

PENTAGON MEMORIAL FUND VISITOR EDUCATION CENTER

Army National Military Cemeteries
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, Virginia

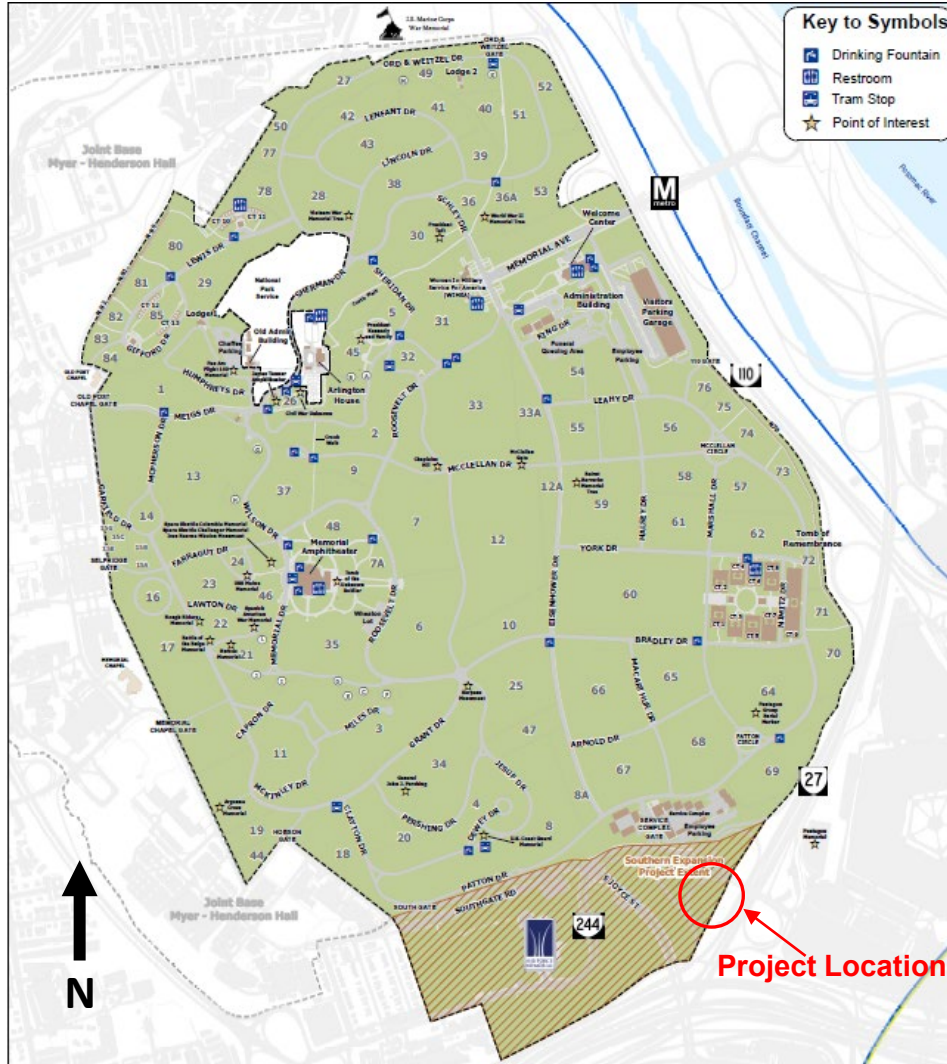
INITIATION OF THE SECTION 106 PROCESS:
PROJECT DESCRIPTION, IDENTIFICATION OF
CONSULTING PARTIES, IDENTIFICATION OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES, AND AREA OF
POTENTIAL EFFECTS

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Pentagon Memorial Fund (PMF) proposes to construct and operate a Visitor Education Center (VEC) that will support visitors of the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial. Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) will provide a license to the PMF to permit use of the land owned by ANC.

The proposed building will be sited on approximately 3.71 acres within the ANC Southern Expansion site. After the Federal Highway Administration's Defense Access Roadway project, the VEC would be bounded by Columbia Pike, East Joyce Street, and Washington Boulevard.

