

Does the Museum want some of my Thoroughbred racing memorabilia?

The National Museum of Racing expands its collections mainly through the donation of objects. Objects must meet the following criteria in order to be accepted:

- The objects must relate to Thoroughbred racing, either flat track or steeplechase. No Harness racing materials can be accepted.
- The Museum must be able to provide for the storage, protection, and preservation of the objects using professionally accepted standards that insures their availability for the Museum's purposes.
- Duplicate objects will only be accepted if the condition of the object already in the collections has deteriorated to such a degree that exhibition of the object cannot occur.

Objects with an appraised value over \$5,000 must be approved by the Collections Committee in order to be accepted as a donation to the permanent collections.

Donors to the Museum collection are required to sign a Deed of Gift that conveys the transfer of ownership rights to the Museum, including decisions on exhibition, conservation, reproduction rights (excluding copyrighted items), and dispersal.

Please call (518) 584-0400 ext. 109 or e-mail nmrcollect@racingmuseum.net to discuss potential donations with the Curator.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame is to interpret the history and convey the excitement of Thoroughbred racing in America to the broadest possible audience. The Museum fosters education and understanding of Thoroughbred racing by providing public access to equine art, artifacts, memorabilia, film, video, books and historical archives. The Museum collects, preserves, researches, interprets and exhibits the entire spectrum of Thoroughbred racing, enhanced by interactive display. Further, the Museum is the Official National Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame honoring horses, trainers, and jockeys.

National Museum of Racing

191 Union Ave
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Phone: (518) 584-0400
Fax: (518) 584-4574
www.racingmuseum.org

Policies on Purchases, Loans, and Donations to the Permanent Collections



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Does the Museum accept books?

The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame also accepts donations to our John A. Morris Research Library and to our growing collection of manuscript materials. Donations of this kind are normally for research purposes only, although some books or archival materials may be exhibited occasionally. Library donors must sign a Deed of Gift form to formalize the donation. Please contact nmrasstcollect@racingmuseum.net or call (518) 584-0400 ext. 141 to discuss library or archival donations.

How much is my object worth?

To find out more information concerning your object, particularly evaluation of condition, authenticity, and value, you will need to contact an appraiser who specializes in sporting art and memorabilia. Museum personnel cannot ethically or legally provide appraisal information for objects that could be donated to or purchased by the Museum. To find an appraiser near you, contact one of the following:

- American Society of Appraisers
(703) 478-2228 www.appraisers.org
- Appraisers Association of America
(212) 889-5404 www.appraisersassoc.org
- International Society of Appraisers
(206) 241-0359 www.isa-appraisers.org

This list does not constitute an endorsement of these organizations by the Museum.



Seabiscuit's 1938 Agua Caliente trophy
Collection of the National Museum of Racing

The National Museum of Racing, established in 1950, relies on a renowned equine art, trophy, photographic, and memorabilia collection to tell the story of Thoroughbred racing in America.



Pair of Willie Shoemaker's jockey boots
Collection of the National Museum of Racing

Does the Museum purchase objects?

The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame relies mostly on donated materials and rarely purchases items for the collection. You are welcome to submit an inquiry to the Museum about purchasing your object. The inquiry should be sent in letter format, and must include an image of the object, the asking price, a detailed description including condition, and provenance information. All purchases must be approved by our Collections Committee, which meets quarterly. Your inquiry packet must be received four weeks prior to the committee meeting. Please contact the Curator at nmrcollect@racingmuseum.net, or (518) 584-0400 ext. 109 to obtain a list of the upcoming Collections Committee meeting dates.

A response to your offer will be mailed to you within two weeks of the decision. If you wish to have support materials returned to you should the object be declined, please include a self-addressed envelope with the appropriate postage.

Will the Museum take my object on loan if I don't want to donate it?

Many institutions and individuals have generously loaned objects to the Museum. However, with rare exceptions, the Museum does not accept loaned objects for reasons other than immediate exhibition purposes. Please contact the Curator at nmrcollect@racingmuseum.net or (518) 584-0400 ext. 109 if you are interested in loaning an object.