Explanatory report

March 11, 2011, The Great East Japan Earthquake has occurred. The earthquake, has resulted in extensive damage to a wide area of vast area of Japan. “Stone memorial” was created it is located in the geographic center of the affected areas, want to create a place that can offer prayers to the all victims spread over a wide area.

“Stone memorial”, stands on a hillside in Ishinomaki, Miyagi, it is built as a space where people pray for the nearly 18,000 people missing and died in the earthquake. The number of laminated stones represent that of victims, and visitors can think of each of the victims as well as the entire eastern Japan. The shape of the prayer space, which was made of locally produced stone and mirrored stainless, indicates heavily affected areas. Laminated stone space is also aimed to memorize the fact of this major disaster and go down to future generations. In addition, the explanation board made of mirrored stainless steel, reflects the periphery of the cherry tree when it comes to the season (spring) that the earthquake has occurred, remember the lessons of the earthquake, expected to be a chance to regeneration the desire for reconstruction again I did.

Stone memorial

(Miyagi Pref., JAPAN)

Noritaka ISHIKAWA + Hiroshi KOBAY (Koshikawa Architects)
+ Yoshikazu KAWAOE, University of Tokyo, Institute of Industrial sciences)
Project name: Stone memorial

Project lead:
Noriyuki Ishikawa + Hiroya Kobiki (Koshikawa Architects)
Yoshiyuki Kawazoe (University of Tokyo)

ASIF International member Organization: Non

Names of Roles of Client:
Taigen Sato (General foundational juridical person TEAWASE chief director)

Total Costs:
$42,200 USD

Main Sources of Funding:
Donation

Project Start Date:
Dec. 2012

Project End Date:
Dec. 2014

Project Description:
March 11, 2011, The Great East Japan Earthquake has occurred. The earthquake, has resulted in extensive damage to a wide area of eastern Japan. “Stone memorial” was started it is located in the geographic center of the affected areas, want to create a place that can offer prayers to the all victims spread over a wide area.

“Stone memorial”, stands on a hillside in Ishinomaki, Miyagi, is built as a space where people pray for the nearly 18,000 people missing and died in the earthquake. The number of laminated stones represent that of victims, and visitors can think of each of the victims as well as the entire eastern Japan. The shape of the pray space, which was made of locally-produced stone and mirrored stainless, indicates heavily affected areas.

Laminated stone space is also aimed to memorize the fact of this major disaster and go down to future generations. In addition, the explanation board made of mirrored stainless steel, reflects the periphery of the cherry tree when it comes to the season (spring) that the earthquake has occurred, remember the lessons of the earthquake, expected to be a chance to regeneration the desire for reconstruction again I did.

About Hasselt Chapter three issues:

1. We decided to use the materials and construction methods traditionally used in the area in order to make the people who live in the area affected by the Great East Japan Great Earthquake reconfirm the attachment to the residential area and can continue to live in the area. In order to convey the catastrophe said to be once in 1000 years to future generations, it will be inherited by the same material and the same restoration method as the one for the next 1000 years from now.

5. In this architecture, it is a traditionally used material in the area, a traditional construction method, a labor way that has been handed down. This is unique to this land. In the surrounding area there are buildings constructed with this traditional building material, technology, but it is decreasing rapidly. Materials made from the region’s climate climate will become more sustainable when used in that area, making it a more suitable material. I aimed for such architecture.

8. This architecture is not a memorial for construction sites or certain people. It is a memorial for the vastly affected area of 500 km and it is also a memorial for all people regardless of the dead, survivors and religions. Construction funds were funded by donations from across the country including urban areas in Japan. It is a facility that everyone has every wish and can pray in every way. In that sense, it is participatory, democratic and multicultural.