

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WESTERN ARCHEOLOGICAL & CONSERVATION CENTER**

**STUDENT CURATORIAL MUSEUM INTERNSHIP FOR MUSEUM
COLLECTIONS DOCUMENTATION AND STORAGE**

**COLORADO PLATEAU COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDY UNIT
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**PART 2:
MUSEUM TEXTILE PROJECT FOR FARAWAY RANCH -
CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT AND MANZANAR
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

By

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WESTERN ARCHEOLOGICAL & CONSERVATION CENTER

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Project ASU-27 (Phase I) and ASU-34 (Phase II)

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ABSTRACT

This project entitled "*Museum Textile Project for Faraway Ranch - Chiricahua National Monument and Manzanar National Historic Site*" was Part 2 of the "*Student Curatorial Museum Internship for Museum Collections Documentation and Storage*" (Project ASU-27 (Phase I) and ASU-34 (Phase II)). The project was completed in the summer 2007 (12 weeks) through the Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CPCESU) with a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service (NPS) Western Archeological & Conservation Center (WACC), Tucson, AZ, and Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe, AZ.

ASU project staff (Darsita Ryan, student intern), in cooperation with WACC staff located and assessed the condition of the Chiricahua (CHIR) textile collection and a portion of the Manzanar (MANZ) textile collection. Project staff developed a database system to: 1) enter the condition of each textile from the collection; 2) to estimate the cost of archival supplies to sufficiently store the textiles; 3) to prepare a list of potentially-suitable objects for further review by the NPS conservator.

The total number of textiles at WACC is over 1,600. However, the WACC Conservator declared that fragile, prehistoric textiles should not be rolled. This resulted in reduction of potential textiles to be considered for rolling down to 1,380 historic textiles; however, after applying other conservation considerations, the final number of textiles assessed was 820 cataloged lots, from two WACC accessions.

These textiles are currently housed at the WACC, Tucson, AZ, and include the textile collection from the Faraway Ranch Historic District (1880s) in Bonita Canyon at the Chiricahua National Monument (CHIR), as well as, a few items from the Manzanar National Historic Site (MANZ) in California.

The project documented the condition of the textiles to determine the suitability of each item for storage via the rolling technique. In addition, a total cost estimate of archival supplies to implement a conservation preventative rolling technique for their storage was prepared.

The Museum Textile Project has resulted in the creation of an Excel worksheet detailed listing for 820 textiles. This database provides a condition assessment of each textile as well as the measurement and cost of the archival material needed to house the textiles, including lists of textiles for each location (see Appendices), and detailed notes about each.

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INTRODUCTION

This document reports the results of the "*Museum Textile Project for Faraway Ranch - Chiricahua National Monument and Manzanar National Historic Site*" that was Part 2 of the "*Student Curatorial Museum Internship for Museum Collections Documentation and Storage*" (Project ASU-27 (Phase I) and ASU-34 (Phase II)). The project was completed through the Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CPCESU) in cooperative agreement with Arizona State University (ASU).

The project was funded by the National Park Service to complete an overview and a collection assessment, as well as a cost estimate of supplies needed to properly store 820 historic textiles, leather, and paper items for the Western Archeological & Conservation Center. The WACC museum textile collection included two accessions, one from the Faraway Ranch Historic District (1880s) in Bonita Canyon at the Chiricahua National Monument (CHIR), and the other from the Manzanar National Historic Site (MANZ) in California.

The work was completed from June 4, 2007, through August 23, 2007, (12 weeks) by Darsita Ryan (ASU, student intern, on location at WACC) with the supervision of Dr. Arleyn Simon (ASU, Principal Investigator). The development of the project work plan and completion of the project at the WACC was coordinated with Kim E. Beckwith, WACC Registrar, and other staff as needed as project representatives.

In cooperation with National Park Service personnel, Darsita Ryan completed the collection condition survey to determine which objects should be rolled or not. "Rolling" is a preventive conservation technique that provides complete support for the textile. As of August 23, 2007, Arizona State University project staff completed the objectives of the project by assessing the condition of 820 textiles that were designated as part of the project. The tasks outlined in the project scope-of-work and task list have been successfully completed and have resulted in an Excel database worksheet and this summary report.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Arizona State University project staff (Darsita Ryan), MA Museum Studies, student intern), completed the defined tasks outlined in the scope-of-work: to do an overview and assessment of an estimated 1,650 prehistoric and historic textiles at WACC; however, the NPS conservator, Gretchen Voeks, removed the Canyon De Chelly National Monument (CACH 00068) accession from the list,

along with all other prehistoric textiles at WACC, because these textiles are not considered good candidates for the rolling-storage technique due to their fragile condition.

