



OFFICE of
ARMY CEMETERIES



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NATIONAL CEMETERY
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Arlington National Cemetery
Entry Corridor Area
Improvements
DHR Project 2024-4142

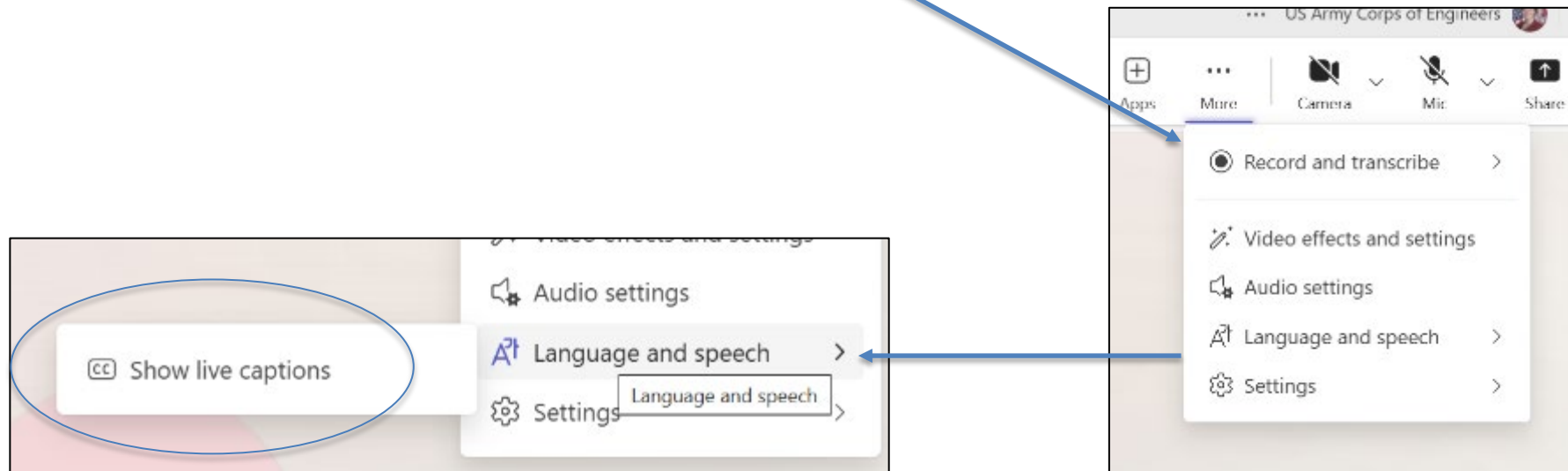
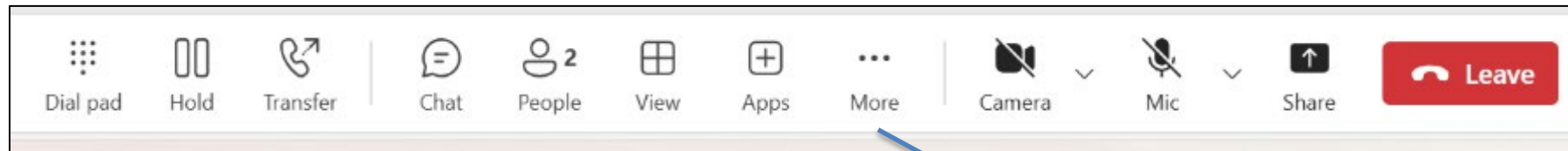
Consulting Parties
Virtual Meeting

17 October 2025
10:00AM

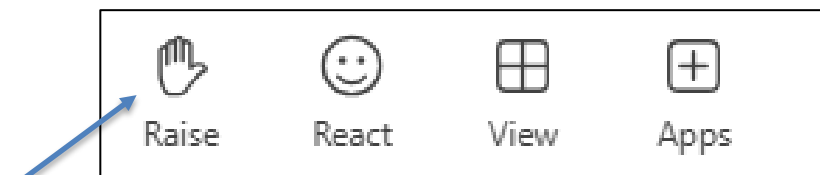
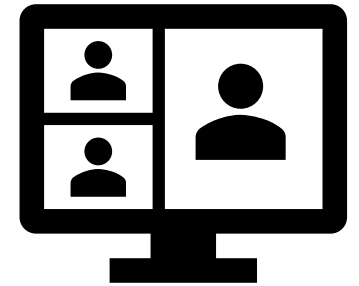
<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/About/Public-Notices>

