



MEDIA KIT

NEZ PERCE RENAMING CELEBRATION

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
RETURN OF THE SPALDING-ALLEN COLLECTION

*Saturday, June 26, 2021
10 am - 2 pm*

*Nez Perce National Historical Park
39063 US Hwy 95 | Lapwai, ID*



RENAMING CELEBRATION SHINES A SPOTLIGHT ON NEZ PERCE ARTIFACTS

Nez Perce Tribe Secures Earliest and Largest Documented Collection of Material Culture with an Anticipated Re-Naming Celebration June 26, 2021

Lapwai, Idaho- The Nez Perce Tribe (Tribe) is preparing to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the return of the Spalding-Allen Collection (Collection) with a re-naming celebration. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, June 26th, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Tribe and Nez Perce National Historical Park (Park) will host the renaming celebration at Spalding, ID; the original place of acquisition by Reverend Henry H. Spalding from individual Nez Perce tribal members.

Nakia Williamson, Nez Perce Tribal member and Director of the Nez Perce Tribe Cultural Resource Program explains, "The re-naming of this collection is a significant step to reclaiming ownership of one of the most significant ethnographic collections in existence. More importantly, renaming helps us in rejecting colonialism and its impacts on our 'way of life.'"

The Nez Perce will always be a people deeply rooted to the land from which they come. The Spalding-Allen Collection

demonstrates how embedded even the material items of the Nez Perce, those that traveled the longest of colonial journeys, will eventually find their way home.

From 1836-1846 Spalding acquired 21 Nez Perce artifacts traditionally worn, or used by, men, women, children, and horses, which were later sent to Spalding's benefactor Dr. Dudley Allen. In 1893, after Dr. Allen's death, his son donated the Collection to Oberlin College, who later loaned most of the collection to the Ohio Historical Society, now known as the Ohio History Connection (OHC). In 1976, curators at the Park rediscovered the collection and began negotiations to display the collection with annual loan renewal agreements starting in 1980.

In 1993, OHC demanded the return of the collection. Rather than donating the items to the Tribe, OHC eventually agreed to sell the collection at its full appraised value of \$608,100. The Tribe was given a six-month deadline to provide the money. With the help of thousands of donors, the Tribe was successful in raising the full amount, and on June 26, 1996 the Tribe brought home the oldest, largest, and most well preserved artifact collection of the Plateau people.

"These items traveled extensively before finally returning home 25 years ago. We want to honor that journey and recognize the tremendous amount of effort that was required to make it happen. Without the help of thousands of people, the reacquisition would not have happened. We look forward to presenting this collection with a name that is representative of our culture and way of life," stated Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Chairman, Shannon Wheeler. "We know there are other lost artifacts out there; hopefully they can return home someday as well."

The collection, owned by the Tribe, is physically stored by the Park in a dedicated space designed to meet museum standards and requirements for the best preservation, protection, and accessibility of the collection. The majority of the collection will be on display at the Park's Visitor Center from June 19, 2021 to September 19, 2021.

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For questions regarding the upcoming event, contact Ann McCormack: (208) 621-3710; annm@nezperce.org.

COLLECTION ITEMS

The Spalding-Allen Collection (soon to be renamed) consists of 21 items made by Nez Perce men and women. The items include:

- Men's hide shirt decorated with quills, beads, and cloth
- Men's hide shirt decorated with quills, black and white venetian beads, and fringe
- Women's elk hide dress decorated with dentalium shells, thimbles, glass beads, and fringe
- Cradleboard made from teardrop shaped buckskin decorated with glass beads, dentalium shells, elk teeth, and fringe
- Women's elk hide dress decorated with glass beads, elk teeth, and fringe
- Moccasins made from moose or caribou hide, decorated with quills
- Two-piece parfleche painted sole Moccasins made from bison hide
- Women's saddle made from bison hide on a cottonwood frame
- Bag, three pieces, beads on bison hide upper, deer skin lower
- Square braid weaved horsehair rope
- Horse crupper made from bison hide decorated with red wool and blue trade cloth, fringe, and tin cone jingles
- Dentalium shell bracelet (or hair tie) made from bison hide, decorated with beads
- Men's deer hide leggings decorated with fringe and quills
- Elk antler quirt (whip) with decorative markings and brass embellishments
- Flat trapezoid-shaped storage bag made from hemp and cornhusk, featuring a dyed cornhusk hourglass design
- Flat storage bag made from hemp and cornhusk, featuring decorations made of bear grass and dyed using Oregon grapes
- Flat weave Bison hair rope with knotted ends, decorated with red wool cloth
- Elk antler quirt decorated with six circular incisions over which seven brass rings are placed
- Men's belt and pouch, made from hide, decorated with fringe and glass beads
- Three women's woven hats featuring various designs



