

**14. SAMUEL ALLYNE OTIS (1740–1814)** was selected in April 1789 to serve as the inaugural secretary of the U.S. Senate. Later that month, it was Otis's duty to hold the masonic Bible that was used in the ceremony at Federal Hall in New York City when George Washington took the oath of office as the first president under the Constitution. Otis was secretary of the Senate for a record 25 years and reportedly never missed a day of work in that span. **R30/S14**



Inauguration of Washington (1876), by Currier & Ives

**15. WILLIAM PINKNEY (1764–1822)** was nominated as attorney general by James Madison in 1811 and served in his cabinet until 1814. **R29/S36**

**16. THE PUBLIC VAULT** was built in 1835 as a temporary space to hold the remains of public officials until interment. For congressmen there was no charge for the vault; others were charged a \$5 fee. In sum, the remains of over 4,000 individuals were held in the Public Vault, including those of Presidents William Henry Harrison, John Quincy Adams, and Zachary Taylor. First Lady Dolley Madison was placed in the vault upon her death in 1849, because her son, **John Payne Todd R41/S230**, had bankrupted the family. She remained there for over two years. Madison was removed to the Causten Vault in 1852 and then permanently buried beside the president in Montpelier Station, Virginia, in 1858.



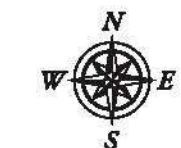
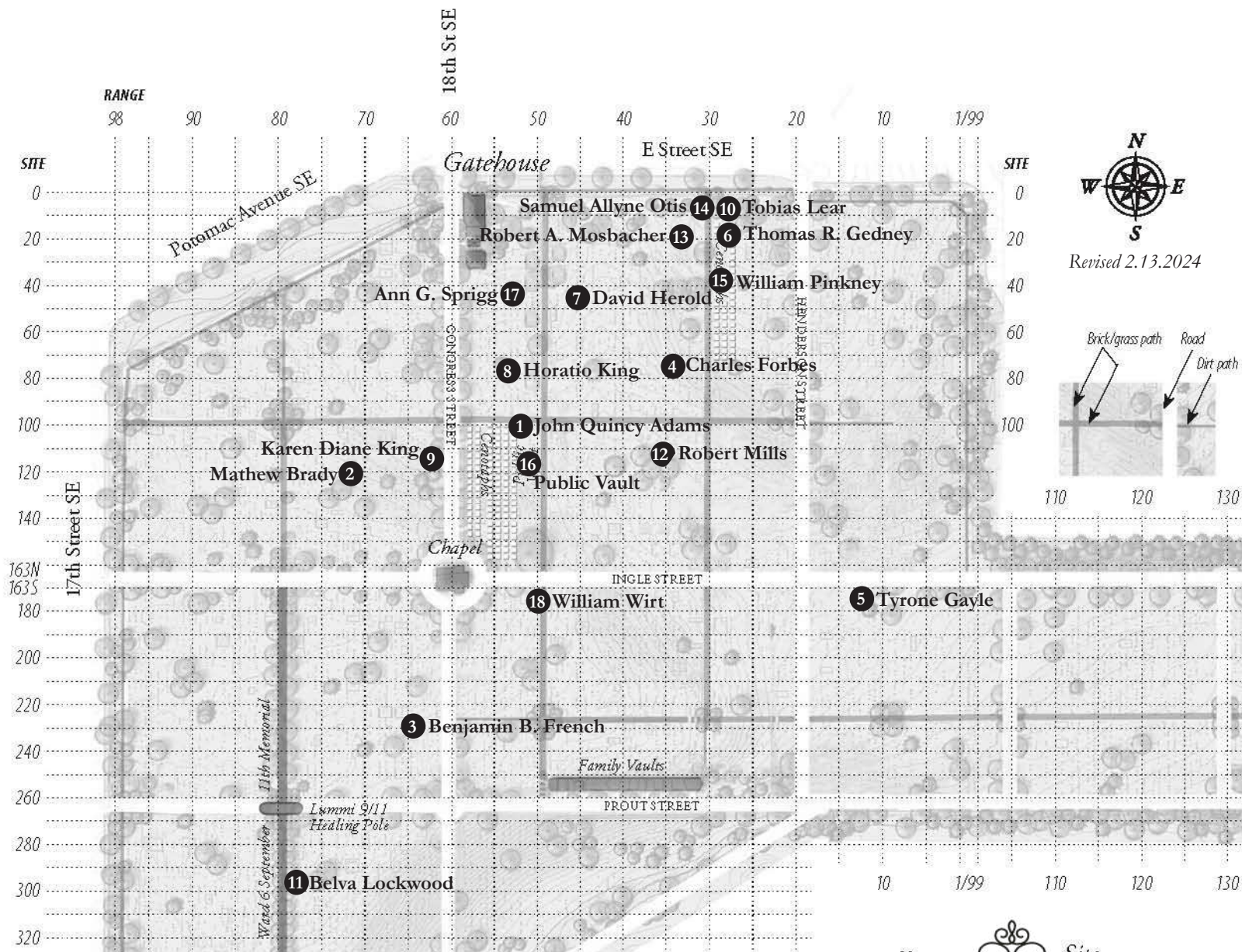
Zachary Taylor (c. 1849) by Mathew Brady, (LOC)



