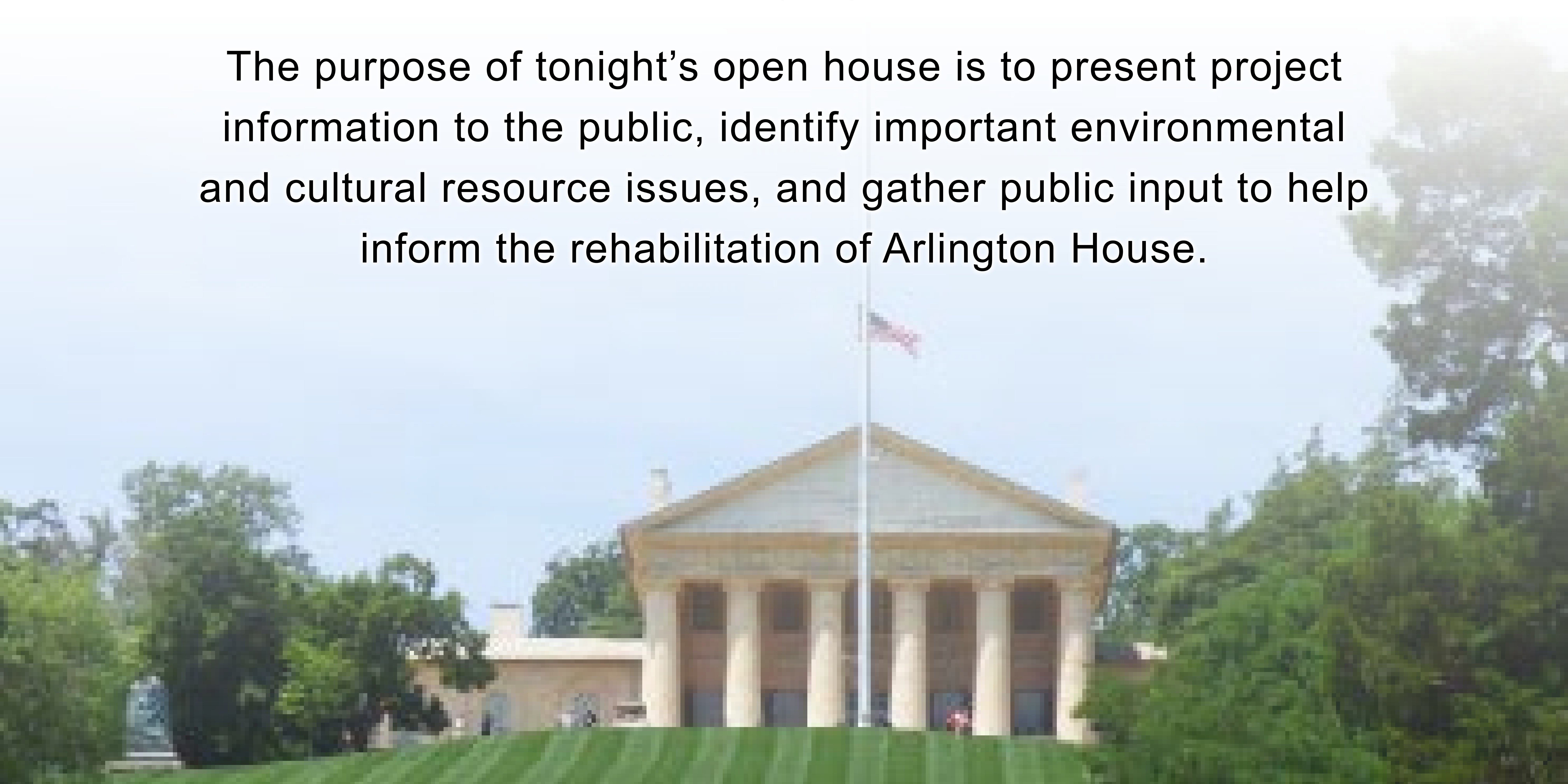




Arlington House Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment

WELCOME

The purpose of tonight's open house is to present project information to the public, identify important environmental and cultural resource issues, and gather public input to help inform the rehabilitation of Arlington House.





PURPOSE AND NEED

PURPOSE

- To preserve the mansion, adjacent slave quarters, and grounds
- Provide accessibility to the mansion
- Improve visitor experience by defining site characteristics and adding wayfinding to welcome and orient visitors

NEED

- The weathered condition of the mansion's exterior is cause for significant restoration.
- Access to the house interior by way of wheel chair is currently limited to the use of a metal ramp at the front portico.
- The south slave quarters has not been restored in many years, the condition of the exterior stucco, wood trim, and two interior rooms are in great need of restoration.
- The book store is located within the west room of the north slave quarters preventing restoring to the period of significance.
- Site arrival, orientation, and flow is generally disorganized and in need of improved organization and wayfinding.
- The Arlington Woods to the west of the site is not currently interpreted clearly to reflect it's significance.