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- As people speak, words will appear at the bottom of your screen.
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- Please disable cameras and mute microphones until called on to speak.
- Be respectful of people's opinions and time.
- Any disruption or disturbance to this meeting may result in removal.
- This meeting is being recorded (video, audio, and chat).
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- Introductions
 - Rights of Consulting Parties
 - Overview of the Undertaking
 - Section 106 Process to Date
- Comment & Discussion of the Draft PA
 - Next Steps





Invited Consulting Parties

- Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery (ACANC)
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)
- Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA)
- Air Force Sergeants Association: Division 2
- American Legion: Dorie Miller VA Post 194
- American Legion: General Billy Mitchell VA Post 85
- American Legion: VA Post 139
- American Legion: VA Post 46
- Arlington County Department of Environmental Services
- Arlington County, Department of Community Planning, Housing & Development, Historic Preservation Program
- Arlington County, Department of Community Planning, Housing & Development, Historic Preservation Program
- Arlington Historical Society
- Arlington House Descendants Family Circle
- Arlington Ridge Civic Association
- Aurora Highlands Civic Association
- Catawba Indian Nation
- Chickahominy Indian Tribe - Eastern Division
- Delaware Nation, Oklahoma
- District of Columbia's Historic Preservation Office
- Dominion Energy
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 3
- Federal Highway Administration
- Foxcroft Heights Civic Association
- Historical Society of Washington, D.C.
- Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH)
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)



Invited Consulting Parties

- Military Women's Memorial (MWM)
- Monacan Indian Nation
- Nansemond Indian Nation
- National Association of American Veterans, Inc.
- National Capital Planning Commission
- National Park Service (NPS), George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP)
- National Park Service (NPS), National Capital Region (NCR)
- National Park Service (NPS), National Historic Landmark Program (NHL)
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Pamunkey Indian Tribe
- Preservation Virginia
- Rappahannock Tribe
- Shared Mobility Arlington
- Society for History in the Federal Government
- The Black Heritage Museum of Arlington
- The Guild of Professional Tour Guides of Washington, DC
- Upper Mattaponi Tribe
- U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3150
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)
- Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR)
- Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
- Washington Headquarters Services (WHS)
- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)



