Appendix A

Public Involvement
### Order Confirmation

**Customer:** TERRACON  
**Customer Account:** 100032944  
**Ad Order #:** 0001774576  
**PO Number:**  
**Sales Rep:** Max (Mert) Tezkol  
**Order Taker:** Max (Mert) Tezkol

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**Ad Number:** 0001774576-01  
**Color:**  
**Ad Size:** 3 X 45.00 Li

### Ad Content

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**

DRAFT SITE SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of the Draft Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (Draft SEA) for the proposed construction and operation of Phase IV of the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery located at 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, Texas 75211. Phase IV development of the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery will expand the existing cemetery facility by disturbing approximately 67 acres to include the construction of up to 19,000 burial sites including both burial and areas for cremated remains. Other improvements include a new administration building, soil storage area, irrigation pond, four interior roads, and associated utilities and infrastructure. The land proposed for development is owned by the VA and is currently a mix of improved and unimproved cleared lands.

The Draft SEA were prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to determine the potential environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic impacts associated with the completion of Phase IV of the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery.

VA invites the public to review the Draft SEA and provide comments within 30 days of the publication of this notice. A printed copy of the Draft SEA is available for review at the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery; however, due to the various current closures throughout Texas associated with Covid-19, the VA encourages the review of the electronic copy of the Draft SEA located on the VA website at [https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/index.asp](https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/index.asp).

Comments received during the 30-day review period will be addressed and documented in the Final SEA. Please address all comments to Fernando Fernandez at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov (preferred) or at (202) 632-5329, or mail comments to Department of Veterans Affairs, 425 I Street Northeast, Suite 6W.317D, Washington, D.C., 20420. Please reference “Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Expansion” in all correspondence.

Sincerely,  
Fernando L. Fernández  
Environmental Engineer  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Construction and Facilities Management Office

### Run Dates

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Peters, Jennifer T

From: advertisersupport@mypublicnotices.com
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 5:01 AM
To: Peters, Jennifer T
Subject: Your Public Notice on DallasNews.com

Your Public Notice is now posted on DallasNews.com. Click here to see it. At no additional charge, you can enhance the notice with one or two online attachments. We accept files in .doc, .xls, .jpg, .pdf, and other common formats. For example, you can attach:

- a request for proposal (RFP) document to a contractor solicitation notice;
- a photo or map to a foreclosure notice; or
- an agenda to a meeting notice.

Click here to start. It’s quick and easy to enhance your notice. You can change or remove attachments at any time by going to http://www.mypublicnotices.com/dallasmorningnews/ and clicking on the "Click here to manage your notice attachments" link. To protect your attachments, we will ask you to log in as:

Your E-Mail Address: Jennifer.Peters@terracon.com
Your Password: 9314ThfJ (case-sensitive)

Please store this information for future reference. If you need help or have questions about your online notice, please e-mail us at advertisersupport@mypublicnotices.com.
Re: Project Review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the Antiquities Code of Texas

THC Tracking #202100021

Proposed Construction and Operation, DFA VA National Cemetery

2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX 75211

Dear Jennifer Peters:

Thank you for your submittal regarding the above-referenced project. This response represents the comments of the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC), pursuant to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The review staff led by Rebecca Shelton, Caitlin Brashear and Alex Toprac has completed its review and has made the following determinations based on the information submitted for review:

**Above-Ground Resources**

- Property/properties are eligible for listing or already listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- No adverse effects on historic properties.

**Archeology Comments**

- No identified historic properties, archeological sites, or other cultural resources are present or affected. However, if cultural materials are encountered during project activities, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no cultural materials are present. Please contact the THC’s Archeology Division at 512-463-6096 to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect the cultural remains.
- This draft report is acceptable. Please submit a final report: one restricted version with any site location information (if applicable), and one public version with all site location information redacted. To facilitate review and make project information and final reports available through the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas, we appreciate submitting abstracts online at [http://xapps.thc.state.tx.us/Abstract](http://xapps.thc.state.tx.us/Abstract) and e-mailing survey area shapefiles to [archeological_projects@thc.texas.gov](mailto:archeological_projects@thc.texas.gov) if this has not already occurred. Please note that these steps are required for projects conducted under a Texas Antiquities Permit.

We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. Thank you for your cooperation in this review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please email the following reviewers: rebecca.shelton@thc.texas.gov, caitlin.brashear@thc.texas.gov, alex.toprac@thc.texas.gov.