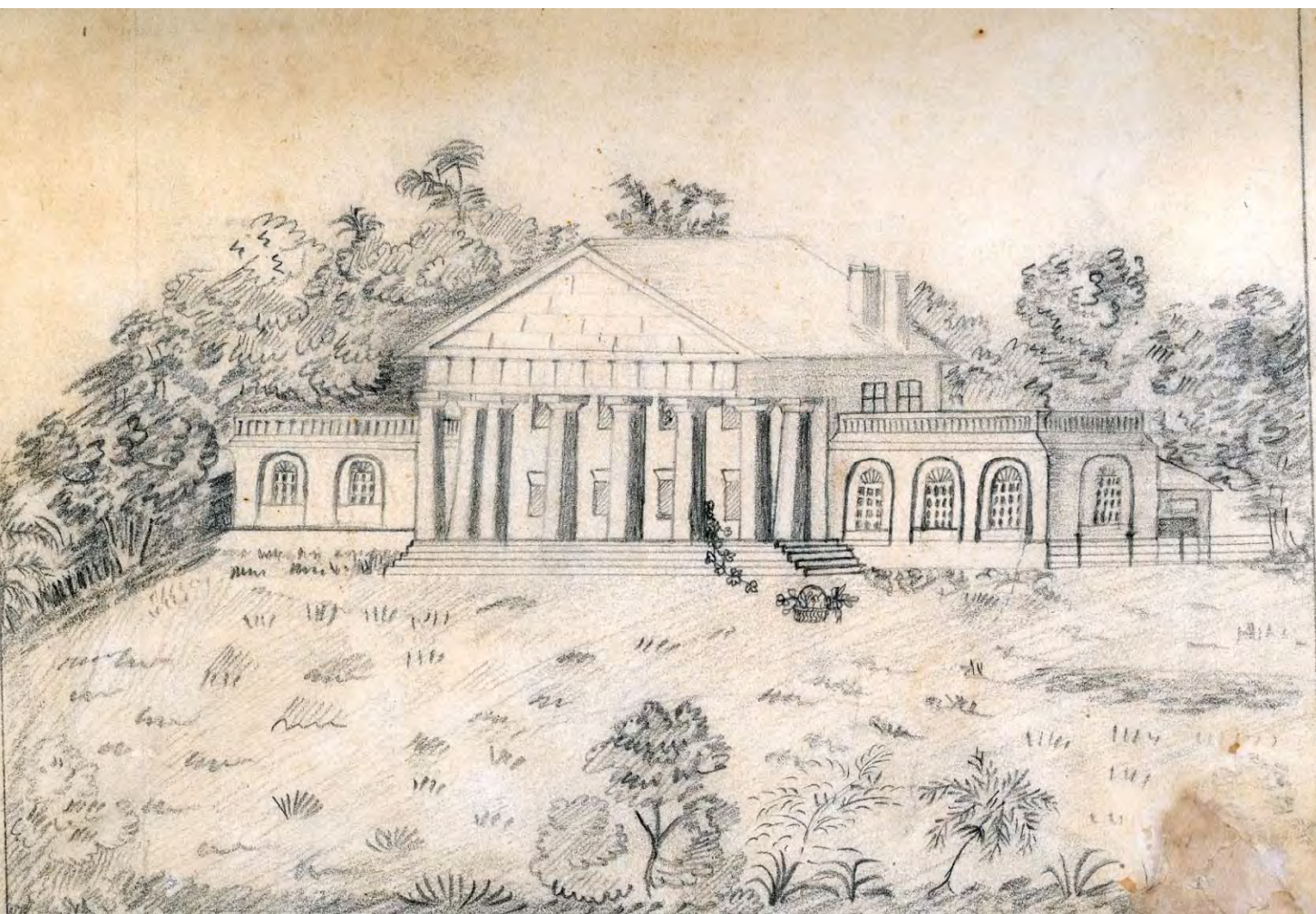




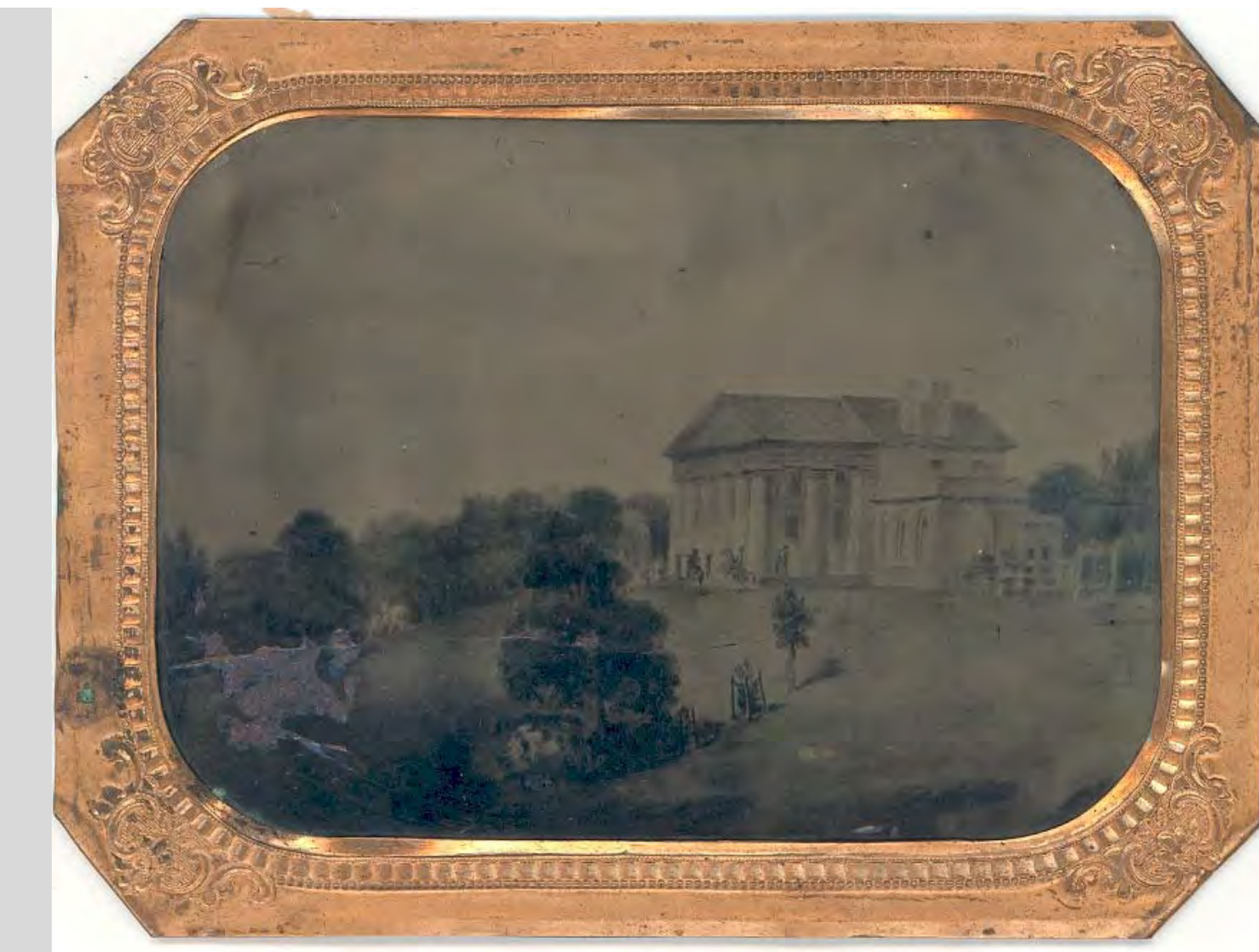
SITE SIGNIFICANCE

“Arlington...where my affections and attachments are more strongly placed than any other place in the world.”

- Robert E. Lee to Martha Custis Williams, March 15, 1854



- Arlington House was designated by Congress as the first national memorial to Robert E. Lee, honoring him as a great military leader and educator who fervently devoted himself to peace and reunification of the nation after the Civil War.
- Arlington House and its surrounding plantation was the permanent home for Robert E. Lee, his family, and enslaved persons, from 1831, when he married Mary Anna Randolph Custis, great granddaughter of Martha Washington, until his resignation from the U.S. Army in 1861.
- Arlington House was built by George Washington Parke Custis, the step-grandson of George Washington, as the first memorial to President Washington and a showplace for the display of many family heirlooms, known as the “Washington Treasury.”
- At Arlington House, Robert E. Lee made his decision to serve Virginia and resign his commission from the U.S. Army at the onset of the Civil War, eventually becoming one of the most victorious and iconic generals in the Confederacy, and resulting in the loss of his family home.
- Arlington House and plantation became a strategic Union military headquarters in 1861 when the U.S. government occupied the site following the outbreak of the Civil War; three years later a large portion of the property was dedicated as Arlington National Cemetery, beginning a tradition of military burials that transformed the site into the nation’s most sacred military shrine.
- The mature forest behind Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial has remained uncut since before George Washington Parke Custis established the plantation in 1802, providing a living link and backdrop to this historic landscape.
- Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial museum collections continue to grow with more than 41,000 artifacts, including original artifacts associated with George and Martha Washington and one of the largest collections associated with Robert E. Lee in the United States.





