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American Memorial to Six Million Jews of Europe

The ***American Memorial to Six Million Jews of Europe***, also referred to as the ***Warsaw Ghetto Memorial***, is a public Holocaust memorial situated at Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Plaza in Riverside Park, within the Upper West Side of Manhattan, New York City.[1][2] It is a monument to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the six million Jews who were murdered in the Holocaust. Dedicated on October 19, 1947, it is one of the first memorials to the Holocaust in the United States.[3][4][5]

History

A memorial to Six Million Jews of Europe was first proposed by Adolph R. Lerner, a Polish Jewish refugee who was a journalist and publisher. He had fled Vienna when the Nazis took over Austria in 1938, going first to France and then to the United States. During 1943 and 1944, he worked at the official Polish news agency in New York, editing bulletins that arrived from the Polish underground. Lerner was vice president of the "U.S. national organization of Polish Jews".[6][7][1][5]

In January 1946 they proposed that an eternal flame be established dedicated to the heroes of the Warsaw ghetto and the six million Jews killed by the Nazis to be the "American Memorial to Six Million Jews of Europe".[8]

Lerner won the support for the idea – but not the particular Design – from the parks commissioner Robert Moses. On May 2, 1947, Lerner received a letter from Moses stating this site had his approval.[8]

On April 27, 1947, "Eternal Light Monument in the City of New York in Memory of Six Million Jews of Europe" was incorporated by Lerner. On May 20, 1947, the name of the organization was changed to "The American Memorial to Six Million Jews of Europe, Inc." Lerner was re-elected president. Then-Mayor William O'Dwyer, the 100th Mayor of New York City, was the Honorary Chairman of the National Committee of Sponsors, and Moses was a member ex-officio.[8]

American Memorial to Six Million Jews of Europe

Warsaw Ghetto Memorial





40.788177°N 73.982325°W

Location	Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Plaza, Riverside Park, Upper West Side, Manhattan, New York City
Type	Public Holocaust memorial
Material	White granite
Dedicated date	October 19, 1947
Dedicated to	The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust