

Memorial of the French Resistance, Vassieux-en-Vercors

Client
Parc Naturel Régional du Vercors

Program
Construction of the Memorial of the Resistance in Vercors, in Vassieux-en-Vercors, France

Selection method
Public competition

Team
Groupe-6 (Architect) - Donner à Voir (Museography) - Hervé Frumy (Signage)

Competition
1994

Construction costs
2 M€

Completion
1994

Location
Vassieux-en-Vercors

Surface area
1,500 m²



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Our task in designing the Memorial was to create a structure which would evoke both the martyrdom of the village of Vassieux in 1944 and the memory of the Vercors Resistance – and indeed all resistance movements. The Memorial clings to the mountainside, dominating the village and offering a panoramic view of the plateau. A memorial trail follows the contours of the different levels of the site, ending on the immense overhang above the

plateau. Although the memorial is low to the ground, it captures the daylight through the long skylights which define its structure, with high far-reaching beams which guide visitors on their journey and link the empty spaces. The raw concrete blends into the rocks, the planted terraces retrace the undulations of the skylights and “look-outs” pivot in the wind. The architecture is discreet but charged with emotion, echoing the museography.