VIEW OF PORTICO LOOKING SOUTH



FRONT PORTICO



CONSERVATORY



COLUMN CAPITOL



ARCHED WINDOW



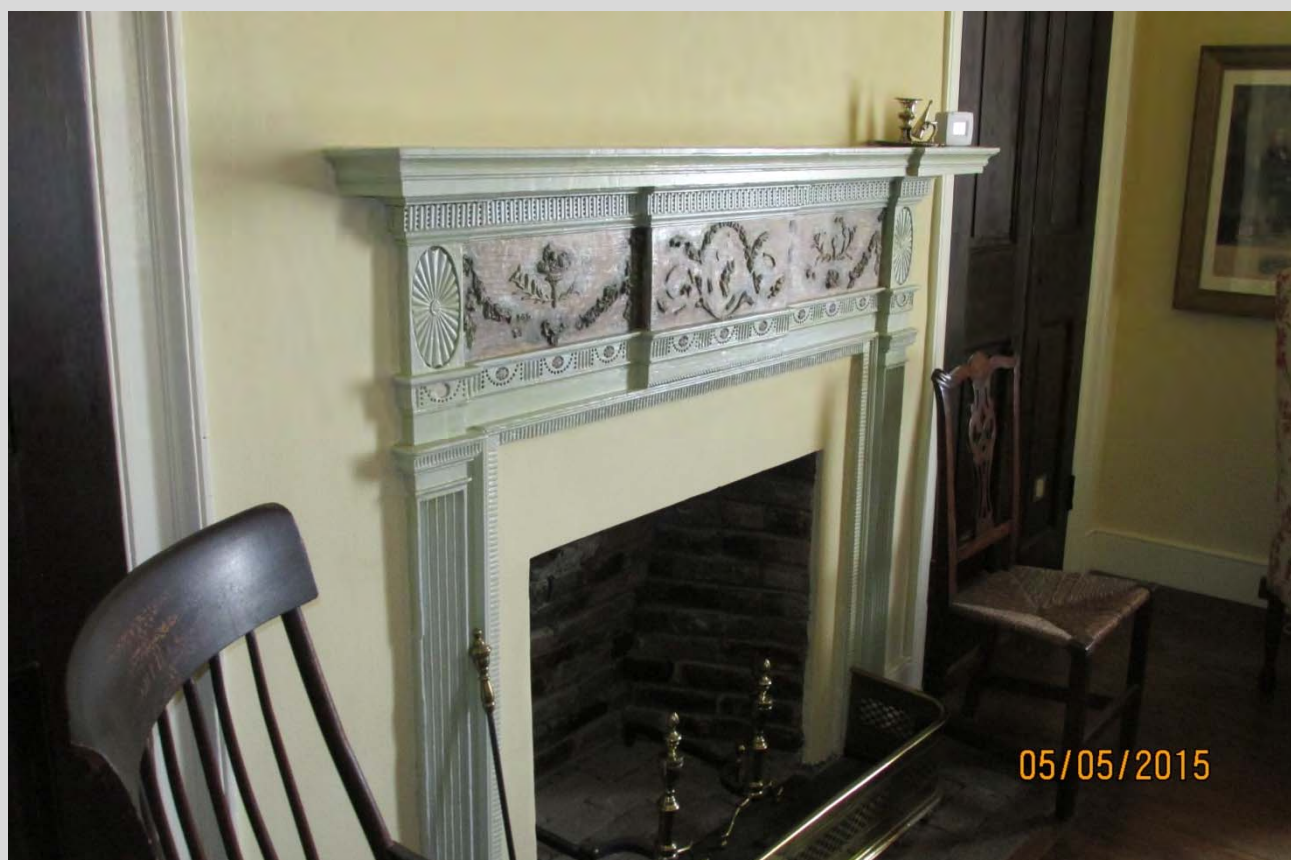
DINING ROOM



HUNTING HALL



MORNING ROOM



CUSTIS' CHAMBER



COLONEL & MRS. LEE'S
CHAMBER

ARLINGTON HOUSE EXISTING CONDITIONS



NORTH SLAVE QUARTERS



POTTING SHED



COMFORT STATION



SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS



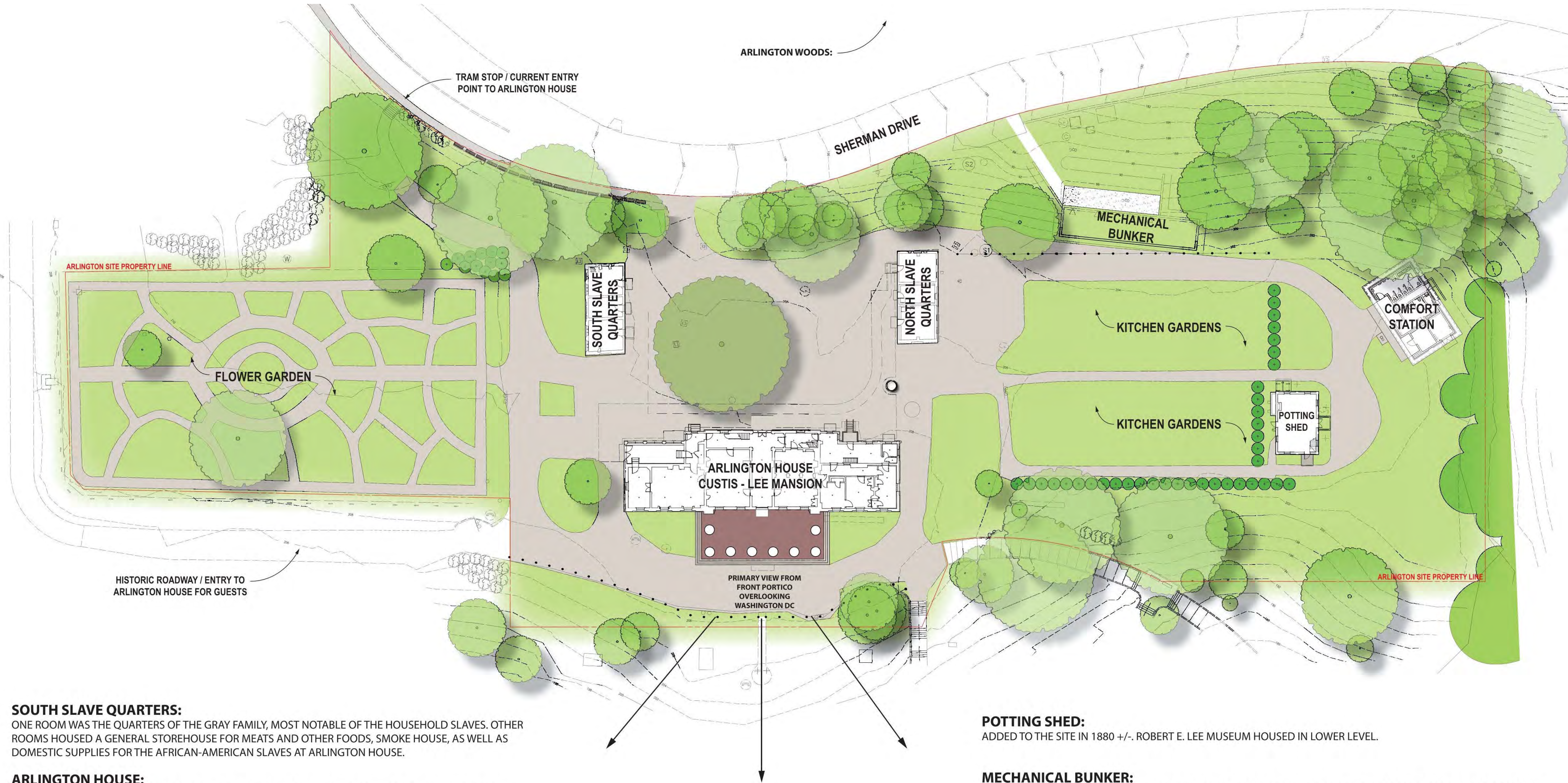
KITCHEN GARDENS



FLOWER GARDEN



EXISTING CONDITIONS



SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS:
ONE ROOM WAS THE QUARTERS OF THE GRAY FAMILY, MOST NOTABLE OF THE HOUSEHOLD SLAVES. OTHER ROOMS HOUSED A GENERAL STOREHOUSE FOR MEATS AND OTHER FOODS, SMOKE HOUSE, AS WELL AS DOMESTIC SUPPLIES FOR THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN SLAVES AT ARLINGTON HOUSE.