This response has been sent through the electronic THC review and compliance system (eTRAC). Submitting your project via eTRAC eliminates mailing delays and allows you to check the status of the review, receive an electronic response, and generate reports on your submissions. For more information, visit [http://thc.texas.gov/etrac-system](http://thc.texas.gov/etrac-system).
Sincerely,

For Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission

Please do not respond to this email.
Dear Mr. Fernandez,

Thank you for requesting our 106/EA determination. Based on the information provided, I do not believe that this project will have a negative impact on any archaeological, historic or cultural resources of the Coushatta people. Accordingly, we do not wish to consult further on this project. If any inadvertent discoveries are made in the course of this project, we expect to be contacted immediately and reserve the right to consult with you at that time.

Aliilamo (thank you),

Raynella Fontenot
Coushatta Revitalization Coordinator
Acting Section 106 Coordinator
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 10
Elton, LA 70532
337-584-1585
October 11, 2019

Mr. Fernando L. Fernandez
Environmental Engineer
VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management
Washington D.C. 20420

RE: Scoping for Dallas – Fort Worth National Cemetery Expansion Phase IV

Dear Mr. Fernando L. Fernandez:

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has received and reviewed the August 27, 2019, scoping request regarding the above-referenced project.

**Project Description**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) concerning the proposed expansion of the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery in Dallas County, Texas, in fulfillment of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. The VA intends to construct and maintain additional internment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation within the DFW National Cemetery Property. Temporary laydown and staging areas are also proposed. The disturbance footprint of the proposed action is approximately 80 acres, of which 67 acres is undeveloped.

As the state agency with primary responsibility for protecting the state’s fish and wildlife resources, in accordance with the authority granted by Parks and Wildlife Code §12.0011 and per coordination under the NEPA, TPWD hereby provides the following comments and recommendations to minimize potential adverse impacts to the state’s fish and wildlife resources, including rare, threatened and endangered species, in the construction and maintenance of the proposed project. Please address the following recommendations in the EA.

**Federal Regulations**

**Federal Regulations: Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)**

The MBTA prohibits direct and affirmative purposeful actions that reduce migratory birds, their eggs, or their nests, by killing or capturing, to human control, except when specifically authorized by the Department of the Interior. This protection applies to most native bird species, including ground nesting species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Migratory Bird Office can be contacted at (505) 248-7882 for more information on potential impacts to migratory birds.

The project area contains primarily undeveloped woodlands that consist of a patchwork of native invasive deciduous woodlands invading native grassland habitats and oak/hardwood slope forest adjacent to a wooded riparian stream corridor. Within the
project area, potential impacts to migratory birds may occur during site preparation and grading activities through the disturbance of existing vegetation and bare ground that may harbor active bird nests, including nests that may occur in grass, shrubs and trees and on bare ground including gravel pads and roads.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends excluding vegetation clearing activities during the general bird nesting season, March 15 through September 15, to avoid adverse impacts to breeding birds. If clearing vegetation during the nesting season is unavoidable, TPWD recommends surveying the area proposed for disturbance to ensure that no nests with eggs or young will be disturbed by operations. If nests are observed during surveys, TPWD recommends retaining a 150-foot buffer of vegetation around active nests until eggs have hatched and the young have fledged.

The project area is located within the Central Flyway, a major bird migration corridor that leads to the Texas coast and Central/South America. Artificial nighttime lighting can attract and disorient night-migrating birds. Birds circling the lights’ glare can cause exhaustion mortality.

**Recommendation:** As bird protection measures, TPWD recommends utilizing the minimum amount of night-time lighting needed for safety and security and to use dark-sky friendly lighting that is on only when needed, down-shielded, as bright as needed, and minimizes blue light emissions. Appropriate lighting technologies and best management practices (BMPs) can be found at the International Dark-Sky Association website.

**State Regulations**

**State Regulations – Chapter 64, Birds**

TPW Code Section 64.002, regarding protection of nongame birds, provides that no person may catch, kill, injure, pursue, or possess a bird that is not a game bird. TPW Code Section 64.003, regarding destroying nests or eggs, provides that, no person may destroy or take the nests, eggs, or young and any wild game bird, wild bird, or wild fowl. TPW Code Chapter 64 does not allow for incidental take and therefore is more restrictive than the MBTA.

**Recommendation:** Please review the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* section above for recommendations as they are also applicable for compliance with TPW Code.

