

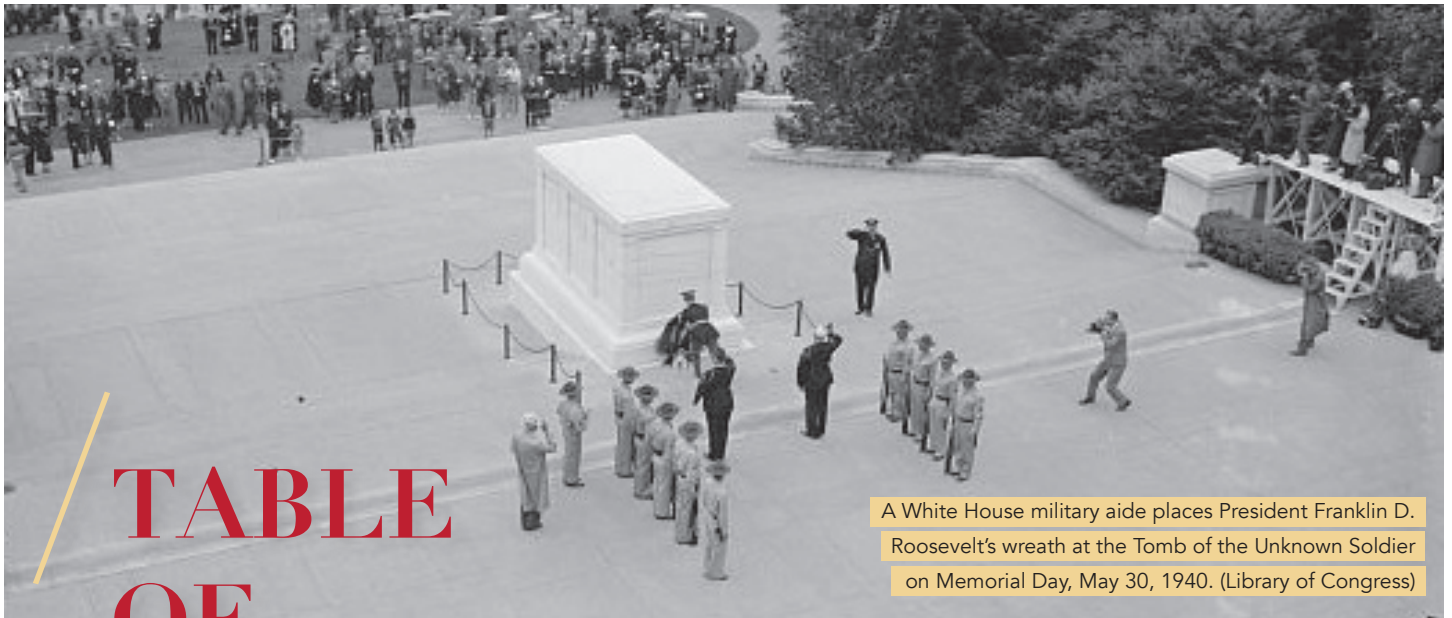
# RESOURCE GUIDE

## Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Centennial Commemoration

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

LAST UPDATED: FEBRUARY 2021



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A White House military aide places President Franklin D. Roosevelt's wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Memorial Day, May 30, 1940. (Library of Congress)

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Cover image: Prince Andrew of Greece uses a movie camera at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier in 1923. During these early years, the Tomb became a popular tourist attraction as well as a site of mourning. (Library of Congress)



## KAREN DURHAM-AGUILERA

*Executive Director, Office of Army Cemeteries, Army National Military Cemeteries, Arlington National Cemetery*

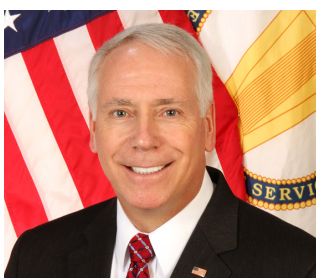
At Arlington National Cemetery, we conduct more than 3,000 ceremonies and host more than four million visitors every year. More than 400,000 individuals are buried in these hallowed grounds, including service members from all of the United States' conflicts, from the American Revolution through today. Each of these individuals has a story to tell.

One hundred years ago, we laid to rest an unidentified American who fell in the First World War. He has been in our charge ever since. This is a duty—

and a honor—that we humbly undertake on behalf of a grateful nation. Every day at Arlington National Cemetery, we are aware of the special place that we hold in the national conscience.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier stands, physically and symbolically, at the heart of the cemetery—and the heart of the nation.

On behalf of Arlington National Cemetery, I would like to welcome the public to join us in commemorating the centennial anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



## CHARLES R. ALEXANDER, JR.

*Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery*

2021 marks the centennial of one of the nation's most important shrines: the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One hundred years ago, on November 11, 1921, the United States laid to rest a fallen American hero. In combat, he lost not only his life, but also his identity.

Originally interred in France, where he fell in battle, the World War I Unknown Soldier was returned home to be buried in a tomb at Arlington National Cemetery. Other locations for the tomb were considered. However, Congress selected

Arlington, the nation's premier military cemetery, as the place to construct a tomb in which to bury the Unknown, and to enshrine the memory of all those who have given their lives in service to the United States.

Since 1921, the Tomb has been a place to honor service and sacrifice. It has been—and continues to be—both a site of mourning and a site of commemoration. Arlington National Cemetery and the United States Army are proud to maintain and guard this sacred site, a symbol of the nation's shared sacrifice.

# CONTACT

Arlington National Cemetery

Public Affairs Office

1 Memorial Avenue, Arlington, Virginia 22211

Email: [usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.list.anc-pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.list.anc-pao@mail.mil)

Phone: (703) 614-0024

# CONNECT



[www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)



[www.facebook.com/ArlingtonNatl](https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonNatl)



[www.twitter.com/ArlingtonNatl](https://www.twitter.com/ArlingtonNatl)



[www.instagram.com/ArlingtonNatl](https://www.instagram.com/ArlingtonNatl)



[www.youtube.com/ArlingtonNatl](https://www.youtube.com/ArlingtonNatl)



[www.flickr.com/photos/ArlingtonNatl](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ArlingtonNatl)

Alexandria National Cemetery was established in 1862 as one of 14 original national cemeteries. By 1864, it began to run out of burial space, leading to the establishment of Arlington National Cemetery.  
(Library of Congress)

# STAKEHOLDER RESOURCES

Arlington National Cemetery's Public Affairs Office responds to media queries, facilitates requests for media interviews and provides media escorts for Arlington National Cemetery's public events, ceremonies and funeral services deemed open to media coverage.

To submit a media query, **email the Media Request Form on page 8** as a PDF and/or send all required information via email to [usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.list.anc-pao-history@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.list.anc-pao-history@mail.mil).

The ANC Public Affairs Office hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

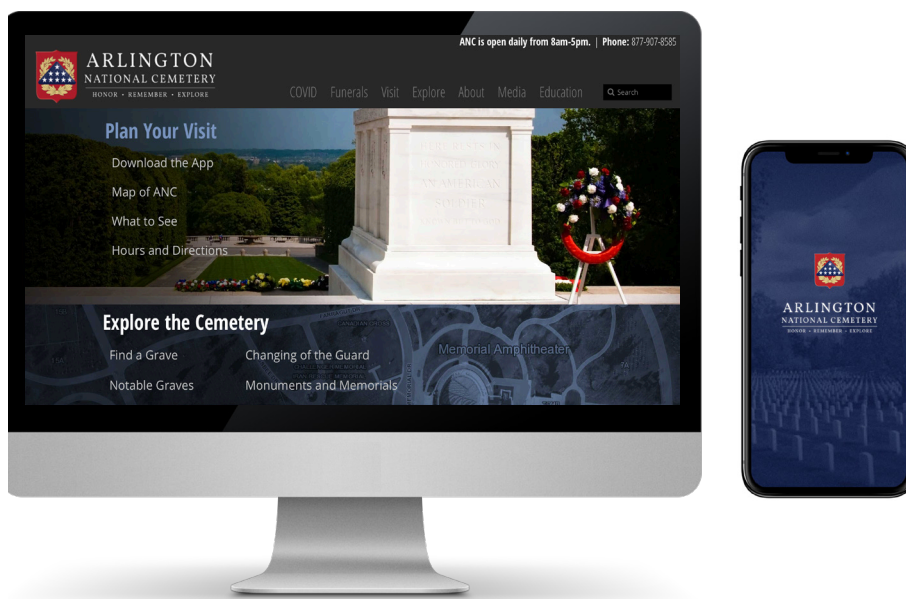
Media requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. In order to be considered for approval, media requests must be about the cemetery or about someone interred or inurned at the cemetery. The Arlington National Cemetery Media Policy does not permit interviews or stand-ups at the cemetery. Read more at <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Media/Media-Policy>.

For the most up-to-date information, follow us on social media @arlingtontatl, download our free "ANC Explorer" app, or visit our website at [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil).

ANC press releases are updated at [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Media/News](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Media/News).

Public queries can be directed to the ANC Call Center at 877-907-8585.

Branding Guide is available to internal DoD assets only and will be sent via email upon request.





## HISTORIC PHOTOS

See how-to guide on page 7.

## HISTORIC VIDEOS

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier World War I:  
[www.dvidshub.net/video/774746/tomb-unknown-soldier-wwi-archival-1](http://www.dvidshub.net/video/774746/tomb-unknown-soldier-wwi-archival-1)

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier World War I:  
[www.dvidshub.net/video/774752/tomb-unknown-soldier-wwi-archival-2](http://www.dvidshub.net/video/774752/tomb-unknown-soldier-wwi-archival-2)

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier World War II & Korea:  
[www.dvidshub.net/video/774760/tomb-unknown-soldier-wwii-korea-archival](http://www.dvidshub.net/video/774760/tomb-unknown-soldier-wwii-korea-archival)

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Vietnam War:  
[www.dvidshub.net/video/774762/tomb-unknown-soldier-vietnam](http://www.dvidshub.net/video/774762/tomb-unknown-soldier-vietnam)

## CURRENT PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

The cemetery has a variety of high-quality photos available for news media and other organizations. Photos can be accessed on the cemetery's Flickr site: [www.flickr.com/arlingtonnatl](http://www.flickr.com/arlingtonnatl) or on the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service at [www.dvidshub.net](http://www.dvidshub.net) (free for use, but you must register in order to download).

## B-Roll:

The cemetery has b-roll packages (news and seasonal) available for news media and other organizations. Video is located on the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service and is free for use, but you must register in order to download. Register at [www.dvidshub.net/member/registration](http://www.dvidshub.net/member/registration).

Unless otherwise noted, photos and video found on our website, our Flickr page and on DVIDS are considered public domain and are not protected by copyright. It is still requested and appropriate to credit the photographer, videographer or creator of any media used.

## CURRENT VIDEOS

Memorial Amphitheater Centennial:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjqNsQWi9e4>

## QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding imagery, please submit your query to [usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa-list.anc-pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa-list.anc-pao@mail.mil).

# HISTORIC PHOTOS

## HOW TO FIND TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER PHOTOGRAPHS AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress has a large collection of digitized, downloadable historic images related to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. To find these free online resources, go to the library's Prints and Photographs portal at: [loc.gov/pictures](https://www.loc.gov/pictures).

On that page, you will see a "Search All" box in which to enter information. Simply type in "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" (or similar terms, such as "Tomb of the Unknowns," or "Tomb" and "Arlington") and hit "Go." You will find several hundred black-and-white photographs from 1921 through the 1930s, along with a selection of color photographs from the 1940s through 1980s. Please note that not all search results will be related to the Tomb at Arlington National Cemetery.

To find photographs specifically related to the Unknown Soldier from World War I, enter the search terms "Tomb of the Unknown" and "1921."

Once you have selected a photograph, click on either the image or title. You will be sent to a page with the image and more detailed information. Below the image will be several size options, in both JPEG and TIFF formats (TIFF images will be larger and will take longer to download).

If you click on one of the JPEG images, you will see a blown-up version of the image. Then, right-click on your mouse or pad. Several options will appear. Click on "Save Image As" to save it onto your computer.

For the TIFF option, the image will download

at the bottom-left corner of the webpage. Once the image completes downloading, click on it, and a large image will appear. Then, click on "File" in the upper left corner of the page. A dropdown guide will appear. Click on "Make a Copy" to save it onto your computer.

## HOW TO FIND TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER PHOTOGRAPHS ON DVIDS

To find free online Defense Visual Information Distribution Service (DVIDS) images related to Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, simply go to [dvidshub.net](https://dvidshub.net). Please note that DVIDS contains only contemporary photographs of the Tomb, including such events as wreath-laying and changing of the guard ceremonies, as well as holiday and remembrance events.

On [dvidshub.net](https://dvidshub.net), you will see a "Search DVIDS" box in which to enter information. Type in "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Arlington" and hit "Enter." You will find several dozen photographs, and by clicking on the "View More" tab at the bottom of the page, more photographs will appear.

Click on the desired photograph and it will appear larger, with information about the photograph. Click on the "Visit Image Page" tab to see the image again, with more detailed information.

To download the image, right-click on your mouse or pad. Several options will appear. Click on "Save Image As" to save it onto your computer.

# MEDIA REQUEST FORM

*Submit this document as a PDF and/or send all required information via email to  
usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.list.anc-pao-history@mail.mil*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Media Outlet:

Phone Number:

Email:

## MEDIA QUERY

Requested Date & Time:

Deadline:

Requesting: ☐ General Information ☐ Interview ☐ Photography ☐ Videography  
☐ Cultural Resources ☐ History ☐ Operations ☐ Horticulture  
☐ Tomb Guard

*If Applicable:*

Interview Type: ☐ On-Camera Interview ☐ Radio Interview ☐ Comment

Request Overview:



### MOTION PICTURES, TELEVISION & ENTERTAINMENT

Contact:

U.S. Army Office of the Chief of Public Affairs,  
Western Region (OCPA-West)  
Phone: (818) 616-3670



### BOOK PROJECTS & AUTHORS

Contact:

U.S. Army Office of the Chief of Public Affairs,  
Northeast (OCPA-NE)  
Phone: (212) 784-0112





## The Official Department of Defense Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Centennial Commemoration Program of Events



### **November 2020**

Release of ANC Education Program Module,  
“The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier,” featured at  
<https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>

### **January through October 2021**

Monthly Interpretive Presentations  
by ANC History Office  
(online or at Arlington National Cemetery)

### **November 9, 2021**

U.S. Naval District of Washington  
Historical Plaque Dedication, Naval Symposium  
and 21-Gun Salute Ceremony  
(Washington Navy Yard)

### **November 11, 2021**

U.S. Army Military District of Washington  
Joint Full Honors Procession  
(evoking elements of the WWI Unknown's  
1921 funeral procession)

### **November 2020**

Inaugural Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony:  
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Exhibit,  
Memorial Amphitheater Display Room  
(Arlington National Cemetery)

### **October 2021**

Release of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier  
Commemorative Publication  
(in hard copy and online)

### **November 9-10, 2021**

U.S. Army Military District of Washington  
Public Flower Laying Ceremony at the  
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier  
(Arlington National Cemetery)

### **November 11, 2021**

Armed Forces Full Honors  
Wreath Laying Ceremony  
(Arlington National Cemetery)

### **November 11, 2021**

National Veterans Day Observance

**#ANCTUS100**



<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS100>  
<https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>

# ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY ANNOUNCES TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

## *Yearlong Program of Events*

**ARLINGTON, VA**—Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) announces the Department of Defense's yearlong Tomb of the Unknown Soldier centennial commemoration.

For nearly 100 years, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (TUS) has served as the heart of Arlington National Cemetery. It stands as a people's memorial that inspires reflection on service, valor, sacrifice and mourning. As a sacred memorial site and the grave of three unknown American service members, it connects visitors with the legacy of the U.S. armed forces throughout the nation's history.

"As the stewards of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, it's our honor to lead the centennial commemoration of this site," said Karen Durham-Aguilera, Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries and Arlington National Cemetery. "In collaboration with other governmental and non-governmental organizations, ANC is using this centennial commemoration to explore and share the history, meaning and evolution of the Tomb."

Throughout this year, the cemetery will hold events leading up to the centennial ceremony on November 11, 2021. The public will be able to experience and participate in the commemorative events in many ways, both at the cemetery and virtually.

The official Department of Defense Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Centennial Commemoration events include:

- Inaugural ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new Tomb of the Unknown Soldier exhibit at the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room (held on November 18, 2020)
- Opening of a second, complementary historical museum exhibit at the ANC Welcome Center, which explores the Tomb's role in transforming Arlington National Cemetery (spring 2021)
- The release of a free educational module for students and lifelong learners of all ages, titled "The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" and available at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>
- Interpretive presentations, panels and other events led by Arlington National Cemetery historians and other experts (dates to be announced)
- An official commemorative publication about the creation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, to be published by the U.S. Army Center of Military History and distributed in print and online (October 2021)
- A Naval District of Washington historical plaque dedication, naval symposium and 21-Gun Salute Ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard (November 9, 2021).
- A U.S. Army Military District of Washington Public Flower Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (November 9-10, 2021)

- A U.S. Army Military District of Washington Joint Full Honors Procession, meant to evoke elements of the World War I Unknown Soldier's 1921 funeral procession (November 11, 2021)
- An Armed Forces Full Honors Wreath Laying Ceremony (November 11, 2021)

Charles "Ray" Alexander Jr., Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, said: "Our dedicated team has worked for years to prepare for the public to pay their respects at the Tomb in November 2021. This year's events will include a ceremony during which visitors may place flowers onto the Tomb plaza. This will be the first time in many years that the public will be allowed to walk across the Tomb plaza and honor the Unknowns at their gravesite."

As part of Arlington National Cemetery's new Education Program, an educational module on the history and significance of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is available at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>. The module is a resource for teachers, students and adult "lifelong learners." It includes lesson plans, assignments and primary source readings for elementary, middle and high school students, as well as self-guided walking tours that can be used to explore the cemetery either virtually or in person. Lesson plans align with national and state social studies standards and can be easily adapted for homeschooling or virtual learning.

To inaugurate the TUS centennial, the cemetery hosted a ceremony on November 18, 2020 to install a time capsule in the cornerstone of Memorial Amphitheater. Intended to be opened in 2121, this time capsule contains items relevant to the year 2020, including letters from Army leaders, a COVID mask, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) report on the history of Memorial Amphitheater, 2020 coins and stamps, and ANC's employee newsletter, "Hallowed Grounds." This new time capsule replaces the original one deposited in 1915, which cemetery staff uncovered and opened earlier this year.

In addition to the time capsule ceremony on November 18, ANC officials hosted an inaugural ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room to unveil a new exhibit that explores the evolution of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier over the last century. The Display Room exhibit, in close proximity to the Tomb, includes interpretative panels, artifacts, and historic photographs and films.

A second, complementary historical exhibit at the ANC Welcome Center will open later this year. The Welcome Center exhibit delves more deeply into how the creation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier transformed Arlington National Cemetery and American commemorative culture. Online versions of both exhibits are currently in development and will be available on Arlington National Cemetery's website ([www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)) and social media platforms (@arlingtonnatl).

The Arlington National Cemetery Public Affairs Office has created a comprehensive online toolkit for media representatives and interested members of the public. The #ANCTUS100 Resource Guide, which will be available at [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS100](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS100), includes downloadable graphics, images, links to historic

videos and photographs, quick facts, historical documentation and much more. The Resource Guide will be updated throughout the year.

Please visit [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS100](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS100) for the most up-to-date news and information regarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Centennial Commemoration.

-END-

# HISTORY

## OVERVIEW

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is Arlington National Cemetery's most iconic memorial.

The neoclassical, white marble sarcophagus stands atop a hill overlooking Washington, D.C. Since 1921, it has provided a final resting place for one of America's unidentified World War I service members, and Unknowns from later wars were added in 1958 and 1984. The Tomb has also served as a place of mourning and a site for reflection on military service.

## UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS

Through the ages, one of the consequences of warfare has been large numbers of unidentified dead. Unidentified remains resulted from poor record-keeping, the damage that weapons of war inflicted on bodies, or the haste required to bury the dead and mark gravesites. In the United States prior to the Civil War, unidentified remains were often buried in mass graves. At Arlington National Cemetery, these include unknown soldiers and sailors from the War of 1812 who were discovered buried at the Washington Navy Yard and reburied at Arlington National Cemetery in 1905.

## CIVIL WAR

During the Civil War (1861-1865), high casualty rates and a lack of personal identification methods led

to large numbers of unknowns originally buried along marching routes or battlefields. The system of national cemeteries was established in 1862 to ensure the proper burial of all service members. Still, many unknown remains were recovered in the years following the Civil War. At Arlington National Cemetery, there are individual Civil War unknown burials as well as the remains of 2,111 U.S. and Confederate soldiers buried beneath the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns. While exact numbers are unknown, estimates indicate that nearly half of the Civil War dead were never identified.

## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

During the Spanish-American War (1898), the U.S. military's policy was to repatriate (return to the United States) the bodies of service members who died abroad. New Army regulations required that soldiers be buried in temporary graves with identifying information. The Army's Quartermaster Corps, which oversaw burials and repatriation of bodies, employed a burial corps. Identification rates went up to significantly.

## WORLD WAR I

During World War I, U.S. service members received aluminum identification discs, the precursors to "dog tags," to aid the process of identifying remains. The War Department created a new unit in the Quartermaster Corps, the Graves Registration

Service, to oversee burials. During and after World War I, however, Americans debated whether bodies should be repatriated. With more than 100,000 U.S. casualties (compared to fewer than 3,000 in the Spanish-American War), repatriation was more challenging.

France and Great Britain, which suffered significantly higher casualties and more unknown dead than did the United States, barred repatriation of their citizens' remains. To ease the grief of their citizens, France and Great Britain each repatriated and buried one unknown soldier on Armistice Day, November 11, 1920. France buried its Unknown Soldier at the base of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, while Great Britain buried its Unknown Warrior inside Westminster Abbey in London. These unknowns would stand in for other British and French service members whose remains could not be identified.

The American policy, by contrast, gave options to families of the war dead. If requested by the next of kin, the remains of service members who died in Europe would be transported to anywhere in the United States at no cost to the family. Or, families could choose to bury their dead at permanent U.S. military cemeteries established in Europe.

## LEGISLATION

In December 1920, New York Congressman and World War I veteran Hamilton Fish Jr. proposed legislation that provided for the interment of one unknown American soldier at a special tomb to be built in Arlington National Cemetery. The purpose of the legislation was "to bring home the body of an unknown American warrior who in himself represents

no section, creed, or race in the late war and who typifies, moreover, the soul of America and the supreme sacrifice of her heroic dead."

## SELECTION

In October 1921, four bodies of unidentified U.S. military personnel were exhumed from different American military cemeteries in France. On October 23, 1921, the four caskets arrived at the city hall of Châlons-sur-Marne (now called Châlons-en-Champagne), France.

Town officials and members of the U.S. Army's Quartermaster Corps had prepared the city hall for the selection ceremony. Early on the morning of October 24, 1921, Major Robert P. Harbold of the Quartermaster Corps, aided by French and American soldiers, rearranged the caskets so that each rested on a shipping case other than the one in which it had arrived. Major Harbold then chose Sergeant Edward F. Younger, a World War I veteran with a superior service record, to select the Unknown Soldier. Sergeant Younger selected the Unknown by placing a spray of white roses on one of the caskets.

From Châlons-sur-Marne, the Unknown journeyed by caisson and rail to the port town of Le Havre. From Le Havre, France, the USS Olympia transported the Unknown Soldier's casket to Washington, D.C. The Unknown arrived at the Washington Navy Yard on November 9, 1921. After arriving in Washington, the Unknown lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. About 90,000 visitors paid their respects during the public visiting period on November 10, 1921.



## THE FUNERAL

On November 11, 1921, the Unknown was placed on a horse-drawn caisson and carried in a procession through Washington, D.C., and across the Potomac River. A state funeral ceremony was held at Arlington National Cemetery's new Memorial Amphitheater, and the Unknown was interred in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Nationwide, Americans observed two minutes of silence at the beginning of the ceremony. President Warren G. Harding officiated the ceremony and placed the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration, on the casket. Numerous foreign dignitaries presented their nations' highest awards, as well.

## THE ORIGINAL TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Originally, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier consisted of a simple marble slab. During its early years, thousands of visitors came to Arlington National Cemetery to mourn at the Tomb and to pay their respects to the Unknown Soldier and the military personnel he represented.

## THE SARCOPHAGUS

The Tomb sarcophagus is decorated with three wreaths on each side panel (north and south). On the front (east), three figures represent Peace, Victory and Valor. The back (west) features the inscription: "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

## WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN WAR UNKNOWN

Following World War II, some Americans supported the idea of interring and honoring an unknown service member from that war. However, the start of the Korean War in 1950 delayed those plans. In August 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower approved the selection and interment of unknowns from both World War II and the Korean War.

Fought on four continents, World War II complicated the selection of an unknown. The chosen unknown needed to represent all unidentified American dead, not just those from one theater of the war. In 1958, the Army exhumed 13 bodies from military cemeteries across North Africa and Europe and brought them to the Epinal American Cemetery and Memorial in France. On May 12, 1958, Major General Edward J. O'Neill placed a red-and-white wreath on one of the 13 caskets, selecting the Unknown who would represent the Trans-Atlantic (Europe and North Africa) Theater of World War II. The selected casket was then taken aboard the USS Blandy for its journey to the United States.

To represent the Trans-Pacific Theater of World War II, the Army exhumed five bodies from Fort McKinley American Cemetery in the Philippines (now called Manila American Cemetery) and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific ("The Punch Bowl") in Hawaii. At the same time, they exhumed four bodies from the Korean War that were also buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. All nine caskets were brought to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. On May 15, 1958, Army Master Sergeant Ned Lyle selected the Korean War Unknown. The next

day, Air Force Colonel Glenn T. Eagleston selected the World War II Trans-Pacific Unknown. Both caskets were flown to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, before being loaded aboard the USS Boston.

The USS Blandy and USS Boston met the USS Canberra off the coast of Virginia. On May 26, 1958, all three caskets were placed on the deck of the Canberra, with the Korean War Unknown placed between the two World War II Unknowns. Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class William R. Charette, a Medal of Honor recipient from the Korean War, then selected the World War II Unknown.

The caskets of the World War II and Korean War Unknowns were then transported to Washington, D.C., aboard the USS Blandy, while the remaining World War II Unknown received a solemn burial at sea.

Both Unknowns arrived in Washington, D.C., on May 28, 1958 and lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda for two days. Two days later, the Unknowns were transported to Arlington National Cemetery and interred in crypts to the west of the World War I Unknown.

## VIETNAM WAR UNKNOWN

Before the Vietnam War ended, Arlington National Cemetery began making preparations to add a third crypt to the Tomb. However, many people believed that advances in technology would mean that all remains from Vietnam could eventually be identified.

In response to mounting political pressure to recognize a Vietnam War unknown, President Jimmy

Carter and Max Cleland, Administrator of the United States Veteran Administration and a Vietnam veteran, dedicated a bronze plaque honoring the United States' Vietnam War veterans on Veterans Day, November 11, 1978, at Memorial Amphitheater.

By May 1984, only one set of recovered American remains from Vietnam had not been fully identified. In a ceremony held at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on May 17, 1984, Medal of Honor recipient Marine Corps Sergeant Major Allan Jay Kellogg Jr. designated the remains as the Vietnam War Unknown. The casket was then transported to Travis Air Force Base, California, aboard the USS Brewton.

In California, the Vietnam War Unknown was loaded on a C-141B Starlifter and flown to Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland. The Vietnam War Unknown lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda from May 25 to 28, 1984. On Memorial Day, May 28, a military procession transported the casket to Arlington National Cemetery for burial. President Ronald Reagan presided over the interment ceremony. In his eulogy, Reagan assured the audience that the government would continue looking for the Vietnam War's missing in action (MIA) personnel. Meanwhile, the Vietnam War Unknown would lay at rest at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for almost 14 years.

The Department of Defense and civilian partners continued working to identify remains recovered from Vietnam. Through these efforts, they reviewed evidence that suggested the Vietnam War Unknown was likely Air Force 1st Lieutenant Michael Joseph Blassie, a pilot who had been shot down in 1972. At the request of Blassie's family, the Department of Defense exhumed the remains from the Vietnam

Unknown's crypt on May 14, 1998. Using DNA testing, scientists positively identified the remains as those of Blassie. In accordance with the wishes of his family, Blassie was reinterred at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.

The crypt designated for the Vietnam War Unknown remains vacant. On September 17, 1999—National POW/MIA Recognition Day—it was rededicated to honor all missing U.S. service members from the Vietnam War.

### GUARDING THE TOMB

In March 1926, soldiers from nearby Fort Myer were first assigned to guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The guards, present only during daylight hours, discouraged visitors from climbing or stepping on the Tomb. In 1937, the guards became a 24/7 presence, standing watch over the Unknown Soldier at all times.

The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as "The Old Guard," was designated as the Army's official ceremonial unit on April 6, 1948. At that time, The Old Guard began guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Soldiers of The Old Guard also serve as escorts to the president and conduct military ceremonies in and around Washington, D.C., including military funeral escorts at Arlington National Cemetery.

Soldiers who volunteer to become Tomb Guards must undergo a strict selection process and intensive training. Each element of the Tomb Guard's routine has meaning. The Guard marches 21 steps down the black mat behind the Tomb, turns and faces east for

21 seconds, turns and faces north for 21 seconds, and then takes 21 steps down the mat. Next, the Guard executes a sharp "shoulder-arms" movement to place his/her weapon on the shoulder closest to the visitors, signifying that he or she stands between the Tomb and any possible threat. The number "21" symbolizes the highest symbolic military honor that can be bestowed: the 21-gun salute.

### WREATH LAYINGS AND VISITORS AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has long been a way for individuals and organizations to honor the sacrifices of American service members. Presidents, politicians, public figures and foreign dignitaries have all paid their respects in this way. The opportunity to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony is also open to the general public, including school groups and Honor Flights.

In addition, each year, millions of people from around the world visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Some visit to honor military service and sacrifice; some to mourn a loved one; and some because of the Tomb's historical and national significance.

One hundred years after the World War I Unknown's burial, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier continues to be a powerful symbol of service and sacrifice, mourning and memory.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will be regularly updated as more information becomes available. Please revisit this document online for the most up-to-date details.*

*For participant information for all upcoming events, programs and ceremonies, please visit [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS-100](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/TUS-100).*

## I. TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER HISTORY

**Q: When was the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier built?**

**A:** The original Tomb, a low, flat marble slab, was completed in November 1921. In March 1926, Congress authorized the completion of the Tomb as we know it today, with a sarcophagus featuring neoclassical carvings. Construction on the permanent Tomb began in February 1929 and was completed in April 1932.

**Q: Where did the idea for the Tomb originate?**

**A:** The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery was inspired by similar tombs in Great Britain and France. A British Army Chaplain and World War I veteran, David Railton, has been credited with the idea of entombing a single unknown soldier to represent all unidentified World War I casualties. In 1920, Britain dedicated the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior at London's Westminster Abbey. That same year, France entombed an unknown soldier at the base of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. On March 4, 1921, Congress passed legislation, proposed by New York Congressman and World War I veteran Hamilton Fish Jr., that approved the creation of a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Although other locations were considered, Congress ultimately chose to locate the Tomb at Arlington National Cemetery, near the

new Memorial Amphitheater. In the decades after World War I, the United States departed from other countries by adding unknown service members to represent other wars (World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War).

**Q: What is the Tomb made out of?**

**A:** The Tomb sarcophagus is made of marble. The plaza is made of granite.

**Q: Where did the material for the Tomb come from?**

**A:** The Tomb's Yule marble was quarried in Colorado and supplied by the Vermont Marble Company.

**Q: Who designed the Tomb?**

**A:** The finalized Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was designed by architect Lorimer Rich and sculptor Thomas Hudson Jones, both of whom were World War I veterans. In 1926, Congress authorized an open design competition to complete the Tomb, and the design submitted by Rich and Jones—a flat sarcophagus with neoclassical carvings—won the competition. The Piccirilli Brothers, renowned Italian American marble carvers who sculpted many other monuments in the Washington, D.C. area, also contributed to the Tomb's sculptural elements.

**Q: What symbols and inscriptions are on the Tomb? What do the symbols mean?**

**A:** On the east-facing side of the Tomb, three neoclassical figures represent Peace, Victory and Valor. Six wreaths are carved on the Tomb: three on the north-facing side and three on the south-facing side. An inscription on the west-facing side of the Tomb states, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

**Q: How many Unknowns are interred at the Tomb?**

**A:** Three Unknown service members are interred at the Tomb: one each from World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

**Q: How were the Unknowns selected?**

**A:**

- **World War I:** In October 1921, the bodies of four unidentified U.S. service members were exhumed from four American cemeteries in France: the Meuse-Argonne, St. Mihiel, Somme and Aisne-Marne cemeteries. The Army took detailed precautions to ensure the anonymity of those exhumed. On October 23, 1921, the four caskets arrived at the city hall of Châlons-sur-Marne, France (now called Châlons-en-Champagne). In a ceremony held on October 24, 1921, Sergeant Edward Younger—a World War I veteran with a superior service record—selected the Unknown by placing a spray of white roses upon one of the caskets. The remaining three unknown soldiers were buried in the Meuse-Argonne American cemetery.

- **World War II:** Fought on four continents, World War II complicated the selection of an Unknown. The chosen unknown needed to represent all unidentified dead, not just those from one theater of the war. In 1958, the Army began the process by selecting unknowns from the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters.

To represent the Trans-Atlantic Theater, the

Army exhumed the remains of 13 American service members from military cemeteries across North Africa and Europe and brought them to the Epinal American Cemetery and Memorial in France. On May 12, 1958, Major General Edward J. O'Neill selected the Trans-Atlantic Unknown by placing a wreath on one of the 13 caskets.

To represent the Trans-Pacific Theater, the Army exhumed five bodies from Fort McKinley American Cemetery in the Philippines (now called Manila American Cemetery and Memorial) and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific ("The Punchbowl") in Hawaii. The caskets were brought to Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii, and Air Force Colonel Glenn T. Eagleston selected the Trans-Pacific Unknown.

On May 26, 1958, the two caskets of the Trans-Atlantic and Trans-Pacific Unknowns were placed on the deck of the USS Canberra off the coast of Virginia. U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class William R. Charette, a Korean War Medal of Honor recipient, placed a wreath on one of the two caskets, selecting the World War II Unknown to be buried at Arlington. The other received a solemn burial at sea.

- **Korean War:** The selection of the Korean War Unknown proved more straightforward. Four unidentified bodies from the National Cemetery of the Pacific ("The Punchbowl") in Hawaii were chosen as candidates. On May 15, 1958, Army Master Sergeant Ned Lyle selected one to become the Korean War Unknown.

- **Vietnam War:** By May 1984, only one set of recovered remains from the Vietnam War had not been fully identified. In a ceremony held at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on May 17, 1984, Marine Corps Sergeant Major Allan Jay Kellogg, Jr., a Vietnam veteran and Medal of Honor recipient, designated

the remains as the Vietnam War Unknown.

**Q: When was each Unknown laid to rest?**

**A:** The World War I Unknown was buried on November 11, 1921—Armistice Day, the third anniversary of the armistice that ended the war. The World War II and Korean War Unknowns were laid to rest in a dual interment ceremony on May 28, 1958 (Memorial Day). An Unknown service member from the Vietnam War was buried at the Tomb on May 28, 1984 (Memorial Day), but disinterred on May 14, 1998. (See further information below.)

**Q. What types of ceremonies were held for the burial of the Unknowns?**

**A:** On November 11, 1921, the state funeral for the World War I Unknown served as a national moment of mourning. An elaborate funeral procession accompanied the Unknown's caisson from the U.S. Capitol Rotunda (where the Unknown had lain in state for two days) to Arlington National Cemetery. As thousands of American and international visitors gathered to pay their respects, President Warren G. Harding officiated the ceremony at Memorial Amphitheater and placed the Medal of Honor, the United States' highest military decoration, on the casket. Dignitaries from numerous foreign nations presented the Unknown with medals from their countries as well. Nationwide, Americans observed two minutes of silence and then tolled bells at noon, when the ceremony began. The events were also broadcast via telephone lines to other U.S. cities.