ARLINGTON HOUSE:
BUILT BY GEORGE WASHINGTON PARKE CUSTIS. THE EAST AND WEST WINGS WERE COMPLETED BY 1804 FOLLOWED BY THE CENTER 2-STORY WHICH CONNECTED THE TWO WINGS BY 1818. HOME OF ROBERT E. LEE, WIFE MARY, AND THEIR SEVEN CHILDREN.

ARLINGTON WOODS:
IT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE PROVIDED MATERIALS FOR THE BUILDING OF THE ARLINGTON HOUSE. ONE OF THE LAST OLD GROWTH FORESTS IN WASHINGTON DC.

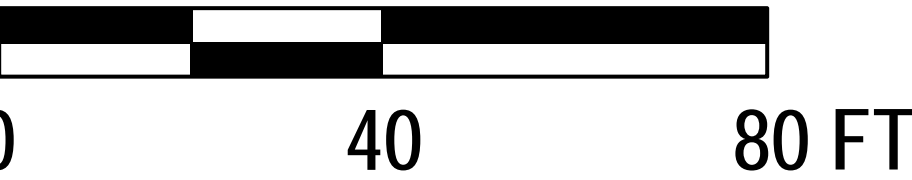
POTTING SHED:
ADDED TO THE SITE IN 1880 +/- . ROBERT E. LEE MUSEUM HOUSED IN LOWER LEVEL.

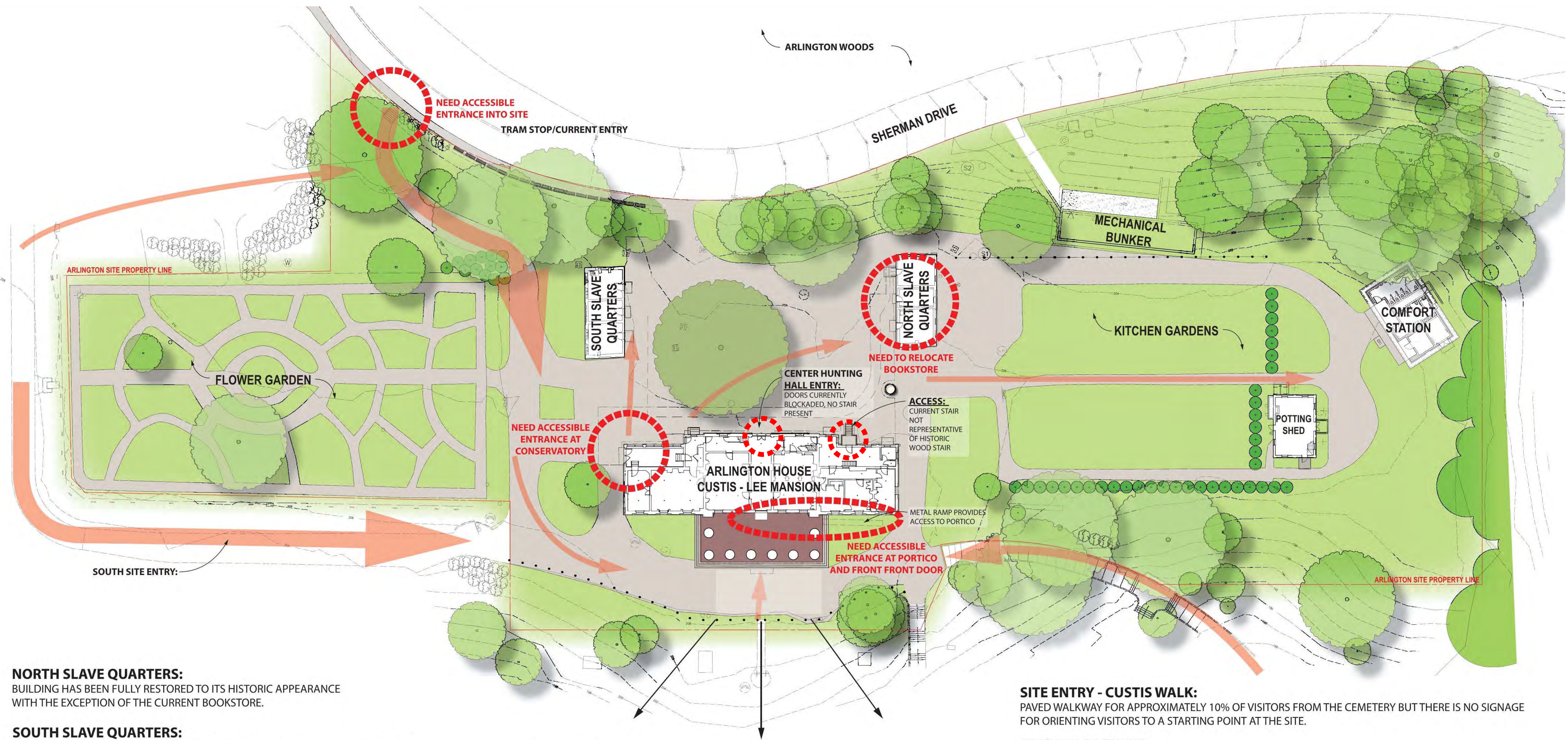
MECHANICAL BUNKER:
ADDED TO THE SITE IN 2010 SUPPLYING SERVICE TO ARLINGTON HOUSE AND NORTH SLAVE QUARTERS. SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS NOT CURRENTLY BEING SUPPLIED BY THE MECHANICAL BUNKER.

NORTH SLAVE QUARTERS:
INCLUDED THE HOUSE'S MAIN KITCHEN. ORIGINAL INTERIOR PLAN WAS EXTREMELY UNIQUE FOR ITS TIME. BUILT BEFORE THE SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS, THIS BUILDING INCLUDED TWO BASEMENT ROOMS, ONE WAS THE QUARTERS OF THE COACHMAN, DANIEL DOBSON AND THE OTHER WAS THE SUMMER KITCHEN.

COMFORT STATION:
ADDED TO THE SITE IN 2010.

SITE PLAN - EXISTING CONDITIONS





NORTH SLAVE QUARTERS:
BUILDING HAS BEEN FULLY RESTORED TO ITS HISTORIC APPEARANCE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CURRENT BOOKSTORE.

SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS:
FULL RESTORATION OF THE BUILDING HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED. ROOF HAS BEEN RECENTLY REPLACED.

SOUTH SITE ENTRY:
APPROXIMATELY 40% OF VISITORS ACCESS THE SITE FROM THIS POINT BUT THERE IS NO SIGNAGE FOR ORIENTING VISITORS TO A STARTING POINT AT THE SITE.

TRAM STOP/CURRENT ENTRY:
APPROXIMATELY 50% OF VISITORS ACCESS THE SITE FROM THIS POINT BUT THERE IS NO SIGNAGE ORIENTING VISITORS TO A STARTING POINT AT THE SITE.

