

Alaska State Museum, Juneau
Addison Field, Chief Curator
Andrew Washburn, Museum Registrar

Transportation Loan Assessment

Total Project Budget: \$15,517.41

Requested Amount: \$3590.00

Project type(s): Training Supplies/Materials

Collaborating? Yes

Completion Date: 11/1/2017

Project Description:

The goal of this project is to reconcile the legacy of a major Alaskan transportation collection through collaborative assessment. The collection of the state's Air Progress Museum, established in Anchorage with Centennial money in 1967, was partially destroyed by fire in 1973. Following its demise, the surviving artifacts were absorbed into the Alaska State Museum collection. With no storage space for these large industrial items in Juneau, the collection was given on loan to the entity now known as the Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry (MATI), and another loan was later made to the entity known today as the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum (AAHM). Challenges of distance, budget, staffing, and museum professionalism have hampered care of this collection for decades (see timeline appendix A). This grant proposal asks for funding to facilitate travel and collaboration needed to locate, inventory, photograph, and condition report these objects on loan and invigorate the professional relationship between the three institutions to determine the best future disposition of the collection.

Large industrial artifacts are among the most challenging collections to care for in a museum setting, and there are many approaches on a spectrum ranging from complete restoration and active use to static display in climate controlled facilities. The Alaska State Museum follows the guidelines established by the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum for care and conservation of its own collections and promotes those standards for its objects on loan to other institutions. Recognizing the variety of needs different institutions address, the ASM often recommends the Henry Ford Museum's collections policies to other institutions, particularly regarding artifact ranking (appendix B). Unfortunately, the items on loan from the Alaska State Museum have had a checkered past, occasionally involving inadequate storage, unauthorized restoration, and poor tracking on the part of borrowing institutions. As a lender, the ASM has struggled to send staff to these institutions to help with loan renewals and inventories although it has a long track record of sending Grant-in-Aid money and promoting professional development.

This year, the Alaska State Museum is finishing moving its collections into the new Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building in Juneau, including vacating off-site storage. Many transportation collections items in off-site storage are being considered for deaccession, but proper assessment of these items in context of the rest of the state's transportation collection is impossible without proper inventory of the loan items still in southcentral Alaska. Over the past few decades, there have been various conflicts and disagreements about the disposition of this collection. Museum professionalism and collegiality are in a very different place than they were even ten years ago, and the time is right for a collaborative project between ASM, MATI, and AAHM to finally resolve the issues created by the death of a museum forty years ago.

The assessment will be conducted during the summer of 2017. The reporting and loan renewal will be completed by November 1, 2017.

Budget Narrative:

The total project budget is \$15,517.41. The Alaska State Museum requests \$3590 to pay for the Museum Registrar and State Conservator to travel (airfare and rental car) and lodge in Anchorage and Wasilla while they survey the objects on loan to the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum and the Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry. The requested amount will also pay for per diem for ASM staff while in travel status. In addition, there is a budget amount for packing and collections management supplies. These supplies will be used to label objects, transport them if need be, or simply enhance their storage condition. These supplies will include acid-free folder stock and twill tape for labeling and tarps, bubble wrap, and plastic pallets if necessary. Unused supplies would be left with borrowing institutions. The remainder of the budget (staff time and indirect costs) will be contributed by the Alaska State Museum.

Project Title: Transportation Loan Objects Assessment
Applicant: Alaska State Museum

Item	Description / Activity	Rate	Quantity	Grant Request	Other Support	Comments
Personnel						
Ellen Carrlee	Condition Reporting and Collections Care Assessment				\$ 5,027.42	2 weeks salary covered by ASM
Andrew Washburn	Logistics, Coordination, photography, documentation				\$3,663.42	2 weeks salary covered by ASM
Services / Contracts / Fees						
Ellen Carrlee	per diem	\$60	3 full days/ 2 hr	\$270.00		
Andrew Washburn		\$60	3 full days/ 2 hr	\$270.00		
Travel						
Team JNU to ANC		\$325		\$650.00		airfare estimate
Truck or Van Rental		\$110 a day		\$550.00		car estimate
Lodging		\$140 per person per day		\$1,400.00		Average of accomodations in ANC and Wasilla/Palmer area
Equipment						
Supplies						
Labelling Supplies	Folder Stock, Twill Tape, Archival Pens			\$150.00		9781.55
Packing Material	Tarps, bubble wrap, closed cell foam, tape			\$300.00	\$100.00	State will provide foam
Shipping						
Other						

