

Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation collections is to support the Memorial and its mission as outlined by the Mission Statement adopted March 26, 1996. To this end, the Memorial will acquire artifacts and documents in the areas designated by the Scope of Collections Statement approved by the Memorial Board on May 16, 2002.

Collections are to be incident specific to the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, with the designated categories for collecting to be:

- the history of the site
- rescue and recovery
- reaction to the incident
- implications and ramifications of the incident
- trial and investigation
- the memorial process

Collections shall have value for commemoration, study, education, exhibition and interpretation. Collections should also consider the two interpretative themes of the Memorial:

- violence impacts those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever
- response to the violence in Oklahoma City that threatened to destroy America's feelings of security proved that the spirit, hope, great compassion, selflessness, and determination of the nation and the world is capable of repelling the insidious effects of terrorism.

Consideration in collecting must also be given to the capability of the Foundation to adequately store, manage and preserve the documents and artifacts.

Items comprising the Memorial Collection may be acquired through Field Collection, donation, transfer from other public agencies and purchase. Except with respect to items acquired through field collection, all donated, transferred and purchased items must be initially recommended for inclusion in the Memorial Collection by the Collections and Acquisitions Committee and subsequently approved by the Foundation Board.