



The D-Day Story

Collection Development Policy 2022-2027

Name of museum:

The D-Day Story, Portsmouth

Name of governing body:

Portsmouth City Council

Date on which this policy was approved by governing body:

8 February 2022

Policy review procedure:

The collections development policy will be published and reviewed from time to time, at least once every five years.

Date at which this policy is due for review:

February 2026

Arts Council England will be notified of any changes to the collections development policy, and the implications of any such changes for the future of collections.

1. Relationship to other relevant policies/ plans of the organisation

1.1 The museum's vision is to be the national D-Day hub with an international reputation. We want to bring the D-Day narrative to life for the 21st Century, explain how ordinary people played extraordinary parts in a turning point in history, and reveal D-Day's legacy for the present day.

1.2 Aims

- i) Create an exciting 'must-see' environment which everyone feels is for them
- ii) Deliver an imaginative mix of events and activities for visitors of all ages, ensuring there is always something new to see and do
- iii) Deliver excellent formal and informal learning programmes to inspire young people
- iv) Establish The D-Day Story as the national hub for learning about D-Day, working with UK and international partners to share knowledge about D-Day with audiences around the world

1.3 The governing body will ensure that both acquisition and disposal are carried out openly and with transparency.

1.4 By definition, the museum has a long-term purpose and holds collections in trust for the benefit of the public in relation to its stated objectives. The governing body therefore accepts the principle that sound curatorial reasons must be established before consideration is given to any acquisition to the collection, or the disposal of any items in the museum's collection.

1.5 Acquisitions outside the current stated policy will only be made in exceptional circumstances.

1.6 The museum recognises its responsibility, when acquiring additions to its collections, to ensure that care of collections, documentation arrangements and use of collections will meet the requirements of the Museum Accreditation Standard. This includes using Spectrum primary procedures for collections management. It will take into account limitations on collecting imposed by such factors as staffing, storage and care of collection arrangements.

1.7 The museum will undertake due diligence and make every effort not to acquire, whether by purchase, gift, bequest or exchange, any object or specimen unless the governing body or responsible officer is satisfied that the museum can acquire a valid title to the item in question.

1.8 The museum will not undertake disposal motivated principally by financial reasons.

2. History of the collections

As is common usage amongst the general public, in this document - and indeed in the title of the museum - "D-Day" does not just mean the first day of the D-Day Landings in Normandy (6 June 1944), during the Second World War. It also refers to the period until the end of August 1944, which featured the fighting known as the Battle of Normandy and the liberation of that region of France from Nazi German occupation. Preparations for the campaign stretched back months and even years before June 1944.

The first ideas for a museum in Portsmouth about D-Day were mooted in the 1970s. In the early 1980s the catalyst for the founding of the museum by Portsmouth City Council was the possibility to house the Overlord Embroidery (linked to the 40th anniversary of the event). It is important to note that there was no identifiable collection relating to D-Day at that time. The museum opened on 4 June 1984 as the D-Day Museum.

The first objects in the D-Day Museum's collections were collected through public appeals, including via the D-Day and Normandy Fellowship (an association for veterans and families of those who served in the campaign). These were supplemented by purchases such as job-lot examples of uniforms, firearms and other militaria dating from the 1940s, 50s and 60s.

Even in 1984 the museum was collecting 40 years after the events of D-Day. As a result, it was at a disadvantage compared to museums that existed in 1944 or shortly after. Much D-Day related material, including that coming from government/official sources, had already found a home in other collections by 1984. D-Day is now nearly 80 years ago and there is much less material in circulation that has not already been acquired by museums or private collectors. In addition, we will soon be entering a phase of history where there will be no veterans of D-Day left. However, the passing of this wartime generation, and the fact that the generation of veterans' children are now aging, means that donations from the families of individual veterans continue.

The redevelopment of the museum between 2014 and 2018 with funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, provided an opportunity to purchase a small number of items for the new displays. The museum reopened as The D-Day Story in March 2018. The new name was intended to indicate that the refurbished museum was radically different from its earlier incarnation.

