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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Collection De-accessions at Macaulay Heritage Park**

Picton, ON - Macaulay Heritage Park has undergone a process to determine which artifacts do not fit within the Collections Policy due to condition; provenance, history, or type. These objects have been put forward for legal removal from the collections by *de-accessioning*.

Objects are only removed from the collection if they are not relevant and useful to the purposes and activities of the museum, or have failed to retain their physical integrity and authenticity and cannot be properly stored, used, or preserved.

The grouping of these de-accessioned objects will be sold at public auction, to be held at Macaulay Heritage Park on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 2008. This is the last step in a process that has involved:

- Contacting original donors where documentation existed.
- Transferring items to the Education Collection.
- Exchanging artifacts with another non-profit institution.
- Donating items to another non-profit institution.
- Offering items for sale to another non-profit institution.

Items slated for sale at public auction had initially been offered to the greater museum community in the province, via the electronic List-serve of the Ontario Museum Association.

The final listing was unanimously approved by the Collections Committee of Macaulay Heritage Park, in addition to the museum's Site Committee, in consultation with the Site Curator and Head Curator. Under no circumstances may a member of the Museum Advisory Committee, Site Committee, museum employee, volunteer or their representative or immediate family be sold, given, or otherwise obtain possession of de-accessioned objects.

All monetary gain realized from the sale of any object shall be added to the acquisition fund and used only to improve the quality and care of the collections at Macaulay Heritage Park.

Macaulay Heritage Park is located at 23-35 Church Street in Picton.