

OBJECT STATUS

Definition	The status of the object as it relates to the Museum
TMS Field Name	Object Status
Procedure	Changed by Registrar as needed

Standards for Object Status

There are three divisions of objects processed by the Office of the Registrar:

Collection related

Exhibition related

Client-Service related

Each of these has its own slate of object status terms, defined and grouped as follows:

Collection-Related Status Terms

<i>Consideration</i>	The Curator is considering proposing the object to the Collections Committee for acquisition into the permanent collection or as an unaccessioned gift.
<i>Former Consideration</i>	The curator at one time considered the object for possible acquisition into the permanent collection or as an unaccessioned gift, but the Museum did not acquire the object, and subsequently returned it to the donor or seller.
<i>Permanent Collection</i>	The Museum has accessioned the object into the permanent collection.
<i>Study Collection</i>	The Museum acquired the object for study and educational purposes only. The object is not accessioned and is not part of the permanent collection.

<i>Unaccessioned</i>	The Museum acquired the object with the understanding that it would not be accessioned into the permanent collection, and the Museum still owns the object.
<i>Unaccessioned – Sold</i>	The Museum acquired the object with the understanding that it would not be accessioned into the permanent collection, and the Museum subsequently sold the object.
<i>Loan</i>	<p>The object is a short or long-term incoming loan to the collection. The object is owned by an outside institution or private collection. The object is in the Museum’s possession.</p> <p>Historic or rare films lent from other institutions to the Museum for use in a public program are also assigned the status loan.</p>
<i>Former Loan</i>	The object at one time was a short or long-term incoming loan to the collection. The object is owned by an outside institution or private collection. The object has been returned to the lender, and is no longer in the Museum’s possession.
<i>Deaccessioned</i>	The Collections Committee has approved an object’s legal removal from the permanent collection, and the Museum has subsequently sold, exchanged, transferred, or destroyed the object.
<i>Approved for Deaccession</i>	The Collections Committee (or historical equivalent) has approved the object’s removal from the permanent collection, but the object is still in the Museum’s possession.
<i>Transferred</i>	The object was never part of the Museum’s collection, and was transferred to another department within the Museum such as Education or Archives.
<i>Voided Number</i>	The number is not in use due to error or oversight. The record does not represent any object. ¹

¹ In voided number records, the department is Inactive. Voided Number status applies to records with accession numbers and loan numbers only. Voided E numbers are tracked in the TMS shipping module and deleted from the TMS objects module.

Exhibition-Related Status Terms

Exhibition Consideration

The Curator is considering borrowing the object for inclusion in an upcoming titled exhibition (not a gallery installation). The object is owned by an outside institution or private collection.

Former Exhibition Consideration

The Curator at one time considered the object for inclusion in an exhibition (not a gallery installation), but the object was not included. The object is owned by an outside institution or private collection.

Exhibition Loan

The object is part of a titled exhibition (not a gallery installation). The object is owned by an outside institution or private collection. This status is applied when the loan has been approved.

Former Exhibition Loan

The object was included in a titled exhibition (not a gallery installation), but has been returned to the lender and is no longer in the Museum's possession.

Client-Service Related Status Terms

Museum Service

The object is in the Museum's possession as a service to an outside private client. Services include storage, conservation, and transshipment.

Former Museum Service

The object was in the Museum's possession as a service to an outside private client. Services include storage, conservation, and transshipment. Object has been returned to its owner.

Examination

Object is in the Museum's possession for the purpose of examination by a curator or conservator.

Former Examination

Object was in the Museum's possession for the purpose of examination by a curator or conservator, but has been returned to its owner.

Additional Status Terms

Non-artwork

The record is for an object that is not artwork. Examples include exhibition signage, electronic equipment used to display media art, pedestals, crates, frames, or vitrines.

(unknown)

The status of the object is unknown. Use for objects found in the collection whose status is being researched.