

## Evolution of the Mall's Growth



In the **L'Enfant Plan of 1791** (above left), the Mall (in yellow and red) extended from the U.S. Capitol to the Washington Monument at what was, at the time, the banks of the Potomac River. The 400-foot-wide tree-lined "Grand Avenue" connected, physically and symbolically, the Capitol to the Washington Monument and the White House and President's Park. The kite-shaped **McMillan Plan of 1901-1902** (above right) extended the Mall westward and southward over former riverbeds to create new public parkland and sites for the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials.



Congress amended the **Commemorative Works Act in 2003** (Title II of P.L. 108-26) and imposed a **moratorium** in the "Reserve" portion of the Mall (outlined in red in the official map, above left). The Reserve includes the White House, Lincoln Memorial, and Jefferson Memorial, areas under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, but not other parts of the Mall – the Capitol or the Smithsonian museums and lands – outside NPS control. Future memorials or museums will be permitted in Area I, adjacent to the Mall, or Area II, the rest of the city.

**But the Mall can also continue to evolve and grow beyond its current boundaries**, as it did 100 years ago. The McMillan Plan expanded the L'Enfant Mall (in pink, above right) to more than double its size (orange). Today, contiguous land (green) could be considered for an extended "Mall": the area encompassed in "Area I;" the South Capitol Street corridor already under study for revitalization by the National Capital Planning Commission; and East Potomac Park and Haines Point southeast of the Jefferson Memorial