



The United Military Women of the SouthWest (UMWSW) is a 501.(c)(3), a non-profit charity organization, made up of women veterans from all branches and eras of military service as well as community volunteers. Today, women comprise an ever increasing number of America's military. Presently there are approximately 16,700 women veterans in New Mexico. Because of our service, we share common bonds of experience, camaraderie, attitude, cooperation and success. UMWSW actively continues to serve our veterans and community in a multitude of ways.

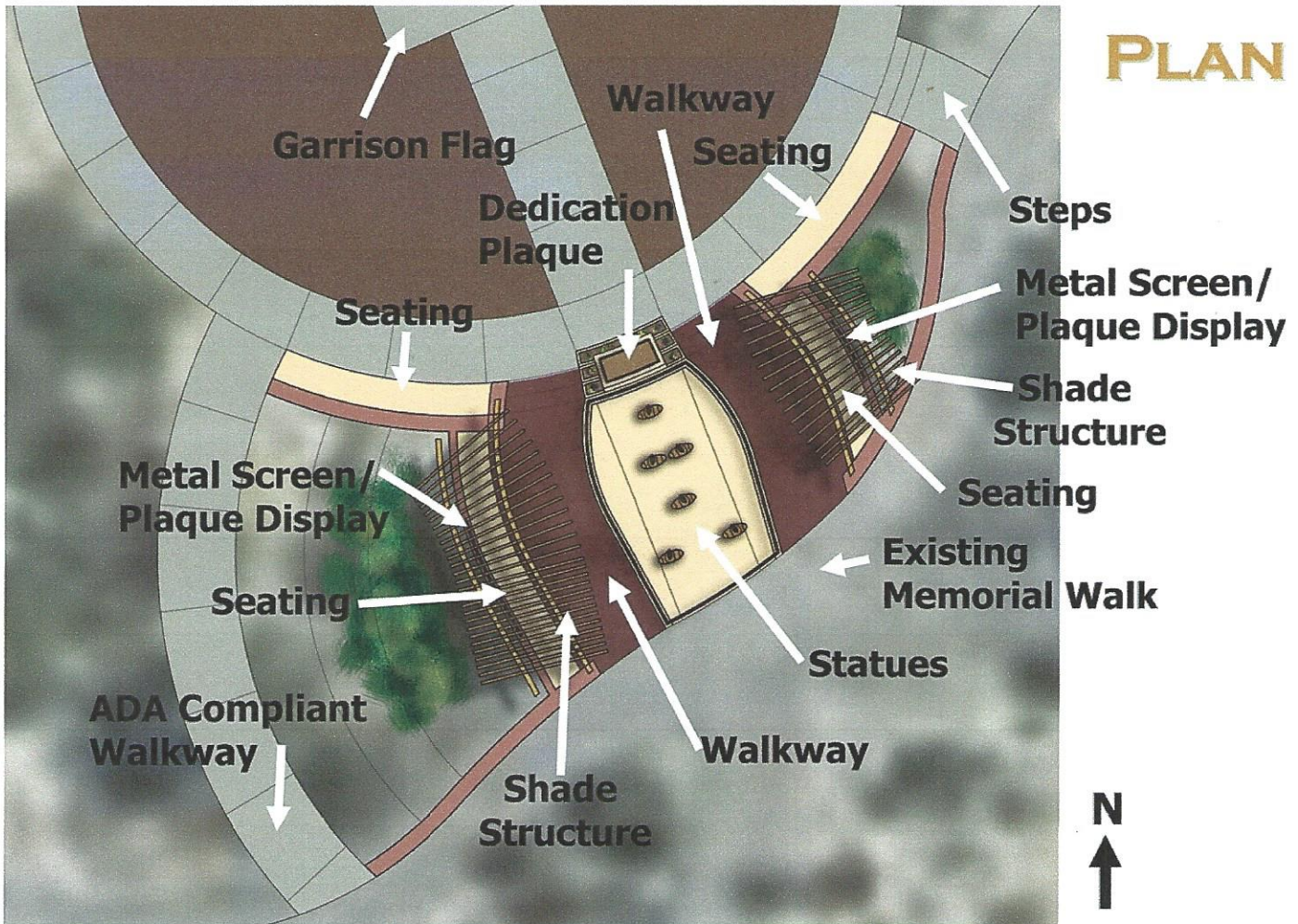
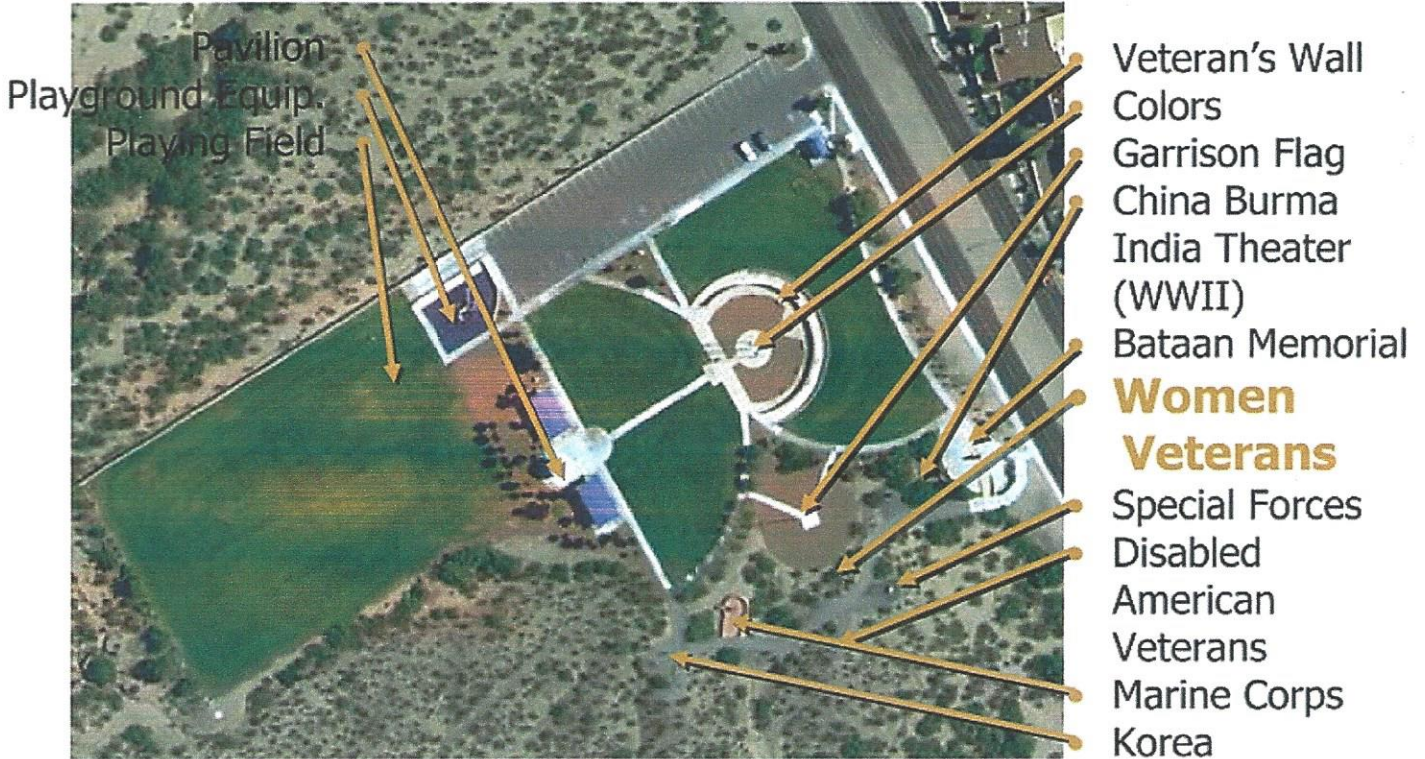
Karen Woods, President UMWSW, USN retired

Carol Gaines , Past President UMWSW, Marine

Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Silver City, NM July 13, 2017

VETERANS PARK



PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SIZE

NEW MEXICO WOMEN VETERANS PROPOSE TO HONOR ALL WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WITH A MONUMENT:

MONUMENT SITE: VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK, 2651 ROADRUNNER PARKWAY, LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO, DONA ANA COUNTY;

HISTORICALLY, IT WILL HONOR WOMEN VETERANS OF ALL ERAS AND BRANCHES OF SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE STATE.

