The Reconstruction of the Observation Towers at the New York State Pavilion

Located In Flushing Meadows Corona Park between Grand Central Parkway, the Long Island and Van Wyck Expressway, in the Borough of Queens

April 2017
PROJECT GOALS

Observation Towers
• Reconstruct stairs for safe route from ground to top of Tower 3
• Replace deteriorated suspension cables at all platform levels
• Repair deteriorated concrete
• Restore Plaza level floor finish
• Restore stair security lighting
• Restore portions of the architectural lighting design
• Restore, clean and protect the basement
• Restore Plaza level and basement drainage
• Replace electrical infrastructure in basement

Tent of Tomorrow
• Restore portions of the architectural lighting design
• Develop superstructure movement monitoring plan
New York State Pavilion – Site Location
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Existing Conditions

1. Observation Towers North Elevation
2. Observation Towers South Elevation
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Cleaning/Paint Scope

North Elevation

Cleaning/Paint Scope

Benjamin Moore 2019-40 American Cheese
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Cable Replacement
Concrete repair at discrete areas of deterioration to match texture and color of existing concrete
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers- Stair Replacement In-Kind
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Floor Finishes

Original Intervention: “Terrazzo Styled” linoleum
Pros:
• Original detailing
• Low cost
Cons:
• 5-year lifespan
• Weak edge conditions
• Installation is only as good as the adhesive

New Intervention: Methacrylate Coating
Pros:
• No elevation changes
• 15- to 20-year lifespan
• Fully reversible
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Historic Tower Lighting

H-8: Overall view from the Greece Pavilion looking east, 1964

H-9: Detail view from the Brass Rail looking southeast, 1964

H-10: Detail view from the Westinghouse Pavilion looking northwest, 1965

H-11: Detail view from the Court of Nations looking south, 1963

H-12: Tower No. 2 Detail, 1964

H-13: Detail view from the Brass Rail looking southeast, 1964

H-14: Tower No. 2 and 3 detail, 1965
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Historic Tower Lighting
New York State Pavilion Observation Towers - Lighting Mockup

Observation Towers
New York State Pavilion Tent of Tomorrow - Lighting Mockup
New York State Pavilion – Architectural Lighting Rendering