



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA

Monday, June 15, 2026 at 4:00 P.M.

City Hall - Mike Mathews Conference Room
425 N. Richardson Ave. Roswell, NM 88201

Members: Jane Avery, Morgan Breedyk, Nancy Fleming, Tim Hartwick, Katie Huebner, Kay Cargill Jenkins, Lindsay Mayo Fincher, Jose Rivera, and Valli West.

City Council Liaison: Councilor Juliana Halvorson

RMAC Staff Coordinator: Caroline Brooks, Museum Director

RMAC Foundation: Raegan Hardy, Executive Director

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

ACTION ITEMS:

C. Approval of agenda

D. Approval of the May 18, 2026 meeting minutes

E. Consider approval of the deaccession of Martie Zelt, *Return to A-QQ No. 3*, 1983, 1983.017.0003, from the permanent collection due to flood damage beyond repair.

F. Consider approval of the deaccession of *Untitled (Retablo)*, n.d., 1993.010.0014, from the permanent collection due to flood damage beyond repair.

G. Consider approval of the deaccession of *Sewing Kit*, circa 19th Century, 2000.001.0467a-t, from the permanent collection due to flood damage beyond repair.

H. Consider approval of the deaccession of Charles Venrick, *San Jon, New Mexico Gas Station*, n.d., NA2004.003.0001, the permanent collection due to flood damage beyond repair.

I. Discussion and consider approval of a temporary free museum membership program

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

J. Welcome new trustees

K. Conservation update

L. Rebuilding Working Group Report

M. Director's Report

N. RMAC Foundation Report

O. Chair's Remarks and Board Announcements

P. Public Comment

Q. Adjourn

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the public in compliance with Sections 10-15-1 through 10-15-4 NMSA 1978 and Resolution 26-12.

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL QUORUM – A quorum of the City Council may or may not attend, but there will not be debate by the City Council, and no action will be taken. If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Human Resources at 575-624-6700 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the City Clerk at 575-624-6700 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

Printed and posted: Friday, June 12, 2026

June 2025 Museum BOT Meeting

Jun 15, 2026, 4:00 – 5:30 PM (America/Denver)

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ROSWELL MUSEUM
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Monday, May 18, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.
Roswell City Hall, 425 N. Richardson Ave.
Roswell, NM 88201

DRAFT DOCUMENT

REGULAR MEETING AT 4:00 p.m.

Notice of this meeting was given to the public in compliance with Sections 10-15-1 through 10-15-4, NMSA 1978 and Resolution 25-28.

For the Record: Meeting was not being streamed live for the public through GoToMeeting.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair West called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 4:04 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Trustees convened with members Valli West, Nancy Fleming, Jose Rivera, Lindsay Fincher, Tim Hartwick, Kay Cargill Jenkins, Jane Avery (phone), and Kate Huebner. A quorum was established with Morgan Breedyk being absent.

City Council members present: Not present

Staff present: Caroline Brooks, Director; Jessica Parham, Educator; and Aaron Wilder, Curator; Raegan Hardy, Executive Director RMAC Foundation

Community members present: Bruce Dyleski

ACTION ITEMS

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Mayo Fincher motioned to **approve the agenda**. Member Fleming was the second. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion passed 8-0, with members Breedyk being absent.

D. Approval of the April 18, 2026 workshop minutes

Member Fleming motioned to **approve the April 18, 2026 minutes**. Member Rivera was the second. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion passed 8-0, with members Breedyk being absent.

E. Approval of the April 20, 2026 meeting minutes

Member Cargill Jenkins motioned to **approve the April 20, 2026 minutes**. Member Hartwick was the second. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion passed 8-0, with members Breedyk being absent.

F. Consider approval of a gift by Judith Gouch of paintings, photographs, and archival materials representing John and Clinton Taylor Meigs

After seeing a museum social media post of Clinton Meigs, Judith Gouch reached out about donating multiple items related to John and Clinton Meigs. Member Cargil Jenkins motioned to **accept the items into the archives**. Member Fleming was the second. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion passed 8-0, with members Breedyk being absent.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

G. Status of trustee appointments

Bruce Dyleski and Bailey Coll were invited to attend the BOT meeting. Both candidates' applications are waiting on Mayor's approval.

