



Lincoln Memorial Monument Association

Two years after his assassination, Congress formed the Lincoln Monument Association. It would take until 1901 before a site for the memorial was chosen. In 1911 the Lincoln Memorial Bill was signed by President Taft, providing \$2 million funds for the memorial.

Construction

Construction started in 1914. The design by the New York architect Henry Bacon was based on a Greek temple with 36 columns. Each column represents one state of the Union at the time of Lincoln's death. When the memorial was completed in May 1922, the Union had expanded with 12 more states, so the names of the 48 states were carved on the outside of the memorial's walls. After the admission of Alaska and Hawaii, a plaque was added with the names of the new states.

Interior

Inside the 99ft tall marble temple is a large sculpture of Abraham Lincoln seated in a chair. The sculpture, designed by Daniel Chester French is 19ft tall. The northern wall contains an inscription of Lincoln's second inaugural address, the southern wall has the Gettysburg address inscribed. Above the inscription is a mural depicting the angel of truth freeing a slave.

Protest marches

The memorial is often used as a gathering place for protests and political rallies. The most famous was the March of Washington in 1963, when Martin Luther King delivered his famous speech 'I have a dream' from the Lincoln Memorial.

The Lincoln Memorial is located at the west end of the [National Mall](#). From the top of the stairs in front of the memorial, you have a view of the [Washington Monument](#) and the [US Capitol](#).