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Colleen Curry June 11, 2002

Interview conducted by Mark Schoepfle Transcribed by Unknown Digitized by Madison T. Duran

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## September 11, 2001 **Oral History Documentation Project** Northeast Region, National Park Service Colleen Curry **INTERVIEWEE:** Curator Arlington House (Interview No. Unlisted) Mark Schoepfle, Ph.D. **INTERVIEWED BY:** Ethnographer Archaeology and Ethnography Program Washington, D.C. Gary Scott National Capitol Region Washington, D.C. Karen Byrne Arlington House **INTERVIEW DATE:** June 11, 2002 PLACE: Arlington House Chuck Smythe, Ph.D. **PROJECT COORDINATOR:** Senior Cultural Anthropologist Boston Support Office National Park Service 15 State Street Boston, MA 02109

START OF TAPE	
Mark Schoepfle:	This will be an interview with Colleen Curry, June the 11th, 2002. Well, Colleen, my first question is going to be: from the moment you were aware that something had happened, what went on?
Colleen Curry:	I think disbelief. I was conducting inventory over in my office with Mary Troy from Clara Barton, and we just heard this loud bang and weren't quite sure what it was. And Karen actually came over and told us what had happened.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm?
Colleen Curry:	And then I remember walking across here and hearing another, I think a, one of the tanks in the plane had exploded at that point and some car alarms started to go off, and I just remember this kind of detached feeling like it couldn't possibly be happening here.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	And we actually ended up watching in our Facility Manager's office. He has a small TV, and we had on the news from New York and were watching that, and it was just, just unbelievable.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. So, you were pit conducting inventory you said with Mary —
Colleen Curry:	With Troy, from Clara Barton.
Mark Schoepfle:	Uh-huh. And the, the plane hit the, the Pentagon, you heard a, a loud boom —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— and the tanks exploded?
Colleen Curry:	I think it was a tank or something afterwards, because when the plane hit, from where I was in my office, it sounded almost just like somebody had slammed a door. And then when after Karen came over and told us, and I think we tried to call out a few times, my sister-in-law actually works down by the World Trade Center, so I tried to get a line out and, of course, we couldn't. And then, as I was walking back over this way to see what else was happening, that's when another explosion occurred, and I'm assuming it was maybe one of the fuel tanks on the plane. I'm not quite sure, but it set off a number of car alarms, and it was just an odd experience.
Mark Schoepfle:	Wow. Set off car alarms?
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm. There were car alarms that started going off.

Mark Schoepfle: Okay. What then happened?

Colleen Curry: Basically, we were trying to figure out how bad it was both in New York and here. We were pretty much glued to the small TV in Malcolm's office. And I think at one point we sauntered over to the house to see what was going on. I think the visitors had been evacuated at that point, but we stood there. So, there were about five of us I think standing over there, and within a few minutes, I'm not quite sure of the time frame but a car with the FBI came up and they pretty much, it, it was like they were taking over the site as kind of an operating ground. They didn't stay long, so we're not sure if, I think that's when they didn't know where that last plane was going and they thought oh, here's this big house on the hill, we might not, might not be a good idea to stand here. So, they weren't here that long.

Mark Schoepfle: Did they, did you notice anything that they said, or did you talk with them or were they just there looking around?

Colleen Curry: They just were looking around, yeah.

Mark Schoepfle: How did you know it was an FBI car?

Colleen Curry: They had the jackets on.

Mark Schoepfle: Oh, I see.

Colleen Curry: Said FBI on the back.

Mark Schoepfle: Wow. What then?

Colleen Curry: Basically, we were told to go home. The Supervisory Park Ranger, Frank Cucurullo, there were, I think he and our Facility Manager and, and another person, Keith Drews, stayed onsite, but we were basically told to go home. We tried to go out the, Fort Meyer Gate and, of course, that was completely shut down. So, we tried to make our way out onto the, the parkway.

Mark Schoepfle: Mmhmm.

Colleen Curry: And I had actually had an, a volunteer coming in that day. She actually made it in here. She was, she's transcribing journals for Markie Williams and actually showed up a little before ten and, of course, it had happened at that point and I told her we're sorry (laughter), we can't do it today. And I also had an appointment at the Lee-Fendall House in Old Town to look at some objects that they have on loan from us, and I called them, the director there to tell her that we weren't coming. And, and they didn't even know — they hadn't heard anything about either New York or what had happened to the Pentagon, so she was pretty shocked when I told her.

Mark Schoepfle: Wow. So, this you, this is the Lee what House?

Colleen Curry:	The Lee-Fendall House.
Mark Schoepfle:	Fendall.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	There's several Lee Houses.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. I appreciate your patience with me. I, I am now getting into a world that I knew little about [laughter]. Okay, so you had been going to the Lee-Fendall House and you called the director there to tell, and they hadn't even heard what happened.
Colleen Curry:	They, they didn't even know about New York City or even the Pentagon.
Mark Schoepfle:	Uh-huh.
Colleen Curry:	So, she, first, she sounded shocked when I told her I wasn't coming. I said, well, I have to cancel, we, we can't come today, we're, we're shutting down and, and she was just kind of — well, why? — and so, when I told her, she, she hadn't heard anything.
Mark Schoepfle:	Wow. What did she say then?
Colleen Curry:	She couldn't believe it, and she says, "well, I have to go make some phone calls" [laughter].
Mark Schoepfle:	I'll bet. So, in other words, at this point, and this is very early, quite early on, about what time did you figure that you heard the [crosstalk]?
Colleen Curry:	Oh, gosh. Before, probably around ten, I guess? A little before ten?
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah.
Colleen Curry:	I know that's when the volunteer was supposed to show up, and it was just around that time.
Mark Schoepfle:	Ah, yes. And you had said that that one volunteer who's doing the transcribing had shown up as well.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay, and so you were trying to figure out, and you were, and the TV in Malcolm's office, and —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Malcolm is?
Colleen Curry:	He's our Facility Manager. His last name's Willoughby.

Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. And the visitors by that time had already been evacuated you say?
Colleen Curry:	I think so. I'm not sure, 'cause I was over on this side. So, I'm not quite sure when they were told to leave. By the time I made it over to the House soon after ten, it was pretty empty of visitors.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. So, when you're saying this side, this is the —
Colleen Curry:	This is kind of the administrative side over here, and my office is in the last building, down here on the right.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay.
Colleen Curry:	So, we really don't have much interaction with the visitors here.
Mark Schoepfle:	I see. Okay, right. Okay. So, you then went out of the office for, and which is when you saw the FBI. Right? Out on the grounds?
Colleen Curry:	Well, once I walked over to the House, yeah. They had —
Mark Schoepfle:	[Crosstalk].
Colleen Curry:	They had driven up in front of the House.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. And then they checked the area around, talked to some people and took off.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	All right. And then, you were told to go home.
Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry:	All right. And then, you were told to go home. Mmhmm.
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Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. How did that happen, did somebody come and call you, or —? Basically, our Supervisory Park Ranger, Frank Cucurullo, told us. And I don't even know, I don't think we were able to contact Headquarters. Do you, I don't even remember. I don't think we had any contact with
Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm. How did that happen, did somebody come and call you, or —? Basically, our Supervisory Park Ranger, Frank Cucurullo, told us. And I don't even know, I don't think we were able to contact Headquarters. Do you, I don't even remember. I don't think we had any contact with Headquarters, 'cause our phone lines were down —
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Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry:	<ul> <li>Mmhmm.</li> <li>How did that happen, did somebody come and call you, or —?</li> <li>Basically, our Supervisory Park Ranger, Frank Cucurullo, told us. And I don't even know, I don't think we were able to contact Headquarters. Do you, I don't even remember. I don't think we had any contact with Headquarters, 'cause our phone lines were down —</li> <li>Uh-huh.</li> <li>— and our radios weren't working. So, he basically made the decision, you know, sending people home.</li> <li>Mmhmm. Okay. So, you then called the people at, Lee-Fendall House to</li> </ul>

Colleen Curry: Well, after I did that, and then I went over to the House, so it was, being over at the House was kind of the last thing I did before we were told to leave. Mark Schoepfle: Mmhmm. Colleen Curry: And I think I came back over here, um. They were basically trying to figure out who was still here, if, who had left, that kind of thing. So, it was kind of, a little chaotic over here. But, but basically, I think by about ten thirty or a little before ten-thirty I had left — Mark Schoepfle: Mmhmm. Colleen Curry: — or was making my way out anyway. Okay. And you left to go — Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry: Home to Woodbridge which was interesting. Took me about two and-ahalf hours. Tell me about that. What happened? Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry: It was, it was not good. I got to the traffic circle down here by Memorial Bridge and just followed the signs to 395, not really thinking. And they had already blocked off the roads right there, the, that part of the ramp to 395 goes right by the Pentagon that was hit and, so they basically had us all driving over the median doing U-turns. And I just remember finally getting onto another ramp onto the parkway and just sitting there for quite some time. And it was just a parking lot. And then basically, it was surreal because by the time we got near the, the airport, or even before then, there were just people walking. Wandering — a lot of people from the Pentagon who had to just, you know, leave their cars. People, when, when we got near the airport, people walking with suitcases just wandering. Mark Schoepfle: People with suitcases, in other words, people, what, what [crosstalk]? Colleen Curry: From the airport. Obviously, they had either landed right before it happened and were kind of stranded or, it was just very surreal. They were just wandering all over the parkway or sitting on the side of the road. Mark Schoepfle: Hmm. Then what? Basically, it was sitting in, in, in just a line of cars, slowly making my way Colleen Curry: through Alexandria to cut over by Mount Vernon. It was just a parking lot all the way down Route One. Colleen Curry: And I kept frantically trying to call my cell phone, 'cause I was more worried about my sister-in-law who works down by the World Trade Center.

Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	'Cause I wasn't sure, she works for the Bank of New York. I wasn't sure, did she go into work that day and whatever, and couldn't get through of course. And then I think finally, by the time I got down to Mount Vernon, I was able to get through and found out that no, she wasn't down there so.
Mark Schoepfle:	She wasn't down, did she work at the Trade Center?
Colleen Curry:	She worked right next door to the Trade Center. Yeah, her office is —
Mark Schoepfle:	[crosstalk] happened to have gone [crosstalk]?
Colleen Curry:	She was assigned to a, a bank job in a different part of the state that day. Thankfully [laughter].
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah, no kidding. That sounds a little unnerving. You had to, in other words, you were thinking about this while you were driving.
Colleen Curry:	Yeah, yeah. Try, I, I was more worried about her and, 'cause I was listening to NPR and, of course, they were, you know, relaying everything that was happening in New York. They had news reporters down there, and all I could think about was oh, my gosh, she's trapped down there. And I also have a friend of mine who has a contracting office at the Pentagon, so I was worried about her 'cause I knew she was working in parts of the Pentagon. 'Cause where it was hit was, parts of it were still under, kind of being restored, so I knew she —
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah.
Colleen Curry:	— wasn't down there. And luckily, finally when I got home, I got in touch with her and she hadn't, she had been offsite at a meeting when that happened.
Mark Schoepfle:	Goodness. So, you finally got home.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	And you were on the cell phone on the way back trying to get [crosstalk]
Colleen Curry:	Trying to get, people.
Mark Schoepfle:	— see what's going on.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Well, once you made it home, what happened then?
Colleen Curry:	Basically, I had the news on nonstop. And, I couldn't sit. I just felt like I had to do something, and it was surreal 'cause a lot of people had come

	home and very, it was very quiet. But I just felt like I, I ended up painting a bedroom or something just because I couldn't, I had the TV on to hear what was happening but just felt like I couldn't sit there and —
Mark Schoepfle:	With the TV on you mean?
Colleen Curry:	Yeah, just listening to every — what was going on and —
Mark Schoepfle:	Uh-huh. So, this was what? About, was mid-afternoon or something?
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Keep going.
Colleen Curry:	That, that was it. Finally, I think around two or three I was able to get a fr— a hold of my friend. He works at the Pentagon. So, I was, that, she was the other one I was concerned about. But basically, it was just between the TV and also, I had the radio on listening to all of the, the different fund-raising things that were all of a sudden being put into action. You know, different restaurants saying that they would donate all the money that day or car washes everywhere, and it was just, it was amazing. And one other thing. I know that people commented afterwards at how kind I think everybody who was driving was, and it was really true. That whole — you know — as long as it took me to get home that day people were very — I think everybody was in shock. But you, you didn't hear of people getting, you know, honking their horns or, or you know, road rage or anything like that. It was very, very orderly, as much as it could be.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Okay. So, by mid-afternoon about three o'clock, you were able to find out that your friend in the Pentagon was okay —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— and hadn't been anywhere near what happened.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Um, then what went on?
Colleen Curry:	Um, I just kept that up all day, just pretty much listening to the radio watching the TV and then trying to keep busy doing odds and ends in my house. Trying to keep my mind off of it.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	And then watching the news. There was que—kind of a question about going into work the next day. I think everybody assumed that there was going to be, work the next day. And so, that that was a whole 'nother ball of wax the next morning is trying to get in here so.

Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Well, for the, just to, to wrap up that first day you just remained, listening to the radio, and watching TV during the whole evening or —?	
Colleen Curry:	Pretty much, yeah. I was glued to —	
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. You, you got, you, you got your, nerves worked out by painting the bedroom [laughter obscures].	
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm [laughter]. Yeah [laughter].	
Mark Schoepfle:	[Inaudible] I guess that's a good productive use of time [laughter].	
Colleen Curry:	[Laughter] So.	
Mark Schoepfle:	Good for you. So, the next day began and you started the adventure of trying to get into work.	
Colleen Curry:	Right. And I was very surprised at, at how many cars there were really going into work. I usually, I work early. I get here at six, well, I start work at six-thirty, but I usually leave my house about five, five-thirty. And um, there were a lot of cars, even more so than there usually are. And I just remember seeing all these flags over the overpasses and different radio stations that I listen to, you know, mentioning about you know, all the different things going on to, to raise money and things like that. I, it was just a good feeling seeing everybody just going back into work. You didn't get the sense that people were afraid to come back in here.	
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Did it cross your mind by, by going into work, I mean, did it, did the question ever come to you, boy, should I even try showing up today or what?	
Colleen Curry:	Not really. I think the main concern was whether the cemetery was going to be open or not, because sometimes when they're closed, we close. I have a key to the gate, but it just depends. And also, my exit is right, usually, I take the HOV lanes early in the morning and get right off on the, by the Pentagon and, of course, that was shut down. So, I remember getting up here, and they had barricaded Memorial Avenue. So basically, they had a Park Police car there and I had to decide okay, do I drive around the barricade and go up and identify myself as Park Service [laughter] or what? I wasn't sure, is he going to open, open fire on me?	
Colleen Curry:	And I was in uniform. So, I did. I'm like well, I'll drive around the barricade and, you know, he stopped me. And then I explained to him that, you know, I work up at Arlington. And I remember there was, there were several of us. Jan, the gardener up here, he was also down at the gate, and there were a couple workers from the cemetery. And the gates were locked at that point, and we were just wondering what to do. We weren't sure	

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	guard force that's telling us that the kind of hesitated	d open the gates. Normally, the cemet in charge of opening the gates, and th y thought the cemetery had been close on, on really what to do. We all kind o y about half-hour or so.	e Park Police were ed that day. So, we
Mark Schoepfle:		d to the gates, you really were left in a , could you get in, what was the Army	-
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.		
Mark Schoepfle:	— and what were	you supposed to be doing.	
Colleen Curry:	were in uniform e and so they had p they weren't reall eyeopener. This h there were severa	ere also surprised. It really wasn't, I m except for, the cemetery contractors ou eople there with vans. And I was prett y checking those people. So, it was ki had just happened right next door at the l people waiting at the gates to get into niform that they didn't seem to be cher g.	tt its grounds crew, y surprised that nd of an e Pentagon, and yet o the cemetery with
Mark Schoepfle:	They weren't, the	ey weren't checking them, but they we	re checking you for
Colleen Curry:	Well, I had driver immediately thou	n around the barricades, so I think they ght uh-oh.	/ [laughter], they
Mark Schoepfle:	[Crosstalk] attent	ion.	
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.		
Mark Schoepfle:	[Crosstalk] specia	al attention.	
Colleen Curry:	Yeah [laughter].		
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. So, you fin area was closed.	ally got around the, the Park Place and	d thought that the
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.		
Mark Schoepfle:	What did, what d	id you manage to do?	
Colleen Curry:	guards finally car Metzler, the Supe supposed to be op actually open, if t	er about a half hour or so, I think one of ne up and, said there's, you know, he le rrintendent of the cemetery. You know ben. And I, I don't remember to this da he cemetery was open that day or not. ened the gate and we all drove in. And	had heard from Mr. y, that it was ay if we were I think we were,

	we were all drawn up to the House to just kind of look over at the, the Pentagon.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	I, I remember the most surreal, probably the, the day it happened and the next day and for several days after the most surreal thing was not hearing the planes going overhead landing in National, but hearing helicopters and emergency vehicles. That was kind of disconcerting.
Mark Schoepfle:	Helicopters and emergency vehicles. Sirens.
Colleen Curry:	Sirens like going over the Pentagon.
Mark Schoepfle:	[Crosstalk].
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. All right. So now, the second day, you got into work and you definitely were noticing there was a lot of commotion in the air with the helicopters, sirens and so forth —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	<ul> <li>emergency vehicles on the ground but no normal traffic coming in over</li> </ul>
Colleen Curry:	No. No. air traffic.
Mark Schoepfle:	— to National.
Colleen Curry:	No.
Mark Schoepfle:	And so, what went on that day?
Colleen Curry:	Basically, it was a wasted day. I, I think all of us were just, we basically just talked about the day before. I don't really remember doing any work that day (laughter) 'cause it was just — I remember, looking over at the Pentagon quite a bit. But that day's actually a blank. I really just remember doing a lot of talking about what had happened.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Over the next few days then what went on? You came back to work the day after? You know, what, what happened?
Colleen Curry:	Well actually, what was funny is I had scheduled leave for I think that, okay, that, that happened on a Tuesday. We came back to work on Wednesday, and then I was scheduled to be off on Thursday, and I'm off on Friday and Saturday. I was going down to Virginia Beach with my family, and I remember we were hinting around, do we go, should we

