



### American Indian History on Display at Local Casino

Part of a collection of more than 500 American Indian cultural objects is now a permanent exhibit at Northern Quest Casino in Airway Heights. Originally amassed by Spokane's Paul and Irene Flynn, the entire collection, which spans nearly a thousand years of history, was donated to the Kalispel Tribe of Indians in 2002.

Working with the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, the Tribe set out to first preserve the collection, then, in keeping with the Flynn's wishes, choose and prepare representative objects for display. That's when the MAC recommended Anderson Mraz Design.

"The Flynn Exhibit is a great project – and a great success for the Tribe," said Michael Holloman, the museum's Director of the Center for Plateau Cultural Studies. "With the help of AMD and mount maker Mark Gostnell, we now have an informative and vibrant exhibit of these important cultural objects."

Designing the exhibit presented certain challenges, according to AMD principal John Mraz.

"We were somewhat limited regarding the site and available area," he said. "It's a high-traffic corridor near the main entrance that also leads to an employee access point – meaning our footprint had to be kept to a minimum."

The next challenge was to develop a structure that gave the exhibit its own sense of place while competing with the sights and sounds of an overly stimulating casino interior.

"This exhibit had to offer a quiet dignity and reverence," continued Mraz. "It was important to create a framework that could accommodate practical considerations – like high durability and low maintenance – and still look like it was a logical, rustic outgrowth of the subject matter."

2008 marks AMD's twentieth year operating as a communications design group in local, regional, and national markets. The company's primary areas of expertise include brand strategy, corporate identity, print, collateral, packaging, website development, and environmental graphic design across a diverse and wide-ranging client base.

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