

From actual experience in the museum and display field I believe it could be assumed that when construction of the Tourist Center is better known through publicity, numerous offers will be made for material.

And from experience it can be assumed these will fall into various categories:

1-Material offered "for sale."

2-Material offered by persons having family connections in the general area in years past. These will offer "loan" material they think should be displayed to "perpetuate" their family name. These people will be sincere and in many instances, having had no experience beyond hearsay, they will offer artifact material for as long as it is wanted. In many instances this material is never reclaimed, except under embarrassing circumstances which should be guarded against. Typical cases involve material "placed on permanent loan," and then five or ten years later, after death of the individuals, called for with a demand for reclaiming by a descendant from a distant place, who wants "that such and such" which "my mother, loaned to you ten years ago..."

(Safeguards are available for this, a small legal form placing the material on loan for five years after which it becomes the property of the repository unless officials of the repository decide it should be returned)

3-The individual who has material he just wants preserved and realizes that it has a purpose, if displayed, and who wants it to be preserved after his own passing. Much of this material falls into undesirable category. It cannot be identified properly or justified. Much is satisfactory and desirable.

Material offered for sale, if needed, can be evaluated. Evaluation of historical material is sometimes difficult, the proper evaluation usually being "far less" than the owner believes it is worth. He

usually cites instances where he could have sold it for double the price he is asking, that such and such a person or institution wanted it very badly.

It is to be remembered that in this particular economic age artifacts have become unreasonably high because of purchasers' ability to buy; and that museums, universities etc. usually have funds and grants on which they can draw, which they did not have access to in normal economic guided times.

It should be remembered, also, that not until a display is opened are there frequent offers of loan materials. Sometimes people just show up with some artifact, picture or document and say they think it belongs "here." Where tourists outnumber the usual flow of visitors, this may not hold so true.

It should be remembered that Central and Eastern Washington museums and homes contain numerous displays made up of materials obtained from the region concerned. In every town, Yakima, Moses Lake, Kennewick, Pasco, Ellensburg, Cle Elum, Othello, Quincy, Ephrata, Soap Lake, Wapato, Toppenish, Prosser, Sunnyside, Granger, Walla Walla, Goldendale and elsewhere, are large and small collections, most of them unorganized, few of them documented beyond the memory of the owner.

A "publicity" appeal at the proper time would uncover many of these. Others do not care to part with their "prize collections" which they have worked for, rifled, purchased, begged, and stolen during the past two to twenty-five years.

Few of these persons would care to sell their collections, except at an impractical price.

Most of them would display them for a summer-length, with assurance of their protection and return.

Some of these persons want only that their display be guaranteed a home. Yet an individual, company nor utility cannot go into the business of building, at so much a square foot, for storage space for such "homes,"

unless the material was of exceptional and local quality.

As one example:

I have spent parts of two days now looking over one individual's collection, talking with him and attempting to evaluate his material. He has a considerable collection of material from the Priest Rapids, Vantage, Wanapum and Wallula country. He has at least one exceptionally unusual and what would be an interesting exhibit that was obtained from Yaeger Island, just upstream from Vernita Ferry and in proximity to Midway.

He is willing to provide this material and other artifact (Indian) on loan. He is a bachelor and "in time" would want it to have a suitable repository in a museum, but now enjoys it at home. He actively pursues his hobby, is distinctly an amateur as to artifacts, has damaged many of his finds for display purposes by his process of cleaning, patching etc., and "wouldn't know whether I want to sell any of them or not," but would loan them.

This individual, in Yakima, would merit a close inspection by others directly concerned with exhibit needs, as the plan shapes up. (William Meier, 1011 S. 2nd Ave., Yakima).

The Yakima Valley Museum has all types of material (no beaver traps) and some of this could be placed on loan, or could be loaned to help make up a display.

The Kittitas County Historical Society and the Klickitat County Historical Society should be contacted in this respect.

As we know it is necessary to be a member to obtain loans from the State, it may be advisable to obtain a membership in the Oregon Archaeological Society.

It is known that some societies, because of their bylaws, cannot provide loan material.

There appears some merit to the suggestion that some area of the display should be "set aside" where loan exhibits could be placed. How to get them in place, itemizing the articles and checking them out, suggests that such a display arrangement should be "fool proof" against pilfering.

It is known that certain art exhibits of Northwestern artists would be available for summer showing, later. And undoubtedly there are many which could be obtained through proper contacts. This raises the point of some small provision being made for shipment, transportation and insurance. From what I know about exhibits, this runs from \$175 to \$250 a display. Our friend, Clifford Dolph, could provide factual material on this, and contacts as to availability of displays. These however might vary as much as dioramas. For instance, the Remington, Russell and other Western Artists display (not an altogether proper example since the Four Center as I would suspect is not attempting to operate a gallery) was valued at a million dollars, cost around \$1,500 to show, more at one city, but in the cities drew up to 20,000 persons in three days. (Paid admissions in this case, too).

I know of one collector of Western Art, mostly Montana, Oregon and Washington artists, who lives at Pasadena. The material, gathered over many years and representing mostly paintings by Ace Powell, Nancy Powell, and like artists of Montana, ~~maxxmaxer~~ have never been shown.

But these are only ideas so all aspects of possibilities may be reviewed, and kept in mind.

I would emphasize that one of the Tour Center's best prospects for first class assistance in the manner of loan material of exceptional quality will come from Dr. William Gannon of the Gannon Wagon Museum.

He has been "sounded out" and is more than open to discussions with proper authorities, as to material he would have available on loan for display purposes, and he has some top material of outstanding historical quality.

Additionally Dr. Gannon knows the sources from which items that might have to be acquired could be acquired, which is important. It was he who told us a year ago nearly of a Wanapum type dugout canoe that could be acquired "f.o.b." for \$50. (It had been offered to him but provided some transportation problem).

He has a large size pilot wheel which he had to obtain in the east or middlewest, and these items, in large size he found from experience were rather costly. He will tell us of the price he paid for the one he has, and, if no other is available, might even part with it.

But he can be contacted and would meet with us as desired, according to his time.