The building is anticipated to be constructed at the northeastern end of the site with a building footprint ranging from 25,000 to 30,000 square feet. Up to 100 parking spaces are anticipated and would be located to the south of the building.



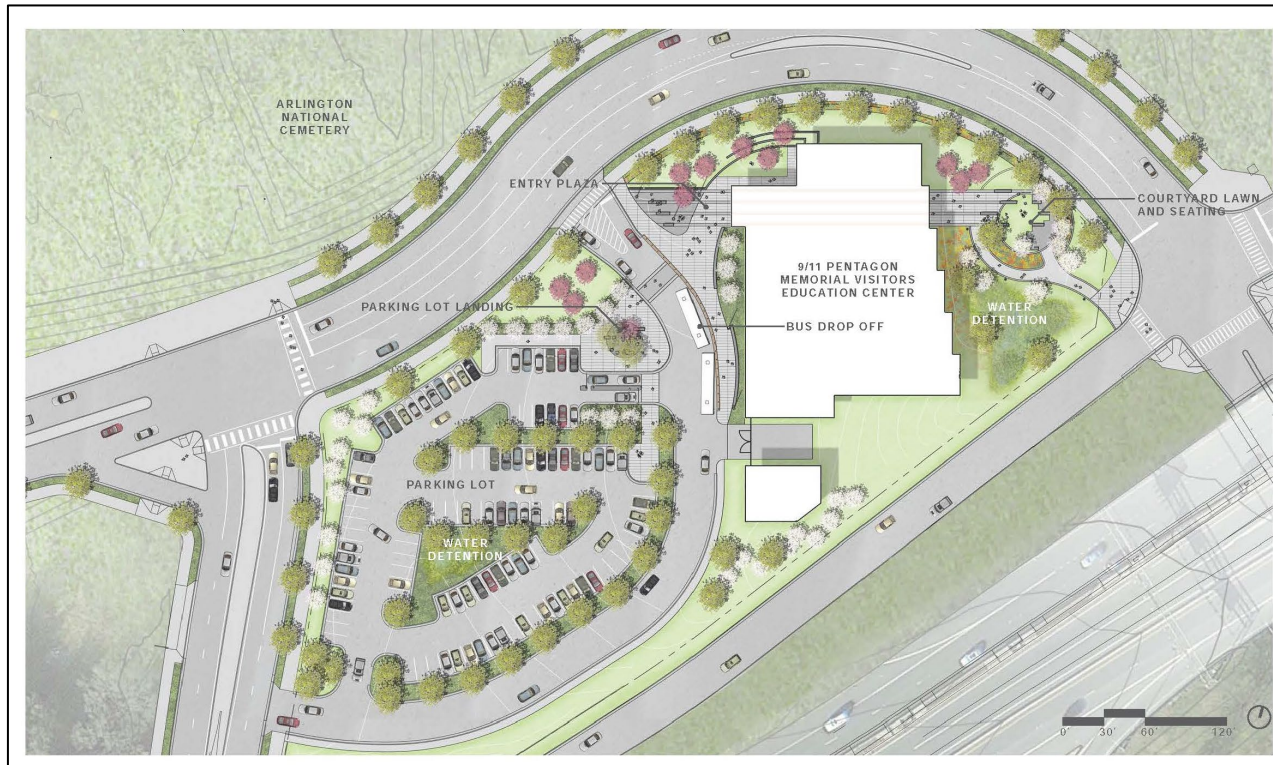
The proposed site for the VEC is currently undeveloped land situated amidst the interchange of local road and highways.

ANC will provide a license to the PMF to permit use of the land owned by ANC.