**State Regulations: State-listed Species**

TPW Code Section 68.015 regulates state-listed species. Please note that there is no provision for the capture, trap, take, or kill (incidental or otherwise) of state-listed species. The TPWD online application identifying rare, threatened, and endangered species by county (RTEST) provides information regarding state-listed species that have potential to occur within each county in Texas. TPWD also maintains records of occurrence for these species within the Texas Natural Diversity Database (TXNDD),
and these data are publicly available by request. State-listed species could potentially be impacted if suitable habitat is present at or near the project site.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends the EA identify the state-listed species with potential to occur within the project area using the RTEST list for Dallas County. TPWD recommends conducting site surveys of the project disturbance areas to identify suitable habitat for state-listed species, to assess potential impacts to state-listed species, and to adjust the disturbance footprint to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to state-listed species.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends the EA identify impact avoidance and minimization measures that the VA will employ to protect state-listed species and other sensitive resources that may occur within the study area.

**Terrestrial State-listed Species:** Of the terrestrial species listed as potentially occurring in Dallas County, the state-threatened black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*), Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*) and timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) are more at risk for being impacted by construction activities than other state-listed terrestrial species due to potential habitat occurring within the project area and limited mobility. Where suitable habitat is present, vegetation disturbance during nesting could impact nesting black-capped vireos. The Texas horned lizard would be susceptible to earth moving equipment and compaction. The timber rattlesnake is a slow-moving, cryptic species that is less able to readily escape from heavy machinery than other wildlife and would be susceptible to loss during clearing in or near upland and riparian woodlands. Additionally, various small vertebrates including snakes, lizards, toads, and mice fall into trenches, become trapped, and are susceptible to loss from backfilling activities, starvation, dehydration, predation, and exposure to elements.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends the VA and its contractors to be informed of the federal- and state-listed species and species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) with potential to occur in the project area and to take precautions avoid impacts to rare species if encountered in the project area. Wildlife observed during construction should be allowed to safely leave the site. Additionally, the timber rattlesnake is a rather docile species, and injury to humans usually occurs when the snake becomes agitated following harassment or when someone attempts to handle a recently dead snake that still contains its bite reflex. Therefore, contractors should avoid contact with the species if encountered.

**Recommendation:** If the project is found to contain unavoidable habitat of a state-listed species, then TPWD recommends a biological monitor be present during clearing and construction activities to assist in detecting state-listed species. State-listed threatened species observed during construction that will not readily leave the project site may be translocated by a permitted individual to a nearby area with similar habitat that would not be disturbed during construction. TPWD recommends that any translocations of reptiles be the minimum distance possible no greater than one mile, preferably within 100-200 yards from the initial encounter location. For purposes of relocation, surveys, monitoring, and research, terrestrial state-listed species may only be handled by persons authorized through the TPWD Wildlife Permits Office.
**Recommendation:** Where trenching for utilities and footings is involved, TPWD recommends minimizing the length of trenches left open at any given time during construction. Trenches left open for more than two daylight hours should be inspected for the presence of trapped wildlife prior to backfilling. If trenches cannot be backfilled the day of initial trenching, then escape ramps, in the form of short lateral trenches or wooden planks sloping to the surface at an angle of less than 45 degrees, should be installed at least every 90 meters.

**Recommendation:** For soil stabilization and revegetation of disturbed areas within the proposed project area, TPWD recommends erosion and seed/mulch stabilization materials that avoid entanglement hazards to snakes and other wildlife species. Because the mesh found in many erosion control blankets or mats pose an entanglement hazard to wildlife, TPWD recommends the use of no-till drilling, hydromulching and/or hydroteseeding rather than erosion control blankets or mats due to a reduced risk to wildlife. If erosion control blankets or mats will be used, the product should contain no netting or contain loosely woven, natural fiber netting in which the mesh design allows the threads to move, therefore allowing expansion of the mesh openings. Plastic mesh matting should be avoided.

**State Fish and Wildlife Resources**

The Texas Conservation Action Plan (TCAP) contains handbooks for each ecoregion of the state for use by all entities for guidance regarding species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) and important habitats. The TCAP identifies threats affecting native species and habitats such as loss of habitat due to development. In addition to state- and federally-listed species, TPWD tracks SGCN and natural plant communities and actively promotes their conservation. TPWD considers it important to evaluate and, if feasible, minimize impacts to SGCN and their habitat to reduce the likelihood of endangerment and preclude the need to list as threatened or endangered in the future. SGCN are included in the above-referenced RTEST application.