3. An overview of current collections

3.1 The collection comprises some 10,000 objects, which includes archive material as well as three-dimensional objects

3.2 The collection was assessed in the Conservation Plan produced by Hallahan Associates in 2015 for the Transforming the D-Day Museum project. They concluded that the collection contained significant objects and archives, as well as some items that appeared to have no link to D-Day. Hallahan

Associates noted the opportunity provided by the project to carry out further research into the provenance and history of the objects in the collection. The assessment which follows was compiled by the TDDM project research assistant, James Daly, after further work on the collection and following the redisplay of the museum to create The D-Day Story.

3.3 Strengths

- Sherman Beach Armoured Recovery Vehicle: fifty tanks were specially adapted for D-Day, for rescuing bogged-down vehicles. This is one of only two surviving in UK museums.
- Landing Craft, Vehicle and Personnel (LCVP): More than 800 of these craft were used on D-Day but only a few genuine wartime examples like this one survive today.
- Extensive archive collection: This includes:
 - Wartime papers produced by the War Office and McAlpine on the Mulberry Harbours
 - An archive collection relating to PLUTO (Pipe Line Under the Ocean).
 - Archive collections on landing craft and commandos
 - Authors' research files for several books, with many letters written to them by veterans and civilians about their memories.
 - Veterans' memoirs, which were usually written decades after the event. They reflect the way participants remembered their experiences years later, as well as giving insight into what happened. The largest distinct collection of veterans' memoirs is the archive of the LST and Landing Craft Association.
 - Wartime letters and diaries giving insight into the thoughts and experiences of both civilians and military personnel who witnessed or took part in the events of the campaign in 1944.
 - Over 500 maps related to D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, many rare or unique.
 - Veterans' personal photographs from the wartime period as well as their activities as veterans decades later.
- Around 200 oral history interviews with Normandy veterans, plus some 100 recordings of memories of civilians in wartime Portsmouth.
- Flags, especially those flown on ships and landing craft on D-Day.
- Due to the museum's geographical position our collections have a strong element of material related to what was happening in Britain in 1944, compared to museums in Normandy which focus on events in France.

3.4 Weaknesses

- Some groups of service personnel tended to have more opportunity to keep wartime equipment and other souvenirs at the end of the war, and therefore tend to be over-represented in our collections. These categories included officers, people serving on board ships, and troops on land serving in supporting roles rather than in the front line. By contrast, front line infantrymen often carried all their possessions in little more than a simple backpack and had less opportunity to retain wartime objects. As a result, objects relating to them are probably less common in general, as well as specifically in our collections.
- The geographical focus of the collection is Portsmouth and south east Hampshire. This is partly due to lack of resources for active collecting from further afield, and greater likelihood of local people to bring objects into museum.
- We hold less relating to individual and national experiences and contributions from countries other than the UK. This is equally true for countries which were occupied by Nazi Germany such as France and Belgium, as for unoccupied countries such as USA and Canada.
- We hold comparatively less relating to air force personnel and to secret agents/intelligence gathering, compared to the army and Royal Navy.
- We hold very few uniforms that are likely to have been worn during the Battle of Normandy. Primarily we hold dress uniforms which were worn on special occasions, and post-war uniforms that were issued prior to demobilisation. These fit our collecting policy, but in terms of storytelling potential uniform worn on campaign would be ideal (however it is likely that in many cases it was worn out through use and destroyed).

3.5 Significant loans

- The Overlord Embroidery: At 83 metres in length, for many years this was the world's longest embroidery of its kind. We describe it as the Twentieth Century equivalent of the Bayeux Tapestry. It was commissioned as a tribute to the sacrifice and heroism of those men and women who took part in Operation Overlord.
- The Dickin Medal ('the animal VC') awarded to Gustav the pigeon, who flew back to the UK from a ship off the coast of Normandy, bearing the first news of the landings.
- The following is not a loan but belongs to the National Museum of the Royal Navy and is on display at The D-Day Story as part of the visit to that museum. Landing Craft Tank (LCT) 7074, a 59-metre long ship which was built in 1944 for use on D-Day, when it carried ten tanks. It is unique in being the only survivor of more than 800 of these craft that took part in the

Normandy campaign. The LCT was restored and put on display through a partnership between the two museums.