ARLINGTON HOUSE:
ROOF RECENTLY REPLACED. RESTORATION OF EXTERIOR PAINT, WINDOWS, DOORS AND SHUTTERS IS NEEDED. HOUSE IS CURRENTLY ONLY ACCESSIBLE BY TEMPORARY RAMPS.

PRIMARY VIEWS:
CURRENT HOUSE TOURS BEGIN AT THE FRONT PORTICO OVERLOOKING WASHINGTON DC.

ARLINGTON WOODS:
CURRENT SIGNAGE INTERPRETING THE WOODS IS IN NEED OF REPLACEMENT. THERE IS NO CURRENT ACCESS INTO THE WOODS.

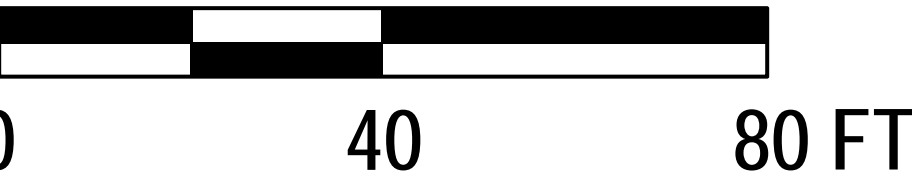
SITE ENTRY - CUSTIS WALK:
PAVED WALKWAY FOR APPROXIMATELY 10% OF VISITORS FROM THE CEMETERY BUT THERE IS NO SIGNAGE FOR ORIENTING VISITORS TO A STARTING POINT AT THE SITE.

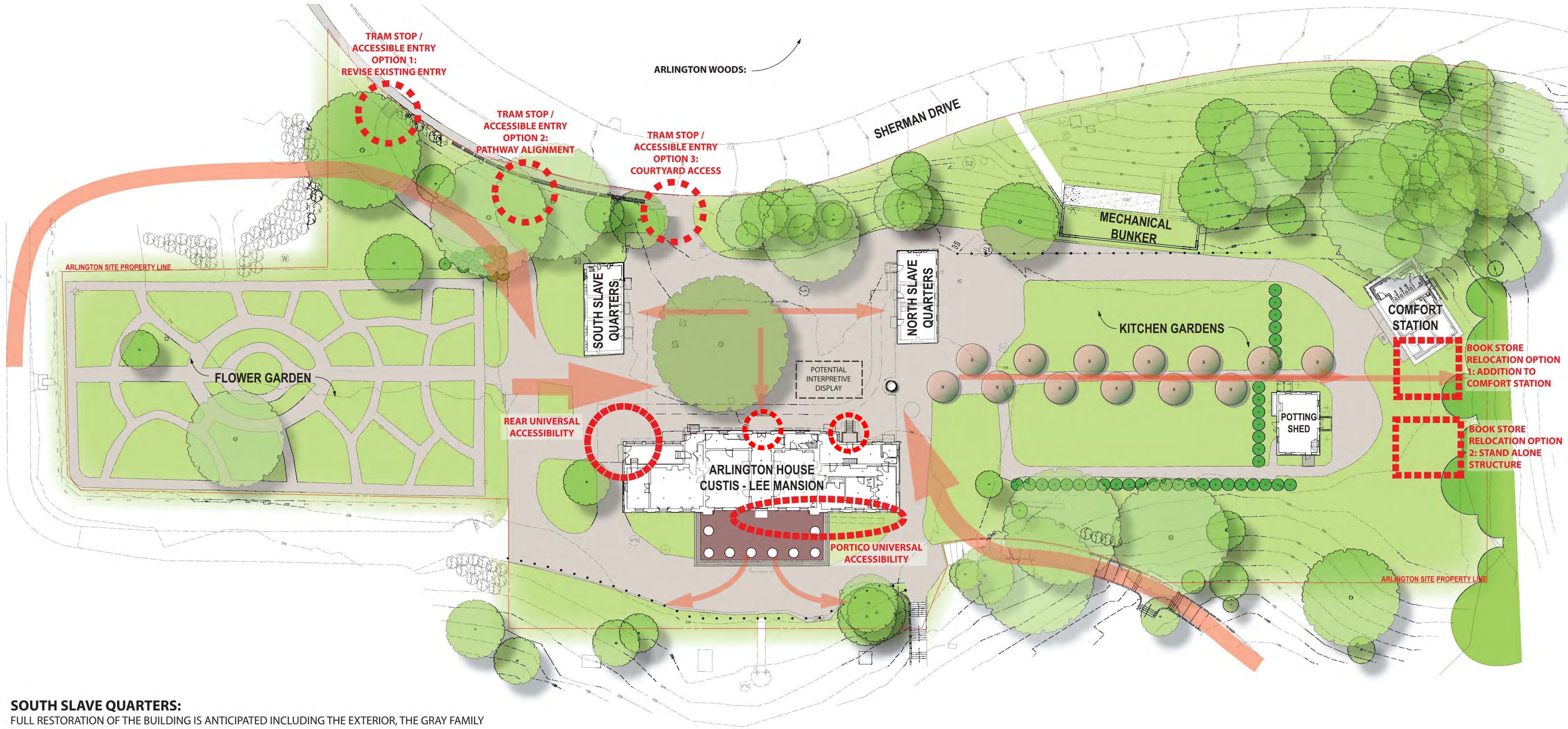
KITCHEN GARDENS:
CURRENT PLANTINGS DO NOT FULLY REFLECT THE PLANTINGS OF THE TIME OF SIGNIFICANCE. ADDING A CENTRAL ALLEE OF FRUIT TREES AND FENCING WILL MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT THE TIME OF SIGNIFICANCE.

MECHANICAL BUNKER:
EXISTING MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT NOT OPERATING EFFICIENTLY NOR AS INTENDED. MODIFICATIONS TO THE SYSTEMS WILL BE MADE TO CORRECT THIS AS WELL AS TIE INTO THE SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS.

POTTING SHED:
THE ROBERT E. LEE MUSEUM IS HOUSED IN THE LOWER LEVEL AND IS IN NEED OF RECONFIGURING AND UPDATING.

SITE PLAN - SITE ISSUES AND CONCERNS





SOUTH SLAVE QUARTERS:
FULL RESTORATION OF THE BUILDING IS ANTICIPATED INCLUDING THE EXTERIOR, THE GRAY FAMILY QUARTERS, AS WELL AS THE STOREHOUSE.

ARLINGTON HOUSE:
RESTORATION OF MANSION EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR ANTICIPATED INCLUDING EXTERIOR DOOR, WINDOWS, SHUTTERS, AND PAINT, AS WELL AS SOME INTERIOR SPACES. ACCESSIBILITY TO BE PROVIDED AT FRONT AND REAR OF MANSION.

NORTH SLAVE QUARTERS:
FULL RESTORATION OF THE BUILDING TO ITS ORIGINAL 2-STORY CONFIGURATION IS ANTICIPATED, REQUIRING RELOCATION OF THE BOOKSTORE.

ARLINGTON WOODS:
OPTIONS FOR TRAIL ACCESS AND NATURAL / CULTURAL RESOURCE INTERPRETATION

COURTYARD:
GATHERING AREA OR HOUSE TOUR BEGINNING

KITCHEN GARDENS:
PLANTINGS OF THE LEE FAMILY TIME AND CENTRAL ALLEE OF FRUIT TREES.

