

# LOG CABIN VILLAGE COLLECTIONS PLAN

Last updated: 8/4/2008

## **Purpose of Collections Plan:**

The purpose of the collections plan is to prioritize objects to be acquired by the Log Cabin Village (LCV) and to set limitations as to what will be acquired. The plan will provide a systematic and controlled way of acquiring objects in order to ensure necessary, but orderly growth of the LCV collections.

This plan will be revised annually to revise and update collections priorities and to assess LCV's collections needs.

## **Scope of Collections** (as stated in the Log Cabin Village *Collections Policy*):

LCV will collect historical structures, objects, photographs, and documents from, relating, or pertaining to Texas' pioneer era (1840-1890). The collections will consist of authentic objects as well as reproductions, as long as the items are relevant to LCV's purpose and may used to attain LCV's goals.

## **Scope of Time Period:**

While the time period interpreted starts with 1840, artifacts predating this year may be appropriate to "set the stage" or simply because they would have existed during LCV's interpreted time period.

## **Guidelines for Collecting:**

There are collections of objects in which LCV is deficient, and the acquisition of these objects would greatly enhance the educational and preservation efforts of LCV. As a museum, LCV has the responsibility to acquire, collect, and preserve artifacts, structures and other objects that are relevant to its mission. Collecting is at the core of LCV's role as a public institution in the community. Objects are collected and preserved because of their historic and/or intrinsic value and importance to the heritage of the community that LCV serves.

As the Collections Policy states, only items that are relevant to its mission and within the aforementioned *Scope of Collections* must be acquired. Furthermore, they will be acquired only if LCV has the resources to care for and preserve the objects.

For the full set of acquisition guidelines and for further information about how LCV acquires and accessions object, refer to the Log Cabin Village *Collections Policy*.

In order to ensure proper preservation, interpretation and care of all acquired objects, LCV must build its collections judiciously. Before anything is acquired, all the guidelines set forth in the Log Cabin Village *Collections Policy* shall be followed.

LCV must perform an evaluation of its collection to more accurately define its collections needs using the following guidelines:

- 1) Identify the museum's audience(s) and how their needs will be served by the collections.
- 2) Review strengths and weaknesses of the existing collections.
- 3) Include a "gap analysis" contrasting the real and the ideal collection.
- 4) Set priorities for acquisition and deaccessioning based on the needs assessment and gap analysis.
- 5) Identify "complementary collections" held by other museums or organizations that may affect the museums collection choices (what other museums have, we may not want to collect)
- 6) Take into account existing or needed resources.

## **COLLECTION NEEDS AS OF 8/4/08**

### **PRIORITY 1:**

#### **Howard Cabin artifacts:**

- On hold until restoration is complete
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#### **Foster Cabin artifacts:**

- 1850/60s parlor decorations (figurines, etc)
- Foster family artifacts
- Slave artifacts

#### **African American artifacts:**

- Photographs\*, documents\*, art\*, tools, implements, textiles\* (pre and post Civil War 1840s – 1890s) documenting the life of African Americans in Texas
- Civil War implements and paraphernalia (slaves, owners, freemen).

#### **Mexican/ Tejano artifacts:**

- Photographs\*, documents\*, art, tools, textiles\*, cookware, household and farm implements (ca. 1830 – 1890) documenting the life of Mexican Americans before and after the Texas Revolution and before and after the U.S.-Mexico War.
- Texas Revolution implements and paraphernalia (from Texas and Mexican sides).

#### **Smokehouse artifacts:**

- Salting bins

#### **Native American artifacts:**

- **When acquiring Native American Artifacts, NAGPRA laws must be enforced).**
- Art\*, clothing\*, basketry, photographs\*, documents, weapons, cookware, household and farm implements.

- Only Caddo, Cherokee, Comanche, Tonkawa artifacts will be considered for acquisition.

**Other artifacts:**

- Medicinal artifacts
- Christmas artifacts predating the 1890s
- Jewelry, female and male toiletries (shaving mugs, combs, make up containers, etc)
- Documents, letters and photographs directly relating of pertaining to the families whose cabin are preserved at the LCV (Foster, Pickard, Seela, Parker, Howard, Shaw and Tompkins).
- Documents (photographs, newspapers, etc) documenting images of North Texas particularly every day life– 1840 -1890.

**PRIORITY 2:**

- Toys and games: dolls, board games, “pretend toys”
- Other childhood artifacts
- Handspun, hand woven, hand crafted quilts, cloth, blankets, etc. \*
- Male, female, and child costumes from 1830-1890. \*

*\*These objects are sensitive to relative humidity, temperature, pollutants, and light. They should only be acquired if LCV has the appropriate storage space to meet their particular requirements for conservation. For the same reason, these objects may need to be acquired for the effective rotation of artifacts on exhibit.*

**PRIORITY 3:**

- Objects that are within the scope of collections and are brought in by the community for donation.
- Each object will be judged on a case-by-case basis with particular attention being paid to the historical significance of the object, its condition, and whether LCV has any purpose or use for such object either in its Educational/Reference collection, its Public Use collection, or Research collection and whether the object meets all the acquisition guidelines set forth in the *Collections Policy* and this plan.

**COLLECTION SURPLUS  
AS OF 8/8/06**

The following is a list of artifacts that LCV is currently not collecting due to excessive samples/ reproductions in collections. This list excludes artifacts whose provenance can be directly traced back to the LCV families and/or other North Texas historical figures.

- Spinning wheels
- Quilts of dubious quality and provenance

- Pots/pans
- Ladder back chairs
- Candle molds
- Cotton night gowns
- Woodworking and blacksmithing tools

*Public Disclosure: Upon request, this plan will be made public to any individual, group, or institution.*