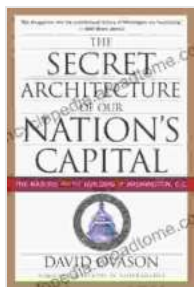


# Unveiling the Masonic Secrets Behind the Birth of Washington, D.C.

Nestled on the banks of the Potomac River, Washington, D.C., stands as a testament to the vision of a nation's founders. Yet, beyond its iconic landmarks and political significance, the city holds a hidden layer of history, woven with the enigmatic threads of Freemasonry.

## Piercing the Veil of Freemasonry

Freemasonry, a fraternal organization shrouded in mystery and intrigue, has played a profound role in shaping the fabric of American society. The founding fathers, including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson, were prominent Freemasons. Their beliefs and symbolism permeated the design and layout of Washington, D.C.



## The Secret Architecture Of Our Nation's Capital: The Masons and the Building of Washington, D.C.

by David Ovason

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 10733 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 528 pages



## The Master Plan of Pierre L'Enfant

In 1791, George Washington commissioned French engineer Pierre Charles L'Enfant to design the plan for the new federal city. L'Enfant, a Freemason himself, infused the city with Masonic symbolism. The city's grid-like streets, radial avenues, and central parks echoed the principles of Masonic geometry.



Pierre L'Enfant's plan for Washington, D.C., with its grid-like streets and radial avenues.

### **The Masonic Triad: Capitol, White House, Monument**

A striking feature of L'Enfant's design is the alignment of three key landmarks: the Capitol, the White House, and the Washington Monument. This alignment forms a Masonic triad, representing the three pillars of government: the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches.



The Masonic triad of the Capitol, White House, and Washington Monument.

### **Architectural Enigma: Capitol Building**

The Capitol Building, the seat of the U.S. Congress, is a masterpiece of Masonic architecture. Its cornerstone was laid on September 18, 1793—a date considered significant by Freemasons as it marked the anniversary of the founding of their first Grand Lodge in America.

Throughout the Capitol, Masonic symbols abound. A carved keystone above the building's main entrance depicts the Masonic emblem of the all-

seeing eye. The building's rotunda is adorned with eight caryatids, each representing a different virtue, reflecting the Masonic values of morality, equality, and brotherhood.



The Capitol Building, with its Masonic symbols, including the all-seeing eye and caryatids.

### **Symbolic Landscape: Washington Monument**

Rising above the city like a towering obelisk, the Washington Monument is another symbol steeped in Masonic lore. The monument's height of 555 feet, 5 inches corresponds to the number of delegates attending the 1787 Constitutional Convention, a gathering attended by many Freemasons.

The monument's capstone, a gleaming white pyramid, represents the Great Pyramid of Giza, a structure believed by Freemasons to hold profound architectural and spiritual significance.



The Washington Monument, with its Masonic symbolism, including its height and capstone.

### **Legacy of a Secret Society**

The influence of Freemasonry on Washington, D.C., extends beyond its physical structures. The city's culture and traditions bear the imprint of the

organization's values. Masonic lodges have played a prominent role in the city's social and charitable life, contributing to its development and prosperity.

To this day, Masonic symbols can be found throughout the city, from the Masonic Square and Compasses on the District of Columbia flag to the Freemasons' Hall on 9th Street NW. These symbols serve as a testament to the enduring legacy of the secret society that helped shape the birth of the nation's capital.

### **Delving Deeper: Book Recommendation**

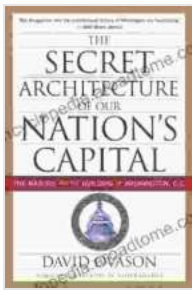
For an in-depth exploration of the Masonic secrets woven into Washington, D.C., delve into the captivating read:

#### **The Masons and the Building of Washington**

By renowned historian and Masonic scholar Jeffrey S. Cramer

Discover the hidden symbols, architectural marvels, and intriguing connections that reveal the profound influence of Freemasonry on the city's origins, design, and development.

Washington, D.C., is a city where history and mystery intertwine. As we gaze upon its iconic landmarks, it's impossible to ignore the subtle yet pervasive presence of Freemasonry. The secret society's principles, symbols, and architectural vision have left an indelible mark on the nation's capital, creating a city that is not only a seat of power but also a testament to the enduring legacy of a secret society.



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