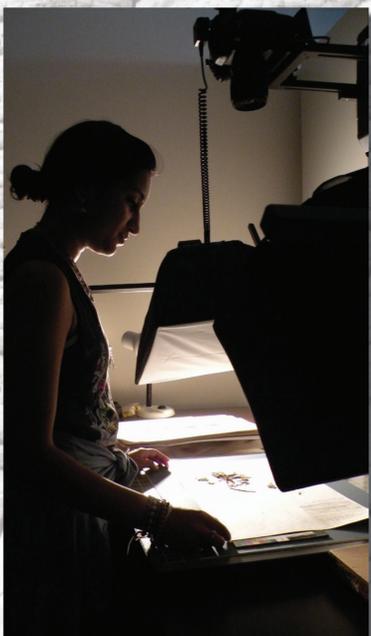


National Park Service museums collect, preserve, study, and provide public access to natural and cultural materials. The Zion museum manages over 880,000 of such items, including archives, natural history specimens, archeological artifacts, photographs, historic objects, ethnographic objects, and fine art.

Every unit in the NPS manages museum and archival collections related to its history. Due to limited staff and resources, these are sometimes stored in multi-park repositories rather than spread throughout multiple units. As a result, the Zion museum also stores and manages the collections of Bryce Canyon National Park and Cedar Breaks National Monument.



*Wet specimens housed inside a flammable cabinet in museum collection storage. NPS Photo*



*Pressed plant specimens being photographed for online publication. NPS Photo*

Zion museum staff are currently working on a wide range of projects to ensure the long-term preservation and public access of collections and archives. Recently prepared museum planning documents provide guidance on the management and acquisition of museum collections that the



*Fine art rack and archives in collection storage. NPS Photo*

Service is legally mandated to preserve. Collaborative work with NPS conservators has identified preservation needs and guided staff in best practices for proper collections care and safe storage. Public benefit from the collections is provided through

permanent and temporary exhibits, as well as recent efforts to digitize collections for public use. Digital collections are made available for public use through NPGallery, the NPS's digital asset management database, [NPGallery.nps.gov](http://NPGallery.nps.gov).

The mission of the Zion museum mirrors that of the National Park Service—to protect and preserve the park's resources for the enjoyment and education of current and future generations.



*Two Northern Flicker specimens rehoused into individual polyethylene bags after X-ray fluorescence (XRF) testing revealed the possible presence of arsenic. NPS Photo*



*Under the guidance of an NPS conservator, Zion museum staff tested motion picture film for chemical deterioration during a collection survey. NPS Photo*