

Snow Pipes

Designed by Stephen Vermette for Department of Geography & Planning (now Geosciences).

The 'Snow Pipes' display snow depths in Buffalo, NY. From left to right: average annual snowfall of 94 inches; greatest annual snowfall of 199.4 inches (the pipe should extend about another two feet beyond the height of the ceiling); least annual snowfall of 36.7 inches; greatest snowfall from a single storm of 81.5 inches; snowiest day of 33.9 inches, and accumulated snowfall for the most recent year (in this case, 2022-23 of 133.6 inches). 'most recent year' pipe changes out each year, starting at zero inches with increasing snow depths added throughout the snow season.

The display in the photograph was installed in Buckham Hall in 2022. The display was originally installed in the entrance foyer of the Classroom Building in 2009. As the foyer ceiling was low in the Classroom Building, the greatest annual snowfall pipe extended to the buildings second floor hallway.