

National Japanese American Memorial

Washington, DC



Project Description: Located between Union Station and the Capital Building the site for the Japanese Memorial had been utilized for many structures over the last 200 years. Once a walkway between the Capital and the station had passed through the site, along with a variety of structures and most recently the METRO tunnel passed under one side of the site with an air vent exiting at the ground surface. Soil conditions at the site consisted of 8 to 20 feet of random fill underlain by Potomac Group soils. The fill had debris ranging from concrete footings, to granite slabs and brick walkways. A high torque drill was utilized to penetrate the fill and install over 500 Geopier elements for support of the monument, retaining walls, walkways and pool. Settlement tolerances for all structures was less than 0.5 inches to aid long term performance of the engraved granite slabs and walkways.

THE GEOPIER ADVANTAGE

- High Modulus Geopier Elements carried the stress of the structures with little strain
- Elimination of over-excavation and reduced footing sizes saved both time and money
- Use of uniform Geopier elements controlled settlement in a highly variable fill/soil environment

Owner: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Inc.

Contractor: William V. Walsh Construction Co., Inc., Rockville, MD

Architect: Davis Buckley Architects and Planning Consultants, Washington, DC

Structural Engineer: Spiegel, Zamecnik and Shah, Washington, DC

Geotechnical Consultant: Schnabel Engineering Associates, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD