

## ***Facts for the Washington Monument in Baltimore, Maryland***

The cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1815

The Baltimore Washington Monument designed by architect Robert Mills is the 1st public monument to honor the nation's 1st president.

The monument's square base has 8 bronze inscriptions commemorating important moments in Washington's life.

The column proper of the monument was completed in 1829 when the statue of George Washington was raised to the top

There are 228 steps to the top viewing area.

The multi-ton statue of George Washington by Enrico Causici crowning the column is so large that it was cut into 3 pieces in order to be hoisted to the top. Architect Robert Mills designed the hoisting system aided by those knowledgeable in ship rigging.

The statue of George Washington at the top depicts him submitting his resignation as Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army in Annapolis in 1783, an act symbolic of his belief in the new American form of democratic government

The ornamental iron fence, designed by Robert Mills and cast by the Savage Manufacturing Company, was installed in 1838

The Mount Vernon Place Conservancy is currently undertaking a \$5,500,000 restoration of the Washington Monument in Baltimore, which will be completed in spring of 2015.

The time capsule was discovered on October 16, 2014 by George Wilk, II the Project Superintendent for Lewis Contractors

The sealed copper box time capsule recently discovered will be 100 years old in 2015

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014, a conservator from the Walters Art Museum came to pack up the time capsule and safely transport it to the Walters' Conservation Lab. Their conservators will assist in assessing the condition and determining when and how it should be opened.

On July 4, 2015, the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy will rededicate the monument on the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone.

"A Monumental Bicentennial" celebration will take place on July 4, 2015, complete with a formal ribbon cutting ceremony to be followed by an old-fashioned family-friendly country fair festival.

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