

- The jury submitted its report to a group of Vietnam veterans (Board of Directors, VVMF staff and advisors), composed of former members of the Air Force, Army and Marines; Purple Heart recipients; and former enlisted men as well as officers.
- The group unanimously approved the design.

THE MEMORIAL WILL BE HIGHLY VISIBLE. It will be visible from the Washington Monument, almost a mile away, and from the Lincoln Memorial, less than 600 feet from the site.

- There will be a gentle slope down to the face of the memorial which is ten feet tall at its center.
- It will be one-third longer than a football field, almost as long as the Washington Monument is tall.
- It will be visible from all directions.
- Due to its prominent location, it will be seen by millions of Washington visitors every year.

INSCRIPTION. There will be an inscription on the memorial that refers to the Vietnam War.

- The inscription reads as follows:

(PROLOGUE)

In honor of the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam War. The names of those who gave their lives and of those who remain missing are inscribed in the order that they were taken from us.

(EPILOGUE)

Our nation remembers the courage, sacrifice and devotion to duty and country of its Vietnam veterans. This memorial was built through private donations from the American people. Dedicated November 11, 1982.

- Also inscribed on the memorial will be the names of all those who gave their lives and the names of those who remain missing.

METHOD OF LISTING THE NAMES. The names of the 57,692 who gave their lives or are still missing will be listed in chronological order.

- The chronological listing depicts the war as complete and having come full circle.
- This method of listing best depicts the sacrifices of individuals as well as the magnitude of the nation's sacrifice in the war.
- A directory will be readily available near the memorial from which visitors can locate the names listed.

BLACK COLOR. The memorial will be highly polished black granite, a color representing dignity and respect.

- Black granite has been used in other noted memorials: the Iwo Jima, (Washington), the Seabees (Washington), and the Vietnam War Memorial (South Boston).
- The memorial's mirror-like surface will reflect the sky and nearby trees as well as the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.
- Its beauty will be enhanced by the surrounding two acres of green lawn, stately trees, pleasant walkways and modest landscaping.

THE SHAPE OF THE MEMORIAL. The memorial is composed of two, 200 foot long arms which intersect at a 130 degree angle.

- One arm of the memorial points directly to the Washington Monument, and the other to the Lincoln Memorial, thus bringing the service and sacrifice into historical context.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS, DRAINAGE AND SAFETY. The memorial will be fully accessible to the handicapped, safe for all and properly drained.

- Access for the handicapped and adequate safety are mandatory requirements for all construction in Washington.

- Proper drainage for this memorial is an easily solved engineering problem.
- Detailed plans for the handicapped access, safety and drainage are being prepared.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEMORIAL. The sole purpose of the memorial is to honor and recognize all Americans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States in the Vietnam War.

- The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is dedicated to fulfilling the purpose of the memorial.
- Inasmuch as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is directed by -- and largely staffed with -- Vietnam veterans, it is unthinkable that they would do less.

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