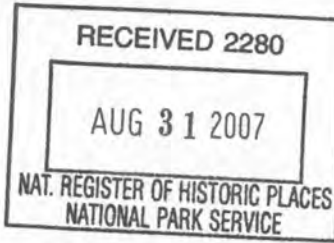


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



1059

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word process, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name General Jose de San Martin Memorial  
other names \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Reservation 106, Virginia Ave. and 20<sup>th</sup> St., N.W.  not for publication  
city or town Washington  vicinity  
state D.C. code DC county n/a code 001 zip 20240

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Joe Wallis Acting F.P.O. 8/28/07  
Signature of certifying office/Title Date  
National Park Service  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

DAVID MALONEY, ACTING SHPO 2-27-2007  
Signature of certifying office/Title Date  
DC HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
  - Determined not eligible for the National Register.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrews Date of Action 10/12/2007

General Jose de San Martin Memorial

Washington, D.C.

Name of Property

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- Private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
|              |                 | buildings  |
|              |                 | sites      |
|              |                 | structures |
| 1            |                 | objects    |
| 1            | 0               | Total      |

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Memorials in Washington, D.C.

**number of contributing resource previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function of Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION and CULTURE: work of art

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION and CULTURE: work of art

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVAL: Neoclassicism

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other

Bronze, Concrete

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

General Jose de San Martin Memorial

Name of Property

Washington, DC

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

### DESCRIPTION

The *General José de San Martín Memorial* is a bronze, over lifesize, equestrian statue on a concrete pedestal located in Reservation 106 at the intersection of Virginia Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. The statue is a copy of a late-nineteenth-century work created by the French sculptor Augustin-Alexandre Dumont that is located in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The bronze sculpture (not the base) is representative of neoclassicism.

San Martín wears formal military dress and a ceremonial hat. His right arm extends forward with the index finger pointing. The left hand holds the reins of the rearing horse. Ornamental details include braided epaulets, a sash with tassels, and a curved saber. The horse's arched neck and large sweeping tail function to balance the sculpture.

When the statue was originally erected in 1925 in Judiciary Square (400 block of F Street, N.W.) it was set on a large granite base featuring bold, simple moldings and bronze reliefs inset in the shaft of the pedestal. The monument was disassembled in 1970 because of Metro construction.

In 1976, the statue was relocated to Virginia Avenue at 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. and set in a plaza designed by the local landscape architecture firm T.D. Donovan and Associates. The statue, facing south, was erected on a tall, smooth concrete pedestal with tapering sides; the bas-reliefs were not reincorporated. The circular plaza was comprised of small, square, quarry-faced granite pavers set in intersecting concentric rings. A curvilinear, double-sided concrete bench was constructed near the perimeter of the southern half of the plaza and a long concrete kneewall was erected at the northern end of the plaza. The wall incorporated bronze lettering that describes the general as the founder of Argentine independence and the liberator of Chile and Peru. The description ends with the following sentence, "His name, like Washington's, represents the American ideal of democracy, justice, and liberty." Two bronze plaques were set in the small granite circular step around the concrete pedestal; both commemorate occasions when former Presidents of Argentina, Raul Alfonsín (1985) and Dr. Carlos Saul Menem (1991), visited the United States.

Despite the loss of the original pedestal with bronze bas-reliefs, the *General José de San Martín Memorial* maintains integrity; the granite blocks were moved to a National Park Service storage area associated with the George Washington Memorial Parkway and the bas-reliefs were given to the Argentine Embassy.

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property as yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

#### Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Art

#### Period of Significance

1924

#### Significant Dates

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

#### Cultural Affiliation

n/a

#### Architect/Builder

Augustine-Alexandre Dumont

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

#### Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

NPS, National Capital Region Headquarters

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

General Jose de San Martin Memorial

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

### SIGNIFICANCE

The *General José de San Martín Memorial* is significant as the first gift of sculpture to Washington, D.C. from a foreign nation. It is a copy, cast in 1924, after the original by Augustin-Alexandre Dumont located in Buenos Aires. An Act of Congress approved June 7, 1924 (43 Stat. 667) authorized its erection on public grounds. It was dedicated on October 28, 1925 in Judiciary Square (along F Street); it was moved to Virginia Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street in 1976. The statue is significant under Criterion C in the area of Art.

