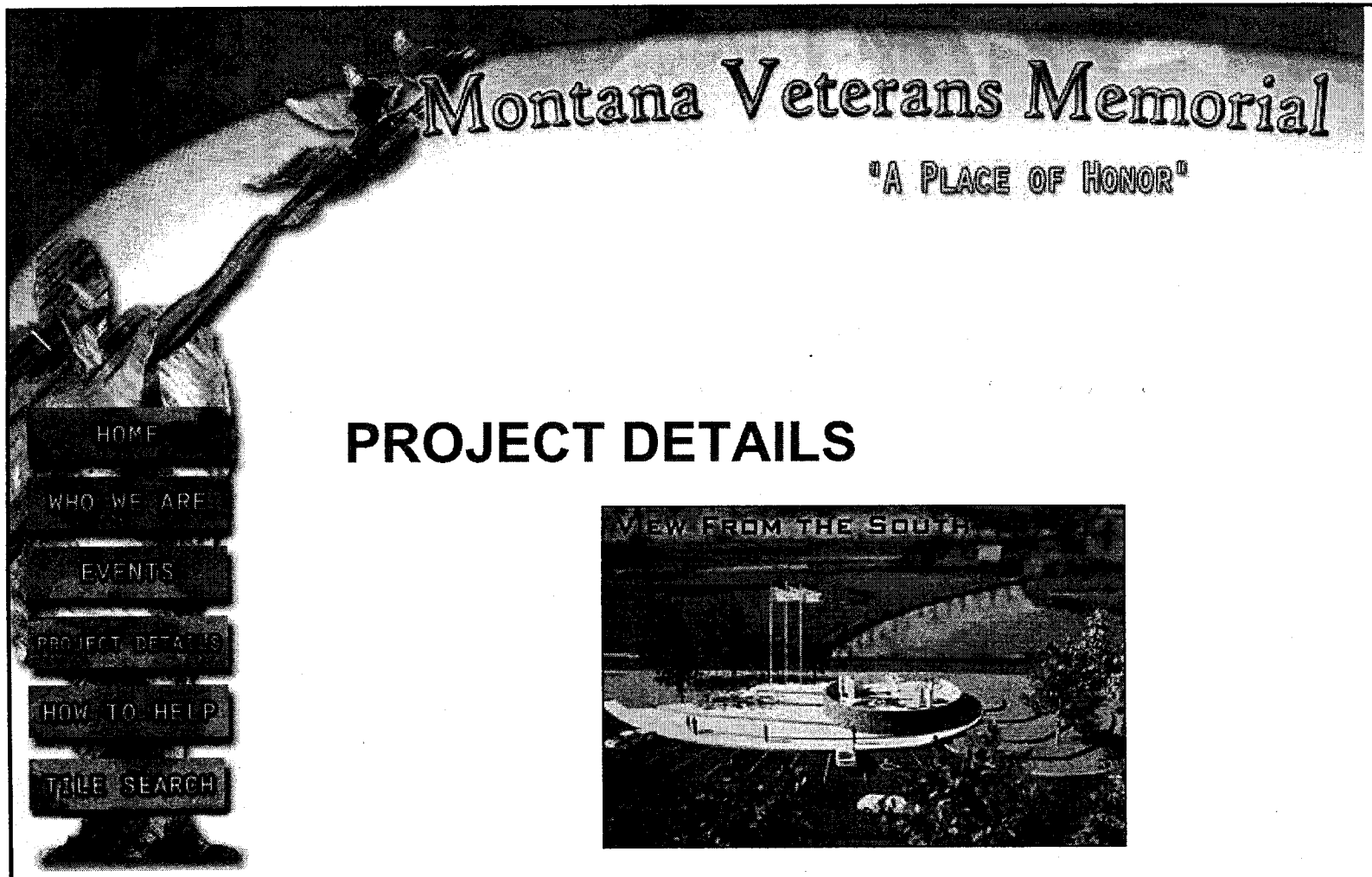
4



PROJECT DETAILS

Ground breaking ceremony pictures.

- Located in Great Falls at 25th Street North and River Drive, overlooking Black Eagle Falls of the Missouri River. Said Memorial to be known as "A Place of Honor".
- Estimated cost of structure is $800,000.

SENATE FINANCE & CLAIMS
Exhibit No. 4
Date 4-4-07
Bill No. HB 592

- Funding sources include tax deductible individual and tile donations, corporate donations, sponsorships and grant applications to private and government organizations.

- Funds to be derived from donations of a minimum of 2,500 block granite tiles measuring 10" x 6" x 2". The Veteran's name and branch of service will be etched into the tile and will become a permanent segment of the Memorial Wall. Each tile is offered for a tax deductible donation of $200.00, which included the etching and installation.

- Completion time was about six (6) years.

- The Memorial Circle has an entrance facing the North and has a base of black granite tile on a concrete base

- The Memorial is a wall 50 feet in diameter and approximately 5 feet in height. Surrounding the circular wall is a curved Wall of about 100 feet.

