

## Abandoned Property in Cultural Institutions Law Project

**Note: This information is provided as a service and was not compiled by lawyers or legislative staffers. If you wish to implement the provisions of these laws to obtain ownership of a collection, you should confirm the information provided herein.**

State	Has law ?	URL	Code/Statute Citation	Notes
ALABAMA	No	None	None	None
ALASKA		<a href="http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx06/query=*/doc/%7B@6739%7D?">http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx06/query=*/doc/%7B@6739%7D?</a>	Alaska Statutes 2006, Chapter 14, Section 57.200 to 290 (14.57.200-290)	"'Museum' means an organized and permanent public institution, including a historical society, historical park, historical site, and historical monument, that is primarily educational, scientific, historical, artistic, or cultural in purpose and that owns, borrows, cares for, studies, archives, or exhibits property"; includes list of museum obligations to lender and lender obligations to museum.
ARIZONA	Yes	<a href="http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=44">http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=44</a>	Arizona Revised Statutes, Chapter 3.1, Article 1, Section 44-351 to 44-356	"'Museum' means an organized and permanent nonprofit or public institution which is primarily educational, scientific, historic or aesthetic in purpose and which owns, borrows, cares for, studies, archives or exhibits property. Museum includes historical societies, parks, sites and monuments and libraries"; includes list

				of museum obligations to lender and lender obligations to museum; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>ARKANSAS</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;vid=blr.code">http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;vid=blr.code</a>	Arkansas Code, Title 13, Chapter 5, Subchapter 10	"'Museum' means an institution or entity located in Arkansas that ia operated by a nonprofit corporation, trust, association, public agency, or educational institution; is operated primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation, cultural, or aesthetic purposes; and owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogues property. 'Museum' includes historical societies, historic sites, landmarks, parks, archives, monuments, botanical gardens, arboreta, zoos, nature centers, planetaria, aquaria, libraries, technology centers, and art, history, science, and natural history museums"; includes a list of duties of museum concerning a loan and duties of the lender; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>COLORADO</b>	Yes	<a href="http://198.187.128.12/colorado/1pext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=fs-main.htm&amp;2.0">http://198.187.128.12/colorado/1pext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=fs-main.htm&amp;2.0</a>	Colorado Statutes, Title 38, Article 14, Section 101 to 112 (38-14-101 – 38-14-112)	"'Museum' means a nonprofit or public institution which is organized and operated primarily for the purpose of collecting, cataloging, exhibiting, or archiving objects of educational,

				scientific, historical, or aesthetic interest and the collection of which is generally open to the public. The term includes, without limitation, historical societies, parks, monuments, and libraries.”
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>DELAWARE</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>FLORIDA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&amp;SubMenu=1&amp;App_mode=Display_Statute&amp;Search_String=museum&amp;URL=CH0265/Sec565.HTM">http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&amp;SubMenu=1&amp;App_mode=Display_Statute&amp;Search_String=museum&amp;URL=CH0265/Sec565.HTM</a>	2007 Florida Statutes, Title 18, Chapter 265, Section 565 (265.565)	" 'Museum' means a public or private not-for-profit agency or institution located in Florida and organized on a permanent basis for primarily educational, scientific, or aesthetic purposes, which owns or utilizes tangible objects, cares for them, and exhibits them to the public on a regular basis"; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>GEORGIA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.lexis-nexis.com/hottopics/gacode/default.asp">http://www.lexis-nexis.com/hottopics/gacode/default.asp</a>	Official Code of Georgia, Title 10, Chapter 1, Article 17B, Section 529.1 to 529.7. Georgia Museum Property Act (§10-1-529.1 to 10-1-529.7 )	" 'Archives repository' means a nonprofit organization or a public agency whose primary functions include selecting, preserving, and making available records of historical or enduring value and that is open to the public on a regular basis. Archives repository does not include a public library."  " 'Museum' means a nonprofit organization or a public agency that is

