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National Capitol Planning Commission
Comments to the Commission on : Trump's "Triumphal" Arch

This project would be a grotesque monument to a vain, narcissistic convicted felon, a disgrace to our country and an insult to the 400,000 service members laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Even the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), stacked with Trump's own appointees, couldn't find public support for it.

Trump's proposed revision to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act redefines what properties can be considered historic and removes the requirement to consult with Native American tribes.

As a concerned citizen with Native American ancestors (Abenaki), a physician, with a strong commitment to the American democratic participatory dream. **I strongly object!**

In the US, our leaders do not glorify themselves at the expense of citizens. Self aggrandizement is not part of the United States Presidential responsibilities!

Trump has been desecrating our beautiful and beloved capitol with a total disregard for the rules of law, ignorance, and total lack of respect for history, nature and aesthetics.

The New York Times cited 37 historic cites adversely affected by the proposed arch. The August 3rd. article quoted Roger W. Kirchen, Virginia's state historic preservation officer, in a June letter to the Park Service after it began the review. "These adverse effects are intentional and inherent in the design of the arch; it is intended to dominate the surrounding landscape,"

It also would pose a hazard to air travel at nearby Reagan National Airport.

Vietnam Veterans, represented by Public Citizen Litigation Group, are suing, stating "the proposed plan is a 'vanity project' that would disrupt one of Washington's most symbolically charged sightlines between the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington House, a view designed to evoke national unity after the Civil War.

Another lawsuit alleges the plan violates multiple federal laws, including the Commemorative Works Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.

Trump just wiped out 3 million acres of Bear's Ears National Monument.
Is nothing sacred?

Step by step, Trump has been destroying the Kennedy Center for the Arts and, as a result, most self respecting artists refuse to perform there. In President Kennedy's inaugural address in 1961 he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." He asked the nations of the world to join to fight what he called the "common enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease, and war itself." (Trump has increased all 4.) Kennedy was truly dedicated in service to his country and one of our greatest presidents. He didn't demand that a center for the arts be built to honor him. It was built in 1971, 12 years after his tragic death.

Trump bulldozed the East Wing, hired an incompetent and unvetted contractor to make a 14 million dollar mess of the reflecting pool, he paved over the rose garden, he tore down historic trees, the list of his egomaniacal desecration is endless.

All this destruction must be stopped!

Desecration of our beautiful capitol:



Historic sites ‘adversely affected’ by the proposed arch (NY Times Reference:)

1. Memorial Avenue Corridor Cultural Landscape
2. Arlington Memorial Bridge and Associated Features
3. Lady Bird Johnson Park Cultural Landscape
4. Arlington National Cemetery Historic District
5. Arlington House Historic District
6. Arlington House (Robert E. Lee Memorial)
7. Arlington House Cultural Landscape
8. Lyndon B. Johnson Memorial Grove
9. Mount Vernon Memorial Highway Historic District
10. Lincoln Memorial Cultural Landscape
11. Lincoln Memorial
12. National Mall Site and National Mall Historic District
13. The Mall Cultural Landscape
14. Washington Monument
15. Washington Monument and Grounds Historic District
16. Washington Monument and Grounds Cultural Landscape
17. Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Historic District
18. East and West Potomac Park Historic District
19. L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia
20. Arlington Ridge Park
21. Pentagon
22. Fort Myer National Historic Landmark District
23. George Mason Memorial
24. Thomas Jefferson Memorial
25. Thomas Jefferson Memorial Cultural Landscape
26. United States Capitol
27. Georgetown Historic District
28. Old Naval Observatory
29. Observatory Hill Historic District
30. Alban Towers Apartment Building
31. American Institute of Pharmacy Building
32. George Washington Memorial Parkway
33. Halcyon House
34. Francis Scott Key Bridge
35. The National Cathedral
36. National War College
37. Vigilant Firehouse

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