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PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR THE

SOLDIERS' AND AIRMEN'S HOME NATIONAL CEMETERY

REAL PROPERTY MASTER PLAN

August 2013

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U.S. SOLDIERS' AND AIRMEN'S HOME
NATIONAL CEMETERY
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LEAD AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF ARMY
ARMY NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES
U.S. SOLDIERS' AND AIRMEN'S HOME NATIONAL
CEMETERY

COOPERATING AGENCY: NATIONAL CAPITAL
PLANNING COMMISSION

PREPARED BY:
HNTB - ENGINEERS ARCHITECTS PLANNERS

UNDER CONTRACT TO:
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NORFOLK DISTRICT

DRAFT
Finding of No Significant Impact
for the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Real Property Master Plan

Title of Action

Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC) Real Property Master Plan

Background

SAHNC is located in northwest Washington D.C., adjacent to the Armed Forces Retirement Home and southeast of Rock Creek Church Cemetery. Created in 1861, SAHNC is one of the nation's oldest military cemeteries.

SAHNC is a sub-element, along with Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), of the Army National Military Cemeteries. ANC prepared a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) and the accompanying Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) on behalf of and in cooperation with SAHNC. The RPMP outlines how the cemetery will accommodate future development, sustainment, and operational needs.

In order to implement the projects in the RPMP, SAHNC must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NEPA requires the evaluation and consideration of the environmental impacts prior to taking federal actions. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations [40 CFR Parts 1500-1508], and Environmental Analysis of Army Actions (32 CFR 651), ANC has prepared a Programmatic EA to identify the potential environmental consequences of the projects recommended in the SAHNC RPMP.

Proposed Action and Alternatives

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action includes the following projects recommended in the RPMP:

- Remove north-south roadway and convert area to in-ground interment spaces.
- Replace the chain-link fence around the contractor's materials storage yard with stone or brick walls.
- Rehabilitate the Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house.
- Maintain infrastructure.
 - Rebuild internal roadways and repair sidewalks.
 - Repair main drain line from the Superintendent's Lodge.
 - Repair stormwater pipes.
 - Coordinate with the District of Columbia to repair sidewalk along Harewood Road.

Alternatives Evaluated

The Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternatives were evaluated in detail. Other alternatives were eliminated from detailed evaluation as described in Chapter 2 of the Programmatic EA. The No-Action Alternative represents the cemetery without the implementation of the Proposed Action.

Environmental Effects

Environmental resources potentially affected by the Proposed Action were evaluated and the significance of the potential impact (direct, indirect, and cumulative) to each resource was determined. The following environmental resource categories were considered: land use and sustainability; air quality; noise; topography, soils and geology; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; socioeconomics; traffic and transportation; utilities; solid waste; hazardous materials and waste; and visual and aesthetic resources.

Based on the analyses contained in the Programmatic EA, it is anticipated that the Proposed Action Alternative would result in:

- Minor short-term adverse impacts to air quality, noise, soils, water resources, biological resources, socioeconomics, utilities, solid waste, and hazardous waste due to construction.
- Minor long-term adverse impacts to air quality, water resources and hazardous waste due to the increase in interment area to maintain.
- Minor long-term benefits to sustainability, water resources and biological resources due to the decrease in impervious surface area.
- Continued generation of minor amount of solid waste due to interments.
- Long-term benefits to traffic and transportation as well as utilities due to the proposed infrastructure improvements.
- Long-term benefits to the views within the cemetery due to the replacement of the chain-link fence around the contractor's materials storage yard.
- SAHNC determined that although the development of the RPMP is an undertaking, its preparation does not have the potential to cause adverse effects on historic properties. SAHNC will analyze the potential for adverse effects on historic properties on a case-by-case basis during implementation of the RPMP. Regardless, an initial analysis of the potential for adverse effect was conducted. Initial analysis indicated that the Proposed Action could affect historic resources. Sufficient project information required to complete the Section 106 process was not available. Therefore, SAHNC will complete the Section 106 process prior to implementation of the projects included in the Proposed Action. During project design, SAHNC will continue consultation and endeavor to avoid and minimize impacts. Should impacts be unavoidable, SAHNC, the D.C. Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if appropriate, will consult on proper mitigation, enter into a memorandum of agreement and complete the Section 106 process.

Based on the information currently available, the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the SAHNC RPMP are not anticipated to result in significant impacts to the human and natural environments. As noted in the analysis, the effects on cultural resources will require further project-level NEPA analysis. In the event that future project-specific NEPA analysis reveals direct or indirect impacts, the overall cemetery cumulative effects analysis, taking into account those impacts, will be re-assessed as appropriate.

Public Process

SAHNC initiated coordination early in the development of the RPMP and Programmatic EA by conducting scoping. Scoping notifications were sent to stakeholders to advise them of the Proposed Action and the intent to prepare a Programmatic EA, as well as to request their input. A stakeholder scoping meeting was held on 25 July 2012. Scoping comments are included in Appendix A of the Programmatic EA.

An agency stakeholder meeting was held on 7 December 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to preview the proposed major planning initiatives in the Draft RPMP. Agency stakeholders were encouraged to review the Draft RPMP and provide comments. Comments provided by the agency stakeholders were considered in the development of the RPMP as well as the Programmatic EA.

Interested agencies and members of the public are afforded an opportunity to review the Programmatic EA and the Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and provide comments. The Programmatic EA and Draft FNSI are available for public and agency review for 30 days. All comments received within the specified comment period will be considered prior to signing the Final FNSI.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based on the information and analyses contained in the Programmatic EA as well as the foregoing discussion contained in this Draft FNSI, it is anticipated that implementation of the Proposed Action will not generate significant impacts on the human or natural environment. The Programmatic EA and Draft FNSI will be made available to the public for a 30 day review and comment period. All comments received will be considered. Provided that a determination is made after taking into account all public comments that the Proposed Action will have no significant impact, the FNSI will be signed and the Proposed Action may be implemented. In that event, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of NEPA, will not be required for the Proposed Action.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFRH	Armed Forces Retirement Home - Washington	EA	Environmental Assessment
ANC	Arlington National Cemetery	EISA	Energy Independence and Security Act
ANMC	Army National Military Cemeteries	EO	Executive Order
APE	Area of Potential Effect	EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
AR	Army Regulation	EPACT	Energy Policy Act
Army	Department of the Army	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
BMP	Best Management Practice	FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
CAA	Clean Air Act	FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
CDG	Cemetery Design Guide	FNSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	GBCI	Green Building Certification Institute
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act	HPO	Historic Preservation Officer
CFA	U.S. Commission of Fine Arts	ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	IPaC	Information, Planning and Conservation
CO	Carbon Monoxide	ISWM	Integrated Solid Waste Management
CSO	Combined Sewer Overflow	LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
CT	Census Tract	LRC	Long Range Component
CWA	Clean Water Act	MSL	Mean Sea Level
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act	MWAQC	Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
dBa	A-weighted decibel	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
D.C.	District of Columbia	NACP	Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain
D.C. HPO	District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
DoD	Department of Defense	NCR	National Capital Region
DDOE	District Department of the Environment		
DDOT	District Department of Transportation		
DOT	Department of Transportation		
DPW	Department of Public Works		

NCPC	National Capital Planning Commission	THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
NE	Northeast	TIP	Transportation Improvement Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
NHL	National Historic Landmark	USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act	USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	UST	Underground Storage Tank
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxides	VA	Commonwealth of Virginia
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	VDCR	Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation
NPS	National Park Service	VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service	WHS	Washington Headquarters Services
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places	WIP	Watershed Implementation Plan
NW	Northwest		
O ₃	Ozone		
Pb	Lead		
PM _{2.5}	Particulate Matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns or less		
PM ₁₀	Particulate Matter with a diameter of 10 microns or less		
QA	Quality Assurance		
QC	Quality Control		
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act		
ROI	Region of Influence		
RPMP	Real Property Master Plan		
SAHNC	U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery		
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer		
SIP	State Implementation Plan		
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide		
SRC	Short Range Component		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES.1 Introduction

This Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to evaluate recommended actions in the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC or the cemetery) Real Property Master Plan (RPMP). The Programmatic EA evaluates and considers the environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, as required by Army regulations and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

ES.2 Background

Created in 1861, SAHNC is the Nation's oldest military cemetery. Over 14,000 of our Nation's fallen, including a large number of Civil War veterans, are interred at SAHNC. This military cemetery continues to offer a final resting place for residents of the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington (AFRH), with an average of seven interments per year.¹

SAHNC consists of approximately 16 acres of serene cemetery environment and is located in northwest Washington, D.C., adjacent to the AFRH and southeast of Rock Creek Church Cemetery. The visual character of the cemetery is defined by the ordered grids of simple white headstones interspersed with mature trees. This setting contributes considerably to the iconic image of SAHNC.

ES.3 Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the proposed action is to extend the operational life of SAHNC while honoring the Nation's fallen military heroes and providing accommodations and services to the next of kin and the public that befit a national shrine.

The need for the Proposed Action has several components:

- Add Burial Capacity.
- Maintain the Iconic Image.
- Improve Facilities.
- Maintain Infrastructure.

ES.4 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action consists of the following projects:

- Remove north-south roadway and convert area to an interment area.
- Replace the chain-link fence around the contractor's materials storage yard with stone or brick walls.
- Rehabilitate the Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house.
- Maintain Infrastructure:
 - Rebuild internal roadways and repair sidewalks.
 - Repair main drain line from the Superintendent's Lodge.
 - Repair stormwater pipes.
 - Coordinate with the District of Columbia to repair sidewalk along Harewood Road.

ES.5 Alternatives

Alternatives were identified to address each of the needs for the Proposed Action. The need-specific alternatives were evaluated and screened. The retained alternatives were combined to form the Proposed Action Alternative. As a result, the Proposed Action Alternative includes the projects listed in section ES.4.

Along with the Proposed Action Alternative, the No Action Alternative was retained for environmental analysis. The No Action Alternative represents the cemetery without any of the proposed improvements.

ES.6 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

The Programmatic EA addresses the broad issues and impacts associated with the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives. The Programmatic EA allows for future tiering of subsequent environmental analysis, as more site-specific details are known. Each project resulting from the implementation of the SAHNC Master Plan would be initiated only after environmental review has been completed and any required permits are obtained.

The potential environmental impacts related to the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives are briefly discussed in the following sections.

ES.6.1 Land Use and Sustainability

The No Action Alternative would not affect land use or sustainability.

The Proposed Action Alternative aligns with the SAHNC activity zones, existing local land use and land use plans. Therefore, the

Proposed Action Alternative would not adversely affect land use at or within the vicinity of the cemetery.

The Proposed Action Alternative would enhance sustainability for two reasons. First, all development will be designed in accordance with the Cemetery Design Guide (CDG). The CDG includes sustainability goals to guide the design and construction of future projects. Second, the conversion of the north-south roadway to new interment space would decrease the total impervious surface at SAHNC by approximately 0.2 acres, as compared to previous site conditions.

ES.6.2 Air Quality

The No Action Alternative would not affect air quality.

The Proposed Action Alternative would result in minor changes in vehicular and maintenance activities. However, any changes in emissions from vehicles and maintenance equipment would be insignificant compared to the emission levels already at and around SAHNC.

Construction of the Proposed Action Alternative would result in short-term, minor impacts on air quality due to fugitive dust and construction equipment emissions. Best management practices (BMPs) could be used to minimize construction emissions.

Long and short-term increases in air emissions would be expected to be minor in comparison to the daily traffic air emissions in the area. Accordingly, the impacts to air quality would not be expected to exceed the threshold of significance.

ES.6.3 Noise

The No Action Alternative would ultimately result in a minor reduction in noise. Noise associated with committal services would be absent after the available burial space is exhausted.

The Proposed Action Alternative would result in short-term increases in noise levels during construction activities. Given the level of vehicular noise on surrounding roadways, the distance to residential facilities, and the limits of the D.C. Municipal Noise Control Regulations that SAHNC will follow as a courtesy to the District, the impact of construction noise would be minor.

ES.6.4 Topography, Soils and Geology

The No Action Alternative would not affect topography, soils or geology.

The Proposed Action Alternative does not require substantial re-grading or earthwork at the site. Any changes to topography at SAHNC would be incidental and minor.

Conversion of the north-south roadway to new interment area would temporarily disturb the soil in this area. BMPs for erosion and sediment control would be incorporated into the design to comply with applicable regulations.

Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would be expected to result in a temporary minor increase in soil erosion, an incidental and minor impact on topography and no impact on geology. Accordingly, the effects of the Proposed Action Alternative on topography, soils and geology would not approach the threshold of significance.

ES.6.5 Water Resources

The No Action Alternative does not include the needed infrastructure repairs. Therefore, the stormwater pipes and Superintendent's Lodge drain line would likely continue to deteriorate, thereby causing negative impacts to water quality.

According to available information, the Proposed Action Alternative would not result in direct impacts to surface water bodies, wetlands, or floodplains since these resources are not present in the project area.

Construction may result in temporary increase in erosion and sedimentation. The increase would be minimized by implementing erosion and sediment control measures.

The Proposed Action Alternative would decrease the amount of impervious surface area at SAHNC. In addition, the proposed stormwater system repairs would benefit water quality. Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would be expected to result in positive long-term impacts to water resources.

Negative impacts to water quality may also result with the Proposed Action Alternative because of the increase in area that would require ground maintenance. However, given that the increase in maintained area is less than three percent of the cemetery's total maintained area, the negative impact would be minor. Therefore, the effect of the Proposed Action Alternative on water resources would not approach the threshold of significance.

ES.6.6 Biological Resources

The No Action Alternative would not affect biological resources.

The Proposed Action Alternative would increase vegetation at SAHNC. The conversion of the north-south roadway to new interment space would increase vegetative grass cover. New vegetation will be compatible with the geographic region. The net increase in vegetation would result in a minor positive impact to biological resources.

Existing vegetation may be disturbed or destroyed during construction of the Proposed Action Alternative. Precautions would be implemented to minimize these impacts and avoid any impact to nearby trees and their root systems. In all cases, vegetation would be replaced upon completion of construction projects. Therefore, construction would result in temporary minor impacts on biological resources that would not be expected to exceed the threshold of significance.

ES.6.7 Cultural Resources

The No Action Alternative would not affect cultural resources.

The Proposed Action Alternative was reviewed in accordance with Section 106 process outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Because of this review, SAHNC determined that although the development of the RPMP is an undertaking, its preparation does not have the potential to cause adverse effects on historic properties.

Regardless, an initial analysis of the potential for adverse effect was conducted. Initial analysis indicated that the Proposed Action could affect historic resources. Sufficient project information required to complete the Section 106 process was not available. Therefore, SAHNC will complete the Section 106 process prior to implementation of the projects included in the Proposed Action. During project design, SAHNC will continue consultation and endeavor to avoid and minimize impacts. Should impacts be unavoidable, SAHNC, the D.C. Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if appropriate, will consult on proper mitigation, enter into a memorandum of agreement and complete the Section 106 process

ES.6.8 Socioeconomic Impacts

The No Action Alternative would not affect socioeconomic characteristics.

The Proposed Action Alternative would not affect demographics, income levels, housing availability, businesses, public services demand or employment.

The Proposed Action Alternative may result in short-term construction impacts to a minority community. Due to the proximity of the Clermont Apartments and housing located along Clermont Drive NE, adjacent to the eastern boundary of SAHNC, there is potential for minor short-term construction impacts. The construction crews would, as a courtesy to D.C., work in accordance with D.C. Municipal Noise Control Regulations, which include maximum decibel levels. Accordingly, the temporary increases in noise due to construction activities would not approach the level of significance.

Once implemented, the projects at SAHNC would have no adverse impact on the surrounding residents.

The Proposed Action Alternative would also result in a benefit to the surrounding communities. The proposed repair of sidewalks along the perimeter of SAHNC would improve neighborhood-walking conditions.

ES.6.9 Traffic and Transportation

The No Action Alternative does not include the needed infrastructure repairs. Therefore, the internal roads and sidewalks would continue to deteriorate.

The Proposed Action Alternative would not alter vehicular access to the cemetery because there are no changes to roadways outside of SAHNC. Potential repairs to the sidewalks surrounding the cemetery would result in beneficial impacts to pedestrians walking to SAHNC, as well as improved general pedestrian safety along the sidewalks.

Conversion of the internal north-south roadway to new interment space would alter circulation within the cemetery. As a result, vehicles and pedestrians would be limited to the internal road loop within SAHNC. Little, if any, impact would be expected from the closing of the internal north-south roadway because the vehicle traffic within the cemetery is minimal. Therefore, the effects of the Proposed Action Alternative on traffic and transportation would not approach the threshold of significance.

ES.6.10 Utilities

The No Action Alternative would result in the continued deterioration of stormwater pipes and the Superintendent's Lodge drain line.

The Proposed Action Alternative includes repair of deteriorated utilities. Thus, the Proposed Action Alternative would result in a positive impact to the utilities at the cemetery.

ES.6.11 Solid Waste

The No Action Alternative would ultimately reduce solid waste when the available burial space is exhausted because solid waste would no longer be generated as part of preparing gravesites. However, given that only seven to ten committal services are conducted annually, the ultimate reduction in solid waste would be minimal.

The Proposed Action Alternative allows interments to continue at SAHNC. Given that the number of annual interments is not expected to change, the amount of annual waste generated by future interments would be the same as generated today. Therefore, the related amount of annual solid waste would continue to be minimal.

A temporary increase in solid waste is likely during construction activities. Due to diversion requirements and implementation of waste management plans, the temporary increase in solid waste would not be expected to decrease the diversion rate to below 50 percent. Accordingly, it is not anticipated that the impact of the Proposed Action Alternative would exceed the threshold of significance for solid waste.

ES.6.12 Hazardous Materials and Waste

The No Action Alternative would not affect hazardous materials or waste.

The Proposed Action Alternative would increase the amount of area to maintain due to the added interment area. Maintenance of this area may require additional application of pesticides and herbicides; however, any changes would be insignificant when compared to all cemetery maintenance activities.

As with all construction activities, construction of the Proposed Action Alternative could involve hazardous waste and materials. Since all hazardous materials and waste would be handled and disposed of in accordance with federal law, it is not anticipated that the construction activities would result in impacts to the environment from release of hazardous waste or materials.

Therefore, hazardous materials and waste impacts would not approach the threshold of significance.

ES.6.13 Visual and Aesthetic Resources

The No Action Alternative would not affect visual or aesthetic resources.

The Proposed Action Alternative would result in beneficial impacts to visual and aesthetic resources. Replacing the chain-link storage yard fencing with a more traditional stone or brick wall would benefit the cemetery in terms of both visual appeal and historic connection.

ES.6.14 Summary of Environmental Consequences and Mitigation

The potential environmental consequences related to the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives are summarized in **Table ES.1**. The commitments for the Proposed Action Alternative are summarized in **Table ES.2**. In summary, the Proposed Action Alternative would not be expected to result in a significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impact. As noted in the analysis, the effects on cultural resources will require further project level NEPA analysis. In the event that a future project-specific NEPA analysis reveals direct or indirect impacts, the cumulative effects analysis, taking into account those impacts, will be re-assessed as appropriate.

ES.7 Public and Agency Involvement

SAHNC initiated coordination early in the development of the Master Plan and Programmatic EA. Scoping was conducted with anticipated stakeholders and federal, state and local agencies to advise them of the Proposed Action, the intent to prepare a Programmatic EA, and to solicit input. Responses were received from a few stakeholders. These responses as well as the scoping notifications are included in **Appendix A, Scoping**. Summaries of comments from a stakeholder-scoping meeting, held on 25 July 2012, as well as the attendance sheet and scoping presentation are also included in *Appendix A*.

An agency stakeholder meeting was held on 7 December 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to preview the proposed major planning initiatives in the Draft RPMP. Agency stakeholders were encouraged to

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review the Draft RPMP and provide comments. Comments were considered in the development of the RPMP as well as this Programmatic EA.

Interested agencies and members of the public are afforded an opportunity to review the Programmatic EA and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI). The Programmatic EA and Draft FNSI are available for public and agency review for 30 days. All comments received within the specified comment period will be considered prior to signing the Final FNSI.

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Table ES.1
Summary of Environmental Consequences

Impact Category	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
Land Use & Sustainability	No impact.	No adverse impacts to land use and positive impacts to sustainability.
Air Quality	No impact.	No significant impact. Minor emission increases.
Noise	Ultimately, minor reduction in noise.	No significant impact. Temporary minor noise increases during construction.
Topography, Soils & Geology	No impact.	No significant impact. Temporary minor impact to soils. Long-term incidental and minor impacts to topography. No impact to geology.
Water Resources	Negative impact.	No significant impacts. Temporary minor adverse impacts during construction. Long-term beneficial impacts due to decreased impervious surface. Long-term minor adverse impact due to increased area to maintain.
Biological Resources	No impact.	No significant impacts. Temporary minor adverse impacts to vegetation during construction. Long-term minor positive affects due to increase in vegetation.
Cultural Resources	No impact.	Section 106 resources may be affected. Consultation will be conducted to avoid and minimize impacts, and resolve adverse effects, if any.
Socioeconomic	No impact.	No significant impact. Minor short-term construction impacts to minority community.
Traffic & Transportation	Negative impact.	Positive impacts due to pavement improvements.
Utilities	Negative impact.	Minor short-term impacts during construction. Positive long-term impacts due to repair of utilities.
Solid Waste	Ultimately, minor reduction in solid waste.	No significant impacts. Continued generation of minor amount of solid waste due to interments. Temporary increase in solid waste during construction.
Hazardous Materials & Waste	No impact.	No significant impacts. Minor long and short-term increase in use of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous waste.

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Table ES.1
Summary of Environmental Consequences

Impact Category	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
Visual and Aesthetic Resources	No impact.	Positive impacts to views within the cemetery.

Notes:

Minor Impact /Minimal Impact – the alternative would have little effect on the resource and therefore would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

No significant Impact – the effect of the alternative on the resource would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

Positive Impact – the alternative would have a beneficial effect on the subject resource.

Source: HNTB analysis, 2013.

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Table ES.2
Summary of Commitments

Impact Category	Proposed Action Alternative
Land Use & Sustainability	None.
Air Quality	None.
Noise	None.
Topography, Soils & Geology	None.
Water Resources	None.
Biological Resources	None.
Cultural Resources	Analyze the potential for adverse effects on historic properties on a case-by-case basis during implementation of the RPMP.
Socioeconomic	None.
Traffic & Transportation	None.
Utilities	None.
Solid Waste	None.
Hazardous Materials & Waste	Conduct an environmental site assessment of areas to be disturbed by construction to determine if any ground contamination is present.
Visual and Aesthetic Resources	None.

Source: HNTB analysis, 2013.

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Endnotes

- ¹ HNTB and PWP Landscape Architects, *Real Property Master Plan - Arlington National Cemetery and U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery*, 2013, Appendix A p. 96.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Scoping Summary

Chapter 1:

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

A Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) was developed for the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC or the cemetery). In order to implement the projects in the RPMP, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is required. NEPA requires the evaluation and consideration of the environmental impacts of proposed federal actions. Army regulations require the preparation of NEPA documentation in conjunction with the preparation of a RPMP.¹ Therefore, this Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in tandem with the RPMP to determine whether there would be significant environmental impacts from the proposed action.

SAHNC is a sub-element of Army National Military Cemeteries (ANMC), which also includes Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). ANC prepared the SAHNC RPMP and accompanying Programmatic EA on behalf of and in cooperation with SAHNC.

A Programmatic EA was prepared because the RPMP was likely to include phased and/or conceptual development. For these types of development projects, information needed to determine specific impacts may not be available at the time the NEPA document is being prepared. In this case, the development is evaluated to the fullest extent possible in the Programmatic EA. When more information about these projects becomes available, project-specific

NEPA documentation will be prepared which will be tiered from this Programmatic EA, as applicable, to avoid redundant or duplicate analysis. In the event that a futures project-specific NEPA analysis reveals direct or indirect impacts, the overall cemetery cumulative effects analysis, taking into account those impacts, will be re-assessed as appropriate.

To facilitate agency cooperation during the NEPA process, the lead agency may request that another agency participate as a cooperating agency. Because ANC is responsible for preparing the Programmatic EA on behalf of SAHNC, it is the Lead Agency per NEPA. A cooperating agency is defined as "...any Federal agency other than a lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal...".² The National Capital Planning Act (40 USC 8722(b)(1) and (d)), requires that federal agencies advise and consult with the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) when creating a master plan that will affect the plan and development of the National Capital. Therefore, ANC on behalf of SAHNC requested that NCPC participate as a cooperating agency. NCPC agreed to be a cooperating agency.

1.1 Document Organization

This EA was prepared in accordance with 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*. According to these regulations, an EA includes brief discussions of the need for the proposed action, alternatives to the proposed action, environmental impacts, and a listing of persons and agencies consulted.³ Therefore, this EA is organized in the following manner:

Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action – provides background information, describes why the Proposed Action is needed and summarizes the primary regulatory requirements.

Chapter 2: Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives – defines the Proposed Action and discusses the alternatives considered and why they are either dismissed or carried forward for detailed environmental analysis.

Chapter 3: Description of Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences – describes the existing conditions of potentially impacted environmental resources and discloses the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives carried forward for detailed analysis.

Chapter 4: List of Persons and Agencies Consulted – provides the names of the persons and agencies consulted.

Chapter 5: References – provides information on referenced materials.

Chapter 6: List of Preparers – lists the document preparers along with their experience.