	cancel. And we, in the end, it took us awhile, but we decided to just go ahead.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	So, I was only here that Wednesday right after it happened, and then Thursday I was on leave.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Then what?
Colleen Curry:	We went down to Virginia Beach, and it was amazing. On so many of the balconies on the different hotels on the boardwalk had flags flying from them, and yellow ribbons, and we actually ended up going — the Virginia Beach, the City of Virginia Beach had a memorial service that Friday, and so we, we went to that.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	But it was, again, it was kind of everybody drawing in and, and you saw all these signs because of all the ocean, ocean and air and naval station and everything that's down here, a lot of times the, the residents down there complain about all the, you know, the planes flying overhead, and they actually had signs saying, you know, we, we welcome these planes 'cause they felt safer.
Mark Schoepfle:	Uh-huh. So, there were by that time a lot of military planes flying around $-$
Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry:	Uh-huh. So, there were by that time a lot of military planes flying around
-	_
Colleen Curry:	 Mmhmm, yeah, doing maneuvers.
Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle:	<ul> <li>Mmhmm, yeah, doing maneuvers.</li> <li>and helicopters and stuff?</li> </ul>
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Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry: Mark Schoepfle: Colleen Curry:	<ul> <li>Mmhmm, yeah, doing maneuvers.</li> <li>and helicopters and stuff?</li> <li>Mmhmm.</li> <li>Then, then what?</li> <li>I don't really remember much beyond that. I mean, I came back to work that Sunday. almost everything here anyway was back to normal. Of course, the exit for the Pentagon was still shut down and what was weird even, I think it was actually that — trying to remember what night it was.</li> <li>it may have been that Sunday night when, you know, with all the, the jet fuel and everything and the burning and how long the Pentagon burned, it actually at one point made it down, I live in Woodbridge and you could smell the smoke making its way down there. It was just —</li> </ul>

Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. Before I go any further, I forgot to ask you what is it that you do?
Colleen Curry:	I'm the Curator.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay.
Colleen Curry:	So yeah. I take care of all the objects.
Mark Schoepfle:	All right. Sorry I didn't get that.
Colleen Curry:	Oh, that's fine.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. So, the Sunday you were, even when you got back to work Sunday, you could still smell smoke.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	But you were saying that things were kind of back to normal?
Colleen Curry:	It seemed a little back to normal, up here anyway. I don't remember what I did that day, but I know, I, I think I was able to get some work done. It was funny. Only, I don't know what happened Thursday since I wasn't here, but by Sunday, there weren't any more Park Police down on Memorial Avenue. It was kind of back to normal in that respect.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. So, two of the things that we can notice was that, first of all you and, and I presume other people were, were able to get some work done, which you certainly couldn't do the first day you got back.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	I don't think anybody else in the Park Service did either to tell you the truth. But that is the first one, and the second one was that there, there were no more police on Memorial Avenue?
Colleen Curry:	No. They weren't blocking the entrance anymore when I came in on Sunday.
Mark Schoepfle:	Uh-huh. Any other, and so these are all kind of indicators of normalcy? Anything else like that?
Colleen Curry:	Not really. I do remember one thing. On that Wednesday when we came back, we had kind of an argument with, about the flag that flies in front of the House. That's on cemetery land.
Colleen Curry:	And they usually, in the morning, will put it at full staff until they have a funeral. And I remember several people were pretty upset because here, we had all these people who were still trapped and, and you know, dead in the Pentagon, and yet it, it was at full staff and the cemetery refused to

	lower it without word from the Cemetery Superintendent so I think it stayed up at full mast for a while, full staff.
Mark Schoepfle:	And it wasn't lowered, until he got orders from the cemetery superintendent.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm, mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Now, and so this was Wednesday.
Colleen Curry:	Yeah, mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. So, on Sunday, back to work, things were more or less normal and, then what?
Colleen Curry:	Gosh. I don't even know. I guess, I just remember every time I was driving into work or leaving, trying to look at the Pentagon and see how it was coming, I remember seeing the, memorial, the makeshift little memorial thing with flowers that was set up on the side of the road across from the Pentagon.
Mark Schoepfle:	Tell me more about this makeshift memorial. I mean, I gather there were people who were leaving flowers —
Colleen Curry:	Yeah. I think that's what it was, yeah. They had like a little fenced in area over, kind of where you go where you get onto 395 from 110.
Mark Schoepfle:	Uh-huh.
Colleen Curry:	And they had this little thing of little fenced in area where I think people — I think they have some, had something somewhere else. That may have just been an informal thing that people started to do. But I know there were police cars along there so, when they finally did open it where you could go from 110 to get onto 395, they had police cars stationed so you couldn't pull around the side and kind of gawk at the Pentagon.
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah. So, that came to an end so that when the police cars blocked access to —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm. But I do remember even on, I think on Sunday even when I was coming home, you still had mobs of people standing there on, on the grass there, on that little hilly area that kind of looks at, over that's not really 395 — but whatever that is by the HOV lanes that kind of looks over at the Pentagon.
Colleen Curry:	You know, the police were trying to keep cars from stopping, but you had a lot of people who had parked other places and were just walking over to look.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Um, rubbernecking?

