



Southern Expansion

Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), our nation's most hallowed ground, is the final resting place for nearly 430,000 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 by the end of 2028. *Please note that estimated completion dates are subject to change.*

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** by creating 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 seamless access to the Air Force Memorial, which will be integrated within cemetery grounds.
- **Benefit the public and surrounding communities** by realigning roadways in the area—which will not only upgrade road safety and capacity but also add sidewalks and bicycle lanes. The Defense Access Road (DAR) Project, administered by the Federal Highways Administration, is scheduled to be complete in late summer 2026.
- **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 (begun 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 late 2028) will expand burial grounds and columbaria.

Southern Expansion is a complex and ever-evolving project. For current information, please visit www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Expansion, follow us on social media @arlingtonnatl, and [sign up to receive updates via email](#).