H. Conservation update and review of deaccession request for June 15, 2026 trustee meeting

Information only item since deadline for notice wasn't met prior to this meeting. Will vote on deaccessioning items in June. Director Brooks discussed un-tabling items as new pockets of monies are determined for conservation.

I. Review and discussion of Mix & Mingle event and continued public engagement

Members were provided a summary of the data gathered from the event, including images from the response boards.

J. Discussion and next steps for interim strategic plan

Director Brooks talked about the need to further refine the summary from the April workshop with the Strategic Plan working group and staff. The plan is being developed for the next two-to-three-year time period in the museum's recovery.

K. Update and discussion of locations for Goddard portable exhibit

The Roswell Museum was awarded a New Mexico Spirit grant that will be used to create the exhibit. Discussion was had about where in Roswell it could be displayed (indoors) for the public. Possibly an empty store front on Main Street.

L. Director's Report

Director Brooks will be traveling to Philadelphia for the AAM National Conference. Curator Wilder will be traveling to Austin, TX for a NAGPRA workshop. Interviews for the Museum Registrar have begun. Two candidates will be coming to Roswell for final interviews in May.

M. RMAC Foundation Report

Fundraiser is set for October 10th, 2026. Will be held at the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art. The foundation is continuing to meet with consultants about a capitol campaign.

N. Chair's Remarks and Board Announcements

Chair West is displaying art in Magdalena. Member Fleming is spearheading a public art initiative to paint fire hydrants in the downtown area to celebrate the U.S.A's 250th Anniversary.

N. Public Comment

No comments

P. Adjourn

Member Mayo Fincher moved to adjourn with Member Fleming seconding.
The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

DRAFT



Roswell Museum

Board of Trustees Meeting 5/18/2026

Roswell Museum Deaccession Report: 1983.017.0003

Martie Zelt, *Return to A-QQ No. 3*, 1983, Lithograph, Fabric, Wood, Mixed Media on Paper, Gift of the Artist

Deaccession Reasoning

This artwork was damaged in the October 2024 flood to the point it is not exhibitable. Professionals at The Conservation Center (TCC) in Chicago have confirmed the object is beyond repair. It is considered a total loss by the fine art insurance company.

Deaccession Criteria

1. **Is the object no longer relevant and/or useful to the mission and activities of the Museum?**
The object continues to be relevant to the mission and activities of the Museum, but its physical condition renders it useless as an accessioned object.
2. **Is the object's present condition a factor; can the Museum provide long-term care; or is there danger of not being able to preserve the object properly?** *The object's present condition has deteriorated to the point where long-term care is no longer possible and there is certainty that the Museum can no longer preserve the object properly.*
3. **Has the object deteriorated beyond usefulness?** *Yes.*
4. **Is it doubtful that the object will be used in the foreseeable future?** *Yes.*
5. **What is the intrinsic artistic or historic value of the object in relation to the Museum's mission?** *Before the flood, this object was aligned well to the Museum's mission as it was an accessioned item given to the Museum by the artist. However, the object's condition renders it incapable of supporting the enrichment of present and future generations.*
6. **Do donor restrictions regarding disposition exist or are there legal or ethical considerations that prevent deaccessioning?** *No.*
7. **Are there legal or ethical considerations that would support deaccessioning?** *No.*

1011 N. Richardson Avenue
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

EMAIL: museum@roswell-nm.gov

PHONE: 575-624-6744

WEB: roswellmuseum.org



Roswell Museum

8. **Would deaccessioning this object better meet the needs of other communities than the audiences of the Roswell Museum?** *This object's condition renders it incapable of meeting the needs of all communities.*
9. **How will the interests of the scholarly, cultural, and general communities be affected by deaccessioning?** *The deaccession of this object will not negatively impact these communities due to its deteriorated state. Due to the fact that it is irreversibly distorted, stained, and moldy, it is not the Museum's intent to retain the object.*
10. **Are there other compelling reasons that would prevent or support deaccessioning?** *TCC's determination that the artwork is beyond repair supports deaccessioning.*
11. **Will this deaccession provide the means for improving or strengthening the collections in order to further the goals and mission of the Museum?** *Deaccessioning this artwork will improve and strengthen the collection by removing an artwork that can no longer be preserved.*

Disposition

Given that this object's condition has deteriorated beyond usefulness and the fact that it is irreversibly distorted, stained, and moldy, the Museum may salvage and repurpose as documentation of the flood's impact, or destroy and dispose of the object after deaccessioning.