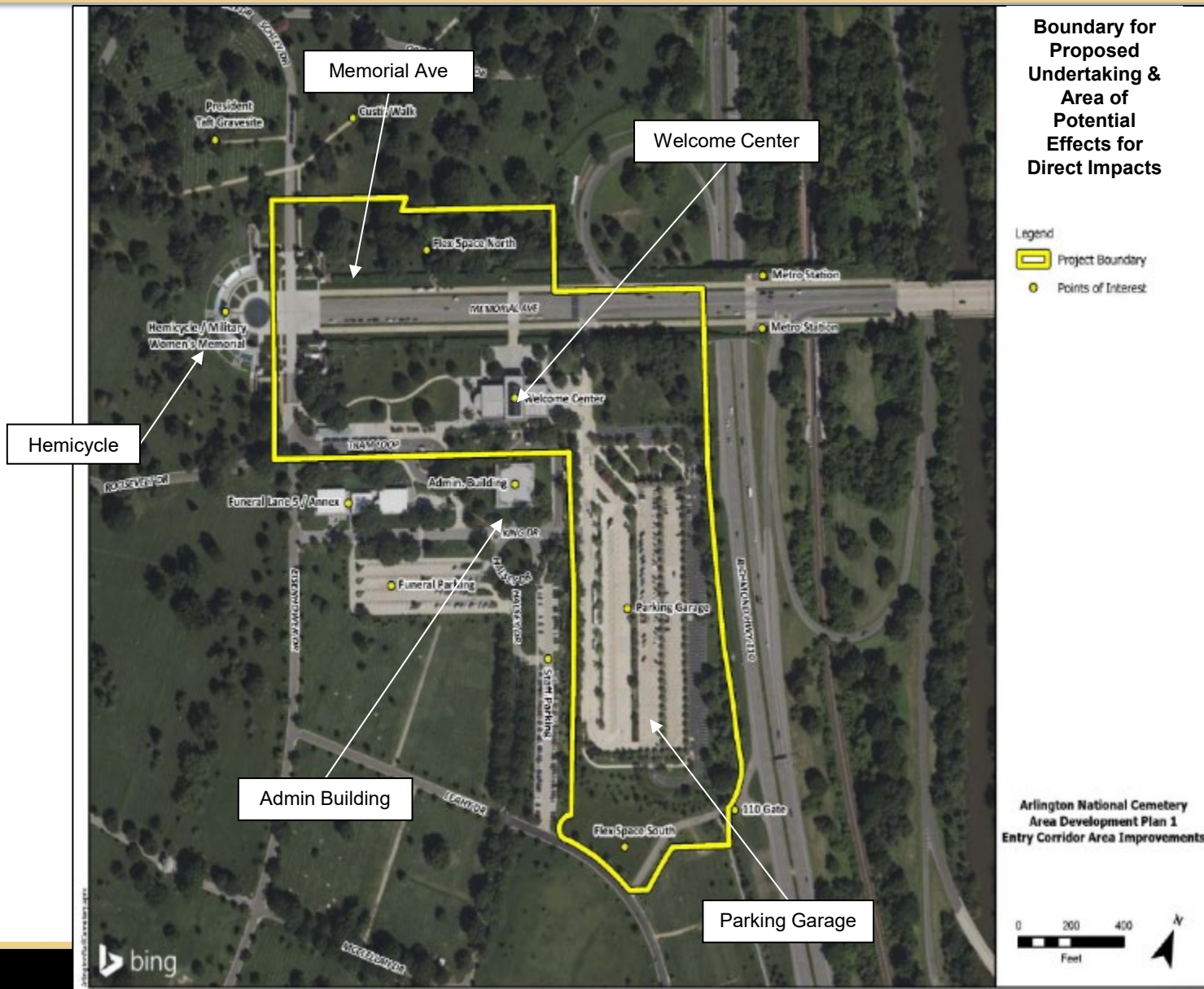
RIGHTS OF CONSULTING PARTIES:

- Share their views
- Receive and review pertinent information/documentation to support consultation
- Offer ideas
- Consider possible solutions together with ANMC and other consulting parties

The agency is not obligated to carry out the preferences and recommendations of invited consulting parties.



Project Description & Location Map



The primary objectives of the proposed undertaking include:

- Increasing Burial Capacity
- Security Improvements
- Improving Transportation and Pedestrian Circulation, and Wayfinding
- Improving Both the Welcome Center and Overall Visitor Experience



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Project Description & Location Map



LEGEND:

