

MCX-CMAC Services

Artifact Collections Assessment and Rehousing Services

- Detailed condition assessments of collections to ensure efficient use of available funds for rehabilitation
- Coalescence of collections for rehabilitation
- Creation of artifact catalogs and databases for access to the collections
- Complete artifact stabilization and repackaging
- Transportation of the processed collections to a repository

Long-Term Collections Management Services

- Assistance in the identification of repositories that could partner with an agency for long-term storage
- Assistance in the development and implementation of long-term curation agreements between repositories and federal agencies

Condition and Collections Management Training Services

- General overviews of curation issues
- Basic object rehousing and packaging
- Conducting a condition assessment
- Creating catalog and database systems
- Developing a long-term collections management program

MCX-CMAC Past and Current Customers

Yuma Proving Ground, AZ

Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, FL

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH

Fort Lewis, WA

Fort Benning, GA

K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI

Los Angeles AFB, CA

Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant, LA

Badger Army Ammunition Plant, WI

USACE, Vicksburg District

USACE, Tulsa District

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Archaeological Collections Management and Rehabilitation



Curation and Archives Analysis Branch

Mandatory Center of Expertise for the Curation
and Management of Archaeological Collections

Background

Although the curation of federal archaeological collections is clearly mandated by various pieces of legislation and the NPS regulation 36 CFR Part 79, the lack of uniform standards and funding has prevented most federal collections from attaining compliance with these laws. Most federal cultural resource managers are aware of this problem and have recently begun to address their concerns at the agency level.

Legislative Authorities for Curation

- Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431, 432, 433)
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470aa-470mm)
- 36 CFR Part 79 Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections 1991



Many older collections have not been properly prepared for long-term curation.

MCX-CMAC Capabilities

Because of its in-depth knowledge of the location, condition, and composition of many federal collections, the Mandatory Center of Expertise for the Curation and Management of Archaeological Collections is in a unique position to offer its assistance to collections managers with regard to rehousing and rehabilitation of these collections. MCX-CMAC has a rehabilitation/rehousing laboratory with staff who are dedicated to collections rehabilitation tasks. MCX-CMAC offers curation and collections management expertise that uses the best museum practices.



During rehabilitation, objects are placed in appropriate containers, labeled, cataloged and described, and prepared for long-term storage.



- a diverse staff of professionals (archaeologists, physical anthropologists, collections managers, museum personnel, and database managers)
- unique experience with national collections management policies and practices
- rehabilitation resources that include retrieval, rehabilitation, database design and development, and deposition of collections in a designated repository
- established protocols for accomplishing work
- knowledge of federal laws and regulations as well as individual agency regulations for curation
- competitive rates for curation services



Rehabilitated collections are much easier to use for research, displays, and education.