These reductions left an estimated 1,380 textiles to be assessed. However, after an initial review of the items remaining, a large number of other items were immediately eliminated, either because their small size or bulk, or materials did not make them good candidates for the rolling process. This left a total of 820 textiles for inclusion in the textile project.

The tasks in the scope-of-work accomplished included:

- to do an overview and assessment of the remaining 820 historic textiles, leather, and paper items for suitability (size and fragility) for rolled storage as opposed to flat-fold storage;
- prepare a list of potentially-suitable objects for further review by the NPS conservator;
- determine archival material needs (length and number of rolling tubes, tissue, polyethylene, muslin, hanging tags, etc.) for making this storage change;
- prepare a detailed supply list, complete with sizes, quantities, and stock numbers, for various vendor options with pricing;

Further developments, beyond the present work, based on the above tasks could include the following, once the rolling of textiles is implemented:

- calculate shelf and or cabinet storage space-savings that would result from such changes,
- draft a storage plan for placement of brackets and cylinders on storage units to best accommodate items.

Textiles included in this project are located at the Western Archeological & Conservation Center. Project staff assisted the Intermountain Region Museum Services Program by assessing the condition of the textile collection, recording the physical condition of the textiles, determining whether or not each textile was a candidate for the rolling storage technique, and estimating the cost of archival supplies needed to properly store the appropriate textiles.

Darsita Ryan, ASU student intern, completed tasks to improve storage of museum collections in accordance with the guidelines and stylistic conventions of the *Museum Handbook Part I-Part II* and WACC's *Supplement to the Museum Handbook*. ANCS+ data was exported to Excel format with fields added for comments regarding the attributes of each textile. Once this task was completed, Darsita Ryan was able to calculate and estimate the amount (length and width) of materials and cost for storing the textile collection.

SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The scope-of-work for the WACC Student Curatorial Internship: Museum Textile Project included these groups of materials: 1) accessioned items (Appendix A, list of objects).

1) Accessioned items at WACC consist of 87 boxes (averaging 30" x 18" x 6") of textile material which constitutes the bulk of materials in the Textile Project. In addition to these boxes there were several cabinets and drawers of loose textiles included in the project.

ASU staff, in cooperation with NPS staff, completed the collections condition survey for the Textile Project. The major tasks that were achieved were:

- a) assessing the condition of 820 historic textiles, leather, and paper items for suitability to be rolled;
- b) recording the length and width of textiles to determine the archival material needed for proper storage;
- c) preparing a detailed supply list with cost estimates and supply stock numbers.

At the end of the Textile Project, the measurements and comments made by Darsita Ryan during assessment of the collection were compiled into an Excel database.

METHOD

To facilitate the condition collection report for the project, ASU-ARI provided Darsita Ryan with the use of a laptop computer and printer for the duration of the project. The WACC provided Darsita Ryan with the use of a computer and printer, as well as NPS computer training, including training to access the ANCS+ database system during the project.

The project began in June, 2007, and finished in August, 2007. All 820 textiles in boxes, cabinets and drawers had been assessed and entered into the Excel database. All textiles were measured to calculate the estimated amount of archival material needed to adequately store each textile (Table 1, and

Appendices). All textiles that were included in this project had been previously tagged, with their catalog numbers, using archival supplies.

The textiles were concentrated in three different areas, or locations, (see Appendices for details) which Darsita Ryan separated as:

- 4P (items in acid-free boxes on shelving - Loc 4P),
- 11B (items in cabinet drawers - Loc 11B),
- and Other Loc.

WACC Conservation Technician Audrey Harrison demonstrated the rolled storage technique and Darsita Ryan assisted her with the rolling of several textiles from another project in order to gain familiarity with the process. Gretchen Voeks, WACC Conservator, provided Darsita Ryan with a brief training on conservation methods and concerns. The condition of each textile was assessed to the best of Darsita Ryan's ability, and all information was entered into an Excel database.