1. NEW ENTRANCE DRIVE
2. VOS STATION
3. FUNERAL SCREENING LANE/ALTERNATE BUS DROP-OFF
4. FUNERAL SCREENING
5. GUARD HOUSE AT FUNERAL LOOP
6. RIDGEWAY LOOP
7. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL TRAIL
8. STAFF PARKING ENTRANCE
9. VEHICLE SECURITY SCREENING/TICKETING
10. TICKETING/EXIT BOOTH
11. BUS OVERFLOW PARKING
12. ARRIVALS PLAZA
13. BICYCLE RACK
14. EXISTING CURB AND HEDGE ROW CUT
15. AFTER HOURS EXIT TURNSTILE
16. PEDESTRIAN SCREENING FACILITY
17. CENTRAL PLAZA/PARTIERS
18. WELCOME CENTER
19. RESTROOMS
20. TRAM TICKETING OFFICE
21. TRAM SHELTER
22. INTERPRETIVE GARDEN
23. PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK & SIGNAGE WALL
24. SIDEWALK TO PRESIDENT TAFT GRAVE SITE
25. CONNECTING SIDEWALK TO NORTH FLEX COLUMBARIA
26. COLUMBARIA - NORTH FLEX SPACE
27. SIDEWALK EXTENSION
28. EXISTING BIKES SHARE AREA
29. EXISTING ARLINGTON MEMORIAL TRAIL
30. PERIMETER FENCE
31. RETAINING WALL
32. REALIGNED HWY 110 ACCESS ROAD
33. COLUMBARIA - SOUTH FLEX SPACE
34. LANDSCAPE BUFFER
35. CENTRAL PLAZA/PARTIERS SHADING STRUCTURE
36. BACK OF HOUSE / NEW WELCOME CENTER CHILLER
37. NEW ADMINISTRATION CHILLER
38. PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE CROSSWALK
39. UTILITY CORRIDOR
40. COMMITTEE SHELTER & SIDEWALK FROM ORD & WHITZEL DR TO COLUMBARIA
41. SHIFTED INTERSECTION OF RIDGEWAY DR AND EISENHOWER DR
42. GRANITE PAVED LANE NARROWING AT GUARD TRAILER

Proposed Undertaking Site Plan Illustration (High Level Concept)

Arlington National Cemetery
Area Development Plan 1
Entry Corridor Area Improvements



- New columbaria & in-ground burials
- Improvements to Memorial Avenue
- Parking garage reconfiguration
- Construction of a pedestrian screening facility & arrivals plaza
- Construction of a new Welcome Center & central plaza
- Demolition of the present-day Welcome Center
- Introduction of interpretive gardens, amphitheater, & outdoor gathering space



National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Process - Completed Steps:

- Identified Consulting Parties and Initiated Consultation – Fall 2024
- Defined the Area of Potential Effects (APE) – Spring 2024
- Identified Historic Properties within the APE – Spring 2024
- Assessing Effects – Consulting Parties meeting was held on 1 May 2025
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred that a Programmatic Agreement (PA) was the appropriate path forward to resolve potential effects to historic properties in August 2025

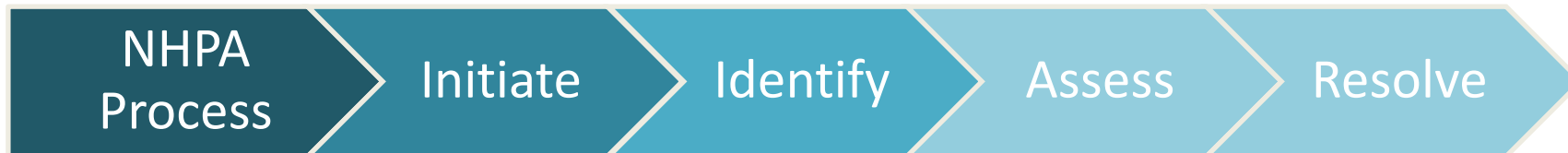




Current Step in the Section 106 Process: Develop the Programmatic Agreement

- Why a Programmatic Agreement (IAW 36 CFR §800.14(b)) is appropriate?
 - Complex project with multiple components that could be designed and funded incrementally over several years.
 - The Cemetery still must operate during construction = Project Phasing
 - Trying to comply with the NEPA EA 1 Year Timeline -> the EA is already in progress; ANC needs to complete Section 106 before signing the Finding of No Significant Impact or “FNSI”

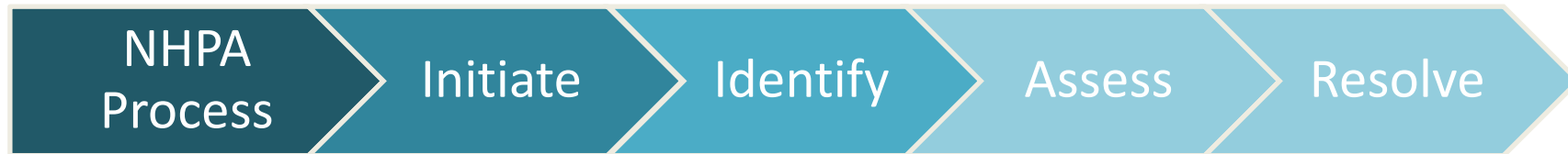
A draft PA was sent to all identified consulting parties by 3 October 2025, and a notice announcing the development of the PA was posted on ANMC’s Public Notices website.





