



# Museum Exhibit Planner Version 20

For use with FileMaker Pro<sup>®</sup> 7, 8, 8.5 and higher for Windows and Mac

## Application software for planning museum exhibits



Main Menu



Printed report, Artifact Schedule

The National Park Service has developed a specialized system for managing exhibit content using a database structure. The **Museum Exhibit Planner** application runs under *FileMaker Pro*, a database program used widely in the media world. The *MEP* application is a desktop tool—not an enterprise database—used by exhibit planners around the country, in government, and in the private sector.

The **Museum Exhibit Planner** assists exhibit specialists in assembling exhibit elements such as labels, images, graphic layouts, and artifacts. Customized work screens speed tasks such as label writing, editing, graphic selection, photo reproduction ordering, and artifact tracking. Drop-down menus provide standardized field entries. Print screens are designed to output professional-looking reports and schedules which are incorporated into final exhibit plan packages. In use since 1993, the latest version is a fully-relational database offering a wealth of exhibit development tools. Planners can keep track of source institutions, document accessibility features, store project files/memos, and see thumbnails of exhibit images, display objects, and equipment.

### Advantages of the **Museum Exhibit Planner** :

- ◆ Formats project documents automatically
- ◆ Eliminates keyboarding of repeating data
- ◆ Helps planners identify and organize planning tasks
- ◆ Helps track exhibit objectives and graphic layout files
- ◆ Facilitates standard numbering and terminology for National Park Service exhibits
- ◆ Runs on PCs and Macs, and can be customized by the user
- ◆ Produces comprehensive plans, labels, schedules needed for fabrication
- ◆ Provides data fields on exhibit content needed for exhibit development and maintenance

**LA-07-024**  
Element number format

Application files may be downloaded free of charge from the Harpers Ferry Center web site at: <http://www.nps.gov/hfc/products/imi/imi-ex-plan.htm>. Check the FileMaker Pro web site at [www.filemaker.com](http://www.filemaker.com) for more information or trial version downloads of their database program. FileMaker may be purchased online or at computer stores.

For more information, contact David Guiney, HFC  
304-535-6057  
<david\_guiney@nps.gov>  
HFC website: [www.nps.gov/hfc/](http://www.nps.gov/hfc/)  
May 16, 2007