Colleen Curry:	Yeah, right.
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah. So, by the time you got back on Sunday, things were sort of back to normal. Could you describe what went on in the weeks following? Were there some changes? Were things, were things different? How were they the same?
Colleen Curry:	I think one of the big differences we actually started to seriously say that we really need to institute in an emergency, operating plant. We don't really have one here. And we started to talk about it again: okay, if this happens, how do [we] handle evacuating the House? We had a problem with communication with our Headquarters Building, which is down the Parkway on Turkey Run Park. What do we do since we're, you know, if something like this happens and we're isolated? How do we handle it? That's kind of the big things that I recall being covered.
Mark Schoepfle:	What were some of the answers to these kinds of questions? You were mentioning how do you evacuate people and how do you keep up the line of communications — how do you handle these things when something's happening? Did you all make any decisions, any set of rules —
Colleen Curry:	No, and actually, we're still working on those. We haven't written anything.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, okay, one thing was just the operating plan. What else?
Colleen Curry:	Oh, gosh, I'm trying to think. I don't, I don't really know that. I've kind of either blocked those days — I can't really think of anything that jumps out at me.
Mark Schoepfle:	Sure, I understand.
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.
Mark Schoepfle:	Well, so, these were just in the — we're talking from Sunday on, so things I gather kind of got back to normal within, well, at worst, say a couple of weeks. Right?
Colleen Curry:	Right, right.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. And we're mentioning the operating plan. So, there haven't really been any other major changes?
Colleen Curry:	I think making the, the staff more aware of looking, you know, for packages left by people on the front portico that type of thing. I think there were a couple incidents, incidences in like the week or so following that the ranger staff had to deal with, with I'm trying to remember. I think it was a German visitor who had been making weird comments about the Pentagon and so I think they alerted Park Police. And they did make

everyone, probably something like that before 9/11 we would have just ignored. But, you know, we kind of, a, after 9/11 it's like well, you never know.

Mark Schoepfle: What happened with the, with the visitor?

Colleen Curry: I think the Park Police actually came up here and I don't, were you here that day as I recall? Um, and, and talked to him. I don't know if they took him away or, or what the whole story on that was 'cause I wasn't directly involved with that, but I remember hearing about it.

- Mark Schoepfle: Uh-huh. Anything, any other things like that?
- Colleen Curry: Not really. We had a lot of especially, well, American visitors but a lot of international visitors who really wanted to see what, or can you see the Pentagon from here. That seemed to be the question of the day. Or can you see the burned-out section of the, it, so we would show them where they could see it.
- Mark Schoepfle: Where can you see it in front of the House?
- Colleen Curry: The best part is actually on the corner of the flower garden. You can see it through some trees there at that section, or you can go down further on the, the Lee, Custis Walk or whatever and kind of see it down there.
- Mark Schoepfle: But not from right in front of the portico.
- Colleen Curry: Not really. I think it's hidden by some trees, so it's kind of hard to see. You could see the smoke coming out from there, but you couldn't really see that section.
- Mark Schoepfle: So, a lot of the visitors, when they came were asking about the Pentagon?
- Colleen Curry: Mmhmm.
- Mark Schoepfle: So, you all had to deal with a lot of questions from them?
- Colleen Curry: Not too many. Some of the foreign visitors occasionally. I'm, I'm not in the House a lot, but occasionally I am. And I think I spent just a little time in the House that first week, and I did have a couple questions: Where is it and you know, were you here on that day and that kind of thing. So, they were interested in —

Mark Schoepfle: Mmhmm.

Colleen Curry: In just actually seeing what had happened.

Mark Schoepfle: Yeah. All right. In the weeks ensuing and the months ensuing afterwards did, were things back to, you were saying things got pretty much back to normal. What else went on?

Colleen Curry:	Oh, gosh. I think the most amazing part was when they finally opened, I think it's Route 110 or 29, wherever that is, the one section, I think it is 29 that goes right past that section of the Pentagon. It was amazing to see, actually see right there what the damage was to the Pentagon. I don't even know when they opened that up, but it was in, I think it was a couple weeks after. But just seeing the damage and then, through the, the months, seeing it, just this amazing rebuilding of the Pentagon and just reading about all, the people that came on, you know, to help out with the rebuilding. And my friend who works at, as the contracting officer there, said that she's amazed at how far ahead the project is and she said they will be done by September, so.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Okay. Looking back on, on the situation, there were, you mentioned one thing, which was they, you know, they need to institute an operating plan. Are there any other aspects looking back on this present time that we can talk about in terms of oh, let's say lessons learned or strengths revealed?
Colleen Curry:	Probably. Well, along with the emergency operating plan, the whole thing is I think having better, better organization as far as — we weren't really sure, okay, who's going to stay onsite? Should someone stay onsite? Who should leave? I think we had a problem afterwards when people did leave, and I find myself included. Those who had left or who were still onsite were wondering, okay, now did so-and-so leave, are they still here. So, I think we saw afterwards that we needed some type of accountability where, you know, you either signed out on the board saying, okay, I've, I've left, I've evacuated or, you know, I'm still here kind of thing.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, the sign-in, sign-out —
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.
Mark Schoepfle:	— more accurate and up-to-date sign-in, sign-out —
Colleen Curry:	Right. We, we have that for just regular business use. But that day, I don't think we really thought to use it. I think there was some concern of like who would stay and who had left.
Mark Schoepfle:	This is just more like a matter of safety so you —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— can see where people were, to account for them —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— that kind of thing. Anything else like that?

Colleen Curry:	I'm not sure at the House how they, how they handled the evacuation or anything like that. Um, but I know we occasionally have fire drills, or the actual fire alarm will go off. It, it'll be a false alarm, but they'll have to evacuate. So, I'm assuming that's probably what they did. But I think it made us aware of how vulnerable we really are sitting up here on the Hill. We're, I mean, we're a very visible landmark and I know, and we've had talks. We actually have a, we're going to put out a contract to have the planned, the emergency plan written, and the major thing is, you know, terrorist attacks or even we're, I mean, we're in the flight path for national airport. What do you do if a plane goes down here?
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	So.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, you're working on these emergency plans?
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Nothing's been written on them? Just [crosstalk]?
Colleen Curry:	No. We're, we're developing [inaudible] work right now, and then we're going to contract it out.
Mark Schoepfle:	So far, any, any questions you'd like to add on this?
Gary Scott:	Well, just how do you think the Park Service responded, and in retrospect, what did, could we have done that we didn't do? or—
Colleen Curry:	I think, considering that this had never happened before and that we, there's no way we could ever think it would happen, I think it, things went pretty smoothly. I think the big thing that we need, and I know they've talked about this in the news, is coming up with, you know, evacuation routes. I think it would have been helpful if they had actually, before you got on that kind of, the ramp to, heading towards 395 by the, by Pentagon, if they could have had a sign up saying it was closed or barricaded because I, that created, you know, major traffic problems just with people who didn't realize it was closed and then we, you know, we all had to drive over the median and but I mean, I think considering, I thought, you know, it's, it was just amazing I think how we handled it.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. I imagine there were some—I mean, you mentioned the possibility of yet another plane or did, did I get that right or —
Colleen Curry:	Yeah. There were all kinds of rampant rumors that day. Um, 'cause we had gotten word, before the plane hit the Pentagon, I remember we had been I forget what time it was. Maybe nine or a little before nine, and we were here in the break room, and I, I remember someone mentioning oh, a

