MAPA
Mid-Atlantic Precast Association

Project Profile

Museum of the American Revolution

The Museum of the American Revolution is one of Philadelphia's newest historical attractions. Visitors to the museum, which opened in 2017, will find a vast collection of relics from the Revolutionary Period. While the museum's interior has lots for visitors to see, the museum's exterior is an equally-impressive sight.

A key element of the museum construction is precast concrete panels. Universal Concrete Products, producer of structural and architectural precast concrete, was the precast partner for the project. Because the museum had to align with the look of the surrounding historic buildings – some dating back to the late 1700s – the museum was originally conceived as a hand-laid brick and limestone structure. But, following two years of design discussions and architectural reviews, it was determined that the use of precast concrete instead of conventional masonry would deliver significant cost savings – and a level of design detail and historical character for the building that couldn't be matched by other materials due to cost.

AT-A-GLANCE

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Owner: Museum of the American Revolution

Precaster: Universal Concrete Products Corporation (Stowe, PA)

Architect: Robert A.M. Stern Architects (New York, NY)

Engineer of Record: Keast and Hood Co. (Philadelphia)

Contractor: INTECH Construction, Inc. (Philadelphia, PA)

Precast Elements: Universal Concrete Products

Precast Detailing: Universal Concrete Products

LEED: Awaiting Gold Certification

Square Footage: 118,000 SF

320 brick and limestone-clad precast panels totaling 50,500 SF

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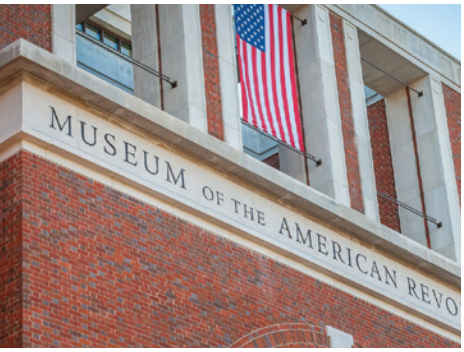

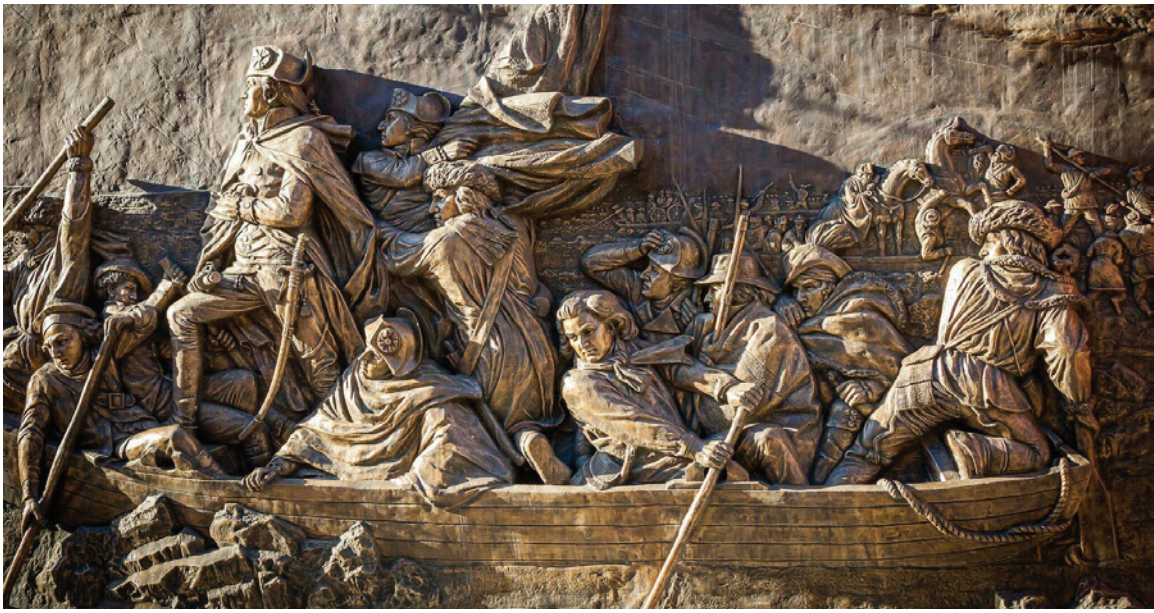

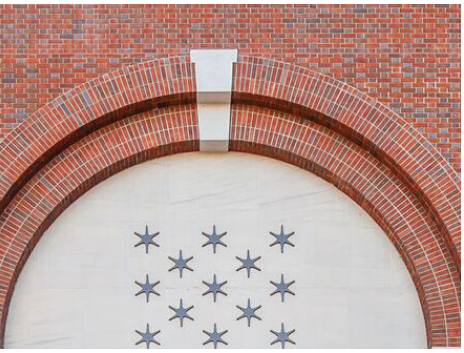

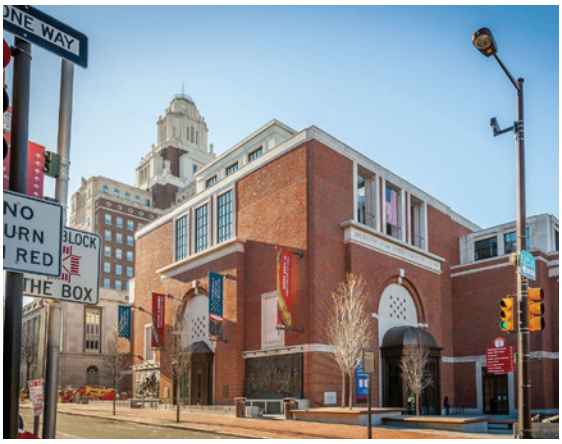

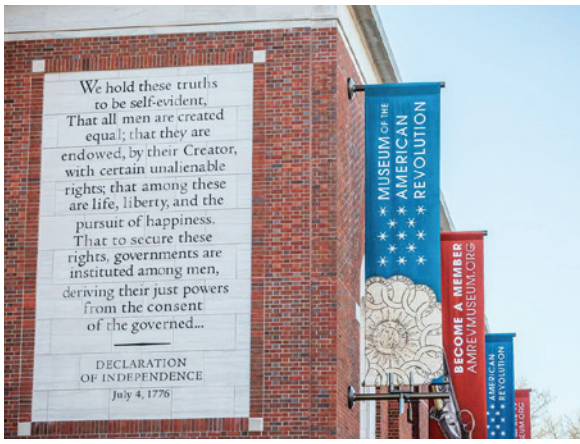

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Universal erected 320 precast wall panels totaling 50,500 square feet. The panels are brick and limestone clad. Recessed, brick arches and ornate limestone cornices adorn the building's exterior. Because of the size and detailed nature of the cornices, Universal used specialized pin connections to support the weight of the large cornices, which were also precast.

The precast panels also contributed to a more efficient work site by eliminating the need for scaffolding and bracing, which is typically required for projects involving hand-laid stonework.

UCP

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