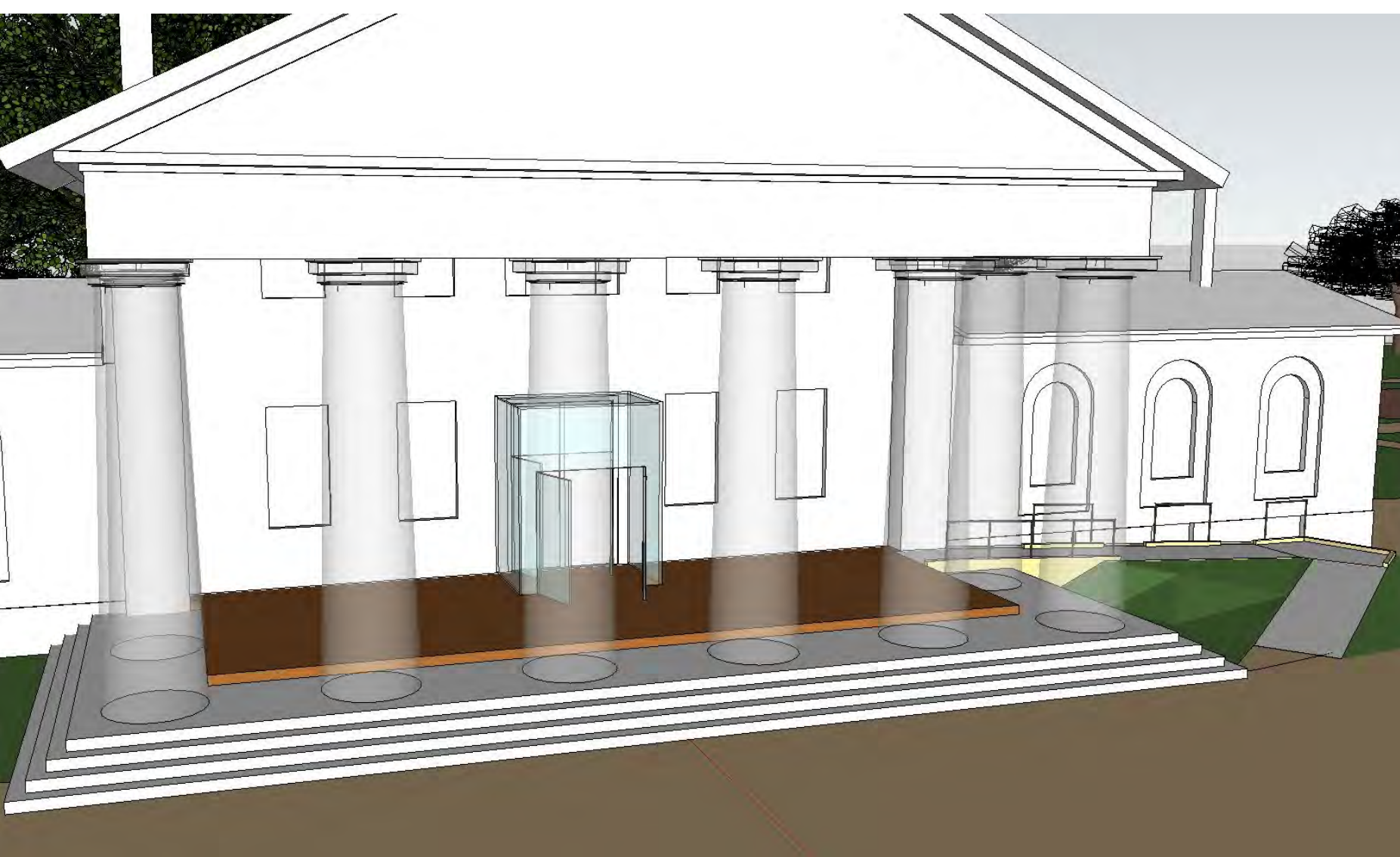
SITE PLAN - PROPOSED CONCEPTS



- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SITE CIRCULATION
- PROPOSED TRAM STOP / ACCESSIBLE ENTRY OPTION
- BOOK STORE LOCATION OPTIONS
- MAIN HOUSE UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY

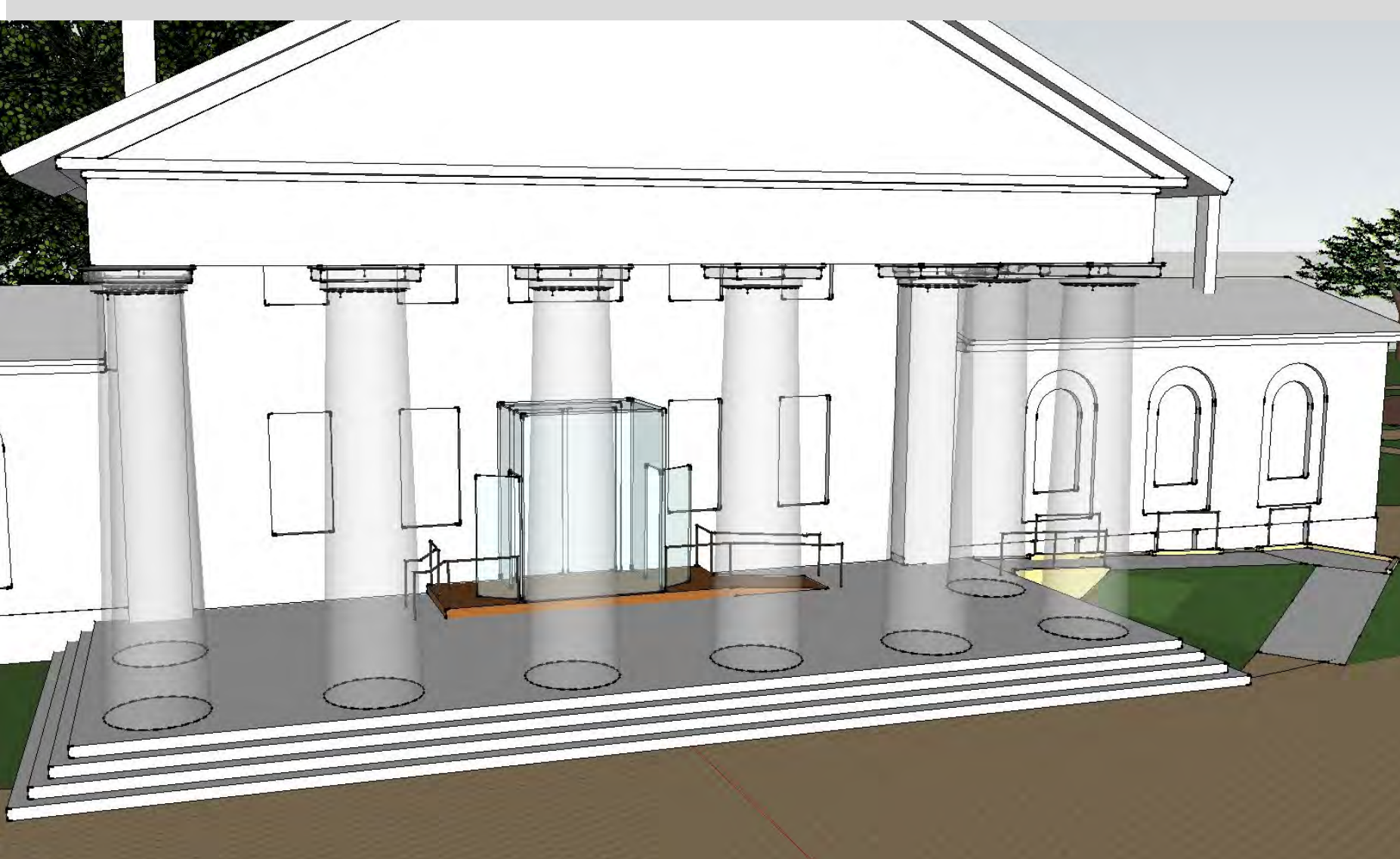


FRONT PORTICO ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS



CONCEPT 1

- PORTION OF PORTICO FOR INSIDE COLUMNS ELEVATED TO MATCH HOUSE FLOOR LEVEL
- SLOPED SIDEWALK TO PORTICO TO LIMIT NUMBER OF HANDRAILS NEEDED
- GLASS ENTRY VESTIBULE TO CONTROL INTERIOR CLIMATE FOR ARTIFACT PROTECTION



