

Vietnam Women's Memorial Project Glenna Goodacre design proposal packet

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1991



Title Statement

Vietnam Women's Memorial Project Glenna Goodacre design proposal packetGuide to Vietnam Women's Memorial Project Glenna Goodacre design proposal packet C0546

Subtitle: Vietnam Women's Memorial Project Glenna Goodacre design proposal packet

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Publication Statement

Publisher: George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Fenwick Library, MS2FL
4400 University Dr.
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
Business Number: 703-993-2220
Fax Number: 703-993-8911
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February 19, 2026

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-04-28 07:01:31 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID
C0546

Unit ID
/repositories/2/resources/771

Unit Date
1991

box
1 (folder)

Language
English

Abstract
Packet prepared by the Vietnam Women's Memorial Project for the "Commission Hearing for Proposed Design of Vietnam Women's Memorial" proposing a design by Glenna Goodacre.

Creator
Vietnam Women's Memorial Project, Inc

Extent
.1 Linear Feet 2 folders, including 1 in map case

Physical Location
R 73, C 2, S 4 Oversized design competition poster - Map Case 22.1

Repository
George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions
There are no access restrictions.

Use Restrictions
The copyright and related rights status of this collection have not been evaluated (See <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/CNE/1.0/>)

Acquisition Information
Donor is unknown.

Processing Information
Processing and finding aid completed by Meghan Glasbrenner in February 2026.

Preferred Citation
Vietnam Women's Memorial Project Glenna Goodacre design proposal packet, C0546, Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries

Biographical and Historical Information

Glenna Maxey (later Goodacre) was on August 28, 1939 in Lubbock, Texas. She studied art at Colorado Collage, where she met her first husband William Goodacre, and returned to her hometown of Lubbock upon graduating in 1961. Initially focusing on painting, Glenna shifted her medium to sculpture in 1974 and moved her family to Boulder, Colorado, before making one final move to Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1983 following her divorce from first husband William. Over the course of her nearly 50 year career, Glenna sculpted over 600 pieces, including the Vietnam Women's Memorial installed on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. in 1993. Her other most well-known works include the 2002 Irish Memorial in Penn's Landing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the image of Sacagawea on the U.S. Dollar coins first minted in 2000, and a life-size statue of President Ronald Reagan sculpted in 1998 for both the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City and the Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California. Glenna passed away on April 13, 2020 at the age of 90.

The Vietnam Women's Memorial Project (VWMP) was established in 1984 when plans for placing a statue specifically to commemorate the estimated 11,500 American women who served in Vietnam began. On June 15, 1988, the U.S Senate approved the addition of a dedicated "woman's statue", originally to be placed within Arlington National Cemetery. In 1990, the VWMP sponsored a nationwide competition to choose a final design for the statue, but the competition jury was ultimately split in their voting, so in September 1991 the United States Commission of Fine Arts voted for a new design by sculptor Glenna Goodacre. Landscape architect George Dickie chose the final site for the statue, located 300 feet south of the Vietnam Memorial on Washington, D.C.'s National Mall, and installation was finalized in 1993.

Scope and Content

Packet prepared by the Vietnam Women's Memorial Project (VWMP) for the "Commission Hearing for Proposed Design of Vietnam Women's Memorial" proposing a design by Glenna Goodacre. Materials include the original branded folder, a cover letter from the VWMP to the Commission, copies of letters sent by others to the Commission in support of the project design, a chronology of the VWMP, 1990 Annual Report document, and a single page describing the planned specifications for the memorial. The packet also includes six individual 8x10 photographs (each with a duplicate) of the sample memorial statue design in small scale by artist Glenna Goodacre, as well as three additional individual 8x10 photographs (each with a duplicate) of full-size completed sculptures by Goodacre in Santa Fe, New Mexico, as well as papers with additional information on Goodacre including a list of awards/honors, portrait commissions, selected public collections, and a copy of a profile in Antiques & Fine Art. An oversized copy of the VWMP's 1990 double-sided design competition poster was also included and is stored separately in a Map Case.

Related Materials

The Special Collections Research Center holds other collections related to both women in the military and the Vietnam War, including General John Ruggles Military Assistance Advisory Group Vietnam photographs and Margaret Kolze Army Dietitian scrapbook.

A full catalog record of the completed Vietnam Women's Memorial is available from the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Keywords

Vietnam War, 1961-1975
Vietnam Women's Memorial (Washington, D.C.)
Mall, The (Washington, D.C.)
Women and the military
Women and the military -- United States
Washington (D.C.)
Goodacre, G. (Glenna)

Bibliography

Glenna Goodacre. n.d. "About the Artist." Accessed February 18, 2026. <https://glennagoodacre.com/about-the-artist>.

"Obituary: Glenna Goodacre Aug. 28, 1939 – April 13, 2020." n.d. Accessed February 18, 2026. <https://ladailypost.com/obituary-glenna-goodacre-aug-28-1930-april-13-2020/>.

SIRIS - Smithsonian Institution Research Information System. 2020. "Vietnam Women's Memorial, (sculpture)." <https://siris-artinventories.si.edu/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=A70Y899J54234.3785&profile=ariall&source=~!sirtinventories&view=subscriptionssummary&uri=full=3100001~!318807~!43&ri=5&aspect=Browse&menu=search&i=2020,+sculptor.&index=AUTHOR&uindex=&aspect=Browse&menu=search&ri=5>.

Arrangement

This is a single folder collection. A single oversized poster is housed in a separate folder in a Map Case based on storage requirements.