1.2 Background

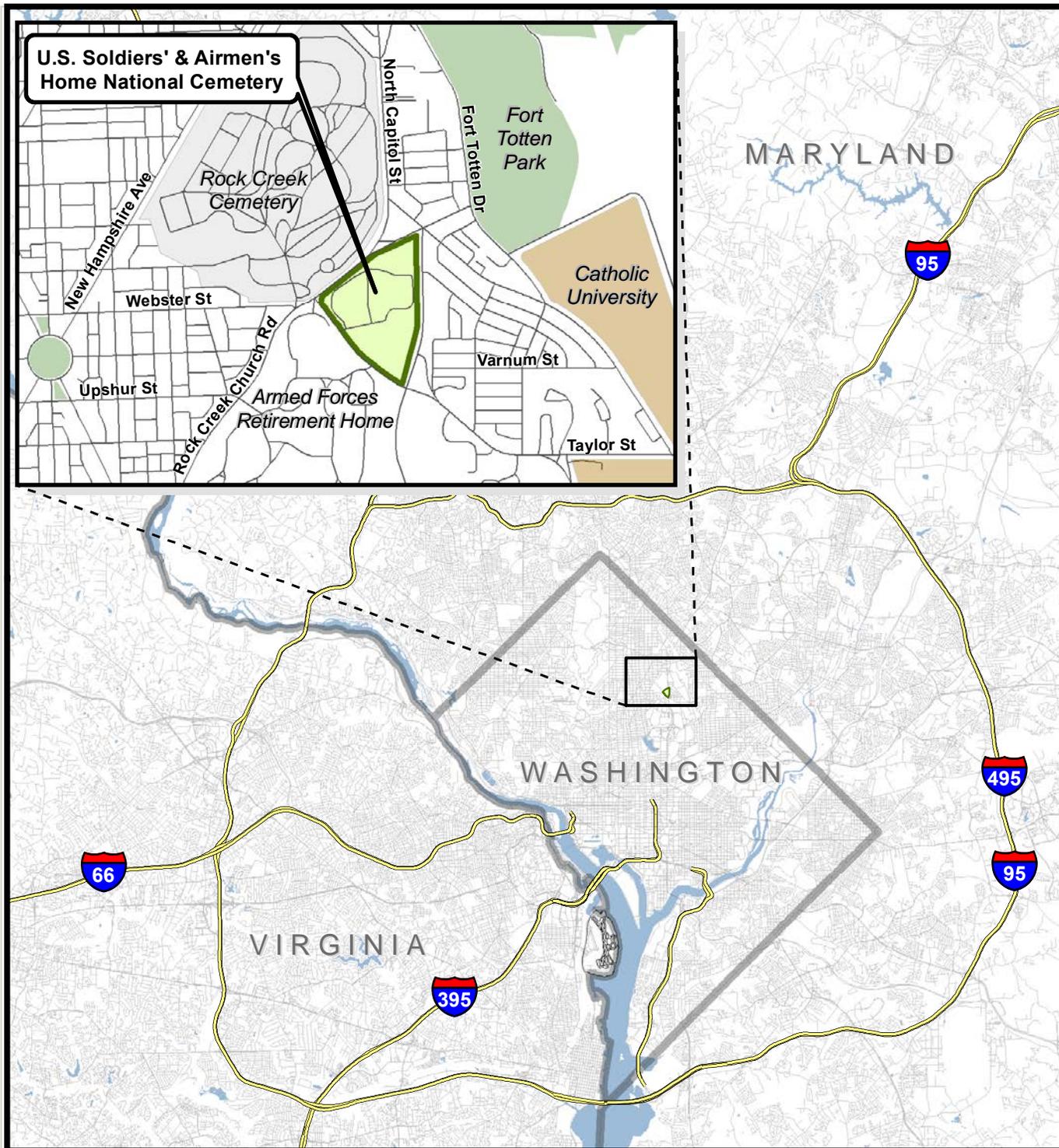
Created in 1861, SAHNC is the nation's oldest military cemetery.⁴ The cemetery memorializes history as it is the final resting place for the heroes and patriots who built, preserved and protected our Nation through military service from as far back as the Civil War. Over 14,000 of our Nation's fallen are interred at SAHNC.

Today, this active military cemetery continues to offer a final resting place for residents of the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington (AFRH), with an average of seven to ten committal services per year.⁵

SAHNC is located in northwest Washington, D.C., adjacent to the AFRH and southeast of Rock Creek Church Cemetery. **Figure 1-1** illustrates the location of the cemetery. SAHNC is bordered by Harewood Road Northwest (NW) to the south, Rock Creek Church Road NW to the west, Allison Street Northeast (NE) to the north and Clermont Drive NE to the east. The cemetery is accessed off Harewood Road NW.

The Superintendent's Lodge, carriage house and the Logan Mausoleum are located just beyond the Harewood Road NW entrance. Other structures within the cemetery include the contractor maintenance building and a portable committal shelter. **Figure 1-2** illustrates SAHNC and the notable sites within and surrounding the cemetery.

SAHNC consists of approximately 16 acres of serene cemetery environment. The visual character of the cemetery is defined by the ordered grids of simple white headstones interspersed with mature trees. This setting contributes considerably to the iconic image of SAHNC.



**Figure 1-1
Vicinity and Location**

LEGEND

- SAHNC Boundary
- Interstate
- State Boundary

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's
Home National Cemetery
Real Property Master Plan**

**Programmatic
Environmental Assessment**



Source: DC GIS, ESRI



**Figure 1-2
Soldiers' and Airmen's
Home National Cemetery**

LEGEND

 SAHNC Boundary

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's
Home National Cemetery
Real Property Master Plan**

**Programmatic
Environmental Assessment**



Source: ANC GIS, DC GIS

1.2.1 Terminology

This document includes terminology specific to cemeteries and burials. A few of these terms may be unfamiliar. Therefore, for reader ease, the following terms are defined as they are used in this document:

Cremains – Cremated human remains.

Niche – Hollowed out space in a wall made to place urns containing cremated remains.

Inurnment – Act of placing an urn containing cremains into a niche or into the ground.

Interment – The standard definition is the act of placing a deceased human body in the ground. However, in this EA this term encompasses all methods of “burying” or placing human remains in their final resting place including placing a casket or urn in the ground, and an urn in a niche.

Columbarium – A structure or room or other space in a building or structure containing niches. **Photo 1** shows a view into a columbarium at ANC.

Niche wall – A type of columbarium with rows of niches in a wall. **Photo 2** depicts part of the niche wall at ANC.

Mausoleum – Building containing above ground crypts or tombs. **Photo 3** shows the Logan Mausoleum at SAHNC.

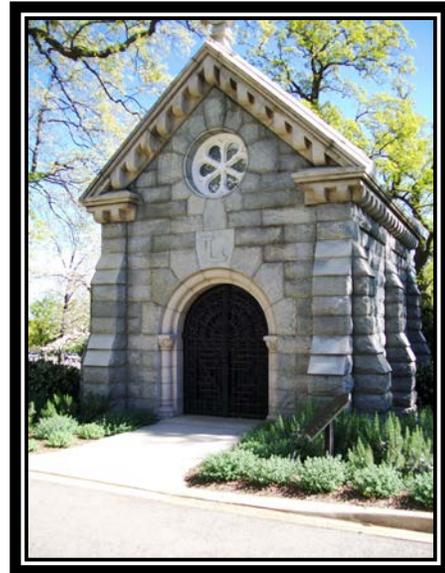
Photo 1: Columbarium at ANC



Photo 2: Niche Wall at ANC



Photo 3: Logan Mausoleum at SAHNC



1.2.2 Mission

As a sub-element of ANMC, SAHNC is administered and operated in accordance with 10 USC Chapter 446, 24 USC Chapter 7, and 38 USC Chapter 24. Regulations to implement these laws, 32 CFR Part 553.13, direct the Department of Army to observe the following standards:

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Real Property Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment**

“(a) As permanent national shrines provided by a grateful nation to the honored dead of the Armed Forces of the United States, the standards for construction, maintenance, and operation of Army national cemeteries will be commensurate with the high purpose to which they are dedicated.

(b) Structures and facilities provided for Army cemet[e]ries will be permanent in nature and of a scope, dignity, and aesthetic design suitable to the purpose for which they are intended.

(c) Cemeteries will be beautified by landscaping and by means of special features based on the historical aspects, location, or other factors of major significance.

(d) Accommodations and services provided to the next of kin of the honored dead and to the general public will be of high order.”

Accordingly, the mission of SAHNC is, “On behalf of the American people, lay to rest those who have served our nation with dignity and honor, treating their families with respect and compassion, and connecting guests to the rich tapestry of the cemeteries’ living history, while maintaining these hallowed grounds befitting the sacrifice of all those who rest here in quiet repose.”⁶

The Army National Cemeteries Program (now the Army National Military Cemeteries) Campaign Plan (Campaign Plan) was developed to carry out the stated mission. The Campaign Plan is a detailed roadmap to ensure that the cemetery remains a place where every generation may honor, remember and explore the depths of the creation of this nation and the heroes who

made incredible sacrifices for freedom. The roadmap ensures success by identifying focused objectives with measurable standards.

1.2.3 SAHNC Real Property Master Plan

A RPMP for ANC, the other Army National Military Cemetery, was prepared. In conjunction with that process, ANC on behalf of SAHNC, developed a RPMP for SAHNC.

The RPMP was prepared by analyzing existing conditions, key functional requirements, and alternatives. Based on this analysis, recommendations were identified for five-year time increments spanning the next 25 years.

The resulting RPMP establishes the foundation for future development. It reflects the primary goal of extending the cemetery’s burial capacity in a manner that respects its unique heritage, identity and mission. Thus, the RPMP will guide SAHNC in executing strategic decisions. The RPMP will also enable the cemetery to better communicate and coordinate across internal directorates, partner organizations and other stakeholders. The main body of the RPMP is devoted to ANC and Appendix A of the RPMP contains specific master plan elements unique to SAHNC.

A Cemetery Design Guide (CDG) was also prepared as part of the master plan process. The CDG presents general policies and design standards for the implementation of the future development recommended in the RPMP.

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Army regulations, specifically 32 CFR §651.14, require the preparation of NEPA documentation concurrent with the preparation of a master plan. One of the first steps in preparing NEPA documentation is to specify why the federal agency is proposing an action. This is referred to as the statement of purpose and need.

1.3 Statement of Purpose and Need

“The purpose and need statement is essentially the foundation of the NEPA decision-making process.”⁷ Defining the purpose and need is imperative to documenting a sound justification for a proposed action as well as developing and evaluating alternatives.

In the case of SAHNC, the purpose of the proposed action is to extend the operational life of SAHNC while honoring the Nation's fallen military heroes and providing accommodations and services to the next of kin and the public that befit a national shrine.

The need for the proposed action has several components, each of which are described in the following sub-sections.

1.3.1 Add Burial Capacity

One of the Campaign Plan objectives is to prepare SAHNC for continued operation beyond 2025. By meeting this objective, SAHNC will remain one of the Nation's premier, military cemeteries for as far into the future as possible.

SAHNC is close to fully developed and available burial space is limited. The cemetery continues to experience a consistent demand for burial. Therefore, there is a need to expand the burial capacity at SAHNC.

1.3.2 Maintain the Iconic Image

Another Campaign Plan objective is to “Maintain these Hallowed Grounds”. Achievement of this objective ensures that grounds, memorials and facilities continue to contribute to SAHNC's iconic image.

The iconic image conveyed by the cemetery is an essential component to fortifying the “hallowed grounds” character and identity. An area within the cemetery that does not reflect SAHNC's iconic image is the contractor's maintenance storage yard.

Purpose:

Extend the operational life of U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery while honoring the Nation's fallen military heroes and providing accommodations and services to the next of kin and the public that befit a national shrine.

Needs:

- *Add Burial Capacity*
- *Maintain the Iconic Image*
- *Improve Facilities*
- *Maintain Infrastructure*

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The contractor's maintenance storage yard is enclosed with a chain link fence as shown in **Photo 4**. The fencing detracts from the visual and historic image of the cemetery. Therefore, there is a need to provide a more appropriate enclosure for this storage yard.

Photo 4: Contractor's Maintenance Storage Yard



1.3.3 Improve Facilities

The Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house are functionally obsolete. Both facilities are in need of improvements to meet modern day standards and serve their intended functions.

The Superintendent's Lodge shown in **Photo 5** is intended to serve as the superintendent's residence and office. The lodge is over 120 years old. While intermittent remodeling has occurred, the building is in need of improvements to continue to function as a residence and administrative office. Rehabilitation of the electrical systems, heating systems and plumbing systems, as well as the abatement of lead paint and asbestos is needed.

Photo 5: Superintendent's Lodge (2012)



The carriage house shown in **Photo 6** functions primarily as storage space. It also houses public restrooms at the rear of the building. These facilities are in need of updating as maintenance has been deferred.

Photo 6: Carriage House



Although intended to provide visitor services, neither the Superintendent's Lodge nor the carriage house provide an interpretive center. SAHNC lacks facilities to convey the history of the cemetery to visitors. SAHNC played an important role in the Civil War and the story of President Lincoln's Cottage. This important role and connection to President Lincoln's Cottage is not evident to SAHNC visitors.

1.3.4 Maintain Infrastructure

SAHNC roadway, utility, and external sidewalk conditions have deteriorated. Deterioration is in part due to deferral of large scale maintenance projects. Roadways throughout the entire cemetery should be rebuilt. Sidewalks parallel to the Lodge are in need of repair. The main drain line from the Lodge is damaged as a result of tree root growth. Stormwater pipes are also in need of repair based on preliminary information from an on-going engineering study. As shown in **Photo 7**, the sidewalks outside the cemetery perimeter along Harewood Road are also in disrepair. Therefore, infrastructure improvements are needed to maintain the cemetery.

**Photo 7: Sidewalk in Disrepair on
Harewood Road NW**



1.4 NEPA Requirements

NEPA established the national policy for the environment and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). To implement the NEPA policies, CEQ promulgated the *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act* (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, referred to as the CEQ

Regulations). Both NEPA and CEQ Regulations require that federal agencies establish procedures to comply with the intended purpose of NEPA. Both also require federal agencies to encourage and facilitate public involvement as part of the NEPA process.

Department of the Army NEPA Procedures

The Department of the Army (Army) procedures to comply with NEPA are set forth in 32 CFR Part 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*. As such, these regulations establish the Army policies and responsibilities to integrate environmental considerations early in the decision making process. Instructions on preparing NEPA documentation and carrying out public and agency coordination are provided in the subject regulations.

Public and Agency Coordination

Coordination with stakeholders was initiated early in the development of the Master Plan and Programmatic EA by conducting scoping. Scoping is the process of soliciting information from interested parties for the purposes of identifying issues, alternatives and potentially impacted resources.

Different approaches can be used to conduct scoping. Scoping can range from simply sending letters requesting input from a few interested parties to conducting multiple agency and public meetings/workshops. The anticipated stakeholder interest in the Master Plan and potential environmental impacts were considered in conducting scoping for this Programmatic EA. Therefore, scoping included sending e-mails to stakeholders and conducting a scoping meeting for the key stakeholders.

Scoping notifications were sent to stakeholders to advise them of the Proposed Action and the intent to prepare a Programmatic EA, as well as to request their input. The scoping notices provided preliminary information regarding the purpose and need, alternatives, and the environmental impact categories most likely impacted. Scoping notifications and responses are included in **Appendix A, Scoping**.

The stakeholder scoping meeting was held on 25 July 2012 at the ANC Welcome Center. The meeting included a brief presentation by the project team followed by a question and answer / comment period. Summaries of comments from the scoping meeting as well as the attendance sheets and scoping presentation are included in *Appendix A, Scoping*.

An agency stakeholder meeting was held on 7 December 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to preview the proposed major planning initiatives and solicit comments. The draft RPMP was provided to stakeholders attending the meeting. In addition, the draft RPMP was made available via a web portal for interested stakeholders. Agency stakeholders were encouraged to review the draft RPMP and provide comments. Submitted comments were considered in the development of the RPMP as well as this Programmatic EA.

Interested agencies and members of the public are afforded an opportunity to review the Programmatic EA and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI). The Programmatic EA and Draft FNSI are available for public and agency review for a minimum of 30 days. All comments received within the specified comment period will be considered prior to signing the Final FNSI.

1.5 National Capital Planning Act and Commission of Fine Arts Regulations

The National Capital Planning Act established the NCPC as the federal government's central federal planning agency in the National Capital Region, created to preserve the important historical and natural features of the National Capital.⁸ The NCPC coordinates all federal planning activities in the National Capital Region, which includes Washington, D.C. and the surrounding communities in Maryland and Virginia, including Arlington. NCPC reviews and comments upon or approves development policies, plans and programs submitted by federal agencies and the DC government in the National Capital Region.

The NCPC fulfills its missions through its three principal functions in the National Capital Region:

- Comprehensive planning;
- Compiles and recommends Federal capital improvements; and
- Review of Federal construction projects.

Because SAHNC is under federal jurisdiction in the District of Columbia, development actions at SAHNC are not subject to *local* zoning regulations, but rather, are subject to NCPC's "in-lieu of zoning authority" pursuant to the National Capital Planning Act (40 USC 8722(b)(1) and (d)).

Additionally, NCPC has statutory authority for "Commemorative Works on Federal Lands" in accordance with Section 7(b) of the Commemorative Works Act, which

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requires NCPC approval of site and design proposals for commemorative works proposed in the District or its environs.⁹

NCPC will review the SAHNC Master Plan to determine the Master Plan's consistency with the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements* and will consult with SAHNC on building plans for specific development projects as they are finalized and proposed.

NCPC's recommendations for approval are based on the extent to which proposed projects conform to planning and development policies in the region as described in plans and programs adopted by NCPC, regional planning bodies, and local and state governments.¹⁰

The U. S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) was established to guide the architectural development of Washington, D.C.¹¹ "The Commission's mission, as design proposals are brought before it, is to safeguard and improve the appearance and symbolic significance of Washington, D. C. as a capital for the benefit of the citizens of the United States and foreign visitors. Specifically, the Commission provides knowledgeable advice on matters pertaining to architecture, landscape architecture, sculpture, painting, and the decorative arts to all branches and departments of the Federal and District of Columbia

governments when such matters affect the National Capital."¹² The CFA conducts two levels of review for proposed development: concept and final. Early consultation prior to submitting for the conceptual review is encouraged.¹³

Army regulations address coordination of the RPMP with both the NCPC and the CFA. Army Regulation (AR) 210-20, *Real Property Master Planning for Army Installations*, states that projects in the National Capitol Region will be coordinated with the NCPC and CFA.¹⁴ AR 420-1 is more explicit. AR 420-1 states, "The NCPC requires the review and approval of master plans.... for Army installations located in the National Capital Region."¹⁵ Concerning the CFA, AR 420-1 states, "The CFA also reviews and approves master plans... for installations in the District of Columbia; Arlington National Cemetery; and Fort Myer, VA."¹⁶

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Endnotes

- ¹ Department of the Army, Army Regulation 210-20, *Real Property Master Planning for Army Installations*, May 16, 2005, paragraph 2.7a.
- ² 40 CFR Part 1508, *Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act*, July 1, 2011, §1508.5.
- ³ 32 CFR Part 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*, March 29, 2002, § 651.20 (d).
- ⁴ Smith, Adam and Megan Tooker and John Haynes, *Arlington National Cemetery (Including Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery) Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, FY 2013 to 2018*, Approved March 2013, p. 1.
- ⁵ U.S. Army, *Army National Cemeteries Program Campaign Plan 2012*, January 1, 2012, 1.a.(2).
- ⁶ U.S. Army, *Army National Cemeteries Program Campaign Plan 2012*, January 1, 2012, 2.
- ⁷ ICF Consulting, *Executive Order 13274 Purpose and Need Work Group Baseline Assessment Report* March 15, 2005, p.2.

Chapter 2:

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The recommended improvements in the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) for the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC) are together referred to as the Proposed Action. The first section of this chapter provides a description of the Proposed Action.

An environmental assessment (EA) must also include consideration of alternatives to the proposed action per Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and Army Regulations. The identification and screening of alternatives is described in the second section of this Chapter.

2.1 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action consists of the following projects listed under each of the needs identified in Chapter 1:

- Add Burial Capacity
 - Remove north-south roadway and convert area to an interment area.
- Maintain the Iconic Image
 - Replace the chain-link fence around the contractor's materials storage yard with stone or brick walls.
- Improve Facilities
 - Rehabilitate the Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house.

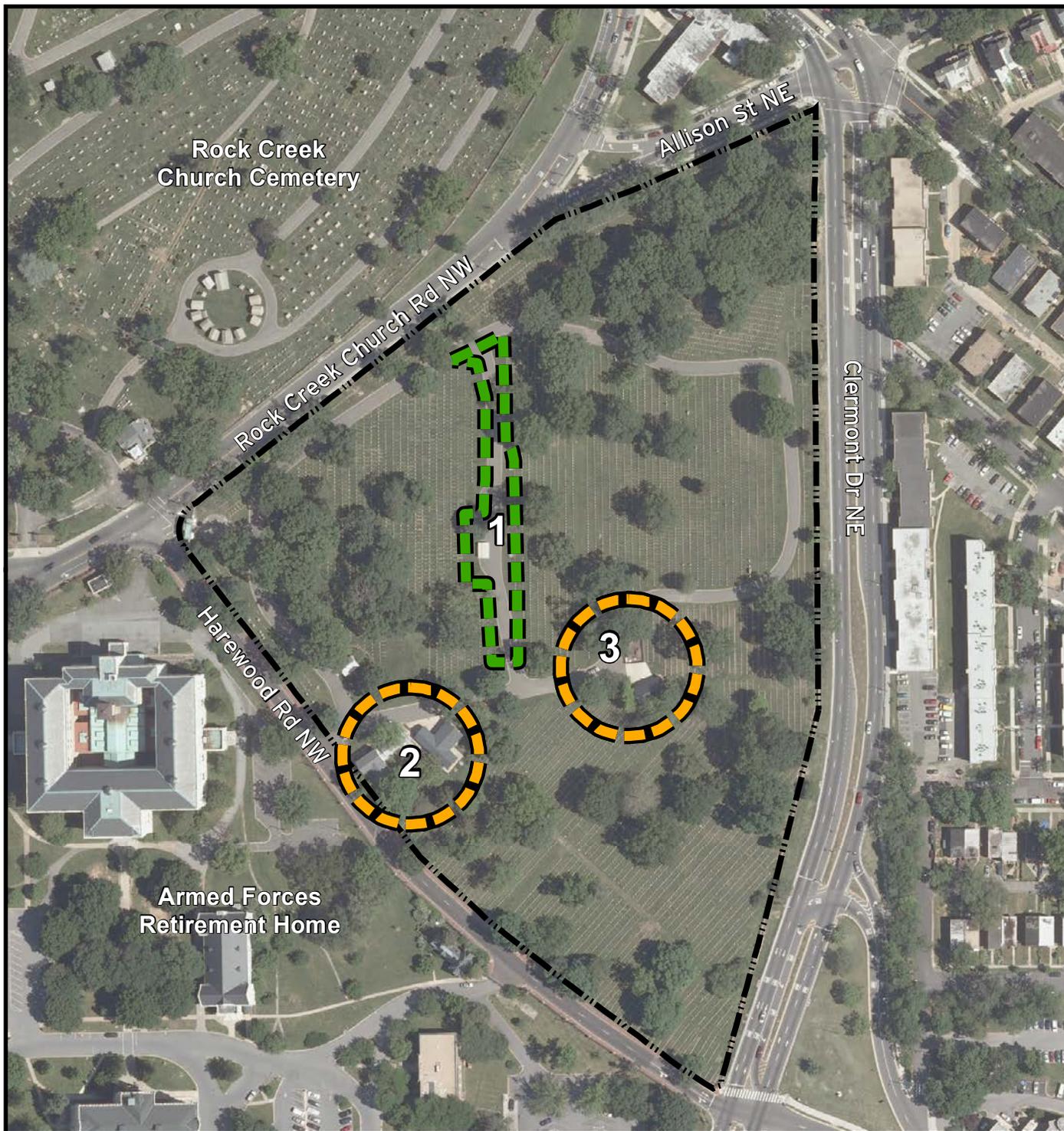
- Maintain Infrastructure:
 - Rebuild internal roadways and repair sidewalks.
 - Repair main drain line from the Superintendent's Lodge.
 - Repair stormwater pipes.
 - Coordinate with the District of Columbia to repair sidewalk along Harewood Road.

The Proposed Action is illustrated in **Figure 2-1**. Information regarding the individual development projects is provided as part of the alternatives discussion in the following sections.

2.2 Alternatives

Alternatives were identified to address the needs discussed in Chapter 1. These alternatives were then screened and either eliminated from further consideration or carried forward for environmental analysis. The following sub-sections identify the specific areas of need for the Proposed Action followed by the alternatives considered to address the stated needs.

Both action and no action alternatives were considered in evaluating alternatives. While the no action alternative would not address the identified area of need, consideration of the no action alternative is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) per CEQ Regulations.



**Figure 2-1
Proposed Action**

LEGEND

 SAHNC Boundary

Interment Support Projects

1. Remove north-south roadway and convert area to in-ground interment spaces.

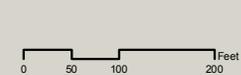
Cemetery Operations Projects

2. Rehabilitate the Superintendent's Lodge and Carriage house.
3. Replace the chain-link fence around the contractor's materials storage area with stone or brick walls.
4. Maintain infrastructure.*

Note: * These projects will be implemented throughout the cemetery. Therefore, they are not identified in a specific location on the map.

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**Programmatic
Environmental Assessment**



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The no action alternative serves as a basis of comparison with other alternatives retained for environmental analysis.

2.2.1 Add Burial Capacity

Expanded burial capacity is needed for SAHNC to continue to operate in accordance with the Campaign Plan. Burial capacity could be expanded in various ways. The cemetery could be expanded or existing land within the cemetery could be converted to burial area. Also, a columbarium/mausoleum could be constructed. All of these alternatives were considered and screened. The screening criteria included the following:

- Maintain the existing historic character of the cemetery.
- Minimize the impacts to environmental resources.
- Consider cost and coordination requirements.
- Minimize impacts on cemetery operations and maintenance.

2.2.1.1 Expand the Cemetery

SAHNC is surrounded by roadways and existing development. Expansion is not possible without land acquisition from governmental or institutional entities.