CONCEPT 2

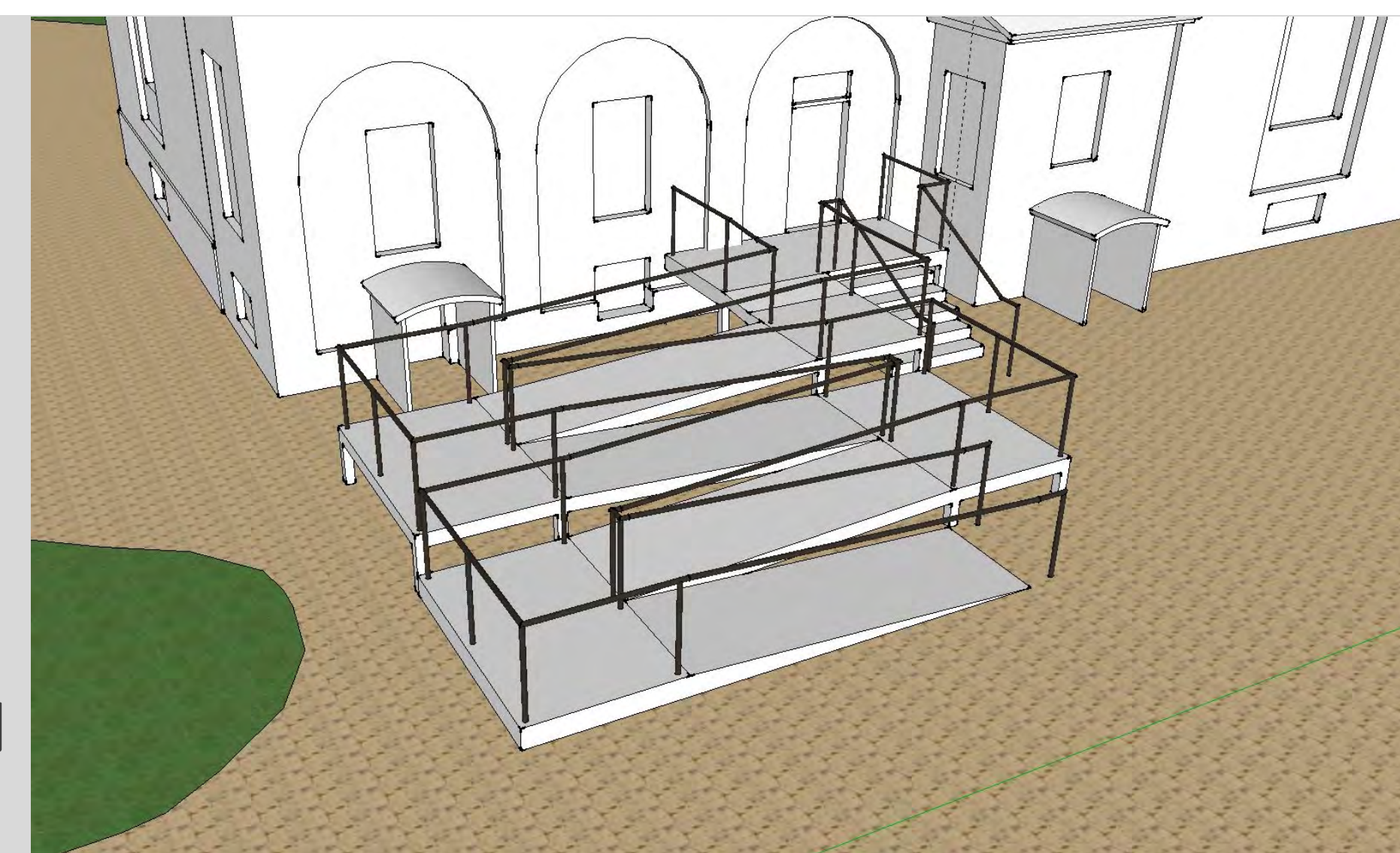
- SMALL PORTION OF PORTICO RAISED TO SUPPORT GLASS VESTIBULE AND RAMP FOR WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
- SLOPED SIDEWALK TO PORTICO TO LIMIT NUMBER OF HANDRAILS NEEDED
- GLASS ENTRY VESTIBULE TO CONTROL INTERIOR CLIMATE FOR ARTIFACT PROTECTION



CONCEPT 3

- SMALL PORTION OF PORTICO RAISED TO PROVIDE WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
- ARCHITECTURAL RAMP WITH HANDRAILS TO ACCESS PORTICO
- GLASS ENTRY DOORS TO ASSIST WITH CONTROLLING INTERIOR CLIMATE FOR ARTIFACT PROTECTION