The World War II and Korean War Unknowns were buried in a dual funeral service on May 28, 1958. Ceremonies reproduced many of the 1921 events: the caskets lay in state for two days at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, followed by a ceremonial

procession to Arlington. At Memorial Amphitheater, a crowd of thousands watched President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice President Richard Nixon present the two Unknowns with the Medal of Honor and receive the folded flags from the caskets. On May 28, 1984, President Ronald Reagan officiated a similar interment ceremony for the Vietnam War Unknown.

**Q: Which awards have been given to the Unknowns?**

**A:** All four Unknowns received the Medal of Honor on the dates of their interments. At the World War I Unknown's funeral on November 11, 1921, numerous foreign dignitaries presented the Unknown with their nations' highest military awards. They included the Victoria Cross (Great Britain); the Croix de Guerre, Croix de chevalier de la Légion d'honneur and Medaille Militaire (France); the Croix de Guerre (Belgium); the Gold Medal for Bravery (Italy); the Virtutea Militara (Romania); the War Cross (Czechoslovakia); and the Virtuti Militari (Poland). Additionally, Chief Plenty Coups of the Crow Nation (Apsáalooke) presented his headdress and coup stick. Many of these awards can be seen in our exhibit at the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room.

**Q: Why is the crypt for the Vietnam War Unknown empty?**

**A:** On May 14, 1998, the Department of Defense disinterred the Vietnam War Unknown. Evidence had suggested that the remains could be those of U.S. Air Force 1st Lieutenant Michael J. Blassie, a pilot who had been shot down in Vietnam in 1972, and Blassie's family had urged the government to investigate this possibility. Mitochondrial DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) testing positively identified the remains as Blassie's. In accordance with the wishes of his family,



Blassie was reinterred at Jefferson National Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri. On September 17, 1999, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, the empty crypt was rededicated to honor all missing service members from the Vietnam War. Its inscription states, "Honoring and Keeping Faith with America's Missing Servicemen 1958-1975." In addition, a bronze plaque honoring all service members who died in the Vietnam War, dedicated in 1978, hangs in Memorial Amphitheater's Display Room.

**Q: Are there any plans to place additional Unknowns from conflicts following the Vietnam War, such as the Gulf, Afghanistan or Iraq Wars?**

**A:** Due to the advancement of mitochondrial DNA sequencing and other forensic technologies, along with improved and faster recovery of fatalities in theater, unidentified American casualties are now exceedingly rare. There are no current plans to place unknowns from recent wars.

**Q. How is Arlington National Cemetery preserving the Tomb for future generations?**

**A.** The preservation of the Tomb began during its first decades and continues today. In 1933, mortar was removed from all sides of the sarcophagus to relieve pressure on its joints. In 1972, workers filled the Tomb's cracks for the first time. In 1988-1990, a geological survey team took three-dimensional, infrared and radar images of the Tomb, followed by cleaning and repairs. Today, ANC staff is actively preparing for the Tomb's centennial.

## II. THE TOMB AND THE OLD GUARD

**Q: When were guards placed at the Tomb, and why?**

**A:** During the Tomb's early years, most visitors were

respectful of the site. However, some individuals began to treat the Tomb more as a tourist attraction than as a place of mourning, even posing atop it for photographs. In response, the Army posted a civilian guard at the site in 1925, followed by an armed soldier in 1926. By 1937, soldiers began the tradition of continuously guarding the Tomb. On April 6, 1948, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), based out of Fort Myer, Virginia, assumed this honorable duty. Known as Sentinels, these soldiers guard the Tomb 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, regardless of weather.

**Q: What is the meaning and procedure of a Tomb Guard walking the mat?**

**A:** The Tomb Guards honor the Unknowns through the precision and perfection of their rituals. A Tomb Guard walks south for 21 paces, turns to face east, holds for 21 seconds, turns north, holds for 21 seconds, walks 21 paces north, turns to face east, holds for 21 seconds, turns to face south, holds for 21 seconds, and repeats. The 21 seconds are meant to represent a 21-gun salute, the highest customary gun salute that is performed as a military honor.

**Q: How often does the guard change?**

**A:** During the hours that the cemetery is open to the public (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily), the changing of the guard takes place every half hour from April 1 to September 30, and every hour from October 1 to March 31. After the cemetery closes, the changing of the guard takes place every two hours.

## III. EVENTS

**Q: What events are planned for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier centennial?**

**A:** Events planned for November 11, 2021 include a ceremonial procession at Arlington National Cemetery meant to evoke elements of the 1921 procession that transported the World War I Unknown to the cemetery; a flyover; and the National Veterans Day Observance wreath ceremony at Memorial Amphitheater. Additionally, a flower ceremony—in which members of the public may lay flowers at the Tomb—will take place on November 9 and 10, 2021.

Please check our website ([www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)) and social media accounts (@arlingtonnatl) for updates on events and programs.

**Q: Is there a fee for the events?**

**A:** All of the events hosted at Arlington National Cemetery are free of charge.

**Q: Are the events ADA accessible?**

**A:** Arlington National Cemetery is ADA-compliant. Detailed information for visitors with disabilities may be found on our website at [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Visitors-with-Disabilities](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Visitors-with-Disabilities).

**Q: Will there be a keynote speaker? Who is it?**

**A:** The National Veterans Day Observance typically features a keynote speech by a senior U.S. government leader. The speaker for 2021 is to be determined.

**Q: Can people participate in the commemorative events if they are unable to travel to Arlington?**

**A:** Yes. In addition to in-person events, the TUS centennial will feature a robust program of virtual events and programs, including online exhibits, a commemorative publication on the history of

the Tomb, educational materials (the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier module of ANC's Education Program), blog posts, lectures, tours, and social media coverage throughout the year. Check our website ([www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)) and social media platforms (@arlingtonnatl) frequently for new features and updates.

#### IV. FLOWER CEREMONY

**Q: When will the flower ceremony take place?**

**A:** The flower ceremony will take place on November 9 and 10, 2021. It will take place at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Further details to be determined.

**Q. What is involved in the flower ceremony, and what is its purpose?**

**A:** For the first time in many years, visitors will be able to approach the Tomb and place a flower near its base. (The Tomb will still be guarded.) Participating visitors will be bussed to the intersection of Roosevelt and Porter Drives, near Memorial Amphitheater and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The queue to place flowers at the Tomb will begin on Roosevelt Drive, just past the Wheaton parking lot. Visitors in the queue will move north along Roosevelt Drive to the western path that leads to the plaza of the Amphitheater. Each visitor will be directed to take a flower, walk to the Tomb and lay their flower at the foot of the tomb, exiting on the south side of the plaza. Any visitors who do not wish to place a flower may still join the queue and walk by the Tomb to pay their respects.

**Q: What will happen to the flowers after the flower ceremony?**

**A:** If possible, flowers will be collected and placed

at headstones throughout the cemetery following the ceremony. Some flowers will also be placed in the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room and the Welcome Center. The remaining flowers will be composted and used in conjunction with fertilizer around the grounds of the cemetery.

**Q: Will the flower ceremony be accessible to visitors with disabilities?**

**A:** Streets and facilities along the flower ceremony procession route, including Memorial Amphitheater and the Tomb plaza, are ADA-compliant.

## V. PROCESSION

**Q: When will the procession take place?**

**A:** The TUS100 ceremonial procession will take place on November 11, 2021, prior to the National Veterans Day Observance ceremony at Memorial Amphitheater. This procession will evoke elements of the one held on November 11, 1921, prior to the World War I Unknown Soldier's state funeral. The 1921 procession went from the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, where the Unknown lay in state for two days, to Arlington National Cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater. The 2021 centennial procession will take place entirely within Arlington National Cemetery.

**Q: What is the route of the procession?**

**A:** The procession will begin at the main entrance to Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Avenue (near the Welcome Center). It will proceed west to the gates of the cemetery, where it will turn left onto Eisenhower Drive and then proceed to McClellan Drive. It will pass under McClellan Gate, proceed up McClellan Drive and take a left onto Roosevelt Drive.

The procession will then halt at the base of the plaza on the east side of the Tomb. It will end at Roosevelt Fountain.

**Q: Will the procession cause traffic delays?**

**A:** Because the procession will begin on Memorial Avenue, within the cemetery's boundaries, traffic delays are not anticipated.

Visitors are encouraged to use public transportation. Only family pass holders will be allowed to access the cemetery by car, and parking at the cemetery is limited. There will be no funeral services on Veterans Day. Visitors who wish to view the procession, either at its origin or en route through the cemetery, are encouraged to stand along the route.

**Q: What is the purpose of the procession?**

**A:** The purpose of the procession is to evoke elements of the ceremonial procession that transported the World War I Unknown to Arlington National Cemetery in 1921. The procession will enable the public to participate in the centennial commemoration in a manner similar to that of 1921, when thousands of Americans joined together to honor the Unknown.

**Q: Will the procession be identical to the procession from 100 years ago?**

**A:** No; it would be impossible to exactly re-create the procession route used in 1921. Many streets in Washington, D.C, Arlington County and Arlington National Cemetery, as well as the bridges that connect Arlington to D.C., have been reconfigured since 1921. The 1921 procession began at the U.S. Capitol, where the first Unknown had been lying in state for two days. On November 11, 1921, the

Unknown's casket was placed on a horse-drawn caisson and then traveled west through the streets of Washington, D.C. to Arlington National Cemetery. The 2021 centennial procession will take place entirely within Arlington National Cemetery. However, it will evoke many ceremonial elements of the 1921 procession, and it will function as a participatory event that will include the public in the national commemoration of the Tomb.