The screening criteria were considered relative to the Expand the Cemetery Alternative. It was assumed that a parcel could be acquired and developed in a manner consistent with the existing historic character of the cemetery. However, acquiring land is typically costly and requires extensive coordination. Furthermore, depending on the features of the acquired land there may be impacts to environmental resources. In addition,

acquired land would not be contiguous with the existing cemetery which complicates cemetery operations and maintenance. For instance, the committal services are normally conducted at the committal shelter and then the procession moves to the burial site. If the burial site was located on the non-contiguous parcel, the procession would have to cross an external roadway when moving from the committal shelter to the burial site.

Therefore, because of the high relative cost, the need for extensive coordination and impact on cemetery operations, the Expand the Cemetery Alternative was eliminated from further consideration.

2.2.1.2 Convert Existing Land

Based on review of existing facilities and operations, only two potential sites were identified for possible conversion to burial space: land over the existing sewer lines and the interior north-south road between Sections L, P and Q.

The first site considered for conversion to burial space was the land over the existing sewer lines. These sewer lines are owned by the District of Columbia. Burials are not allowed because of the potential need to conduct sewer maintenance. However, additional burial space could be created by relocating the sewer lines to run along existing roadways.

The sewer lines could be relocated in a manner that would be consistent with the historic character of the cemetery. Since any deteriorated sewer lines would be replaced, there could be a positive impact on water resources. However, relocating the sewer lines would be costly and require extensive coordination. All of the existing

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sewer lines would require removal and the installation of new sewer lines would necessitate digging up existing interior roadways and likely external roadways. Extensive coordination would be required because the sewer lines and external roadway are not under the jurisdiction of SAHNC. Cemetery operations and maintenance would be impacted during the large scale construction. Also, traffic on external roads would be impacted during construction. For these combined reasons, the alternative to relocate the sewer lines was eliminated from further consideration.

The second site considered for conversion to burial space is the interior north-south road. As shown in Figure 2-1, the subject road cuts across the center of the main circulation loop through the cemetery. As part of developing the RPMP, it was determined that this road is not required for circulation. The road could be removed and the freed space could be used for interments.

Conversion of the road to burial area similar to the areas adjacent to the road would maintain the existing historic character of the cemetery. Removal of the road would be beneficial from an environmental perspective as the amount of impervious surface would decrease. The cost of removing the road would be much less than relocating the existing sewer lines. The master plan concluded that the subject road was not needed for cemetery operations or maintenance. Therefore, the alternative to convert the interior north-south road to a burial area was retained for further consideration.

2.2.1.3 Construct a Columbarium or Mausoleum

Aboveground structures, columbariums and /or mausoleums, could be constructed to increase burial capacity. However, aboveground interment structures such as niche walls and other types of columbarium do not exist at SAHNC. In addition, only one small historic family mausoleum exists. Therefore, new aboveground interment structures would not be consistent with the historic character of SAHNC. Aboveground structures would not minimize environmental impacts because the amount of impervious surface would increase. Finally, in terms of cost, constructing the aboveground structures would be more expensive than converting the interior road to a burial area. For these combined reasons, the alternative to construct a columbarium or mausoleum was eliminated from further consideration.

2.2.1.4 No Action

The No Action Alternative is to not expand the burial capacity at SAHNC. Under this alternative, the cemetery would be filled and no further interments could be accommodated. As a result, the Campaign Plan objective to prepare SAHNC for continued operation beyond 2025 would not be achieved. Regardless, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative was retained for further consideration.

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2.2.1.5 Summary

The only burial capacity alternatives retained for further consideration were the Convert the North-South Roadway Alternative and the No Action Alternative.

2.2.2 Maintain SAHNC's Iconic Image

The appearance of the contractor maintenance storage yard area is not consistent with cemetery surroundings. The chain link fence enclosure is not complementary to the iconic image nor does it adequately screen the view of the stored materials.

Alternatives considered included eliminating the maintenance storage yard area and replacing the enclosure. Alternatives were screened based on their ability to reflect the iconic image of SAHNC and relative associated cost.

2.2.2.1 Eliminate the Storage Yard Area

Eliminating the storage yard area would remove the objectionable fence as well as the views of the stored materials. The relatively small abandoned area could be converted to burial space similar to adjacent areas. This alternative would create an area that reflects the iconic image of SAHNC. However, eliminating the storage yard area would increase operational and maintenance costs. Contractor operation and maintenance costs are based on temporary storage of materials on-site. If the storage yard area is eliminated, there would be no on-site storage of materials. Materials would have to be hauled in/out on an as needed basis, thereby increasing costs. Therefore, the alternative to eliminate the storage yard area was not retained for environmental analysis.

2.2.2.2 Replace the Storage Yard Area Enclosure

With this alternative, a solid enclosure would replace the chain link fence to eliminate views of the stored materials. The enclosure would be constructed of brick or stone and thereby reflect the iconic image of the cemetery. While there would be a cost for constructing the new enclosure, it would be less than the long term accumulated cost of eliminating the storage area. Therefore, the Replace the Storage Yard Area Enclosure Alternative was carried forward for further consideration.

2.2.2.3 No Action

The No Action Alternative is to leave the storage yard area and enclosure as is. The need to maintain the iconic image would not be met. Regardless, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative was retained for further consideration.

2.2.2.4 Summary

The only iconic image alternatives retained for further consideration were the Replace the Storage Yard Area Enclosure Alternative and the No Action Alternative.

2.2.3 Improve Facilities

The Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house are functionally obsolete. Both facilities are in need of improvements to meet modern day standards, serve their intended functions and provide an interpretive center. Alternatives considered included rehabilitating the existing structures and constructing new facilities. Alternatives were screened based on potential impact on historic resources and relative costs.

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2.2.3.1 Rehabilitate Existing Facilities

Rehabilitating the existing facilities would likely impact historic resources. The Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house are included in the SAHNC historic district. Therefore, altering these structures in the process of the rehabilitation would likely impact historic resources. However, many of the historic features of the Superintendent's Lodge have already been altered. Also, the rehabilitation could be designed to minimize the impacts to the remaining historic features of both the Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house. In terms of relative cost, the rehabilitation would be less costly than constructing entirely new structures. Therefore, the Rehabilitate Existing Facilities Alternative was retained for environmental analysis.

2.2.3.2 Construct New Structures

As with rehabilitation, the construction of new facilities would impact historic resources. There is no available land on the cemetery to construct new facilities. Therefore, the existing Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house would have to be demolished prior to constructing the new facilities. The Superintendents' Lodge and carriage house are part of the SAHNC historic district. Thus, demolishing these buildings would affect historic resources. Also, the cost of constructing new structures would be more than rehabilitating the existing facilities. Therefore, the Construct New Structures Alternative was eliminated from further consideration.

2.2.3.3 No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, neither the Superintendent's Lodge nor the carriage

house would be improved. Thus the needs for improved facilities and an interpretive center would not be met. Regardless, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative was retained for further consideration.

2.2.3.4 Summary

The only facilities alternatives retained for further consideration were the Rehabilitate Existing Facilities Alternative and the No Action Alternative.

2.2.4 Maintain Infrastructure

Existing infrastructure in and around SAHNC is in need of repair. Current pavement, utilities and sidewalks create the potential for environmental and pedestrian hazards.

The only action alternative considered was to complete the needed infrastructure projects including:

- Rebuild the internal roadways and repair sidewalks
- Repair main drain line from the Superintendent's Lodge
- Repair stormwater pipes
- Coordinate with the District of Columbia to repair sidewalk along Harewood Road

This alternative was retained for further consideration.

Under the No Action Alternative the infrastructure would not be maintained. The pavement, utilities and sidewalks would continue to deteriorate and as a result the potential for water quality and safety impacts would increase. Regardless, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative was retained for further consideration.

2.2.5 Alternatives Retained for Further Consideration

Potential alternatives were identified and screened. The alternatives were either eliminated from further consideration or carried forward for environmental analysis.

Table 2.1 shows the results of the identification and screening of alternatives.

All of the retained alternatives were combined to form the Proposed Action. Therefore, the analysis of environmental consequences was limited to the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives.

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Table 2.1

Summary of Alternatives Analysis

Need	Alternative	Carried Forward	Not Carried Forward
Add Burial Capacity			
	1. Expand cemetery		X
	2. Convert existing land		
	Relocate the sewer line and convert freed space to interments		X
	Convert the north/south roadway into an interment area	X	
	3. Construct a columbarium or mausoleum		X
	4. No Action	X	
Maintain SAHNC's Iconic Image			
	1. Remove the storage yard area from the cemetery		X
	2. Replace existing fencing around the storage yard area	X	
	3. No Action	X	
Improve Facilities			
	1. Construct new structures to replace the Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house		X
	2. Rehabilitate the Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house	X	
	3. No Action	X	
Maintain Infrastructure			
	1. Rebuild the internal roadways and repair sidewalks, Repair main drain line from the Superintendent's Lodge; Repair stormwater pipes; and Coordinate with the District of Columbia to repair sidewalk along Harewood Road.	X	
	2. No Action	X	

Source: HNTB analysis, 2013.

Chapter 3:

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The purpose of this chapter is to identify the affected environment at the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC) and to disclose the potential environmental consequences of the alternatives. The affected environment is the existing conditions of the environmental resources potentially impacted by the alternatives. Once the affected environment is identified, the potential effects of the alternatives on the environmental resources are assessed.

Several terms are used to describe effects also referred to as impacts in this document. The effect may be described as positive or adverse. "Positive" meaning that the alternative would have a beneficial effect on the subject resource. The level of adverse or negative effect is described relative to the established threshold of significance. Adverse or negative impacts described as minimal would have little effect on the resource and therefore would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

The threshold of significance is resource specific and established by considering context and intensity. Both context and intensity are considered because the level of intensity considered significant may differ based on context. For instance, the threshold of significance for noise impacts would likely be different in a large city as compared to a remote national park.

The assessment of effects is limited to those alternatives retained for further consideration. As described in Chapter 2, the alternatives retained for further consideration are the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives. These alternatives have the potential to affect the following environmental resource categories:

- Land Use
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Topography, Soils and Geology
- Water Resources
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Socioeconomic Characteristics
- Traffic and Transportation
- Utilities
- Solid Waste
- Hazardous Materials and Waste
- Visual and Aesthetic Resources
- Cumulative Effects

Therefore, the affected environments, thresholds of significance and potential effects of the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives relative to these resource categories are described in the following subsections.

3.1 Land Use

The land uses in and around SAHNC and the potential for the alternatives to affect these land uses are described in the following sections.

3.1.1 Affected Environment

3.1.1.1 Existing Land Use at SAHNC

SAHNC is a mature, serene cemetery environment that provides a place for families to mourn and for the nation and its guests to explore. SAHNC land use is characterized by four major types of activity zones, as shown on **Figure 3-1**: (1) Arrival Zones, (2) Cemetery Operations Zones, (3) Visitor Destinations, and (4) Interment Zone.

The *Arrival Zone* includes the vehicle/pedestrian entrance area off of Harewood Road. Located beyond the entrance are the Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house. The Superintendent's Lodge contains the Superintendent's Office. The Carriage House is located directly east of the Superintendent's Lodge and contains public restrooms and storage area.

The *Cemetery Operations Zone* includes a metal roofed committal shelter and a maintenance contractor building both located centrally within the cemetery. The maintenance building includes a small materials storage yard enclosed within a chain link fence adjacent to the building.¹

The *Visitor Destinations Zone* includes the Logan Mausoleum and the ceremonial pedestrian gate. The Logan Mausoleum is the most prominent burial monument at SAHNC, located directly west beyond the vehicular entrance. The ceremonial gate

entrance is located at the western corner of SAHNC at the intersection of Rock Creek Church Road Northwest (NW) and Harewood Road NW. While the ceremonial gate is normally locked and not used for access, it remains of interest to visitors. This entryway features an ornate gateway and plaza area. **Photo 1** shows the ceremonial gate from within the cemetery.

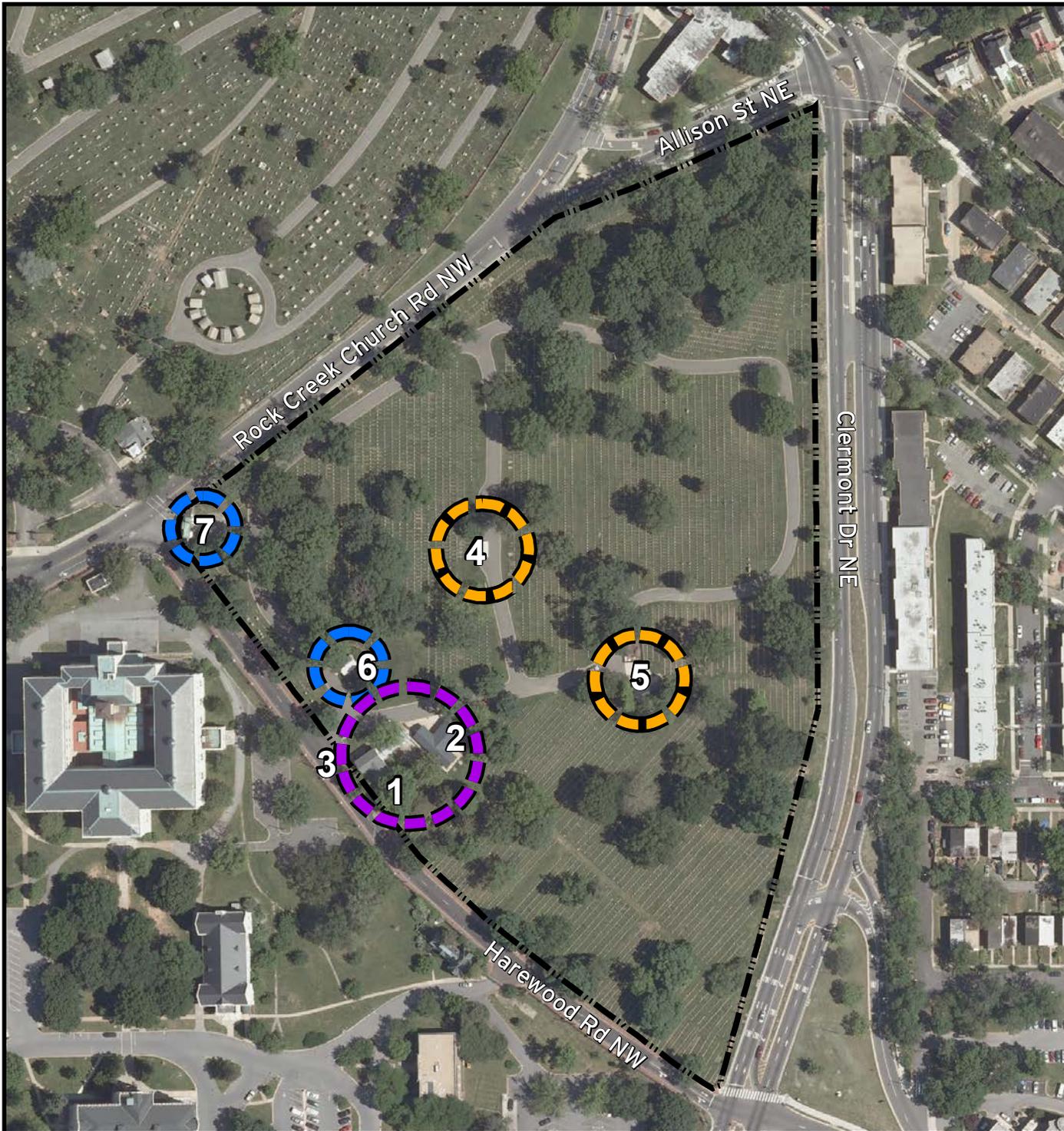
Photo 1: Ceremonial Gate



3.1.1.2 Local Land Use

Located on approximately 16 acres in northwest Washington, D.C., SAHNC is approximately four miles north of the U.S. Capitol Building. SAHNC is situated off of Harewood Road NW, northeast of the adjacent Armed Forces Retirement Home - Washington (AFRH), southeast of the Rock Creek Cemetery, southwest of Fort Totten Park and northwest of Archbishop Carroll High School.

The District of Columbia (D.C, or the District) designates SAHNC as "federal public" land in the District's Existing Land Use Map compiled by the Office of Planning, which last updated land use in 2005.² Medium and low-density residential land use borders SAHNC to the



**Figure 3-1
Major Activity Zones**

LEGEND

 SAHNC Boundary

Arrival Zone

- 1. Superintendent's Lodge
- 2. Carriage House
- 3. Lodge Gate

Cemetery Operations Zones

- 4. Committal Shelter
- 5. Maintenance Contractor Building

Visitor Destinations

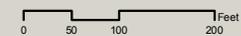
- 6. Logan Mausoleum
- 7. Main Entrance Gate

Cemetery Wide

 Interments

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north/northeast and east (single family, row homes and apartments). Park and open space also borders SAHNC with Rock Creek Cemetery to the northwest. Federal public land borders SAHNC with the AFRH and to the south. The land use to the southwest of SAHNC is designated institutional and includes Archbishop Carroll High School **Figure 3-2** shows the existing land use at and within the vicinity of SAHNC.

3.1.1.3 Planning: Local and Federal

The *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capitol* provides guidance for further development of the District and is comprised of the District Elements and the Federal Elements. The District Elements include general citywide goals, objectives and policies for land use issues impacting the entire District (such as transportation, environmental protection, parks and open spaces and historic preservation), as well as area elements with goals specific to geographic areas of the District. SAHNC is located within the Rock Creek East Area Element and land directly east of SAHNC is located within the Upper Northeast Area Element.³

Rock Creek East Area Element

The Rock Creek East Area Element encompasses 7.4 square miles east of Rock Creek Park, which includes SAHNC and the residential communities to the north and west. The communities in this area element are known for their park-like ambiance, sense of community and family atmosphere. Future land use development near SAHNC includes redevelopment at the AFRH and Walter Reed Hospital. The neighborhoods in Rock Creek East have a shared goal to

retain the residential character and historical continuity of the neighborhoods, including enhancing the environmental quality of the area.⁴ There are no known planning considerations that would affect near-or mid-term planning for SAHNC.

Upper Northeast Area Element

The Upper Northeast Area Element includes 8.7 square miles east of North Capitol Street (and east of SAHNC), including mostly residential communities, three universities, two hospitals, numerous religious institutions and dozens of local businesses. There are no specific development plans in this area that would affect SAHNC; however, the area faces challenges in the future, including aging schools, lack of open space, and increasingly unaffordable housing.⁵

3.1.1.4 Sustainability

Sustainable design is an integrated approach to planning, designing, building, operating, and maintaining facilities in a collaborative and holistic manner among all stakeholders. It is a systematic process and engineering practice with established guidance, checklists, tools, and scoring systems. Sustainable design integrates the decision-making for all projects on the site, basing every decision on the greatest long-term benefits and recognizing the interrelationship of actions with the natural environment.

The Federal government has led the nation in energy efficient, resource-conserving building design, construction, and operation. Implementing sustainable design and construction practices and operations is a key requirement for all federal agencies. Numerous Army and Department of



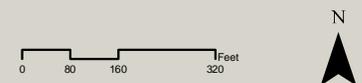
Figure 3-2
Local Land Use in the
Vicinity of SAHNC

LEGEND

-  SAHNC Boundary
-  Low Density Residential
-  Medium Density Residential
-  Federal Public
-  Institutional
-  Parks and Open Space

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Source: ANC GIS, DC GIS

Defense (DoD) directives guide the development and ongoing maintenance of facilities, infrastructure and operations in manners consistent with the requirements of two key Congressional Acts, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT 2005) and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007) and two key Executive Orders (EOs), EO 13423 - *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management* and EO 13514 - *Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance*.

Each Army installation is tasked with incorporating sustainable design into their design standards for site planning, buildings, vehicular and pedestrian circulation, landscaping, site elements (e.g., signage, utilities), and force protection. Quality and sustainable design and development practices have a direct impact on those who visit or work at the cemetery. Sustainability requires the built environment to be designed and constructed to preserve and enhance the natural environment. The Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating systems must be used by design professionals in all new construction, additions, or renovation of Army facilities.

General site planning techniques resulting in sustainable development are cost-efficient because they conserve energy and reduce construction and maintenance costs. The use of plant material in the cemetery promotes the sustainability of development. Trees, shrubs, groundcover, and vines provide aesthetic appeal, as well as habitat preservation, energy conservation, climate modification, erosion control, air purification, and noise abatement.

3.1.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for land use impacts is exceeded if the alternative would result in substantial alteration of the present/planned land use in the area. A significant impact in terms of sustainability would occur if the alternative were not consistent with the requirements outlined in EPACT 2005, EISA 2007, EO 13423 or EO 13514.

3.1.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Land Use and Sustainability

3.1.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative includes no new development at SAHNC and therefore, would result in no impacts to land use at the cemetery.

3.1.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

With the exception of proposed sidewalk repair along Harewood Road, all of the projects included in the Proposed Action Alternative are on lands currently under SAHNC jurisdiction. All projects align with the SAHNC activity zones, existing local land use and land use plans. Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would not impact land use at or within the vicinity of the cemetery.

The projects would enhance sustainability for two reasons. First, all development will be designed in accordance with the Cemetery Design Guide (CDG). The CDG includes sustainability goals to guide the design and construction of future projects. Second, the proposed development would reduce the amount of impervious surface by approximately 0.2 acres, as compared to existing site conditions. The conversion of

the north-south roadway to new interment space would decrease the total impervious surface at SAHNC from approximately 1.6 acres to 1.4 acres.

3.2 Air Quality

Air quality is governed by the federal Clean Air Act of 1970 (CAA). In accordance with the CAA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to define outdoor levels of air pollutants that are considered safe for public health, welfare, and the environment. The EPA established NAAQS for outdoor concentrations of "criteria" pollutants, including: carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), 8-hour ozone (O₃), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), lead (Pb) and particulate matter with aerodynamic diameters of 10 or 2.5 microns and less (PM_{10/2.5}).

Under the CAA, states as well as the District must identify geographic regions that do not meet the NAAQS for each criteria pollutant. Regions are designated as "attainment" or "non-attainment" for the criteria pollutants depending on whether local air quality is in compliance or not in compliance, respectively with the NAAQS. For any non-attainment designation, a State Implementation Plan (SIP) must be developed to demonstrate future attainment of the applicable NAAQS.

An area previously designated as nonattainment pursuant to the CAA Amendments of 1990, and subsequently re-designated as attainment, is termed a maintenance area. A maintenance area must have a maintenance plan in a revision to the SIP to ensure attainment of the air quality standards is maintained. For

proposed federal actions in non-attainment areas and maintenance areas, the project proponent must demonstrate that the project conforms to the appropriate SIP.

The General Conformity Rule of the federal CAA prohibits federal agencies from permitting or funding projects that do not conform to an applicable SIP. The General Conformity Rule applies only to nonattainment or maintenance areas.

3.2.1 Affected Environment

The District is in the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) Region. The MWAQC region is designated as in attainment with NAAQS for the criteria pollutants NO₂, SO₂, Pb, and PM₁₀. The region is designated as non-attainment for ground-level O₃ and PM_{2.5}, and is a maintenance area for CO. Information about these non-attainment and maintenance pollutants is provided in the following sections.

3.2.1.1 Ozone

Ozone is a colorless gas composed of three atoms of oxygen, one more than the oxygen molecule that we need to breathe. The additional oxygen atom makes ozone extremely reactive and irritating to tissue in the respiratory system. Ozone exists naturally in the stratosphere, the Earth's upper atmosphere, where it shields the Earth from the sun's ultraviolet rays. However, ozone found close to the Earth's surface, called ground-level O₃, is considered an air pollutant.

Ozone is formed by a complex series of chemical reactions between volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen in the presence of sunlight during hot, stagnant summer days. The primary manmade sources of VOCs and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) are industrial and automobile emissions. Other sources of VOCs include lawn and garden equipment, and consumer products such as paints, insecticides and cleaners.

3.2.1.2 Particulate Matter

Air pollutants considered as PM include dust, dirt, soot, smoke and liquid droplets directly emitted into the air by sources such as factories, power plants, cars, construction activities, fires and natural windblown dust. Particles formed in the atmosphere by condensation or the transformation of emitted gases such as SO₂ and VOCs are also considered particulate matter. Based on studies of human populations exposed to high concentrations of particles and laboratory studies of animals and humans, there are major effects of concern for human health. These include effects on breathing and respiratory symptoms, alterations in the body's defense systems against foreign materials, damage to lung tissue, carcinogens, and premature death. Particulate matter also damages materials and is a major cause of visibility impairment.

Fine particles, indicated by PM_{2.5}, come mainly from combustion of gases and have diameters of 2.5 micrometers or less.

3.2.1.3 Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and poisonous gas produced by

incompletely burned carbon in fuels. The majority of CO emissions are from transportation sources, with the largest from highway motor vehicles. Molecules of CO survive in the atmosphere for a period of approximately one month, but eventually react with oxygen to form carbon dioxide. Levels of CO found in ambient air may reduce the oxygen carrying capacity of the blood. Health threats from CO are most serious for those with angina or peripheral vascular disease. Exposure to elevated CO levels can cause impairment of visual perception, manual dexterity, learning ability, and performance of complex tasks.

3.2.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for air quality effects would be exceeded if the alternative would cause a substantial increase in emissions.

3.2.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Air Quality

Changes in mobile sources emissions could result in changes in air quality. Mobile sources are defined as any non-stationary sources of air emissions such as cars and trucks. Changes in mobile sources including vehicular and maintenance activities may result in changes to emissions of VOCs and NO_x (precursors for Ozone), PM_{2.5} and CO. Construction activities could also influence concentrations for these NAAQS.

3.2.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include new development and therefore, would not affect air quality.

3.2.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would result in minor changes in vehicular and maintenance activities. Vehicles would be limited to the internal roadway loop as a result of the proposed project to convert the north-south roadway to a new interment area. Some processions would have to travel a slightly longer distance to the interment/inurnment site. Landscape and lawn maintenance would also increase. Both changes may increase VOCs and NO_x (precursors for Ozone), PM_{2.5} and CO emissions. However, changes in emissions are expected to be small compared to the emission levels already at and around SAHNC.

