

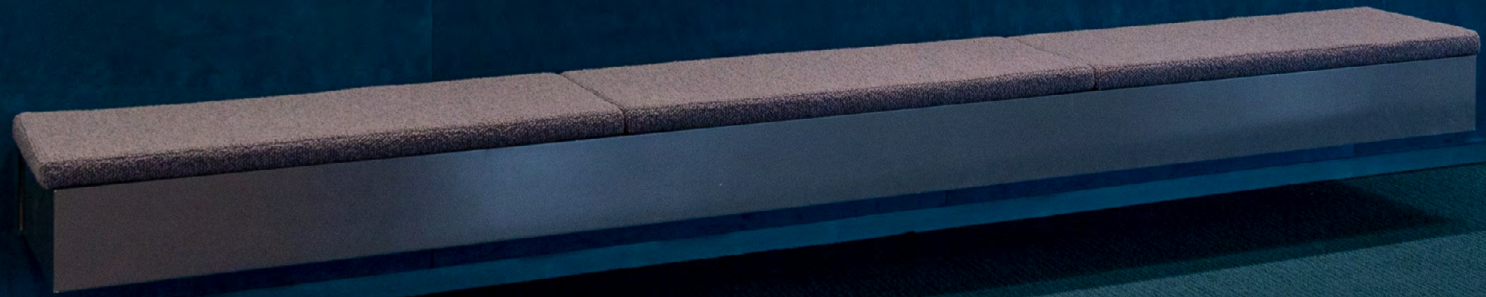


Remembering the Past, Informing the Future

Mission Hall curated by
Nancy Flores Snyder



REMEMBERING THE PAST INFORMING THE FUTURE



The History of TSA:

Remembering the Past Informing the Future

The permanent exhibit at TSA's headquarters tells the story of how the agency was born from the tragedy of the events that occurred on September 11, 2001. The exhibit begins with the Cornerstone inscription that forms the basis of the TSA Mission. The inscription is surrounded by 20 badges that are issued to employees across the agency. The installation is a tribute to the entire workforce as everyone plays a vital role at TSA. Each piece in the permanent collection is a time in history that has impacted the agency to evolve policies and procedures to continue securing the nation's transportation systems.



FORGED ON AN ANVIL OF CRUEL NECESSITY AND BLOOD SHED INNOCENTLY,

the Transportation Security Administration was built urgently in a time of war, to preserve peace.

This vital agency was made not of steel and stone, but of innovation, quiet patriotism, steady virtue and the firm resolve of a nation that would not yield to terror. This is the lasting cornerstone upon which in less than a year, TSA was built. May these cornerstone virtues be preserved and grow across the ages.

The Department of Transportation is proud to have created and nurtured this vital agency from its inception on November 19, 2001 through transition to the Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

Godspeed to the men and women of TSA, as you continue to serve your noble mission for a grateful nation.





1971: Port Authority Trans-Hudson Subway Station

World Trade Center PATH Train Rails

Rails salvaged from the destroyed Port Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH) subway station, originally located below the World Trade Center towers. Donated to TSA by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

In 1971, the Port Authority Trans-Hudson rapid transit system began operating a railway station at the World Trade Center. By 2001, the station provided passenger service between lower Manhattan and New Jersey for roughly 25,000 people a day. When word of the impact of American Airlines Flight 11 reached the PATH station,

the operators acted quickly to restrict train service into the station and to evacuate passengers and employees. The final train left the station at 9:12 a.m., eight minutes after the impact of United Airlines Flight 175 and forty-seven minutes before the collapse of the south tower. The collapse destroyed the station and halted PATH train service to Manhattan for two years. When service resumed following the completion of a new temporary PATH station at the World Trade Center site in 2003, the inaugural train was the same one used in the evacuation.


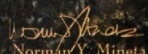



CORNERSTONE

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THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IS PROUD
TO HAVE CREATED AND NURTURED THIS VITAL AGENCY
FROM ITS INCEPTION ON
NOVEMBER 19, 2001
THROUGH TRANSITION TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ON
MARCH 1, 2003.

GOD BLESS TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF TSA,
AS YOU CONTINUE TO SERVE YOUR NOBLE MISSION
FOR A GRATEFUL NATION.

 
Norman Y. Mineta
Secretary of Transportation 





September 11, 2011: Moment of Reflection Niche

Aluminum Alloy from the World Trade Center

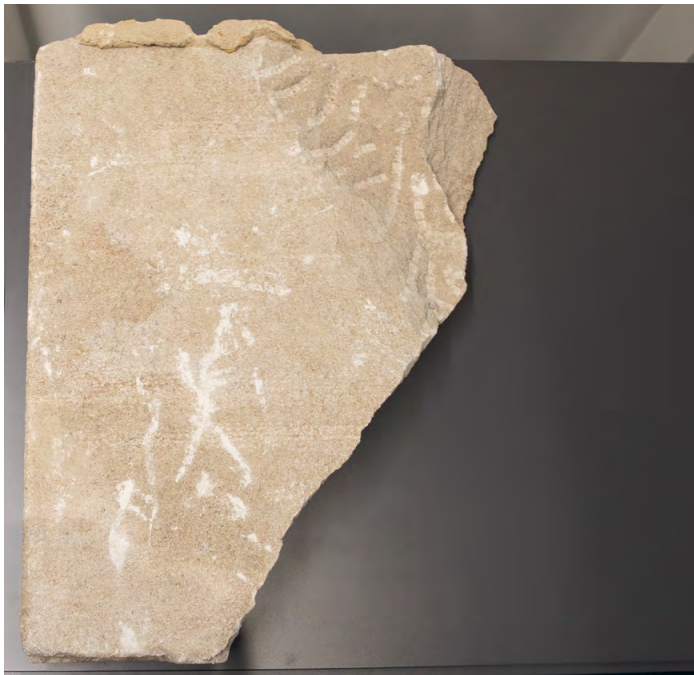
The metal was recovered following the destruction of the towers on the morning of September 11, 2001. Donated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in 2011.



American Flag from Boston Logan International Airport

American flag from Terminal B of Boston Logan International Airport. The flag flew following TSA's federalization of the airport on August 6, 2002. Nearly a year before, American Airlines Flight 11 departed from Gate 32 of the terminal on September 11, 2001. Donated by Transportation Security Officer, William Stracqualursi.





Indiana Limestone from the Pentagon

Pieces of Indiana limestone recovered from the exterior western walls of the Pentagon following the impact of American Airlines Flight 77 on the morning of September 11, 2001. The Pentagon was designed by the architect George Bergstrom. In a strange coincidence, groundbreaking took place on September 11, 1941, sixty years before terrorists crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into the western side of the building. Donated to the Transportation Security Administration in 2003.



The Cornerstone

The Cornerstone was given to TSA as a gift in February 2003 by the leadership of the Department of Transportation. The gift was designed to commemorate the agency and to recognize its approaching transfer to the newly created Department of Homeland Security. The stone bears the signature of Secretary Norman Mineta along with the original TSA seal and the DOT seal. It was officially given to TSA at a special celebration that was held on February 27, 2003. TSA's transfer to DHS, which had been mandated by the Homeland Security Act, was signed into law November 25, 2002 and officially took place on March 1, 2003.

