

# ISHS Adopt an Artifact Program

## Artifacts available for adoption through November 2011



### **Polly Bemis' Tennis Shoes**

Polly Bemis lived in Idaho for over 60 years. After her parents in China sold her, she was smuggled into this country, purchased by a Chinese man, and brought to Warren, Idaho. Polly married Charlie Bemis in 1894 and they settled on the remote Salmon River. They lived there until a fire destroyed their home and Charlie died shortly thereafter. Polly then moved to Grangeville, passing away in 1933.



### **Painting of the Idaho State Seal by Emma Edwards**

Idaho's state seal is the only one in the nation designed by a woman. The artist, Emma Edwards, painted this to be exhibited in the Idaho Building at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Miss Edwards interviewed many politicians before selecting the insignia for the state emblem and began work on the seal design when she was only eighteen.



### **Nez Perce Dress**

The Nez Perce Indians or **Nimi'ipuu** (we the people) lived in peaceful groups in scattered villages on the plains west of the Rocky Mountains. They traveled seasonally to the deep canyons cut by the Snake, Clearwater and Salmon Rivers. About 4,000 in number, the Nez Perce were excellent horsemen, owning the largest horse herd on the continent. They fished for salmon along the Clearwater and Snake rivers, and harvested camas plants in mountain meadows. Women wore long, belted buckskin dresses, corn husk basketry hats, and knee length moccasins. The dresses were decorated with elk teeth, porcupine quills, vegetable and mineral dyes, and beads made of shell, bone, and later, glass. The dress here dates to the late 1800s.



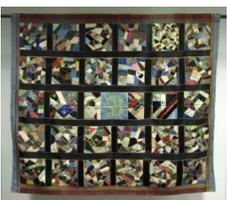
### **Jesus Urquides' Saddle**

Jesus Urquides was an Idaho pioneer and premier muleteer in south and central Idaho during the late 1800s. Through his skills in packing much needed food and equipment into inaccessible mining camps, he made a significant contribution to the early mining history of the region.



### **Mrs. C.W. Moore's Dress**

Mary Catherine Minear Moore was an Idaho pioneer and the wife of C.W. Moore, who established the First National Bank of Idaho. The bay window from their home on 8th and Grove Streets is part of this exhibit. They lived in the home until 1891 then moved to a new home on Warm Springs Avenue. Moore's Boise Artesian Hot and Cold Water Company heated the new house with natural hot water; this is thought to be the earliest such use in the United States. The dress seen here was hand-made for Mrs. Moore.



### **Mrs. Dibble's Crazy Quilt**

Roxana Niles Wild was in her early twenties when she boarded a ship in Boston Harbor for the trip west and a new life. On June 8, 1863, the captain married her and Herbert Louis Dibble, a merchant. They sailed around Cape Horn, docked in San Francisco, then settled in Corrine, Utah. The family later moved to the Twin Falls area. She made this crazy quilt in 1883 and included a piece of her wedding dress.



### **Looking Glass' Tomahawk Pipe**

The Tomahawk Pipe belonged to Nez Perce Chief Looking Glass and was acquired after a skirmish during the Nez Percé War in 1877. An army scout picked it up from the battlefield. The pipe was later sold to William Samson of Rochester, New York in 1895 and was acquired by the Historical Museum in 1989. The pipe had remained in the Samson family from the time of its purchase and the provenance is unbroken.