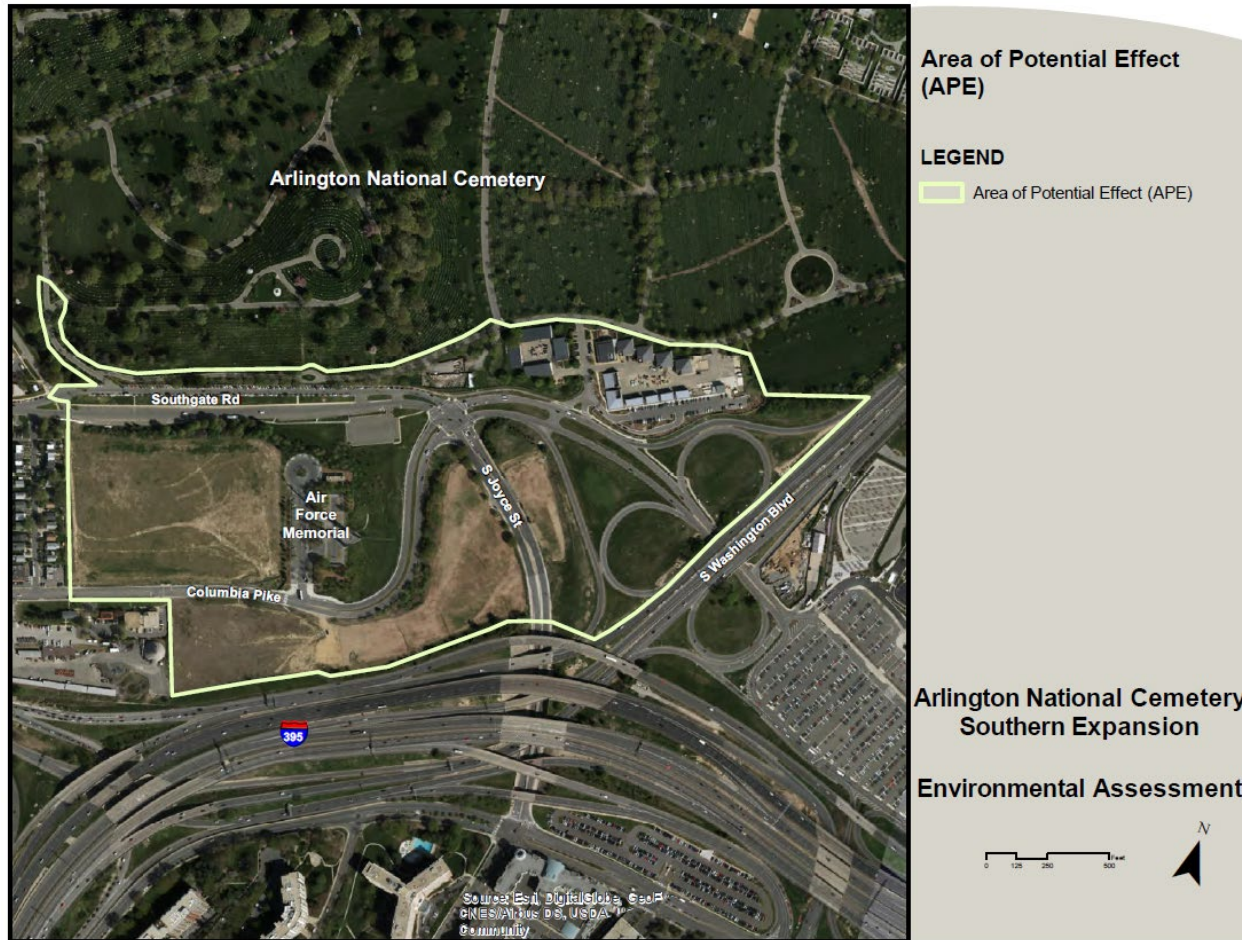
The proposed VEC would include exhibits and programs to engage visitors and educate them as to the effects and broad impact of the tragedy of 9/11 at the Pentagon from a variety of perspectives. The proposed VEC would provide details of the 184 individuals who lost their lives on 9/11, interpretive displays discussing the symbolism of the memorial design, permanent restrooms, shelter for visitors, a café, bookstore, and conference space.

The proposed building will be sited on approximately 3.71 acres within the ANC Southern Expansion site. After the Federal Highway Administration's Defense Access Roadway project, the VEC would be bounded by Columbia Pike, East Joyce Street, and Washington Boulevard.

