



Commission Action

December 3, 2015

PROJECT Proposed Site for the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Washington, DC & Arlington, Virginia	NCPC FILE NUMBER 7731
SUBMITTED BY United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 00.00(73.10)44254
	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Approval of comments on site selection
	ACTION TAKEN Approve comments as requested
	REVIEW AUTHORITY Per 40 U.S.C. § 8905 and Public Law 112-239

The Commission:

Supports selecting Site (D), the area adjacent to the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor Center, as the preferred location for the Gold Star Mothers Monument.

Notes that the size and location of Site (D) allows for a contemplative space; and further, the context of Arlington National Cemetery is a strong thematic connection to the proposed monument. Additionally, this location has potential for a visitor gathering space that will not impede existing circulation patterns or activities as noted with Sites (B) and (C).

Recommends that the sponsor develop a range of alternative design concepts for the monument within the area of Site (D), including variations in scale, material palette, placement and orientation. The next submission should reveal details about the physical relationship of the monument to the surrounding context and provide information about program needs at the site.

Recommends that NPS and the sponsor continue to coordinate with Arlington National Cemetery and the Department of the Army regarding Site (D), the location of existing utility lines and the design and placement of the proposed monument.

Does not support Site (B) due to its limited opportunity for contemplative space, inadequate accessibility and weak contextual connection to Arlington National Cemetery.

Deborah B. Young

[Date]

Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission