**Pioneer Town Collections Policy**

**Mission of the Surface Creek Valley Historical Society**

Maintain and improve an accurate repository for the preservation of the Surface Creek Valley and operate Pioneer Town Museum for the education and enjoyment of the public.

The Surface Creek Valley Historical Society is dedicated to the acquisition, preservation, interpretation, and exhibition of the information and materials primarily deriving from or relevant to the social and natural history of the Surface Creek Valley. Society collections are used for exhibition, research, and other educational purposes.

**Accessions**

The Society will only collect those objects of the above nature that it is able to care for and use in a manner acceptable to the museum profession at large. The Society cannot engage in indiscriminate acquisition. Accessions must…

1. Be the best available at the time
2. Fill a recognized deficiency or upgrade existing collections
3. Be adequately documented as determined by the appropriate museum curator and museum acquisition committee
4. Be in good condition
5. Be made prior to 1940, including…
   1. Indigenous artifacts that have been found in the Surface Creek Valley, or other artifacts that relate specifically to the Nuche (Ute) People. We are not accepting other indigenous artifacts.
   2. Dolls and toys
   3. Household artifacts that could have been used in the Surface Creek Valley
   4. Men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing
   5. Local business (especially branded) paraphernalia
   6. Photographs and journals
   7. Yearbooks (from any year)
   8. Any other objects that can be used to tell the story of the Surface Creek Valley

Gifts to the Society are considered outright and unrestricted donations to be used in the best interest of the Museum. Any exception, when required, may be made by the appropriate curator with approval from the committee overseeing accessions. Because the Society periodically changes exhibits, no object can be considered on/for permanent exhibition. Accessioned objects may be used for exhibition, study, research, loan, examination, or de-accession.

Donators to the Society are tax deductible, but the Society shall not appraise donations for tax purposes, nor shall the Society staff appraise items as a service for visitors. For the protection of the Donor, it is recommended that appraisals be accomplished by a disinterested party before the item is conveyed to the Society. A copy of such appraisal is requested by the Society.