



NEVILLE PUBLIC MUSEUM

OF BROWN COUNTY

Bridging Communities • Connecting Generations

NEVILLE PUBLIC MUSEUM COLLECTING SCOPE

The function of this Collecting Scope is to serve as a guide to collection acquisition.

About the Neville Public Museum

The Neville Public Museum has been a benefit to Northeastern Wisconsin for over 100 years. With community support, the Museum can continue our mission for many years to come.

Mission Statement

The Neville Public Museum of Brown County is an accredited cultural institution that champions history, science, and art. Located in downtown Green Bay, Wisconsin, the Museum is dedicated to the collection and preservation of significant objects relevant to Northeast Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The Museum seeks to bridge these multi-generational regional communities through engaging exhibits and dynamic programming.

Collections

The Collections Department cares for the over one million items in the permanent collections.

The collections consist of representative materials which document the development, through time, of Northeastern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan as reflected in its historic building furnishings, personal and societal artifacts, tools and equipment, communication and recreational artifacts, geology, archaeology, natural history, photographs and moving image film.

The Museum acquires objects, images, and documents that have strong potential for meaningful future use in exhibitions, programs, and for research, that fill gaps in existing collections, and that tell the story of a significant event or theme in the region's history.

Collecting preference is given to those items that promote the directive to the Collections Department for Implementing the Initiatives, Goals, and Strategies Plan as outlined in the [Initiatives, Goals and Strategies 2021-2025](#) document. The directive states:

- **Collections:** Focuses on finding ways to add contemporary artifacts to our collection that reflect the diversity of our community.

This focus will help assure that future collecting is done following the IDEAs format - inclusion, diversity, equity, access.

Additionally, items accepted into the permanent collection must meet the collecting criteria outlined in the Museum's Collections Management Policy, revised 4/2022.

If a significant item is offered and it is known to be of superior quality to an identical item already in the collections, the offered item may be accepted on the condition that the like item already in the collection is deaccessioned.

Object provenance (e.g., history of the item's creation/creator, subject matter, and use) is especially important in evaluation of the interpretive and research potential of objects, images, and documents.

There are items the Museum does not collect including those listed below and on our website: <https://www.nevillepublicmuseum.org/resources/collections-department/artifact-donation/>.

- The Neville Public Museum does not collect ethnographic materials which are subject to NAGPRA regulations. Refer to the NAGPRA Policy, revised 1/2016.
- Botanical specimens will not be collected by the Museum except as disposable prop material for a particular exhibit.

The museum accepts and maintains non-permanent collection material:

- The museum houses archaeological material recovered through excavations by contracted archeologists. A contract must be in place to accept these collections. See the Contract Archeology Policy, revised 4/2018.
- The Neville Public Museum Collections Department collects for the research library. Over 4000 books, periodicals, maps, and documents are used for staff research and are available to the general public by appointment. It is a non-lending library. Items added to the research library are considered consumable. The library holdings are cataloged using LibraryThing and are discoverable online.

PastPerfect web edition is the collections management system used to maintain permanent collections artifact records and make them discoverable online.