



# PROJECT DATA SHEET: The National WWII Museum

**EXPANDING THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES**



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and Enhancement Specialists*

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## National WWII Museum

**Location:** New Orleans, LA

**Age:** Built 1845, 1890

**Key Topics:** Historic stabilization,  
NDE, CIF injection, adaptive reuse

### Project Background:

- Founded in 2000 as the National D-Day Museum by *Band of Brothers* author Stephen E. Ambrose
- Designated by congress as the official WWII museum of the United States in 2003
- In 2007, museum operators launched an aggressive expansion program for the campus, including the incorporation of neighboring buildings over 150 years old

### Challenges Presented:

- Any repair program that took place needed to allow for normal museum operations to continue and this historic building's appearance to be left unchanged
- The structures required additional stability and resilience in order to accommodate the bold new plans for them, which included a dining room, offices, theatre and entertainment wing
- Previous repairs, including those removing their original wood pillars, left the masonry in disrepair





# Repair and enhance without changing the aesthetics.

## Services and Solutions:

- The 3 wythe masonry walls comprising the buildings were in poor condition, requiring cautious intervention while simultaneously adhering to the project schedule
- Masonry Solutions started by carefully following a protocol of dry coring intended to avoid excess disruption to the historic masonry
- This protocol called for medium-mesh Gruenstark (GS) anchors to be installed in critical strengthening areas, including the void encompassing 3-wythe masonry walls.
- Concealed GS two-piece anchors were manufactured and installed by MSI in order to leave the appearance of these buildings virtually unchanged
- The anchors were bonded to the surrounding masonry using a heritage CIF mix engineered by Masonry Solutions' laboratory techs to perform in a sympathetic manner within the host structure while simultaneously solidifying masonry voids and minimizing shrinkage
- MSI technicians injected the façades of the deteriorated buildings using a low pressure CIF injection
- MSI techs were extremely careful to leave the historic buildings as they found them so that patrons could enjoy their original aesthetics
- Today these buildings still house the dining and entertainment wings of the National WWII Museum, including the Solomon Victory Theater



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*Masonry Solutions International has worked in the field of masonry preservation and enhancement for over 20 years. It has pioneered a number of advanced techniques, including compatible masonry injection and undercut fabric anchorage.*