3.6 Recent acquisitions and disposals

- Disposals: As part of the 2017-2018 redisplay, we disposed of several vehicles which not required for the new displays, as well as some unaccessioned items such as uniforms which had been used for set-dressing in the original museum displays.
- Acquisitions: to mention just a few, those made since 2018 include:
 - A group of documents relating to the Allied air forces' plans for D-Day
 - The Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) medal awarded to Pilot Officer Denis Langford, 156 Squadron RAF, who was killed on 24 June 1944 when his Lancaster bomber was shot down during a raid on a V-1 flying bomb site in France. Also items of his uniform. He lived in Portsmouth and had bombed German forces in Normandy before his death.
 - 23 letters written by Jack Gollin to his family in 1943, while he was doing his initial army training in the UK. He was later killed while serving in Normandy.
 - Several groupings of uniform items, documents etc. belonging to men who were landing craft crew on D-Day. This includes material relating to officers on LCT 7072 and LCT 7073, which were built at the same shipyard as LCT 7074 (which is on display at The D-Day Story).
 - Training notes of Private Kathleen Lush of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (the army's women's service) in 1943. She worked at the huge army depot at Lower Arncott in Oxfordshire which sent supplies to troops in Normandy.
 - A very rare German map that was used on D-Day, with the positions of Allied troops marked on it as they advanced inland.
 - Letters from and about Private Walter Hansford who served in Normandy and was killed in August 1944.
 - Minutes of the first meeting of veterans at Grimsby in April 1981 which led to the creation of the Normandy Veterans Association, the main association for British veterans who served in the Normandy campaign.
- Purchases: In addition, some items were purchased in 2016-2017 for display as part of the refurbishment of the museum. These include material relating to American soldiers who fought in Normandy, and to French civilians during the Nazi German occupation. These filled gaps in the museum's existing collections.

4. Themes and priorities for future collecting

The themes and priorities for future collecting have been informed by decisions taken during the interpretive planning process for the creation of new displays at

The D-Day Story (which was guided by Telling Stories / Kirsty Devine) and recommendations made in the Conservation Plan.

Future collecting will take account of the following:

- Prioritising authentic D-Day objects (those known to have been used as part of the campaign)
- Bringing out the personal stories behind objects
- Telling the story from multiple perspectives (not just Anglo-American service personnel, but also other nationalities including Germans and others serving with German forces, as well as civilians particularly in the UK and France)
- Making the story accessible, both intellectually and physically

The D-Day Story collects material relating to D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, including the planning and preparations for these events, and their aftermath and consequences. These may be items dating from the Second World War, or later material such as veterans' mementos or memoirs that relate to that period and their activities as veterans.

The main period covered by the collection is from the Dunkirk evacuations in May/June 1940 to the Liberation of Paris on 25 August 1944. Groups of objects relating to veterans' lives and experiences for example, may include objects relating to earlier or later time periods. The collection also covers the memory and commemoration of the Normandy campaign, and items such as films and games which demonstrate the impact of D-Day on arts and culture, and which may date from up to the present time.

The Historical narrative used in the museum's current (2018) displays is attached as Appendix A. This narrative was created as part of the redevelopment of the museum's displays in the period 2014-2018, and informs The D-Day Story's collecting policy. However, this is not the only way to tell the story of the Normandy campaign. There are topics relating to the campaign, such as its planning and commemoration, the experiences (in 1944, before and since) of individuals who took part in it, which are not specifically mentioned in this list but which are still valid collecting areas. The reason for this is that the limited space and resources available for the new displays placed some limitations on their creation.

4.1 Further comments for clarification and guidance

- Post-war material: We do not collect objects that are of wartime type but date from post-1944, unless they are part of a wider group of items and help tell the story of a person involved in the Normandy campaign.
- Very large objects such as vehicles, ships, artillery etc: The museum's collection includes a number of such items. We would not expect to collect further very large objects unless at the time of acquisition we are confident that we would have the resources to properly store, display, conserve and care for them, for example through a financial donation or grant.