With this training, all data was entered into the Excel database; "**attention conservation**" is noted in bold for pieces thought to be in desperate need of attention. It is recommended that the leather textiles be provided individual storage and should not be rolled as the leather is too stiff (please refer to page S:16-17 in NPS Museum Handbook, Part I [1996]); all textiles need to be cleaned as there is debris (bug casings, dead bugs, hair, wood chips, dirt) on everything, however, the NPS conservator must first decide whether or not removing the debris will compromise the historical significance of the textile.

- A total of 21 large rugs and quilts had been previously rolled in archival material; Darsita Ryan did not include these measurements in the final tabulation as these are already properly stored on rolls.
- Some textiles, for example linens and doilies, were housed adequately and should not be rolled as they were too delicate and too small to be rolled; the best storage for these textiles is to lay them flat with interleaved layers of acid-free tissue paper.
- The total number of textiles not to be rolled is 366; estimates for these textiles were not included in the final cost and storage tabulations.

Darsita Ryan calculated and estimated the amount (length and width) and cost for storing the textile collection for the 428 remaining textiles that are to be rolled (Table 1, see Appendices for detailed listings of each object). Also included

are recommended supply companies to purchase the archival material, the product catalog numbers and cost are listed (Table 2).

WORK SUMMARY

The CHIR and MANZ textile collection at WACC consisted of two accessions (CHIR-00063 and MANZ-00019), for a grand total of 820 items. Initially the textile collection included an estimated 1,650 items but was then reduced to 1,380 items, and finally, the 820 items, because of recommendations made by the NPS conservator, Gretchen Voeks, because, for a variety of reasons the removed objects are not considered good candidates for the rolling technique.

Table 3. Final Count of Textiles Evaluated for Storage Using the Rolling Technique			
	CHIR-00063	MANZ-00019	TOTAL
Good Candidates for Rolling Technique	426	2	428
Not Good Candidates for Rolling Technique	360	6	366
Textiles Currently Rolled in Archival Material	21	0	21
Textile Status: Missing	4	0	4
Textile in Conservation	1	0	1
Total	812	8	820
[Total textiles for Rolling Technique in this Project]			

At the completion of the "*Museum Textile Project*", 428 of the 820 textiles are identified as good candidates for the rolling technique, 366 textiles are not good candidates due to condition, size and/or are currently adequately housed, 21 textiles are currently stored rolled in archival material, four textiles are missing and one textile is being repaired in Conservation (Table 3, above; see Appendices for detailed listings).

This comprises the total number of textiles from the Faraway Ranch Historic District (1880s) in Bonita Canyon at the Chiricahua National Monument (CHIR), and from the Manzanar National Historic Site (MANZ) in California, that are at the Western Archeological & Conservation Center (WACC). This report summarizes the results of the Museum Textile Project scope-of-work, as part of the "*Student Curatorial Museum Internship for Museum Collections Documentation and Storage*" (Project ASU-27 and ASU-34).

Table 1. Final Tabulation of Archival Material Measurements

	MUSLIN (W) 60 CM MAX	MUSLIN (L)	LEADER TISSUE PAPER (W) 60 CM MAX	LEADER TISSUE PAPER (L)	COTTON Twill	TUBE
LOC 4P		25350		38903	39244	25279
LOC 11B		4731		4731	12190	4940
OTHER LOC		4423		4991	8170	4586
CENTIMETERS	60	34504	60	48625	59604	34805
LOC 4P		9887		15172	15305	9859
LOC 11B		1845		1845	4754	1927
OTHER LOC		1725		1947	3186	1789
INCHES	24	13457	24	18964	23245	13575
LOC 4P		824		1264	1275	822
LOC 11B		154		154	396	161
OTHER LOC		144		162	266	149
FEET	2	1122	2	1580	1937	1132
LOC 4P		275		421	425	274
LOC 11B		51		51	132	54
OTHER LOC		48		54	89	50
YARDS	.65	374	.65	526	646	378
AMOUNT OF MATERIAL						
TUBE 3" DIA					1,132 FT	
COTTON TWILL					646 YDS	
TISSUE PAPER					24 IN/2 FT x 1,580 FT	
MUSLIN					24 IN/2 FT x 1,122 FT	
ID TAGS 1/2"X 3"					428	
POLYETHYLENE SHEETING					1,282 FT	
ARCHIVAL TUBE SIZE AND COUNT						
SMALL 0-66 CM (< 2FT 2 IN)					136	
MEDIUM 67-182 CM (2 FT 2 IN-6 FT)					163	
LARGE 183-304 CM (6 FT-10 FT)					43	

