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# Office of Communications News Release

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## National Park Service Explores Methods to Make Replica of Washington Monument Capstone Visible From All Angles

Washington, D.C. – In recent days, it has been brought to the National Park Service’s attention that a replica aluminum capstone representing the top of the Washington Monument that is on display on the Monument’s 490-foot level has not been fully visible to the public.

As a result, the National Park Service is exploring methods to make the replica capstone visually accessible from all angles so that all visitors may be able to see and read both the replica capstone and any related interpretive material in display cases that would be situated near the replica capstone.

Currently, the replica capstone is oriented in a display case on the 490-foot level to mirror the position of the actual aluminum capstone sitting outside and on top of the 555-foot, 1/8-inch obelisk. In its current position, this replica aluminum capstone is visible on three sides, with the fourth side currently not visible to visitors.

Additionally, the National Park Service will provide new interpretive information that will feature all of the capstone inscriptions in full, giving visitors the opportunity to fully understand the display.

“We appreciate this information being brought to our attention and we agree that the public should be able to learn as much as possible about the monument,” said National Mall & Memorial Parks Superintendent Peggy O’Dell. “This was clearly an oversight in this exhibit and we will take measures so all visitors are able to see this exhibit.”

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