



Public Landscapes/Parks/Memorials

Reston Town Center Fountain Plaza Renovation

Reston, Virginia



All photos courtesy of Lorton Stone LLC

PINNACLE AWARD RECIPIENT

Lorton Stone LLC 
Springfield, Virginia
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members

Sasaki Associates, Inc.
Designer

**James G. Davis
Construction Corporation**
General Contractor

Structural Stone LLC 
Stone Supplier/Fabricator

Polycor  
Granites of America 
Stone Quarries

Stone

Bethel White granite
Jet Mist granite

The Mercury Fountain has been the heart of Reston Town Center since the early 1990s. The fountain was carved from Carrara marble and topped with a bronze statue of Mercury. Thirty years of weather resulted in severe deterioration of the marble. A 2023 renovation of the fountain plaza included replacement of the deteriorated fountain bowl and pedestal, as well as a redesign of the lower fountain base. The new contemporary design incorporates tiered splash ledges, and a patterned feature wall fabricated from Jet Mist granite, as well as perimeter walls fabricated from Bethel White granite. Other enhancements to the plaza included improved seating and circulation as well as new landscaping.

Accurate replication of the Mercury Fountain's twisted form was accomplished using two methods. First, the fountain was laser-scanned to develop a 3D digital model of the pedestal and bowl which was used to develop the CNC programming. Second, molds were made of the existing pedestal and used to cast a full-size model that was shipped to the fabricator and used for refining the details of the pedestal. The CNC work took roughly six weeks to carve out the forms of the pedestal and bowl.

The new feature wall included a unique caduceus pattern that was sandblasted into the dark granite. The pattern mimics the caduceus staff held by Mercury at the top of the fountain.

Reinstallation of the Mercury Fountain elements was challenging. Workers had to "thread the needle" using a crane to lower the 6,000 lb. fountain pedestal, the 9,000 lb. bowl, and the original marble topper over the existing supply piping and match the elevations of the piping outlets.

The plaza renovation has returned the Town Center's treasured Mercury Fountain back to the Reston community while providing a more inviting and contemporary atmosphere for social gatherings and public events.