- **Models:** We will normally only collect models that have wartime provenance, for example if they have been built and used as briefing models or if they were made by a serviceman/woman on campaign. We generally do not collect commercially-sold models which can be made from unstable materials and have limited storytelling potential. Models made by veterans to depict their wartime service could be an exception however.
- **Provenance:** For some military equipment - for example firearms and vehicles - their provenance seldom survives. This is due to the way in which they are disposed of by the armed services. It was virtually impossible for soldiers to take home weapons or vehicles, for example. In this case it is acceptable to collect objects that are 'of the type' if they date from 1944 or earlier. Some objects related to D-Day only survive precisely because they were not used - for example items of equipment that were used as training aids or were never issued from stores for use by troops. Equipment that went over to France is much less likely to have found its way back to Britain after the war.
- **Service numbers:** In military terms a service number is as much part of a person's identity as their name. If an object has a Second World War era service number stamped or written on it, when service records become available, we will be able to put a name to the number and then undertake research for possible links to D-Day.
- **Personal stories:** The museum will rarely collect material that does not have a personal story connected to it. For example, if it tells a wider story such as the development of specialist vehicles or equipment or if the item is related to D-Day/Normandy but is exceptionally rare or if due to its history such an object is unlikely to come with provenance.
- **Unaccessioned material:** The museum will avoid collecting material that we do not plan to formally accession into the collection (with the exception of reference books for use by staff and the public). This will save space in stores and will protect the integrity of the core collection. We will not collect material for 'set dressing', which was very much the collecting practice of the museum in the 1980s and 1990s but does not feature in the current displays.
- **Nazi material:** The museum does not collect generic material relating to Nazi Germany without provenance and that does not tell a story. We will only collect swastika flags, Nazi armbands, daggers etc. if they relate to a known person, event or place connected with the Normandy campaign.
- **Handling:** Material will only be collected for handling in consultation with the learning staff, in which case it will become part of the handling / school loans collection rather than the accessioned museum collection.

We particularly aim to collect material that addresses the weaknesses in the

collection identified above. However the museum will continue to collect other relevant and suitable objects.

5. Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal

5.1 The museum recognises that the principles on which priorities for rationalisation and disposal are determined will be through a formal review process that identifies which collections are included and excluded from the review. The outcome of review and any subsequent rationalisation will not reduce the quality or significance of the collection and will result in a more useable, well managed collection.

5.2 The procedures used will meet professional standards. The process will be documented, open and transparent. There will be clear communication with key stakeholders about the outcomes and the process.

5.3 The priority is to audit the D-Day and Military History Collections to identify:

- items for transfer into the D-Day Collection (this process has already been carried out to a large extent)
- potential disposals
- and separate out unaccessioned items stored within the main reference collection with a view to disposal.

6. Legal and ethical framework for acquisition and disposal of items

6.1 The museum recognises its responsibility to work within the parameters of the Museum Association Code of Ethics when considering acquisition and disposal.

7. Collecting policies of other museums

7.1 The museum will take account of the collecting policies of other museums and other organisations collecting in the same or related areas or subject fields. It will consult with these organisations where conflicts of interest may arise or to define areas of specialism, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and waste of resources.

7.2 Specific reference is made to the following museum(s):

- Imperial War Museum
- National Museum of the Royal Navy
- National Army Museum
- RAF Museum
- National Maritime Museum
- Regimental and Corps museums (most of which are part of the Army Museums Ogilby Trust network)

- Local museums and archives throughout the UK

8. Acquisition

8.1 The process for agreeing acquisitions is:

- Potential gifts or purchases are assessed by the relevant specialist curator; the object must fit within the approved collection development policy, ideally be in good condition and the museum must be able to curate it effectively. If the item on offer meets these requirements it will be accepted by the curator.
- Larger or more unusual offers will be referred to the Museum and Visitor Services Manager and/or the Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services. If the item is particularly sensitive the view of the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development will be sought.

8.2 The D-Day Story will not acquire any object or specimen unless it is satisfied that the object or specimen has not been acquired in, or exported from, its country of origin (or any intermediate country in which it may have been legally owned) in violation of that country's laws. (For the purposes of this paragraph 'country of origin' includes the United Kingdom).

