

Billings Curation Center Mission Statement

- To catalog, curate, preserve, and protect the cultural materials, historic and prehistoric, originating from BLM properties in Montana and the Dakotas, in accordance to the standards established in the National Park Service's Museum Property Handbook.
- To encourage the scholarly use of the collections held at the BCC through educational programs and exhibits, student internships, and promotion of the collection for further research.



Opportunities

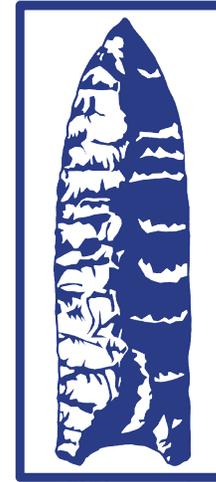
Besides making the collections available for research, the BCC offers numerous internship and volunteer opportunities.

Appointments can be made
Monday through Friday between
8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Montana State Office
Billings Curation Center
5001 Southgate Drive
Billings, Montana 59101

(406) 896-5213
BCC@blm.gov

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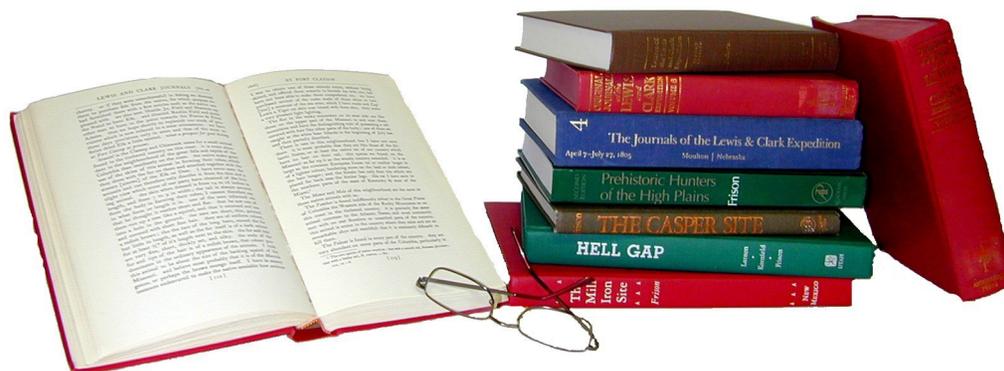


Billings Curation Center



In Billings, Montana, a repository exists that preserves the evidence of human occupation on the Northern Plains, from the age of Paleo-Indians to the era of homesteaders, miners, and their subsequent ghost towns. The Billings Curation Center (BCC) has catalogued and preserved more than half a million archaeological and ethnographic artifacts recovered from lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Each item offers clues about the history and prehistory of life on the Northern Plains.

In addition to artifacts, the BCC's collection consists of maps; faunal, lithic, and soil samples; and associated documentation from public land surveys and excavations. The BCC collections are available for scholarly use, and professional researchers, archaeologists, and university students are encouraged to take advantage of this unique resource. An extensive research library and photograph archives are available by appointment to the interested public.



Resources

Curated Materials

- Early Paleo-Indian Goshen artifacts
- Late prehistoric side-notched points
- Bone tools
- Prehistoric ceramics
- Rock art
- Mining and homesteading artifacts
- Military artifacts

Comparative Collections

Raw lithic material used for the making of stone tools and faunal remains of species native to the region, from mammoth to bison, are available for type and comparative studies.

Photographic Records

Slides, prints, and negatives provide the researcher with a visual image of the Montana landscape. The BCC's

photographic media covers the full array of activities on public lands, from early settlers and industry to modern day archaeological projects.

Library Resources

A 12,000-volume collection of reference books, professional journals, periodicals, excavation and survey reports, research papers, theses, and dissertations is catalogued and contains a wealth of information regarding the cultural evolution of the American West. A curator is available to assist with locating research material.

Archives

A vast archive consisting of unpublished supporting documentation, maps, site forms, field books, journals, photos, slides, and recordings provide a better understanding of the Northern Plains' cultural history.