The proposed undertaking would include the construction of a new building with an approximate absolute elevation of 95-feet at the highest point at the SE corner of the building, which includes the rooftop mechanical enclosure. The absolute elevation of the remaining building will be 81-feet to the top of the parapet. At this time, the exact siting of the facility on the parcel has yet to be finalized, however, the building is anticipated to be constructed at the northern end of the site with a building footprint ranging from 25,000 to 30,000 square feet. Up to 100 parking spaces are anticipated and would be located to the south of the building. An entrance on South Joyce Street will serve as the access point for cars, buses, and service vehicles.



PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGY FINDINGS

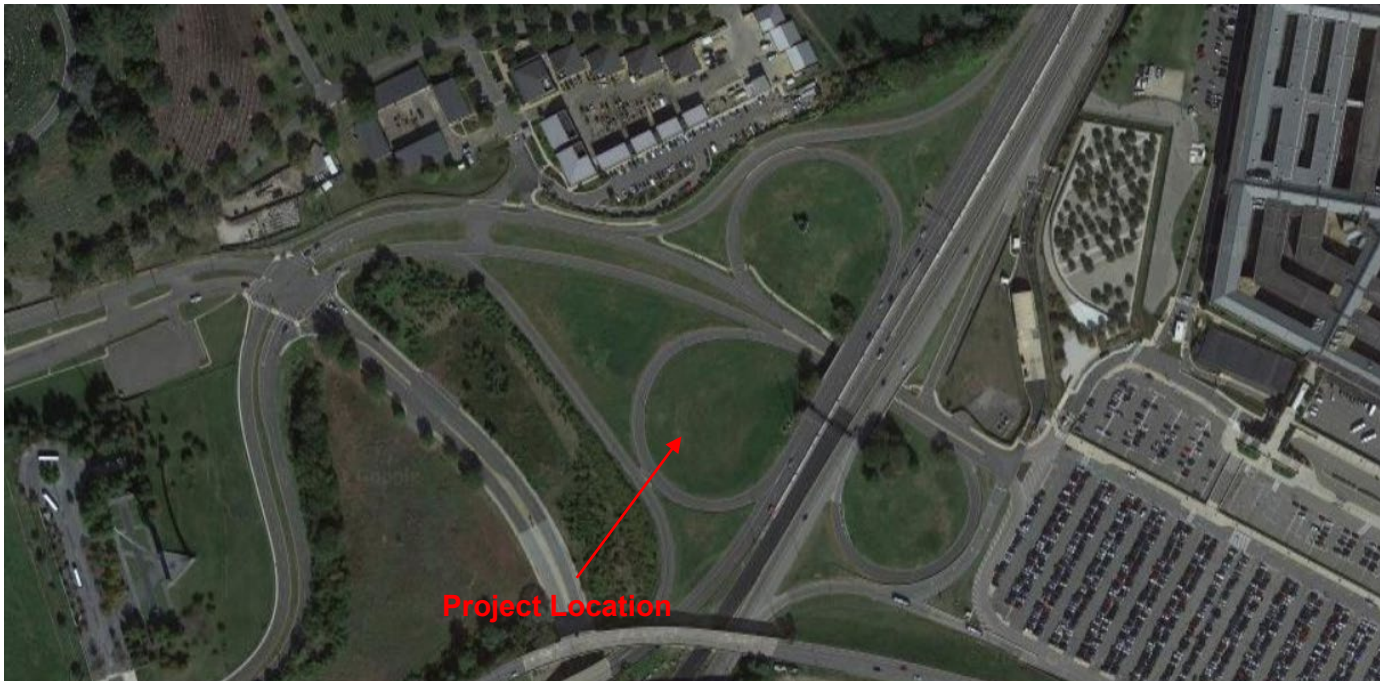


The proposed site for the VEC was included in the study area for the Southern Expansion and Associated Roadway Realignment (DHR #2014-1094). According to the Environmental Assessment for that project no archaeological resources recorded in the APE for direct physical disturbances.

“The areas south of the boundary wall have had repeated disturbances from cycles of construction and demolition, and as a result have a very low potential for intact archaeological sites. The history of the site, past land uses, and data from test borings, remote sensing, and excavation done for site evaluation were examined in an archaeological evaluation of the project area. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources has concurred with the findings of that evaluation that intact archaeological deposits are unlikely within the APE, and no further survey is warranted... If unanticipated cultural artifacts would be identified during construction activities, then the appropriate agencies, e.g., Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) would be notified, and standard procedures would be followed to protect the artifacts and determine their significance.”

Environmental Assessment for the Southern Expansion and Associated Roadway Realignment
August 2019

<https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/p16021coll7/id/12975>



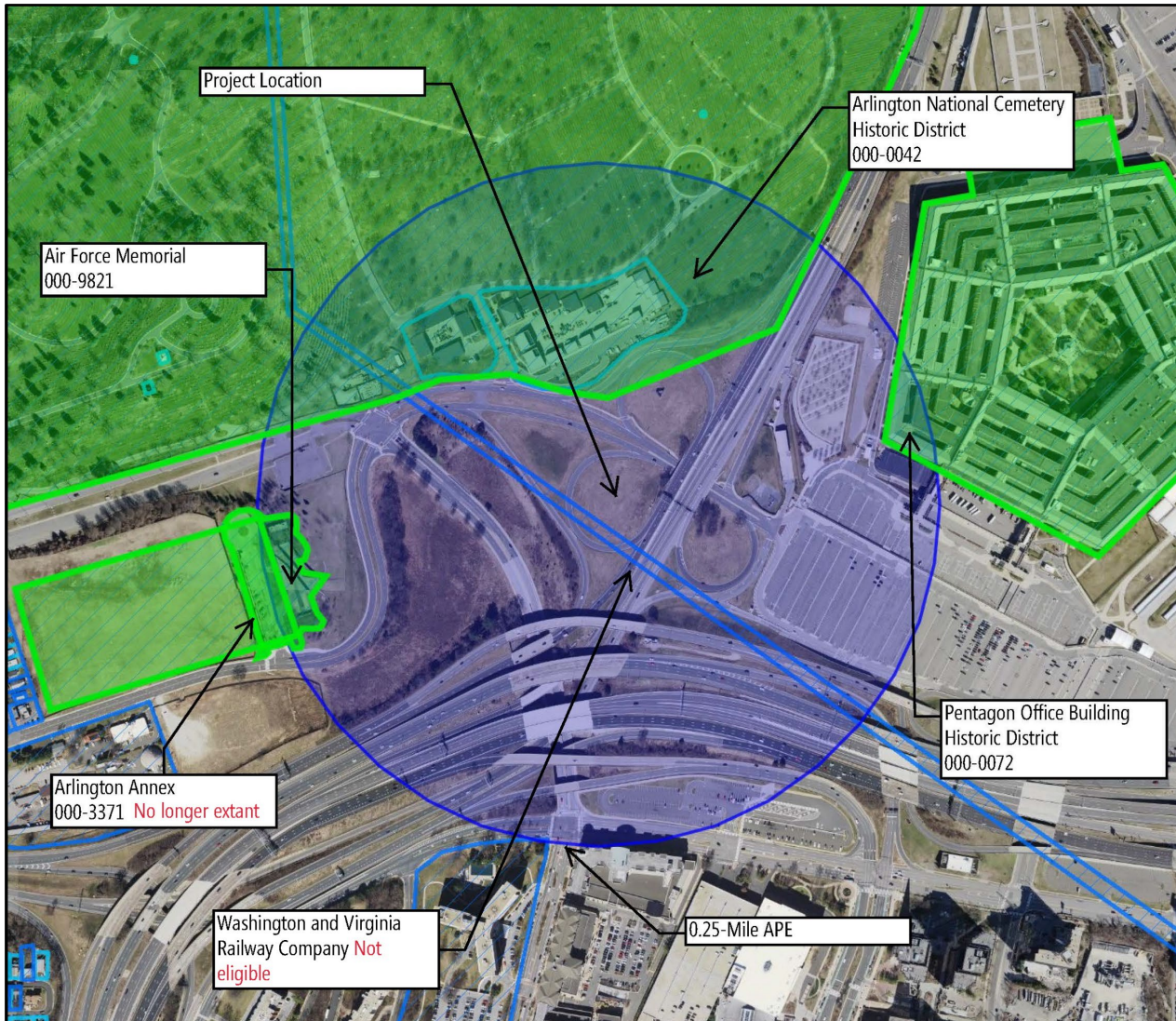
Per 36 CFR § 800.3, Army National Military Cemeteries (ANMC) initiates the section 106 process for the following proposed undertaking: construction and operation of a Visitor Education Center (VEC) supporting visitors to the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial. The proposed project is considered a Federal undertaking, as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y), and is the type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a).