	plane hit, just hit, I think it was when one, the first plane hit the, one of the towers. And I remember thinking oh, it's just one of those little commuter planes or something. I didn't really think anything of it. And then when we heard about the Pentagon and we're standing over by the House, I remember hearing things like it was the State Department who'd been hit, you know, The White House had been hit. You know, we're looking on the horizon. You couldn't see any smoke anywhere from where we are, so.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	But it was just kind of weird how all these kind of stories started, the different —
Mark Schoepfle:	Well, the reason I asked that is it is very interesting a lot of the people had mentioned in the interviews that, particularly in this area, that there were a lot of concerns, well, say up in Catoctin — they had every good reason to wonder if there were not more —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— planes when the, when the Pennsylvania plane had been sighted. There was information that they knew where it was. It was on its way to someplace —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— and nobody knew where it was going. So, bunches of people at some of the parks were scared half to death.
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.
Mark Schoepfle:	And needless to say, some around there as well —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— and didn't really feel terribly comfortable until a day or so after when they saw the jets —
Colleen Curry:	Right.
Mark Schoepfle:	— basically, in the sky and could be assured nothing else was running around.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm. 'Cause that was I think at that point, we didn't know there was a fourth plane when we were, you know, up by the House. But we knew that two planes that hit the Twin Towers and that one had hit the Pentagon. I, we were thinking okay, are there more? Or you know, is there more headed this way?
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.

Colleen Curry:	Um, I remember thinking that. And then when the FBI came up, we were kind of wondering about that, too. And it wasn't until afterwards on the news when I heard about the fourth plane that I was like oh, I wonder if they were, if, they obviously knew about the fourth plane when the FBI got up there and we were there looking. I don't know. I wasn't really sure what, what they were doing up there.
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah, yeah. Well, looking back on this kind of thing again, it will be a, a year will be coming down the road since this event occurred. How should we remember it?
Colleen Curry:	Oh, gosh. I don't know. I honestly don't know. That's something I've been thinking about 'cause I know I've gotten some questionnaires from different museum associations I belong to asking okay, is your museum going to do anything to, you know, memorial, memorialize September 11th this year or are you going to do anything to commemorate it, and so I've been kind of thinking about that. But it's kind of hard. A disaster of this magnitude. I don't know. I don't know how you would, how you could commemorate it.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. Could I push a little bit and say just off the top of your head, what would you think? I mean, what are some —
Colleen Curry:	Oh.
Mark Schoepfle:	- of the thoughts? Full form, half form, you name it. I don't care.
Colleen Curry:	I don't know. I mean, something, something obviously very, I think, patriotic. I don't know what that would be, where it kind of shows the world that we're, you know, still a united —
Mark Schoepfle:	Mm-hmm.
Colleen Curry:	— country. I mean that was, I think that was really heartening after this happened, just how the country pulled together and you know, whether you were a democrat, republican or whatever, it was kind of like we, everybody rallied under the President, which I thought was, you know, all of a sudden, the, all the partisanship, everything kind of went away for a while. So, I don't know.
Colleen Curry:	I think if we could do something like that to show, show the world that, you know, okay, we, we're not going to be swayed by this. I just don't know how, how that — I don't know. I'm not good at stuff like that [laughter], so [laughter].
Mark Schoepfle:	That's okay. I appreciate your, your taking on this as I'm pushing that. You know, I could push it just to see what people remember and what they

	thought. But I am intrigued by your mentioning that, other museums have been sending you questionnaires and all sorts of these things.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	And as a Curator, what have museums been thinking about? I mean, what has been going on among — I guess I'd use the title "community?"
Colleen Curry:	Right. None I know, I mean, I know of a couple Curators who are down in actually New York City. I know the Curator at the, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. I mean, they were right down there and he was at a conference — Mid-Atlantic Association Museums in the fall and, actually kind of recited what had happened that day and, and I just can't even imagine being, you know, in his shoes where they were actually dealing with the disaster. I think we were lucky here in that we didn't, we didn't really see any casualties. I mean, yes, we saw people, you know, wandering around and, and that kind of thing. But we weren't right there on the, on the war, on the war zone, so to say, speak. Uh.
Gary Scott:	What about the mementos people brought to this little shrine at the Pentagon very much like we collect the Vietnam —
Colleen Curry:	At the Vietnam? That's what it looked like.
Mark Schoepfle:	And was there any attempt to collect the mementos or —
Colleen Curry:	I don't know. I think, trying to remember if Pam West has said anything about them — collecting any of that. I don't know though off the top of my head. I, I think it was mentioned at one point but. I think — I did read that the Pentagon, they do have a, the joint forces are, are I think, forming some type of a memorial or something where their —
Mark Schoepfle:	A chapel.
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.
Mark Schoepfle:	A little chapel, you know.
Colleen Curry:	But I think, then weren't they also, talking about collecting different things, I think. I don't, I don't recall. I remember reading something in The Post about it. Um.
Gary Scott:	The reason I wonder about this is that, certainly, and we've seen it at the Vietnam Memorial, I went and visited the Alfred P. Murrah Center, the one in Oklahoma City. What struck me there was they reserved one chain link fence, and people would come by and deposit all sorts of things, you know, little people moved by, what they had seen in the museum. The

museum was all centered around just what happened. I mean, there was no frills, no memorializing, looking back, how does it, what does this all

