

# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM  
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200  
202-504-2195 FAX

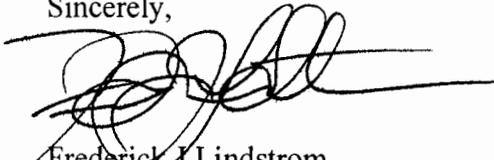
6 December 2004

Dear General Herrling:

During its meeting of 18 November 2004, the Commission reviewed and approved the revised concept for a new visitors center at the World War II Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial near Omaha Beach, Colleville-sur-Mer, France. Although the design is greatly improved, there are continued concerns about the design of the Sacrifice Gallery. The Commission believes the tower element is too tall, and there also was a feeling that no individual space or sculptural object can express the entirety of the sacrifice. As the gallery appears to be a substitution for the expression of sacrifice present throughout the cemetery, further evaluation of the necessity of this tower feature is requested.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this and other projects for the American Battle Monuments Commission. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday the 25th of January 2005, with a submission deadline on the 6th of January. As always, the staff is available should you require additional guidance.

Sincerely,



Frederick J. Lindstrom  
Acting Secretary

Major General John P. Herrling  
Secretary  
American Battle Monuments Commission  
Courthouse Plaza, Suite 500  
2300 Clarendon Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22201

cc: David B. Greenbaum, FAIA, SmithGroup