



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

February 21, 2025

SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 for the Sheridan Gate Reconstruction, part of the Southern Expansion Project, on the Grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia (DHR Project No. 2025-3335)

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 Department of Historic Resources (DHR) 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, which maintains and operates Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), proposes reconstructing the historic Sheridan Gate along the cemetery's southern boundary as part of the Southern Expansion project. The DHR previously reviewed the Southern Expansion Project (DHR Project Review No. 2014-1094), which resulted in the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). 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 as the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to be involved 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 Commission approved the concept design on 20 February 2025 (CFA 20/FEB/25-c). The Commission previously approved the Southern Expansion Project design in 2020 (CFA 19/NOV/20-1).

Additional information regarding the proposed undertaking can be found in Attachment A: *Section 106 Documentation: Project Description, Identification of Consulting Parties, Identification of Historic Properties, Area of Potential Effects, and Assessment of Effects*, 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 its finding of effect on historic properties.
2. Provide concurrence or comments on the determined APE.
3. Provide concurrence or comments on the identified potential consulting parties.
4. Respond to ANMC's findings of no adverse effects historic properties.

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 are 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.

Sincerely,

Caitlin E. Smith

Caitlin E. Smith
Cultural Resources Program Manager
Engineering, Planning & Resources
Army National Military Cemeteries

Attachments:

- A Section 106 Documentation: Project Description, Identification of Consulting Parties, Identification of Historic Properties, Area of Potential Effects, and Assessment of Effects

Current List of 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 DHR.

ANMC identified the following other consulting parties:

- Air Force Washington District (AFDW)
- Arlington County Government
- Arlington Historical Society
- National Association of American Veterans
- United States Commission of Fine Arts

Selected Project Background Information:

Southern Expansion Project Website, Public Notices and Documents:
<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Expansion/Public-Notices>

Arlington National Military Cemetery Historic District National Register Nomination:
<https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/000-0042/>

The Pentagon (DHR ID #000-0072)
<https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/000-0072/>

Air Force Memorial Evaluation of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (DHR ID #000-9821)
<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Portals/0/Docs/Public-Notices/20190212-AFM-Draft-Determination-of-Eligibility-for-National-Register.pdf>

Information about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act can be found here: <https://www.achp.gov/protecting-historic-properties>

Information about the ongoing compliance process can be found on the ANC Public Notices page of the ANC website at: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/About/Policies-and-Public-Notices/Public-Notices>