- The inside face of the wall has from the base upward a 22 degree slope and on the face of the wall the individual Black Marble Tiles honoring Veterans are installed. The outsice wall is verticle and has individual Black Marble Tiles honoring veterans.

- The outside face is covered in Native Sandstone. Large bronze service plaques is installed on this surface. The twelve-foot Warrior Angel mounted atop the pedestal is designed by local artist Marvin Brewster. The Warrior Angel cast in bronze is located in the center of the Memorial. The Warrior Angel's left arm is extended allowing five Doves of Peace to fly away representing the five branches of the service and in its right hand will be holding five dog tags signifying deceased veterans. A sheathed Sword by his side symbolizes keeping the Peace.

- A Freedom Walk of marbleized cement extends from the extreme west of the Memorial location and surrounds the

eastside of the Memorial Wall ending at the entrance to the Memorial.

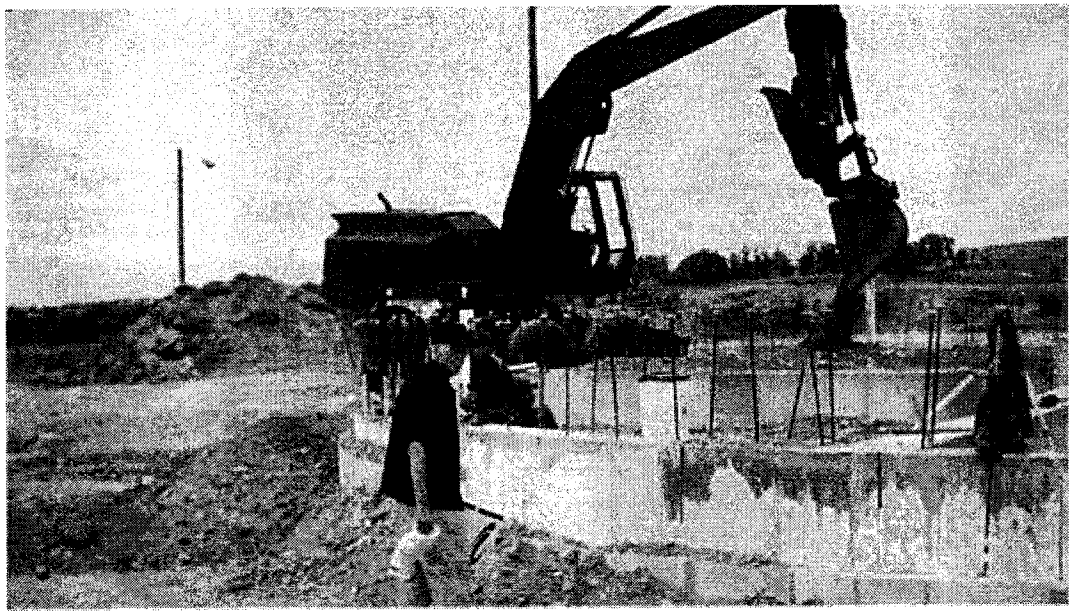
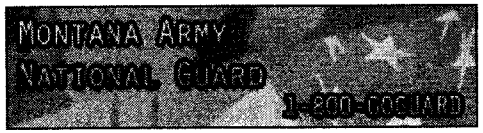
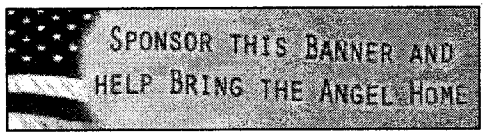
- Adjacent to the walkway, a blacktop parking area, accommodates 50 vehicles with handicap parking.

- An eight foot pedestal with a bronze plaque featuring the names of Montana's Congressional Medal of Honor recipients is on permanent display.

- The area surrounding the memorial is landscaped with shrubs, trees and grass.
- The Memorial is situated on a knoll, the earthwork and landscaping are on the same elevation as the entrance to the Memorial.

- Three flagpoles are installed. The flag of the United States, the colors of the Great State of Montana, and the POW/MIA flag are proudly flown from these poles.
- The construction of the Memorial insured handicap accessibility.
- Benches are strategically placed to further offer comfort.
- The memorial features bronze plaques for the Army, Navy, USMC, US Air Force and Coast Guard.
- A recognition wall for donors has been established in the vicinity of the flagpoles. Soon there will be a panel in that area to indicate tile locations and contact information.
- Granite benches are engraved to recognize corporate and private donors.

Captain Pete Gulbransen of 819th Redhorse Squadron with Mike Winters overseeing site management. The 819th active duty members of the 819th and 219th Air Guard Redhorse Squadron were ably assisted by the US Navy Reserve's CB Mobile Battalion 18 from Helena. The memorial could not have been finished without their skill, patience and dedication that started in June 2005 and finished by October 2005 when these service members were deployed overseas.



Construction committee chair Del Dieziger checking on materials needed, much of which was donated inkind or at cost to be readily available for the Navy CB's and USAF/Air Guard Redhorse engineers.