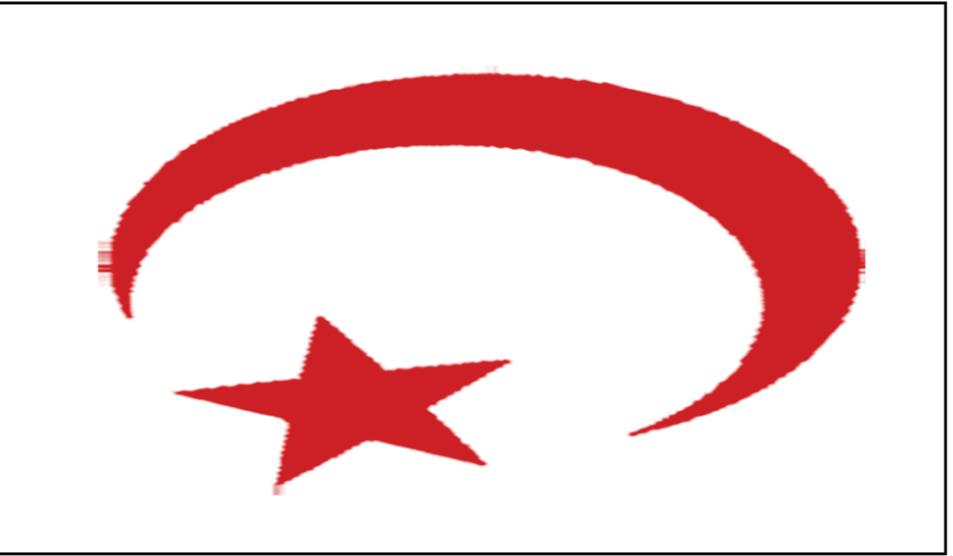


Stop the Flight 93 Mega-Mosque

“It was *blatantly obvious* that this was an Islamist memorial... the red, the trees... the *Crescent of Embrace* mind you... It was terrible.”

-- Tom Burnett Senior, 8/2/08

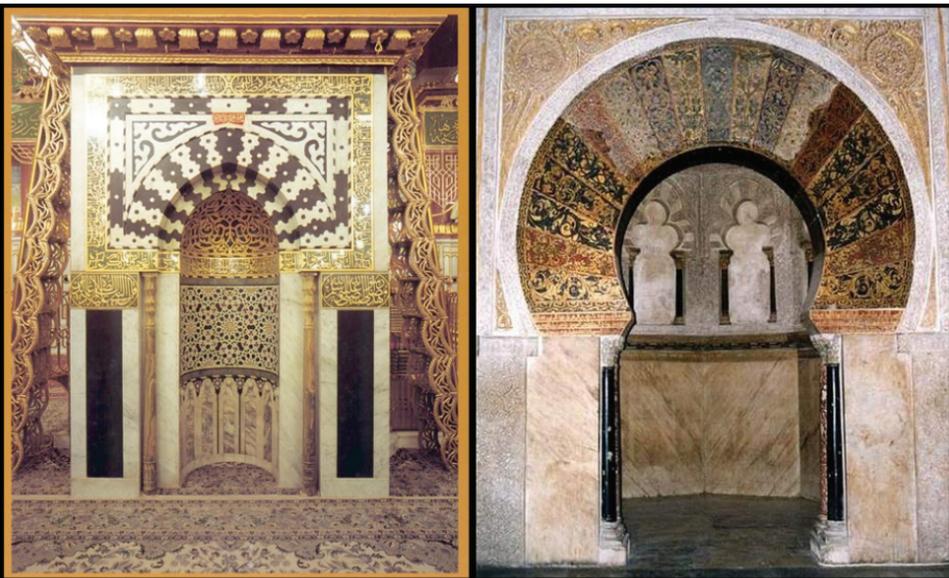


The original Crescent of Embrace design was a bare-naked Islamic crescent and star flag, planted atop the Flight 93 crash site. The plaza that marks the crash site sits between the tips of the crescent, just like an Islamic star.

It Points to Mecca

To the right is the Crescent of Embrace site-plan, with orientation lines superimposed. A person standing between the tips of the giant crescent and facing into the center of the crescent (red arrow) will be facing almost exactly at Mecca (which Muslims call the “qibla” direction). The green qibla circle was generated by entering “Somerset PA” into the Mecca-direction calculator at Islam.com.

A crescent that Muslims face into to face Mecca is called a *mihrab*, and is the central feature around which every mosque is built. Some mihrabs are pointed-arch shaped, but the archetypical mihrab is crescent shaped. Here are the two most famous mihrabs in the world:



Medina (left), Cordoba (right). Face into these crescents to face Mecca, just as with the Crescent of Embrace.

At more than a half-mile across, the Crescent of Embrace is the world's largest mihrab by a factor of a hundred, making the Flight 93 memorial the world's largest mosque. This is state establishment of religion, in clear violation of the Constitution.

The Crescent of Embrace is still there

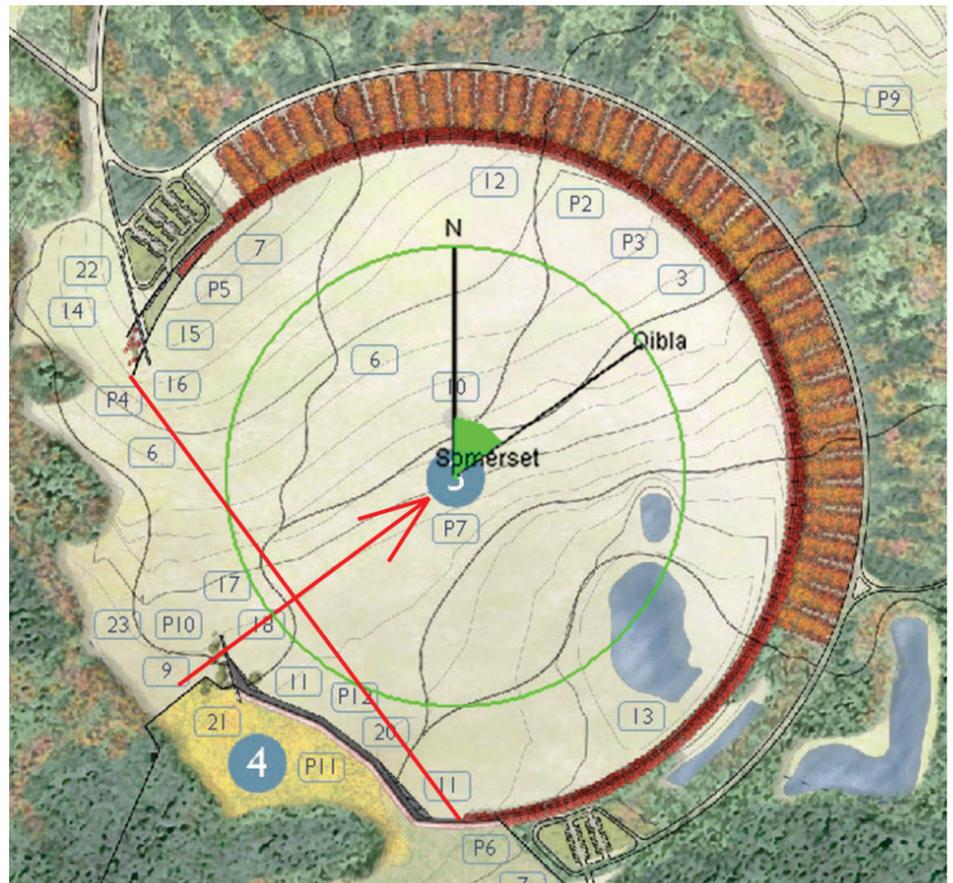
Architect Paul Murdoch always described his crescent as a broken circle. The Park Service calls the design Circle of Embrace now, but their own website acknowledges that the circle is still broken. The only change was to add an extra arc of trees, placed to the rear of a person facing into the giant central crescent, that explicitly represents a broken-off part of the circle. The unbroken part of the circle, what symbolically remains standing in the wake of 9/11, is just the original Crescent of Embrace: a giant Islamic-shaped crescent, still pointing to Mecca.

Adding a fake-beard (calling it Circle of Embrace and adding an extra arc of trees that explicitly represents a broken-off part of the circle), changes nothing. The blasted thing is STILL a terrorist memorial mosque. That our own government is helping the hijacker to primp his disguise only adds to the betrayal, and the Park Service is helping disguise other terrorist memorializing features as well.

44 glass blocks

The original design included 44 inscribed translucent memorial blocks emplaced along the flight path, matching the number of passenger, crew, AND TERRORISTS. 40 were inscribed with the names of the 40 heroes. Three more, inscribed with the 9/11 date, were placed on a separate upper section of Memorial Wall, centered on the centerline of the giant crescent, in the exact position of the star on an Islamic crescent and star flag.

The 44th glass block will sit at the upper crescent tip, where the terrorists attacks



symbolically break our peaceful circle, turning it into the giant Islamic-shaped crescent. The huge glass block that marks this circle-breaking, crescent-creating feat will be inscribed: "A field of honor forever."

Acknowledging the offensiveness of this memorial block count, the Park Service has quietly changed the three blocks inscribed with the 9/11 date to a single large block, reducing the block-count from 44 to 42. Again, they are helping the hijacker to primp his disguise. A slightly altered terrorist memorial mosque is still a terrorist memorial mosque. It must be expunged root and branch.

Who broke the circle?

Will any of the dozens of reporters in town for last weekend's anniversary ask the Park Service WHO is being depicted as breaking the circle? Their website only says that: "the circle is symbolically 'broken' or missing trees in two places, depicting the flight path of the plane, and the crash site."

Those "two places" are the ends of the newly added arc of trees, clarifying that it represents a broken off part of the circle and hence does not alter the unbroken part of the circle: the original Mecca-oriented Crescent of Embrace.

The Park Service writes in passive voice, as if the breaking of the circle was an act of nature, but the memorial is a tribute to human action, and we all know who broke the circle of peace on 9/11. It was the terrorists. Logically, they are the ones who are being depicted as smashing our peaceful circle and turning it into a giant crescent. A more obvious tribute to the terrorists is hard to imagine.

It is not surprising, then, that the giant crescent would turn out to point to Mecca, and be the centerpiece for the world's largest mosque. After all, we *did* decide to host an open design competition in time of war, literally inviting the entire world to enter. Of course our terror-war enemies would take up this invitation, and try to win a memorial to their heroes instead of ours. The only surprise is the number of people who are turning a blind eye to this desecration.

-- Tom Burnett Sr. (Father of Flt 93 hero Tom Burnett Jr.) and Alec Rawls

Petition and more at CrescentOfBetrayal.com