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Logan unveils 9/11 memorial

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Seven years have passed since the events of Sept. 11, but those who suffered the tragic consequences will be remembered anew after yesterday's unveiling of the Boston Logan International Airport memorial.

Commemorating the lives of the passengers and crew members that flew out of Logan on Flight 11 and Flight 175, the large glass sculpture encasing two glass panels engraved with the names of the passengers and crew of each flight. At night, the memorial will be illuminated.

"During the past seven years, there have been two memorials for the 147 that perished," Massachusetts Port Authority Chairman John Quelch said. "These memorials are flags that fly proudly and forever. Today, the third memorial acknowledges each soul by name."

The design of the memorial was an extensive and well thought out process, 9/11 Memorial Advisory Committee co-chairman David Dixon said.

"We worked for more than three years with proposals for different designs before finally choosing this design," he said.

"The simplicity of the glass puts emphasis on the names and brings a reality of what 9/11 was in such a personal and individual way," Dixon said.

Robert Linn of Moskow Linn Designs, who submitted the winning design, said the memorial's committee performed extensive interviews with the families of the deceased to help decide which piece would best display the names of their loved ones.

Linn said the memorial ultimately integrated four themes.

"First, the experience must be personal," he said. "Second, there would have to be a sudden shift and break in the journey to symbolize before and after. The third theme was to establish an indelible memory and the fourth was for the memorial to represent the cycle of life and recreate a sense of hope."

The memorial stands parallel to the Hilton hotel, which served as the family assistance site support and help victim's families. It will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"I think the memorial exceeded our expectations and that's saying a lot when dealing with projects that have profound goals," City College of New York architecture professor Lance Jay Brown said.