**Q: Who is coordinating the procession?**

**A:** The U.S. Army Military District of Washington (MDW) is coordinating the procession.

**Q: Will the procession be accessible to visitors with disabilities?**

**A:** All viewing points along the procession route are ADA-accessible.

**Q: Who will be in the procession?**

**A:** Representatives from all military service branches will be included in the procession.

## VI. FLYOVER

**Q: Why will a flyover be part of the Tomb centennial?**

**A:** Flyovers are designed to honor people, to demonstrate gratitude or to commemorate important events. At Arlington National Cemetery, flyovers can be part of the military funeral honors provided to eligible individuals. There was no flyover at the burial of the Unknown Soldier in 1921, but it has been added to the centennial ceremony as an element of contemporary military rituals.

**Q: Will there be air traffic delays as a result of the flyover? Will it create noise?**

**A:** We anticipate no air traffic delays from the flyover, and it will not create significant noise in the area.

**Q: Who is coordinating the flyover?**

**A:** The U.S. Army Military District of Washington (MDW) is coordinating the flyover.

**Q: Which organizations are involved in the flyover?**

**A:** Please contact MDW for information.

## VII. MEDIA LOGISTICS

*Coming soon*

## VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

**Q: Will there be extra parking for the TUS100 events? Will people be bussed in from other parking locations?**

**A:** Visitors are encouraged to use public transportation because parking at Arlington National Cemetery is limited. There will be no additional parking available for the TUS centennial events, and the cemetery will not be bussing people from other parking locations. Additionally, only family pass holders will be allowed to access the cemetery by car.

**Q: Where did the money for TUS100 come from? What is the total cost of the commemoration?**

**A:** The 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) appropriated funding for the TUS100 commemoration. The appropriation totaled \$811,000.

A woman mourns at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1922. Thousands of American families lost loved ones in World War I, many of whom remained missing or unidentified. (Library of Congress)



**Q:** Is there a contingency plan for inclement weather?

**A:** All events will be held rain or shine. There is no contingency plan for inclement weather.

**Q:** Will COVID-19 protocols be in place for the event? What precautions will be taken?

**A:** Arlington National Cemetery's COVID-19 protocols will be in place for all TUS100 events if necessary at the time. For the latest updates and detailed information, please consult our website: [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/COVID](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/COVID).

# KEY MESSAGES

- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is Arlington National Cemetery's most iconic memorial. For nearly 100 years, it has stood as a people's memorial at the heart of the cemetery. The histories of Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb are intertwined. Just as the cemetery embodies the diverse history of the United States, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier reveals the cemetery's changing meanings and significance. The 2021 centennial of the Tomb's creation provides an opportunity to explore this story.

- The Tomb serves as both a place of mourning and a site for reflection on service, valor and sacrifice. The Unknowns represent the service and sacrifice made by all Americans in the military.

- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier provides a final resting place for three unidentified American service members: the original Unknown Soldier from World War I, buried on November 11, 1921; an Unknown from World War II, laid to rest on Memorial Day in 1958; and an Unknown from the Korean War, also interred on Memorial Day in 1958. An Unknown from the Vietnam War was added in 1984. However, the Vietnam War Unknown was disinterred in 1998 and, through mitochondrial DNA testing, positively identified as Air Force 1st Lieutenant Michael J. Blassie. The empty crypt now honors all missing service members from the Vietnam War.

- Since its establishment in 1864, during the Civil War, Arlington National Cemetery has had graves of unknown soldiers. These include the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns, created in 1866 for the remains of 2,111 soldiers who died on Virginia battlefields. Civil War-era unknown burials at Arlington also included unidentified African American soldiers and civilians, who were buried in segregated sections of the cemetery.

- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was inspired by similar tombs created in Great Britain and France. In 1920, the British and French governments honored those who died in World War I by burying an unidentified soldier at Westminster Abbey in London and the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, respectively. In each case, a single unknown stood in for all unidentified war dead. A year later, in 1921, the United States decided to create its own Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Since then, many other countries have followed suit in honoring unknown soldiers with a tomb or other memorial.

- In 1921, public ceremonies for the World War I Unknown Soldier took place both in France and the United States, culminating in a state funeral at Arlington National Cemetery on November 11, 1921.

- In the fall of 1921, the Army disinterred one set of unidentified remains from each of four American military cemeteries in France, taking special care to ensure that these remains could never be identified.

- In a ceremony in Châlons-sur-Marne, France, on October 24, 1921, Sergeant Edward Younger—a World War I veteran with a superior service record—selected one Unknown to be buried at



Arlington.

- After numerous ceremonies in France, the Unknown was transported to the Washington Navy Yard aboard the USS Olympia, a celebrated Navy warship. The Unknown lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda before a ceremonial procession to Arlington National Cemetery.
- The Unknown's state funeral at Memorial Amphitheater took place on November 11, 1921. The ceremony, led by President Warren Harding, included American and foreign dignitaries, veterans, civic groups, and thousands of citizens from a diverse cross-section of American society.
- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was created as a memorial to those who died in World War I, but it has since come to symbolize American wartime fatalities more generally. Although it remains connected to World War I, the addition of Unknowns from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War expanded the Tomb into a multigenerational shrine that honors all those who gave their lives in all American wars.
- The Tomb Guards of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) honor the Unknowns through the precision and perfection of their rituals. Since 1948, these soldiers, known as "Sentinels," have guarded the Tomb 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, regardless of weather.
- The public will have many opportunities to participate in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—just as the public was involved in the 1921 ceremony.
  - At Arlington National Cemetery, two new exhibits, in the Welcome Center and the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room, tell the story of the Tomb's origins, evolution and enduring significance.
  - The ANC Education Program module on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, available online at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>, contains a rich variety of resources for elementary, middle and high school students and teachers, as well as for adult lifelong learners. Resources include lesson plans, walking tours, and primary source readings.
  - Throughout the year, ANC's website ([www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)) and social media platforms (@arlingtonnatl) will feature TUS100-related content, including digital exhibits, blog articles, videos and virtual tours.
  - ANC historians will host a series of special public tours and lectures related to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
  - In conjunction with the U.S. Army Center of Military History, ANC will publish a commemorative book that tells the story of the creation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Richly illustrated and based on extensive historical research, it will provide the public with an engaging and accurate account of the Tomb's early years. The book will be available in print and online.
  - In November 2021, ANC will host a series of public events culminating in the centennial ceremony, which will be part of the National Veterans Day Observance on November 11, 2021. These events will include a rare opportunity for visitors to stand close to the Tomb: On November 9 and 10, 2021, visitors may place a flower at the Tomb. (Details will be provided closer to the date.)
  - Visit our website ([www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)) and social media platforms (@arlingtonnatl) for more information and updates on events throughout the year.

# TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER CENTENNIAL PUBLICATION PROSPECTUS

To prevent visitors from disrespecting the Tomb, the Army enclosed it within a fence. A civilian guard was added in 1925 and a military guard in 1926. (Library of Congress)

The year 2021 marks the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (TUS) at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). The U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH) and ANC are partnering to publish a commemorative history of this site, one of our nation's most sacred shrines. This publication serves as the U.S. Army's official commemorative history honoring this centennial. It also provides an educational and interpretive tool to convey the deep significance of this site and its history to the U.S. military and the public.

This book appeals to a large and diverse audience. For instance, officer candidates will find it useful for understanding the changing nature of military burial practices in the 20th century. It will be of interest to all branches of the military, as it examines such topics as the memorialization of wartime casualties, veterans of World War I and the evolution of the military's commemorative practices.

Beyond the military, this book has great public appeal. Arlington National Cemetery receives approximately four million visitors each year—most of whom visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. For those unable to visit the cemetery, this book makes the site accessible from afar, enabling them to learn about the Tomb and to participate in its centennial commemoration.

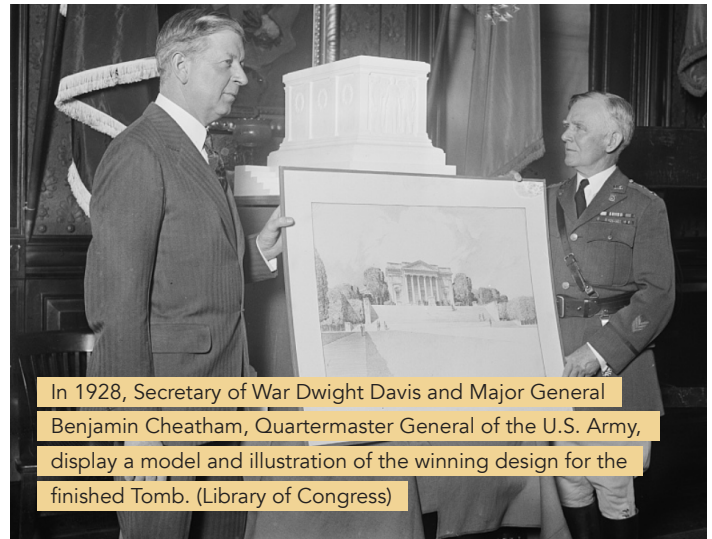
The publication will be available in October 2021. A hard copy may be obtained through the Government Printing Office ([www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov)) for a nominal fee. A free, downloadable PDF version will be available online through the Center of Military History (<https://history.army.mil>) and Arlington National Cemetery ([www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)).