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	mean. It was just this is what happened, this is the magnitude of it at nine, 9:05 AM. And kids would come out. You know, they'd put little teddy bears there, things that were of value to them. Other people would come and put a little banner that was indicating who they were or what organization they were, you know.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	We saw, we witnessed.
Colleen Curry:	Right.
Mark Schoepfle:	And I was just wondering if any thought had been given to those kinds of mementos because they seem to be almost like a something had happened in every one of these places. You know?
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm. Yeah.
Mark Schoepfle:	Be it Princess Diana, be it the World Trade Center.
Colleen Curry:	Right. Mmhmm. I haven't heard, most of the museums, — I belong to the Museum Association, museums, well, some other ones and a lot of them are downstate or they're in the other parts of the state. So, I think they were just trying to come up with more of a symbolic commemoration. I think one thing I hope is, I, I know that they're planning a memorial for the Pentagon or whatever, but I hope that there is a more public one. I mean, it's so hard for just the public to get near, or in the Pentagon. I hope that they would plan something. I don't know what, but for the, either the Mall or somewhere where people can, can go who wouldn't necessarily have access to the Pentagon.
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Gary Scott:	They are planning a memorial in Pennsylvania.
Colleen Curry:	Yeah, I'd read about that.
Gary Scott:	The Park Service is involved. Johnstown Flood is involved.
Colleen Curry:	Oh, great.
Gary Scott:	They've come to our office for, for advice on how, how you create a new memorial and, so I know that 'cause —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Gary Scott:	[Crosstalk].
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah. The Park Service is getting by, I think I can fairly describe it as the Park Service is getting pulled into it one way or another.

Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	And I'm just sort of curious about how people, you know, in the Park Service have been conceptualizing it because I know when I first talked to some of the other people, in December, one, that, that issue was just volunteered.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm. Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	[To Gary Scott and Karen Byrne], do you have any other questions?
Gary Scott:	No.
Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. I really appreciate your, your taking the time out of this. Is there anything that we have, that we have failed to talk about that we should bring up?
Colleen Curry:	[Inaudible].
Mark Schoepfle:	Hold on, [inaudible].
END OF SIDE 1	
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Mark Schoepfle:	Okay. Anything that we failed to mention or that should be discussed?
Colleen Curry:	No. I mean, not directly dealing with our site, but I just remembered that, and it's still going on now is the new rule that trucks can't go on, I think it's Route 110 that runs kind of —
Gary Scott:	[Crosstalk].
Colleen Curry:	Yeah. By the Pentagon, and that's, yeah, that's interesting. I go home that way, and I actually come in, in the morning, that way. It's weird to see all these State Troopers lined up at different interchanges with the lights going. and I think a lot of people, you can tell a lot of people just think they're there with speed traps, but it's kind of interesting the, you know. And I've actually seen them have I think busses, too, that they, large busses that they pull over. So, that's kind of a, something that's probably going to be with us for a while as a result of 9/11.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, that is one of the things when we're looking back on the so-called normalcy issue, that things have not gotten back to normal is the commute.
Colleen Curry:	Not fully. Right, right.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, and one of the aspects of the commute is number one, what you can and can't, where you can and can't drive.
Colleen Curry:	Right.

Mark Schoepfle:	One big event was just the opening up of the, of the road in front of the Pentagon.
Colleen Curry:	Right.
Mark Schoepfle:	Another is the State Police blocking the trucks, so your commute has changed irrevocably.
Colleen Curry:	And especially, I don't pick up people from a slug line, but I know I have friends who would always — when they leave DC — would go to the Pentagon to pick up people to get on the HOV. And I guess that has changed as far as where you can now go to pick up people and —
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	— things like that. I always liked that —
Karen Byrne:	[Crosstalk].
Colleen Curry:	The slug line. Yeah [laughter]. I used to pick up people back then [laughter].
Mark Schoepfle:	Yeah. They had that out where I live, too. Well, is there anything else you'd like to, ask about us that we may not have mentioned?
Colleen Curry:	Are you all, going to do some type of a — are you going to consolidate all of this information, or what are, or are you just kind of collecting it for now or?
Mark Schoepfle:	That's a really good question and, and a complex one because we really are, and, and check me if I'm wrong on the, on this. What we're going to do with the tapes, I mean, other than carefully archive them —
Colleen Curry:	Right, right.
Mark Schoepfle:	— the kind of report, the kind of writing we're going to be doing is something yet to be worked out because there is a report that's coming out, basically, what I would call the administrative history of what went on. You know, the official positions taken, official action. And Janet McDonnell's been busy with that.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	And so, she has a report coming out at, at Associate Director Kate Stevenson's direction. We really feel that more should be done than simply having tapes on an archive for later resource use. And so, with that in mind, a number of us are pushing to get some kind of report out, of certain kinds of articles, because it really is interesting what the Park Service did do. You know, the, the way we, we responded as Federal workers.

Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	It was very much different than the way neighbors responded around us. That was dramatically seen in New York, but you see it a lot here. I mean, it was Park Service people, for example, that jumped in and intervened with the day care center in the Pentagon, kept the kids safe.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	I mean, we were there, and these are not well noticed. But it's just to get an understanding of, well, not only to the Park Service but in the public as well, as to what even we were just, even just what we were doing —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— in these situations, is something we would really like to do, and we're pushing for it.
Colleen Curry:	Mm-hmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	And what we'd like to do is, is, keep in touch with all of you as we write things up. So, because even, ideally, even the writing process is a way of gathering more information as you react to it.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, we're hoping to be doing that as well. These are all hopes. I don't want to promise what, what we can't deliver. But this is the general idea of where we want to go with it, and we'll see how far we can push it.
Karen Byrne:	Can I, can I follow up on one thing Colleen said?
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Karen Byrne:	Um, when she was talking about, mentioning how people were, were uniting together after the September 11th attacks and it didn't matter what political persuasion you were and, and things of that nature, I had forgotten, but I believe President Bush had set aside a — sometime after the attacks, is he, he wanted us to have a National Day of Prayer. And we found out that Fort Meyer was having a, a service in their chapel that day.
Colleen Curry:	So, we made arrangements pretty much for our entire staff to go, and it was in the middle of the day so, of course, we went in uniform. And I remember being somewhat amazed that we went and we all went in and sat together and, when the service was over and we were leaving, a number of military folks came up to us and they thanked us for coming, but they seemed very surprised that we were there, I think because we were civilians — was sort of my reading on that. And I just remember