CELEBRATION LOGO



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BRANDING COLORS



BRANDING FONTS

HISTORICAL-FELL TYPE ROMAN SC

RALEWAY

Raleway



COLLECTION IMAGES

Photos credited to Zach Mazur

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1. NEPE 8758
cáwtiwaanin' wispóolsam'x

Woman's dress made of two deer skins and decorated with glass beads, dentalium, thimbles, elk teeth, and fringe. The style of beadwork and design is similar to the cradleboard from this collection, see NEPE 33887.

2. NEPE 33887
tiké's

Teardrop shaped child's cradleboard made from a wooden board and covered with brain tanned deerskin. Decorated with glass beads, dentalium shells, and elk teeth. The style of beadwork and design is similar to the beaded buckskin dresses from this collection, see NEPE 8758.

3. NEPE 8746
líickaw'

Subconical shaped basket hat made from hemp and beargrass. Designs on the outside of hat feature a three part division of separated dovetail and step patterns on a basal line of colors of orange and medium dark brown.

4. NEPE 8754
'iméesnim 'ítetp'es

Decorated deer-shaped bag made featuring beadwork and made from two separate pieces of hide. The upper section of the bag (neck area) is smoked bison hide and the front section of the bag is deer hide. The bag shows some evidence of hair indicating that it originally had been left on when the bag was made. Severe water and insect damage and clippage of the hair over the years has



COLLECTION IMAGES

Photos credited to Zach Mazur

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5.



6.



7.



8.

5. NEPE 8760
sac'ásniin sám'x

Man's cured hide shirt decorated with quillwork and black and white Venetian glass beads. Body of the shirt is of the two-skin style with hair side outward and head section at top. Quillwork on fringe of neck flaps in yellow and brown, yellow on sleeve and shoulder fringe.

6. NEPE 8755
k'úusey'ne sapo'saapó's

A woman's saddle made from a cottonwood frame with a rawhide covering. The rawhide saddle fenders features geometric designs of green, yellow, and red. Bison hide tie laces secure rawhide inner pieces that form the pommel and cantle overhangs.

7. NEPE 8750
wahiloskó's

Decorated elk antler horse quirt or whip. The handle is formed of a piece of rawhide thong to which a forged iron ram rod is attached at one end. The ram rod was from an 1800 era firearm. The antler quirt shows considerable wear and patina from use prior to collection date indicating that it was made prior to 1845. The decorations include six circular incisions over which seven brass rings are placed near the tip.

8. NEPE 8738-9
walim'lapqat

Pair of beaded moccasins made from three separate pieces of hide. One piece of cured bison hide for the upper portion, one piece of cured bison hide for the tongue, and one piece of recycled rawhide for the sole. The recycled rawhide features geometric painted designs of green, yellow, and red. The pieces of hide are sewn together with sinew, using the whip-stitch method. Beadwork design is curvilinear and floral using red and blue



PRESS

Past media who covered the story from its inception:

LEWISTON MORNING TRIBUNE

<https://bit.ly/2MGKV94>

<https://bit.ly/37ZUhEg>

SEATTLE TIMES, 1995

<https://bit.ly/3r9vjtx>

LOS ANGELES TIMES, 1995

<https://lat.ms/3sEXocx>

SPOKESMAN REVIEW, 1995

<https://bit.ly/3kzqasc>

INLAND 360, 2020

<https://bit.ly/30LAXQJ>

SPONSORS





For more information on the collection and list of events follow Nez Perce Tribe:

WWW.NEZPERCE.ORG

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