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

Per 36 CFR § 800.3(c), ANMC plans to involve consulting parties and the public in the section 106 process. After initiating consultation with the DHR, ANMC and the PMF will issue invitations to consulting parties and the public via social media, the Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) website, and local news outlets. ANMC will post information regarding the proposed undertaking to the ANC website. ANMC will work in consultation with the DHR to develop the plan for involving the public in the section 106 process. The proposed plan will include holding public meetings at the determination of effects stage and mitigation development stage (if necessary).

Per 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 District of Washington
- Arlington County government, including the Historic Preservation Program & the Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB)
- Arlington Historical Society,
- The Black Heritage Museum of Arlington
- The Commission of Fine Arts
- DC Historic Preservation Office
- Department of Defense (DoD)
- Descendant communities connected to ANC, Arlington House, and the greater Arlington community, including descendants of the enslaved people at Arlington House (Syphax, Gray, Branham, Parks, and other families), the Lee and Custis families, the residents of Freedman's Village and Queen City
- George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP)
- The Guild of Professional Tour Guides of Washington, DC
- National Capital Planning Commission
- National Park Service (NPS)
- Preservation Virginia
- Washington Headquarters Services (WHS)
- the Delaware Tribe of Indians
- the Cherokee Nation
- Oneida Tribe of Indians in Wisconsin
- the Seneca-Cuyuga Tribe of Oklahoma
- the Pamunkey Indian Tribe
- the Catawba Indian Nation
- the Tuscarora Nation
- the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- the Oneida Nation
- the Seneca Nation of Indians
- the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
- the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- the Delaware Nation
- the Tonawanda Band of Seneca
- the United Keetowah Band of Cherokee Indians
- the Cayuga Nation, and
- the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma



Per 36 CFR § 800.4 & § 800.16, ANMC identifies the following area of potential effects, the full extent of which will be determined in consultation with the DHR:

Area of Potential Effects:

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is shown on the map to the left as a blue shaded circle. The APE includes locations where the project may be visible. The project involves ground disturbing activities in previously disturbed areas.

For this project, a visual APE of 0.25-mile is sufficient to capture the potential visual effects of the proposed undertaking. This APE includes all areas in which the proposed VEC may introduce visual elements that diminish or alter the setting, including the landscape, of extant historic resources.

Historic Properties Located Within the APE:

Following is a list of historic resources located within the APE

- Pentagon Office Building Complex (000-0072)
- Air Force Memorial (000-9821)
- Arlington National Cemetery (000-0042)



View from the Pentagon Office Building, looking west towards the proposed VEC site.

(Photo by Russ Ruffing / JMT)



Photo Location



View from proposed VEC site towards Pentagon Office Building Complex; looking east.

(Photo by Russ Ruffing / JMT)





General area of proposed VEC

View from the Air Force Memorial, looking northeast towards the proposed VEC site.

(Photo by Russ Ruffing / JMT)





View from proposed VEC site towards the Air Force Memorial; looking west.

(Photo by Russ Ruffing / JMT)





View from Arlington National Cemetery, looking southwest towards the proposed VEC site.

(Photo by Russ Ruffing / JMT)

Photo Location



View from proposed VEC site towards Arlington National Cemetery; looking northwest.

(Photo by Russ Ruffing / JMT)