After reviewing the RTEST list for Dallas County and based on potentially suitable habitat, SGCN flora and fauna with potential to occur in the project area and with greater potential to be impacted by project activities include the following:

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<td>SNR</td>
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<td>Comanche harvester ant</td>
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<td>S2</td>
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<td>SNR</td>
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<td>S3</td>
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<td>glandular gay-feather</td>
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<td>S3</td>
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<td>S3</td>
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<td>S3</td>
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<td>Hall's prairie clover</td>
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<td>S3</td>
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<td>Glass Mountains coral-root</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plants</td>
<td>Hexalectris warnockii*</td>
<td>Warnock's coral-root</td>
<td>G2G3</td>
<td>S2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Known occurrences from the TXNDD or iNaturalist near the project area.

(Note: The TXNDD is intended to assist users in avoiding harm to known locations of rare species or significant ecological features. Given the small proportion of public versus private land in Texas, the TXNDD does not include a representative inventory of rare resources in the state. Please note that absence of information in the database does not imply that a species is absent from that area. Although it is based on the best data available to TPWD regarding rare species, the data from the TXNDD do not provide a definitive statement as to the presence, absence, or condition of special species, natural communities, or other significant features within your project area.)
These data are not inclusive, cannot be used as presence/absence data, and cannot be substituted for on-the-ground surveys.)

The Project study area is located within the EPA Level IV Northern Blackland Prairie Ecoregion. Within the Texas Blackland Prairies ecoregion, priority habitats identified in the TCAP for conservation of SGCN for the study area include tallgrass prairie communities, riparian woodlands, freshwater wetlands, and oak savannahs and woodlands. TPWD encourages landowners and land agents to conserve priority habitats of the ecoregion and discourages fragmentation and loss to such habitats.

The TPWD Landscape Ecology Program’s Ecological Mapping Systems (EMS) data are available for download or available for use in the TPWD online interactive mapping tool, Texas Ecosystem Analytical Mapper. The EMS provides systems, mapping subsystems, and vegetative types for Texas and can assist in planning projects to avoid impacts to important habitats in an ecoregion. For example, in the study area, the EMS identifies oak/hardwood slope forests which is potentially suitable habitat for SGCN coral-root orchids, riparian hardwood forest which is suitable habitat for the state-listed timber rattlesnake, and invasive deciduous woodlands which is suitable habitat for the eastern spotted skunk. The TCAP and EMS vegetation data can assist in identifying and avoiding areas of potential priority habitats; however, the EMS should be used in conjunction site-specific soils data and on-the-ground surveys of the vegetation when assessing potential project impacts on listed species, SGCN, and priority habitats.

Riparian corridors provide valuable wildlife habitat and help to protect water quality. Review of the project site layout indicates that ground disturbances are proposed in upland areas void of aquatic habitats. The northeast disturbance boundary, however, does occur very close to a wooded riparian stream corridor.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends allowing wide natural buffers contiguous to wetlands or stream systems to remain undisturbed to preserve wildlife cover, food sources, and travel corridors. TPWD recommends adjusting the northeast disturbance area to create a wider buffer to the stream and to retain the oak/hardwood slope forest in this area.

Within the Texas prairie regions, native grasslands have become lost due to agricultural practices, development, and woody encroachment. With the loss of native grasslands, wildlife associated with grassland habitats have declined including the loss of pollinators due to declining floral resources. TPWD encourages landowners and land agents to conserve pockets of remaining native grassland habitats. A review of the TXNDD revealed some small pockets of Vertisol Blackland Prairies (Schizachyrium scoparium – Sorghastrum nutans – Andropogon gerardii - Bifora Americana Vertisol Grassland) Series G1G2SNR Communities within Dallas County. These occurrences indicate that prairie remnants have been found near the project area and that other areas not currently assessed may also exhibit native prairie remnants.

Although the DFW National Cemetery is set among an urban setting, it does contain undeveloped areas that may serve as suitable habitat for rare resources including remnants of native grasslands (either exposed or invaded by woody species) and oak-juniper woodlands on limestone slopes of the White Rock Escarpment. Rare plants
associated with native grasslands or oak-juniper woodlands are known to occur near the project area, as noted on the SGCN list above. The red-hatched disturbance area provided in the scoping materials is rather large and occurs within both woodlands and open grasslands that may include native grassland (either exposed or invaded by woody species) or oak-juniper slope woodlands. Without details regarding the species occurring at the project site, it is difficult to interpret the quality of the habitats using only publicly-available desktop datasets.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends delineating the vegetative species occurring within the proposed disturbance areas to identify the types of habitats being impacted.

