

## NAGPRA Policy

It is MOSH's policy to comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 and subsequent amendments. Collection objects subject to repatriation under NAGPRA include: Native American human remains, associated and unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. Museum staff will not intentionally collect Native American human remains or objects specified under the Act, unless written permission has been granted by the appropriate Native American tribe or corporation.

MOSH's current collection of Native American objects is in full compliance with all provisions of NAGPRA. Inventories and summaries of the collection were submitted to, and processed by, the National Park Service per NAGRPA regulations in 1994 and 2009. Copies of these inventories are stored in the Curatorial office and as digital records on the Museum's server.

## History and Natural Science Collection Care and Conservation

Care of the Collections is a continuing responsibility accepted by MOSH on behalf of the general public. Therefore, the Museum will carry out the legal, ethical and professional responsibilities required to provide necessary care for all collections objects acquired or borrowed.

### Environmental Controls

For the History and Natural Science Collections, a relative humidity of 45% +/- 5% is considered safe. The optimum temperature range is 68° – 72°F with 2° - 3°F fluctuations within 24 hours. Changes in both temperature and RH may occur gradually as the seasons change.

To control the damaging effects of light, LED lighting will be used in areas where Collections objects are stored and exhibited.

Pests, such as insects and rodents, feed on the organic constituents of objects and their storage materials. Pest activity is monitored by visual inspection. The Registrar is responsible for monitoring pest activity in collection storage areas. The Facility Manager, Director of Exhibits, maintenance staff, visitor services staff and curatorial staff all work together in monitoring pest activity in exhibits. The Director of Exhibits manages the building pest control program, and in conjunction works with the Curator to manage collection storage and exhibit spaces. The Exhibits Director is responsible for necessary building improvements.

### *Exhibition Guidelines*

To ensure the preservation of collections objects, the following guidelines will be implemented for objects on display:

#### Lighting

- Highly light-sensitive materials, such as textiles, photographs, documents, and organic materials will be rotated on and off exhibit to avoid prolonged exposure.
- Whenever possible, reproductions of photographs and documents made from digital scans will be used rather than originals.
- All electric lights in exhibition areas will be turned off every night at closing.
- All electric lights in exhibition areas will be LED lamps or will be fitted with UV filters.
- All windows in exhibition areas are fitted with UV filtering glass.

#### Housekeeping

- Exterior of display cases will be cleaned regularly to remove dust.
- Interior of display cases will be dusted and vacuumed by trained curatorial staff as needed.

#### Display

- Collections objects will be exhibited using mounting equipment appropriate to each individual object to create a stable and secure display.
- All mounting materials and exhibition labels will be made of acid-free materials.

#### Security

- All display cases will be secured with locks or museum screws and accessible only by curatorial staff.
- Curatorial staff will close areas to the public when working in an open display case.

### *Preventative Care and Conservation*

The History Collection is made of objects of varying materials that all require specific methods of care and conservation. The Curator will use professional care and

conservation methods as described in the *National Park Service Museum Handbook, Part I Museum Collections Appendices*, located in the Curatorial office.