



# Making of a Memorial

"... to authorize a national memorial to commemorate the passengers and crew of Flight 93 who, on September 11, 2001, courageously gave their lives thereby thwarting a planned attack on our Nation's Capital..."

Public Law 107-226, authorizing the creation of Flight 93 National Memorial

Congress quickly and unanimously moved to create a permanent national memorial. The Flight 93 National Memorial Act was signed on September 24, 2002, and specifically designated the crash site as the place where the memorial would be built.

The Act was the catalyst that created a unique partnership that brought together local, State and Federal governments; the local communities; families of the passengers and crew members; and the American people in creating a memorial. The Act established a Federal Advisory Commission to recommend the site boundaries, a memorial design, and a long-term management plan for the site.

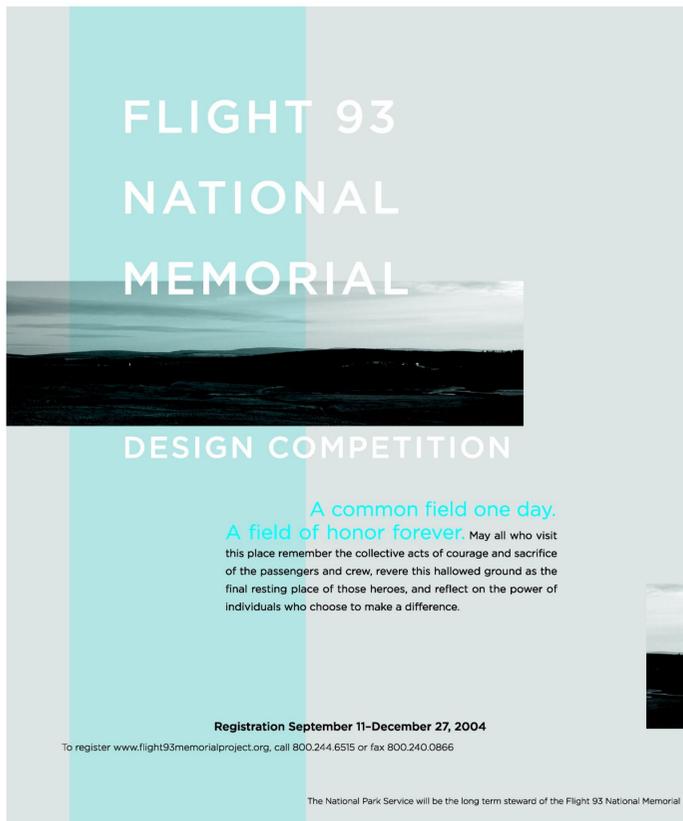
From the beginning, the partnership was committed to an open process that invited people to participate in many ways. The public was invited to describe what the site and the crash of Flight 93 meant to them, to serve on committees, to contribute a design concept, to attend the more than 20 public meetings, to review and comment on the management plan, and to respond to project newsletters and online forums. In addition, an Environmental Impact Statement was prepared so decision-makers could understand the potential impacts of the memorial on the surrounding rural communities before any plans moved forward.



The Partners gather in San Francisco in 2003, Flight 93's intended destination. The partnership currently includes the Flight 93 Advisory Commission, Families of Flight 93, Flight 93 Memorial Task Force, Friends of Flight 93, National Park Foundation, and the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service.



# International Design Competition



On September 11, 2004, the partnership launched an international design competition. People of all backgrounds were invited and encouraged to participate in the design process. A total of 1,100 designs were received from world-renowned designers, as well as from people with little design experience. Forty-eight states and twenty-seven countries were represented in the design competition.

All of the designs submitted were placed on public display and posted on the Flight 93 competition website for public review and comment. A process was developed to ensure designer anonymity and to avoid bias during the jury and selection process. Two independent juries of design professionals, national leaders, families of the passengers and crew, and community members reviewed the designs and public comments received. The first jury selected five finalists who refined and further developed their concepts. The second jury reviewed another round of public comments and chose the winning design. The selection of the winning design team, Paul Murdoch Architects and Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, was publicly announced on September 7, 2005.



The design competition also established a record of how people felt about the events that occurred on September 11, 2001 and the crash of Flight 93. All 1,100 designs are part of the Memorial's archives and are available to researchers upon request.