**Recommendation:** TPWD recommends minimizing habitat removal and avoiding disturbance to native grasslands and oak/juniper slope forests. TPWD recommends only clearing portions of the red-hatched disturbance area that are necessary for the project. If portions of the red-hatched disturbance area include invasive deciduous woodlands that have invaded native grasslands, then those areas would be appropriate for tree removal, temporary construction staging, followed by restoration to native grassland. In areas exhibiting native grassland characteristics, scraping and grading of the herbaceous vegetation should be kept to a minimum to preserve existing native herbaceous vegetation.

**Recommendation:** If project disturbances must occur within remnants of native grasslands (either exposed or invaded by woody species) or oak-juniper slope woodlands, TPWD recommends surveying for SGCN plants during the season of highest detection and avoiding disturbance of rare plants to the extent feasible. TPWD encourages clearly marking individual rare plants or areas found to contain rare plants as work zone avoidance areas prior to construction, maintenance and operation activities.

**Recommendation:** If native prairie remnants or rare plants cannot be avoided by the proposed project activities, please make a detailed record of the occurrence and contact TPWD to determine if additional conservation practices for the resources are available.

**Recommendation:** To aid in the scientific knowledge of a species’ status and current range, TPWD encourages reporting encounters of SGCN, threatened, and endangered species to the TXNDD according to the data submittal instructions found on the TXNDD website.

Significant declines in the population of migrating monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) have led to widespread concern about this species and other native insect pollinator species due to reductions in native floral resources. To support pollinators and migrating monarchs, TPWD encourages the establishment of native wildflower habitats on private and public lands across the state. Please refer to recent publications that can be found on TPWD’s Native Pollinator website and TPWD’s Monarch Butterfly website.
Recommendation: To accrue benefits for grassland wildlife and pollinators and to mitigate for unavoidable loss of native vegetation, TPWD recommends the VA revegetate areas disturbed by project activities with site-specific native species, with attention to providing habitat for pollinator species. TPWD recommends incorporating native grass and floral species into the permanent landscaping plan as funding and seed/plant availability allow and utilizing maintenance practices to promote the availability of flowering species throughout the growing season.

Thank you for considering project impacts to the fish and wildlife resources of Texas. For questions, please contact me at Karen.Hardin@tpwd.texas.gov or (903) 322-5001.

Sincerely,

Karen B. Hardin
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
Wildlife Division

kbh/42582
December 17, 2019

Re: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Mr. Fernandez:

In response to your request, the above reference project has been reviewed by staff of this office to identify areas that may potentially contain prehistoric or historic archeological materials. The location of your project has been cross referenced with the Comanche Nation site files, where an indication of “No Properties” have been identified. (IAW 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)).

Please contact this office at (580) 595-9960/9618) if you require additional information on this project.

This review is performed in order to identify and preserve the Comanche Nation and State cultural heritage, in conjunction with the State Historic Preservation Office.

Regards

Comanche Nation Historic Preservation Office
Theodore E. Villicana, Technician
#6 SW “D” Avenue, Suite C
Lawton, OK. 73502
November 5, 2019

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service
Washington DC 20420

Re: Project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 — Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Dallas County (VA/Track #202002003)

Dear Mr. Hooker:

Thank you for submitting the request for consultation. This letter serves as comment on the proposed federal undertaking from the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

The Archeology Division staff, led by Rebecca Shelton, has completed its initial review of the above referenced project. However, we require additional information before we can complete our review. The Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in 2015. Since the newly proposed Phase IV work on the east side of the National Cemetery has not been intensively surveyed, nor has an above ground review been conducted for potential indirect affects, we agree with the recommendations in the recent Cultural Resource Assessment (Terracon 2019) that “further field based archeological investigations may be deemed necessary in compliance with Section 106 of the NHPRA through regulatory review”.

Based on our records, there has only been reconnaissance level investigations on the east side of the cemetery (Skinner et al 1994). Recent investigations on the west side of the National Cemetery (Lindemuth and Fullen 2015) were not submitted to the THC until November 2019, therefore our agency has not had an opportunity to comment on these investigations.

