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Introduction

For my summer intern project I was tasked with developing a public exhibit using historical records and instituitonal objects from the INL Fire Department Collection. I had the opportunity to work with this collection throughout the entire archival process, from usability to accessibility. This afforded me the opportunity to work with staff of the Idaho Falls Public Library on an exhibit to share key items of the INL Fire Department History.

Aquisition and Accessioning

These photos show the condition of the collection when they arrived to the INL Archives. Prior to this they had been stored at the CFA Fire Station. After I formally accessioned these items into the Archives during my first summer (2024), I was able to display some of these items on my poster. Over the last year I have worked on processing this collection.



Processing and Preservation

During this project I learned how to handle various types of records, transfer them into archival enclosures, create inventories, repair damaged documents and photographs, digital preservation techniques, and procedures Archivists use to make these records and objects publicly accessible. These photos show the before and after processing of this collection.



Management and Storage

The Archives is a climate-controlled room, allowing the stored objects and records to be continually preserved. As I continue to process this collection, all the folders will be removed from the pictured grey boxes and organized into their corresponding order, and then placed into smaller archival boxes. Now that most of the collection is preliminarily processed, designing a public exhibit featuring items from this collection is far easier.



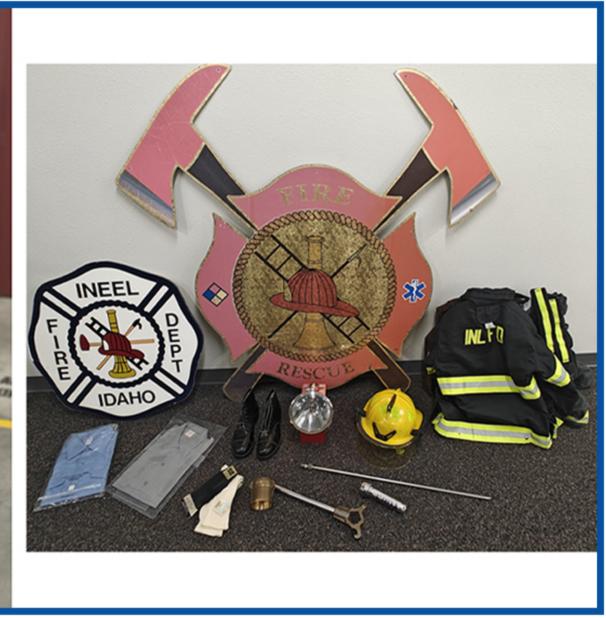
Exhibit Display

I collaborated with the Idaho Falls Public Library to create an exhibit showcasing the training gear, equipment, signs, and other items used by INL Firefighters. This exhibit will be on display at the library starting August 28, 2025. To the right, you'll find a QR code linking to a video I created using digital preservation techniques. This video will be featured in the exhibit. Be sure to check it out and learn more about the INL Fire Department!

INL FD in action!







INL Archives and Special Collections, CFA-2024-001, CFA-2024-003, INL Fire Department Processing Photos



Final Edge of Poste