



REINTERPRETATION OF THE CHARLES BELDEN MUSEUM OF WESTERN PHOTOGRAPHY

The Meeteetse Museums is working to reinterpret the Charles Belden Museum of Western Photography to highlight Belden's contributions to photography, popular culture, and wildlife conservation.

The project focuses on three themes: I) The Cowboy as the Archetype of the Wild West, II) Western Photography as Art, and III) The West as a Landscape of Wilderness and Economic opportunity. We will also be adding interactive displays including self-guided adventures, audio clips, digital interactives, and hands-on objects.

The new exhibit will be more family friendly while keeping the same wonder and feel of the current Museum which has inspired visitors for over twenty years.

Contributors to this reinterpretation include Rachel Sailor, University of Wyoming; Bailey Russel, University of Wyoming; Lili Turnell, granddaughter of Charles Belden; Ben Anson, manager of the Pitchfork Ranch; Jason Brengle, Shoshone National Forest; and Joshua Mann, Eastern Shoshone Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

From top to bottom: Charles Belden self portrait, man watching cat eat, and the fiddler. Photographs provided courtesy of the Phelps-Belden Family.