

Collections Report

Sarah Honeycutt, Collections Manager

February 2025

Ongoing Projects:

| Project | Assigned To | Status Update |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Haltiner Collection Inventory | Nicole | 256 items inventoried (in progress) |
| Fred Trelfa Digitization | Sarah, Nicole, and Matt W. | 244 photos digitized (in progress) |
| Library Organization | Sarah and volunteers | 212 items inventoried (in progress) |
| Digitize N.A. Art Collection | Matt W. | 10 items digitized (completed) |

Other Activities & Accomplishments:

- Processed 2 research requests.
- Processed 8 incoming artifact donations.
- Accessioned and cataloged 82 new artifacts.
- Received a \$3,000 donation from Northeast Michigan Genealogical Society for new boxes for Van Nocker Collection.
 - Researched box options and inventoried collection to know what to order and how many.
- Met with staff from NOAA for a tour of the new exhibit space.
- Created a new housekeeping plan for collections storage (to be implemented in 2025).
- Completed 8 condition reports for deaccessioning moldy items in Center Storage.
- Updated the Burston Collection in PastPerfect (124 records).

The Collections Committee recommends the Besser Museum Board of Trustees accept the following items into the museum's Permanent Collection:

1. Milk bottle from Dietz Diary. Donated by Claudia Chapman of Alpena, Michigan.
2. Black ash basket, unknown artist. Donated by Tara Wilson of Alpena, Michigan.
3. Letter accompanied with "A Century in Alpena School" book from Ella White addressed to Fred Trelfa. Donated by Annette Trelfa of Alpena, Michigan.
4. 1939 Sousaphone with original case and stand. Played by Ollie Rouleau in the Alpena City band. Donated by Dennis Artley of Alpena, Michigan.
5. Painting of Alpena veteran, Willard Diem in uniform. Donated by Lois Spragg of Rowlett, TX.

The Collections Committee recommends the Besser Museum Board of Trustees, deaccession the following items from the museum's Permanent Collection:

1. Men's felt hat (2007.26.1)
Reason: Extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash
2. Men's felt hat (2007.26.2)
Reason: extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash
3. Leather pair of shoes (2007.26.6a-b)
Reason: extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash
4. Leather pair of shoes (2007.26.7a-b)
Reason: extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash
5. Leather pair of shoes (2007.26.8a-b)
Reason: extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash
6. Leather pair of shoes (2007.26.10a-b)
Reason: extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash
7. Leather pair of shoes (2007.26.11a-b)
Reason: extremely poor condition and shows signs of mold
Proposal: Dispose of them in the trash

