



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Friday, September 6, 2013

**9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM CONSTRUCTION MOVES FORWARD  
WITH COMPLETED INSTALLATION OF LARGE ARTIFACTS  
IN HISTORICAL EXHIBITION**

*Museum Will Open in Spring 2014*

**(New York) September 6, 2013** – As the 9/11 Memorial nears the start of its third successful year of operation at the World Trade Center site, nearly 10 million people have paid tribute to those who were killed in the terrorist attacks. Construction is progressing on the 9/11 Memorial Museum with the completed installation of large artifacts in the historical exhibition. The National September 11 Memorial & Museum today announced the construction milestone as New York City and the world prepare to recognize the 12th anniversary of 9/11.

“The progress inside the Museum has been remarkable. As we move toward the Museum opening in spring 2014, it is rewarding and deeply moving to see this historic institution taking shape,” 9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels said. “From iconic pieces of steel carrying messages of the recovery effort to rescue vehicles representing the bravery and courage of our first responders, these artifacts will preserve the powerful story of 9/11 for generations to come.”

“Every artifact in the Museum has a story to tell,” 9/11 Memorial Museum Director Alice Greenwald said. “Whether monumental pieces of steel structure from the Twin Towers that convey both the scale of the site before 9/11 and the scale of the disaster on that day, or intimate objects like a watch worn by a passenger aboard one of the hijacked planes that was recovered at the crash site, artifacts have the power to connect us to history with an unmatched immediacy. Seeing the large artifacts in place in the Museum signals the promise of what is to come: an experience of profound encounter with history and the associated human narratives of loss and remembrance, courage and compassion, resilience and renewal.”

To date, 24 large artifacts have been permanently installed inside the Museum. Of those, 19 are located within the historical exhibition, which will chronicle the history of 9/11 and explore its continued impacts. The large artifacts in the historical exhibition include:

The head of a grapppler, which is among many artifacts that help tell the story of the 9/11 recovery effort, is exhibited grabbing a pile of twisted steel and rebar. Operating engineers used grapppler claws to lift debris from the pile at Ground Zero.

**NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM**

ONE LIBERTY PLAZA, 20TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10006 P: 212-312-8800 F: 212-227-7931

[WWW.911MEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.911MEMORIAL.ORG)

The Cross at Ground Zero, made from intersecting steel beams, was discovered in the rubble of 6 World Trade Center on Sept 13, 2001. Over the course of the nine-month recovery period, workers at the site of many faiths and belief systems saw the cross as a symbol of hope, faith and healing.

The FDNY Engine Company 21 truck was dispatched to the World Trade Center after hijacked Flight 175 struck the South Tower. Engine 21 was parked beneath an elevated walkway on 9/11. When the towers collapsed, the exposed cab of the fire engine was destroyed while the rest of it was virtually untouched.

Additional monumental artifacts that have been previously installed in other locations within the Museum include steel tridents from the original façade of the Twin Towers, the Survivors' Stairs and the Last Column.

The three-pronged tridents were part of the Twin Towers' façade. The Museum's pavilion features two tridents within its grand glass atrium, where they are visible from the Memorial.

The Survivors' Stairs, which are the remnants of the Vesey Street staircase, were used by hundreds of people to flee the towers on 9/11. In the Museum, visitors will descend to the primary exhibition space alongside this artifact that has become synonymous with survival.

Standing 36-feet tall, the Last Column is planted as the centerpiece in a space in the Museum called Foundation Hall. The 58-ton steel column was removed from the site in a ceremony that marked the official end of the recovery effort. It is adorned from its base to the top with photographs, prayer cards and other tributes left by first responders and recovery workers.

For interesting facts and figures, visit the online interactive infographic From Plaza to Bedrock at [www.911memorial.org/info](http://www.911memorial.org/info).

Note: A selection of press photos are available upon request.

## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM**

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the not-for-profit corporation created to oversee the design, fundraising, programming, and operations of the Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center. The Memorial and Museum are located on eight of the 16 acres of the World Trade Center site. The Memorial was dedicated on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and is now open to the public.

The Memorial remembers and honors the 2,983 people who were killed in the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The design, created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two reflecting pools formed in the footprints of the original Twin Towers and a plaza of trees. The Museum will display monumental artifacts linked to the events of 9/11, while presenting intimate stories of loss, compassion, reckoning, and recovery that are central to telling the story of the

### **NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM**

ONE LIBERTY PLAZA, 20TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10006 P: 212-312-8800 F: 212-227-7931

[WWW.911MEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.911MEMORIAL.ORG)

2001 and 1993 attacks and the aftermath. It will communicate key messages that embrace both the specificity and the universal implications of the events of 9/11; document the impact of those events on individual lives, as well as on local, national, and international communities; and explore the continuing significance of these events for our global community.

For more information or to reserve a free visitor pass to the 9/11 Memorial, go to [911memorial.org](http://911memorial.org).

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES**

Anthony Guido/Michael Frazier | (212) 312-8800 | [press@911memorial.org](mailto:press@911memorial.org)

### **STAY CONNECTED**



###