

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

ARMY NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22211-5003

August 29, 2024

SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 for the Road

Reconstruction & Sidewalk Improvement Project at Schley, Sherman, & Meigs Drives on the Grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington,

Virginia (DHR Project No. 2024-4750)

Dear Consulting Party:

Army National Military Cemeteries (ANMC) proposes a road reconstruction and sidewalk improvement project within Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) to improve safety and enhance the quality of the vehicular and pedestrian experience through a full-depth roadway reconstruction and realignment, and the construction of a new sidewalk along one side of Sherman Drive. 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). In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (as amended), ANMC is soliciting interest from potential consulting parties. You/Your organization is formally invited to participate in the Section 106 process as a consulting party for this undertaking. A list of current consulting parties is included for reference with this letter.

On 20 June 2024, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) reviewed and approved the project. On 29 August 2024, ANMC initiated the consultation process with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

ANMC is coordinating the project design with the National Park Service (NPS) George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) to reduce potential impacts to historic, archaeological, and tree resources on lands managed by both agencies. Roadway realignment and construction of the new sidewalk requires ANMC to obtain an easement and permits from the NPS-GWMP. ANMC shall serve as the lead agency for the project with responsibility for all National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) compliance.

Additional information regarding the project can be found in Attachment A: Section 106 Process Submission: 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.

With this letter, ANMC notifies the consulting parties that, in accordance with Section 106 of the 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).

Per 36 CFR § 800.3(c), ANMC is soliciting interest from potential consulting parties for this project and is seeking comments on the aforementioned findings and determinations. Please notify the ANMC Cultural Resources Program Manager (CRM) of your/your organization's interest in being a consulting party for this project and provide your comments on the project within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. All comments on the Section 106 documents should be sent to the ANMC CRM at usarmy.pentagon.hqda-anc-osa.mbx.cultural-resources@army.mil.

Army National Military Cemeteries looks forward to continuing the Section 106 consultation process with our agency partner, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, 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

Cultural Resources Program Manager Engineering, Planning & Resources Army National Military Cemeteries

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Attachments:

A Section 106 Process Submission: 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:

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

Selected Project Background Information:

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

Arlington House Historic District National Register Nomination: https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/000-0001/

Arlington Memorial Bridge Historic District (DHR #000-0014) https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/000-0014/

Fort Myer Historic District (DHR #000-0004) https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/000-0004/

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