The budget should be complete and include appropriate information that clearly relates to the project. The costs should be reasonable with regard to completing the project as described. Matching funds or in-kind services should be included in "Other Funds" with a description in comments if needed.

Matching funds are not required, but depending on the type of project, matching funds and in-kind services may indicate a higher level of commitment and support for the project which can result in higher application scoring. Itemized costs should be described clearly and concisely.

Equipment and supply costs should be itemized. Applicants may add rows to this spreadsheet as needed.

Not all budget items are required. Only complete the items relevant to your project.

Indirect costs (overhead) can not be charged to your project, but can be shown as other support.

Total Direct Costs	\$3,590.00	\$8,790.84
Indirect Costs		\$3,136.57
GRAND TOTAL	\$15,517.41	

Source	Amount	Percent
Grant Request		0.00%
Other Support		0.00%

Itemized material list with estimated prices

Item	Price	Quantity	Likely Supplier	total
Packing/Transportation				
Large Tarp	\$ 120.00	1	Home Depot	\$ 120.00
small tarps	\$ 30.00	2	Home Depot	\$ 60.00
Heavey Duty Tape (red)	\$ 16.00	4	Home Depot	\$ 64.00
Bubble Wrap Roll	\$ 50.00	1	Home Depot	\$ 50.00
Labeling/Storage supplies				
Acid Free Folders	\$ 15.00	2	Gaylord	\$ 30.00
Closed Cell Foam			From existing ASM supplies	\$ 100.00
Twill Tape	\$ 22.00	2	Gaylord	\$ 40.00
Micron Pens	\$ 19.00	2	Gaylord	\$ 40.00
Shipping			Gaylord	\$50
				\$ 554.00

TIMELINE for legacy of Air Progress Museum collection

1967 Air Progress Museum, A.K.A. Centennial Transportation Museum, a branch of the Alaska State Museum, is established.

1973 Fire closes the Air Progress Museum, much of the collection is absorbed by the ASM and placed on loan to MARI

1976 MATI opens as the Transportation Museum of Alaska (TMA)

1977 Ted Spencer develops 501(c)3 Alaska Historical Aircraft Society, later to become AAHM

1985 MATI/ASM disagree about ownership and acceptable levels of restoration

1988 AAHM opens a museum facility at Lake Hood, ASM aviation loans transferred there

1989 General Conservation Survey at MATI (Helen Alten, ASM conservator)

1991 Specific Object Conservation Survey for loans items at MATI (Helen Alten, ASM conservator)

1992 Objects accessioned (92-21) into the collection of ASM

1993 First formal loan agreements signed with MATI (LSO.256) and AAHM (LSO.255)

1997 Conservation Assessment of the MATI by James and Margaret Burnham

2001 MATI has a MAP I assessment by Michael Bennett

2003 ASM awards AAHM \$4,600 grant to purchase and install fire and intrusion monitoring system. Site visit to AAHM by ASM Conservator Scott Carrlee (later the Curator of Museum Services)

2004 Five objects recalled (92-21-31, -33, -35, -69)

2005 ASM awards AAHM \$2,000 grant for standardized museums assessment (money returned), Site visit to AAHM by Scott Carrlee, meeting ASM conservator Scott Carrlee treatment for 92-21-37, a propeller in ASM collection on loan to AAHM that was treated without permission in violation of the loan and damaged.

2006 Permission requested by AAHM to move four aircraft on loan to ASM into 40' storage containers because they were getting damaged from outdoor storage. AAHM submits a legislative request for funding to restore Keystone Loening aircraft on loan without consulting the ASM. Permission sought/given to replace a tire on WACO UIC. ASM awards AAHM \$10,000 grant for collections storage cabinets

2007 AAHM director Norm Legasse meets with ASM staff in Juneau. ASM contracts with Malcolm Collum (\$5,630) to condition report the Loening and make recommendations. ASM gains additional off-site storage in Juneau, ships home many loan artifacts not on display, including aircraft engines

2008 ASM gets bids from Century Aviation, Great Lakes Aviation (formerly Hov-Aire) and Conservation Solutions Inc to do the work based on Malcolm Collum's report. Bids come in around \$500,000. May ASM conservator Ellen Carrlee consults with AAHM about lifting Loening engine off the ground for display

2009 ASM staff meets with Norm LeGasse in Juneau (notes taken) Norm discusses idea to hang Loening at airport, mainly focused on plan to form a consortium between 10-11 Anchorage entities

2010 ASM site visit by Ellen Carrlee and Scott Carrlee to AAHM, meeting with Norm LeGasse, tour of facilities. ASM arranges for paper conservator Seth Irwin to come to Alaska, Seth spends many months at the AAHM working on aviation archives with norm LeGasse

2012 Alaska's Apollo 17 moon rock, thought lost in the 1973 fire, recovered by ASM staff and State of Alaska lawyers

2017 Partial survey of AAHM loan items



March 30, 2017

Objects from the collection of the Alaska State Museum (ASM) have been on loan to the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum (AAHM) for twenty five years. During this time both institutions have gone through tremendous changes. One the most significant of these changes is the flowering of professional museum practice. With the increase in the capacity to manage our collections closer to museum professional standards a need to rectify and reconcile past situations has emerged. In order to continue to build on the foundation of professionalism, we support the Alaska State Museum's effort to assess and evaluate the long-term loan of aviation related objects to the AAHM.

The ASM project, **Transportation Loan Assessment**, will benefit our organization in two ways. First, AAHM would like to officially close loan ASM LSO.255 which originated in 1992. When both of our institutions ensure current inventory records reflect accurate object data we can create a current and well documented loan agreement. The current paper trail on the 1992 loan is a very protracted and inaccurate, it would be nice to start fresh and get things up to speed with a precise loan agreement.

Second, the prospects of collaboration closely with ASM collections and conservation staff will help AAHM staff and volunteers better manage our own collection. The areas of sharing knowledge and training could include: object labeling, condition reporting, and object photography. If time allows, we also support the opportunity to give delicate objects a light surface clean. Having written storage and exhibit recommendations for loaned objects will increase AAHM awareness of requirements necessary to maintain proper care of objects and loan agreements.

Thank you for considering ASM's application for this important and timely project.

Sincerely,

Darian LaTocha
Curator of Collections
Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum



Museum of Alaska Transportation & Industry

P.O. Box 870646 • Wasilla, AK 99687
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March 22, 2017

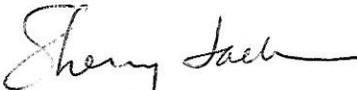
Dear Grantor:

For over twenty years Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry (MATI) has cared for and displayed objects belonging to the Alaska State Museum (ASM). Due to resource scarcity and distance between our organizations ASM and MATI both have found it challenging to maintain up-to-date records of the objects on loan. As both institutions continue to mature it is important to build a strong foundation of museum practice on which future collaboration and cooperation can be built.

The MATI fully supports the ASM project, **Transportation Loan Assessment**. MATI's supports for two reasons. First, MATI shares ASM's desire to renew loan LSO.256 and maintain accurate records of the objects contained in that loan. Second, MATI looks forward to the training opportunities presented by working closely with ASM collections and conservation staff. These could include: object labeling, condition reporting, and object photography.

Thank you for considering the application for funding submitted by ASM to assess the current long term loan.

Sincerely,



Sherry Jackson

Executive Director