



80-016 Fort Washington (NR)

Fort Washington Road

Fort Washington

(U.S. Department of the Interior)

Built from 1814–1824, Fort Washington is an enclosed masonry fortification with a drawbridge and a dry moat; the walls, with a stone base and brick superstructure, rise 60 feet above a V-shaped water battery. After the original fort on the site was destroyed during the War of 1812, the present fort was erected. The fort was named after George Washington, who selected the site as one favorable to the erection of a fortification to protect the new capital city. It was designed by Pierre L'Enfant and completed by W. K. Armistead. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1966, it is now operated by the National Park Service as a museum and park.