Construction would result in short-term minor impacts on air quality in the local area due to fugitive dust from earthwork and vehicle and equipment emissions during construction. The associated temporary increases in VOCs and NO_x (precursors for Ozone), PM_{2.5} and CO emissions on the local air quality would be minor compared to daily traffic emissions in the local area.

All projects would be undertaken in compliance with applicable state and federal standards for air quality. Best management practices (BMPs) could be used to minimize temporary construction emissions resulting from the Proposed Action Alternative. For instance, use of low emission construction techniques such as eliminating unnecessary equipment idling could reduce construction emissions. Regardless, both short-term and long-term increases in air emissions with the Proposed Action Alternative would be small in comparison to the daily traffic air emissions in this area. Thus, impacts to air quality would be minor and would not exceed the threshold of significance.

3.3 Noise

3.3.1 Affected Environment

SAHNC is intended to be a serene environment and therefore noise is generally kept to a minimum. Sources of noise at the cemetery come from maintenance operations such as lawn mowers and pressure washers, with intermittent noises from committal services such as from firing parties and bugles. Noise produced within the cemetery is typically negligible and non-disruptive.

Other sources of noise at SAHNC are typically transient noises from nearby transportation-related sources, including Rock Creek Church Road NW, Allison Street NE, Clermont Drive Northeast (NE) and Harewood Road NW. Vehicular traffic traveling within the cemetery or on adjacent roadways is sometimes audible within the cemetery.

3.3.2 Threshold of Significance

An increase in noise levels would be considered significant if the alternative would cause a substantial permanent increase in noise within and/or adjacent to the cemetery. A substantial increase in noise would occur if the alternative would cause noise to permanently exceed the maximum sound levels in Title 20 Chapter 27, Noise Control of the D.C. Municipal Regulations.

3.3.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Noise

3.3.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include new development and therefore, would not cause construction noise. Additionally,

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noise associated with committal services would be absent after the available burial space is exhausted. Therefore, the No Action Alternative would ultimately result in less noise. The ultimate reduction in noise would be minimal, given only seven to ten committal services are conducted annually.

3.3.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

With the implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative, short-term increases in noise levels within the cemetery would occur during construction activities. Construction-related noise would vary daily depending on the type and location of construction activity. The noise would result from the use of heavy machinery and equipment for construction. Typical noise levels for construction vehicles and equipment are listed in **Table 3.1**.

Construction on the internal north-south roadway and rehabilitation of the Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house may temporarily increase noise for residents and visitors at the AFRH as well as the Clermont Apartments and housing located along Clermont Drive NE. The construction crews would, as a courtesy to D.C., work in accordance with D.C. Municipal Noise Control Regulations, which include maximum decibel levels. Given the limits of the D.C. Municipal Noise Control Regulations, the level of vehicular noise on surrounding roadways, and the distance to residential facilities, the impact of construction noise is expected to be minor.

Table 3.1
Construction Equipment Noise Emission Levels

Equipment	Typical Noise Level (dBA) 50 feet from Source
Air Compressor	81
Backhoe	80
Ballast Equalizer	82
Ballast Tamper	83
Compactor	82
Concrete Mixer	85
Concrete Pump	82
Concrete Vibrator	76
Crane Derrick	88
Crane Mobile	83
Dozer	85
Generator	81
Grader	85
Impact Wrench	85
Jack Hammer	88
Loader	85
Paver	89
Pile Driver (Impact)	101
Pile Driver (Sonic)	96
Pneumatic Tool	85
Pump	76
Rail Saw	90
Rock Drill	98
Roller	74
Saw	76
Scarifier	83
Scraper	89
Shovel	82
Spike Driver	77
Tie Cutter	84
Tie Handler	80
Tie Inserter	85
Truck	88

Source: FHWA Construction Noise Handbook, 7/5/2011, http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/construction_noise/handbook/handbook09.cfm

Daily operations at the cemetery would not likely increase noise at SAHNC. The proposed projects do not include an expansion of the cemetery onto new land nor will they result in an increase of annual burials.

3.4 Topography, Soils and Geology

3.4.1 Affected Environment

3.4.1.1 Topography

There is approximately 50 feet of topographic change across the cemetery between the northern and southern boundaries. Generally speaking, the high point in the cemetery is about 320 feet above mean sea level (MSL), located along the southwestern boundary of the cemetery along Harewood Road NW. From this high point, the topography of the cemetery gradually slopes downward as you move further north. The lowest point in the cemetery is near the intersection of Rock Creek Church Road NW/Allison Street NE with North Capitol Street NW/Clermont Drive NE where elevations range from 270 to 280 feet above MSL.⁶ **Figure 3-3** shows the topography within SAHNC.

3.4.1.2 Soils

Soils within SAHNC include the Bourne Series, Sassafras Series and Woodstown Series.⁷ These soils are described as very deep, fine-loamy soils that are moderately well drained and formed in marine and old fluvial and alluvial deposits.⁸

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey identifies two primary soil types at SAHNC: (1) Bourne-Urban Land Complex, 0-8 percent slopes and (2)

Woodstown-Urban Land Complex, 0-8 percent slopes.⁹ **Figure 3-4** shows the soils within SAHNC.

The Bourne-Urban land complex, 0-8 percent slopes map unit comprises the soils mapping for most of SAHNC (~72%). This map unit includes generally level to moderately sloped, moderately well drained Bourne soils that have been disturbed by urbanization. This complex consists of areas where about 40% of the surface is urban land, covered by impervious surfaces where soils have been covered by more than 20 inches of fill material. About 20% of this complex consists of areas of relatively undisturbed Bourne soils and 20% consists of disturbed Bourne soils. Additionally, sandy loam and silt loam soils make up about 20% of this complex. Permeability in this complex is generally slow, with runoff medium to rapid and hazard of erosion moderate to severe.

The Woodstown-Urban land complex, 0-8 percent slopes map unit, comprises about 20% of SAHNC. This map unit includes generally level to moderately sloped, moderately well drained Woodstown soils that have been disturbed by urbanization. This complex consists of areas where about 40% of the surface is urban land, covered by impervious surfaces where soils have been covered by more than 20 inches of fill material. About 20% of this complex consists of areas of relatively undisturbed Woodstown soils and 20% consists of disturbed Woodstown soils. Areas of Sassafras-Urban land complex make up an additional 20% of this complex. Permeability in this complex is moderate in undisturbed areas, with runoff medium to rapid and hazard of erosion moderate to severe.



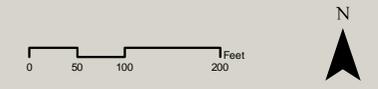
**Figure 3-3
Topography at SAHNC**

LEGEND

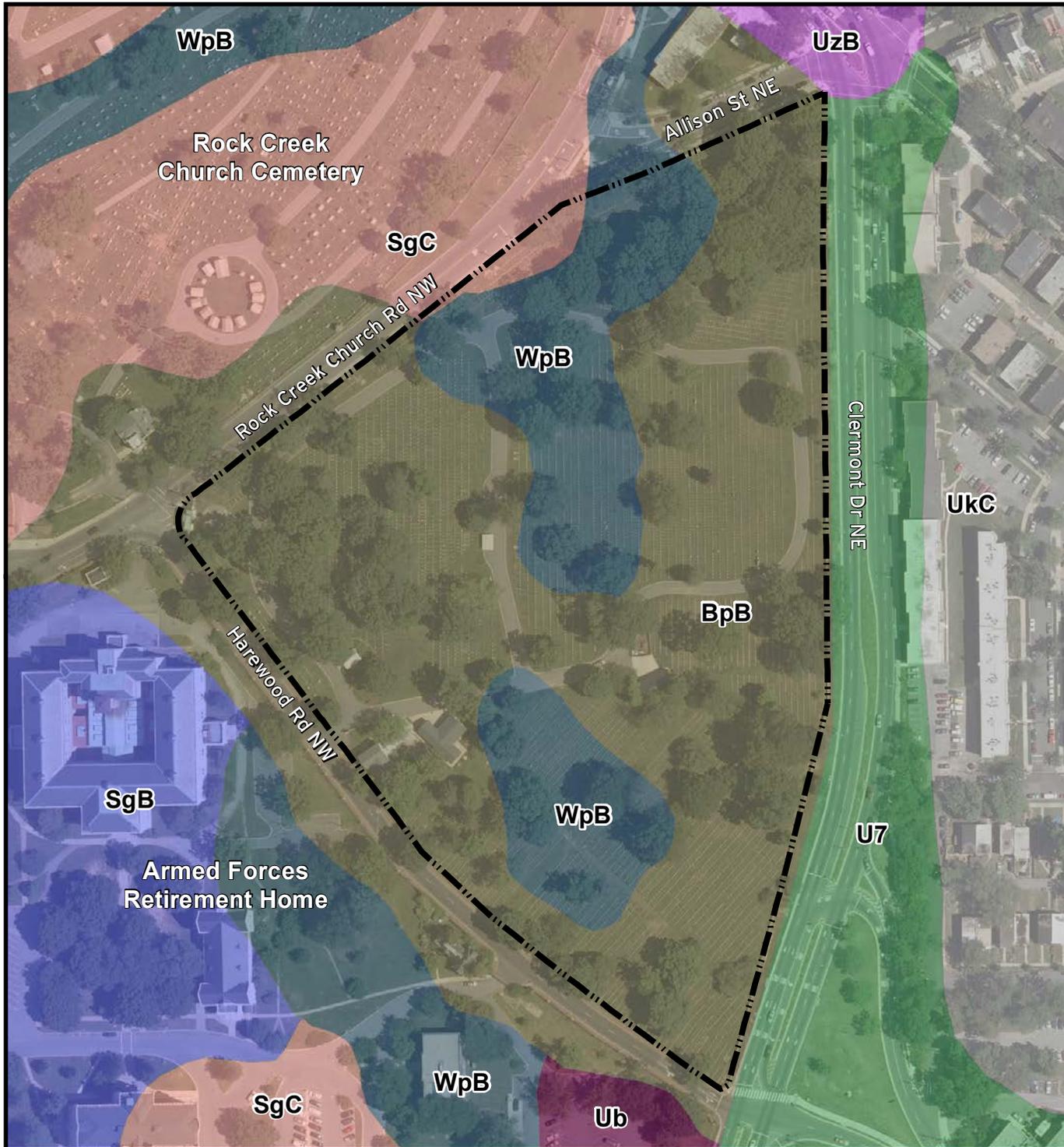
-  SAHNC Boundary
-  Contours

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Source: DC GIS



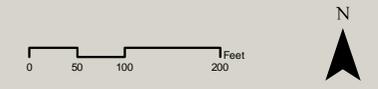
**Figure 3-4
Soils at SAHNC**

LEGEND

-  SAHNC Boundary
-  BpB - Bourne-Urban land complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes
-  WpB - Woodstown-Urban land complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes
-  SgC - Sassafras-Urban land complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes
-  U7 - Udorthents, gravelly, smoothed
-  UkC - Urban land-Croom complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes
-  Ub - Urban Land
-  SgB - Sassafras-Urban land complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes
-  UzB - Urban land-Woodstown complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes

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Source: ANC GIS, DC GIS

Neither of the soils are listed as hydric soils, nor are they considered prime or unique farmland.¹⁰

3.4.1.3 Geology

SAHNC is located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province at its boundary with the Piedmont Plateau to the west. In D.C., this boundary, known as the Fall Line, corresponds to Rock Creek. The Coastal Plain province has a flatter terrain than the typically hilly terrain found in the Piedmont Plateau. The Coastal Plain is underlain by younger less consolidated sediments that overlay the hard bedrock characteristic of the Piedmont Plateau province. The sediments range in age from Cretaceous at the bottom through Pleistocene and Recent at the top and include fluvial, channel fill, sand, gravel and some silt and clay.^{11, 12}

3.4.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance would be exceeded if the alternative would result in a geologic hazard, such as slope instability. A change in topography that is out of character with the cemetery or a permanent increase in soil erosion over predevelopment conditions would also result in a significant effect.

3.4.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Geology, Topography and Soils

3.4.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include new development and therefore, would not affect geology, topography or soils.

3.4.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action development is based on the existing topography at SAHNC. Projects do not include significant re-grading or earthwork at the site. Any changes to topography at SAHNC would be incidental and minor.

Conversion of the north-south roadway to a new interment area would temporarily disturb the soil in this area. Construction projects to maintain infrastructure may also temporarily disturb soil. BMPs will be incorporated into the design to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation as well as comply with applicable regulations.

Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would be expected to result in a temporary minor increase in soil erosion, an incidental and minor impact on topography and no impact on geology. Accordingly, the effects of the Proposed Action Alternative on topography, soils and geology would not approach the threshold of significance.

3.5 Water Resources

Water resources are protected by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended by the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977. The CWA establishes water quality standards for restoring and maintaining the integrity of the Nation's waters. Section 401 of the CWA requires certification by the state that the prospective federal permits comply with the state's applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. Section 402 of the CWA established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to limit pollutant discharges into streams, rivers and bays.

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EO 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal agencies to avoid adverse impacts to the floodplain and to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare. Adverse impacts include the occupancy or modification of floodplains through direct or indirect floodplain development. Under EO 11988, federal agencies are also required to take action to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains.

EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands, requires federal agencies to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands resulting from their actions. Section 404 of the CWA, as amended, requires regulation of discharges or fill matter into Waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands.

3.5.1 Affected Environment

SAHNC is located within the Middle Potomac-Anacostia-Occoquan Watershed and lies approximately 4.5 miles northeast of the Potomac River and 5 miles northwest of the Anacostia River.¹³ Water flows into and out of the District by way of the Potomac River, Anacostia River and Rock Creek. These waterways drain into the Potomac River that ultimately drains into the Chesapeake Bay.¹⁴ SAHNC is specifically located within the Anacostia River Watershed.

3.5.1.1 Groundwater

SAHNC is located within the Potomac Group of the Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain (NACP) Aquifer System. The NACP Aquifer System is a semiconsolidated sand aquifer system typical of the coastal plain where semiconsolidated and consolidated sediments are buried by unconsolidated

sands. Groundwater is not used as a drinking water supply in this area and the D.C. has no specific legislation directed at the management of groundwater.¹⁵

3.5.1.2 Surface Water (Streams, Rivers and Lakes)

The cemetery is located west of the Anacostia River, east of the Potomac River and east of Rock Creek, within the Anacostia River Watershed. There are no surface water sources within SAHNC.

3.5.1.3 Water Use Classification

According to the EPA, the designated use of the Potomac River, Anacostia River and Rock Creek in the vicinity of SAHNC (EPA Waterbody ID's DCPMSOOE_01, DCPMSOOE_02, DCANA00E_01, DCANA00E_02, DCRCR00R_01 and DCRCR00R_02) is primary contact recreation, navigation, aquatic life harvesting (protection and propagation of fish, shellfish and wildlife and protection of human health related to consumption of fish and shellfish), and secondary contact recreation and aesthetic enjoyment.

3.5.1.4 Water Quality (Surface and Groundwater)

The status of the Potomac River, Anacostia River and Rock Creek within the vicinity of SAHNC is overall impaired. The Potomac River is considered "good" for navigation, "impaired" for aquatic life harvesting and was not assessed for impairment of recreation or aesthetic value. The Anacostia River is "impaired" for aquatic life harvesting (protection of human health related to consumption of fish and shellfish) and aesthetic value, "good" for aquatic life harvesting (protection of propagation of fish,

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shellfish and wildlife) and not accessed for recreation. Rock Creek is “impaired” for aquatic life harvesting, and not accessed for aesthetics or recreation.¹⁶

Approximately 71% of the 45 miles of Potomac watershed streams and rivers in the District have been assessed. Of the miles assessed, D.C. found 100% of the Potomac watershed streams and rivers to be impaired.¹⁷

3.5.1.5 Water Supply

The Potomac River is D.C.’s water source. Water distributed to the District is treated to meet or exceed all water quality standards at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Washington Aqueduct treatment plant. The plant treats water from Great Falls on the Potomac River, which is then sold, to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority for distribution. The D.C. water system includes 1,300 miles of water pipelines where water is conveyed to the homes and businesses in the District.¹⁸

3.5.1.6 Stormwater Management

Stormwater at SAHNC flows through Washington, D.C., stormwater system facilities and into the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River.¹⁹

One-third of the sewage collection systems in the District are combined sewers that serve both sanitary flow and stormwater drainage. These combined sewers are common in the downtown area and older areas of the District, including SAHNC where a major combined sewer line runs directly under the cemetery. During large storm events, these sewers can result in combined sewer overflows (CSOs) when

the capacity of the system can no longer carry the flow to the treatment plant. In this case, the sewer system sends the overflow water to local waterways. D.C. Water currently has 53 CSO outfalls in their NPDES Permit. A CSO Abatement Program has been in effect for the last decade to minimize CSOs to receiving waters and maximize in-line storage.²⁰

3.5.1.7 Floodplains

A review of the current Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel number 1100010010C for Washington, D.C., indicates that the entire SAHNC property is classified as Zone X– Unzoned area determined to be outside the 500-year flood level.²¹

3.5.1.8 Wetlands

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory, there are no wetlands within SAHNC boundaries.²²

3.5.1.9 Chesapeake Bay Program

The District is a participating partner in the Chesapeake Bay Program, a regional partnership between federal, state and local agencies, nonprofit organizations and academic institutions, to direct the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. The District Department of the Environment (DDOE) carries out the program activities, and also operates the District Bay Program. The District Bay Program focuses on cleaning and attending to the Anacostia River, Potomac River and Rock Creek, all which ultimately discharge into the Chesapeake Bay.²³ The District also signed

the 2000 Chesapeake Bay Agreement, a pledge to accelerate efforts to clean up rivers and streams.

3.5.1.10 Watershed Implementation Plans

In 2010, the EPA issued Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) criteria for the Chesapeake Bay watershed in an effort to meet goals originally set but not reached in the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. The TMDLs set maximum load limits for nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment that jurisdictions may release into their waterways. The District has developed Chesapeake Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs). The Phase I WIP was completed in November 2010 and the Phase II WIP was completed in March 2012. These WIPs outline how the District will achieve the goals of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, including partnership with local partners and federal agencies within the District to manage pollution from stormwater runoff. As outlined in the WIPs, the District is positioned to reduce their nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment loads by 2025, with a 60% reduction by 2017.²⁴

3.5.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for water resources impacts would be exceeded if the alternative would result in the following:

- Alteration of local surface water;
- Change to regional groundwater patterns or depletion of groundwater;

3.5.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Water Resources

3.5.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include the needed infrastructure repairs. Therefore, the stormwater pipes and Superintendent's Lodge drain line would likely continue to deteriorate thereby causing negative impacts to water quality.

3.5.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

According to available information, no direct impacts would occur to surface water bodies, wetlands, or floodplains since these resources are not present in the project area.

New construction, including the conversion of the north-south roadway to an interment area will require implementation of stormwater management and erosion and sediment control measures during construction. Use of heavy equipment during development activities would slightly increase the potential for contamination of groundwater and stormwater due to hydraulic leaks from machinery. The potential for such impacts would be temporary and minimized with BMPs.

The removal of the north/south roadway would decrease the overall impervious surface area at SAHNC. This decrease in impervious surface would reduce the amount of stormwater moving off the site. Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would be expected to result in positive long-term impacts to water resources.

Negative impacts to water quality may also result with the Proposed Action Alternative because of the increase in area that would require ground maintenance. Additional pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer will likely be applied to maintain the added grounds. However, given that the increase in maintained area is less than three percent of the cemetery's total maintained area, the negative impact would be minor. Therefore, the effect of the Proposed Action Alternative on water resources would not approach the threshold of significance.

3.6 Biological Resources

Potential impacts to plants, wildlife and fish are evaluated in accordance with federal and state regulations including but not limited to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

3.6.1 Affected Environment

SAHNC is located on approximately 16 developed and landscaped acres. There are close to 200 trees representing 35 different species that are mostly mature native oaks and maples dispersed throughout the cemetery. The vegetation contributes to the beauty and serenity of the cemetery and consists of trees, grass/lawn, hedges and shrubs. The vegetative cover at SAHNC is illustrated in **Figure 3-5**.

The wildlife in and around SAHNC consist of animals that have adapted to the District's environment, including squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, raccoons, garter snakes, and songbirds.

3.6.1.1 Threatened and Endangered Species

The USFWS Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) tool identified one threatened or endangered species in the vicinity of SAHNC: the Hay's Spring amphipod (*Stygobromushayi*). This species is believed to occur in the District and Maryland.²⁵ This small aquatic amphipod is commonly referred to as D.C.'s most famous endemic. The shrimp-like colorless freshwater crustacean is 10 millimeters in length, with eyes lacking and body laterally compressed. The Hay's Spring amphipod is a detritivore (feeds on organic debris from decomposing plants, animals, and fecal material). A 2007 study by the USFWS stated, "Collectively, all seven known and probable sites are within a 3-mile reach of the Rock Creek floodplain and all are subject to similar environmental conditions."²⁶

3.6.1.2 Invasive Plant Species

Invasive plant species are defined as alien, exotic or non-native plants that escape cultivation and become agriculture pests, infest lawns as weeds, displace native plant species, reduce wildlife habitat and alter ecosystem processes. SAHNC recognizes the Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation (VDCR) and the Virginia Native Plant Society most recent (2009) invasive alien plant species advisory list as the reference for invasive plants.

SAHNC currently has two moderately invasive landscape plant species on the grounds of the cemetery, as categorized by the VDCR: *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple) and *Hedera helix* (English ivy).²⁷



**Figure 3-5
Vegetative Cover**

LEGEND

-  SAHNC Boundary
-  Deciduous
-  Turf

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Source: ANC GIS, DC GIS

Additional invasive plant species found at SAHNC include turf grass weeds. A Turf Management program for SAHNC accounts for the management of these weeds.²⁸

3.6.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for biological resources impacts would be exceeded if the alternative would:

- Jeopardize the continued existence of any federally listed threatened or endangered species or resulting in destruction of critical habitat;
- Decrease the available habitat for commonly found species to the extent that the species could no longer exist in the area; or
- Eliminate sensitive habitat such as breeding areas, habitats of local significance, or rare or state designated significant natural communities needed for the survival of a species.

3.6.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Biological Resources

3.6.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative includes no new development at SAHNC and therefore, would result in no impacts to biological resources at the cemetery.

3.6.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would increase vegetation at SAHNC. The conversion of the north/south roadway to new interment space would increase vegetative grass cover. New vegetation will

be compatible with the geographic region. The net increase in vegetation would result in a minor positive impact.

Existing vegetation may be disturbed and/or destroyed during construction. Rehabilitation of the Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house may require removal of the adjacent shrubs, perennials and annuals to accommodate scaffolding. However, the rehabilitation would not be expected to extend to the building foundation. Therefore, no tree root damage would be anticipated. Upon completion, of the reconstruction, the shrubs, perennials and annuals would be replaced. Removal of the north-south roadway may damage adjacent turf areas. This turf would be replaced as the area is converted to interments. Vegetation impacts due to the replacement of the chain-link fencing, and infrastructure improvements such as rebuilding roadways and repairing stormwater pipes would likely be limited to destruction of nearby turf. Precautions would be implemented to minimize these impacts and avoid any impact to nearby trees and their root systems. In all cases, vegetation would be replaced upon completion of construction projects. Therefore, construction would result in temporary minor impacts on biological resources that would not be expected to exceed the threshold of significance.

Federally threatened or endangered species would not be affected by the Proposed Action Alternative. The only identified endangered species in the vicinity of SAHNC was the Hay's Spring amphipod, which is only known to be located in the Rock Creek Watershed. SAHNC is not within the Rock Creek Watershed and

therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would not affect the known or probable sites for the Hay's Spring amphipod.

No new invasive vegetative species would be introduced as all landscape plans will be reviewed by ANC Horticulturist and Urban Forestry personnel for consistency with the Invasive Species Management Plan.

3.7 Cultural Resources

Cultural resources are defined as historic districts, sites (archaeological sites), buildings, structures, objects (e.g., memorials) and traditional cultural properties that are listed on, or are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP or National Register). Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the NRHP is the official list of the Nation's historic places that "is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archaeological resources."²⁹ The National Park Service (NPS) oversees the NRHP.

Section 106 of the NHPA outlines a historic preservation review process and requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertaking(s) on historic properties. If adverse effects on historic, archaeological, or cultural properties are identified, then agencies must attempt to avoid, minimize, or mitigate these impacts to resources considered important in our Nation's history.

Section 110 of the NHPA sets forth historic preservation responsibilities of federal agencies, which includes the requirement to have a historic preservation program in place to identify, evaluate and nominate eligible properties to the NRHP.³⁰ Army

Regulation 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*, is the primary Army policy governing the management of cultural resources. The regulation sets forth policies for the management of cultural resources under the Army's jurisdiction and requires integrated cultural resources management plans (ICRMPs) for use as a planning tool.

3.7.1 Affected Environment

The *Arlington National Cemetery (Including Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery) Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2013-2018* (ICRMP) describes objectives, policies and methods for the management of cultural resources at SAHNC.³¹

3.7.1.1 Archaeological Resources

There are no known archaeological resources within SAHNC.³² "Undocumented, significant archaeological resources may exist within the boundaries of Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, but it is probable that the effects of past land use have undermined their integrity."³³

3.7.1.2 Historic Resources

In 2012 a cultural resources planning level survey was completed as part of the ICRMP which concluded that SAHNC is eligible for listing on the NRHP as a historic district. A NRHP nomination is being completed.³⁴

Resources within a historic district are identified as "contributing" or "non-contributing" to the significance of the subject district. According to the Draft National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the SAHNC Historic District "The entirety of the cemetery is

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counted as one contributing site, and every resource except the small scale features within the boundaries is contributing to the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Historic District." Eleven resources were identified as contributing resources (3 buildings, 3 structures, 4 objects and 1 site feature).