# Flight 93 National Memorial

“The Memorial should offer intimate experience, yet be heroic in scale.”

Paul Murdoch, Architect



*Timeless in simplicity and beauty,  
like its landscape, both stark and serene,  
the Memorial should be quiet in reverence,  
yet powerful in form,  
a place both solemn and uplifting.*

*It should instill pride, and humility.  
The Memorial should offer intimate experience,  
yet be heroic in scale.  
Its strong framework should be open to natural change  
and allow freedom of personal interpretation.*

*We want to restore life here,  
to heal the land, and nourish our souls.  
In this place, a scrap yard will become a gateway  
and a strip mine will grow into a flowering meadow.*

*But more than restoring health,  
the Memorial should be radiant,  
in loving memory of the passengers and crew  
who gave their lives on Flight 93.*



# Site Plan



## Memorial Features

- 1** New Entrance and Tower of Voices
- 2** Approach Road
- 3** Entry Portal and Visitor Center
- 4** Field of Honor, Ring Road, Allée, and 40 Memorial Groves
- 5** Memorial Plaza and Arrival Court
-  YOU ARE HERE. Western Overlook.



# Initial Phase of Construction

Completion by September 11, 2011



The final resting place of the passengers and crew is the heart of the Flight 93 National Memorial and will remain untouched. Visitors will be able to view the crash site from the **Memorial Plaza**. The names of the 40 passengers and crew will be inscribed on the wall of the plaza as it follows the flight path of the plane.

At the **Arrival Court**, visitors will be greeted by volunteer Ambassadors and National Park Service rangers who will be available to answer questions and provide additional information about September 11 and the actions of the passengers and crew of Flight 93.

## Construction 2010-2011

- The open field will be graded to define the **Field of Honor** and create a gentle slope down to the crash site.
- The **Ring Road** (around the open field) will be built to provide access to the crash site.
- A parking area and **Arrival Court** will be constructed near the Memorial Plaza.
- The **Memorial Plaza** will be built in front of the crash site for public viewing of the area.
- The **Approach Road** to the park will extend from U.S. Route 30 and will lead visitors to the Ring Road.



# Next Phase of Construction

Anticipated completion in 2014



The Entry Portal. Paul Murdoch Architects

Large memorial walls will frame the sky where Flight 93 once flew. The height of the walls will approximate the altitude of the plane (40-50 feet) as it passed overhead. Visitors will pass through the **Entry Portal** for their first view of the crash site and the open expanse of the Field of Honor. The **Visitor Center** with interpretive exhibits will be built between the walls. Visitors may then drive or walk to the Memorial Plaza and reflect upon their experience and the story of Flight 93.

Encircling the Field of Honor will be a tree-lined walkway, or **Allée**, built on a raised earth form, at the same time as the Portal Walls and the permanent Visitor Center. The Allée will be flanked by **40 Memorial Groves** of trees.



