

# 9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM

## FACT SHEET

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- The National September 11 Memorial Museum, or 9/11 Memorial Museum, is the global focal point for preserving the history of the events of 9/11 documenting the impact of the attacks and exploring 9/11's continuing significance.
- The Museum tells the story of the events of 9/11 through authentic artifacts that range in scale from the monumental to the intimate, as well as through first-person accounts and multimedia displays.
- The Museum's 110,000-square feet of exhibition space are located within the heart of the World Trade Center site, and the Museum is the steward of the site's archaeological assets, which are protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Program.

#### Mission

The National September 11 Memorial Museum at the World Trade Center bears solemn witness to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The Museum honors the nearly 3,000 victims of these attacks and all those who risked their lives to save others. It further recognizes the thousands who survived and all who demonstrated extraordinary compassion in the aftermath. Demonstrating the consequences of terrorism on individual lives and its impact on communities at the local, national, and international levels, the Museum attests to the triumph of human dignity over human depravity and affirms an unwavering commitment to the fundamental value of human life.

### INSIDE THE 9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM

#### Museum Pavilion

- Visitors enter the Museum through a pavilion located between the two Memorial reflecting pools, which includes a private space for 9/11 families and an elegant auditorium for lectures, film screenings, panel discussions, performances and other programming.
- The pavilion is a graceful steel and glass building designed by Norwegian architecture firm Snøhetta. Installed within the building's glass atrium are two massive steel tridents, which were part of the Twin Towers' façade.

#### Archaeological Assets

- The bedrock level of the Museum contains the remnant foundations of the original World Trade Center. To the greatest extent possible, the original steel column bases and concrete footings that supported the Twin Towers are exposed, and they define a clear outline of where the towers once stood.
- Visitors descend to bedrock alongside the Vesey Street Stair remnant known as the "Survivors' Stairs," which were used by hundreds to escape to safety on 9/11.
- A preserved portion of the original World Trade Center slurry wall, the original retaining wall that was built to keep water from the Hudson River out of the site and withstood the collapse of the towers, stands as a testament to survival.

#### September 11, 2001: A Historical Exhibition

- The opening section of the historical exhibition presents the events of the day as they unfolded on September 11, 2001. Visitors learn how the normalcy of a beautiful day was overtaken by a sense of shock, disbelief, and increasing horror as America came under attack.
- After learning about the day of the attacks, visitors enter a gallery chronicling the events leading up to 9/11, including the 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

- The culminating chapter of the historical exhibition guides visitors from the immediate aftermath of 9/11 to the present moment, exploring the character and challenges of the post-9/11 world.

### In Memoriam

- A separate memorial exhibition, titled *In Memoriam*, commemorates the lives of those who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993.
- Visitors enter a gallery where portraits of the nearly 3,000 victims line all four walls. Rotating selections of personal artifacts and touchscreen tables allow visitors to discover additional information about each person, and an inner chamber presents profiles of individual victims through photographs, biographical information, and audio remembrances provided by family members and friends.

### Foundation Hall

- This area, which houses the slurry wall, is the Museum’s culminating space. Its sheer scale conveys a sense of the enormity of the site and reinforces an awareness of the absence of what was once here. In this contemplative space, visitors have the opportunity to reflect on the past, as well as the continuing impacts of 9/11, view dynamic media displays, and share their own 9/11 stories in the adjacent recording studio.
- Installed here is the 36-foot high “Last Column” that is covered with mementoes, memorial inscriptions, and missing posters affixed by ironworkers, rescue personnel and others. It was ceremonially removed from the site on May 30, 2002, marking the official end of the nine-month Ground Zero recovery effort.

### Education Center

- The Museum’s Education Center has four classrooms, situated in the south footprint. It is designed as a hub for school groups to communicate around the world and a space for welcoming visiting school groups, teacher training, and seminars. The Center is technologically equipped and provides access to Museum databases, archives, and digital exhibitions.

## BUILDING A PERMANENT COLLECTION

The Museum maintains a permanent collection of artifacts, oral histories, photos, video and other materials that document the history of the events of 9/11 and commemorate the victims. As of September 2013, the curatorial team has collected more than:

- **23,000** images
- **10,300** artifacts
- **500** hours of moving images
- **2,100** pieces of archival documents
- **1,970** oral histories

## 9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM ARCHITECTS, DESIGNERS, & LEADERSHIP

### Architects

- Davis Brody Bond: Museum ([davisbrody.com](http://davisbrody.com))
- Snøhetta AS, LLC: Museum Pavilion ([snoarc.no](http://snoarc.no))

### Exhibition Designers

- Thinc Design with Local Projects, LLC: Lead Exhibition Design for the Memorial Museum ([thincdesign.com](http://thincdesign.com))
- Thinc Design: Introductory Exhibits, Memorial Exhibition, and Exhibition Level Design
- Local Projects, LLC: Media Production ([localprojects.net](http://localprojects.net))
- Layman Design: Historical Exhibition Design ([laymandesign.com](http://laymandesign.com))

### Leadership

- Michael R. Bloomberg: Chairman of the Board, National September 11 Memorial & Museum
- Joe Daniels: President & CEO, National September 11 Memorial & Museum
- Alice M. Greenwald: Director, National September 11 Memorial Museum