				operated primarily for the purpose of collecting, cataloging, preserving, or exhibiting property of educational, scientific, historic, cultural, or aesthetic interest and that is open to the public on a regular basis. Museum does not include a public library”; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>HAWAII</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>IDAHO</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>ILLINOIS</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2230&amp;ChapterAct=765%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B1033%2F&amp;ChapterID=62&amp;ChapterName=PROPERTTY&amp;ActName=Museum+Disposition+of+Property+Act%2E">http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2230&amp;ChapterAct=765%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B1033%2F&amp;ChapterID=62&amp;ChapterName=PROPERTTY&amp;ActName=Museum+Disposition+of+Property+Act%2E</a>	Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 765, ILCS 1033. Museum Disposition of Property Act.	"Museum' means an institution or entity located in Illinois that is operated by a non-profit corporation, trust, association, public agency, or educational institution; is operated primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation, cultural, or aesthetic purposes; and owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogues property. `Museum' includes, but is not limited to, historical societies, historic sites, landmarks, parks, archives, monuments, botanical gardens, arboreta, zoos, nature centers, planetaria, aquaria, libraries, technology centers, and art, history, science, and natural history museums”; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials; includes statement of

				obligations for museum and lender.
<b>INDIANA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title32/ar34/ch5.html">http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title32/ar34/ch5.html</a>	Indiana Code, Title 32, Article 34, Chapter 5 (IC 32-34-5)	"'Museum' means an institution located in Indiana that is operated by a person primarily for education, scientific, historic preservation, or aesthetic purposes; and owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogs property"; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>IOWA</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>KANSAS</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/getStatute.do">http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/getStatute.do</a>	Kansas Statutes, Chapter 58, Part 6, Article 40, Statute 01 to 13 (K.S.A. 58-4001 through 58-4013)	"'Museum' means an institution which is located in this state and operated by a nonprofit corporation or a public agency, primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation or aesthetic purposes, and which owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives or catalogs property. Museum includes, but is not limited to, historical societies, historic sites or landmarks, parks, monuments and libraries"; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials; lists museum's obligations to lender and lender's obligations to museum.
<b>KENTUCKY</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/171-00/CHAPTER.HTM">http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/171-00/CHAPTER.HTM</a>	Kentucky Revised Statutes, Title 14, Chapter 171, Section 830 to 849.	"'Museums' shall include, but not be limited to, traditional museums, historical societies, historic sites or landmarks, parks, monuments, and

				Libraries”; requirement of non-profit status specified; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>LOUISIANA</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>MAINE</b>	Yes	<a href="http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/27/title27sec601.html">http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/27/title27sec601.html</a>	Maine Revised Statutes, Title 27, Chapter 19, Section 601	Applies to “museums and historical societies.”
<b>MARYLAND</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>MICHIGAN</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(uw0yaw45ptnrn0qpiuxluy45))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&amp;objectName=mcl-Act-24-of-1992">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(uw0yaw45ptnrn0qpiuxluy45))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&amp;objectName=mcl-Act-24-of-1992</a>	Michigan Compiled Laws, Chapter 399, Section 601 to 613. Museum Disposition of Property Act.	“Museums” includes library and archives; requirement of non-profit status specified;
<b>MINNESOTA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://ros.leg.mn/revisor/pages/statute/statute_chapter_toc.php?year=2006&amp;chapter=345">http://ros.leg.mn/revisor/pages/statute/statute_chapter_toc.php?year=2006&amp;chapter=345</a>	Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 345, Section 70 to 74 MINNESOTA MUSEUM PROPERTY ACT	Applies to "archives repository" [“a nonprofit organization or a public agency whose primary functions include selecting, preserving, and making available records of historical or enduring value, and that is open to the public on a regular basis. Archives repository does not include a public library”] and "museum" [“a nonprofit organization or a public agency that is operated primarily for the purpose of collecting, cataloging,

				preserving, or exhibiting property of educational, scientific, historic, cultural, or aesthetic interest and that is open to the public on a regular basis. Museum does not include a public library];” also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>	Yes	<a href="http://michie.com/mississippi/lpExt.dll?f=templates&amp;eMail=Y&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=mscode/b45f/b7a9/b7ab">http://michie.com/mississippi/lpExt.dll?f=templates&amp;eMail=Y&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=mscode/b45f/b7a9/b7ab</a> (click on subsequent sections)	Mississippi Code, Title 39, Chapter 19, Section 1-21. Museum Unclaimed Property Act	”Museum’ means a public or private nonprofit agency or institution located in this state and organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes, which utilizes a professional staff, owns or utilizes tangible objects, cares for them, and exhibits them to the public on a regular basis.”
<b>MISSOURI</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.moga.mo.gov/STATUTES/C184.HTM">http://www.moga.mo.gov/STATUTES/C184.HTM</a>	Missouri Revised Statutes, Chapter 184, Sections 184.102 to 184.122	”Museum’, an institution located in this state and operated by a permanent nonprofit corporation, trust association, or public agency, operated primarily for educational, scientific, historical preservation or aesthetic purposes, which owns, borrows, cares for, studies, archives, or exhibits property. `Museum’ includes, but is not limited to, libraries, botanical gardens, zoos, nature centers, planetariums, technology centers, arboretums, historic sites, art centers, and history, natural history and art museums;” also addresses

				conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>MONTANA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/22_3_5.htm">http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/22_3_5.htm</a>	Montana Code Annotated 2005, Title 22, Chapter 3, Section 501-523 (511-520 reserved). Museum Loan Act.	"'Museum' means an institution located in Montana and operated by a nonprofit corporation or a public agency primarily for educational, scientific, or aesthetic purposes, and that owns, borrows, or cares for and exhibits, studies, or catalogs property;" also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>NEBRASKA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/legaldocs/view.php?page=s51index">http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/legaldocs/view.php?page=s51index</a>	Nebraska Revised Statutes, Section 51-701 to 51-712. Museum Property Act.	"'Museum' means an institution located in Nebraska and operated by a nonprofit corporation or a public agency, primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation, or aesthetic purposes, and which owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogs property. 'Museum' includes, but is not limited to, historical societies, historic sites or landmarks, parks, monuments, libraries, and zoos;" also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials."
<b>NEVADA</b>	Other (see note)	<a href="http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-381.html">http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-381.html</a>	Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 381, Section 9 (see also section 1 for covered museums.)	Apparently applies only to museums in the state system of museums.
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/">http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/</a>	New Hampshire Revised	"'Museum' means an institution located

		<a href="http://rsa/html/xvi/201-e/201-e-mrg.htm">rsa/html/xvi/201-e/201-e-mrg.htm</a>	Statutes, Title 16, Chapter 201-E, Section 1 to 7. MUSEUM PROPERTY ACT	in New Hampshire operated by a nonprofit corporation or a public agency, primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation, or aesthetic purposes, which owns, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogs property. 'Museum' includes, but is not limited to, historical societies, historic sites or landmarks, parks, monuments, and libraries."
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.conwaygreene.com/nmsu/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-hit-h.htm&amp;2.0">http://www.conwaygreene.com/nmsu/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-hit-h.htm&amp;2.0</a>	New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, Chapter 18, Article 10, Section 1 to 5. Abandoned Cultural Properties Act.	"'Museum' means an institution located in New Mexico and operated by a nonprofit corporation or public agency, primarily educational, scientific or aesthetic in purpose, which owns, borrows, cares for, studies, archives or exhibits property;"
<b>NEW YORK</b>	Other (see note)	<a href="http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUER Y=LAWS">http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUER Y=LAWS</a> (search at)	Consolidated Laws of New York, Education Law 233-A	"The term 'museum' shall mean the New York State Museum." Also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
		<a href="http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUER Y=LAWS">http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUER Y=LAWS</a> (search at)	Consolidated Laws of New York, PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION, Title C, Article 19-A - PROPERTY HELD BY	"Office" means the state office of parks, recreation and historic preservation and those facilities including historic sites as defined in section 1.03 of this chapter which: (a) are under the jurisdiction of the office; (b) are operated primarily for educational, cultural, scientific, historic,

			THE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	or aesthetic purposes; and (c) own, borrow, care for, exhibit, study, archive or catalogue property.
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>	Other (see note)	<a href="http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl?Chapter=0121">http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl?Chapter=0121</a>	North Carolina General Statutes, 121-7	Applies to materials held by Office of Archives and History.
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>	Other (see note)	<a href="http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencod/e/t55.html">http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencod/e/t55.html</a>	North Dakota Century Code, Chapter 55, Section 12.	Applies to museums or historical societies—no further definition.
<b>OHIO</b>	Yes	<a href="http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3385">http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3385</a>	Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 3385.01 to 3385.10, PROPERTY ON LOAN TO MUSEUM	<p>“Museum’ means any institution located in this state that is operated by a governmental agency or nonprofit corporation primarily for educational, scientific, aesthetic, historic, or preservation purposes and that acquires, owns, cares for, exhibits, studies, archives, or catalogs property.</p> <p>‘Museum’ includes, but is not limited to, historical societies, historic sites or landmarks, parks, monuments, libraries, arboreta, and zoos;” also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.</p>
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/osStatuesTitle.html">http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/osStatuesTitle.html</a>	Oklahoma Statutes, Title 60: Chapter 651. Definitions;	“Museum’ means an institution which is located in this state and operated by a nonprofit corporation or a public agency

