

**13. MATHEW BRADY (1822–1896)** is known as the father of photojournalism. His daguerreotypes vividly recorded 19th century personalities and scenes of the Civil War. Brady and his team traveled to numerous Civil War battlefields, bringing images of war to the American public for the first time. The engraving of Abraham Lincoln on the five-dollar bill is made from his photographic portrait. Despite his prolific success, he struggled financially after the war when the federal government declined to buy his photographic plates. **R72/S120**



Mathew Brady,  
Library of Congress



**14. Mary Martha Corinne Morrison Claiborne “COKIE” BOGGS ROBERTS (1943 – 2019)** was an American journalist and bestselling author. Her career included decades as a political reporter and analyst for National Public Radio and ABC News, with prominent positions on *Morning Edition*, *The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour*, *World News Tonight*, and *This Week*. **R53/121B**

Cokie Roberts

**15. THE PUBLIC VAULT** was built in 1835 for \$5,000 and repaired in 2005 at a cost of \$35,000. Congress had it built to serve as a temporary space to house 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. The Public Vault fell out of use in the 1930s.



John Quincy Adams



Dolley Madison

By Hudson and Elwell at the National Portrait Gallery



**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*  
**INTRODUCTORY**

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.

In 1790, Congress established the District of Columbia as the center of the nation, bringing prominent citizens from across the country to the banks of the Potomac River. Along with the presidents, congressmen, and justices came builders, military leaders and merchants—and their families—to build the Federal Government and its new capital. A suitable burial ground within reasonable proximity to the community was soon in order, bringing about Washington Parish Burial Ground, established by private citizens in 1807. The individuals interred at Congressional come from many walks of life and create an exciting tapestry of American heritage: architects and builders, musicians and explorers, pioneers and diplomats, and veterans of every war.

This INTRODUCTORY TOUR highlights just a few of the over 65,000 people buried in Congressional Cemetery. As you embark on the trail of 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.



Congressional Cenotaph



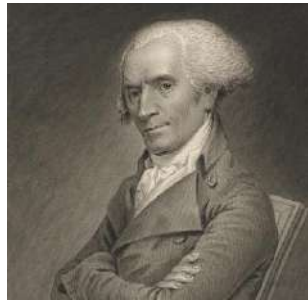
The following are numbered to correspond with the map on the back. Please also refer to the Range (R) and Site (S) grid numbers to help locate each grave site.

**1. COMMODORE THOMAS TINGEY (1750–1829)** served in the British Navy before commanding merchant trade vessels in the West Indies. He immigrated to the North American Colonies around the outbreak of the American Revolution. In 1798, he officially joined the new U.S. Navy, taking command of the 24-gun *Ganges*. In 1800, he was appointed to lay out and command the new Washington Navy Yard, a post he held until his death in 1829. When the British invaded the capital in August of 1814, TingeY was the last officer to leave the city, setting the Navy Yard afire on the way out, and he was the first officer to return to the smoldering ruins. A public service-minded gentleman, TingeY served on the first public school board, Vestry of Christ Church, and the board of the Washington Parish Burial Ground (future Congressional Cemetery). **R57/S1**

**2. ELBRIDGE GERRY**

**(1744–1814)** served as James Madison’s second vice president from 1813 until his death and is the only signer of the Declaration of Independence buried in D.C. Born into a prominent merchant family in Marblehead, MA, his discontent with oppressive British taxation led him to participate in the revolutionary Committees of Correspondence and Continental Congresses before Independence was won. After the Revolutionary War, he was governor of Massachusetts when a redistricting bill became the butt of political jokes because a major district looked like a salamander, thus bringing “Gerrymander” into the political lexicon. He also stands as one of just three individuals who attended the Constitutional Convention yet refused to sign a resolution supporting its adoption. **R29/S9**

**3. CENOTAPHS** Although the term cenotaph means “empty tomb,” about 80 congressmen are buried beneath the 171 unusual Aquia Creek sandstone memorials, which were erected to honor congressmen and senators who died in office. The practice gave Congressional Cemetery its name, but ended around 1877 when Rep. George F. Hoar claimed the sight of them “gave new meaning to the horror of death.”



Elbridge Gerry,  
National Portrait Gallery

**4. WILLIAM THORNTON (1761–1828)** was a physician, but is better remembered for his architectural work. He won the competition for designing the U.S. Capitol in 1793. He also designed the Octagon House, Tudor Place, and Woodlawn. He received a gold medal for outlining a method of teaching the deaf to speak. His talents as a painter, novelist, and writer, coupled with his social graces and enthusiasm for horse racing, placed him in the center of Washington social life. **R33/S39**



Dr. William Thornton,  
Architect of the Capitol

**5. PUSH-MA-TA-HA (c. 1764–1824)** led the Choctaw Nation during the War of 1812, fighting as an American ally. His warriors served alongside General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans. A skilled fighter and experienced diplomat, he was widely respected by Americans, receiving an honorary appointment of Brigadier General in the U.S. Army. He traveled with a delegation of Choctaw leaders to Washington in 1824 to resolve disputes arising from settler claims to Choctaw lands. Shortly after his arrival, he died from contracting croup. His military funeral stretched a full mile, with thousands in the procession and others lining the way to his resting place. The guns from Capitol Hill thundered the tribute he had requested, “that the big guns be fired over me.” **R31/S41**