The Programmatic Agreement will include:

- Preamble - Whereas Clauses
- Stipulations
 - How the Consulting Parties will participate in Design Reviews for the Project
 - Agreed to Avoidance and Minimization Measures that will be incorporated into the Design
 - Effect Determination Process
 - Standards, Procedures, and Professional Qualifications for individuals carrying out work under the PA
 - Administrative Procedures PA Signatories agree to comply with
- Signature Pages



Avoidance and Minimization:

ANMC shall prioritize the preservation of and/or the best treatments for the following elements, in designing the modifications of the Entry Corridor site:

- **Oak Trees and Hedgerows lining Memorial Avenue:** Care will be given to preserve the holly hedges and white oak trees that bound either side of Memorial Avenue. Removal of these would only take place where it has been determined necessary to provide better pedestrian and vehicle circulation, safety, and aesthetic improvements along Memorial Avenue. Where possible, new oak trees and hollies will be installed to restore the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission's 1930s landscape design for the Avenue. The allée of White Oaks and American Holly Hedges has suffered damage and loss over the years, particularly when the current Welcome Center was constructed in 1986-1988. Replacement of lost vegetation will be a beneficial impact on this planned historic landscape.
- **Durex Roadway:** Care will be taken to preserve the Durex cobblestone pavers that create the centerline of Memorial Avenue roadway, stretching from the Arlington Hemicycle to the Boundary Channel Bridge. This centerline is an intact element of the original Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission's 1930s landscape design. The pavers were placed by 1935 according to the NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory from 2016. Removal or alteration of the Durex cobblestones would only be necessary to reduce possible risks to pedestrian/visitor traffic and allow for further Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) accessibility requirements.



Avoidance and Minimization Continued:

ANMC shall prioritize the preservation of and/or the best treatments for the following elements, in designing the modifications of the Entry Corridor site:

- **Memorial Avenue Viewshed and Lines-of-Sight:** ANMC will prioritize avoiding any obstructions to the sight lines down Memorial Avenue. For example, the proposed new columbaria north of Memorial Avenue and the new Welcome Center will both be designed with height restrictions to preserve character-defining lines-of-sight on Memorial Avenue.
- **Monuments and Memorials:** Work will be conducted in a manner that is sympathetic to the monuments and memorials located along the entry corridor. Care will be taken to avoid impacting the access to and visibility of the monuments, or their integrity. These monuments contribute to the original concept of the entry corridor as an “Avenue of Heroes.” The niches where each memorial sits can be seen in the original 1960 planting plan for Memorial Avenue. Removing or relocating the monuments and memorials would result in loss of integrity and should only take place if determined necessary to provide improvements to safety, vehicle or pedestrian traffic, or aesthetics along Memorial Avenue.

