



BOARD OF VISITORS

201 SMITH HALL, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450-0304

February 6, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Visitors

THROUGH: External Relations Committee

SUBJECT: Confederate Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

In its 2022 final report, the Army Naming Commission recommended removal of the bronze elements of the Confederate Memorial located in Section 16 of Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). The monument is the work of Moses J. Ezekiel, VMI Class of 1867.

Governor Youngkin formally stated his desire to the Secretary of Defense, Lloyd J. Austin III, that the monument remain in its present location. Upon receipt of correspondence affirming Secretary Austin's intent to follow the recommendation of the Naming Commission, the Governor expressed his hope that the Department of the Army would work with his office to move this monument to the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park.

In response to the Governor's intent and direction pending receipt of approval from the Department of the Army and all the necessary funding from available federal, state, or private donation resources for the project, I recommend that the memorial be accepted by VMI for placement at the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park.

Recommended Motion

It is moved the Board of Visitors amend the September 10, 2023, memorandum regarding the Arlington National Cemetery monument to include private funds, but not be limited to Institute Funds and private donations as a source of funding for the project. In furtherance of this project, the Institute is authorized to advance such funds as necessary for the project to be reimbursed by private or public funds.

Cedric T. Wins '85
Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)
Superintendent

Originally proposed language
Language added by External Relations Committee
Amendment added by the Full Board.