

# The circle-breaking crescent-creating theme of the Flight 93 Memorial is now even MORE explicit

*Tribune Review* reporter Kari Andren recently asked Tom Burnett Senior for his response to the new Flight 93 design images. When he asked why his remarks were omitted from her report, Andren said it was her editors who decided that his views should not be included. Here is what your information gate-keepers don't want you to know:

Dear Kari, Re new design images:

The only visible change is the addition of an extra arc of trees 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.

People also need to know that a Mecca-direction indicator is the central feature around which every mosque is built. It is called a "mihrab," and the classic mihrab is crescent shaped.

So the terrorists broke our circle of peace on 9/11, and all that remains standing is the central feature of a mosque. The inclusion of a broken-off part of the circle only accentuates this terrorist-memorializing symbolism. It bastardizes what my son Tom and the other heroes of Flight 93 accomplished. The crescent/broken-circle design is a desecration of sacred ground.

Tom Burnett Sr., Northfield MN, 6/27/2011

## The Park Service says the circle is “broken”

A proper newspaper would ask the Park Service if the extra arc of trees really does represent a broken off part of the circle. Still, you can easily verify this crucial fact for yourself. It is right on the Park Service's own website. Their "questions about the design" page asks "Is this circle 'broken' at all?" Their answer is yes:

... the circle is symbolically "broken" or missing trees in two places, depicting the flight path of the plane, and the crash site.  
<http://www.nps.gov/flni/parkmgmt/designquestions.htm>

The locations of these two breaks in the "circle of embrace" are spelled out:

... first, where the flight path of the plane went overhead (which is the location of the planned memorial overlook and visitor center), and second, where the plane crashed at the Sacred Ground (depicted by a ceremonial gate and pathway into the Sacred Ground).

These are the two ends of the extra arc of trees, which starts near the original upper crescent tip and continues down to

the crash site. So Mr. Burnett is right. Both ends of the new arc of trees are explicitly broken off. The unbroken part of the circle—what symbolically remains standing in the wake of 9/11—is just the original Islamic-shaped Crescent of Embrace that the Park Service promised to change.

## Who broke the circle of peace on 9/11?

*Someone* is being depicted as breaking our circle of peace on 9/11 and turning it into a giant Islamic-shaped crescent. Shouldn't the Park Service tell us who?

Architect Paul Murdoch's circle-breaking crescent-creating theme reveals his true intent. We all know who did in fact break the peace on 9/11. It was 19 Islamic terrorists. We didn't attack them. They attacked us. Thus the action of breaking the circle and turning it into a giant Islamic-shaped crescent can only be attributed to the terrorists. Of course they are also depicted as triumphant, successfully planting their crescent-and-star flag atop the graves of our murdered heroes.

Adding an explicitly broken off part of the circle only strengthens this circle-breaking, crescent-creating theme. The Park Service didn't remove the Islamic symbolism, they allowed Murdoch to elaborate it. What symbolically remains standing is the same as in his original design. It is the same giant crescent, still pointing to Mecca, which makes it the centerpiece for a gigantic al Qaeda victory mosque. This re-hijacking of Flight 93 by an obvious al Qaeda sympathizing architect MUST be stopped.

We have been trying for years to get your local news media to ask the Park Service for an answer to our simple and utterly damning "who broke the circle?" question. They have never asked, and they have never reported on our demands for an answer.

By suppressing such crucial information, your local media is depriving you of the normal means by which citizens coordinate to resist such powerful assaults on their interests and values, but there *is* a solution. You can do an end run around the media, just as we are doing, and communicate directly with each other. To try to help, we are providing a flyer below that anyone can tape to a window or post on a bulletin board. It asks the same question that your neighbors must also want answered.

"We're going to do something," said Tom Burnett Junior, and you can too, if you just identify yourselves to each other.

Tom Burnett Sr. and Alec Rawls (contact [alec@rawls.org](mailto:alec@rawls.org))

Publicity shot of the original *Crescent of Embrace* mock-up shows what appears to be a bare-naked Islamic crescent-and-star flag planted atop the crash site:



When this blatant Islamic symbolism caused an uproar, architect Paul Murdoch re-worked his mock-up to show a forest of additional trees surrounding the outside of the original Crescent. Only the inner arc of the crescent remains visible, making the new *Circle of Embrace* name seem reasonable:



But none of these surrounding trees made it into the actual *Circle of Embrace* design drawings. (The "Stage 1" drawings, encompassing the area seen in these images, were released in 2009.) The Park Service may eventually let the bare field grow in with trees, but this is not a change in the design. The only actual change is the extra arc of trees, seen below in orange. It explicitly represents a broken off part of the circle:



What the *Circle of Embrace* actually looks like. The original giant crescent still sits naked on an open field and the flight path still "breaks the circle" at the upper crescent tip. Remove the explicitly broken off part of the circle (in orange), and what symbolically remains standing in the wake of 9/11 is the same giant Mecca-oriented crescent the Park Service promised to change. It constitutes a classic "mihrab," the Mecca-direction indicator around which every mosque is built, and will form the centerpiece for the world's largest mosque.

# Who broke 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, pointing to Mecca:



If the breaking of the circle is the Park Service's official explanation for the design of the Flight 93 Memorial, shouldn't they be willing to tell us WHO is being depicted as as smashing our circle of peace on 9/11, leaving a giant Islamic crescent-and-star flag in its place?