Push-Ma-Ta-Ha (1824)  
National Portrait Gallery

**6. J. EDGAR HOOVER (1895–1972)** served as the first director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He lived his entire life in D.C., earning his law degree at George Washington University night school. He joined the Department of Justice in 1917 and rose to the Director’s office at the age of 29. He reformed the FBI by removing political appointees and re-instituting legal and/or accounting backgrounds for agents. He professionalized federal crimefighting, establishing the first government operated forensics lab and instituting centralized databases. Hoover led the 1940s domestic security efforts against Nazi infiltration and against Communist



J. Edgar Hoover (1924)  
George Grantham Rainn Collection

suspects in the 1950s. He instituted the FBI’s 10 Most Wanted list in 1950. A controversial figure due to his racist beliefs and political dogmatism, he exerted an unprecedented degree of influence as a civil servant on the Federal Government. **R20/S117**

**7. TAZA (Tahzay) (1842–1876)** son of Apache Chief Cochise, was brought to Washington in 1876 along with 22 others of his tribe by an Indian agent.. To pay their way, they danced and were exhibited as side shows. Taza was fatally stricken with pneumonia. His silver-handled coffin was drawn to the cemetery in a “glass coach,” and a two-hour service gave him the recognition he deserved as Chief of his tribe. The 1954 film *Taza, Son of Cochise* stars white actor Rock Hudson as Taza. This marker was placed in 1971 by the American Indian Society of Washington; the sculpture is based on an 1886 photograph of Naiche, mistakenly believed to be Taza. **R2/S125**

**8. MARION BARRY (1936-2014)** was elected as the mayor of Washington, D.C. four times in: 1978, 1982, 1986, and 1994. Known as D.C.’s “Major for Life,” his tenure included both celebrated achievements and political scandals. Barry also served in various positions on the D.C. Council for fifteen years. Before he moved to Washington, D.C. in 1965, Barry presided over the Lemoyne College chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and was the first national chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). **R20/S191**



Marion Barry

**9. ANNE ROYALL (1769–1854)** is generally considered the nation’s first female newspaper journalist. She married William Royall in 1797. Upon his death in 1812, his family claimed his will was a forgery and succeeded in having it annulled. Left nearly penniless, she turned to writing to make a living and came to Washington to fight for her husband’s veteran’s pension. She is reputed to have acquired an interview with President John Quincy Adams by sitting on his clothes while the president bathed in the Potomac River, a likely apocryphal account. Nevertheless, her unflinching aggressive reporting earned her many enemies in Washington, leading to a trial on the charge of “common scold.” **R26/S194**

**10. BELVA LOCKWOOD (1830–1917)** was nominated for president of the United States in 1884 by the National



Belva Lockwood (c.1880),  
by Mathew Brady

Equal Rights Party. Even though women did not have voting rights, she received 4,000 votes. Widowed in 1853, she was determined to attend college and graduated at age 27. Despite her fine academic rating and ten years in the teaching profession, two law schools denied her applications for fear that a 40-year-old woman would “distract the other students.” The vice chancellor gave her private instruction, but the faculty withheld her diploma until President Ulysses S. Grant intervened on her behalf. Barred from arguing before the Supreme Court based on “custom,” she successfully drew up legislation to allow women to practice in that court. She practiced law for 43 years, passing away three years before women won the right to vote. **R78/S296**



J.P. Sousa (1900)  
Library of Congress

**11. JOHN PHILIP SOUSA (1854–1932)** was born in SE Washington, D.C. where his father was a musician in the Marine Band. Naturally talented, he enrolled in a private conservatory of music, where he studied piano and other instruments. At the age of 13, he tried to join a travelling circus band, but his father enlisted him in the Marine Band as an apprentice instead. And at the age of 25, the Marines appointed Sousa as the Band’s Director, a post he held for 12 years. Later, he organized his own band and toured the U.S. and Europe. Sousa composed the official song of the Marine Corps, “Semper Fidelis” and “The Stars and Stripes Forever,” the official march of the United States. He produced numerous comic operas, novels, waltzes, songs and symphonic poems. His many marching band pieces earned him the title “March King.” **R77/S163 SOUTH**

**12. ARSENAL MONUMENT** memorializes the 21 women killed on June 17, 1864 at the Washington Arsenal when fireworks left in the sun to dry ignited, causing the exposed gunpowder that the women were using to fill cartridges to explode. The cortege to the cemetery was led by President Abraham Lincoln, a band, 90 pallbearers and 2,000 mourners. Local sculptor Lot Flannery created the 25-foot memorial, the tallest in the cemetery. Of the 21 fatalities, 17 rest at Congressional. **R97/S142**