PAYS TRIBUTE TO WOMENS' SERVICE TO OUR NATION AND ASSURES THAT THEIR LEGACY WILL LIVE ON.

CONCEPT PLAN AND SITE APPROVED BY THE VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD THAT MAINTAINS OVERSIGHT OF STATE VETERANS PARK;

CONCEPT PLAN/ SITE ALSO APPROVED BY THE LAS CRUCES CITY COUNCIL, PROJECT FISCAL AGENT.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SIZE

THE TOTAL MONUMENT WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 1,530 SQUARE FEET. TO EACH SIDE OF THE STATUES, A STRUCTURE PROVIDING SHADE WILL COVER THE BUILT IN BENCHES ACCOMMODATING 27 PERSONS. IT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OF METAL, CONCRETE, WOOD, AND BRONZE. THERE WILL BE SIX BRONZE LIFE-SIZE STATUES DEPICTING MILITARY WOMEN FROM ALL THE BRANCHS OF SERVICE: ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE, COAST GUARD, AND THE NATIONAL GUARD WEARING UNIFORMS FROM WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II, THE KOREAN WAR, THE VIETNAM WAR, THE COLD WAR, AND THE CURRENT MIDDLE EAST CONFLICTS.

AMOUNT REQUESTED

COST OF SIX BRONZE STATUES (ESTIMATED)	\$180,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF THE MONUMENT	\$406,500.00

Women Veterans Monument Las Cruces NM



City of Las Cruces installs the "Coming Soon" sign March 2016.



Clearing the ground August 2016



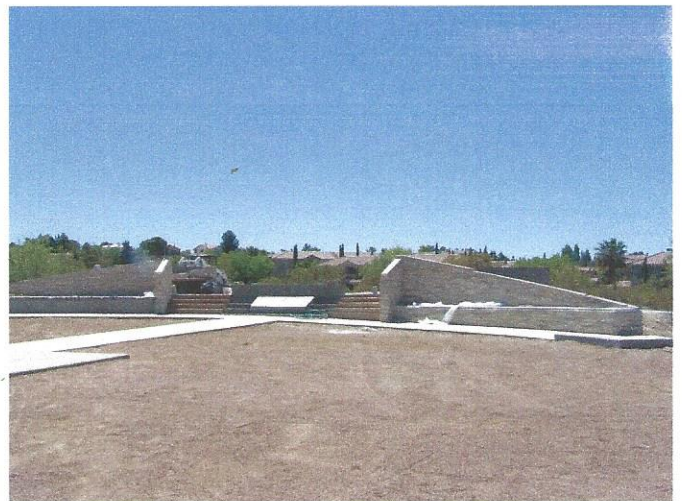
In 2014 , the United Military Women of the SouthWest embarked on a mission to build a monument at Veteran's Memorial Park in Las Cruces to honor women veterans. The concept drawing above was drawn by Architect: Patricia Grumet Decker, granddaughter of a WWII Army women veteran.



Local veterans and government officials break ground for the monument on Saturday, September 10, 2016.



April 2017 construction continues . In the background is the Vietnam Memorial Huey Helicopter.



A current picture of the monument as it takes shape. Concrete is poured and brick work has begun.

The estimated completion date for the Women Veteran Monument is December 2017 to January 2018. The dedication ceremony is currently planned for spring 2018.



In May 2017 artist and bronze sculptor, Matt Glenn, presented the clay models of the bronze statues to the members of the United Military Women of the South-West to review details and make necessary changes. The maquettes are the representation of women veterans from different eras . The statues will be life size.



WWII Army Veteran Mrs. Betty Somppi is presented a motorcycle vest from the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association prior to her departure on the Honor Flight which took her and other veterans to Washington D.C. to see our nation's military monuments.