



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ARMY NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22211-5003

September 9, 2025

SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Initiation for the Crook Walk Bridge and Section 37 Channel Project on the Grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia (DHR Project 2025-4747)

Julie V. Langan
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

ATTN: Ms. Jennifer Bellville-Marion
Project Review Archaeologist
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

Dear Ms. Bellville-Marion:

Army National Military Cemeteries (ANMC) would like to take this opportunity to initiate the consultation process with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, 36 C.F.R. Part 800. ANMC and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) propose a project to repair and rehabilitate Crook Walk Bridge and Section 37 Channel near McClellan, Roosevelt, and Wilson Drives within Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), a National Register historic district.

The Crook Walk Bridge is a footbridge along Crook Walk, a paved pedestrian walkway that connects the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns and Arlington House to Memorial Amphitheater. The Section 37 Channel is for stormwater drainage and runs perpendicular from Crook Walk to Roosevelt Drive. The concrete lining of the channel has deteriorated, and the parapet walls of the bridge have cracked. The project proposes the demolition and reconstruction of the concrete bridge parapet and stormwater channel, and the rehabilitation of the remainder of the bridge, along with the brick and granite channels. The proposed project is considered a federal undertaking with the potential to cause adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 800.3(a).

Per 36 CFR § 800.3(c), ANMC identifies the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) as the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to be involved in the section 106 process.

Per 36 CFR § 800.3(c), ANMC plans to involve the public in the section 106 process. After initiating consultation with the DHR, ANMC will notify potential consulting parties and the public of the undertaking via email, social media, and the ANC website, inviting them to participate in the consultation process. ANMC will work in consultation with the Virginia SHPO to develop the plan for involving the public in the section 106 process.

Concurrent with this submission to the DHR, ANMC is initiating the design review process with the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA). The concept design will be reviewed at the 18 September 2025 meeting (CFA-3492).

Additional information regarding the proposed undertaking can be found in the enclosures and on the ANC website: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/About/Policies-and-Public-Notices/Public-Notices>.

With this letter, ANMC notifies the DHR that, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the agency has:

1. Found that the proposed undertaking affects historic properties.
2. Identified potential consulting parties.
3. Identified the historic properties.
4. Identified the area of potential effects (APE).
5. Applied the criteria of adverse effects (36 CFR § 800.5[a][1]) to the undertaking and finds that the proposed project would have no adverse effects to historic properties in the Area of Potential Effects (APE).

By way of this submission, ANMC requests that the DHR:

1. Respond to ANMC's request for review of finding of effect on historic properties.
2. Provide concurrence or comments on the identified potential consulting parties.
3. Provide concurrence or comments on the determined APE.
4. Provide concurrence or comments on the identified historic properties.
5. Respond to ANMC's findings of:
 - a. No adverse effects to the Arlington National Cemetery Historic District (000-0042).
 - b. No adverse effects to archaeological sites.

Please provide DHR's comments on the agency's findings and determinations within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. All comments on the enclosed documents should be sent to the ANMC Cultural Resources Manager at usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.mbx.cultural-resources@army.mil.

Concurrent with this submission, ANMC notified consulting parties and the public of the agency's findings and determinations, and of the initiation of a 30-day comment period. The notices and Section 106 documentation will be posted on the ANC website: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/About/Policies-and-Public-Notices/Public-Notices>.

Army National Military Cemeteries looks forward to continuing the Section 106 consultation process with our agency partners, consulting parties, and the public. We respectfully request your review and consideration of the information provided. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caitlin E. Smith". The script is cursive and fluid.

Caitlin Smith, AIC PA

Cultural Resources Program Manager
Army National Military Cemeteries

Enclosures:

1. List of Invited Consulting Parties
2. Selected Project Background Information
3. Section 106 Documentation: Project Description, Identification of Consulting Parties, Identification of Historic Properties, Area of Potential Effects, and Assessment of Effects
4. "Arlington National Cemetery Archaeological Resources and Areas of Archaeological Potential" report prepared by Marstel-Day LLC and WSP USA Solutions Inc., June 4, 2025

List of Invited Consulting Parties

In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(f) and § 800.2(c), ANMC developed an initial list of other parties entitled to be consulting parties. This list will be further developed in consultation with the Virginia SHPO.

ANMC identified the following other consulting parties:

- Arlington House Family Circle
- Catawba Indian Nation
- Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division
- Delaware Nation, Oklahoma
- Nansemond Indian Nation
- National Park Service (NPS), George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP)
- Pamunkey Indian Tribe
- Rappahannock Tribe, Inc.
- Upper Mattaponi Tribe
- United States Commission of Fine Arts (CFA)

Selected Project Background Information

Arlington National Cemetery Historic District National Register Nomination:

<https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/000-0042/>

Information about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):

<https://www.achp.gov/protecting-historic-properties>

Information about the ongoing compliance process for the Crook Walk Bridge and Section 37 Channel Project can be found on the ANC Public Notices page:

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