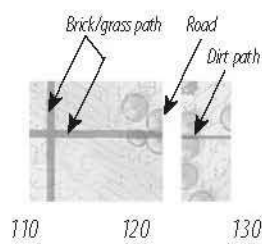
Dolley Madison (1848) by Mathew Brady, (LOC)

**17. ANN G. SPRIGG (c. 1800–1870)** ran a boarding house where Abraham Lincoln lived in the 1840s during his lone term in Congress. Years later, when Lincoln was president, he attempted to help Sprigg during her time of financial need by asking the Treasury secretary if he could find a job for her in the Department. **R53/S41**

**18. WILLIAM WIRT (1772–1834)** served as attorney general from 1817 to 1829 in the cabinets of James Monroe and John Quincy Adams. He holds the record for longest-served attorney general. Wirt finished in fourth place in the presidential election of 1832 as the Anti-Masonic Party nominee. **R50/S169**



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**A WORD OF CAUTION:** The centuries have made many grave markers and sites unstable. Please be careful near grave markers and watch where you step: depressions and sink holes lie hidden in grass, and footstones and corner markers can trip the unwary.

*Join us!*

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1976 and dedicated to the restoration, interpretation, and management of Congressional Cemetery. It is predominantly a volunteer-based organization relying on over 400 neighbors, history buffs, conservators, dogwalkers, and armed forces personnel each year to help restore and maintain this national treasure. In 1979, the Association succeeded in having Congressional Cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It became a National Historic Landmark in 2011. Please join the Association or make a donation and help in the third century of service to the Nation's Capital.



**Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery**

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Funding for the preservation and maintenance of Historic Congressional Cemetery is provided in part by the Congressional Cemetery Endowment, which was created with matching funds provided by the Congress of the United States and administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The property is owned by Christ Church Washington Parish.



**DC's Greatest Undertaking**

ESTABLISHED 1807

*Walking Tour*  
**PRESIDENTIAL**

History comes to life in Congressional Cemetery. The creak and clang of the wrought iron gate signals your arrival at a one-of-a-kind window into the past.

On November 1, 1800, President John Adams and First Lady Abigail Adams moved into the White House, then known as the Executive Mansion. Since then, the office of the presidency has left indelible marks on American history in Washington, D.C. that can still be seen today. Much of this history can be experienced at Congressional Cemetery. Congressional was a temporary receiving space for presidents and cabinet members, and is the permanent home of dozens of individuals whose lives intersected with the commanders-in-chief and first ladies. They include cabinet members, assassination conspirators, photographers, architects, wayward sons, secretaries, landladies, and bodyguards.

This PRESIDENTIAL TOUR highlights just a few of the over 65,000 people buried in Congressional Cemetery. As you embark on this self-guided tour, we invite you to admire the artistry of the stone carvings, appreciate the beauty of the environment, and examine the diverse historical narratives and legacies of those interred here.

