

## **Rumsey Monument Park**

The monument is located on Mill Street and within the Historic District of Shepherdstown. The monument is situated on the cliffs of the Potomac River at Shepherdstown. Looking across the Potomac River is the State of Maryland. Looking upstream is the bend of the Potomac River. Looking downstream is a view of Pack Horse Ford crossing the Potomac River along with the Norfolk and Western Railroad and a view of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

In 1915 the 75 foot monument was constructed of Mount Airy white granite. A concrete foundation was constructed on the cliff along the Potomac River. Atop the column is a granite globe showing the continents of the world. A flight of stairs leads to the bluff and an iron railing enclosed the platform on which the monument stands.

A bronze plaque mounted on one side of the monument recounts how Rumsey “made the first successful application of steam to the practical purposes of navigation.” On the opposite side is another bronze plaque of Rumsey’s boat.

The park is surrounded by a stone wall around the grounds encircling the 2.6 acres.