				primarily for educational, scientific, historic preservation or aesthetic purposes, and which owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies archives or catalogues property. `Museum` includes, but is not limited to, historical societies, historical sites or landmarks, parks, monuments and libraries.”
			Chapter 683.2 Application and effect of act;	“Museums shall not be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, but a museum may avail itself of the provisions of this act by complying with the requirements of this act.”
<b>OREGON</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/358.html">http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/358.html</a>	Oregon Revised Statutes (2005), Chapter 358.415 to 358.440	"`Museum` means an institution located in Oregon that is primarily educational, scientific or aesthetic in purpose; owns, borrows or cares for, and studies, archives or exhibits property; and is operated by a nonprofit corporation or public agency.
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/titl27.htm">http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/titl27.htm</a>	South Carolina Code of Laws, SECTION 27-45-10 to 27-45-100	"`Nonprofit organization` means any nonprofit museum, gallery, library, college, university, school, church, or other institution or organization organized exclusively for artistic,

				religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or to promote the study or advancement of the arts or sciences, or to sustain, encourage, or promote the musical or performing arts”; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Statute=43-41C&amp;Type=Statute">http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Statute=43-41C&amp;Type=Statute</a>	South Dakota Codified Laws, CHAPTER 43-41C-1 to 43-41C -4	Applies to “museums and historical societies.”
<b>TENNESSEE</b>	Yes	<a href="http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=tncode">http://www.michie.com/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=main-h.htm&amp;cp=tncode</a>	Tennessee Code, Title 66, Chapter 29, Section 66-29-201 to 66-29-204.	“Museum” means those museums and art galleries owned or operated by the state of Tennessee or any political subdivision of the state, and those museums, historical societies, and art galleries owned and operated by not-for-profit corporations.”
<b>TEXAS</b>	Yes	<a href="http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/pr.toc.htm">http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/pr.toc.htm</a>	Texas Statutes, Title 6A, Chapter 80, Sections 80.001 to 80.008	“Museum” means an institution located in this state and operated by a nonprofit corporation or public agency, primarily educational, scientific, or aesthetic in purpose, that owns, borrows, or cares for and studies, archives, or exhibits property”; also addresses conservation treatment for loaned materials.
<b>UTAH</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>VERMONT</b>	No	None	None	None

<b>VIRGINIA</b>	Yes	<a href="http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+TOC5500000001100002000000">http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+TOC5500000001100002000000</a>	Code of Virginia, Title 55, Chapter 11.2, Section 55-210.31 to 55-210.32	"'Museum' means an institution located in Virginia and operated by a nonprofit corporation or public agency whose primary purpose is educational, scientific or aesthetic, that owns, borrows or cares for, and studies, archives or exhibits museum property."
<b>WASHINGTON</b>	Yes	<a href="http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=63.26">http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=63.26</a>	Revised Code of Washington, Title 63, Chapter 26 (63.26)	"'Museum' or 'historical society' means an institution operated by a nonprofit corporation, nonprofit association, or public agency, primarily educational, scientific, historic, or aesthetic in purpose, which owns, borrows, studies, or cares for tangible objects, including archives, and exhibits them as appropriate."
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>	No	None	None	None
<b>WISCONSIN</b>	Yes	<a href="http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;vid=WI:Default&amp;d=stats&amp;jd=top">http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&amp;fn=default.htm&amp;vid=WI:Default&amp;d=stats&amp;jd=top</a> or <a href="http://www.legis.state.wi.us/statutes/Stat0171.pdf">http://www.legis.state.wi.us/statutes/Stat0171.pdf</a>	Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 171 (171.30 -171.33)	"'Museum' means a nonprofit organization or a public agency that is operated primarily for the purpose of collecting, cataloging, preserving or exhibiting property of educational, scientific, historic, cultural or aesthetic interest and that is open to the public on a regular basis. 'Museum' does not include a public library."
<b>WYOMING</b>	Yes	<a href="http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/titles/Title34/T34CH23.htm">http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/titles/Title34/T34CH23.htm</a>	Wyoming Statutes, Title 34, Chapter 23 (34-23-101 to 34-23-108)	"'Museum' means an institution located in Wyoming and operated by a nonprofit corporation or a public agency"

				primarily for educational, scientific or aesthetic purposes and which owns, borrows, cares for, exhibits, studies or archives property”; also addresses conservation or disposal of loaned materials.
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