

GSA DESIGN AWARDS



2004

## CITATION

### WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL WASHINGTON, DC

## CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE

#### CONSTRUCTION

TOMPKINS/GRUNLEY-  
WALSH JOINT VENTURE  
WASHINGTON, DC

AMERICAN BATTLE  
MONUMENTS COMMISSION  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

#### GSA OFFICE

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE

FEW PROJECTS HAVE THE HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF A PROJECT LIKE THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON, DC. ITS PROMINENT SITE ON THE CENTRAL EAST-WEST AXIS OF THE MALL, HALFWAY BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT AND THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL, REQUIRED THE HIGHEST QUALITY MATERIALS, CRAFTSMANSHIP, AND CONSTRUCTION TO ENSURE A RESULT WORTHY OF THE SITE AND THE EVENT IT COMMEMORATES.

THE 7.4-ACRE SITE WAS ORIGINALLY PART OF THE POTOMAC RIVER TIDAL FLATS. IT LIES WITHIN THE 25-YEAR FLOOD PLAIN AND IS 8.5 FEET ABOVE RIVER LEVEL. TO PREVENT THE MIGRATION OF GROUNDWATER BENEATH THE MEMORIAL AND PROVIDE A STRUCTURAL WALL FOR CONSTRUCTION, A 2-FOOT-WIDE REINFORCED CONCRETE SLURRY WALL EXTENDING FROM GROUND LEVEL DOWN TO BEDROCK WAS CONSTRUCTED. INSIDE THE PERIMETER OF THE SLURRY WALL MORE THAN 600 STEEL PILES WERE EMBEDDED IN BEDROCK DOWN TO 40 FEET BELOW GROUND TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE PLAZA SO IT WILL NOT SINK. OVERALL, THE MEMORIAL CONTAINS MORE THAN 17,000 INDIVIDUAL PIECES OF GRANITE WEIGHING 8,000 TONS, 136 JETS OF WATER IN THREE SEPARATE FOUNTAINS, TWO WATERFALLS, A STATE-OF-THE ART VAULT HOUSING PUMPS AND CONTROLS 32 FEET BELOW GROUND, AND 16,000 CUBIC FEET OF CONCRETE. THE WATER FEATURES AND SITE UTILITIES SYSTEMS USE MORE THAN 5.5 MILES OF STAINLESS STEEL AND PVC PIPING.

KNOWING THAT MORE THAN 1,100 WORLD WAR II VETERANS DIE EACH DAY, THE PROJECT TEAM WAS COMMITTED TO COMPLETING THE MEMORIAL ON TIME—AND ON BUDGET. BY MAINTAINING A STRICT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND MEETING EVERY CHALLENGE, THEY WERE ABLE TO OPEN THE MEMORIAL A MONTH BEFORE ITS DEDICATION ON MAY 29, 2004.

RARELY DOES A PROJECT INSPIRE EVERYONE ASSOCIATED WITH IT TO RISE TO A HIGHER LEVEL THAN THEY THOUGHT POSSIBLE. THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL WAS ONE OF THESE PROJECTS. THE TEAM WORKED TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE THAT SUCH A UNIQUE AND HIGHLY VISIBLE PROJECT WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED DESPITE ANY CHALLENGES THAT WERE ENCOUNTERED. THEIR COLLABORATION AND THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY RESOLVED ISSUES KEPT THE PROJECT ON TRACK AND COMPLETED IT WITH A LEVEL OF QUALITY THAT WILL LAST FOR GENERATIONS. | JURY COMMENT