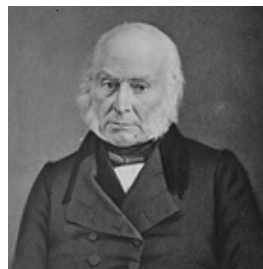


William Henry Harrison (1840), by Albert Gallatin Hoit. National Portrait Gallery (NPG)



The following are numbered to correspond with the map on the back. Please also refer to the Range (R) and Site (S) grid numbers to help locate each grave site.

**1. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS (1767–1848)** was named minister to the Netherlands by George Washington in 1794 at age 26. He served as President James Madison’s minister to Russia before President nominated him as secretary of state in 1817. JQA was the author of the administration’s eponymous foreign policy, the Monroe Doctrine. Adams successfully ran for president in 1824, a campaign in which no candidate received a majority of electoral votes. It marked the second time that a presidential election outcome was decided by the House of Representatives and the first time the victor lost the popular vote. He lost his re-election bid to Andrew Jackson in 1828. Adams was the only person elected to the House after their presidency, serving from 1831 to 1848. He died on February 23, 1848 from a stroke he suffered in the Capitol two days prior. His body was placed in the Public Vault on February 26th and removed March 6th. He received a cenotaph in his memory, as was customary for members of Congress who died in office until the 1870s. His widow, First Lady Louisa Adams, was temporarily interred in the Causten Vault in May 1852. **R54/S101 (cenotaph)**



Hon. John Q. Adams (1847) by Mathew Brady, Library of Congress (LOC)

**2. MATHEW BRADY (1822–1896)** was one of the most accomplished photographers of the 19th century, whose pioneering work earned him the sobriquet, “The Father of Photojournalism.” His daguerreotypes, early photographs, vividly captured the likenesses of many famous personalities, including a remarkable 19 presidents -- all from John Quincy Adams to William McKinley, except William Henry Harrison. He notably took several photographs of Abraham Lincoln, including one that served as the basis for his portrait on the five dollar bill. Lincoln asserted that Brady’s work “made me President of the United States.” His other subjects included First Lady Dolley Madison and actor John Wilkes Booth, who subsequently assassinated Lincoln in 1865. **R72/S120**



Mathew Brady, (LOC)

**3. BENJAMIN B. FRENCH (1800–1870)** had ties to 12 administrations and was commissioner of public buildings under three presidents: Franklin Pierce, Abraham Lincoln, and Andrew Johnson. First appointed commissioner in 1853, French resigned from the post in 1855 under pressure from Pierce. He was the chief marshal of Lincoln’s 1861 inauguration, and Lincoln re-installed French as commissioner that September. He worked closely with First Lady Mary Lincoln, and the disclosure of French’s diary entries illuminated many of the inner workings of the Lincoln White House. He oversaw the funeral arrangements for the Lincolns’ son Willie in 1862 and for the president himself in 1865. In addition, he managed the completion of the U.S. Capitol Dome and administered all of D.C.’s public buildings, roads, and bridges. Congress abolished the position of public buildings commissioner on March 14, 1867, after French fell out of favor with some Republicans over his support for President Andrew Johnson. Incidentally, French’s nephew, Daniel Chester French, sculpted the marble, seated statue of Honest Abe for the Lincoln Memorial. **R63/S230**

**4. CHARLES FORBES (c. 1835–1895)** served as a messenger in the Lincoln White House. He accompanied the Lincolns to Ford’s Theatre on the night of April 14, 1865. Actor John Wilkes Booth approached Forbes, who was seated outside the presidential box, and handed him a letter or a calling card. The patrolman assigned to guard the box, John F. Parker, was absent from his post. In Parker’s stead, Forbes let Booth enter. Mary Lincoln reportedly held Forbes responsible for the death of her husband, while Forbes lodged a formal complaint against Parker, who was acquitted of any poor conduct. **R34/S76a**



Charles Forbes Courtesy of Picture History

**5. TYRONE GAYLE (1987–2018)** began his career working as a driver and body man for U.S. Senator Tim Kaine. Gayle joined the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee as a spokesperson in the 2014 midterm elections. During the 2016 presidential campaign, Gayle served as a spokesperson for Hillary Clinton. When Clinton was selecting a running mate for vice president, Gayle vouched for Kaine, whom she ultimately selected. At the time of his death from colon cancer, Gayle was working as the Washington press secretary for then-Senator Kamala Harris. She was elected vice president two years later. **R12/S167**

**6. CDR THOMAS R. GEDNEY (1799–1857)** assisted in subduing Richard Lawrence, a house painter who attacked President Andrew Jackson on January 30, 1835. Gedney and Representative David Crockett lunged at and grabbed Lawrence after his pistols, aimed at the president, misfired. It was the first assassination attempt toward a sitting U.S.



