



Symbolism:

There are many points of view that can be served by The Rings of Remembrance. Rings are universal symbols of faith, fidelity, commitment, understanding, and love—to mention a few.

Water is a common symbol to all the religions of the world as well as the natural one. It represents rebirth, renewal, restoration, etc. The materials used in the Memorial—concrete and steel are well understood as representing strength, power, unity, solidity, logic, and moral force. The steel is polished to represent the light which makes vision possible-- it is illumination, enlightenment, principle, truth, and clarity.

Winter:

Colder climates -- I would pose the question of the possibility of the interior of the rings taking on a sheet of glass created by the water sprays. If this is possible the appearance of the rings of ice would be breathtaking—as if they were mirrors of the Nation—present, past and future.

Materials:

Consider the acquisition of steel from the World Trade Towers to be included as a part of the construction.

Organization:

To locate the names of soldiers and fallen heroes a locator system would be devised based upon an alphabetical listing. Three to six metal cylinders would list all names of soldiers and the ring on which their name would be listed. (Assume: A-H –cylinder 1, I-P--cylinder 2, Q-Z –cylinder 3) A locator map would indicate the rings number and placement within the pool circle. The selection of the metal cylinders would provide durability as well as ease of use. The cylinder could be sealed in a Lucite and metal container. The cylinders would be turned by a dial outside the container. This would hopefully eliminate any degradation of the Memorial.

Dedication Services:

At the dedication services a ring would be given to the families of the fallen heroes. Inscribed on each ring would be the name of their loved one and date of birth and location on the rings. The ring would be made from the same steel as used in the memorial.

Memorial Notes:

A group would have to be organized to select the messages of loved ones to the troops. These messages would be inscribed in the outer granite ring which surrounds the moat.