The types of resources are defined as the following:

Buildings: Buildings are defined by the NRHP as structures intended to shelter some sort of human activity. Buildings at SAHNC can reflect the design of the cemetery—for example, the standards and specifications set forth by the Quartermaster General Meigs for national cemeteries during the late nineteenth century, such as the original Superintendent's Lodge.³⁵ The Superintendent's Lodge, carriage house and storage garage are identified as contributing buildings in the Draft NRHP Registration Form.

Structures: Structures are defined by the NRHP as functional constructions meant to be used for purposes other than sheltering human activity. Structures can either reflect design characteristics associated with the cemetery or commemorate our nation's military.³⁶ The boundary walls and fences, the Main Entrance Gate and the Lodge Gate are identified as contributing structures in the Draft NRHP Registration Form.

Objects: Memorials, memorial graves, and headstones at SAHNC represent the central burial and commemorative purpose of the cemetery and characterize those whose graves they mark and also distinct periods of the cemetery's history. Objects may also include flagpoles and fountains, but are usually artistic in nature.³⁷ The headstones

and marker, the Logan Mausoleum, the flagpole at the Main Entrance Gate, and the cannon located next to the Logan Mausoleum are identified as contributing objects in the Draft NRHP Registration Form.

Site features: Site features are those features of a site or historic district that add character but are not individually eligible or do not fall under the NRHP terms of building, object, or structure. These features can include circulation features (roads, parking lots paths, railways, or sidewalks); views and viewsheds, vegetation patterns, or natural features (ponds, streams, topographic features).³⁸ According to the Draft NRHP Registration Form, the topography, natural features and vegetation; circulation systems; and grouping of headstones are contributing site features. The ICRMP lists two views as contributing elements in the SAHNC historic district: (1) the view into the cemetery from the Ceremonial Gate; and (2) the view into the cemetery from the Harewood Gate.

3.7.1.3 NRHP Listed Properties in SAHNC Vicinity

Historic resources in the vicinity of SAHNC that are listed on the NRHP include the following:

- Adams Memorial
- Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington Historic District (previously the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home)
- Hampshire Garden Apartment Buildings
- Petworth Gardens

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- Rock Creek Church Yard and Cemetery
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church

3.7.1.4 National Historic Landmarks

In addition to the NRHP, the NPS also oversees the National Historic Landmarks (NHL) Program. The NHL Program is a federal designation program for historic places that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. (Note that properties designated NHLs are included in the NRHP.) The U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's Home has been designated as an NHL.³⁹

In 1974, the Secretary of the Interior designated four buildings built before the Civil War with six acres of land within the AFRH campus (previously the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home) as NHLs. In the same year, the designated historic landmarks were also listed in the NRHP. This designation honored the role of the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home in the development of the American military.⁴⁰

3.7.1.5 Historic Sites and Monuments

The D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites, as established by the D.C. HPO, lists the following as historic sites and landmarks within the vicinity of SAHNC:⁴¹

- Adams Memorial
- Civil War Fort Sites (Fort Totten)
- Hampshire Gardens Apartments
- Lincoln Cottage (Corn Rigs; Anderson Cottage)
- Petworth Gardens Apartments

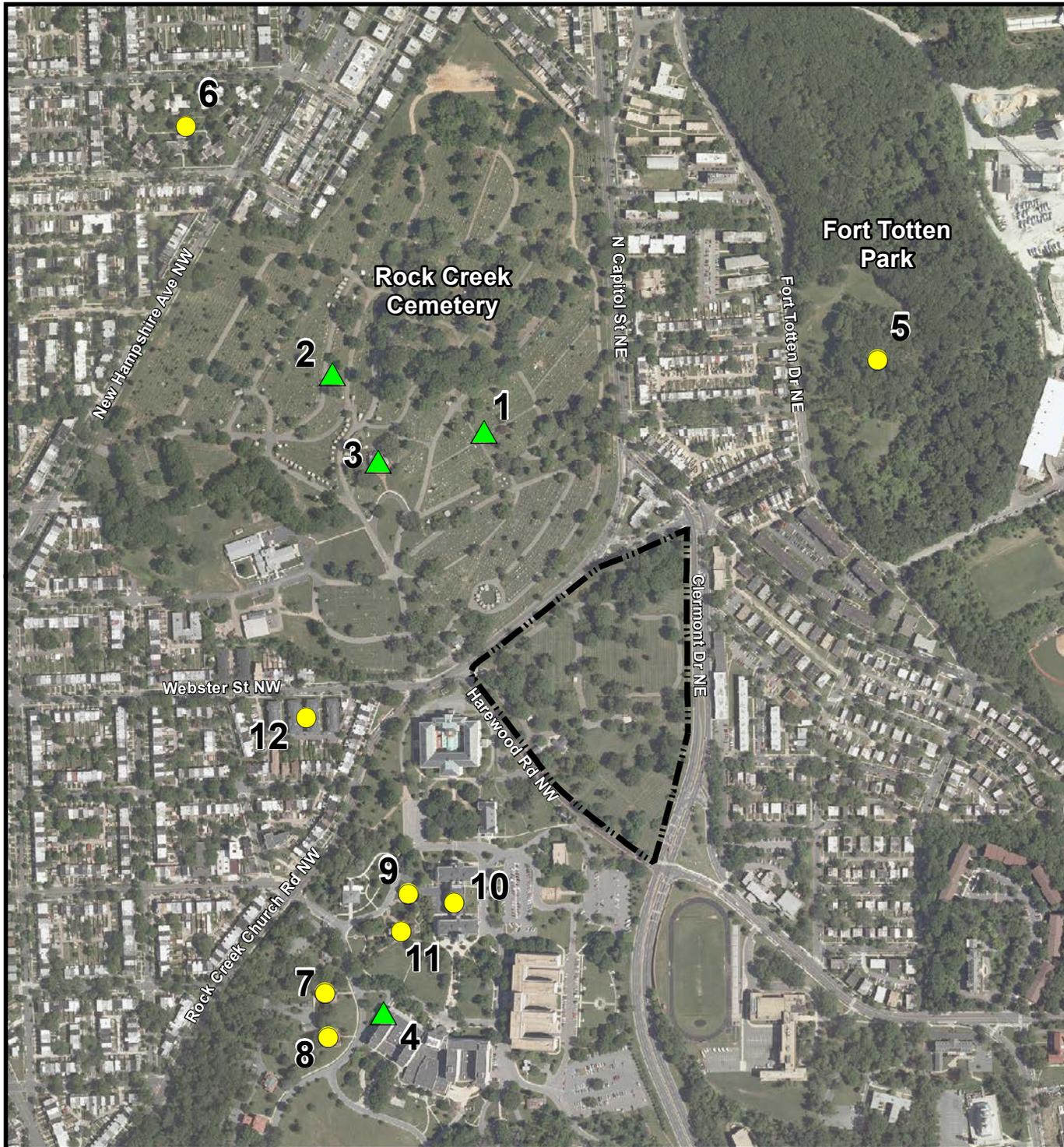
- Rock Creek Church Yard and Cemetery
- Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
- Soldier's Home, Main Building (Sherman Building), including:
 - Scott Building (Sherman Building South)
 - Annex
 - Sherman North
- Soldier's Home National Historic Site (United States Military Asylum), including:
 - Lincoln Cottage (Corn Rigs; Anderson Cottage)
 - Sherman Building South (Scott Building)
 - Quarters #1
 - Quarters #2

In 2000, President Clinton designated the Lincoln Cottage (also known as Anderson Cottage or Corn Rigs) and 2.3 acres of surrounding land to be known as the "President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home National Monument." The Lincoln Cottage was the residence of Lincoln's family for a quarter of his presidency and is located on the grounds of the AFRH, adjacent to SAHNC. In 2007, the AFRH was listed as a historic district on the NRHP.⁴²

Figure 3-6 shows the locations of sites listed on the NRHP and those listed on the D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites.

3.7.1.6 Native American Resources

SAHNC does not occupy tribal lands, and there are no known properties of religious or cultural significance to Indian tribes there.



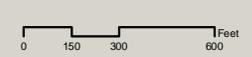
**Figure 3-6
Historic Resources**

LEGEND

-  SAHNC Boundary
-  National Register of Historic Places
 1. Adams Memorial
 2. Rock Creek Church Yard and Cemetery
 3. St. Paul's Episcopal Church
-  DC Historic Landmark
 4. U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home
 5. Fort Totten
 6. Hampshire Gardens Apts.
 7. Soldiers' Home NHS - Quarters #2
 8. Soldiers' Home NHS - Quarters #1
 9. Soldiers' Home NHS- Main Building
 10. Soldiers' Home NHS- Main Building
 11. Soldiers' Home NHS- Lincoln Cottage (Anderson Cottage)
 12. Webster Gardens (Petworth Gardens) Apartments

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Source:
National Register of Historic Places,
ANC GIS, DC GIS

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No human remains or artifacts pertinent to Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) are known for SAHNC, and there are no sites at SAHNC with religious significance specific to American Indians.⁴³

3.7.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for cultural resources would be exceeded if an adverse effect to a resource on or eligible to be on the NRHP could not be resolved with the D.C. HPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

3.7.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Cultural Resources

The Section 106 process, as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800, Protection of Historic Properties, is used to evaluate and address impacts to historic architectural and archaeological cultural resources. The Section 106 process includes the following basic steps:

- Initiate the Section 106 process
 - Determine whether the proposed action is an undertaking
 - Begin consultation
- Identify historic properties
 - Establish the area of potential effect (APE)
 - Review APE for properties on or eligible to be on the NRHP
- Assess adverse effects
- Resolve adverse effects

The first step in initiating the Section 106 process is to determine if the proposed

federal agency action is an undertaking and whether it has the potential to effect historic resources. "Undertaking means a project, activity or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a Federal agency; those carried out with Federal financial assistance; and those requiring a Federal permit, license or approval."⁴⁴

If it is determined that the action is an undertaking with the potential to effect historic resources, consultation begins. Consulting parties are identified and invited to participate in the Section 106 process. Consulting parties at a minimum include the state historic preservation officer (SHPO) and tribal historic preservation officer(s) (THPOs). For the District, the SHPO is the D.C. HPO.

Next, historic resources are identified by first establishing an APE. The APE is the study area for historical, architectural, archaeological and cultural resources. As such, it includes the area where the action may cause changes in the character or use of a historic resource.

Once established, the APE is reviewed to identify any properties listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP. If NRHP listed or eligible properties are identified within the APE, the potential for adverse effect is assessed. According to 36 CFR Part 800, "An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association."⁴⁵

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If adverse effects are found, consultation is conducted to resolve the adverse effects. The Federal agency consults to develop alternatives or modification to the undertaking that would avoid, minimize or mitigate the adverse effects. Once the SHPO/THPO and the Federal agency complete consultation on how the adverse effects will be resolved, a memorandum of agreement is prepared and executed.

3.7.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative includes no new development and, therefore, would not be an undertaking. Consequently, there would be no impact to historical, architectural, archaeological or cultural resources.

3.7.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

SAHNC determined that although the development of the RPMP is an undertaking, its preparation does not have the potential to cause adverse effects on historic properties. SAHNC will analyze the potential for adverse effects on historic properties on a case-by-case basis during implementation of the RPMP. SAHNC consulted with a D.C. HPO representative who agreed that the RPMP by itself did not have the potential to cause adverse effects and that there were insufficient details available at the time to consult on the specific projects.

Regardless, as this is a Programmatic EA in which the proposed development is to be evaluated to the fullest extent possible, an initial analysis of the potential for adverse effect was conducted.

A preliminary APE was established based on available information. Nearly all of the projects included in the Proposed Action

Alternative would take place on the SAHNC grounds. The only proposed project that would occur outside the SAHNC property is the repair of sidewalks along Harewood Road. Additionally, none of the proposed projects would be expected to result in more than minimal impacts to offsite resources beyond the sidewalks adjacent to SAHNC. Therefore, the preliminary APE was established to encompass all of SAHNC and the adjacent sidewalks. **Figure 3-7** illustrates the preliminary APE.

Next, the APE was reviewed to identify Section 106 resources—properties listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP within its boundaries. According to the ICRMP, there are no known archaeological resources within SAHNC. Furthermore, even if there are unknown resources within the SAHNC, the integrity of the resources was likely undermined by past land use. Therefore, it was concluded that there are no archaeological resources within the preliminary APE.

The APE was also reviewed to identify historic resources other than archaeological resources. According to the Draft NRHP Registration Form for the SAHNC Historic District “The entirety of the cemetery is counted as one contributing site, and every resource except the small scale features within the boundaries is contributing to the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Historic District.”⁴⁶ The contributing resources were considered Section 106 resources within the APE.

The potential for the Proposed Action Alternative to affect historic resources within the APE was considered. Removal of the north-south roadway could affect a historic resource because the circulation system



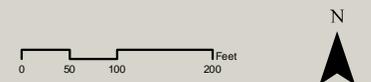
**Figure 3-7
Preliminary Area
of Potential Effect**

LEGEND

-  SAHNC Boundary
-  Preliminary Area of Potential Effect

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was identified as a contributing resource. The rehabilitation of the Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house could affect historic resources as both were identified as contributing resources. Maintaining the infrastructure such as repairing roads, sidewalks and stormwater pipes could also affect contributing resources. Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative could result in an adverse effect.

Initial analysis indicated that the Proposed Action Alternative could result in an adverse effect. Sufficient information required to complete the Section 106 process was not available. Detailed project information is needed to determine whether the Proposed Action Alternative would actually result in an adverse effect (i.e., whether the characteristics that qualified the resources as contributing would be affected). Therefore, SAHNC will complete the Section 106 process prior to implementing the Proposed Action Alternative. During project design, SAHNC will continue consultation and endeavor to avoid and minimize impacts. Should impacts be unavoidable, SAHNC, the D.C. HPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if appropriate, will consult on proper mitigation, enter into a memorandum of agreement and thus complete the Section 106 process.

3.8 Socioeconomic Impacts

NEPA requires an analysis of impacts to the human environment, which includes economic and social elements in the affected area. Indicators such as demographics, income levels, housing availability, business activity, public services demand and employment are considered in assessing socioeconomic impacts.

Analysis of socioeconomic impacts also includes evaluation of the potential for disproportionate impacts to children and environmental justice communities. EO 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, directs federal agencies to identify and assess disproportionate impacts to children's environmental health and safety risks. EO 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations*, regulates against federal actions that would result in high and adverse human health or environmental impacts that would disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations.

3.8.1 Affected Environment

Demographic and economic data are provided to describe the affected environment for socioeconomic impacts. This data is provided for the Region of Influence (ROI), which consists of the District.

The District has an estimated (2011) population of 617,996 people.⁴⁷ The population in the District increased 8 percent between 2000 and 2011. The forecast population in 2025 is 655,000, an increase of approximately 6 percent.⁴⁸

At 61 square miles in land area (2010), the District has a population density of 9,857 persons/square mile. As of 2011, there were 298,902 housing units in the District, with an average of 2.13 persons per household.⁴⁹

The majority of the population in the District is Black (50.7%), with White/not Hispanic persons making up the next largest group (35.3%), followed by Hispanic/Latinos

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(9.5%). See **Table 3.2** for District of Columbia and United States population and demographic information.

There are 21,502 businesses in the District, with the highest percentage (23%) of businesses in the professional, scientific and technical services field. Other industries prevalent in the District include accommodation and food services (10.5%), health care and social assistance (10.0%) and other services (except public administration) (19%).⁵⁰

As shown in **Table 3.3**, the District has a significantly higher per capita income than the U.S., but also has a greater percentage of persons below the poverty level. The percentage of the population with a bachelor's degree or higher is 49.2 percent, which is significantly greater than the U.S. (27.9%). The median household income is \$58,526, which is higher than, but comparable to, the U.S. median income (\$51,914).⁵¹

Table 3.2
District of Columbia Population and Demographics

	District of Columbia	USA
Population (2011 Estimate)	617,996	311,591,917
Persons per square mile (2010)	9,857	87.4
Housing		
Housing Units, 2011	298,902	132,312,404
Households, 2007-2011	260,136	114,761,359
Persons per household, 2007-2011	2.13	2.60
Race		
White persons, percent, 2011 (a)	42.4%	78.1%
Black persons, percent, 2011 (a)	50.7%	13.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2011 (a)	0.6%	1.2%
Asian persons, percent, 2011 (a)	3.7%	5.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons, percent, 2011 (a)	0.1%	0.2%
Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2011	2.5%	2.3%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin, percent, 2011 (b)	9.5%	16.7%
White persons not Hispanic, percent, 2011	35.3%	63.4%

Notes:

(a) Includes persons reporting only one race.

(b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, QuickFacts, 18-Sep-2012.

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Table 3.3

District of Columbia Education and Income

	District of Columbia	USA
Education		
High school graduates, pct of persons age 25+	86.5%	85.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+	49.2%	27.9%
Income		
Median Household Income, 2006-2010	\$58,526	\$51,914
Per capita income (2010 dollars)	\$42,078	\$27,334
Persons below the poverty level, 2006-2010	18.5%	13.8%

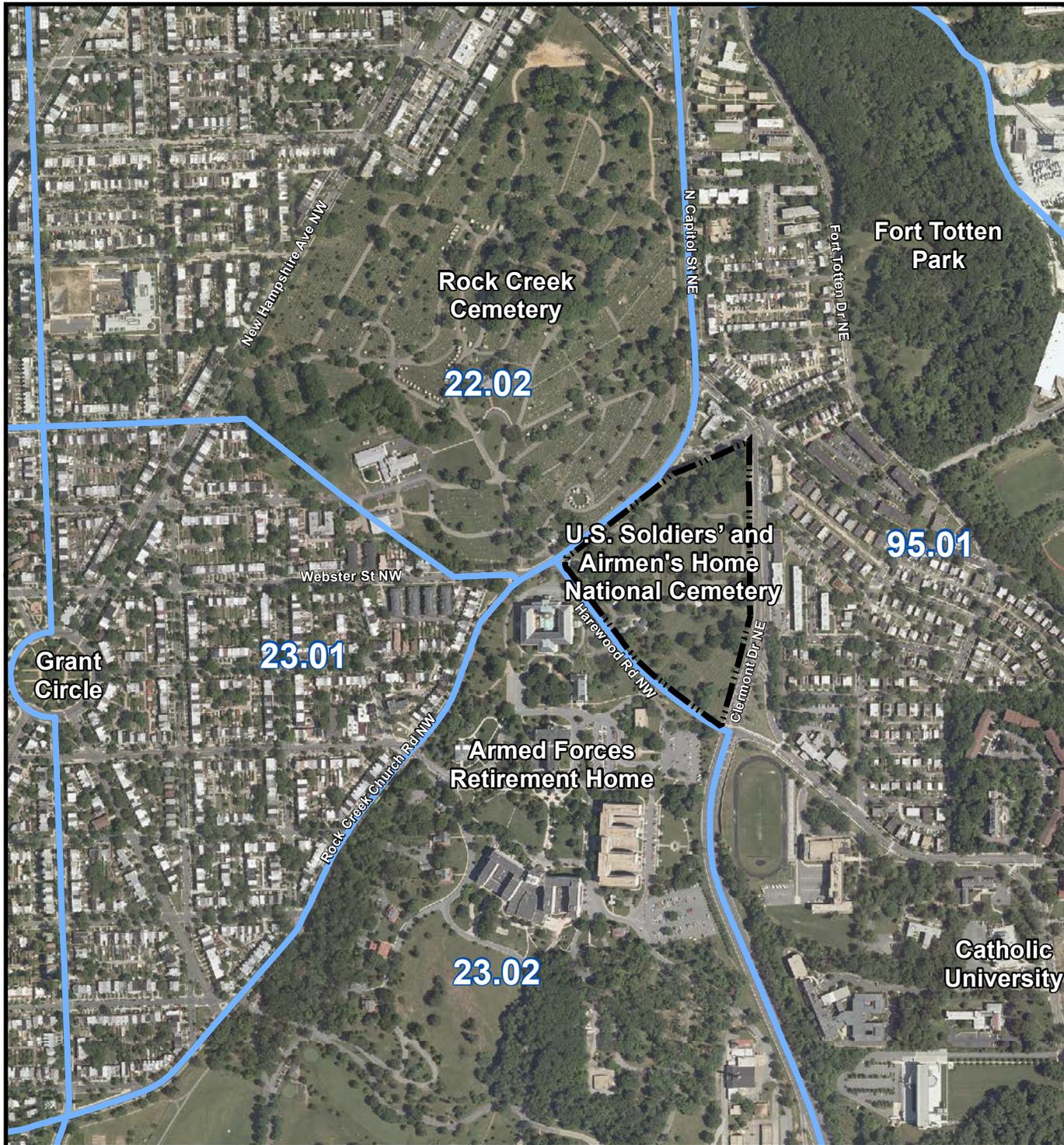
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, QuickFacts, 18-Sep-2012.

Demographic and economic data are provided not only to describe the existing socioeconomic conditions but also to determine if a minority or low-income population is within the area affected by the alternatives. In accordance with CEQ guidelines, minority populations are defined as areas where racial minorities comprise 50 percent or more of the total population or where the minority percentage is meaningfully greater than that of the general population or appropriate geographic area. Low-income populations are defined by considering the Census Bureau's poverty data.

Demographic and economic data were reviewed for the potentially affected area. The potentially affected area includes the four census tracks adjacent to SAHNC. **Figure 3-8** shows the four census tracts (CTs) adjacent to SAHNC. CT 95.01

includes SAHNC, residential areas to the east, Catholic University of America and Fort Totten Park; CT 23.02 includes AFRH and a small area east of AFRH; CT 23.01 includes area southwest of SAHNC and east of Grant Circle; and CT 22.02 includes Rock Creek Cemetery and the land northeast of Rock Creek Cemetery.

Tables 3.4 and **3.5** show demographic and economic data for these census tracts and for the District as a whole. Table 3.4 shows the racial composition of the subject census tracts. The racial minorities in the census tracts comprise more than 50 percent of the general population. Therefore, these tracts are considered minority populations for the purposes of assessing environmental justice impacts.



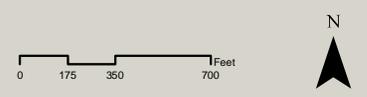
**Figure 3-8
Census Tracts**

LEGEND

-  SAHNC Boundary
-  Census Tract

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ANC DIS, DC GIS

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Table 3.4

Minority Population in Census Tracts Surrounding SAHNC

	Neighborhood								District of Columbia	
	Census Tract 95.01		Census Tract 23.02		Census Tract 23.01		Census Tract 22.02			
Population	6,243		1,564		3,059		3,101		593,955	
White	1,787	28.6%	431	27.6%	381	12.5%	316	10.2%	231,122	38.9%
Black or African American	3,813	61.1%	993	63.5%	2,315	75.7%	2,414	77.8%	308,516	51.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	27	0.4%	0	0.0%	81	2.6%	0	0.0%	1,779	0.3%
Asian	150	2.4%	49	3.1%	7	0.2%	0	0.0%	20,773	3.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	311	0.1%
Some Other Race	422	6.8%	11	0.7%	217	7.1%	323	10.4%	20,095	3.4%
Two or More Races	44	0.7%	80	5.1%	58	1.9%	48	1.5%	11,359	1.9%
% Minority (Non-White)	--	71.4%	--	72.4%	--	87.5%	--	89.8%	--	61.1%

Note: 2010 data at neighborhood/block level from US Census (2010) not available for Minority and Income population, therefore Census Tracts containing neighborhoods were assessed.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey. (Table B02001)

Table 3.5

**Median Household Income and Percent Below Poverty Level
in Census Tracts Surrounding SAHNC**

	Neighborhood				District of Columbia
	Census Tract 95.01	Census Tract 23.02	Census Tract 23.01	Census Tract 22.02	
Median Household Income (2011 Inflation-Adj Dollars)	\$40,528	\$54,022	\$54,167	\$44,096	\$61,835
Percent Below Poverty Level – Individuals	25.2%	27.6%	15.4%	13.8%	18.2%
Percent Below Poverty Level – Families	29.2%	0.0%	9.3%	12.7%	13.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey (Tables S1701 and S1702).

Table 3.5 shows the median household incomes and percentages of population with incomes below the poverty level. The median household income in the District is \$61,835. In the CTs surrounding SAHNC, the median household income ranges from \$40,528 in CT 95.01 (east of SAHNC) to \$54,167 in CT 23.01 (southwest of

SAHNC). All of the subject census tracts have populations with incomes below the poverty level. Since all of these tracts are considered minority populations, additional analysis to determine if they are also considered low-income populations was not conducted.

3.8.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for socioeconomic impacts would be exceeded in the event the alternative resulted any of the following:

- Substantial change to location or distribution of population;
- Substantial change in income, employment or tax base; or
- High and adverse human health or environmental impacts that would disproportionately affect minority and low-income population.

3.8.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Socioeconomics

3.8.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative includes no new development at SAHNC and therefore, would result in no impacts to socioeconomic characteristics at or near the cemetery.

3.8.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would not affect demographics, income levels, housing availability, businesses, public services demand or employment.

Due to the proximity of the Clermont Apartments and housing located along Clermont Drive NE, adjacent to the eastern boundary of SAHNC, there is potential for minor short-term construction noise impacts. The construction crews would, as a courtesy to D.C., work in accordance with D.C. Municipal Noise Control Regulations, which include maximum decibel levels. Accordingly, the temporary increases in noise due to construction activities are not anticipated to approach the level of significance.

Once implemented, however, the projects at SAHNC would have no adverse impact on the surrounding residents.

The only proposed project outside of the cemetery boundaries is potential repair of sidewalks along the perimeter of SAHNC; this project would result in beneficial impacts to surrounding communities.

Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would not result in socioeconomic impacts. Furthermore, there would be no significant impacts to the communities around SAHNC. Therefore, there would be no disproportionate high adverse impacts to children or environmental justice communities.

3.9 Traffic and Transportation

3.9.1 Affected Environment

The affected environment in terms of traffic and transportation includes the area bounded by North Capitol Street NW/Clermont Drive NE on the east, Rock Creek Church Road NW/Allison Street NE on the northwest and Harewood Road NW on the southwest.