In order for the THC to clarify which areas have been surveyed in the last 10 years, and which areas still require archeological and above ground investigations, please provide detailed maps of the proposed Phase IV Construction and Operation Plans in relation to areas that have been recently surveyed.
The Division of Architecture staff, led by Christopher Meyers, has completed their initial review and they require detailed maps that show the memorial wall, ossuary, columbaria, and crypt which are new elements not discussed in the May 5, 2019 submission to the THC. At that time, we also requested additional information and field investigations. Finally, please provide drawings for these built items and view shed photos of the proposed locations.

Thank you for your cooperation in this federal review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Rebecca Shelton at Rebecca.Shelton@thc.texas.gov or at 512/463-6043.

Sincerely,

for

Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
MW/rls

Cc: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
August 27, 2019

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Bobby Komardley, Chairman
511 E Colorado
Anadarko, OK 73005

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Chairman Komardley:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

As this Proposed Action is federally funded, we are preparing an Environmental Assessment that will evaluate the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic effects associated with the Proposed Action, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 US Code (USC) §4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508); 38 CFR Part 26 (Environmental Analysis of VA Actions); and the VA Interim Guidance for Projects (September 2010).

The existing infrastructure, crypts, and columbariums, the DFW National Cemetery cannot support burial requests for eligible individuals and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. The construction and maintenance of the new burial areas and associated infrastructure is needed to accommodate these burial requests.

The proposed burial areas would consist of approximately 22,500 crypts, 5,000 flat markers for cremains, columbariums, roadways leading to/from the new burial areas, public restrooms and honor guard, and maintenance contractor building; add additional square footage to the existing maintenance building; construct an irrigation pond; and a temporary laydown and staging area. It is assumed that approximately 80 acres will be disturbed, of which 67 acres is undeveloped (please see Attachment 2). The Proposed Action will be fully described and analyzed in the pending EA.

As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachments
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
Comanche Nation of Oklahoma  
Martina Callahan, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
PO Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation  
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Callahan:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

As this Proposed Action is federally funded, we are preparing an Environmental Assessment that will evaluate the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic effects associated with the Proposed Action, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 US Code (USC) §4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508); 38 CFR Part 26 (Environmental Analysis of VA Actions); and the VA Interim Guidance for Projects (September 2010).

The existing infrastructure, crypts, and columbariums, the DFW National Cemetery cannot support burial requests for eligible individuals and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. The construction and maintenance of the new burial areas and associated infrastructure is needed to accommodate these burial requests.

The proposed burial areas would consist of approximately 22,500 crypts, 5,000 flat markers for cremains, columbariums, roadways leading to/from the new burial areas, public restrooms and honor guard, and maintenance contractor building; add additional square footage to the existing maintenance building; construct an irrigation pond; and a temporary laydown and staging area. It is assumed that approximately 80 acres will be disturbed, of which 67 acres is undeveloped (please see Attachment 2). The Proposed Action will be fully described and analyzed in the pending EA.

As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

FERNANDO L. FERNANDEZ

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
August 27, 2019

Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
PO Box 818
Elton, LA 70532

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Langley:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

As this Proposed Action is federally funded, we are preparing an Environmental Assessment that will evaluate the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic effects associated with the Proposed Action, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 US Code (USC) §4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508); 38 CFR Part 26 (Environmental Analysis of VA Actions); and the VA Interim Guidance for Projects (September 2010).

The existing infrastructure, crypts, and columbariums, the DFW National Cemetery cannot support burial requests for eligible individuals and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. The construction and maintenance of the new burial areas and associated infrastructure is needed to accommodate these burial requests.

The proposed burial areas would consist of approximately 22,500 crypts, 5,000 flat markers for cremains, columbariums, roadways leading to/from the new burial areas, public restrooms and honor guard, and maintenance contractor building; add additional square footage to the existing maintenance building; construct an irrigation pond; and a temporary laydown and staging area. It is assumed that approximately 80 acres will be disturbed, of which 67 acres is undeveloped (please see Attachment 2). The Proposed Action will be fully described and analyzed in the pending EA.

As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

FERNANDO L. FERNANDEZ
336237

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
Kassie Darsey, Section 106 Coordinator  
PO Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532  

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation  
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project  

Dear Section 106 Coordinator Darsey:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

As this Proposed Action is federally funded, we are preparing an Environmental Assessment that will evaluate the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic effects associated with the Proposed Action, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 US Code (USC) §4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508); 38 CFR Part 26 (Environmental Analysis of VA Actions); and the VA Interim Guidance for Projects (September 2010).

