

Netherlands American Cemetery Visitor Center

Location

Margraten, NL

Client

American Battle Monuments
Commission

Initiated

2018

Completion

2023

Size

600 sqm

Project Team

Rita Alessio, Alessandro
Arcangeli, Bas Barendse,
Alice Colombo, Kees Kaan,
Adam Kelly, Nicki van Loon,
Edoardo Mancini, Alexis Oh,
Vincent Panhuysen, Dikkie
Scipio, Frane Stancic

Collaborators

Landscape: Karres +
Brands; Civil design, fire
control and acoustics:
DGMR Raadgevende
Ingenieurs B.V.;
Structural design: Pieters
Bouwtechniek;
Mechanical and electrical
design: HP Engineers; Cost
advisors: B3 Bouwadviseurs

Photos

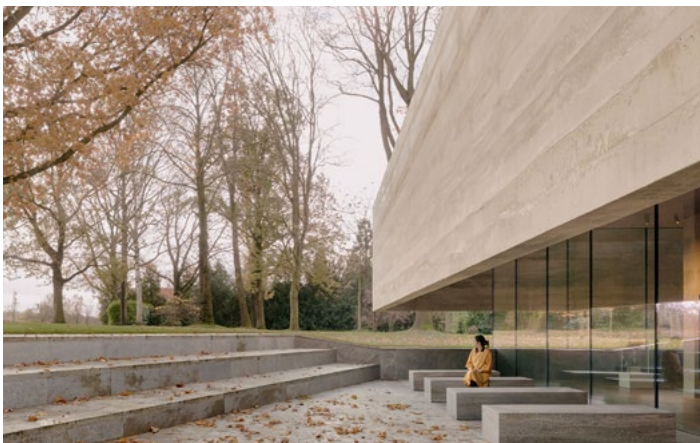
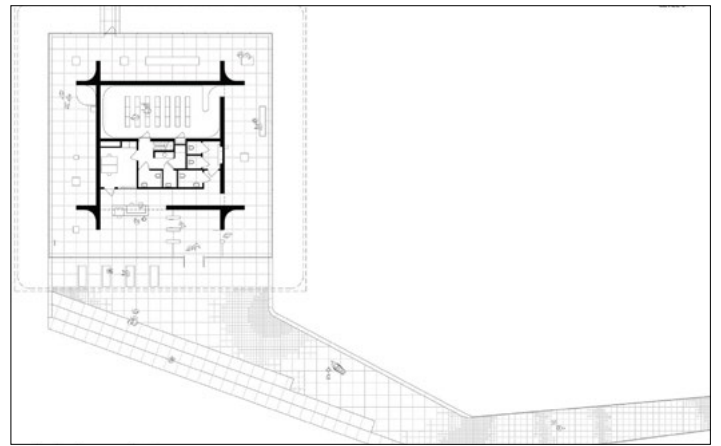
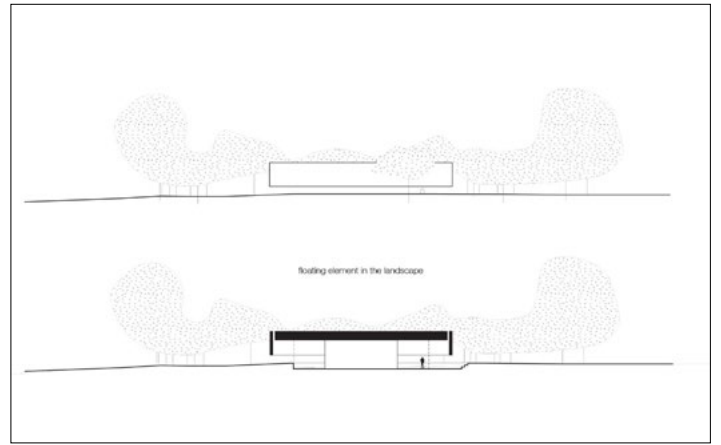
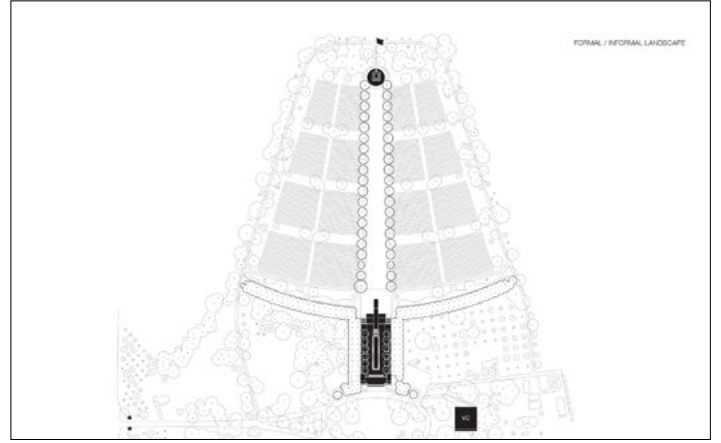
Simon Menges



The Visitor Center is a part of the monumental ensemble of the Netherlands American Cemetery. Situated in the Limburg region in Margraten, VC provides the visitors with a dedicated place for both learning and reflection, amid the tranquility of the surrounding landscape.

Seen from a distance, the thick aesthetic layered concrete 'fascia' (which appears to float above the ground) withholds a sense of scale. On the inside, the slits of light and rounded corners enhance the perception of spaciousness. The volume itself is somewhat introverted but the opening underneath reveals a glimpse of its interior which offers an inviting view to visitors. Once the visitors are inside VC, they never lose touch with the cemetery. Although the ground floor is sunken into the landscape by almost one meter, a full glass facade allows the visitor to have breathtaking views of the cemetery landscape. In the middle of the structure, the walls form a 12 x 12 meter square, bearing the weight of fascia. Inside this square are service areas and restrooms, as well as an auditorium, while the exterior walls of the square provide exhibition space.

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