REAR ENTRY ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS



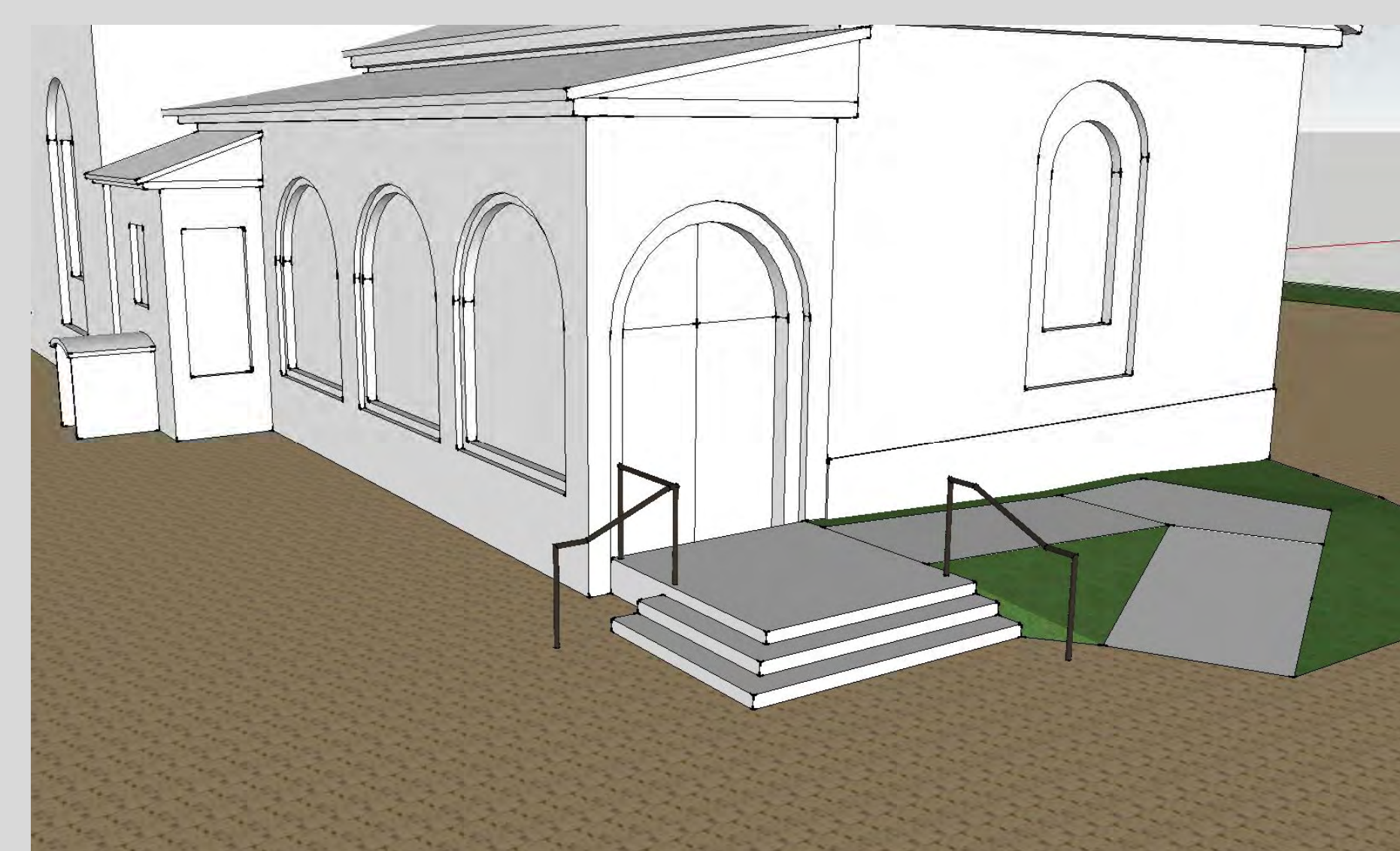
REAR NORTH ENTRANCE

- RAMP AND HANDRAILINGS (5 SEGMENTS) TO ACCESS FIRST FLOOR
- STAIR AND HANDRAILINGS TO ACCESS FIRST FLOOR



REAR CENTER ENTRANCE

- RAMP AND HANDRAILINGS (3 SEGMENTS) TO ACCESS FIRST FLOOR
- STAIR AND HANDRAILINGS TO ACCESS FIRST FLOOR



REAR SOUTH ENTRANCE

- SLOPED SIDEWALK TO LANDING (LIMITS NUMBER OF HANDRAILS REQUIRED)
- STAIR AND HAND RAILINGS TO ACCESS CONSERVATORY
- INTERIOR RAMP AND HANDRAILINGS TO ACCESS FIRST FLOOR



ARLINGTON WOODS

As part of this plan, the NPS is considering replacing the existing wayside with a newer display.

Potential Future Actions

In the future, the NPS may consider enlarging and paving the existing wayside area to provide additional space for visitors to stand outside of the existing path.

The NPS may also consider adding a trail through Arlington Woods with an overlook in the future. This is not being considered at this time, but if considered in the future would require additional environmental compliance.



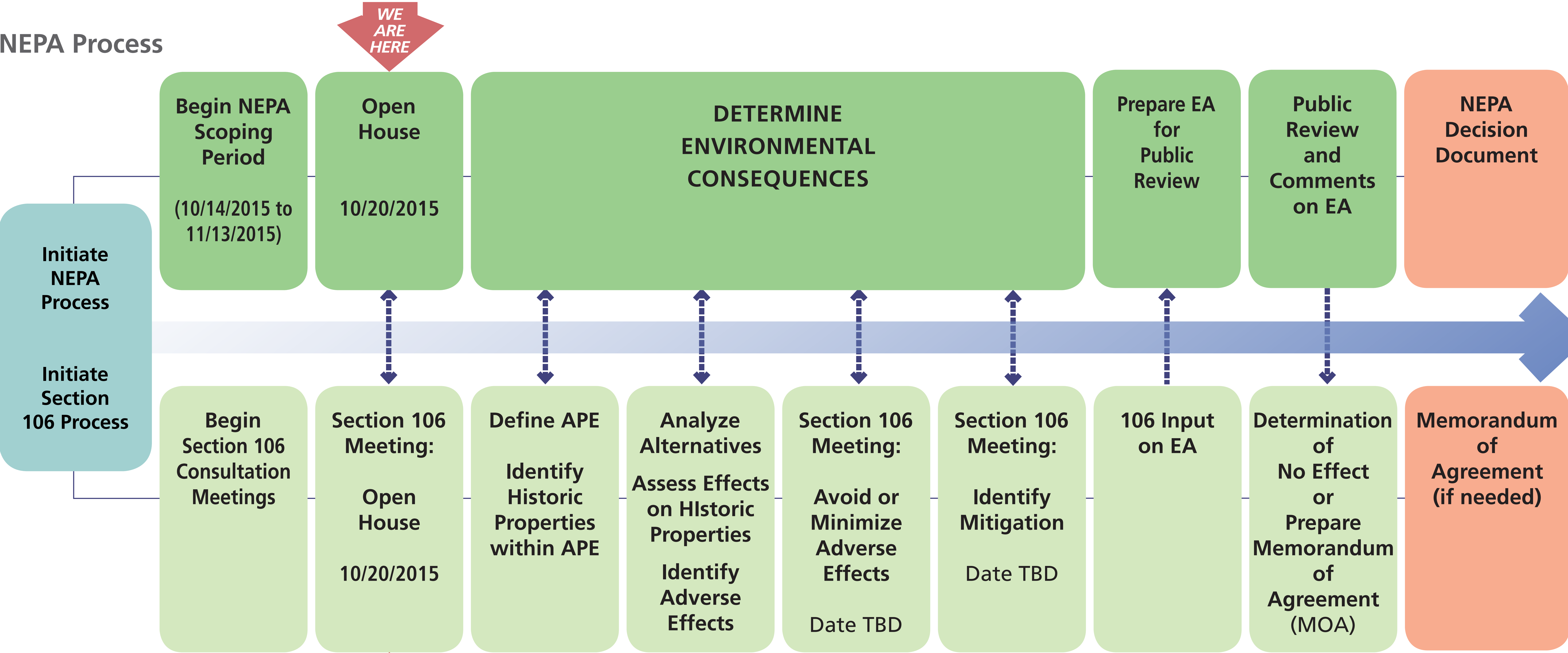
SITE PLAN
SCALE: NTS



Arlington House Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment

NEPA AND SECTION 106 PROCESSES

NEPA Process



Section 106 Process





Arlington House Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment

HOW TO COMMENT

You are welcome to provide comments in a number of ways:

- We prefer that comments be submitted online via the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website, <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/GWMP>
- Complete a comment form and submit it in person at the public open house
- If you do not have internet access, you can send a written comment form or a letter to:

Superintendent

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial

George Washington Memorial Parkway

c/o Turkey Run Park

McLean, VA 22101

- Mailed comments must be postmarked by November 13, 2015, to receive consideration.

Please Note: Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

