

**SECTION 04 73 00  
COLUMBARIUM NICHE COVERS**

SPEC WRITER NOTES:

1. Use this section only for NCA projects.
2. Delete between // --- // if not applicable to project. Also delete any other item or paragraph not applicable in the section and renumber the paragraphs.

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Attention is directed to the CONTRACT AND GENERAL CONDITIONS and all Sections within DIVISION 1 - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, which are hereby made part of this Section of the Specifications.

SPEC WRITER NOTES:

1. Modify the following sub-paragraph 2 to coordinate with the drawings and follow the direction of the PM for indicating the number of spares.

**1.2 DESCRIPTION**

- A. Work Included: Provide labor and materials necessary to complete the work of this Section, including but not limited to the following:
  1. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) shall furnish niche covers for all of the new Columbarium Niches being installed by the Contractor. This specification section is for all work necessary for the Contractor to accept, handle, store, move and install one, government approved and provided, blank columbarium niche cover for each of the new precast niches created in the new columbarium walls. The government shall also provide, as part of the niche cover products manufactured for this project, a predetermined minimum number of approved blank niche covers to act as spares. The spare niche covers are to be used to replace niche covers should any damage occur, or for re-inscription necessitated by additional interment at a specific niche location.
  2. The number of approved government provided spare columbarium niche covers for this project to be accepted, offloaded and stored at the designated location is //indicated on the drawings//(fill in the number as directed to by the PM) \_\_\_\_\_//.

**1.3 INSTALLER QUALIFICATIONS**

- A. Installation of columbarium niche covers will be performed by those companies who, through an approved certification process, have

demonstrated previous experience in installation of similar design as indicated in the drawings and specified herein.

#### **1.4 RELATED WORK**

- A. The following items are not included in this Section and will be performed under the designated Sections:
1. Section 03 48 24: PRECAST CONCRETE COLUMBARIUM UNITS, the precast concrete niche units with: niche cover mounting hardware assemblies (installed); and niche cover attachment hardware assemblies (provided for use to attach the Government provided niche covers). Four each of the niche cover mounting hardware assemblies shall be furnished and installed for each precast concrete niche opening. Four each of the niche cover attachment hardware assemblies shall be provided for each precast niche opening, to be used to mount the approved government niche covers as indicated and on the drawings.

#### **1.5 SUSTAINABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Materials in this section may contribute towards contract compliance with sustainability requirements. See Section 01 81 11, SUSTAINABLE DESIGN REQUIRMENTS, for project // local/regional materials, // low-emitting materials, // recycled content, // certified wood // \_\_\_\_\_// requirements.
- B. Biobased Material: For products designated by the USDA's BioPreferred® program, provide products that meet or exceed USDA recommendations for biobased content, subject to the products compliance with performance requirements in this Section. For more information regarding the product categories covered by the BioPreferred® program, please visit <http://www.biopreferred.gov/>.

### **PART 2 - PRODUCTS (NOT USED)**

### **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

#### **3.1 NICHE COVERS (GOVERNMENT PROVIDED) - CONTRACTOR ACCEPTANCE**

- A. Niche covers that have been inspected and accepted as being in compliance with manufacturing tolerances for size, hole size and placement, perpendicularity, finish, and product stone quality shall be furnished by the Government and delivered to the site on pallets. They shall be of size, type, manufacturing, finish and quantities required for this project. The covers shall be delivered to the site Freight on Board (FOB) and the Contractor shall be responsible to offload and secure them at the job site. The general quantity and condition shall be observed and an adequate count to cover all the installed

columbarium units, plus required spares shall be verified by the Contractor prior to accepting the units and performing the offloading operations. Note any shipping damage and reject any damaged covers before the delivery truck leaves the site. Once satisfied, take ownership of the acceptable covers, as all being approved as meeting the government specifications and being suitable for installation at this project. Once the niche covers are accepted at the site, they shall become the Contractors responsibility until installed and the installation is accepted by the Resident Engineer/Contracting Officer's Representative (RE/COR).