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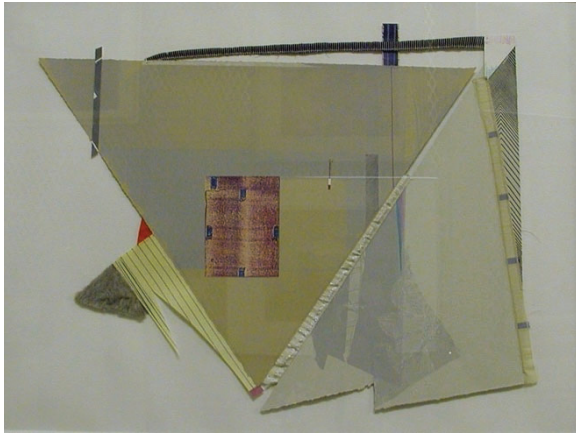
WEB: roswellmuseum.org



Roswell Museum

Documentation of Object's Condition

Pre-Flood:



Post-Flood:



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Item 101:

Title: "Return to A-QQ No. 3"
Attributed to: Martie Zelt
Medium: Lithograph, Fabric, Wood, Mixed Media on Paper
Dimensions: 24" H x 32.5" L
Accession Number: 1983.017.0003



Condition:

The piece arrived at The Conservation Center framed.
The piece exhibits age-related discoloration.
The piece exhibits severe distortion.
The piece is float mounted.
There are water stains, mold, and mud present.
The piece exhibits severe mud stains.
There are embossed areas present.

Treatment Proposal:

Unfortunately, due to the extent of damage the piece is considered a loss.



Roswell Museum

Board of Trustees Meeting 5/18/2026

Roswell Museum Deaccession Report: 1993.010.0014

Unknown Artist, *Untitled (Retablo)*, Date Unknown, Wood, Pigment, Gift of Emily Abbott Nordfeldt

Deaccession Reasoning

This artwork was damaged in the October 2024 flood to the point it is not exhibitable. Professionals at The Conservation Center (TCC) in Chicago have confirmed the object is beyond repair. It is considered a total loss by the fine art insurance company.

Deaccession Criteria

1. **Is the object no longer relevant and/or useful to the mission and activities of the Museum?**
The object continues to be relevant to the mission and activities of the Museum, but its physical condition renders it useless as an accessioned object.
2. **Is the object's present condition a factor; can the Museum provide long-term care; or is there danger of not being able to preserve the object properly?** *The object's present condition has deteriorated to the point where long-term care is no longer possible and there is certainty that the Museum can no longer preserve the object properly.*
3. **Has the object deteriorated beyond usefulness?** *Yes.*
4. **Is it doubtful that the object will be used in the foreseeable future?** *Yes.*
5. **What is the intrinsic artistic or historic value of the object in relation to the Museum's mission?** *Before the flood, this object was aligned well to the Museum's mission as it was an accessioned item given to the Museum by Emily Abbott Nordfeldt and was an excellent example of a retablo. However, the object's condition renders it incapable of supporting the enrichment of present and future generations.*
6. **Do donor restrictions regarding disposition exist or are there legal or ethical considerations that prevent deaccessioning?** *No.*
7. **Are there legal or ethical considerations that would support deaccessioning?** *No.*

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WEB: roswellmuseum.org



Roswell Museum

8. **Would deaccessioning this object better meet the needs of other communities than the audiences of the Roswell Museum?** *This object's condition renders it incapable of meeting the needs of all communities.*
9. **How will the interests of the scholarly, cultural, and general communities be affected by deaccessioning?** *The deaccession of this object will not negatively impact these communities due to its deteriorated state. Due to the fact that it is irreversibly blached with tenting/flaking and sensitive to aqueous and solvent cleaning, it is not the Museum's intent to retain the object.*
10. **Are there other compelling reasons that would prevent or support deaccessioning?** *TCC's determination that the artwork is beyond repair supports deaccessioning.*
11. **Will this deaccession provide the means for improving or strengthening the collections in order to further the goals and mission of the Museum?** *Deaccessioning this artwork will improve and strengthen the collection by removing an artwork that can no longer be preserved.*

Disposition

Given that this object's condition has deteriorated beyond usefulness and the fact that it is irreversibly blached with tenting/flaking and sensitive to aqueous and solvent cleaning, the Museum may salvage and repurpose as documentation of the flood's impact, or destroy and dispose of the object after deaccessioning.