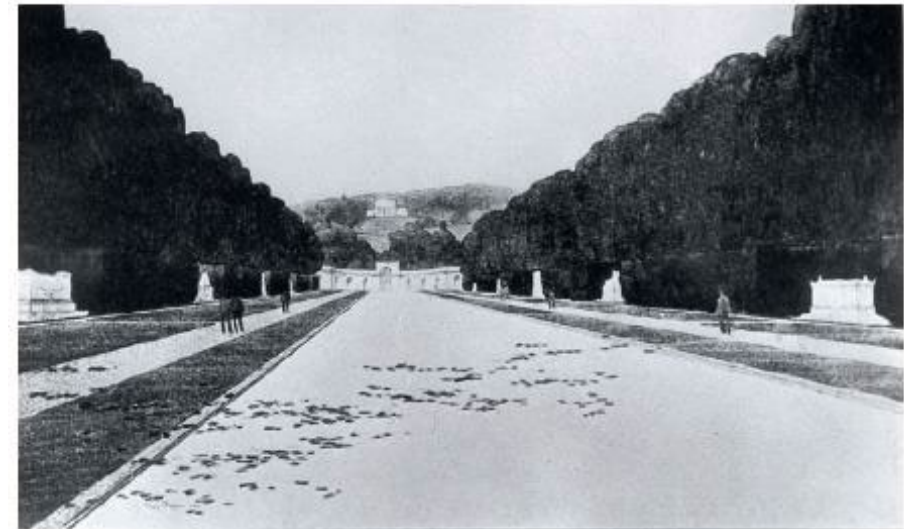


Draft Programmatic Agreement Highlights

Avoidance and Minimization Continued:

ANMC shall prioritize the preservation of and/or the best treatments for the following elements, in designing the modifications of the Entry Corridor:

- **Arlington Hemicycle:** Work will be conducted in a manner that preserves the Hemicycle's character defining features and sight lines. Included in William Kendall's 1928 presentation, the Hemicycle at the western terminus to the Avenue is a character defining feature of the historic sight lines and landscape in the APE. It includes the hemicycle itself as well as the cobblestone drive, fountain plaza, the wrought iron gates, and the pylons to the North and South. The hemicycle, called "The Court of Honor" and "The Great Entrance" in early documents, contributes to the original concept of the entry corridor as "The Avenue of Heroes" with the addition of the Military Women's Memorial (est. 1997), which resides within the hemicycle itself. The hemicycle is an important composite feature of Memorial Avenue that contributes to the "neoclassical urban design of the National Capital as it evolved during the first third of the 20th century."
- **Character and Associations:** The project will be designed for compatibility with the following characteristics, associations, and land uses that contribute to ANC's eligibility for inclusion on the National Register:
 - Maintain association with the commemoration of the nation's military.
 - Maintain primary use of the property as a cemetery.
 - Maintain existing and continue the tradition of design characteristics associated With the picturesque/rural cemetery movements, the establishment of national cemeteries, and the influence of the McMillan Plan, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the City Beautiful Movement. The cemetery's commemorative buildings, structures, and objects will continue to reflect the evolution of commemoration.

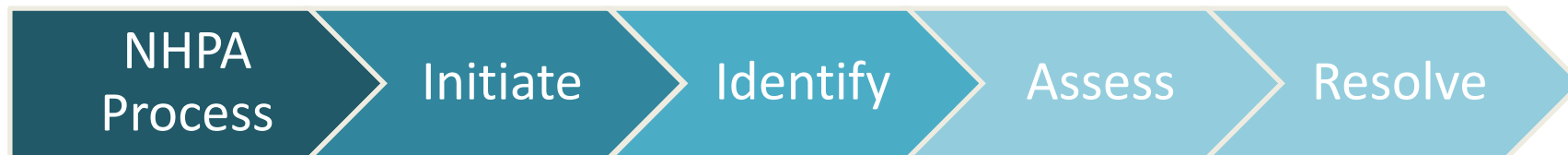


ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: ENTRANCE FROM THE MEMORIAL BRIDGE
MCKIM, MEAD & WHITE, ARCHITECTS



OPEN DISCUSSION

**Please raise your hand in Teams or type in the chat to ask questions
and provide comments/feedback on the drafting of the PA
or the Section 106 process to date**





Next steps in the Section 106 Process:

- Receive and Resolve comments on the Draft PA from Consulting Parties
 - *Current comment window remains open until **3 November***
- Circulate the PA for signatures
- Once the PA is finalized and executed, the NEPA EA and draft FNSI will be released
- Design start ~FY27; Construction start ~2029-2032





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Thank You for Your Time!

For more information and project updates:

<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/About/Public-Notices>

Questions?

Contact: Caitlin Smith, ANMC Cultural Resources Program Manager

Email: usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.mbx.cultural-resources@army.mil

Submit PA Comments by 3 November 2025