---------------------

PHASE II: ADDITIONAL UPGRADES POST-2026

Exploring upgrades to restrooms, fencing, and addressing security considerations	\$2,000,000
--	-------------

PHASE III: ANNUAL CARE 2026 - 2036 AND BEYOND

Philanthropy fund to ensure annual maintenance needs of \$350K, and associated operating needs, are met for 10+ years	\$8,000,000
---	-------------

TOTAL LAFAYETTE PARK PROJECT COST	\$23,640,000
--	---------------------

GIFT RECOGNITION ON THE NATIONAL MALL AND LAFAYETTE PARK

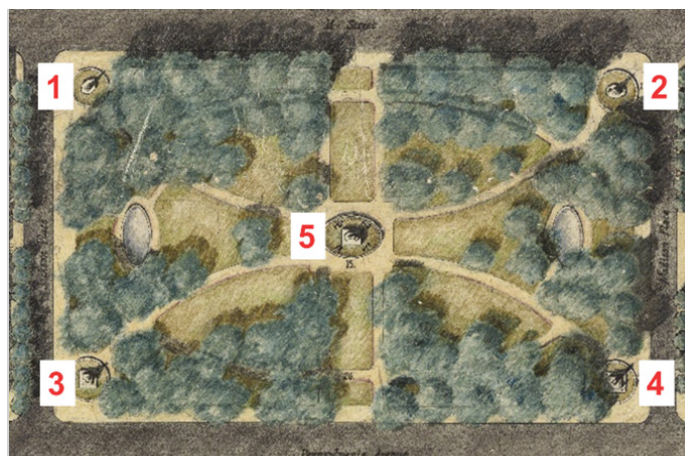
Leadership donors will have the exclusive opportunity to be recognized in special commemorative signage with the National Park Service and Trust for the National Mall for the 2026 Semiquincentennial Celebration. Full funder recognition opportunities and details are available upon request.

Historic Lafayette Park

WHERE EUROPEAN HISTORY AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION CONVERGE

The statues featured in each of the park's four corners honor and commemorate famous European leaders who championed American independence and bolstered American Forces during the Revolution, including the park's namesake, the Marquis de Lafayette.

These tributes surround the grand equestrian statue of General Andrew Jackson that is the central focus of the park, famed for being both the first bronze statue cast in the country, and for being the first to balance solely on the horse's hind legs.



1 General Von Steuben Statue (Prussia) – 1910



2 General Kosciuszko Statue (Poland) – 1910



3 General Rochambeau Statue (France) – 1902



4 General Lafayette Statue (France) – 1891



5 General Andrew Jackson Statue