Reflecting meticulous research and rigorous scholarship, the publication will tell the compelling story of the creation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, as well as its enduring significance.

# EDUCATION PROGRAM

Arlington National Cemetery's new Education Program was developed for both virtual and in-person learning. It includes resources specifically designed for teachers and educators, for students of all grade levels, for families visiting ANC, and for adult "lifelong learners." Audiences will discover the diverse history of the United States through the unique lens of the cemetery and its history.

Over the next five years, ANC will develop and distribute a total of 27 educational modules on topics ranging from the United States' military conflicts to the contributions of American service members in the arts, medicine, politics, science and technology, and more. In addition to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier module (see next page), the following three modules are available now:



**The African American Experience at Arlington National Cemetery module** examines how African Americans have been connected to Arlington since the property's origins as a plantation. Topics include slavery, emancipation and civil rights; African American military heroes; and the achievements of segregated military units such as the Tuskegee Airmen.

**The Spanish-American War module** enables audiences to understand how this important yet often overlooked 1898 conflict transformed American society and the world. Topics include the role of female nurses in the military, historical arguments for and against the war, and the expansion of U.S. global power.

**The Understanding Arlington module** allows audiences to explore Arlington National Cemetery either in person or virtually, with downloadable guides on ANC's history, traditions and operations.

Resources for teachers and students include primary source readings, worksheets and lesson plans tailored to grade level. Lesson plans align with national and state social studies standards and can easily be adapted for homeschooling or virtual learning. For families and "lifelong learners" (anyone curious to know more about the cemetery and/or American history), we also offer curated readings and walking tours. **The walking tours may be used either during an in-person visit or for virtual exploration of the cemetery.**

The ANC Education Program is available at: <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>.

# EDUCATION PROGRAM MODULE: TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

As part of its new Education Program, Arlington National Cemetery has released a learning module on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, available at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>. Teachers, students and lifelong learners of all ages can use this module to understand the Tomb's history, evolving meanings and enduring traditions. Materials for teachers and students include lesson plans, PowerPoint presentations and activity guides, all of which are tailored for elementary, middle or high school audiences.

For elementary and middle school students, lessons examine the origins and purpose of Veterans Day and Memorial Day, both of which involve national ceremonies at the Tomb. An additional lesson plan, "Who's Buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?," prompts students to reflect upon who is interred at the Tomb and why. For middle and high

school students, a lesson plan on the theme "The Unknown Soldier and National Community" contains primary-source documents on the Tomb's 1921 dedication, as well as readings and assignments on the Unknown Soldier's significance as a symbol of the American people.

Self-guided walking tours, rich with images and information, can be used either during a visit to the cemetery or for virtual exploration from home. In addition to the Tomb itself, stops on these walking tours include the gravesites of individuals who played important roles in the Tomb's history, along with related monuments and memorials in the cemetery. The walking tours include maps and detailed directions.

All materials can be accessed and downloaded free of charge at: <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>.



President Warren G. Harding addresses the nation during the funeral service for the Unknown Soldier at Memorial Amphitheater on November 11, 1921. (Library of Congress)



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# TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER CENTENNIAL WELCOME CENTER EXHIBIT

*By ANC History Office*

As part of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (TUS) centennial commemoration, Arlington National Cemetery has created two major new exhibits, one in the cemetery's Welcome Center and the other in the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room. These exhibits meet the objectives of the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that initiated the TUS centennial commemoration.

While the new Display Room exhibit focuses on the history and meanings of the Tomb itself, the Welcome Center exhibit offers a broader exploration of how the Tomb's creation transformed Arlington National Cemetery and American commemorative culture. It replaces a previous exhibit that examined World War I and its impact on ANC and other national cemeteries.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier exhibit begins with a contextual overview of Arlington National Cemetery's mission, as well as a history of the Arlington property from its origins as a plantation through its early evolution as a national cemetery during and after the Civil War. The exhibit continues with a chronological exploration of how the United States has commemorated unknown service members—who lost not only their lives but also their identities in service to their nation. The exhibit then offers a detailed, image-rich history of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and its evolution over the course of its first century.

Exhibit themes include the changing meanings of the Tomb as it evolved from a site of mourning to a site of commemoration; physical changes to the Tomb, from the original, unfinished marker placed in 1921 to the grand, sculpted sarcophagus added over a decade later; the burial of additional Unknowns from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War; and the ceremonies and rituals that continue to take place at the Tomb.

The exhibit features large glass display panels with interpretive text and photographs, both historic and contemporary. Brass numbers at the top of each panel serve to guide visitors through the exhibit as it moves chronologically from Arlington National Cemetery's origins through today.

The Welcome Center exhibit, scheduled to open in spring 2021, will provide visitors with a nuanced understanding of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and other unknown gravesites they may encounter at the cemetery. Visitors can next tour the Display Room exhibit, which—reflecting its proximity to the Tomb itself—delves more deeply into the Tomb's creation and design, as well as the selection and funeral of the World War I Unknown.

To learn more about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, visitors may also explore our Education Program materials, available at <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>.



# MEMORIAL AMPHITHEATER DISPLAY ROOM EXHIBIT

*By ANC History Office*

A major new exhibit in Arlington National Cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater Display Room examines the origins and evolving significance of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Inaugurated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on November 18, 2020, it is one of two exhibits created for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier centennial commemoration. The second exhibit, in the ANC Welcome Center, will open in the spring of 2021.

Reflecting its physical proximity to the Tomb, the Display Room exhibit focuses on the Tomb's origins and meanings, as well as the ceremonies and rituals that take place at the site. Interpretive panels, artifacts, and historic photographs and films examine how the Tomb has evolved since its creation in 1921.

A previous Display Room exhibit, in place since 2014, provided a general overview of the Tomb to visitors. Yet the new exhibit, according to ANC Command Historian Dr. Stephen Carney, "takes the history of the Tomb to the next level."

Prior to the 2014 exhibit, the Display Room

housed display cases which contained plaques, medal, awards and other gifts left in honor of the Unknowns. Many of these artifacts are also featured in the new exhibit, along with interpretive panels that help visitors understand their historical significance.

The cemetery's team of historians and public affairs personnel worked tirelessly to find primary source texts, photographs and motion pictures in order to tell an expanded story for the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is the first Display Room exhibit to feature videos, which are projected from atop ten-foot-high glass panels. ANC's official videographer created the videos by editing and refining historic film footage. Carney noted that it is "much more powerful to see the World War I Unknown's journey from France to the cemetery in action, versus us simply telling the story in words."

Getting the exhibit from the design stage to the physical kiosks in the Display Room presented Carney and his team with unforeseen challenges,



The Display Room in 1924 or 1925, with cases housing gifts and honors presented to the World War I Unknown at his interment on November 11, 1921. (Library of Congress)



ANC Command Historian Dr. Stephen Carney (right) shows Karen Durham-Aguilera (left), Executive Director, Office of Army Cemeteries and Arlington National Cemetery, the new exhibit in the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room, November 5, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser)

particularly the COVID-19 pandemic. With many archives closed to researchers, historic photographs and documents were often inaccessible; supply chain problems constrained the delivery of construction materials; and the ANC exhibit team had to conduct its meetings via teleconferences. “We didn’t realize what a challenge having our team dispersed would be until we got in to the process of creating the exhibit,” said Carney.

Fortunately, the team was able to draw upon the resources of two other projects for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier centennial commemoration: the forthcoming publication on the Tomb’s history and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Education Program module. Both were developed in conjunction with the Display Room and Welcome Center exhibits.

Among the artifacts in the Display Room exhibit, Carney is excited about one in particular. While overseeing the exhibit’s installation in early November, he pointed to a framed flag. “That’s my favorite,” Carney said. The flag had belonged to Chief Plenty Coups, the principal chief of the Crow Nation (Apsáalooke), who served with the U.S. cavalry during the Plains Wars. The U.S. Army Signal Corps flag was created especially for him, Carney noted.

Chief Plenty Coups, along with other dignitaries, attended the funeral of the World War I

Unknown on November 11, 1921. He left the flag, his war bonnet and his coup stick on the Tomb as gifts of tribute. In the Display Room exhibit, the public can now see the flag, which had been undergoing preservation, along with Plenty Coups’ war bonnet and coup stick.

Carney hopes that visitors will come away from the exhibit not only with more knowledge about the Tomb and its history, but also with an enriched understanding of the nation’s history. “We want people to appreciate how the Tomb has been used over the last hundred years, and how that use has changed to meet the needs of the public as United States has grown on the world’s stage,” he stated.

Memorial Amphitheater is currently closed to visitors due to ongoing renovations. However, when the Display Room exhibit opens to the public, it will be a highlight of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier centennial commemoration—and a highlight of any visit to Arlington National Cemetery. Carney is proud of the work accomplished by everyone involved in the project. “This has been years in the making,” he said. “I am just thrilled to see it up.”

