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United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H20(NCR-NACC)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS—CENTRAL
900 OHIO DRIVE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

MAY 3 - 1985

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, National Capital Region

From: Superintendent, National Capital Parks-Central

Subject: Scope of Collection Statement

We are submitting the attached statement for your review and approval. This statement delineates the National Capital Region's policy for the preservation, storage, handling, and use of the artifacts for the Lincoln Memorial. It will guide the Superintendent and all others who will be involved with this park and its artifacts.

William F. Ostrock

Attachment

LINCOLN MEMORIAL

SCOPE OF COLLECTION STATEMENT

Prepared by:	Helen M. Smith Park Ranger, Resource Management	5/2/85 Date
Recommended by:	William F. Rukert Superintendent, NCP-Central	5/2/85 Date
Concurred by:	Pamela Bethel West Regional Curator	5/6/85 Date
Approved by:	Robert Stanton Regional Director	6/10/85 Date

SCOPE OF COLLECTION STATEMENT
LINCOLN MEMORIAL

Introduction

The Lincoln Memorial Commission was authorized by the United States Congress on February 9, 1911, for the purpose of building the Lincoln Memorial in honor of President Abraham Lincoln. The Lincoln Memorial is entrusted to the National Park Service to preserve the statue, the memorial, and its surroundings. Interpretive themes include the significance of President Abraham Lincoln in history, construction of the memorial and statue, and historic events which have taken place at the Lincoln Memorial.

The collection will be supportive of the above themes. The collection will consist of artifacts directly related to the construction of the memorial, its statue and mural, individuals involved in the construction, and historic events which have occurred at the memorial. Artifacts related to the life and contributions of President Abraham Lincoln will not be accepted into the collection.

Acquisitions

Museum objects must be acquired, accessioned, and catalogued in accordance with the NPS Museum Handbook, Park II, Museum Records. Artifacts may be acquired through field find, purchase, donation, or loan as recommended by the Curator, Chief, Division of Visitor Services and/or Chief, Division of Resource Management with the approval of the Superintendent. Within 14 days of the receipt of any loan or donation, a letter, signed by the Superintendent, shall be sent to the lender or donor acknowledging the receipt of the object. In the case of a gift, the letter shall be accompanied by a Deed-of-Gift form, which the donor must sign and return to the park. When dealing with a loan, the letter shall be accompanied by the required NPS loan form (10-127) which must be signed by the lender and returned to the park. Items purchased for the collection should be processed through the usual procurement system operating in the park.

Type of Collections

Exhibit Collection

The following types of artifacts will be collected, preserved, and exhibited at the Lincoln Memorial:

1. Artifacts directly related to the construction of the memorial including its planning, design, and execution.

2. Artifacts directly related to the construction of the Daniel Chester French statue of Abraham Lincoln and the murals painted by Jules Guerin installed at the Lincoln Memorial.

3. Artifacts directly related to individuals who participated in the construction of the memorial and/or statue. Artifacts will be limited to those related to the individuals direct involvement in the building process between 1911 and 1922 and only as they relate to the construction.

4. Artifacts directly related to historic events which took place at the Lincoln Memorial since its construction, including its dedication ceremony.

5. Artifacts directly related to individuals who physically participated in historic events at the Lincoln Memorial. Artifacts will be limited to those related to the individuals' direct involvement with such events.

6. Artifacts directly related to Architect Henry Bacon's involvement in the design and execution of the memorial.

7. Artifacts directly related to the Sculptor Daniel Chester French's involvement in the design and construction of the Lincoln statue.

8. Artifacts directly related to Jules Guerin's involvement in the painting and installation of the murals.

9. Artifacts directly related to the preservation and maintenance of the memorial, statue and mural.

Study Collection

The study collection will consist of reference, research and other artifacts which are not on exhibit or cannot be properly stored onsite. These artifacts will be housed at MARS.

Use of Collection

1. Exhibit and interpretation

2. Scholarly research

3. Education of park employees

4. Permanent documentation of park resources

It is understood that the use of this collection will not result in its abuse through improper handling.

Restrictions

Artifacts will not be moved or taken from the site without the knowledge of the Superintendent and authorization of the Regional Curator and/or Regional Archeologist. Artifacts will not be taken from MARS for any reason other than transfer to Harpers Ferry Laboratory or through loan or disposal through the Museum Clearinghouse or to return to the site for exhibition. Artifacts may be removed from MARS only with the appropriate authorization forms and the written permission of the Superintendent and Regional Curator.

Management Actions

The Scope of Collection Statement must be annually reviewed and, when necessary revised in order to remain supportive of and consistent with the park's mission. Any revisions determined necessary must be approved by the Regional Director.

The archeological artifacts are housed at the Museum and Archeological Regional Storage Facility (MARS).

Conclusions

Any objects required to complete these themes will either be obtained by field find, purchase or unconditional donation. Any exceptions to this Scope of Collection Statement must be approved by the Regional Director, National Capital Region.