8.3 In accordance with the provisions of the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which the UK ratified with effect from November 1 2002, and the Dealing in Cultural Objects (Offences) Act 2003, The D-Day Story will reject any items that have been illicitly traded. The governing body will be guided by the national guidance on the responsible acquisition of cultural property issued by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in 2005.

9. Human remains

The museum does not hold or intend to acquire any human remains.

10. Biological and geological material

10.1 The museum does not hold or intend to acquire any biological or geological material.

11. Archaeological material

11.1 The museum will not acquire archaeological material (including excavated ceramics) in any case where the governing body or

responsible officer has any suspicion that the circumstances of their recovery involved a failure to follow the appropriate legal procedures.

- 11.2 In England, Wales and Northern Ireland the procedures include reporting finds to the landowner or occupier of the land and to the proper authorities in the case of possible treasure (i.e. the Coroner for Treasure) as set out in the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended by the Coroners & Justice Act 2009).

12. Exceptions

- 12.1 Any exceptions to the above clauses will only be because the museum is:
- acting as an externally approved repository of last resort for material of local (UK) origin
 - acting with the permission of authorities with the requisite jurisdiction in the country of origin
- 12.2 In these cases, the museum will be open and transparent in the way it makes decisions and will act only with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority. The museum will document when these exceptions occur.

13. Spoliation

- 13.1 The museum will use the statement of principles 'Spoliation of Works of Art during the Nazi, Holocaust and World War II period', issued for non-national museums in 1999 by the Museums and Galleries Commission.

14. The Repatriation and Restitution of objects and human remains

The museum's governing body, acting on the advice of the museum's professional staff, if any, may take a decision to return human remains (unless covered by the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums' issued by DCMS in 2005), objects or specimens to a country or people of origin. The museum will take such decisions on a case by case basis; within its legal position and taking into account all ethical implications and available guidance. This will mean that the procedures described in 16.1-5 will be followed but the remaining procedures are not appropriate.

The disposal of human remains from museums in England, Northern Ireland and Wales will follow the procedures in the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums'.

15. Disposal procedures

- 15.1 All disposals will be undertaken with reference to the Spectrum primary procedures on disposal.
- 15.2 The governing body will confirm that it is legally free to dispose of an item. Agreements on disposal made with donors will also be taken into account.
- 15.3 When disposal of a museum object is being considered, the museum will establish if it was acquired with the aid of an external funding organisation. In such cases, any conditions attached to the original grant will be followed. This may include repayment of the original grant and a proportion of the proceeds if the item is disposed of by sale.
- 15.4 When disposal is motivated by curatorial reasons the procedures outlined below will be followed and the method of disposal may be by gift, sale, exchange or as a last resort – destruction.
- 15.5 The decision to dispose of material from the collections will be taken by the governing body only after full consideration of the reasons for disposal. Other factors including public benefit, the implications for the museum's collections and collections held by museums and other organisations collecting the same material or in related fields will be considered. Expert advice will be obtained and the views of stakeholders such as donors, researchers, local and source communities and others served by the museum will also be sought.
- 15.6 A decision to dispose of a specimen or object, whether by gift, exchange, sale or destruction (in the case of an item too badly damaged or deteriorated to be of any use for the purposes of the collections or for reasons of health and safety), will be the responsibility of the governing body of the museum acting on the advice of professional curatorial staff, if any, and not of the curator or manager of the collection acting alone.
- 15.7 Once a decision to dispose of material in the collection has been taken, priority will be given to retaining it within the public domain. It will therefore be offered in the first instance, by gift or sale, directly to other Accredited Museums likely to be interested in its acquisition.
- 15.8 If the material is not acquired by any Accredited museum to which it was offered as a gift or for sale, then the museum community at large will be advised of the intention to dispose of the material normally through a notice on the MA's Find an Object web listing service, an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites (if appropriate).
- 15.9 The announcement relating to gift or sale will indicate the number and nature of specimens or objects involved, and the basis on which the

material will be transferred to another institution. Preference will be given to expressions of interest from other Accredited Museums. A period of at least two months will be allowed for an interest in acquiring the material to be expressed. At the end of this period, if no expressions of interest have been received, the museum may consider disposing of the material to other interested individuals and organisations giving priority to organisations in the public domain.