### 3.2 INSPECTION

- A. All materials shall be inspected prior to installation to insure compliance with the contract documents and to insure there is no damage. Should conditions be different from those indicated on the contract documents, contractor should immediately notify the RE/COR.

### 3.3 NICHE COVER ATTACHMENT HARDWARE

#### SPEC WRITER NOTES:

1. Modify the following depending upon whether the rosette is to be stainless steel or bronze.

- A. Each of the four niche cover attachment hardware assemblies provided, for each new precast concrete niche opening, as part of Section 03 48 24, PRECAST CONCRETE COLUMBARIUM UNITS, consists of: the //stainless steel//bronze// rosette, //stainless steel//bronze// tamperproof screw and the white or clear washer beneath the rosette, that is to bear against the niche cover when rosette is snugged up causing the cover to stay in place against the face of the niche opening due to friction. All of the niche cover hardware (mounting and attachment assemblies) shall be as submitted and approved as part of the work in Section 03 48 24, PRECAST CONCRETE COLUMBARIUM UNITS.
- B. The Contractor performing the installation of the niche covers shall maintain control of the niche cover attachment hardware assemblies from delivery to the site through acceptance of the installation of the government provided niche covers.

### 3.4 INSTALLATION

- A. Installation of the government provided niche covers shall include all materials, manpower, tools and equipment required to receive the approved government provided niche covers from the manufacturer, and handle them as necessary and perform whatever work is needed to result

in the successful installation of one niche cover for every precast concrete niche space created for this project.

- B. The niche covers shall be installed so as to create a visual straight line along the top of the row of covers agreed to by the Resident Engineer as the primary visual vertical reference line in the installation. The covers shall be spaced achieve, as close as possible, the intended design spacing, taking into consideration the allowable fluctuations in the manufacturing tolerances for the government provided niche covers.
- C. The niche cover attachment assemblies shall be installed so that the threaded end of the tamperproof screw is inserted into the threads of the spring clip on the mounted angle bracket behind each of the mounting holes in the niche covers. This should result in the head of the screw being parallel with the face of the niche cover. The threaded hole in the spring clip shall be fully visible when looking through the mounting hole in the niche cover to the respective spring clip behind the hole. The position of the spring clip shall be adjusted so the threaded tamperproof screw will enter the threaded hole in the spring clip and that the attachment assembly can be tightened to secure the cover in the intended position. To achieve this installation, the angle brackets shall be adjusted to be the correct height from the niche wall so the hole in the spring clip can have the respective tamper proof screw inserted and tightened. To achieve the proper positioning of the spring clips, the angle brackets shall be adjusted in their position, or the hole in the angle bracket through which the tamper proof screw passes when tightened into the spring clip, shall be enlarged as necessary to allow the adjustment of the spring clip to align with the hole in the niche cover so the tamper proof screws through the individual rosettes can each be inserted and tightened using the threaded spring clip. Only correct installations of the tamperproof screws, inserted into the threads of the spring clip and being tightened are acceptable. The head of the tamperproof screw shall be snugged up tight against the rosette, and shall be seated against the rosette, which occurs when the tamperproof screw is approximately perpendicular to the face of the niche cover.

**3.5 CLEANING AND PROTECTION**

- A. Columbarium niche covers shall be shop cleaned at the time of fabrication. After installation, carefully clean the markers, removing all dirt stains, and all other incident defacements.
  - 1. Stiff bristle fiber brushes may be used, but the use of wire brushes or acid-type cleaning agents and other solutions which may cause discoloration is expressly prohibited. Fabricator should be contacted regarding the use of any cleaners and must approve of them before use.
  - 2. Protection of Finished Work: All covers that are installed as part of the work in progress shall be protected at all times during construction by use of a suitable strong, impervious film or fabric securely held in place.
- B. Clean up area of excess material and debris. Clean visible portions of all covers.

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