



LARRY HOGAN  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

July 30, 2020

The Honorable David Bernhardt  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Bernhardt,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the July 3, 2020 Executive Order (EO) on Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes. I am happy to see that the Task Force you are leading will provide options to remember and recognize our important national heroes.

I am pleased to share the following information and recommendations in response to your three questions regarding establishing a National Garden.

- 1. Are there locations of natural beauty within your State that would serve as a reputable location for these monuments, statues, and the National Garden of American Heroes? Please list and describe any such locations consistent with the EO.*

Oxon Cove Park is a National Historic District operated by the National Park Service in Oxon Hill, Maryland (Prince George's County). It is comprised of approximately 289 acres along the Potomac River just 12 miles from Washington, DC and just across the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge from Alexandria, Virginia.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal features a 184.5-mile trail that extends from Georgetown in Washington, DC to Cumberland, Maryland (Allegany County). It encompasses approximately 20,000 acres of primarily riparian lands and includes more than 1,300 historic structures. The canal is managed by the National Park Service.

Clara Barton National Historic Site is a 9-acre historic site in the National Park Service portfolio. It is the first national historic site dedicated to recognizing the accomplishments of a woman. Located in Glen Echo, Maryland (Montgomery County), it is approximately 2 miles from Washington, DC.

- 2. Are there any statues or monuments the State can donate or loan to this effort that will honor our Nation's heroes? Please list and describe any such statues or monuments consistent with the EO.*

The Maryland Historical Trust conferred with the Maryland State Archives regarding the availability of such statues and monuments. Unfortunately, the State of Maryland does not have within its current collections any monuments or statues to donate or loan.

3. *In addition to the 31 individuals listed in the EO, are there any other American heroes who should be recognized in the National Garden of American Heroes? Please list and describe any such individuals consistent with the EO.*

- Benjamin Banneker - Maryland native; surveyor and astronomer; appointed by President George Washington to survey our nation's capital; advocated for racial equality as illustrated by his correspondence with Thomas Jefferson.
- Josiah Henson - Maryland native; author, minister and abolitionist; he is believed to have inspired the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin.
- Benjamin Oliver Davis, Jr. - Born in Washington, DC, he was an Air Force general and commander of the Tuskegee Airmen in World War II; he also became the second African-American general officer in the U.S. Air Force.
- George Alexander Hackett - A prominent Marylander who served as a steward on the U.S.S. Constitution and a captain of an all African-American military regiment; co-founded the Chesapeake Marine Railway and Drydock Company, with Isaac Myers; a member of the Republican Party and led the fight against legislation in 1860 that would have deported freed African Americans from Maryland.
- Isaac Myers - Maryland native who led the African-American trade union movement; he served as president of the Colored National Labor Union and was succeeded in that position by Frederick Douglass; when many African-Americans lost their jobs he proposed the Chesapeake Marine Railway and Dry Dock Company, which employed 300 African-American workers; he later became the first African-American postal inspector serving under President Ulysses S. Grant and Postmaster General John Creswell, an abolitionist.
- Anna Ella Carroll - Born in Pocomoke, Maryland, she was an adviser to President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War; she wrote pamphlets and articles criticizing slavery and worked to keep Maryland in the Union; her great grandfather was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and her father was Governor of Maryland in 1830 and 1831.
- Rachel Carson - While she was born in Pennsylvania, she became a Maryland resident; she authored the book *Silent Spring*, which led to a nationwide ban on dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane and other pesticides - a significant environmental achievement that we still benefit from today, including the rebounding of Bald Eagle populations.

- Francis Scott Key - Born in Frederick; wrote the "Star-Spangled Banner," our National Anthem during the bombardment of Baltimore in 1814; penned the phrase "In God We Trust," which is used on the U.S. currency.
- Johns Hopkins - Born in Anne Arundel County, he was a philanthropist and financier; before his death he bequeathed \$7 million to found a free hospital, now Johns Hopkins Hospital and Johns Hopkins University, both located in Baltimore.
- Thurgood Marshall - Born in Baltimore, he became the first African-American Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; in 1965, President Lyndon Johnson appointed him U.S. Solicitor General and two years later, he was appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court; the Baltimore Washington International Airport was renamed the "Thurgood Marshall Baltimore Washington International Airport" by Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich in 2005.

Thank you again for considering Maryland while carrying out the Executive Order on Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please contact my Director of Federal Relations, Tiffany Waddell at [tiffany.waddell@maryland.gov](mailto:tiffany.waddell@maryland.gov) or 443-433-6816.

Sincerely,



Larry Hogan  
Governor