3.9.1.1 Access to the Cemetery

Vehicular Access via Harewood Road NW

The only vehicle access to SAHNC is from Harewood Road NW between its intersection with Rock Creek Church Road NW and Clermont Drive NE. Harewood Road NW is a two-lane, one-way road which runs northwest-southeast between SAHNC and the AFRH campus. The road is accessed via Rock Creek Church Road NW. Vehicles enter SAHNC by turning left off of Harewood Road NW.

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Metrorail/Bus Access

The nearest Metrorail stations to SAHNC are the Georgia Avenue/Petworth (1.1 miles), Fort Totten (1.1 miles) and Brookland-Catholic University of America (1.3 miles) Metrorail stops. No Metrorail station is safely accessible by foot from SAHNC, however all Metrorail stations are located on bus lines. There are numerous bus stops along the roads surrounding SAHNC with sidewalk access to the cemetery.

Pedestrian Access and Circulation

SAHNC is open to the public. The ceremonial pedestrian gate located at the western corner of SAHNC is typically locked and therefore pedestrian access is limited to the vehicular gate entrance located on Harewood Road NW. There are sidewalks along the exterior boundary of SAHNC, with the exception of along Clermont Drive NE. However, portions of these sidewalks are in serious need of repair.

Bicycle Access

There are no bicycle routes located around the cemetery. The closest designated routes are "on-street signed routes" located to the north along Fort Totten Park and to the southeast adjacent to the Catholic University of America. Clermont Drive NE and Rock Creek Church Road NW are designated as having "fair" traffic condition for bicycling and Harewood Drive NW is designated as having "poor" traffic conditions for bicycling.⁵²

3.9.1.2 Circulation within the Cemetery

Vehicular Circulation and Parking

Circulation within SAHNC is served by a road loop beginning and ending at the vehicular entrance on Harewood Road NW

and running through the northern half of the cemetery. There is an additional road that runs north-south through the center of this loop. There is no parking lot at SAHNC; however, visitor parking is available along the road near the Superintendent's Lodge, as well as along all internal roadways of the cemetery.

Committal Services

An average of seven to ten committal services take place each year at SAHNC. They usually originate at the Superintendent's Lodge and proceed to the interment site or committal shelter via the internal roadways. Processions may include vehicles or a military Honor Guard.

Pedestrian Circulation

Pedestrians use the roadways within SAHNC since vehicle volumes are very low and there is not a sidewalk system within the cemetery. There are some benches available within the cemetery for resting. There are also wide grass pathways between sections of headstones for visitors to navigate to a specific gravesite within SAHNC.

3.9.1.3 Surrounding Transportation Plans and Projects

There are no regional planning considerations that affect near or mid-term master planning considerations for SAHNC. The location of the cemetery is in a mature, developed quadrant of Washington, D.C.

3.9.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance would be exceeded if the alternative would cause substantial long-term degradation of intersection or roadway levels of service.

3.9.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Traffic and Transportation

3.9.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include the needed infrastructure repairs. Therefore, the internal roads and sidewalks would continue to deteriorate.

3.9.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would not alter vehicular access to the cemetery because there are no changes to roadways surrounding SAHNC. In addition, the movement of construction equipment to and from the cemetery would not be expected to impact surrounding roadways. The projects are relatively small and the type of construction equipment required will likely be similar to those used for residential construction.

Potential repairs to the sidewalks within and surrounding the cemetery would result in improved general pedestrian safety.

Conversion of the internal north-south roadway to new interment space would alter circulation within the cemetery. As a result, vehicles and pedestrians would be limited to the internal road loop within SAHNC. Minimal if any impact is expected from the closing of the internal north/south roadway because the vehicle traffic within the cemetery is minimal.

Therefore, the effects of the Proposed Action Alternative on traffic and transportation would not approach the threshold of significance.

3.10 Utilities

3.10.1 Affected Environment

SAHNC is served by water, sewer, stormwater, electric and gas utilities. In general, all utilities are in serviceable condition but some portions of the internal stormwater system are in need of evaluation and repair.

Potable water is supplied to SAHNC by the USACE Washington Aqueduct Division, which is the municipal source of drinking water for D.C., Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. The Washington Aqueduct is a federally owned and operated public water supply agency that produces an average of 180 million gallons of water per day at two treatment plants located in the District.⁵³

Stormwater is collected through a system of storm drains and pipes that lead to the combined sewer system managed by the DDOE. Components of the existing stormwater system at SAHNC are in need of repair.

Pepco supplies electrical service to SAHNC and the entire District of Columbia. SAHNC has below-ground power lines.

Natural gas at SAHNC is provided by Washington Gas Company.

3.10.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for utility impacts would be exceeded if the alternative would result in an increase in demand requiring substantial utility improvements. Long-term disruption of utilities in the neighboring areas would also result in a utility impact that would exceed the threshold of significance.

3.10.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Utilities

3.10.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include the needed infrastructure repairs. Therefore, the stormwater pipes and Lodge drain line would likely continue to deteriorate thereby causing negative utility impacts.

3.10.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

All public distribution systems that bring utilities to SAHNC are considered adequate to support the proposed development that would occur due to the Proposed Action Alternative. The Proposed Action Alternative includes assessment and repair of the stormwater system at SAHNC. Minor, negative short-term impacts may occur during the actual repair of the stormwater system. However, the Proposed Action Alternative would result in a positive long-term impact to the stormwater system at the cemetery.

3.11 Solid Waste

Solid waste is regulated under federal, state and local laws. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) is the federal act that governs the collection, treatment, storage and disposal of solid waste.⁵⁴ The District of Columbia Department of Public Works (DPW) has its own solid waste, sanitation, and recycling regulations. The DPW's Solid Waste Management Administration "performs a number of daily operations including trash and recycling collection, sanitation education and enforcement, graffiti removal, public littercan service, fall leaf collection, and street and alley cleaning."⁵⁵

3.11.1 Affected Environment

The main non-hazardous solid waste generators at SAHNC include maintenance activities, interments and visitors. In accordance with Army Regulation (AR) 420-1, *Army Facilities Management*, "Army solid waste policy is based on the concept of Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM). Planning for ISWM is designed to minimize the initial input to the waste stream through source reduction, reducing the volume of the waste stream requiring disposal through re-use and recycling, and finally disposing of solid waste through the effective combination of composting, incineration, or landfill treatment."⁵⁶

3.11.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for solid waste impacts would be exceeded if the alternative would cause the diversion rate of SAHNC's nonhazardous solid waste to be below 50 percent. The diversion rate is the percentage of nonhazardous solid waste that is diverted from entering a disposal facility.

3.11.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Solid Waste

3.11.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative includes no new development and therefore would not cause an increase in solid waste. Additionally, once available burial space is exhausted, solid waste would no longer be generated as part of preparing gravesites. Therefore, the No Action Alternative would ultimately reduce solid waste. However, given only seven to ten committal services are conducted annually, the ultimate reduction in solid waste would be minimal.

3.11.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative allows interments to continue at SAHNC. Given that the number of annual interments is not expected to change, the amount of annual waste generated by future interments would be the same as generated today. Only seven to ten committal services are conducted annually at SAHNC. Therefore, the related amount of annual solid waste would continue to be minimal. Additionally, the small amount of solid waste generated by interments would not be expected to exceed disposal capacity.

During construction activities, there would be a temporary increase in the amount of solid waste generated at the project site. In accordance with AR 420-1, *Army Facilities Management*, contracts for construction include a performance requirement to divert a minimum of fifty percent of construction waste from landfill disposal. In addition, contractors would be required to submit a construction and demolition waste management plan. Due to diversion requirements and implementation of waste management plans, the temporary increase in solid waste would not be expected to decrease the diversion rate to below 50 percent. Accordingly, it is not anticipated that the impact of the Proposed Action Alternative would exceed the threshold of significance for solid waste.

3.12 Hazardous Materials and Waste

The potential to generate, treat, store, disturb or dispose of hazardous materials and waste is considered in accordance with applicable laws. Relevant hazardous materials and waste statutes include RCRA, as amended by the Federal Facilities Compliance Act of 1992, and the

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended. RCRA governs the generation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes. CERCLA (Superfund) provides remedies for uncontrolled and abandoned hazardous waste sites.

“Hazardous materials are defined as any substance with physical properties of ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity that may cause an increase in mortality, a serious irreversible illness, incapacitating reversible illness, or pose a substantial threat to human health or the environment. Hazardous waste is defined as any solid, liquid, contained gaseous, or semi-solid waste, or any combination of wastes that poses a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment.”⁵⁷ Hazardous materials and waste may be released into the environment when improperly stored, transported, or otherwise managed. When released, they can significantly affect human health, safety and/or the environment.

3.12.1 Affected Environment

3.12.1.1 Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials such as paint and pesticides are used to maintain SAHNC facilities and grounds. There are no chemicals or hazardous materials stored at SAHNC. However, maintenance items such as bleach and gasoline have been stored on the grounds in the past. In addition, given the age of Superintendent's Lodge and the carriage house, asbestos and lead paint are likely present.

3.12.1.2 Hazardous Waste

Typical types of hazardous waste that may be generated at the cemetery due to routine maintenance and care include used batteries, aerosol cans, paints, paint thinner, and oils and solvents.

3.12.1.3 Potential Site Contamination

According to the EPA, there are no reported toxic release sites in the vicinity of SAHNC.⁵⁸ In addition, according to D.C. GIS, there are no underground storage tanks (USTs) at SAHNC or in the area immediately surrounding the cemetery.⁵⁹ Per discussion with the Superintendent, there was a storage tank at SAHNC that was ultimately removed. No site assessments have been conducted at SAHNC to verify the absence of toxic releases or storage tanks. Therefore, a site assessment may be needed to determine the presence of any hazardous site contamination within the area to be disturbed by construction.

3.12.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance for hazardous materials and waste impacts would be exceeded if the alternative resulted in a substantial increase in hazardous waste. A substantial increase would occur if the amount of hazardous waste generated would cause SAHNC to be classified as a small quantity generator. A small quantity generator produces more than 100 kilograms, but less than 1,000 kilograms of hazardous waste per month.

3.12.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Hazardous Materials and Waste

3.12.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative includes no new development at SAHNC and therefore, would result in no impacts to hazardous materials and waste at the cemetery.

3.12.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

While the Proposed Action Alternative would not change the total area of the cemetery, the conversion of the north-south road would increase the amount of interment area to maintain. Maintenance of this area may require the use of hazardous materials such as pesticides and herbicides and generate hazardous waste; however, any changes would be insignificant when compared to overall cemetery maintenance activities.

As with all construction activities, reconstructing the maintenance yard storage enclosure, rehabilitating the Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house, and converting the internal north/south roadway to interment space could generate solvent waste, acids/bases and used oil due to general vehicle equipment maintenance.⁶⁰ In addition, the rehabilitation of the Superintendent's Lodge and carriage house would require removal of asbestos and lead paint. Since all hazardous materials would be handled and disposed of in accordance with federal law, it is not anticipated that the construction activities will result in impacts to the environment from release of hazardous waste or materials.

Therefore, hazardous materials and waste impacts would not approach the threshold of significance.

3.13 Visual and Aesthetic Resources

3.13.1 Affected Environment

The views within SAHNC convey a sense of serenity and history. The landscaped green hills with thousands of white headstones and 200 mature trees contribute to the iconic nature of SAHNC.

SAHNC may be viewed from numerous locations outside the cemetery. SAHNC is easily visible along the northern, western and southeastern boundaries from roadways and adjacent sites, including from the Rock Creek Cemetery to the west. Prominent features of the cemetery are visible from Harewood Road NW, including the main gate, vehicular gate, Superintendent's Lodge and Logan Mausoleum. Views are more limited along the northeastern boundary from North Capitol Street NW/Clermont Drive NE due to the fact the road sits approximately 10 to 20 feet lower than the cemetery. Barriers to views into SAHNC include a few areas of densely lined trees within SAHNC and the stone retaining wall that runs parallel to a portion of North Capitol Street NW/Clermont Drive NE.

Two views into SAHNC are of particular note. These views include:

- (1) View into SAHNC from the Ceremonial Gate; and
- (2) View into SAHNC from the Harewood Road gate.⁶¹

Views from SAHNC are also notable. For example, from the main gate at the western corner of the cemetery, as well as along the west side of SAHNC, views of Rock Creek Cemetery are visible across Rock Creek Church Road NW. From the southwestern portions of SAHNC, including from the Superintendent's Lodge and the Logan Mausoleum, the south façade of the Grant Building at the AFRH is visible along with views into the AFRH campus. Views to the east of the cemetery across Clermont Drive NE are of low rise apartment buildings. Trees within the northern tip of SAHNC bordering Allison Street NE act as a barrier to views of vehicular traffic outside the cemetery.

3.13.2 Threshold of Significance

The threshold of significance would be exceeded if an aesthetic effect or visual obstruction would diminish the integrity of a historic resource to the point where it would no longer qualify for NRHP listing.

3.13.3 Environmental Consequences of the Alternatives on Visual and Aesthetic Resources

3.13.3.1 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative does not include new development and therefore would not affect visual or aesthetic resources.

3.13.3.2 Proposed Action Alternative

The proposed improvements at SAHNC would result in beneficial impacts to visual and aesthetic resources. Replacing the existing (contemporary) chain-link fencing around the storage yard with a more traditional stone or brick boundary wall would be aesthetically beneficial to the

cemetery. The change in fencing material would result in views and aesthetics that are consistent with the iconic, historic image of SAHNC.

3.14 Cumulative Effects

*The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508) require that cumulative impacts are addressed as part of the NEPA process. The CEQ Regulations define a cumulative impact as "...the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time."*⁶²

Since the impacts of the Proposed Action Alternative would not be expected to extend beyond the cemetery itself, only projects on adjacent properties were considered in evaluating cumulative effects. Only one project was identified on an adjacent property, the AFRH – Washington Scott Project.

The AFRH – Washington Scott Project (Scott Project) is a multi-phase project to consolidate and modernize both residential and healthcare facilities. Existing AFRH buildings are aging and need major upgrades. The project entails replacing the existing Scott Building with a new building, which includes moving residents to other buildings, demolishing and rebuilding a facility, and renovating additional facilities.

This project has been ongoing since 2009, and is currently scheduled for completion in late 2013.⁶³

The threshold of significance described for each environmental resource applies for cumulative effects as well.

Table 3.6 provides a summary of the cumulative effects of the AFRH Washington Scott Project and the Proposed Action (SAHNC Master Plan Projects).

3.15 Summary of Environmental Consequences

Table 3.7 summarizes the environmental impact (if any) associated with the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives. **Table 3.8** summarizes the commitments for the Proposed Action Alternative by environmental resource category (if any). Based on the information currently available, the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the SAHNC RPMP are not anticipated to result in significant impacts to the human and natural environments. As noted in the analysis, the effects on cultural resources will require further project level NEPA analysis. In the event that a future project-specific NEPA analysis reveals direct or indirect impacts, the cumulative effects analysis, taking into account those impacts, will be re-assessed as appropriate.

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Table 3.6

Cumulative Effects Summary

Impact Category	AFRH – Washington Scott Project	SAHNC Master Plan Projects	Cumulative Effects Summary
Land Use	Minor positive impact. Project area and adjacent uses are on AFRH property.	Land use would be compatible with local land use and land use plans. Positive impacts to sustainability.	No potential cumulative effects.
Air Quality	Localized impacts to air quality during project construction. No long-term impact during operation.	Temporary minor impacts due to construction equipment air emissions. Minor changes in vehicular and maintenance activities result in minor long-term increases in air emissions.	Minor temporary impacts due to construction. Long-term negligible change in air emissions.
Noise	Temporary impacts due to construction equipment. No long-term impact during operation.	Temporary minor impacts due to construction equipment. No long-term impact.	Temporary impacts due to construction. No long-term impact.
Soils, Topography and Geology	Temporary adverse impacts to topography and soils from construction activities.	Temporary minor impacts to soils from construction activities. Minor incidental long-term change in topography.	Temporary adverse impacts from construction activities. Minor incidental long-term change in topography
Water resources	Construction of new building would have a negligible impact on recharge of groundwater. No direct impacts to surface water, wetlands, or floodplains. Sediment and erosion control plan implemented in accordance with District of Columbia regulations. Minor positive impacts during operation due to reduced building footprint.	No direct impacts to surface water, wetlands, or floodplains. Implementation of erosion and sediment control measures for soils minimize potential indirect impacts to local surface waters. BMPs would be used to minimize construction impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts due to decreased impervious surface. Long-term minor adverse effect due to increased cemetery area to maintain.	Long-term beneficial impacts due to decreased impervious surface. No direct impacts to surface water, wetlands, or floodplains. Long-term minor adverse effect due to increased cemetery area to maintain.

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Table 3.6

Cumulative Effects Summary

Impact Category	AFRH – Washington Scott Project	SAHNC Master Plan Projects	Cumulative Effects Summary
Biological Resources	Minor positive impact due to increase in vegetation created by decreased building footprint.	Minor positive impact due to increase in vegetation. Temporary minor impacts to vegetation during construction.	Temporary minor impacts to vegetation during construction. Positive long-term impact due to increase in vegetation.
Cultural Resources	No impacts to archeological resources. Improvement of views to historic Lincoln Cottage due to replacement of old Scott Building with new smaller facility.	Effects to cultural resources are evaluated as projects are undertaken.	Proposed projects are not anticipated to result in significant impacts. If project-specific NEPA analysis reveals significant impacts, there must be a finding that they are below the threshold of significance or further NEPA analysis would occur before the project will be initiated.
Socioeconomic Impacts	Benefits to regional economic activity as a result of construction firms hired, purchasing of building materials and supplies, and spending by construction workers.	There is the potential for minor short-term construction impacts to a minority community.	Overall economic and community impacts expected to be positive.
Traffic and Transportation	Temporary impacts due to construction vehicles and traffic. No long-term impacts to roadways surrounding AFRH.	No impacts to roadways surrounding SAHNC. Potential repairs to sidewalks around SAHNC would result in beneficial impacts to pedestrians.	Temporary impacts due to construction vehicles and traffic. Improvement to sidewalks results in long-term positive impacts to pedestrians.
Utilities	Any utilities would be avoided and/or relocated. Insignificant impacts.	Improvements to stormwater system would result in positive impact.	Positive impact to stormwater system.

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Table 3.6

Cumulative Effects Summary

Impact Category	AFRH – Washington Scott Project	SAHNC Master Plan Projects	Cumulative Effects Summary
Solid Waste, Hazardous Materials and Waste	Increase in solid waste due to construction will be disposed of by private hauling services, resulting in temporary impacts.	Continued generation of minor amount of solid waste due to interments. Minor short-term increase in use of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous waste due to construction. Minor long-term increase in use of hazardous materials due to increased area to maintain.	Long-term generation of minor amounts of solid waste. Temporary minor construction impacts. Minor long-term increase in use of hazardous materials.
Visual and Aesthetic Resources	Positive impact due to improved views of Lincoln Cottage, and replacement of an old deteriorated building with a functional and aesthetically pleasing facility.	Positive impact due to the improved views	Overall positive long-term impacts due to improvement of views, and removal of deteriorated facilities.

Notes:

Minor Impact /Minimal Impact – the project would have little effect on the resource and therefore would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

No significant Impact – the effect of the project on the resource would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

Positive Impact – the project would have a beneficial effect on the subject resource.

Sources: Armed Forces Retirement Home. *Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington Residential and Medical Facilities Consolidation and Modernization: Finding of No Significant Impact*. April 2, 2010, and HNTB analysis, 2013.

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Real Property Master Plan
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Table 3.7
Summary of Environmental Consequences

Impact Category	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
Land Use & Sustainability	No impact.	No adverse impacts to land use and positive impacts to sustainability.
Air Quality	No impact.	No significant impacts. Minor emission increases.
Noise	Ultimately, minor reduction in noise.	No significant impacts. Temporary minor noise increases during construction.
Topography, Soils & Geology	No impact.	No significant impacts. Temporary minor impact to soils. Long-term incidental and minor impact to topography. No impact on geology.
Water Resources	Negative impact.	No significant impacts. Temporary minor adverse impacts during construction. Long-term beneficial impacts due to decreased impervious surface. Long-term minor adverse impact due to increased area to maintain.
Biological Resources	No impact.	No significant impacts. Temporary minor adverse impacts to vegetation during construction. Long-term minor positive impact due to increase in vegetation.
Cultural Resources	No impact.	Section 106 resources may be affected. Consultation will be conducted to avoid and minimize impacts, and resolve adverse effects, if any.
Socioeconomic	No impact.	No significant impacts. Minor short-term construction impacts to minority community.
Traffic & Transportation	Negative impact.	Positive impacts due to pavement and sidewalk improvements.
Utilities	Negative impact.	Minor short-term impacts during construction. Positive long-term impacts due to repair of utilities.
Solid Waste	Ultimately, minor reduction in solid waste.	No significant impacts. Continued generation of minor amount of solid waste due to interments. Temporary increase in solid waste during construction.

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Real Property Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment**

Table 3.7
Summary of Environmental Consequences

Impact Category	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
Hazardous Materials & Waste	No impact.	No significant impacts. Minor long and short-term increase in use of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous waste.
Visual and Aesthetic Resources	No impact.	Positive impacts to views within the cemetery.

Notes:

Minor Impact /Minimal Impact – the alternative would have little effect on the resource and therefore would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

No significant Impact – the effect of the alternative on the resource would not exceed the applicable threshold of significance.

Positive Impact – the alternative would have a beneficial effect on the subject resource.

Source: HNTB analysis, 2013.

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Real Property Master Plan
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Table 3.8
Summary of Commitments

Impact Category	Proposed Action Alternative
Land Use & Sustainability	None.
Air Quality	None.
Noise	None.
Topography, Soils & Geology	None.
Water Resources	None.
Biological Resources	None.
Cultural Resources	SAHNC will analyze the potential for adverse effects on historic properties on a case-by-case basis during implementation of the RPMP.
Socioeconomic	None.
Traffic & Transportation	None.
Utilities	None.
Solid Waste	None.
Hazardous Materials & Waste	Conduct an environmental site assessment of areas to be disturbed by construction to determine if any ground contamination is present.
Visual and Aesthetic Resources	None.

Source: HNTB analysis, 2013.

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Chapter 4:

List of Agencies and Persons Consulted

This chapter identifies the agencies and individuals consulted in the preparation and review of this Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA). **Table 4.1** lists the agencies contacted and the individuals within those agencies who were consulted in preparation of the assessment.

Table 4.1

Agencies and Persons Consulted

Agency	Contacts
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Katherine Kerr
Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington	Sheila Abarr Jim Theros
D.C. Commission of Fine Arts	Kay Fanning Frederick Lindstrom Tony Simon
D.C. Department of the Environment	Ibrahim Bullo
D.C. Department of Transportation	Anna Chamberlin Jamie Henson Sam Zimbabwe
D.C. Historic Preservation Officer – Office of Planning	Tim Dennee Harriet Tregoning
D.C. Preservation League	Rebecca Miller
National Capital Planning Commission (NCPD)	Carlton Hart Christine Saum
National Park Service – National Capitol Region (NCR)	Gregory Anderson Joel Gorder Peter May
National Trust for Historic Preservation	Erin Carlson Mast Robert Nieweg
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Regulatory)	Regena Bronson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Magie Gomez

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Real Property Master Plan
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Table 4.1

Agencies and Persons Consulted

Agency	Contacts
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	
Washington Headquarters Services	Dares Charoenphol Georgine Glatz Elizabeth Lenyk Martin Mamawal

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Chapter 6:

List of Preparers

This chapter identifies the individuals assisting in the preparation and independent review of this Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) along with each preparer's responsibilities. **Table 6.1** includes all persons involved with this project.

Table 6.1
List of Preparers

Name	Education and Experience	Primary Responsibilities
Arlington National Cemetery		
Daniel Delahaye Master Planner	B.A./ M.A. Architecture, M.A. Geography/Urban and Regional Planning	Project Manager
Laura Wing Environmental Protection Specialist	B.S. Justice Studies	Quality Control
CPT Vincent Chiappini Assistant to the Army General Counsel	B.A./ J.D.	Legal Counsel
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)		
Alice Pool		USACE Project Manager
HNTB Corporation		
Brian G. Pieplow, AICP, LEED AP BD+C	B.S. Urban Planning/AICP, LEED AP	Project Management and Master Planning Lead
Kim Hughes, P.E.	B.S. Civil Engineering/ P.E	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
Barbara Kulvelis, C.E.P	B.S. Civil /Environmental Engineering/ C.E.P	Document Development, Purpose and Need, Alternatives
Caroline Pinegar, A.I.C.P.	B.A. Historic Preservation, M.C.R.P. Masters in City and Regional Planning / A.I.C.P.	Affected Environment/Environmental Consequences
Kent Miller		GIS Analysis and Graphic Development
Ryan Carey, E.I.T	B.S. Civil /Environmental Engineering/ E.I.T.	Affected Environment/Environmental Consequences
Alan McDonald, E.I.T	B.S/M.S. Civil Engineering/ E.I.T.	Assessment of Cumulative Effects

APPENDIX A

Scoping Summary

Scoping was conducted for the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC) Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA). Although not required for an EA, scoping is recommended in Army National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidance. "Scoping is an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in an EA or EIS. It helps to identify significant issues related to a proposed action and its alternatives that are deserving of study, and to eliminate those issues, that are not significant, from further detailed consideration. Scoping can be external or internal, formal or informal, depending on the needs and desires of the proponents and analysts. If an EIS is required, scoping becomes a formal requirement, but some form of scoping can always prove useful, even at the EA stage of analysis." (*Environmental Impact Analysis Guide Us Army Environmental Center*, February 2004 p 3-5)

Various methods are used to conduct scoping. The method is tailored to the anticipated level of interest. One method is to send out requests for comments to a few parties. This method is appropriate if there is limited stakeholder interest. Another method is to conduct multiple agency and public meetings. This approach is appropriate when there is extensive stakeholder interest. The SAHNC Real Property Master Plan is of interest to key stakeholders and limited proposed actions are anticipated. Therefore, the scoping method included sending e-mail notices to a broad list of agencies and conducting a scoping meeting for the key stakeholder agencies.