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Roswell Museum

Documentation of Object's Condition

Pre-Flood:



Post-Flood:



1011 N. Richardson Avenue
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PHONE: 575-624-6744

WEB: roswellmuseum.org

Item 386:

Title: "Untitled (Retablo)" Anonymous
Attributed to: Unknown Artist
Medium: Wood, Pigment
Dimensions: 11" H x 1" W x 8" L
Accession Number: 1993.010.0014



Condition:

The painting arrived at The Conservation Center unframed.
The auxiliary support appears to be original.
The painting appears to be executed on a 1" thick panel.
The panel exhibits some slightly open splits on the back.
There are label remnants present on the verso, and an inscription that reads "1993.10.14".
There are two splits present on the surface (1.5" and 4.5") near the lower right corner.
The panel appears to be primed white by the artist.
The paint layer is characteristic of tempera.
The paint layer was tested at the time of examination and found to be sensitive to aqueous and solvent cleaning.
The right half of the painting is tenting/flaking.
There are small losses present along all edges.
There are larger (1/2") losses present overall; these appear to be historic.
There is water staining on the front.
The painting appears to be unsigned.
The painting exhibits mud film and the paint is blanching.

Treatment Proposal:

Unfortunately, due to the extent of damage treatment is not feasible and this piece is considered a loss.



Roswell Museum

Board of Trustees Meeting 5/18/2026

Roswell Museum Deaccession Report: 2000.001.0467a-t

Unknown Artist, *Sewing Kit*, Circa 19th Century, Wood, Brass, Glass, Fabric, Paper, Velvet, Silver, Ivory, Beeswax, Leather, Gift of Rogers & Mary Ellen Aston

Deaccession Reasoning

This historical artifact was damaged in the October 2024 flood to the point it is not exhibitable. Professionals at The Conservation Center (TCC) in Chicago have confirmed the object is most likely beyond repair. It will require \$1,320 for research and testing alone. If conservators end up finding it salvageable, they estimate treatment will cost \$15,000-\$20,000. It is considered a total loss by the fine art insurance company.

Deaccession Criteria

1. **Is the object no longer relevant and/or useful to the mission and activities of the Museum?**
The object continues to be relevant to the mission and activities of the Museum, but its physical condition renders it useless as an accessioned object.
2. **Is the object's present condition a factor; can the Museum provide long-term care; or is there danger of not being able to preserve the object properly?** *The object's present condition has deteriorated to the point where long-term care is no longer possible and there is certainty that the Museum can no longer preserve the object properly.*
3. **Has the object deteriorated beyond usefulness?** *Yes.*
4. **Is it doubtful that the object will be used in the foreseeable future?** *Yes.*
5. **What is the intrinsic artistic or historic value of the object in relation to the Museum's mission?** *Before the flood, this object was aligned well to the Museum's mission as it was an accessioned item given to the Museum by Rogers and Mary Ellen Aston and was an example of a 19th century sewing kit. However, the object's condition renders it incapable of supporting the enrichment of present and future generations.*
6. **Do donor restrictions regarding disposition exist or are there legal or ethical considerations that prevent deaccessioning?** *No.*

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Roswell Museum

7. **Are there legal or ethical considerations that would support deaccessioning?** *No.*
8. **Would deaccessioning this object better meet the needs of other communities than the audiences of the Roswell Museum?** *This object's condition renders it incapable of meeting the needs of all communities.*
9. **How will the interests of the scholarly, cultural, and general communities be affected by deaccessioning?** *The deaccession of this object will not negatively impact these communities due to its deteriorated state. Due to the fact that it is structurally broken throughout, it is not the Museum's intent to retain the object.*
10. **Are there other compelling reasons that would prevent or support deaccessioning?** *TCC's determination that the artwork is most likely beyond repair supports deaccessioning.*
11. **Will this deaccession provide the means for improving or strengthening the collections in order to further the goals and mission of the Museum?** *Deaccessioning this artwork will improve and strengthen the collection by removing an artwork that can no longer be preserved.*

Disposition

Given that this object's condition has deteriorated beyond usefulness and the fact that it is structurally broken, the Museum may salvage and repurpose as documentation of the flood's impact, or destroy and dispose of the object after deaccessioning.