The Allée and Memorial Groves. Paul Murdoch Architects

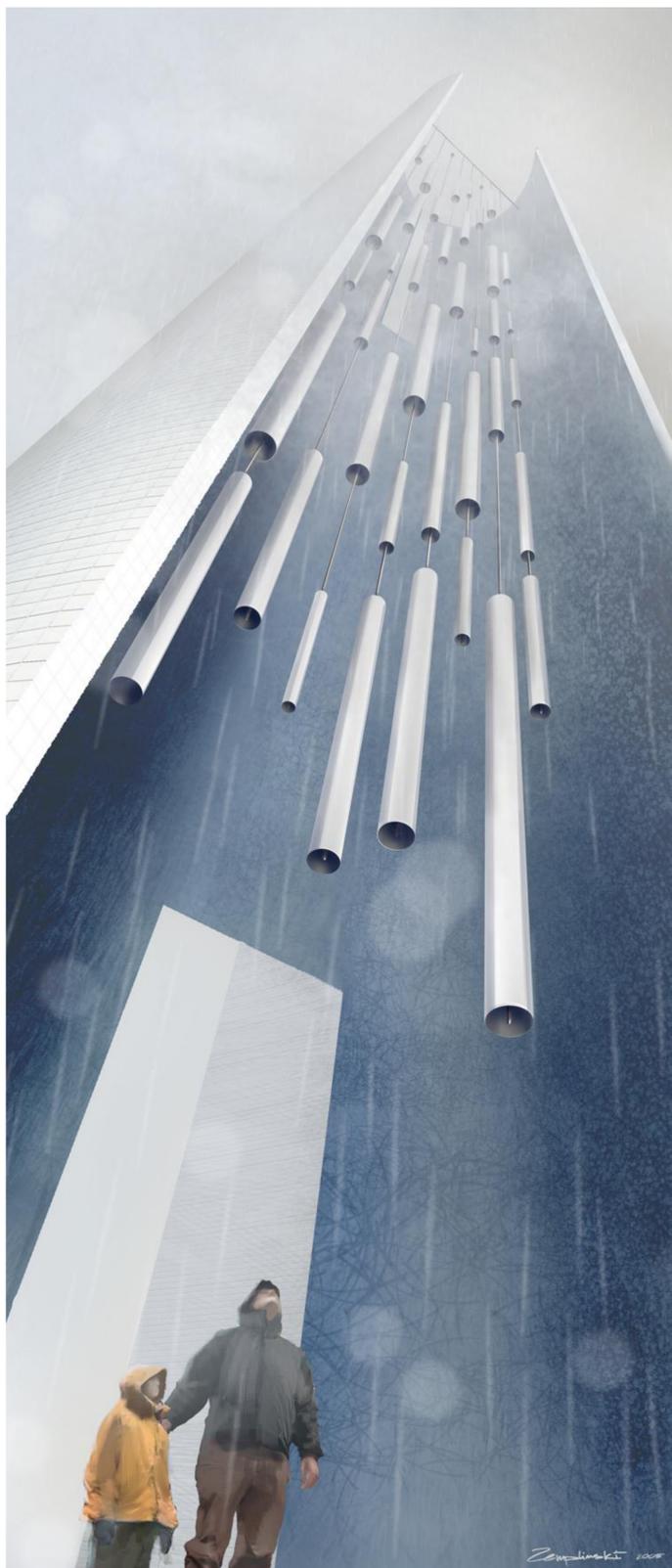


The Western Overlook. Paul Murdoch Architects

The **Western Overlook**, at the edge of the Field of Honor, overlooks the crash site. Visitors will be able to see where the investigation efforts were centered and where the families and the nation first viewed the crash site.



# Final Phase of Construction



Tower of Voices . Paul Murdoch Architects

A 93-foot **Tower of Voices** will be built in the future. The Tower will serve as a landmark from the highway, marking the gateway to the park. Set among rings of trees, the Tower is planned to house 40 wind chimes that will serve as an enduring echo of the voices of the passengers and crew.



Future Tower of Voices as seen from the entrance to the Memorial.  
Paul Murdoch Architects



# What You Can Do

## Citizen Leadership

From Yosemite and the grandest natural treasures to Gettysburg and the nation's historic places, National Parks define our country. Volunteers and private philanthropists have been essential to the creation, preservation, and protection of America's parks. Flight 93 National Memorial is one of the newest chapters in this century-old story.

Since its inception, the creation and construction of the Memorial has been completed through the generosity of people from across the country and around the world. But the work is not done. Join with us and thousands of others to ensure that this important day in our nation's history is remembered by future generations.



Photo courtesy of Chuck Wagner.

### Flight 93 National Memorial Capital Campaign



Building the Memorial is possible through a public-private partnership with half of

the funds from private donations. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States government have already provided much of the public financing. The **Flight 93 National Memorial Capital Campaign**, led by the National Park Foundation (the Congressionally-chartered charitable partner of the nation's parks), has received major support from several foundations, corporations, and individuals. But perhaps most striking are the generous donations from more than 62,000 individuals who want to see the Memorial completed. To find out how you, your company, or your private organization can contribute, please go to

[www.honorflight93.org](http://www.honorflight93.org)

#### You can be part of this Memorial by becoming one of the local **volunteers** who welcome visitors or help with other programs. To find out more, go to [www.nps.gov/flni](http://www.nps.gov/flni)

Consider joining the newly formed **Friends of Flight 93**, a nonprofit organization that supports the Memorial through educational projects, events, and by spreading the word about the Memorial. To find out how to join, go to

[www.nps.gov/flni](http://www.nps.gov/flni)

[www.nps.gov/flni/supportyourpark](http://www.nps.gov/flni/supportyourpark)

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