

FDR Memorial Work Begins

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

The enormous granite complex will be on West Basin Drive near the southern edge of the Tidal Basin. The memorial, designed by San Francisco landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, will comprise four "rooms," one for each of [Franklin Delano Roosevelt]'s terms in office. Features include high ceilings, fountains, and sculptures.

FULL TEXT

Construction officially began last week on the long-awaited memorial to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, amid a campaign for private contributions to help finance the \$52.5 million project.

The enormous granite complex will be on West Basin Drive near the southern edge of the Tidal Basin. The memorial, designed by San Francisco landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, will comprise four "rooms," one for each of Roosevelt's terms in office. Features include high ceilings, fountains, and sculptures.

The memorial to the nation's 32nd president is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 1996, according to National Park Service officials. Most of the preliminary construction work has been completed at the 7.5-acre site, which is close to the Jefferson and Lincoln memorials and the Washington Monument.

Ohio Drive has been rebuilt to accommodate two-way traffic, and West Basin Drive has been closed, according to National Park Service officials. Three public parking lots have been constructed near the 14th Street Bridge to make up for the loss of parallel parking because of road closings. Nine ball fields near the site have been reconfigured and resodded. When the construction is complete, there will be a net loss of 22 parking spaces and one ball field.

Congress, in appropriating \$42.5 million for the memorial, required that \$10 million of the cost be paid by private donations. Contributions can be mailed to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission, Department 0611, Washington, D.C. 20073-0611.

Illustration

Map, Dave Cook

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