The Attempted Assassination of the President (1835), (LOC)

president. Gedney is buried mere yards north of **Warren R. Davis (R30/S66)**, the congressman whose Capitol memorial service Jackson was leaving when Lawrence assailed him. Gedney was later a key figure in *United States v. The Amistad* (1841), claiming salvage rights after the vessel he commanded captured the Spanish schooner and slave ship *La Amistad*. The illegally enslaved Mendi Africans aboard *La Amistad* whose freedom was at the center of the case were defended before the Supreme Court by former President John Quincy Adams. The Supreme Court ruled 7-1 in favor of the Mendi people. Associate Justice **Philip Pendleton Barbour (R57/S144)** died during Adams’s oral arguments. **R28/S17**



David Herold (1861) by Mathew Brady,

**7. DAVID HEROLD (1842–1865)** was one of four co-conspirators sentenced to death for his role in the Lincoln assassination. On April 14, 1865, Herold stood guard outside the home of Secretary of State William Seward, one of the plot’s other targets. Herold’s compatriot Lewis Powell failed in his murder attempt of Seward, and Herold left him behind. He joined John Wilkes Booth, who fatally shot Lincoln that night, and the two fled into the surrounding countryside. Herold’s knowledge of the local land allowed the fugitives to avoid justice for twelve days before soldiers cornered Booth and Herold in a Virginia barn. Booth was killed, and Herold surrendered. After he was hanged on July 7th, Herold’s remains were buried next to the gallows at the Washington Arsenal. In 1869, his family was given permission to claim his body. They reburied Herold in an unmarked grave in their family plot. **R46/S44**

**8. HORATIO KING (1811–1897)** joined the post office department in 1839 as a clerk. This Mainer rose to serve as postmaster general in James Buchanan’s cabinet from February to March 1861. **R53/S78**

**9. KAREN DIANE KING (1941–1990)** served as an administrative officer in Richard Nixon’s White House from 1971 to 1973. She worked on Secretary of State Henry Kissinger’s staff from 1974 to 1975. **R62/S115b**

**10. TOBIAS LEAR (1762–1816)** was the personal secretary to George Washington from 1786 until the president’s death in 1799. The details of Washington’s final illness, including his last words of “‘Tis well,” were preserved in Lear’s diary. **R28/S14**

**11. BELVA LOCKWOOD (1830–1917)** was nominated for president of the United States in 1884 and in 1888 by the National Equal Rights Party. She once declared, “I cannot vote, but I can be voted for.” She hoped her campaign would galvanize support for women’s suffrage. She became the first woman to be listed on a presidential ballot, achieving this in nine states in 1884. Though unable to arrange a debate between herself and major party candidates Grover Cleveland and James G. Blaine, Lockwood garnered 4,100 votes. **R78/S296**



Belva Lockwood (c.1880) by Mathew Brady, (LOC)

**12. Robert Mills (1781–1855)** studied as a pupil of James Hoban, the architect of the White House. Mills submitted the design chosen for D.C.’s Washington Monument in 1836. The finished project omitted most of the features Mills planned. Construction began in 1848 but stalled in 1854 due to lack of funds. The obelisk was not completed until 1884, three decades after Mills died. He also designed an earlier monument in honor of George Washington, which is located in Baltimore, Maryland. **R35/S111**

**13. Robert A. Mosbacher (1927–2010)** worked as the head fundraising operative for George H.W. Bush’s senatorial campaign in 1970. He filled the same role during Bush’s unsuccessful presidential bid in 1980 and his victory in 1988. Mosbacher then served as Bush’s secretary of commerce from 1989 to 1992 and played a substantive role in the creation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). **R33/S19**



Robert A. Mosbacher