15.10 Any monies received by the museum governing body from the disposal of items will be applied solely and directly for the benefit of the collections. This normally means the purchase of further acquisitions. In exceptional cases, improvements relating to the care of collections in order to meet or exceed Accreditation requirements relating to the risk of damage to and deterioration of the collections may be justifiable. Any monies received in compensation for the damage, loss or destruction of items will be applied in the same way. Advice on those cases where the monies are intended to be used for the care of collections will be sought from the Arts Council England.

15.11 The proceeds of a sale will be allocated so it can be demonstrated that they are spent in a manner compatible with the requirements of the Accreditation standard. Money must be restricted to the long-term sustainability, use and development of the collection.

15.12 Full records will be kept of all decisions on disposals and the items involved and proper arrangements made for the preservation and/or transfer, as appropriate, of the documentation relating to the items concerned, including photographic records where practicable in accordance with Spectrum procedure on deaccession and disposal.

15.13 Disposal by exchange

The museum will not dispose of items by exchange.

15.14 Disposal by destruction

- If it is not possible to dispose of an object through transfer or sale, the governing body may decide to destroy it.
- It is acceptable to destroy material of low intrinsic significance (duplicate mass-produced articles or common specimens which lack significant provenance) where no alternative method of disposal can be found.
- Destruction is also an acceptable method of disposal in cases where an object is in extremely poor condition, has high associated health and safety risks or is part of an approved destructive testing request identified in an organisation's research policy.
- Where necessary, specialist advice will be sought to establish the appropriate method of destruction. Health and safety risk assessments will be carried out by trained staff where required.
- The destruction of objects should be witnessed by an appropriate member of

the museum workforce. In circumstances where this is not possible, eg the destruction of controlled substances, a police certificate should be obtained and kept in the relevant object history file.

16 Loans

16.1 Loans In

- The council will not normally accept material on loan for the museum collections unless for the purpose of temporary exhibition or copying, or where the item is of exceptional interest. Loans are only accepted for a specified fixed term only, usually annual or bi-annual, renewable in writing. There may be some specific exceptions to this rule where terms will be agreed separately.
- Long-term loans, particularly but not exclusively of archaeological material, will not be accepted unless the owner takes financial responsibility for their care and curation.

16.2 Loans Out

- In accordance with the principles of the Museums Association's Smarter Loans policy (2012), the council may make loans of accessioned museum items to external venues enabling Portsmouth's collections to reach wider audiences. Each application will be considered on its own merits and may require formal agreement by the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport. Loans will only be made if standard conditions of loan are met and in most cases this will require the satisfactory completion of facilities reports.

Appendix A: Historical narrative used in current displays

This narrative was created as part of the redevelopment of the museum's displays in the period 2014-2018 and informs The D-Day Story's collecting policy. However, this is not the only way to tell the story of the Normandy campaign. There are topics relating to the campaign, such as its planning and commemoration, the experiences (in 1944, before and since) of individuals who took part in it, which are not specifically mentioned in this list but which are still valid collecting areas. The reason for this is that the limited space and resources available for the new displays placed some limitations on their creation.

1. Preparations

	Story	Description
1.1	Dunkirk to D-Day	Campaigns between the 1940 Dunkirk Evacuations and D-Day, including the Blitz, the Bomber offensive, the campaigns in North Africa and Italy, as well as allied servicemen in exile in Britain. If the individual does not have a connection to the Normandy campaign, limit collecting to personnel with a Portsmouth connection and accession into Military History collection.
1.2	Choosing Normandy	The decision to land in Normandy as opposed to other locations, and the information that had to be gathered and processed to arrive at that decision.
1.3	D-Day: the plan	The various plans developed for D-Day, from top-level planning documents issued by senior commanders to orders and other documents issued to lower-ranking personnel.
1.4	Set Europe Ablaze	The actions of the French Resistance, Special Operations Executive and similar organisations in German-occupied Europe 1940-1944, and the formation of Allied special forces units such as airborne forces and the commandos.
1.5	Mobilising for War	Allied personnel enlisting into the armed services and other supporting roles, such as war industries and reserved occupations.
1.6	Allies Assemble	Allied personnel gathering in Britain from 1942 onwards, including interactions with civilians. In particular emphasis on the period circa January 1944 - August 1944 when troops were assembling in the South of England prior to crossing to France.
1.7	Training and Exercises	Basic and specialist training for Allied personnel, and training exercises, such as Fabius and Tiger.
1.8	Reconnaissance and Information Gathering	Units and organisations involved in information gathering and aerial reconnaissance. Also the analysis and dissemination of the information gained.
1.9	Secrecy	Attempts to keep plans and information secret, such as Bigot and Bogus, and attempts by individual personnel to circumvent security measures.
1.10	Specialist Equipment	The development, design, manufacture and testing of special vehicles such as the Hobart's Funnies and the Horsa glider. Also specialist clothing and equipment in

