Native American Pottery

The Native American pottery collection at the South Dakota Art Museum was rehoused in 2005. Individual custom storage mounts were constructed as a means of preventative preservation. During this time, inscriptions were noted, measurements recorded and high resolution photography taken for each piece.

In 2010, the South Dakota Art Museum started to study the 356 Native American pottery pieces. During this process, pottery was described in detail following an extensive evaluation of existing pottery research. The pottery has been photographed to further document the pottery with a visual record and detailed measurements have been recorded. When possible, tribal affiliation was noted and referenced with existing research documentation. The descriptive information was collected using a worksheet to further characterize the pottery details. This information was written in narrative form and recorded in object files both electronically and hard copies.