

MUSEUM OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SDSHS Board of Trustees Report

August 28, 2024

Education

The school season has resumed, and teachers continue requesting education kits. This summer was busier than normal with museums and libraries also making use of the kits. As curriculum is updated, the kits are also being refurbished. So far, three of the kits have been fully updated, a fourth is in progress, and the remainder should be done in coming months.

Staff will be present for the fall vendor event at the Northridge Plaza on 21 September 2024.

Exhibition

The design phase of the new exhibit is winding down. The last of the presentations was made 22 August 2024. Work with advisors continues to yield great insights. Other new exhibit work has aided the Office of the State Engineer in aligning budgets.

Preparatory investigations for various exhibits are underway for the celebration of the 100th Session of the State Legislature next year, while assisting the Governor's Office with how best to display items.

Collections

Work continues to update the collections management system. Currently the Society uses PastPerfect, but this system is ultimately too small to manage the state's museum collection property. Collector Systems, a new management system, continues to work through the state's contracting system.

The state holds a collection at the W. H. Over Museum, that was left in place during the 1997 end of the state museum system, 1972-1997. The practice of the Museum has been to make a once per year check of the inventory and reconnect with board and staff. This trip was conducted 26-27 August 2024. The collection is well managed, and we look forward to productive collaborations in the future.

The 3D scan requested by the board of the Great Horse Effigy, which is the logo of the Society, has been scheduled for early 2025 upon its return. The Effigy was sent by courier on 30 July 2024 and arrived safely in Bentonville AR at the Crystal Bridges American Art Museum for their exhibit, "Knowing the West," 14 September 2024-27 January 2025.

The Museum prepared a risk management plan for reoccupying the Cultural Heritage Center. That plan has been forwarded to appropriate risk managers within state government.

The following is a list of recent actions by the Collections Management Committee. Collections were evaluated using the board authorized collection rubric:

1. Is the object authentic?
2. Is the object relevant to the museum's mission?
3. Can the museum acquire clear title?
4. Does the object have good provenance?
5. Would the object be redundant?
6. What is the condition of the object?

- Stephanie Sauder, headdress given to Gov. Warren Green, 1932-1933
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Christy Bailey, quilted bag, date unknown
Action: Decline for Permanent Collection.
- Collected by Staff, US semiquincentennial logo pin, 2023, 2024
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Glen Denke, minuteman missile challenge coin, 2000s
Action: Accept for Reference Collection.
- Collected by Staff, patch, Deadwood police, 2024
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Sandra Kangas, gavel, Women's Club of Pierre, early 1901
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Dan Manning, coat, copy of one designed for First Lady of the US Pat Nixon for her visit to China, 1970s
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Linda Horn, ceremonial war club, buffalo horn Governor Warren Green, 1930s
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Bonnie Wagner, poster, US Army Parachute Team, Carole Hilliard, 1980s-1990s
Action: Decline for Permanent Collection as there is an extensive Carole Hilliard Collection.
- Pat Lanners, hair wreath belonging to Mary Seeman Manning, Seeman Family, 1874
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Collected by staff, challenge coin, Minuteman Missile NHP, 2024
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.
- Donna Byrne, monogrammed table linens belonging to Gov. Frank Bryne used while he was in office, 1913-1917, and dresses worn by Nellie Sherwood, 1890s.
Action: Accept the table linens for Permanent Collection, and reject the dresses.
- Bill Williams, Abraham Lincoln Collection of reproductions and trade memorabilia, 1970s-2020s.
Action: Reject for Permanent Collection as all objects were mass market trade items and memorabilia.
- Heritage Hall Museum (Freeman SD), Stephen and Mary Riggs collection, late 1800s
Action: Accept the collection but sort it into Permanent, Archives, and Reference collections. Vote: 3-1.
- Pierre/ Ft. Pierre American Association of University Women, banner, 2000s.
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection.

- Cynthia DeJong, clothing of Emma Pammel Hansen (1874-1904, a chemist who was married to horticulturalist Niels Ebbeson Hansen), 1890s.
Action: Reject for Permanent Collection and refer to more appropriate museums.
- Tessa Krueger, Medical Tools, hospital equipment, ca 1950s, including a Lilly Medical Cabinet that refrigerates medicines, medical sterilizer, Albumoscope, Adams Lamda Pipette Washer, wicks and caps for alcohol lamp, X-ray lamp, and miscellaneous lab equipment.
Action: Declined for Permanent Collection as duplicative.
- Ami Jennewein Ross, tablet, rules for teachers, date unknown
Action: Declined for Permanent Collection as produced for mass market.
- Transfer from State Archives, bolo tie, Sisseton, date unknown
Action: Declined for Permanent Collection as duplicative.
- Collected by staff, US semiquincentennial items, 2024, including a water bottle, bracelet, pin, and sticker.
Action: Accept for Permanent Collection, Vote: 4-1, with the majority believing that the collection is a record of the US 250 and dissent noting that the collection is mass produced.

Submitted by

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