



ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

HONOR · REMEMBER · EXPLORE

FACT SHEET

DECEMBER 2024

Southern Expansion

Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), our nation's most hallowed ground, is the final resting place for more than 420,000 service members and their eligible dependents. ANC's Southern Expansion Project will enable the Army to continue its honored tradition of laying to rest our veterans well into the future. This multi-year series of major construction projects began in September 2021 and is estimated to be completed in December 2028.

Southern Expansion will add an estimated 50 acres to ANC, which is currently 639 acres. Expansion will add more than 80,000 additional interment opportunities, including above-ground columbarium courts for cremated remains and below-ground cremated and traditional casketed burial spaces. In addition:

- Southern Expansion will enhance the experience of ANC's millions of visitors. It will create a culturally rich, thoughtfully designed corridor that encompasses surrounding memorials, while providing the iconic look and feel of this national shrine. Benefits to visitors include a new entrance on Columbia Pike, controlled public parking and integration of the Air Force Memorial onto ANC grounds, ensuring seamless visitor access.
- Roadway alignments in the area will benefit the public and surrounding communities by upgrading road safety and capacity, and adding sidewalks and bicycle lanes. The Defense Access Road (DAR) Project, administered by the Federal Highways Administration, is scheduled to be completed in fall 2025.
- Southern Expansion will facilitate ANC's operations by replacing an office building and a warehouse and adding an Operations Complex, including green-roof maintenance bays for cemetery vehicles.

The Southern Expansion Project includes three distinct phases (in addition to the Defense Access Road Project). Phase I created retaining walls for the site of the new Operations Complex. Phase II (began in 2023 and estimated to be completed by late 2026) entails the construction of the Operations Complex. Phase III (estimated to begin in early 2026 and completed by the late 2028) will expand burial grounds and columbaria.

Southern Expansion is a complex and ever-evolving project. For current information, please visit arlingtoncemetery.mil/Expansion and follow us on social media @arlingtonnatl.