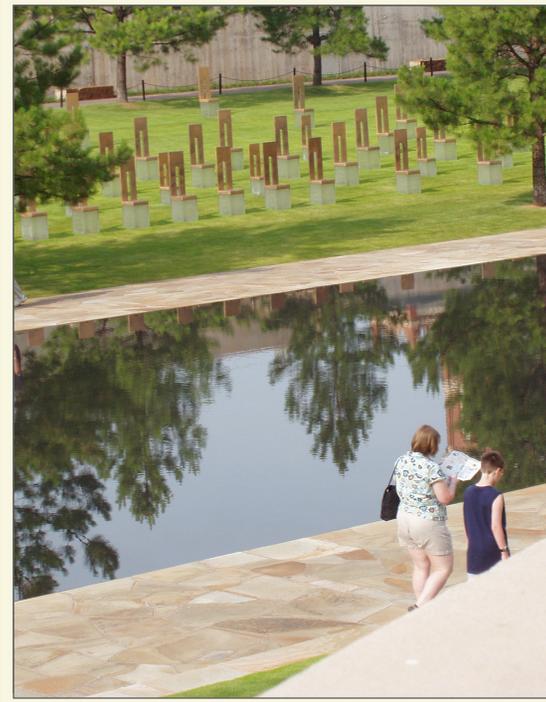


PURPOSE, PASSION, MISSION

The Purpose of a memorial will usually be stated explicitly in text on the site, but it will also be embodied in the textures, the fonts, the lights and shadows of the inscription(s), the emblems and statuary. Chosen materials are always significant. Color and substance matter. Your attention and access to the memorial are directed purposefully.

The Passion and emotion of a memorial may be subtle. You may have to seek it in conversations with those who work there every day and who try to thank you for doing your duty by coming there. It may be hard with tourists snapping pictures of empty chairs, but it will make itself felt.

The Mission of a memorial is often directly stated but you may have to search for it. An important part may be educational outreach to teachers and students or traveling expositions designed to bring the memorial to those who cannot visit physically.



WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Examine this memorial, the physical layout. physical materials --



ite, concrete, brick, an link fence woven with survivor tree and all Touch the reflecting handprint behind.

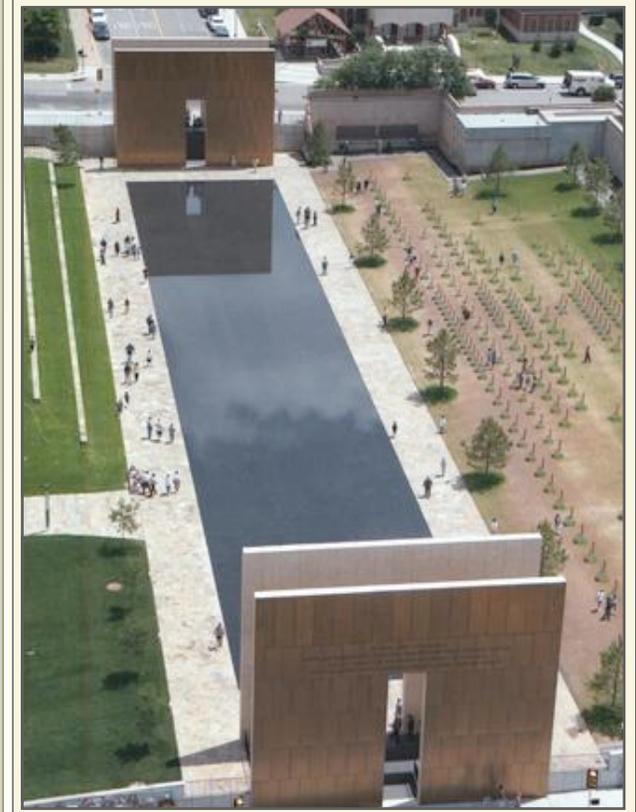
important. Do you hear reflect, write. Every memorial was carefully planned. Consider the effect of your memorial and how that effect was created?

making a sketch of What are the exact copper, water, gran- old battered chain paper? Notice the the other plantings. pool and leave your Materials have sym- an empty space is im- anything? Sit, think, single detail of your

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MEMORIALS

HOW TO READ



ANYTOWN, ANystate, ANYcountry

"We come here to remember those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever. May all who leave here know the impact of violence. May this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope and serenity." — Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum



Text, Context, and Subtext

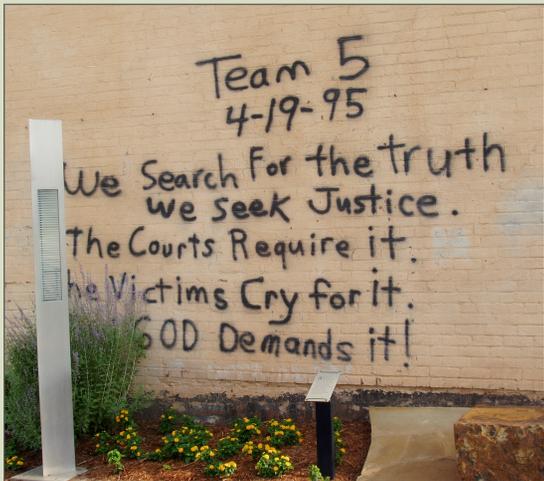
VIRTUAL IS CLOSE TO BEING THERE

We found memorials as small in scale as those honoring local neighborhood losses and as vast as those honoring the thousands lost D-Day.

Maya Lin, the designer of the original Vietnam Memorial, conceived of the Wall as a “rift in the earth, found in a park-like setting.” The wings of the Wall anchor the Memorial in the context of the National Mall, pointing toward the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. She envisioned people approaching the Wall from the southeast in a way that the list of names would be “seemingly infinite in number” and “convey the sense of overwhelming numbers while unifying those individuals into a whole.” Her concept for the area of the Memorial grounds visually engaged by the Wall would be “a quiet place meant for personal reflection and private reckoning,” where “its walls contribute to the serenity of the area.”



Look for all of that in this memorial. If one is unable to visit physically, much can be found at some rich online memorial resources.



THE POWER OF NAMES

A common feature of many memorials is a wall of names -- a personal touch, a way to look for oneself in the memorial. Even the physicality of touching a name on a wall empowers the experience. Additional resources where one can research the names or leave memorials, from a lit candle or a personal memento to a written text, allow a connection between the memorialized dead and the reverent living.



ONLINE MEMORIALS

OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING MEMORIAL & MUSEUM	HTTP://WWW.OKLAHOMACITYNATIONALMEMORIAL.ORG/
THE VIRTUAL WALL: VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL	HTTP://WWW.VIRTUALWALL.ORG/
UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM	HTTP://WWW.USHMM.ORG/
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON	HTTP://WWW.HMH.ORG/
MÉMORIAL DE LA SHOAH	HTTP://WWW.MEMORIALDELASHOAH.ORG/
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY	HTTP://WWW.ARLINGTONCEMETERY.ORG/
AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION	HTTP://WWW.ABMC.GOV/HOME.PHP
CAEN MÉMORIAL: CITÉ DE L'HISTOIRE POUR LA PAIX	HTTP://WWW.MEMORIAL-CAEN.FR/FR/INDEX.PHP