1 Scoping E-mail

Requests for scoping comments were sent via e-mail. The e-mail included an informational document that identified the proposed action and potential environmental impacts. Recipients were encouraged to provide comments. The key stakeholder agencies were invited to the scoping meetings. Copies of the e-mails and the informational document are included in ***Attachment 1***.

E-mail scoping information was sent to the following agencies:

- National Capitol Planning Commission*
- D.C. Commission of Fine Arts*
- National Park Service – National Capitol Region*
- Washington Headquarters Services*
- Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington*
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation*
- National Trust for Historic Preservation*

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Regulatory)
- D.C. Preservation League*
- D.C. Historic Preservation Officer - Office of Planning*
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- D.C. District Department of the Environment*
- D.C. District Department of Transportation*

* primary stakeholder invited to scoping meeting

2 Stakeholder Scoping Meeting

A stakeholder scoping meeting was conducted on 25 July 2012 in the basement of the Arlington National Cemetery Visitors Center to solicit input from stakeholders. The meeting included a brief presentation by the project team followed by a comment period. The SAHNC Real Property Master Plan project and anticipated environmental effects were discussed.

Summaries of comments, as well as the attendance sheets and the presentations are included in **Attachment 2**.

3 Written Scoping Responses

Written scoping responses were received from the following agencies:

- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- D.C. Preservation League
- D.C. District Department of Environment

Copies of the written responses are included in **Attachment 3**.

Table 1 summarizes all written comments and scoping meeting comments regarding the SAHNC Real Property Master Plan and Programmatic EA.

Table 1
Scoping Comment Summary

Topic/Comment	
Purpose and Need	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are currently limited multi-function facilities and no space available just for families. There is a need for a space for families to gather. 	
Alternatives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider an alternative to illustrate to visitors the connected history of SAHNC and President Lincoln's Cottage. Colocation of SAHNC facilities with the Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington is not practical. 	
Environmental Impacts	
<i>Viewsheds</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The views in and out of SAHNC should support the cemetery's status as a national shrine. Consider conducting a visual character analysis.
<i>Historic Resources</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct comprehensive Historic Structure and Historic Landscape Reports to assess the cemetery's significance and changes over time. Confirm whether African Americans are buried in the Civil War Section of SAHNC. Note that SAHNC is an integral part of the story at President Lincoln's Cottage, a National Historic Landmark and National Monument. This could be helpful in supporting SAHNC's National Register application.
<i>Transportation/ Accessibility</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider pedestrian connections along the boundary of SAHNC in the Real Property Master Plan and note that any impacts to the right-of-way would need to undergo DDOT's public space permitting process.
<i>Sustainability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider additional tree planting and tree replacement.
<i>Cumulative Impacts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider impacts to the Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington and how proposed projects at SAHNC will effect visitation from AFRH.

Source: Written comments and scoping meeting (25 July 2012) comments, HNTB analysis, 2013.

4 Summary

Table 2 provides a summary of the scoping interactions, including agencies and persons consulted, who was sent scoping material, who was invited to the scoping meeting and who attended, and who provided comments.

**U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Real Property Master Plan
Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment**

**Table 2
Scoping Interactions Summary**

Agency	Contacts	Sent Scoping Materials	Invited to Scoping Meeting	Attended Scoping Meeting	Scoping Letter Response
National Capital Planning Commission (NCP)	Carlton Hart	X	Agency Invited	X	
	Christine Saum	X			
D.C. Commission of Fine Arts	Frederick Lindstrom	X	Agency Invited		
	Kay Fanning	X			
	Tony Simon			X	
National Park Service – National Capitol Region (NCR)	Gregory Anderson	X	Agency Invited		
	Joel Gorder	X			
	Peter May	X			
Washington Headquarters Services	Georgine Glatz	X	Agency Invited		
	Martin Mamawal	X			
	Elizabeth Lenyk	X			
	Dares Charoenphol	X			
Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington	Sheila Abar	X	Agency Invited		
	Jim Theros			X	
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Katherine Kerr	X	Agency Invited		
National Trust for Historic Preservation	Robert Nieweg	X	Agency Invited		
	Erin Carlson Mast			X	X
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Regulatory)	Regena Bronson	X			
D.C. Preservation League	Rebecca Miller	X	Agency Invited		X
D.C. Historic Preservation Officer – Office of Planning	Harriet Tregoning	X	Agency Invited		
	Tim Dennee			X	
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		X			
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Magie Gomez				
D.C. Department of the Environment	Ibrahim Bullo	X	Agency Invited		X
D.C. Department of Transportation	Sam Zimbabwe	X	Agency Invited		
	Anna Chamberlin	X			X
	Jamie Henson	X			

Attachment 1:

SAHNC Scoping Emails to Stakeholders

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
To: [Bronson, Regena D CIV \(US\)](mailto:Bronson.Regena.D.CIV.US); ["contact2@fws.gov"](mailto:contact2@fws.gov); ["gomez.magdalin@epa.gov"](mailto:gomez.magdalin@epa.gov)
Subject: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan EA (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 5:49:00 PM
Attachments: [Agency Informational Document SAHNC.docx](#)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master Plan for Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process. Therefore, ANCP is requesting that federal, state and local agencies and organizations review the attached scoping document and provide comments. The scoping document provides background information; presents the preliminary purpose and need, and alternatives; identifies the environmental impact categories most likely impacted; and provides a preliminary schedule.

Please submit any agency comments regarding the Programmatic EA to me and provide a copy to Ms. Kulvelis. Comments may be submitted in writing to the addresses listed below or via e-mail at daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil and bkulvelis@hntb.com. If you determine that the Proposed Action would not impact your area of jurisdiction or expertise, written verification would be appreciated. It is respectfully requested that all comments be submitted by August 10, 2012 in order to ensure their consideration early in the Programmatic EA process.

Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
To: "[Carlton Hart](#)"; "Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov"; "[Frederick Lindstrom](#)"; "kfanning@cfa.gov"; "gregory_anderson@nps.gov"; "joel_gorder@nps.gov"; "peter_may@nps.gov"; "georgine.glatz@whs.mil"; "martin.mamawal@whs.mil"; "[Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD](#)"; "dares.charoenphol@whs.mil"; "[Katharine R. Kerr](#)"; "Robert.Nieweg@nthp.org"; "Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov"; "rebecca@dcpreservation.org"; "harriet.tragoning@dc.gov"; "sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov"
Subject: Soldiers" and Airmen"s Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: [Agency Informational Document SAHNC.docx](#)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process.

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Sincerely,

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1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street

Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
To: ["ddoe@dc.gov"](mailto:ddoe@dc.gov)
Subject: FW: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 5:43:00 PM
Attachments: [Agency Informational Document SAHNC.docx](#)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings,

Your agency was mistakenly not included on the note below.

Thank you for understanding.

Respectfully,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00 PM
To: 'Carlton Hart'; 'Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov'; 'Frederick Lindstrom'; 'kfanning@cfa.gov'; 'gregory_anderson@nps.gov'; 'joel_gorder@nps.gov'; 'peter_may@nps.gov'; 'georgine.glatz@whs.mil'; 'martin.mamawal@whs.mil'; 'Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD'; 'dares.charoenphol@whs.mil'; 'Katharine R. Kerr'; 'Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org)'; 'Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov'; 'rebecca@dcpreservation.org'; 'harriet.tragoning@dc.gov'; 'sam.zibbabwe@dc.gov'
Subject: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

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Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
To: ["Zimbabwe, Sam \(DDOT\)"; Chamberlin, Anna \(DDOT\); Henson, Jamie \(DDOT\); "harriet.tregoning@dc.gov"](#)
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 9:53:00 AM
Attachments: [Agency Informational Document SAHNC.DOCX](#)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Dear Mr. Zimbabwe and Ms Tregoning,

I was concerned to learn you did not receive information regarding the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery scoping session. When alerted and upon review, I found a technical glitch addressed to you both prevented e-mail from leaving my outbox.

Please accept my sincere apologies for the delays caused in your receipt of this information.

Following is the text of the original mailing:

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process.

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Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

703-614-4306 (DSN 224)
daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Zimbabwe, Sam (DDOT) [<mailto:sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 9:16 AM
To: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US); Chamberlin, Anna (DDOT); Henson, Jamie (DDOT)
Subject: Re: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping
Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)

Daniel,

I'm not sure if DDOT will be able to attend tomorrow, but we will let you know today. I don't think I received the scoping document because the original email didn't come to me. Can you resend to those copied here?

Thanks,

Sam

Grade Your Government!
Share your thoughts on key DC Government services.
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Learn more at www.grade.dc.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US) <daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil>
To: Katharine R. Kerr <kkerr@achp.gov>; Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org) <Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org>; Sheila.Abarr@afrrh.gov <Sheila.Abarr@afrrh.gov>; rebecca@dcpreservation.org <rebecca@dcpreservation.org>; Tregoning, Harriet (OP); Zimbabwe, Sam (DDOT)
Sent: Mon Jul 23 19:02:33 2012
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping
Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

This short note is to ask if you or any co-workers plan to attend the above-referenced meeting by car that you simply reply with information important to gate clearance: your name, association, the vehicle type you intend to arrive in, and the number of people (if any) in the vehicle with you.

I will follow-up with instructions and a map indicating where to park.

Please let me know if you are able by close of business Tuesday, 24 July.

Always feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

V/r,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

703-614-4306 (DSN 224)
daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00 PM
To: 'Carlton Hart'; 'Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov'; 'Frederick Lindstrom';
'kfanning@cfa.gov'; 'gregory_anderson@nps.gov'; 'joel_gorder@nps.gov';
'peter_may@nps.gov'; 'georgine.glatz@whs.mil'; 'martin.mamawal@whs.mil';
'Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD'; 'dares.charoenphol@whs.mil';
'Katharine R. Kerr'; 'Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org)';
'Sheila.Abarr@afmh.gov'; 'rebecca@dcpreservation.org';
'harriet.tragoning@dc.gov'; 'sam.zibabwe@dc.gov'
Subject: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping
Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

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Sincerely,

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Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
To: "[Katharine R. Kerr](#)"; "[Robert Nieweg \(Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org\)](#)"; "[Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov](#)"; "[rebecca@dcpreservation.org](#)"; "[harriet.tregoning@dc.gov](#)"; "[sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov](#)"
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Monday, July 23, 2012 7:03:00 PM

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

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V/r,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

703-614-4306 (DSN 224)
daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00 PM
To: 'Carlton Hart'; 'Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov'; 'Frederick Lindstrom'; 'kfanning@cfa.gov'; 'gregory_anderson@nps.gov'; 'joel_gorder@nps.gov'; 'peter_may@nps.gov'; 'georgine.glatz@whs.mil'; 'martin.mamawal@whs.mil'; 'Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD'; 'dares.charoenphol@whs.mil'; 'Katharine R. Kerr'; 'Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org)'; 'Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov'; 'rebecca@dcpreservation.org'; 'harriet.tregoning@dc.gov'; 'sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov'
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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

**Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment
Informational Document**

Overview

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is seeking federal, state and local agency input regarding a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for the development of a Master Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC or the cemetery). Army regulations require the preparation of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation concurrent with the preparation of a master plan. Therefore, the EA is being completed to satisfy the requirements of both Army regulations and NEPA.

This document provides preliminary information regarding the EA to facilitate agency review and comment. The document includes the following sections:

- Background
- Proposed Action
- Preliminary Purpose and Need
- Preliminary Alternatives
- Environmental Analysis
- Preliminary Schedule

The ANCP encourages each agency to review these materials and provide comments by August 10, 2012. Comments provided by this time will assist the ANCP in identifying issues early in the development of the EA. You are welcome to submit comments either by mail at the below addresses or by email to daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil and bkulvelis@hntb.com

Submit Written Comments To:

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

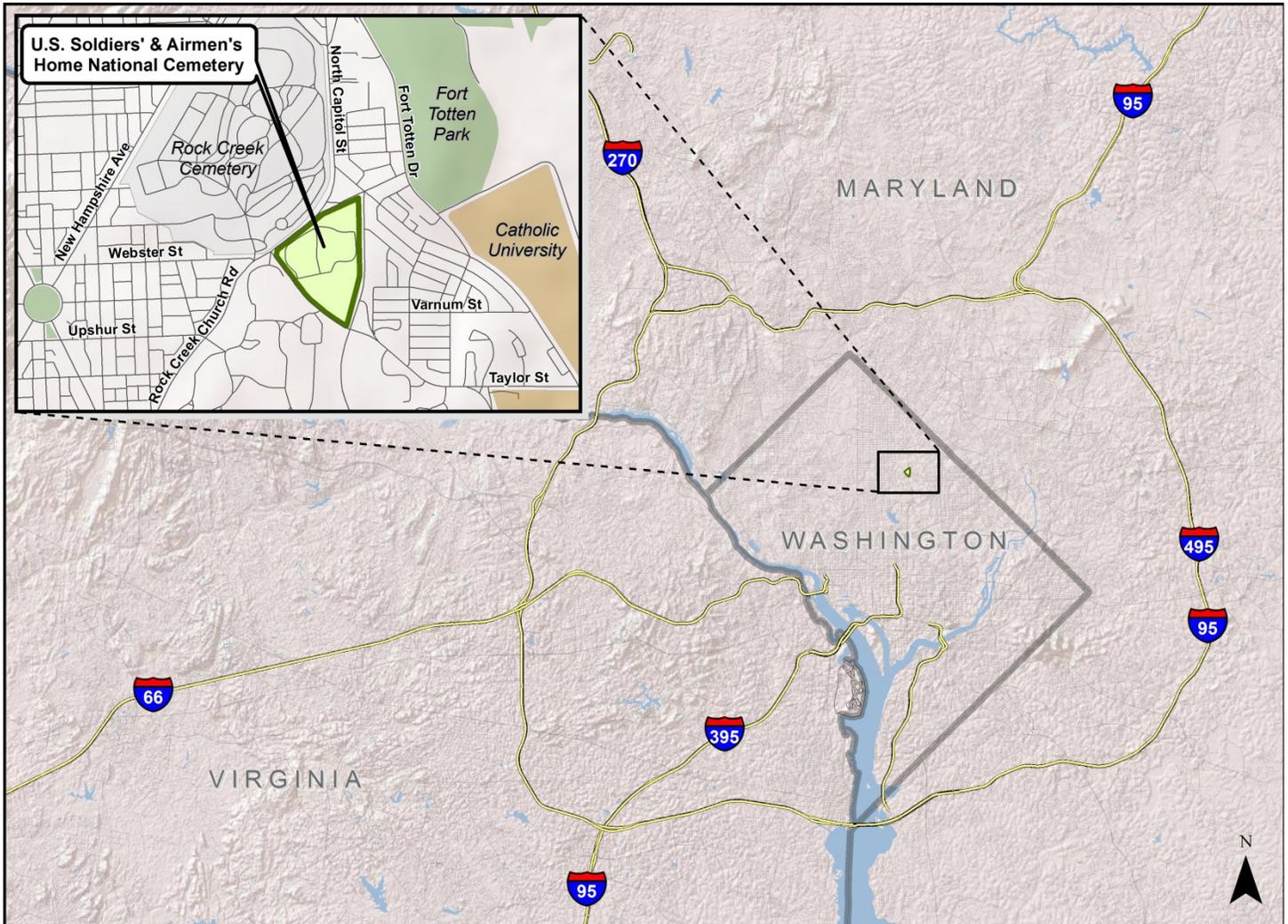
Please Copy:

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment
Informational Document

Background

SAHNC, one of the country's oldest national cemeteries, is located in Washington, DC. Since its establishment in 1861, SAHNC has laid to rest more than 14,000 veterans, including soldiers of the Civil War. It continues to offer burial for residents of the adjacent Armed Forces Retirement Home, burying an average of 7-10 veterans each year.



Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment
Informational Document

SAHNC and Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) are administered and operated under the ANCP. The mission of the ANCP is, *“On behalf of the American people, lay to rest those who have served our nation with dignity and honor, treating their families with respect and compassion, and connecting guests to the rich tapestry of the cemetery's living history, while maintaining these hallowed grounds befitting the sacrifice of all those who rest here in quiet repose.”* ANCP's vision for the SAHNC and ANC is *“America's premier military cemeteries - A national shrine - A living history of freedom - Where dignity and honor rest in solemn repose.”*

To carry out their mission and achieve their vision, the ANCP developed the ANCP Campaign Plan. The ANCP Campaign Plan is a detailed roadmap to ensure that the SAHNC and ANC remain as places where every generation is able to honor, remember and explore the depths of the creation of this great Nation and the heroes who made incredible sacrifices for freedom. The roadmap identifies focused objectives with measurable standards that will ensure the ANCP reaches the desired outcomes of: honor, remember and explore.

In developing their Campaign Plan, the ANCP recognized that although individual guidance documents exist, there is not a Master Plan for the SAHNC. Therefore, the ANCP recently initiated the development of a Master Plan for SAHNC. The Master Plan will support and promote the ANCP's core mission to honor our Nation's fallen military heroes. Future protection, facility, equipment and environmental needs will be synchronized by developing more efficient, sustainable and energy-efficient solutions. The Master Plan will include an integrated series of documents that reflect optimized utilization of available space, identify future technology requirements and provide strategies to establish management priorities. A brief description of the content of the individual Master Plan documents follows:

Short Range Component (SRC) – key planning requirements and projects needed to address existing operational and mission requirements and deficiencies in the one to five year timeframe.

Long Range Component (LRC) – long range vision and future projects needed to address anticipated operational and mission requirements in the long term.

Capital Investment Strategy (CIS) - guide to prioritizing projects and asset allocation when considering available resources.

Installation Design Guide (IDG) – criteria for new facilities development, landscape improvements, signage and amenities.

Real Property Master Plan Digest (RPMG Digest) – executive summary outlining key recommendations of the various individual master plan documents and identifying the overall master plan direction and vision.

Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment
Informational Document

In order to implement the projects in the Master Plan, the ANCP must first comply with NEPA. NEPA requires the evaluation of the environmental impacts of proposed federal actions. Army regulations require the preparation of NEPA documentation concurrent with the preparation of a master plan. Therefore, the ANCP is preparing an EA in tandem with the Master Plan. The EA will be prepared in accordance with 32 CFR Part 651 [Army Regulation 200-2], *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions* and the NEPA Guidance Manual (U.S. Army Environmental Command May, 2007).

The ANCP has elected to prepare a Programmatic EA because the Master Plan will likely include phased and/or conceptual development. For these types of development projects, information needed to determine specific impacts may not yet be available. In this case, the development will be evaluated to the fullest extent possible in the Programmatic EA. When more information about these projects becomes available, required NEPA documentation can be "tiered" off of the Programmatic EA. In other words, the tiered document can refer to the Programmatic EA and redundant or duplicate analysis can be eliminated.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action will be defined based on the Short and Long Range Components of the Master Plan as well as the Installation Design Guide. The Proposed Action could include projects ranging from installation of niche walls to converting existing garage and maintenance facilities to columbariums or other mission support services. The Proposed Action may also include replacing or repurposing the existing Superintendent's Lodge.

Preliminary Purpose and Need

The needs at the SAHNC include the following:

Enhance the funeral and visitor experience – Facilities are needed to provide space where families can meet for funeral purposes. No such facilities are available at this time.

Enhance the visitor experience - Improvements such as interpretive signage/kiosks are needed to enhance the visitor experience.

Repair and modernize infrastructure and facilities - As is common with sites of historical significance that have developed over many years, SAHNC has varied levels of deteriorating infrastructure. For instance, both the metal and stone fencing are in poor shape and in need of repair.

Address deficient staff facilities – Additional space is needed for administrative functions and maintenance storage. Also, the Superintendent's Lodge is in disrepair.

Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment
Informational Document

Promote sustainability - Sustainable design and construction practices and operations is a key requirement for all federal agencies. The ANCP is committed to integrating environmental sustainability into all elements of the Master Plan to reduce environmental impacts and resource consumption.

Improve boundary protection – Boundary protection is needed along adjacent vehicular streets to provide a safe environment for visitors and employees as well as protect ANCP assets.

Preliminary Alternatives

A key to the NEPA process is the consideration of reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Action which would minimize adverse impacts. Potential alternatives will be considered based on their ability to meet the purpose and need for the Proposed Action. It is anticipated that the following alternatives will be considered:

No Action – Consideration of the No Action Alternative is required by NEPA per the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations. The No Action Alternative represents the SAHNC without the changes proposed in the Master Plan.

Proposed Action - The Proposed Action will be defined by the Master Plan.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action –

Alternatives will likely include different uses for the Superintendent's Lodge as a well as various ways to provide needed maintenance facilities.

Environmental Analysis

The Programmatic EA will assess the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and the reasonable alternatives. Impacts to valued environmental components (resources) will be analyzed according to the U.S. Army Environmental Center's (USAEC) NEPA Analysis Guidance Manual.

While all of the valued environmental components identified in the NEPA Analysis Guidance Manual will be addressed in the Programmatic EA, the major emphasis is expected to be on those resources listed below. Preliminary review of the potentially affected environment and available materials indicated that these resources may be impacted.

- Cultural Resources
- Water Resources Management
- Land Use
- Traffic and Transportation Systems

**Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery
Master Plan
Programmatic Environmental Assessment
Informational Document**

For the remainder of the valued environmental components (VECs), little or no analysis is expected to be necessary. The EA will provide succinct documentation as to why the remainder of the VECs would not be affected or only minimally impacted.

Preliminary Schedule

The preliminary schedule for the Programmatic EA is provided below. Note that there will be another opportunity to participate in the development of the Programmatic EA. It is anticipated that the Draft Programmatic EA will be available for agency and public review and comment in early 2013. Comments on the Programmatic Draft EA will be addressed as part of the preparation of the Final Programmatic EA.

Programmatic EA Steps	2012									2013	
	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	
Conduct Scoping											
Prepare Draft EA											
Publish Draft EA for Review											
Comment Period											
Prepare Final EA											
Issue Finding of No Significant Impact or Notification of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement											

Attachment 2:

Stakeholder Scoping Meeting Notes, Sign-In Sheet
and Presentation

Soldier's and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Stakeholder Scoping Meeting Notes

25 July 2012 1:00 am to 2:00 pm

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheet

Purpose: The purpose of the meeting was to solicit stakeholder input regarding the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery and potential environmental effects.

Discussion:

The meeting began with a presentation by Ms. Kulvelis of HNTB Corporation. (Presentation attached)

Following the presentation, stakeholder representatives asked questions and provided comments. The questions and comments are summarized in the following bullets:

- A meeting participant asked, "What is a programmatic EA?" It was explained that programmatic EAs are developed to evaluate impacts of similar or broad actions. A programmatic EA allows for future tiering of environmental documentation. The proposed action(s) is evaluated to the fullest extent possible in the programmatic EA. When more information becomes available for a specific component of the proposed action, environmental review may be completed by tiering off of the programmatic EA, i.e. summarizing issues covered in the Programmatic EA and focusing on the analysis needed for the subject component of the proposed action.
- The NCPC questioned the need for additional staff space. The SAHNC Superintendent responded that additional administrative space is not needed. However, he indicated that space is needed to meet with families preparing for funerals.
- The potential for the cemetery and the adjacent Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) to share facilities was discussed briefly. Shared facilities would not be practical according to both the SAHNC Superintendent and the AFRH representative.
- The NCPC noted that they issue their own NEPA findings for proposed projects within the District.
- Section 106 concerns were discussed at length. Removal of an interior roadway is one of the alternatives being considered to provide additional burial space. Therefore, meeting participants discussed whether the roadway system is a contributing element to the SAHNC historic district. One participant noted that an interior road had been removed from the cemetery in the not so distant past and Section 106 concerns were not raised at the time. The representative from the District Historic Preservation Office suggested reviewing historic maps of the cemetery in considering whether the roadway system contributes to the SAHNC historic district. Meeting participants also noted the following recommendations/concerns regarding Section 106 resources:

- The “Meigs” components must be maintained.
 - Re-purposing non-contributing buildings to meet the needs of SAHNC would be the least adverse approach
 - Views sheds from North Capital Street are of interest and a visual character analysis was requested
 - Views of SAHNC from Fort Totten Park may be of interest
 - The connection with Lincoln’s Cottage should be conveyed to cemetery visitors
 - Is a pedestrian path between the Lincoln’s Cottage and SAHNC possible?
 - Is there a relationship to Rock Creek Cemetery? Are there resources at Rock Creek Cemetery that would be of interest to SAHNC visitors?
- Meeting participants recommended considering the AFRH Master Plan in evaluating cumulative effects.

