

November 5, 2024

SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for a Draft 2024 One-Year Bridge Programmatic Agreement for the Operation, Maintenance, and Repair Activities at Arlington National Cemetery

Army National Military Cemeteries (ANMC), which maintains and operates Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), announces the release of a draft one-year bridge "Programmatic Agreement Among Arlington National Cemetery, the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the Operation, Maintenance, and Repair Activities at Arlington National Cemetery (2024)," in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

ANMC proposes to continue to coordinate and administer ongoing programs of operations, maintenance, and repair, including grounds work and associated landscaping (Projects). These Projects fulfill ANMC's mission, on behalf of the American people, to lay to rest those who have served our nation with dignity and honor; to treat their families with respect and compassion; and to connect guests to the cemetery's living history. Projects to maintain these hallowed grounds befit the sacrifice of all those who rest there in quiet repose. The proposed Projects are considered federal undertakings with the potential to cause adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 800.3(a).

In accordance 36 C.F.R. 800.14(b), ANMC has determined that a programmatic agreement (PA) is the best course of action to move forward with the resolution of potential adverse effects. A PA may be used to govern the implementation of a particular program or the resolution of adverse effects from complex project situations or multiple undertakings, and where routine management activities are undertaken at Federal installations, facilities, or other land management units, in accordance with 36 C.F.R. 800.14(b)(iv). On October 9, 2024, ANMC initiated consultation on the proposed PA with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).

With this notice, ANMC initiates a 30-day comment period and provides the public the opportunity to view and comment on the draft agreement between ANC, the DHR, and the ACHP. All documentation can be viewed on the agency's public website at: <u>https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/About/Public-Notices</u>. Please send comments to the Cultural Resources Program Manager at <u>usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.mbx.cultural-resources@army.mil</u>. Comments are due no later than <u>December 5, 2024</u>.

Thank you for your interest in Arlington National Cemetery.