The existing infrastructure, crypts, and columbariums, the DFW National Cemetery cannot support burial requests for eligible individuals and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. The construction and maintenance of the new burial areas and associated infrastructure is needed to accommodate these burial requests.

The proposed burial areas would consist of approximately 22,500 crypts, 5,000 flat markers for cremains, columbariums, roadways leading to/from the new burial areas, public restrooms and honor guard, and maintenance contractor building; add additional square footage to the existing maintenance building; construct an irrigation pond; and a temporary laydown and staging area. It is assumed that approximately 80 acres will be disturbed, of which 67 acres is undeveloped (please see Attachment 2). The Proposed Action will be fully described and analyzed in the pending EA.

As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,
FERNANDO L. FERNANDEZ

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
August 27, 2019

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Estavio Elizando, Chairperson
2212 Rosita Valley Road
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Chairperson Elizando:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

As this Proposed Action is federally funded, we are preparing an Environmental Assessment that will evaluate the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic effects associated with the Proposed Action, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 US Code (USC) §4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508); 38 CFR Part 26 (Environmental Analysis of VA Actions); and the VA Interim Guidance for Projects (September 2010).

The existing infrastructure, crypts, and columbariums, the DFW National Cemetery cannot support burial requests for eligible individuals and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. The construction and maintenance of the new burial areas and associated infrastructure is needed to accommodate these burial requests.

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As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

FERNANDO L. FERNANDEZ

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
Casey Thomas, II, Mayor Pro Tem  
City Council, District 3  
City of Dallas  
1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, TX 75201

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation  
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

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As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

FERNANDO L.
FERNANDEZ
336237

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
Honorable Eric Johnson
Mayor
City of Dallas
1500 Marilla Street
Dallas, TX 75201

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Honorable Johnson:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

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As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

FERNANDO L.
FERNANDEZ
336237

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
Richard Stewart, Chairman
Dallas County Historical Commission
411 Elm Street, 4th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75202-3301

RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

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As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you. To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
RE: Request for Stakeholder Participation  
Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, Phase IV Proposed Construction and Operation Project

Dear Ms. Seager:

I am writing to notify your organization that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to construct and maintain additional interment areas (including crypts and columbariums), expand the existing administration building, construct public restrooms and honor guard building, and construct a pond to be used for irrigation at the a Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) National Cemetery on approximately 67-acres of undeveloped area within the DFW National Cemetery property, in Dallas County, Texas (please see Attachment 1).

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As part of the NEPA process, the VA would like to invite you to participate as a stakeholder in this process.

We request your participation early in the process, and ask that you provide any concerns or recommendations you may have in any area of this project including those regarding resources that may be of special interest to you.  To facilitate cumulative impact analysis, we would also appreciate identification of major projects in the vicinity that may contribute to cumulative effects.
To meet project timeframes, if you would have an interest, please contact Mr. Fernando Fernandez at fernando.fernandez@va.gov or at (202) 632-5529 within 30 days. In your communication please make reference to “DFW NC Phase 4”. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response.

Sincerely,

FERNANDO L. FERNANDEZ
336237
Fernando Fernandez
Environmental Engineer, VA Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Attachment
Site Location Map
Proposed Action Map
23 September 2019

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Bobby Komardley, Chairman
511 E Colorado
Anadarko, OK 73005

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Chairman Komardley,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfill this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: *Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE*
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear THPO Callahan,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfill this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC:  Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
      Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Kassie Darsy, Section 106 Coordinator
PO Box 818
Elton, LA 70532

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Section 106 Coordinator Darsy,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfil this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
PO Box 818
Elton, LA 70532

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Langley,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bounded by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfil this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
    Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Estavio Elizando, Chairperson
2212 Rosita Valley Road
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Chairperson Elizando,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfill this mission.