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Roswell Museum

Documentation of Object's Condition

Pre-Flood:



Post-Flood:



1011 N. Richardson Avenue
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WEB: roswellmuseum.org

Item 32:

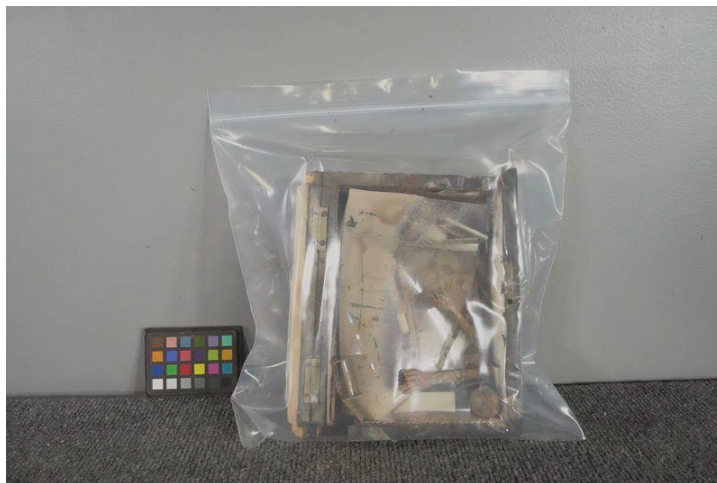
Title: Sewing Kit Inner Lid - Goes with #37
Attributed to: Unsigned
Medium: Wood, Velvet, Metal
Dimensions: 2.5" H x 2" W x 1.75" L



Please refer to Item 37.

Item 37:

Title: Sewing Kit Bottom Half - Goes with TCC Item #s 32 and #38
Attributed to: Unsigned
Medium: Wood, Mixed Media
Dimensions: 8" H x 2.5" W x 7.5" L



Condition:

The complete object includes TCC Item #s Items 32 (additional interior compartment lid), 37, and 38 (lid and interior compartment lid).

The piece is composed of what appears to be ebony and birch wood with tortoise shell decor, brass inlay, silk velvet interior, and bone handles.

The piece appears to have shellac and wax coatings.

The piece exhibits moisture-related damage, including watermarks and tidelines.

The piece exhibits a heavy layer of particulates and silt.

The polished surface exhibits scratches, losses, and blanching. The polished surface is severely compromised.

The piece exhibits surface discoloration.

The joints are loose, failing, and/or structurally broken throughout.

There are areas of loose and missing veneer.

The piece exhibits warping and bowing.

There are shrinkage splits present.

There are broken and missing parts throughout.

There is evidence of mold growth; the mold is inactive.

There are mixed metal sewing implements inside the kit.

The piece is in very poor condition.

Treatment Proposal:

Research and Testing Phase:

The piece will be photographed for in-house documentation before and after research and testing.

Research and testing will be carried out to determine a comprehensive treatment approach.

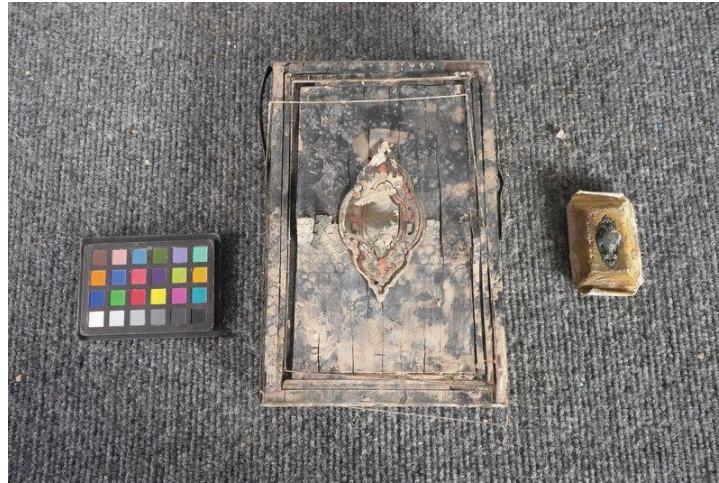
Please Note: *The piece exhibits severe condition issues and may be considered a loss. The research and testing phase outlined above will allow our conservators to determine a full treatment approach, which may include surface cleaning,*

stabilization, repairing and replacing broken and missing elements, coloring repairs, etc. Complete treatment would require a large amount of restoration, including the possible total replacement of the original textiles. A ballpark estimate for the cost of complete treatment is \$15,000.00-\$20,000.00.

