NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE

THE LAST CROWN JEWEL

The building, one of the last museums to be built on the National Mall, has a dramatic presence with several floors built underground and a smaller area built above grade. This above ground section is referred to as "the corona", the African word for crown, giving the museum it's nickname- the last crown jewel on the Mall.

SOUTHERN TRADITIONS

The bronze filigree skin of the glass building is rooted in the traditions of the South, and the intricate ironwork was created by African American craftsmen from New Orleans and Charleston.

GOING UNDERGROUND

The best way to view the museum is from 70 feet underground. This is the way it was intended to be experienced, says architect Sir David Adjaye; start from the bottom in the history galleries.

STAYING GREEN

Sustainable design was a big part of creating the museum. This included a cistern, weather modeling to drain it ahead of storms, an underground storage facility, green roof, and massive dewatering system that includes water re-use.

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BUSTLING OPENING WEEKEND

During its opening weekend in September 2016, more than 30,000 people visited the museum.