José de San Martín (1778-1850) was born in Yapeyu, Argentina to Spanish parents. His father, a professional soldier, moved the family back to Spain when José was six years old. As a young man, José joined the Spanish Murica infantry regiment and served as a cadet for more than twenty years. He fought the Moors in Oran (1791), the British in 1798—held as a prisoner of war for more than a year, and the Portuguese in the War of the Oranges (1801). He fought with the Seville junta against Napoleon between 1808 and 1811; he became a colonel in 1808. Thereafter, he resigned to go to England to fight (as an ally) against the French. In London, he met some South Americans and returned with them to Buenos Aires in 1812.

In Argentina, he transformed volunteer soldiers into a disciplined army. After liberating the country from Spain, he led troops across the Andes and set Chile free. Thereafter, he sought to liberate Peru, although he took possession of Lima he needed Simon Bolivar's assistance to solidify Peru's independence. Following an unsuccessful meeting with Bolivar, San Martín returned to Buenos Aires and resigned his command. The British Government offered San Martín the opportunity to lead the Belgian Army, which at that time was struggling for independence against the Dutch. Consequently, San Martín moved to Belgium, but then changed his mind about the command. Thereafter, he went into self-imposed exile in France, where he ultimately died impoverished.

Augustin-Alexandre Dumont (1801-1884), a native of Paris, was a fifth generation sculptor. He studied at the *École des Beaux-Arts* and was the winner of the school's first prize in 1823. Thirty years later, he became a teacher at the *École*. His sculpture enhanced various significant buildings around Paris, including *Sainte Cécile* at the Church of the Madeline, *Justice* at the Chamber of Deputies, and *The Genius of Liberty* for the top of the July Column in the Place de la Bastille.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

General Jose de San Martin Memorial

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 1

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Goode, James. *The Outdoor Sculpture of Washington, D.C.* Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1974.

[www.gosouthamerica.about.com](http://www.gosouthamerica.about.com)

General Jose de San Martin Memorial  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

|   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 1 | <table border="1"><tr><td>1</td><td>8</td></tr></table><br>Zone | 1 | 8 | <table border="1"><tr><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>0</td><td>9</td></tr></table><br>Easting | 3 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 0   | 9 | <table border="1"><tr><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>7</td><td>0</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr></table><br>Northing | 4 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 9   | 6 | 3 | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table><br>Zone           |  |  | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><br>Easting |  |   |  |  | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><br>Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 8   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | 2   | 2 | 6 | 0  | 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | 3   | 0 | 7 | 0  | 9 | 6 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 2 | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>           |   |   | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>                                    |   |   |   |   | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> |   |   |   |   |   |   | 4 | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> |   |   | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> |  |  |  |  | <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

#### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eve L. Barsoum, Historian

organization National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers date May 2003

street & number 444 North Capitol Street, N.W. telephone 202.354.1822

city or town Washington state D.C. zip code 20001

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name U.S. Government, administered by the NPS, NCR, National Mall & Memorial Parks

street & number 900 Ohio Drive, S.W. telephone 202.485.9686

city or town Washington state D.C. zip code 20242

**Paperwork Reduction Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

General Jose de San Martin Memorial

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 10 Page 2

## Verbal Boundary Description

The *General José de San Martín Memorial* is located in Reservation 106 at the northwest corner of the intersection of Virginia Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. The boundary of the object includes the land occupied by the monument.

## Boundary Justification

The boundary of the *General José de San Martín Memorial* has been associated with the object since 1976 when the National Park Service decided to locate South American heroes along Virginia Avenue. The present boundary is justifiable as the object remained visible in an appropriate public space.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY de San Martin, General Jose, Memorial  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Memorials in Washington, D.C.  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, District of Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 8/31/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/17/07  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/02/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/14/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07001059

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER:  PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 10/12/2007 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept  
REVIEWER Patrick Andrus DISCIPLINE Historian  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 10/12/2007

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



УСЕРБОВ  
ГЕНЕРАЛЪТЪ И СЪНЪТО

GEN. JOSE DE SAN MARTIN  
MEMORIAL

WASHINGTON, DC

EVE BARSOUM

FEB 2004

NCR

FACING NORTHWEST

1 of 1

PENN 18 ST<No. 8 >815  
645 28\*\* N N N-8-62 2(R24)

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500992