Sign In Sheet – Master Plan Agency Coordination Meetings

Soldiers’ and Airmen’s Home National Cemetery Master Plan
25 July 2012

Name	Work Group	Phone	Email
Alice Pool	USACE Norfolk District	757-201-7346	alice.p.pool@usace.army.mil
Daniel Delahaye	ANC Master Planning	703-614-4306	daniel.delahaye@us.army.mil
Brian Pieplow	HNTB	202-446-4104	bpieplow@hntb.com
Ryan Bricker	HNTB	703-824-5100	rbricker@hntb.com
Gregg Schwieterman	HNTB	703-824-5100	gschwieterman@hntb.com
Chuck Smith	HNTB	703-824-5100	chasmith@hntb.com
Barb Kulvelis	HNTB	703-824-5100	bkulvelis@hntb.com

SAHNC

Master Plan Agency Coordination Meetings – 25 July 2012

NAME	WORK GROUP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Tim Dennee	DC OP/SAPO	302 442-8847	timothy.dennee@dc.gov
Andrea Kula	Army I.G.	202-761-1859	andrea.w.kula@usace.army.mil
Rosalie Horton	ANC Chap	703-414-0344	rosalie.b.horton.civ@mail.mil
T Simon	CFA		tsimon@cfa.gov
Jim Theros	ARMED FORCES RET Hm	202 450 9793	JAMES.THEROS@AFRH.GOV
Carlton Hart	NCPC	202 452 7252	Carlton.hart@ncpc.gov
David Moshier	USSAHNC	202-829-1829	DAVID.I.MOSHIER CIV R MAIL.MIL
Erin Carlson Mast	President Lincoln's Cottage/National Trust for Historic Preservation	202-829-0436 x31222	EMast@savingplaces.org

Agency Scoping Meeting

Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Programmatic Environmental Assessment

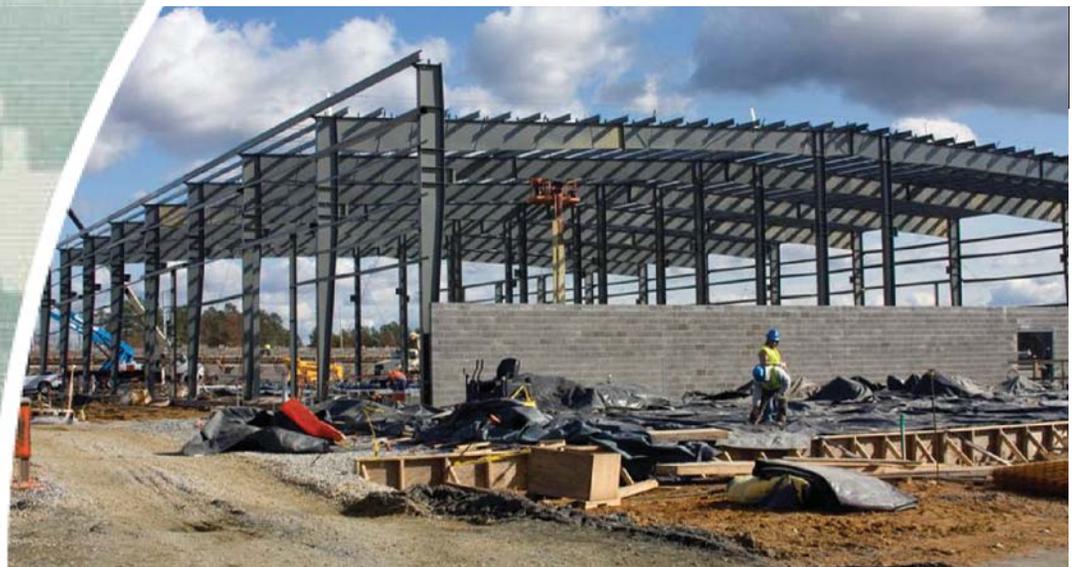
Barb Kulvelis, C.E.P.

HNTB Engineers Architects Planners

July 25, 2012



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG

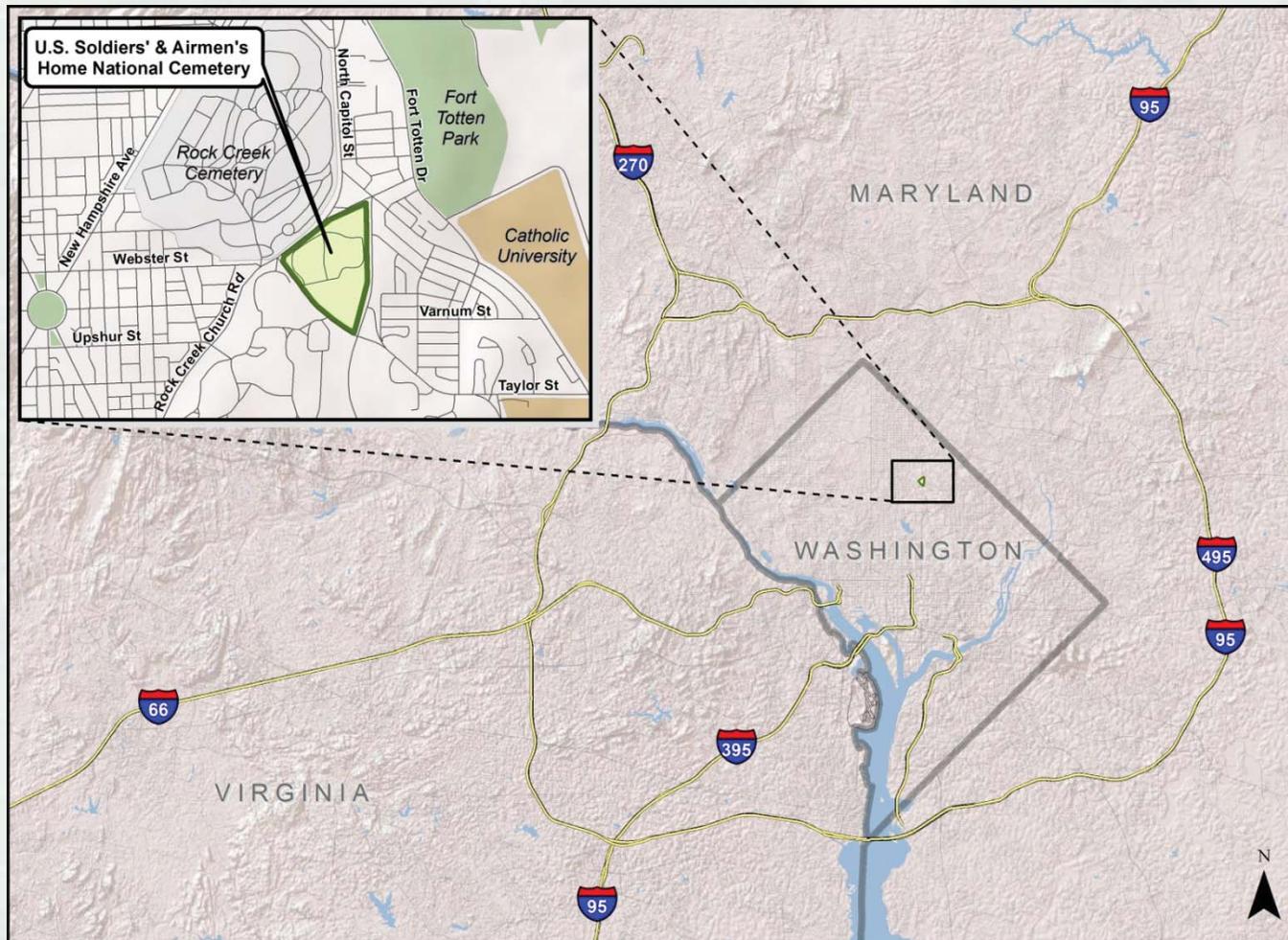


Presentation Overview

- Project Background
- Proposed Action
- Preliminary Purpose and Need
- Preliminary Alternatives
- Environmental Analysis
- Preliminary Schedule
- Comments and Discussion



Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery



US Army Corps of Engineers – Norfolk District

BUILDING STRONG®

Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery



- One of the country's oldest national cemeteries
- More than 14,000 veterans laid to rest, including soldiers of the Civil War.
- Burial for residents of the adjacent Armed Forces Retirement Home.
- Average of 7-10 veterans buried each year.



US Army Corps of Engineers – Norfolk District

BUILDING STRONG®

Army National Cemeteries Program

Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) administers and operates SAHNC

ANCP develops Campaign Plan

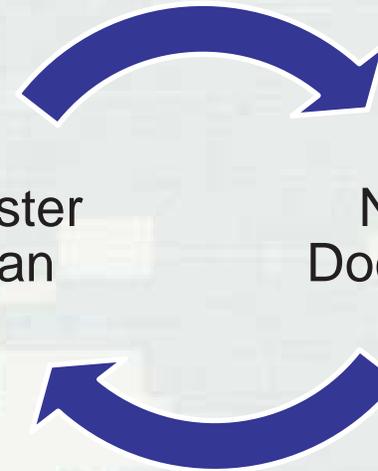
Major objective is to update the Master Plan

Army regulations require concurrent preparation of NEPA documentation.



Master Plan

NEPA Document



Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan

Goal: Support and promote the ANCP's mission to honor our Nation's fallen military heroes.

Documents:

- Short Range Component
- Long Range Component
- Capital Investment Strategy
- Installation Design Guide
- Real Property Master Plan Digest



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



- **Programmatic EA** – the Master Plan will likely include phased and/or conceptual development; information needed to determine specific impacts may not yet be available.
- Required NEPA documentation can be “tiered” off of Programmatic EA.

The EA will be prepared in accordance with 32 CFR Part 651 [Army Regulation 200–2], *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions* and the NEPA Guidance Manual (U.S. Army Environmental Command May, 2007).



Proposed Action

- Proposed Action will be based on:
 - Short and Long Range Components of the Master Plan.
 - Installation Design Guide.
- Potential projects **may** include:
 - Installation of niche walls;
 - Conversion of existing garage and maintenance facilities to columbariums;
 - Replacing or repurposing existing Superintendent's Lodge.



Logan Mausoleum



Superintendent's Lodge



Preliminary Purpose and Need

Enhance the funeral and visitor experience.

Repair and modernize infrastructure and facilities.

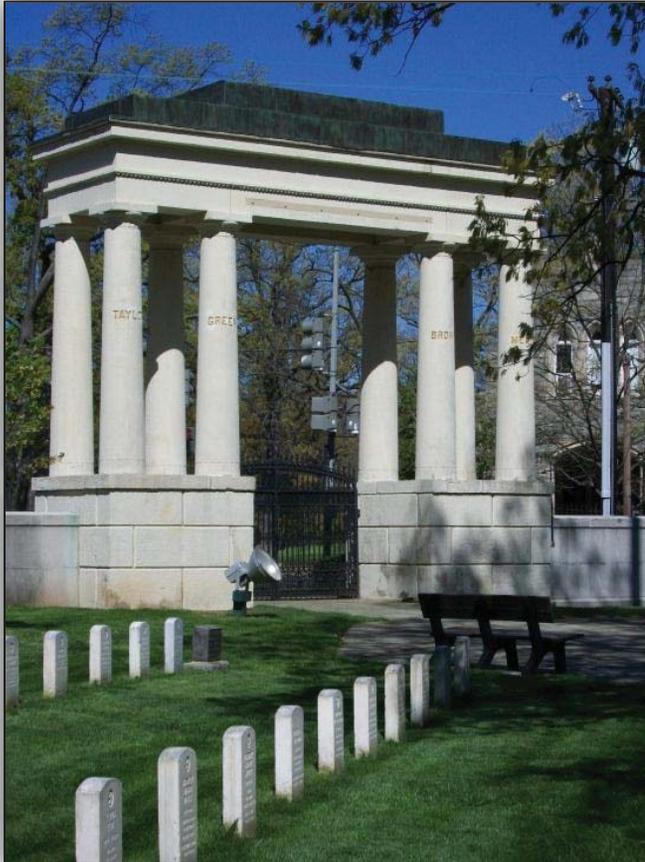
Address deficient staff facilities.

Promote sustainability.

Improve boundary protection.



Preliminary Alternatives



It is anticipated that the following alternatives will be considered:

No Action No changes to existing facilities.

Proposed Action To be defined by the Master Plan.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action Likely to include different uses for the Superintendent's Lodge as well as various ways to provide needed maintenance facilities.

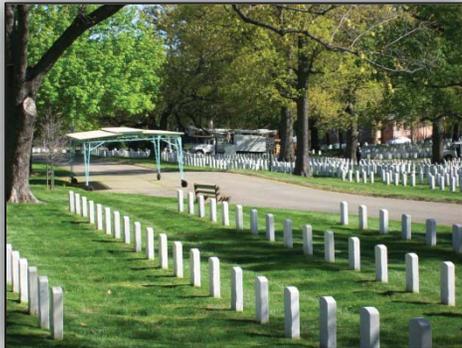
Alternatives analysis is key to the NEPA process. Potential alternatives will be considered based on ability to meet Purpose and Need.



Environmental Analysis

Environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and reasonable alternatives will be evaluated.

Impacts to valued environmental resources will be analyzed according to the U.S. Army Environmental Center's (USAEC) NEPA Analysis Guidance Manual.

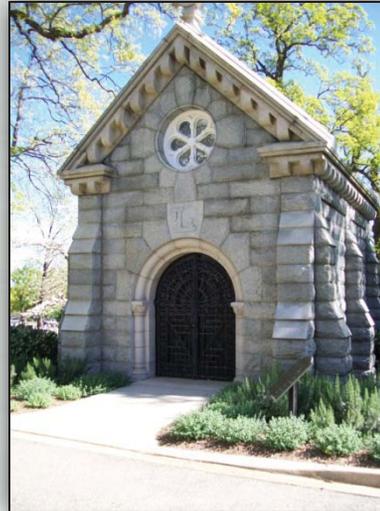


Environmental Analysis

All environmental components (resources) will be addressed.

Based on preliminary review of the affected environment, primary emphasis will be on the following:

- Cultural Resources
- Water Resources Management
- Land Use



Preliminary Schedule

Programmatic EA Steps	2012								2013	
	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Conduct Scoping	Blue	Blue	Blue							
Prepare Draft EA		Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple			
Publish Draft EA for Review							Green			
Comment Period*							Cyan	Cyan		
Prepare Final EA									Pink	Pink
Issue Finding of No Significant Impact or Notification of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement										Green

*** Next opportunity to participate in the development of the Programmatic EA:**

It is anticipated that the Draft will be available for agency and public review and comment in late 2012.



Comments

The ANCP encourages each agency to review the information and materials and provide comments by **August 10, 2012.**

Submit written comments to:

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003
Daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

Please Copy:

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206
bkulvelis@hntb.com



US Army Corps of Engineers – Norfolk District

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Attachment 3:
Written Scoping Responses

From: [Erin Carlson Mast](#)
To: [Delahaye, Daniel B CIV \(US\)](#)
Cc: bkulvelis@hntb.com
Subject: SAHNC Master Plan Scoping
Date: Thursday, August 02, 2012 9:47:27 AM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Dear Mr. Delahaye,

Thank you for providing an opportunity for feedback on the SAHNC Master Plan Scope. I was pleased to be able to attend the July 25th meeting at Arlington National Cemetery to share comments with and hear ideas from the others in attendance. It was certainly a fruitful discussion.

Upon reflection, the only further comment from us at this moment is to support the calls for comprehensive Historic Structure and Historic Landscape Reports that assesses the cemetery's significance and changes over time. In particular, I would note that more research is needed on:

- the circumstances and process surrounding the creation of the cemetery;
- discrepancies between 1860s reports of burial numbers and actual existing CW-era burials (based on the numbers, it seems over 2,000 burials were disinterred at some point—it's unclear why though we can speculate); and
- potential African American burials in the Civil War section.

While we have completed significant research on the Civil War burials at SAHNC, we have not been able to definitively confirm whether African Americans are buried in the Civil War section. Visitors are frequently curious about this very question. We were able to confirm that no USCT burials are in that section, but the remaining question is whether any of the Quartermaster Corps members buried there are African American.

It was mentioned that surrounding features, even those not managed by the ANCP, could be helpful in supporting SAHNC's National Register application and status. Therefore, we would also note that the cemetery is an integral part of the story here at President Lincoln's Cottage, which holds the distinction of being both a National Historic Landmark and National Monument.

Thank you and we look forward to being part of the process as it develops.

Best regards,

Erin Carlson Mast
Director
President Lincoln's Cottage
A National Trust Historic Site

AFRH-W 1315 | 3700 North Capitol Street NW | Washington DC 20011-8400
T: 202.829.0436 x 31222 | F: 202.829.0437 | E: EMast@savingsplaces.org
Visit us at www.lincolncottage.org

emailsignature



From: [Rebecca Miller](#)
To: [Delahaye, Daniel B CIV \(US\)](#)
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 12:09:43 PM

Hi Daniel,

I will be unable to attend this meeting due to a previous commitment to attend the Section 106 Consultation on the Old Post Office redevelopment. This meeting also conflicts with Amtrak's Master Plan announcement for Union Station. Clearly a busy day for preservationists in this town! Would it be possible to forward any information planned for distribution?

Thank you,

Rebecca

Rebecca Miller
Executive Director
DC Preservation League
401 F Street, NW, Room 324
Washington, DC 20001
T - 202.783.5144
F - 202.783.5596

Become a Member Today and Support DCPL's Efforts to Preserve our Nation's Capital! [Click here for details.](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US) [<mailto:daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil>]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 7:03 PM
To: Katharine R. Kerr; Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org); Sheila.Abarr@afrrh.gov; rebecca@dcpreservation.org; harriet.tregoning@dc.gov; sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

This short note is to ask if you or any co-workers plan to attend the above-referenced meeting by car that you simply reply with information important to gate clearance: your name, association, the vehicle type you intend to arrive in, and the number of people (if any) in the vehicle with you.

I will follow-up with instructions and a map indicating where to park.

Please let me know if you are able by close of business Tuesday, 24 July.

Always feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

V/r,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

703-614-4306 (DSN 224)
daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00 PM
To: 'Carlton Hart'; 'Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov'; 'Frederick Lindstrom';
'kfanning@cfa.gov'; 'gregory_anderson@nps.gov'; 'joel_gorder@nps.gov';
'peter_may@nps.gov'; 'georgine.glatz@whs.mil'; 'martin.mamawal@whs.mil';
'Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD'; 'dares.charoenphol@whs.mil';
'Katharine R. Kerr'; 'Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org)';
'Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov'; 'rebecca@dcpreservation.org';
'harriet.tragoning@dc.gov'; 'sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov'
Subject: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping
Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master

Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process.

To facilitate meaningful participation in the scoping process, the ANCP is providing a Scoping Informational Document and conducting a scoping meeting for interested federal, state and local agencies and organizations. The scoping document is attached for your review and includes background information; presents the preliminary purpose and need, and alternatives; identifies the environmental impact categories most likely impacted; and provides a preliminary schedule.

The ANCP will conduct an agency scoping meeting on July 25, 2012 from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the basement of the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor's Center.

Project team members will give a brief presentation on project information including a discussion of the proposed alternatives being investigated as part of the master planning process. Attendance is encouraged as this is an opportunity for agencies to learn more about the projects and indicate their

issues and concerns regarding potential environmental impacts. Please feel free to forward this invitation to others within your organization who may

wish to participate.

The ANCP welcomes comments regarding development of the Programmatic EA. In order to identify issues early in the EA process, it is requested that all comments be provided by August 10, 2012. Please submit your comments regarding the Programmatic EA to me and provide a copy to Ms. Kulvelis. Comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, mailed to the addresses listed below or provided via e-mail to daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil and bkulvelis@hntb.com.

Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: [Bullo, Ibrahim \(DDOE\)](#)
To: [Randall-Thomas, Cheryl \(DDOE\)](#)
Cc: [Delahaye, Daniel B CIV \(US\)](#)
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Monday, July 23, 2012 11:50:36 AM

The draft EA (scoping document) is not attached to this email. Could you please send us a copy.
Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Randall-Thomas, Cheryl (DDOE)
Sent: Friday, July 20, 2012 2:30 PM
To: Bullo, Ibrahim (DDOE)
Subject: FW: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Hi Bullo:

Would you please review the request below and advise if you are the correct person that this should be forwarded to.

If so please copy me on any correspondence.

Thanks

Cheryl Randall Thomas
Customer Service Coordinator
District Department of the Environment
1200 First Street, NE 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
202-654-6016 (direct)
202-535-2600 (main)
202-535-2881 (fax)
cheryl.randall-thomas@dc.gov
green.dc.gov

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Check out the new grade.dc.gov and give your feedback via web, text or social media.
Learn more at www.grade.dc.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US) [<mailto:daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 5:43 PM
To: ATD DDOE
Subject: FW: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings,

Your agency was mistakenly not included on the note below.

Thank you for understanding.

Respectfully,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00 PM
To: 'Carlton Hart'; 'Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov'; 'Frederick Lindstrom'; 'kfanning@cfa.gov'; 'gregory_anderson@nps.gov'; 'joel_gorder@nps.gov'; 'peter_may@nps.gov'; 'georgine.glatz@whs.mil'; 'martin.mamawal@whs.mil'; 'Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD'; 'dares.charoenphol@whs.mil'; 'Katharine R. Kerr'; 'Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org)'; 'Sheila.Abarr@afrrh.gov'; 'rebecca@dcpreservation.org'; 'harriet.tragoning@dc.gov'; 'sam.zibbabwe@dc.gov'
Subject: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process.

To facilitate meaningful participation in the scoping process, the ANCP is providing a Scoping Informational Document and conducting a scoping meeting for interested federal, state and local agencies and organizations. The scoping document is attached for your review and includes background information; presents the preliminary purpose and need, and alternatives; identifies the environmental impact categories most likely impacted; and provides a preliminary schedule.

The ANCP will conduct an agency scoping meeting on July 25, 2012 from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the basement of the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor's Center.

Project team members will give a brief presentation on project information including a discussion of the proposed alternatives being investigated as part of the master planning process. Attendance is encouraged as this is an opportunity for agencies to learn more about the projects and indicate their

issues and concerns regarding potential environmental impacts. Please feel free to forward this invitation to others within your organization who may wish to participate.

The ANCP welcomes comments regarding development of the Programmatic EA. In order to identify issues early in the EA process, it is requested that all comments be provided by August 10, 2012. Please submit your comments regarding the Programmatic EA to me and provide a copy to Ms. Kulvelis. Comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, mailed to the addresses listed below or provided via e-mail to daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil and bkulvelis@hntb.com.

Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye

Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

From: [Chamberlin, Anna \(DDOT\)](#)
To: [Delahaye, Daniel B CIV \(US\)](#); [Zimbabwe, Sam \(DDOT\)](#); [Henson, Jamie \(DDOT\)](#)
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, July 31, 2012 4:44:36 PM

Mr. Delahaye,

Unfortunately, due to the short notice, DDOT was unable to attend the scoping. We respectfully submit the following scoping comments:

Please include a review of pedestrian connections along perimeter of property and note that any impacts to the right-of-way, such as curb cuts, bollards, and projections will need to undergo our public space permitting process.

Sincerely,
Anna Chamberlin

Check out the "One City Action Plan"
Read Mayor Gray's comprehensive strategy to create a thriving city for all!
Visit <http://onecityactionplan.dc.gov> to learn more.

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US) [<mailto:daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 9:53 AM
To: Zimbabwe, Sam (DDOT); Chamberlin, Anna (DDOT); Henson, Jamie (DDOT); Tregoning, Harriet (OP)
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Dear Mr. Zimbabwe and Ms Tregoning,

I was concerned to learn you did not receive information regarding the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery scoping session. When alerted and upon review, I found a technical glitch addressed to you both prevented e-mail from leaving my outbox.

Please accept my sincere apologies for the delays caused in your receipt of this information.

Following is the text of the original mailing:

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process.

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Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

703-614-4306 (DSN 224)
daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Zimbabwe, Sam (DDOT) [<mailto:sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 9:16 AM
To: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US); Chamberlin, Anna (DDOT); Henson, Jamie (DDOT)
Subject: Re: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)

Daniel,

I'm not sure if DDOT will be able to attend tomorrow, but we will let you know today. I don't think I received the scoping document because the original email didn't come to me. Can you resend to those copied here?

Thanks,

Sam

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----- Original Message -----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US) <daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil>
To: Katharine R. Kerr <kkerr@achp.gov>; Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org) <Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org>; Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov <Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov>; rebecca@dcpreservation.org <rebecca@dcpreservation.org>; Tregoning, Harriet

(OP); Zimbabwe, Sam (DDOT)
Sent: Mon Jul 23 19:02:33 2012
Subject: RE: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping
Session 25 July, 1:00 PM (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

This short note is to ask if you or any co-workers plan to attend the above-referenced meeting by car that you simply reply with information important to gate clearance: your name, association, the vehicle type you intend to arrive in, and the number of people (if any) in the vehicle with you.

I will follow-up with instructions and a map indicating where to park.

Please let me know if you are able by close of business Tuesday, 24 July.

Always feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

V/r,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

703-614-4306 (DSN 224)
daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Delahaye, Daniel B CIV (US)
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 2:00 PM
To: 'Carlton Hart'; 'Christine.Saum@ncpc.gov'; 'Frederick Lindstrom';
'kfanning@cfa.gov'; 'gregory_anderson@nps.gov'; 'joel_gorder@nps.gov';
'peter_may@nps.gov'; 'georgine.glatz@whs.mil'; 'martin.mamawal@whs.mil';
'Lenyk, Elizabeth CIV WHS/FSD/ECM/EAD'; 'dares.charoenphol@whs.mil';
'Katharine R. Kerr'; 'Robert Nieweg (Robert_Nieweg@nthp.org)';
'Sheila.Abarr@afrh.gov'; 'rebecca@dcpreservation.org';
'harriet.tragoning@dc.gov'; 'sam.zibabwe@dc.gov'
Subject: Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery Master Plan Scoping
Session (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Greetings all,

The Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP) is initiating preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the elements of the new Master Plan for the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC). Identification of potential issues through agency coordination is an important step in initiating the EA process.

To facilitate meaningful participation in the scoping process, the ANCP is providing a Scoping Informational Document and conducting a scoping meeting for interested federal, state and local agencies and organizations. The scoping document is attached for your review and includes background information; presents the preliminary purpose and need, and alternatives; identifies the environmental impact categories most likely impacted; and provides a preliminary schedule.

The ANCP will conduct an agency scoping meeting on July 25, 2012 from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the basement of the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor's Center.

Project team members will give a brief presentation on project information including a discussion of the proposed alternatives being investigated as part of the master planning process. Attendance is encouraged as this is an opportunity for agencies to learn more about the projects and indicate their

issues and concerns regarding potential environmental impacts. Please feel free to forward this invitation to others within your organization who may wish to participate.

The ANCP welcomes comments regarding development of the Programmatic EA. In order to identify issues early in the EA process, it is requested that all comments be provided by August 10, 2012. Please submit your comments regarding the Programmatic EA to me and provide a copy to Ms. Kulvelis. Comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, mailed to the addresses listed below or provided via e-mail to daniel.b.delahaye.civ@mail.mil and bkulvelis@hntb.com.

Sincerely,

Daniel Delahaye
Master Planner, Army National Cemeteries Program
1 Memorial Dr., AD Bldg.
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Barbara A. Kulvelis, CEP
Senior Environmental Planner
HNTB Corporation
2900 South Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

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Caveats: NONE