# PRESERVING ANC'S HISTORIC RESOURCES FOR ANOTHER 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

*By Catilin Smith, Conservator, and Rebecca Stevens, Cultural Resources Manager*

Arlington National Cemetery's Engineering team is hard at work preserving our historic objects, structures and landscapes. The Cultural Resources Management, Conservation, Design & Construction, Facilities Maintenance, Horticulture, and Environmental Compliance teams all play a role in preserving the cemetery.

While exploring Arlington National Cemetery, visitors can see a variety of projects underway, both large- and small-scale. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, we carried out approximately 20 projects now in various stages, along with many work orders and small-scale tasks related to the care of the cemetery's historic resources. Maintaining these resources requires the team to blend old technologies with new ones to preserve what makes these resources special.

In 2014, ANC achieved National Register of Historic Places status as a federally recognized historic district. This officially recognizes the value of the cemetery's architecture and landscape architecture, its hallowed place in American history, and its association with the lives of historically significant persons. All of the cemetery's historic buildings, structures, objects, landscapes and sites are nationally significant and worthy of protection.

The way in which ANC plans, manages and cares for its historic resources has changed in recent years. To support our stewardship mission, ANC created the Cultural Resources Management (CRM)

program in 2013 and added a conservator position in 2019. Informed management of the cemetery's resources involves knowing the exact number, types and conditions of its historic structures. To achieve this, CRM annually surveys and assesses the condition of all cemetery resources and develops a preservation priority list. From 2014 through 2020, we systematically tackled the preservation priority list and preserved over 20 historic structures, including the Old Post Chapel Gate, the U.S.S. Maine Memorial, Tanner Amphitheater, the Confederate Memorial, Randolph Cannon, and the Nurses Memorial.

The other change since 2013 is an emphasis on documenting our most significant historic structures and landscapes. ANC partners with the National Park Service's Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) to accurately document properties using LIDAR scanning, CADD drawings, large-scale photography and written histories. All of these materials are transferred to the Library of Congress for free use by all, including ANC staff and any interested members of the public. At present, we have completed documentation for Tanner Amphitheater, the U.S.S. Maine Memorial, the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, all gateways, and the interior, exterior and grounds of Memorial Amphitheater, as well as the ANC Service Complex and the Air Force Memorial.

This year, ANC further supported CRM by



hosting four preservation interns for the summer. The internship program ran in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS) Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC) and the National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE). The interns undertook a wide range of projects in support of JANC's mission. The architecture and history interns surveyed and assessed the current condition of over 120 historic structures and objects within our grounds; documented the original light fixtures in Memorial Amphitheater; and entered each of the Service Complex's buildings into Virginia's cultural resources inventory database prior to the complex's demolition. The conservation interns, meanwhile, implemented conservation treatments on approximately 16 historic structures; documented the application of zinc oxide to marble headstones; assisted with documentation of the 1915 Memorial Amphitheater memorabilia box; and prepared objects for long-term storage in ANC's 2020 time capsule, which replaced the 1915 memorabilia box.

Memorial Amphitheater—completed in 1920 and still the centerpiece for many events and ceremonies—temporarily closed for rehabilitation work to prepare it for another 100 years of service. One large-scale effort, which will continue through October 2021, is the rehabilitation of Memorial Amphitheater's exterior masonry. Staff and visitors may see contractors on scaffolding and aerial lifts



Caitlin Smith (center), conservator, ANC Engineering, works with NPS preservation interns near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, June 15, 2020.

(U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser)

repointing and resealing mortar joints, or patching and installing dutchman repairs of damaged or lost stone. In addition to the masonry repairs, the work includes installation of new bird netting on the east portico, conversion of more box seats for universal accessibility, and the addition of an accessible ramp to the southwestern quadrant of the arcade. Our partners at the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) manage this contract.

If you look closely, you may notice temporary doors on parts of the Amphitheater. Half of the original 1920s wooden doors are currently off-site at the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Training Center. Their master carpenters are repairing and refinishing the doors, one half at a time. Right now, carpenters are reinstalling the first set of restored doors and removing the second set for repair in 2021. This painstaking restoration requires a craftsman to disassemble all of the components,

carefully patch and replace damaged wood, refinish the exterior protective coatings, and repair or recast any damaged hardware. From 2017 to 2019, the same woodcrafting team completed restoration of the Amphitheater's wood windows.

The most innovative treatment—the application of a zinc oxide coating to the exterior marble of Memorial Amphitheater and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—is a project six years in the making. In 2014, ANC's CRM Program began examining the issue of dark biofilms discoloring the white marble. In partnership with the National Park Service, ANC undertook *in situ* cleaning tests, monitoring, and documentation of biofilm reduction on Vermont Danby marble. ANC also collaborated with Virginia's Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, whose students performed DNA analysis of the microbial ecology.

Over the years, many students have assisted ANC in identifying the unique biological communities inhabiting the Amphitheater.

Before deciding on the best treatment for the Amphitheater's biofilm, ANC consulted with professionals and professors from the Architect of the Capitol; University of Maryland School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health Institute for Genome Sciences; Temple University, Department of Mathematics; Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology; and the National Park Service, Northeast Regional Office, Historic Architecture, Conservation and Engineering Center. The team recommended, and ANC leadership concurred with, the application of zinc oxide as the most effective, environmentally safe, lower-cost and gentlest treatment method. In the summer of 2019, cemetery staff applied the zinc oxide mixture to





selected marble surfaces on Memorial Amphitheater as well as the sarcophagus at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. In 2020, contractors completed applications on the difficult-to-access portions of the Amphitheater. The goal of the treatment, which had never before been used on such a large scale, is slowly to lighten the color of the biofilm over time.

In addition to the work on the building, efforts are underway to rehabilitate its surrounding areas, particularly the east plaza where the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is located. This includes rehabilitating the historic finish on the bronze railings, resetting and cleaning pavers, and upgrading the sentinel's box. By 2020, the three marble ledger stones exhibited severe discoloration and surface damage. Over the summer, the Conservation team undertook stain reduction cleaning, and HPTC masons carefully installed ten marble dutchmen to make the ledgers whole and sound again. Furthermore, it has been nine years since the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier last received conservation treatment. During the next year, ANC's Conservator will perform preservation maintenance to install new mortar in the joints, regrout the cracks and document current conditions.

We will complete exterior work on Memorial Amphitheater and its east plaza prior to the centennial commemoration for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in November 2021. In upcoming years, ANC plans a more extensive examination of the Amphitheater's mechanical, electrical, plumbing, structural systems and interior functions. This will address deficiencies and guide development of a plan for the building's future, while preserving the features that make it a national landmark.

ANC staff work throughout the year to maintain the objects and structures within our

national historic district, as part of our continuous effort to preserve and share ANC's history now and for future generations. These smaller-scale projects are often less visible, but they also demonstrate our conviction to maintain all aspects of our historic site.

Over the last six months, the Conservation team performed routine preservation maintenance on a variety of objects and monuments. This included cleaning masonry, reducing staining, and repatinating and waxing bronzes. Preservation maintenance work recently occurred at the Woodhull Flagpole, the Rough Riders Monument, the Nurses Memorial, the Roosevelt Drive fountain, the Kennedy family gravesite fountain, the Robert Todd Lincoln family memorial gravesite, the Pierre Charles L'Enfant Memorial, the Taft memorial gravesite, the Sir John Dill Memorial, and the Women in Military Service for America (WIMSA) fountain plaza.

Further afield, masons are hard at work along the cemetery's northern boundary, far from the view of most staff and visitors. ANC is rebuilding collapsing sections of the original 1870s red sandstone boundary wall. Engineering studies and material analysis proved that we could safely rebuild the wall using traditional fieldstone wall construction, combined with new drainage and concrete footers. Recently, ANC received a donated stockpile of Seneca red sandstone, which will ensure its ability to maintain sandstone walls and structures for many years to come. Seneca red sandstone—recognized by many for its use on the Smithsonian "Castle"—was quarried along the Potomac River and the C&O Canal from approximately 1781 until 1901.

Two projects are currently underway to reconstruct two unique historic resources that were almost lost. The Ord-Weitzel and Sheridan Gates, constructed in 1879 from components of the old





Northwest Executive Building (formerly home of the War Department), stood along the cemetery's eastern boundary until 1971. ANC deconstructed the gates when that boundary expanded. ANC conserved the masonry columns, piers and entablatures, along with their decorative metal gates. Where possible, master masons carefully patched the original masonry blocks with stone dutchmen. They carved new stone elements to replace those that were missing. The metal gates are undergoing extensive rehabilitation, each deconstructed and stripped down to facilitate repair to every single metal element. In 2021-22, we will reconstruct the Ord-Weitzel Gate close to its original location, near what is now the northern entrance to the cemetery. The Sheridan Gate will mark the new southern end of ANC's boundary, as

part of the Southern Expansion project scheduled to be completed in 2025.

Arlington National Cemetery is America's premier national shrine, dedicated to honoring and remembering all those who serve. Part of ANC's mission is to maintain and care for the people's cemetery, ensuring that the public can continue to visit, explore, mourn and celebrate in this sacred space for generations to come. Members of the Engineering team preserve the cemetery's tangible heritage and the intangible ideas that its resources embody, maintaining a landmark that existed long before we came here and will last long after we are gone.



# COMING SOON

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Military officers salute the World War I  
Unknown Soldier's casket at the Washington Navy Yard,  
November 9, 1921. (Library of Congress)





# TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION RESOURCE GUIDE

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

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