Research and Testing Fee: \$1,320.00

Item 38:

Title: Sewing Kit Lid - Goes with TCC Item #37
Attributed to: Unsigned
Medium: Wood, Metal, Velvet
Dimensions: 1.5" H x 5.5" W x 8.25" L



Please refer to TCC Item #37.



Roswell Museum

Board of Trustees Meeting 5/18/2026

Roswell Museum Deaccession Report: NA2004.003.0001

Charles Venrick, *San Jon, New Mexico Gas Station*, Date Unknown, Photograph, Gift of Elizabeth Venrick

Deaccession Reasoning

This artwork was damaged in the October 2024 flood to the point it is not exhibitable. Professionals at The Conservation Center (TCC) in Chicago have confirmed the object is beyond repair. It is considered a total loss by the fine art insurance company.

Deaccession Criteria

1. **Is the object no longer relevant and/or useful to the mission and activities of the Museum?**
The object continues to be relevant to the mission and activities of the Museum, but its physical condition renders it useless as a nonaccessioned object.
2. **Is the object's present condition a factor; can the Museum provide long-term care; or is there danger of not being able to preserve the object properly?** *The object's present condition has deteriorated to the point where long-term care is no longer possible and there is certainty that the Museum can no longer preserve the object properly.*
3. **Has the object deteriorated beyond usefulness?** *Yes.*
4. **Is it doubtful that the object will be used in the foreseeable future?** *Yes.*
5. **What is the intrinsic artistic or historic value of the object in relation to the Museum's mission?** *Before the flood, this object was aligned well to the Museum's mission as it was a nonaccessioned item given to the Museum by the artist's estate as a teaching tool with regard to the artist's practice. However, the object's condition renders it incapable of supporting the enrichment of present and future generations.*
6. **Do donor restrictions regarding disposition exist or are there legal or ethical considerations that prevent deaccessioning?** *No.*
7. **Are there legal or ethical considerations that would support deaccessioning?** *No.*

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Roswell Museum

8. **Would deaccessioning this object better meet the needs of other communities than the audiences of the Roswell Museum?** *This object's condition renders it incapable of meeting the needs of all communities.*
9. **How will the interests of the scholarly, cultural, and general communities be affected by deaccessioning?** *The deaccession of this object will not negatively impact these communities due to its deteriorated state. Due to the fact that it is delaminated to extensively damage the photograph's emulsion, It is not the Museum's intent to retain the object.*
10. **Are there other compelling reasons that would prevent or support deaccessioning?** *TCC's determination that the artwork is beyond repair supports deaccessioning.*
11. **Will this deaccession provide the means for improving or strengthening the collections in order to further the goals and mission of the Museum?** *Deaccessioning this artwork will improve and strengthen the collection by removing an artwork that can no longer be preserved.*

Disposition

Given that this object's condition has deteriorated beyond usefulness and the fact that its emulsion is irreversibly damaged, the Museum may salvage and repurpose as documentation of the flood's impact, or destroy and dispose of the object after deaccessioning.

