

Helping Preserve Historic Structures for the Future

As a proud partner, GISinc helped the City of Alexandria, Virginia along with the State of Virginia and the National Park Service to conduct a field survey of historic buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries. Their ongoing challenge was the tedious and time consuming process of taking manual notes in the field and later returning to the office to record them digitally.

To build a custom solution to meet their challenges, a database design was first created to meet a combination of City, State, and Federal reporting requirements. Next, a secure map-based web application was developed to collect survey attributes for building structures and their individual components such as foundation, facades, doors, windows, and roofing. Users are able to access the application on tablet devices while in the field, and verify collection of the information on the appropriate structure by referencing the map and their GPS location on the device. In addition, users can attach photos or documents to the buildings. Based on user permissions, the application also presents a different set of attributes to collect. Users are now able to collect and enter the necessary information while physically looking at the structure, resulting in fewer errors and less time spent in the office.



The City has now partnered with the National Park Service (NPS) and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) to continue enhancing the application with additional functionality. The partnership makes the application available to other States and agencies, to ensure and safeguard historic sites into the future.

How the Partners Benefit

- Streamlined data collection in the field with tablets
- Standardized forms provide data consistency
- Database design allows for multi-agency use
- Easy to use interface with minimal training for your team and volunteers









Arc**GIS** for Local Government Specialty



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