Table 2. Final Cost Estimates of Archival Material and Potential Supplier Catalog Numbers						
	GAYLORD		UNIVERSITY PRODUCTS		DEMCO	
ROLL STORAGE TUBES 3" DIAMETER Est. Amt.=1,132 FT 136-small 163-medium 43-large	3ft=84.55/pck 10 Cat. No. GF-4316 6 ft=119.60/Pck 10 Cat. No. GF-6316 10 ft=164.00/Pkg 10 <i>Cat. No. GF-1038</i> 3643.90 (pre-cut) OR 2132.00 (uncut)	14 X 69.35 =\$970.90 17 X 109 =\$1853 5 X 164.00 =\$820.00 OR 13 X 164.00 =\$2132.00	10 ft (4 mini) 34.95 Cat. No. 017-HDR-3160 6 FT = 200.60/ea Cat. No. 017-3163 2 for \$189.35 each Cat. No. 017-3163 10 for \$186.15 each <i>Cat. No. 017-3163</i>	14 X 186.15 =\$2606.10	(ITEM NOT AVAILABLE)	0
UNBLEACHED COTTON TYING TAPE Est. Amt.=646 YDS	5/16" X 100 YDS=10.70/ea Cat. No. GF-CT100 5/16" X 1000 YDS=43.35/ea Cat. No. GF-CT3100 5/8" X 1000 YDS=77.80 <i>Cat. No. GF-CT6100</i>	1 X 77.80 =\$77.80	5/8 X 1000 YDS=66.00 <i>Cat. No. 586-1058</i> 5/16 X 1000 YDS=42.95 Cat. No. 586-1516 7/16 X 1000 YDS=58.90 Cat. No. 586-1716	1 X 66.00 =\$66.00	5/16"W x 1000 Yards Cat. No. WS20159880	1 X 47.99 =\$47.99
ACID FREE TISSUE PAPER (UNBUFFERED) Est. Amt.=2 FT X 1,580 FT	30" X 250 FT=71.19/roll Cat. No. UT30250R 30" X 500 FT=102.66/roll Cat. No. UT30500R 30" X 1000 FT=189.00/roll <i>Cat. No. UT301000R</i>	2 X 189 =\$378.00	40" X 250ft=67.60 Cat. No.UNBF 741-3250 40" X 500ft=99.30 <i>Cat. No.UNBF 741-3500</i> 60"x1000ft=230.55 Cat. No.UNBF 741-3160	4 X 99.30 =\$397.20	30"W x 250"L Roll Cat. No. WS20314450	7 X 72.74 =\$509.18
COTTON MUSLIN Est. Amt.=2 FT X 374 YDS	45" X 10 yds=60.55/ea Cat. No. GF-400U10 45" X 110 yds=420.00/ea <i>Cat. No. GF-4000U110</i>	4 X 420.00 =\$1680.00	44" X 5 YDS=26.50 <i>Cat. No. 029-4118</i>	74 X 26.50 =\$1961.00	(ITEM NOT AVAILABLE)	0
ARTIFACT ID TAGS Est. Amt.=428 tags	1 1/2H x 3"W Pkg 100=21.85 <i>Cat No. AT13</i>	5 X 21.85 =\$109.25	3-1/4" x 1-3/8" <i>Cat. No. 444-0000 444-2020</i>	5 X 22.45/pck. =\$112.25	1 1/2"H x 3"W 100/pkg. Cat. No. WS14207600	5 X 20.99/pck. =\$104.95
POLYETHYLENE SHEETING Est. Amt.= 1,282 FT	4 mil 48" x 100'=22.25 <i>Cat. No. 442554</i>	15 rolls X 22.25 =\$333.75	(ITEM NOT AVAILABLE)	0	(ITEM NOT AVAILABLE)	0
ESTIMATED TOTAL	uncut tube pre-cut tube	\$4,410.80 \$6,222.70		\$5,142.55		\$662.12
	10% discount given for Federal Projects	\$3,969.72 \$5,600.43		(some items not available)		(some items not available)