**Area of Potential Effect**
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

**Identification of Historic Properties**
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

**Determination of Findings**
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
    Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Lauren Brown, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
1 Rush Buffalo Road
Tonkawa, OK 74653

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Brown,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

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**Area of Potential Effect**

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

**Identification of Historic Properties**

Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

**Determination of Findings**

Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

To meet project timeframes, if you would like to be a consulting party on this project, please let me know of your interest within 30 days. If you have initial concerns with impacts of the project, please note them in your response. Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Carlos Hisa, Tribal Governor
PO Box 17579
Ysleta Station
El Paso, TX 79917

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Tribal Governor Hisa,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously
undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfil this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
    Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie), Oklahoma
Terri Parton, President
PO Box 729
Anadarko, OK 73005

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear President Parton,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would
also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as a constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfill this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests the tribe’s concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800 and Executive Order 13175.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration
Design and Construction Service

Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
    Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
23 September 2019

Mark Wolfe, Executive Director
Texas Historical Commission
1511 Colorado Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Phase IV at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Dear Mr. Wolfe,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to complete the planned Phase IV expansion, including construction and operation, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery (DFWNC) in Dallas, Texas, detailed in Figures 1 and 2 on page 3. The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is conducting this cemetery expansion project to increase burial capacity at the DFWNC which serves veterans in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

Background
The DFWNC is located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, adjacent to Mountain Creek Lake. The cemetery is bound by the lake to the west, Texas Highway 408 to the east, and Mountain Creek Highway to the north. Undeveloped land is beyond the roadways and to the south of the cemetery. The only access to the cemetery is from Mountain Creek Parkway, an arterial road to Texas Highways 408 and 12.

The DFWNC opened on 12 May 2000. The cemetery is 638.5 acres and includes areas for cremated remains and casketed burial sites. The development of the cemetery grounds has been conducted in phases, to date three phases have been completed. Phase I, was completed when the cemetery opened in 12 May 2000 and included the development of 110 acres including traditional 12,000 gravesites and 2,220 columbariums/garden niches (for cremated remains). Phase II was completed by 2014 and included developing 53 acres and constructed 20,500 casketed burial sites and 4,000 columbarium niches. Phase III began in May 2016 and was completed in 2018. To date, the cemetery as 85,778 casketed burial sites and 31,918 columbarium niches.

Undertaking
The NCA has defined the undertaking as clearing and grading activities associated with the development of approximately 67 acres of land within DFWNC; no new property would be acquired. This project is identified as Phase IV. The undertaking would modify undeveloped, vegetated areas into burial sections, storage areas, irrigation pond, and associated roadways. Approximately 80 acres of previously
undisturbed and developed areas will be disturbed as part of this proposed action. The expansion would also include landscaping, site furnishings, drainage, and irrigation system as well as constructing and potentially expanding existing facilities near the administration building. The expansion will be designed and constructed in accordance with NCA cemetery design standards and overall character of the surrounding area serve as guiding considerations in the ultimate expansion design.

The NCA’s mission is to honor Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation. It is projected that by 2023, the DFWNC will not be able to support burial requests and provide sufficient onsite parking to support the needs of Veterans, family members, and staff. Phase IV is needed to fulfill this mission.

Area of Potential Effect
The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is defined as the undisturbed areas within the DFWNC, approximately 67 acres as Figure 2 on page 3.

Identification of Historic Properties
Previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at the DFWNC and within approximately one mile of the cemetery. Three historic-age archaeological sites were recorded within the immediate vicinity and within one kilometer of the proposed project area. Historic windmill sites were recorded in 1995 and were not relocated during attempts to revisit the sites in 2015 and an early to mid-twentieth century artifact scatter recorded in 2002, was revisited circa 2006 and could not be relocated. Early consultation with the Texas Historical Commission during a 2015 expansion phase of the cemetery concluded that archaeological survey should be conducted due to the time span between the previous surveys (i.e., greater than 10 years). Accordingly, pedestrian survey supplemented with shovel test pits investigated the general area north of the current project for previously recorded, as well as unrecorded, archaeological resources. The previously identified sites could not be located and were likely destroyed either during previous development of the cemetery or other activities/individuals since their initial documentation. A Cultural Resources Assessment Report has been prepared documenting previous surveys and by conducting research. The report is attached for your review, please see Attachment 1.

Determination of Findings
Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the VAMC VA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the undertaking and requests concurrence on the agency’s finding per 36 CFR Part 800.
Figure 1: Regional Location Map

Figure 2: *Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery Phase IV APE*
If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Fernando Fernandez for additional information at Fernando.Fernandez@va.gov.

Please let me know if any of the provided materials are insufficient or if you have any questions.

Sincerely

W. Edward Hooker, III
Historic Architect/ Cultural Resources Manager
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
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Attachment
Cultural Resources Assessment Report

CC: Fernando Fernandez, Environmental Engineer, Department of Veterans Affairs, OCFM
    Douglas Pulak, Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs