

New Object Consideration Policy for Parachute Museum Accession

We are thankful to anyone that actually thinks of the Dave Gold Parachute Museum as a repository for their objects and want to encourage that. This procedure will enhance the environment and our ability to be the proper repository for perpetuity.

Donations must be in accordance with the guidelines of the museum's scope of collections as specified in the collections management policy.

Scope of Collection

The scope of the collection is fairly broad as it applies to parachutes. Artifacts of the collection include/may include parachute assemblies and related components utilized for any application, both military and civilian. These applications may include skydiving, personnel emergency bailout (or ejection), airborne personnel and cargo airdrop, vehicle stabilization & recovery, mid-air retrieval, ground or air vehicle deceleration, ordnance & flares, space parachute systems and other applications as well. Components may include parachute canopies, containers, harnesses, slings, connector hardware, canopy release hardware, manual & automatic opening hardware, and reefing hardware. Uniform or clothing items worn specifically by jumpers (civilian or military) are also included. The scope of documents is just as broad including technical manuals/handbooks directly linked to parachute equipment, test reports/development records of parachute systems and equipment, historical papers and articles describing parachute systems or uses of parachutes, significant correspondence regarding development or use of parachutes, photographs related to development and use of parachutes. The collection may also include objects related to individuals who have played major roles in parachute technology/history. Since one purpose of the museum is to highlight the Dayton area's role in parachute history, the collection may also include objects related to the local facilities (particularly McCook Field or Wright Field) that were involved in parachute development.

The Process

The curator is the initial contact and reviewer of the object(s) to establish feasibility for accession and then present the objects to the Museum Committee for final disposition. Final presentation to the museum committee is NOT a guarantee to accession anything it is only meant to be the next level in the process.

What this means practically is that even if permission is given to leave objects at the museum by the curator that is still no guarantee of acceptance. The items remain the responsibility of the individual bringing the item(s) and he or she will have to accept them back if not accessioned.

The Procedure

The practical side of this process begins with communications with the curator to clear the first step in the process. That can be written, phone, text Skype... you name it. To be clear the process does NOT start by showing up with the item(s) and expectations in hands. Simply

stated this is because we as an organization do not have the people or resources to deal with objects left on the premises in our control.

Please forward a complete detailed list of item(s) to the curator at randy.zuercher@sbcglobal.net for initial review/disposition and to make appropriate arrangements.

On advice from the Parachute Museum Committee I thank you for your consideration.

Randy Zuercher
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