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WEB: roswellmuseum.org



Roswell Museum

Documentation of Object's Condition

No Visual Documentation Pre-Flood

Post-Flood:



1011 N. Richardson Avenue
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

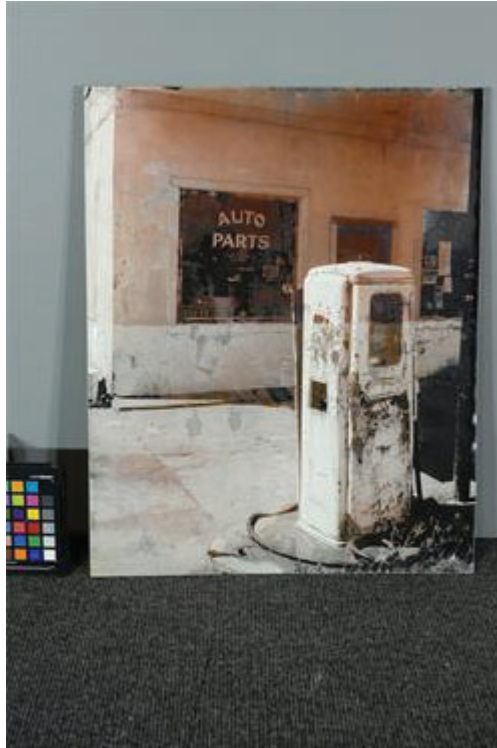
EMAIL: museum@roswell-nm.gov

PHONE: 575-624-6744

WEB: roswellmuseum.org

Item 41:

Title: "San Jon Gas Station"
Attributed to: Charles Venrick
Medium: Photo Mounted on Board
Dimensions: 19.5" H x 15.75" L
Accession Number: NA2004.003.0001



Condition:

The piece arrived at The Conservation Center unframed.

The piece exhibits age-related discoloration.

There is moderate distortion present.

The piece is mounted.

There are water stains and mud present.

The piece is delaminating at the lower edge from the board on the recto and verso.

There is damage to the emulsion layer throughout; this damage is mostly notable in the lower half. There is a shift in color from the damage to the emulsion.

There are D-rings present with a hanging height of 2 1/2".

There is 1 tag present.

Treatment Proposal:

Unfortunately, due to the extent of damage this piece is considered a loss.



Roswell Museum

Proposal for Temporary Free Membership Program During Museum Flood Closure

Presented by Caroline Brooks, Museum Director

June 2026

Purpose

To maintain and strengthen community connection to the Roswell Museum during the extended flood recovery and rebuilding period through a temporary free membership program.

Background

The Roswell Museum remains in a long-term recovery phase following the flood that impacted exhibitions, collections, archives, and public access to the facility. While the museum continues to provide outreach programs, public events, educational activities, digital engagement, and recovery updates, the closure has significantly limited opportunities for residents and visitors to engage with the institution in traditional ways.

At the same time, the museum is entering a critical period of public engagement as the community helps shape the future vision for the institution. Maintaining visibility, trust, and public participation during closure is essential.

Presently membership renewals are extremely low as members are uncertain on how best to show support and whether a paid membership is beneficial for the member or the institution.

Proposal

Implement a temporary free membership program for the duration of the museum's closure to the public.

Under this program:

- Standard annual membership fees would be waived.

- Community members could enroll online or through outreach events.
- Existing paid memberships could be extended through a set period after reopening and/or receive recognition in reopening materials.
- Membership enrollment would focus on building long-term engagement and communication rather than revenue generation.
- Those interested in making a financial donation would be encouraged to connect with the RMAC Foundation.

Strategic Benefits

- **Maintains Community Connection**

Keeps the museum active in the public's daily awareness during closure and reinforces that the institution continues to serve the community.

- **Expands Public Engagement**

Creates a larger audience for:

- Recovery updates
- Public planning initiatives
- Educational programming
- Off-site events
- Volunteer and advocacy opportunities
- Future reopening campaigns

- **Builds Future Support**

A larger membership base can strengthen:

- Attendance at future reopening events
- Donor cultivation
- Grant competitiveness
- Sponsorship opportunities
- Advocacy for future museum investment

- **Demonstrates Public Service**

As a municipally supported institution temporarily unable to provide normal building access, free membership reflects a community-centered approach focused on accessibility and civic engagement.

Financial Considerations

Current membership revenue is limited during closure and may not justify the administrative and public-relations barriers associated with charging traditional membership fees while the museum facility remains inaccessible.

In addition, staffing reductions associated with flood recovery operations have significantly impacted the museum's capacity to carry out traditional membership administration, including renewals, fulfillment, benefit management, and routine member engagement. A simplified free membership structure would reduce administrative burden while allowing staff to focus on recovery, collections, outreach, and strategic planning priorities.

The proposal prioritizes long-term public engagement and institutional goodwill over short-term membership revenue.

Minimal implementation costs are anticipated beyond staff time for communication, enrollment management, and website updates.

Recommended Next Steps

1. Review proposal with City Administration.
2. Present to Museum Board of Trustees for consideration and discuss implementation framework.
3. Share program concept with City Council as part of broader museum recovery and public engagement efforts.
4. Launch program with coordinated public communication and online enrollment.

Conclusion

A temporary free membership program would provide a visible and positive way for the Roswell Museum to remain connected to the community throughout recovery while building momentum for the institution's future reopening and long-term reimagining, while reducing confusion for the public on how to show support.



MAY ATTENDANCE

	FY2026	FY2025	FY2024	FY2023
EVENTS/PROGRAMS	175	125		
OUTREACH	-	195		
VOLUNTEER VISITS	14	10		
MUSEUM BUSINESS	-	-		
MAY TOTALS	186	320	3,553	3,051
FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS	11,052	12,000	38,472	33,197

Please note: Tables were updated in February 2025 to reflect the museum's current closure and categories are those that will be in use during the museum rebuild.

MAY REVENUES

	FY2026	FY2025	FY2024	FY2023
MEMBERSHIP	100	580		
STORE	-	-		
MAY TOTALS	100	580	16,945	18,504
FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS	2,745	61,712	172,191	200,817

MAY PROGRAMMING

EVENTS/PROGRAMS/OUTREACH	OCCURRENCES for MONTH	ATTENDEES	PARTNERSHIPS/SUPPORT
Second Saturday	1	85	RMAC Foundation, Pecos Valley Iris Society, Roswell Master Gardeners, Roswell Public Library
RAiR Exhibition Reception and Talk	1	90	RAiR Foundation
TOTALS	2	175	

MEMBERS



120
current
memberships

167
current
members

FOR
MONTH

-
new memberships

1
renewals

FISCAL YEAR
to DATE

-
new memberships

27
renewals

VOLUNTEERS



FOR
MONTH

42
volunteer hours



14
volunteer visits

FISCAL YEAR
to DATE

1512
volunteer hours

394
volunteer visits



6,340 FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



2,015 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

646 E-NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

CURRENT STATUS & CONSERVATION

The Museum is currently closed due to the October 2024 flood with collection recovery and rebuilding estimated at 5 years. Recovery efforts and staff are centralized at a temporary location.

Work is ongoing to:

- Process a second grouping of painting and works on paper treatment proposals provided by The Conservation Center.
- Coordinate and seek insurance approval for conservation of items that remained in Roswell.
- Appraise 250 sculptures with Freeman's Appraisals and 968 historical items with Art of Estates.

GODDARD CONSERVATION RFP

A Scope of Work for Stabilization, Assessment, and Conservation of Goddard artifacts was approved at the May 14 Council meeting. The project includes approximately 1,300 artifacts associated with pioneering rocketry scientist Robert H. Goddard, including an outdoor historic rocket tower. The collection was impacted by the October 2024 flooding event in Roswell, New Mexico, and the museum is seeking qualified conservation professionals or teams to support this significant recovery effort. The solicitation will remain open for 30 days following its release on June 11th.

WORCESTER PRESENTATION

Museum Director Caroline Brooks has been invited to give a presentation at the end of July on the Roswell Museum's stewardship of the Robert H. Goddard Collection as part of a Goddard exhibition in Worcester, Massachusetts in which the Roswell Museum has damaged artifacts on display. During her visit she will also meet with Goddard-affiliated organizations and conduct museum rebuilding research at the MIT Museum to inform the Roswell Museum's recovery and future facility planning.

SECOND SATURDAYS

Held at the Roswell Public Library, July's activity is Rockets vs UFOs. Participants will build spacecraft with air dry clay in honor of the Robert Goddard centennial and the UFO Festival.

AAM ANNUAL MEETING

Museum Director Caroline Brooks attended the American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting in Philadelphia May 20-23. Information gathered and connections made will significantly aid with the museum as it continues recovery and rebuilding efforts. Highlights included behind-the-scenes visits to local institutions, discussions about planning for exhibitions and new facilities, and use of technology in museums.

REGISTRAR VACANCY

The registrar position, which provides oversight for the care and tracking of the collection, is currently vacant and a hiring process is underway.