

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER



April 13, 2017

Ms. Gay E. Vietzke, Superintendent
National Park Service
National Mall and Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2000

RE: Initiation of Section 106 Consultation for the Rehabilitation of the Lincoln Memorial

Dear Ms. Gay:

Thank you for initiating consultation with the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) regarding the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the project submittal and are writing to provide our initial comments in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

We understand that the National Park Service (NPS) proposes to rehabilitate the Lincoln Memorial in time to celebrate the historic property's centennial in 2022. Exterior work appears to be limited to the repair of brick masonry and marble joints and to landscape improvements while interior work relating to accessibility, visitor interpretation and NPS service-related spaces will extend to the undercroft and existing visitor services on the mezzanine. We look forward to receiving more detailed project information as soon as it becomes available.

Once we receive a more specific scope of work, we will be better able to comment on the draft Area of Potential Effect (APE) that the NPS has prepared for the project. At this time, it appears that the draft *may* be too narrowly focused – especially in terms of indirect effects (e.g. visual effects) that may occur within the historic districts that surround the Memorial on all sides – but final decisions will depend upon the type of work that is carried out.

If you should have any questions or comments regarding any of this matter, please contact me at andrew.lewis@dc.gov or 202-442-8841. Otherwise, we look forward to consulting further with NPS and all other parties regarding the effects of this undertaking on historic properties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Andrew Lewis'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

C. Andrew Lewis
Senior Historic Preservation Officer
DC State Historic Preservation Office

17-0518