



# Concrete Protection & Restoration

## The National Archives and Record Administration

### Installation of Self-Closing Flood Barriers

#### Problem

Having experienced severe flooding to the buildings lower levels during severe storms in recent years, resulting in the loss of some important documents, computer equipment, furniture and a lower level theater, a plan was devised to install self-closing flood barriers at both the east and west vehicular entrances to the Archives building. The building is sited between 7th and 9th Streets, NW, with the south facade fronting Constitution Ave., and the north fronting Pennsylvania Ave., NW, in Washington, DC.

#### Location

Washington, D.C.

#### Project Size

\$931,500.00

#### Owner

National Archives and Record Administration

#### Engineer

Heery International, Inc.

#### Solution

- ◇ Lateral reinforced cap beams were formed atop new reinforced concrete basin foundation walls. These walls had to be built to exact dimensions in order to receive the self-closing flood barrier assembly.
- ◇ A track excavator was utilized to set the flood barrier concrete cap beam forms atop the foundation walls.
- ◇ Extensive reinforced steel was installed and high strength concrete was placed in the prepared forms.
- ◇ The new self-rising barrier walls were positioned into the foundation/cap beam structure. Testing was performed to ensure proper operation of the complete assembly.
- ◇ As part of the project it was necessary to replace the driveway entrance ramp and sidewalk due to the impact of heavy equipment on these areas.
- ◇ As a final touch to enhance the look of both the east and west entrances, the large steel and bronze gates on the ramps were disassembled and professionally cleaned, polished, lubricated and reinstalled.



Concrete Protection & Restoration  
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