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	being kind of struck by the fact that they seemed grateful b surprised, you know, that, that we were there.	ut yet very
Mark Schoepfle:	Hmm. That's an interesting thing to follow up because all a important background material in just how the Park Service with other agencies while this was going on because it does we were very, very interrelated with what was happening it different ways. So, it would be very interesting to find out perception was and —	e interrelated s turn out that n all, all sorts of
Gary Scott:	Well, we're just an agency and I mean, there are other agen that were doing the same thing, and the military was certain harder than we were because their own people were dead.	
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.	
Gary Scott:	And I think they're doing a big oral history for the Army a	s well.
Mark Schoepfle:	Oh, they are. No doubt about it. And in fact, that's one of t hoping to be able, this spring, to, the remainder of the sprin to, to see what they're up to and work with them.	
Gary Scott:	Maybe we need to see beyond our own agency culture, and fit it as a piece in the whole picture if there's any way to do	
Mark Schoepfle:	Well, I think that's the major point of this, and good thing is can actually be held to this [laughter]. What really impress fact that a lot of networking had been going on with these of for quite some time. Various of the ranger groups, various Police. Even when you get to interpretation and other activ people had already been making these arrangements with of governmental agencies simply to deal with things such as of —	ed me was the other agencies of the Park ities of this sort, other
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.	
Mark Schoepfle:	Different kinds of visitors, changes in visitor behavior, this A lot of this interagency stuff had already gone on. So, which hit, people were not totally bewildered. You know, like oh- do we do now? They got on the phone and were already ca	en this disaster , my gosh, what
Mark Schoepfle:	The military was already reaching over here. They took ov with the day care. Um, one of the rangers flagged a bus do commercial bus, got the kids onto it, and got them to a safe people acted very quickly.	wn, a,
Colleen Curry:	Yeah.	

Mark Schoepfle:	There was not a lot of this, you know, running, proverbial running around like a chicken —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	— with its head cut off. I think that's an important [crosstalk].
Gary Scott:	Well, they'd been meeting several months before on the high management of all Federal agencies that something was going to happen.
Gary Scott:	There was a great deal of concern about beefing up the barriers around memorials and around National and Federal buildings and, there was quite a bit of concern. Of course, this was a reaction to the Oklahoma City —
Colleen Curry:	[Crosstalk].
Gary Scott:	[Crosstalk] there was a vehicle that did it. But I mean, before World Trade Center —
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Gary Scott:	— there had been quite a few meetings about, you know, beefing up barriers around government facilities.
Mark Schoepfle:	Oh, yeah, well this had gone on since '95 with what people were describing, that they had been networking with these different agencies in order to deal with, you know, militias, demonstrators and all sorts of increased number of, well, to use the most analytical term I guess, various constituencies that were affecting public use of the park. And so, that impresses me and it's something that we hope to be, to be able to bring out in this and highlight.
Karen Byrne:	I had, I had forgotten but they had changed the security procedures at Fort Meyer before the September 11th attacks, and I used to commute through there every day and so they handed out literature and explained what the changes were and — oh, this is just because this is really, you know, the best you know, the highest level that we, we should all be at and it doesn't have anything to do with an actual security threat or whatever. It's just that this, this should be the highest level that we really should strive for on a daily basis.
Karen Byrne:	And I'd forgotten but then I remembered after September 11th thinking that that couldn't be coincidental, they had made that policy change right before this just because oh, well, this is the ideal form of security that we should always practice. And of course, now, well, we, we can't go to Fort Meyer anymore, at least not unless you go through the main gate and you go through all the security checks, and we don't have, just pretty much regular access as we did for a long time.

Colleen Curry

Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm. Well, any other questions for this?
Karen Byrne:	Not now. I might [laughter].
Mark Schoepfle:	Colleen, I want to thank you very much and —
Colleen Curry:	And thank you.
Mark Schoepfle:	[Crosstalk] For your additions to this as well.
Mark Schoepfle:	Oh, one other question I have. How long have you been here and —
Colleen Curry:	I've been here three years.
Mark Schoepfle:	Three years.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	And where were you there before?
Colleen Curry:	Um, this is my first permanent Park Service. I've been in the private museum sector for about 12 years.
Mark Schoepfle:	I see. Um, did you come in, come in a year from, were you from around here originally or?
Colleen Curry:	No. Before this job, I was in Allentown, Pennsylvania at the Historical Society —
Mark Schoepfle:	Mmhmm.
Colleen Curry:	— up there. And then before that, I worked at the US Supreme Court, so with the Curator's Office there so.
Mark Schoepfle:	Were you from Pennsylvania originally or?
Colleen Curry:	New York.
Mark Schoepfle:	New York.
Colleen Curry:	Mmhmm.
Mark Schoepfle:	Oh, okay.
Colleen Curry:	About an hour outside of the city.
Mark Schoepfle:	So, did you school around here or?
Colleen Curry:	Um, I got my Master's at GW.
Mark Schoepfle:	Oh.
Colleen Curry:	It's the third time I'd moved back here so, it's a sign [laughter].

Mark Schoepfle:	All right. Well again, I'd like to thank you very much for your time on this and —
Colleen Curry:	Well, my pleasure.
Mark Schoepfle:	— if you've got any other questions, please do not hesitate to call.
Colleen Curry:	Okay, I will.
Mark Schoepfle:	And questions or, additions and things you may have remembered.
Colleen Curry:	Okay, thank you.
END OF TAPE	