

## About the Farman-Arts Virtual Museum

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### What is a virtual museum?

#### A virtual museum is an online, digital museum

From the Wikipedia definition –

- “A digital entity that draws on the characteristics of a museum, in order to complement, enhance, or augment the museum through personalization, interactivity, user experience and richness of content.”

As with a traditional museum, a virtual museum can be designed around specific objects (such as an art museum or a natural history museum), or can consist of online exhibitions created from primary or secondary resources.”

### Why a virtual museum?

To create a repository of database, archives and galleries for public access of over four decades of artwork, writing, research and travel. During this time over fifty boxes of memorabilia and research material have been gathered; as well as many boxes of photographs, slides. Online archives of scanned material, articles/papers and documents too. What to do with all this for longevity and how to share it became the key questions.

The conclusion was to create an online museum of collections and galleries for all to access information and knowledge as a learning zone as well as for pleasure.

For ongoing projects that are intended for the museum please visit

[Sunflower Atelier – the eclectic arts hub](#). This will, along with AHHC Spanish Mustangs, be one of the principle information and access zones at the museum.

[www.sunfloweratelier.com](http://www.sunfloweratelier.com)

### Funding

So far all research has been self-funded and a huge investment that required some life changes to pay for it all. In particular the work done over a decade in the American and Canadian West, specifically Montana and Alberta, was a significant cost even although some linked employment (2005-2007) and small amounts of other funding helped along the way. This collection alone includes scientific research and papers, oral histories, material culture, history, bibliography, photography, historical paintings and more.

Now the project is entering a new sphere and specific funding will be applied for, as a larger amount is now needed. [Creative Scotland](#) has approved the virtual museum project as suitable for application for funding. This will be submitted early 2019.

**In the meantime keeping going is the primary aim right now.**

### Funding needed for

200+ slides to be converted for digital use

Scanning of 300+ photographs pre-digital and all prints

Development of some old negatives

Software to build the virtual museum

To pay a postgraduate intern specializing in Information Management and Preservation to assist with the construction and offer museum maintenance management training

Copyright and privacy research

Collation of material into categories (started)

Photography and scanning of other material e.g. older pre-digital articles

Maintaining conservation and promotion of the horses including working with other agencies e.g. trainers' clinics and photographers. Promotion costs, as does conservation. To be photographed/filmed to add to the galleries.  
Merchandise e.g. printing of cards and postcards for online shop to make additional ongoing funds

**Farman-Arts status**

A small non-profit presently accepting donations to a total of less than £5,000 per annum and therefore not required to register as a charity.

In 2019 Farman-Arts will be registered as a non-profit Limited By Guarantee in anticipation of raising higher levels of funding.

**Farman-Arts Virtual Museum** is presently allocated alongside continuing postgraduate research in *Material Culture in Conflict Places* and artwork for the *Colonial Caballo* exhibition in 2019. Once launched the museum will be managed as an ongoing project and material added.

The virtual museum will include a shop and some kind of public engagement e.g. art competitions with schools and a teaching pack.