

Letter from Maya Lin's letter to VVMF (copies to the DOI, CFA, and NCPC) through her lawyers:

"I disapprove of the proposed additions to the original design. Not only is each element unnecessary in and of itself, but more importantly these "enhancements" violate the original concept.

As each person enters the memorial, seeing his face reflected amongst the names, can the human element escape him? Surely seeing himself and the surroundings reflected within the memorial is a more moving and personal experience than any one artist's figurative or allegorical interpretation could engender.

The concept of an eloquent place where the simple meeting of earth, sky and remembered names contain messages for all who know this place, needs no embellishment.

Furthermore, the visual axis connecting the sculpture and flag splits the Memorial at its focal point, the point at which it joins in concept. This intrusion rips apart this meeting of names, beginning and end, and destroys the meaning of the design."