		response to the challenges posed by a cross-channel invasion.
1.11	Logistics: Mulberry and PLUTO	Inventions and engineering projects to aid allied logistics, particularly Mulberry Harbours and the PLUTO pipeline,
1.12	The Atlantic Wall	The physical German defences in occupied Europe, particularly along the Atlantic and channel coasts.
1.13	German Armed Forces	The experiences of people who were manning the German defences in Northern France. Includes elements of German forces such as Osttruppen, Hiwis and Organisation Todt.
1.14	French Home Front	The experiences of French people who were living under German occupation 1940-1944.

2. Ready to Go

	Story	Description
2.1	Final preparations	Preparations for D-Day in Britain, such as marshalling camps, embarkation points, troops loading into ships and landing craft.
2.2	Meanwhile in France	Events and experiences in occupied France in the days and hours leading up to D-Day, from the French and German perspective.
2.3	The decision to go	The decision taken by General Eisenhower, in consultation with his senior commanders, to launch D-Day on 6 June 1944.

3. D-Day

Beaches - includes landing craft crews relevant to each beach.

	Story	Description
3.1	Sea Crossing	Ships, landing craft and the experiences of crews and embarked personnel during the crossing of the English Channel on D-Day
3.2	Air Crossing	Air forces and airborne forces on D-Day
3.3	Utah Beach	Landings on this beach, including US Airborne forces landing behind Utah Beach.
3.4	Omaha Beach	Landings on this beach
3.5	Gold Beach	Landings on this beach
3.6	Juno Beach	Landings on this beach
3.7	Sword Beach	Landings on this beach, including British Airborne forces landing inland
3.8	D-Day has come	How news of D-Day spread, including formal reporting such as newspapers, radio, photographers and informal reporting such as letters and personal correspondence
3.9	The Germans on D-Day	The experiences of German troops and foreign personnel who were under German command on D-Day.

4. Battle of Normandy

	Story	Description
4.1	Experience of	The experience of servicemen and women from both sides

	Battle	during the Battle of Normandy, particularly relating to the weapons used
4.2	Medical and casualties	The treatment and care of service personnel and civilians who were wounded or killed during the Battle of Normandy.
4.3	French Home Front	The experiences of French people who were caught up in the Battle of Normandy.
4.4	French Resistance	The experiences of French people who fought the Germans after the Allied landings as part of the French Resistance.
4.5	Sequence of Events	The broad outline of events from 6 June 1944 until the liberation of Paris on 25 August 1944. Includes aspects such as the cross-channel ferrying of men and supplies, and the German V-1 and V-2 weapons which were fired against the UK and elsewhere.

5. Legacy

	Story	Description
5.1	Coming Home	Post-war experiences, demobilisation and return to civilian life
5.2	Loss	The experiences and stories of men and women who were killed and their families and friends
5.3	Veterans	Individual veterans and veterans associations, how they commemorate and perceive themselves
5.4	Popular Culture	Responses to D-Day in popular culture such as film, literature, music and art. Also references to the term 'D-Day' in everyday use
5.5	Commemorating D-Day	Events, projects and memorabilia to commemorate D-Day, such as special anniversaries. Also commemorative material such as souvenirs and memorials

6. Overlord Embroidery

The story of how the Overlord Embroidery was commissioned, researched, designed and made, and its history before going on display at the D-Day Museum in 1984.