PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works

Book and Paper Group

SIXTH EDITION
October 1989
Preparation of this edition is made possible in part by a grant from the Office of Preservation at the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency.

The Paper Conservation Catalog is a publication of the Book and Paper Group of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works.

The Paper Conservation Catalog is published as a convenience for the members of the Book and Paper Group. Publication in no way endorses or recommends any of the treatments, methods, or techniques described herein.


Back numbers of the Paper Conservation Catalog may be purchased by Book and Paper Group members from the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, Suite 340, 1400 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 for $8.00 each edition plus postage.
The purpose of this project is to compile a catalog of conservation treatments for art on paper. The intention is to record a variety of treatment procedures in current use or with a history of use. It is not intended to establish definitive procedures nor to provide step-by-step recipes for the untrained. An attempt will be made to include a variety of techniques used by AIC Book and Paper Group members and divergent opinions about particular techniques. Also included are outlines devoted to important related topics such as examination, documentation, housing, and display. The catalog is designed for practicing paper conservators and is intended as an aid in the decision-making process. It is understood that the individual conservator is solely responsible for determining the safety and adequacy of a treatment for a given project and must understand the effect of his or her treatment. Inclusion in the catalog does not constitute an endorsement or approval of the procedure described.

The catalog is distributed to BPG members in a loose leaf format to permit additions, revisions, and updates as necessary. The project is a collective volunteer effort of the BPG, with members compiling catalog entries and making long or short contributions to these entries. The Editorial Board in Washington, D.C. meets regularly to review outline drafts. A list of categories and a standard outline format have been developed. Treatment outlines are divided into six sections: Purpose, Factors to Consider, Materials and Equipment, Treatment Variations, Bibliography, and Special Considerations.

The 1984 pilot committee drafted three prototype outlines in the standard format to serve as examples. From 1985 to 1989, eleven additional outlines were completed. Conservators who know of or use other variants to outlined treatments are asked to contribute information to be added to existing texts in future printings. Individual conservators are also needed on an ongoing basis to compile and contribute to new treatment categories. The format is intended to be simple and flexible enough to encourage paper conservators to contribute any specialized technique or innovations, however broad or narrow in their application.

The catalog itself can be thought of as a goal but the process of writing outlines offers unlimited opportunities to exchange large and small amounts of information with our associates. The quality of this information should be similar to that learned while visiting or working with a colleague and discussing specific aspects of our work.

The BPG membership has always expressed interest in exchanging information, particularly the specific techniques and insights gained through practical experience. Until the development of the Paper Conservation Catalog, there has never been a convenient format available. It is hoped that the Paper Conservation Catalog will continue to be an attractive, useful vehicle while also performing the necessary professional task of recording our body of knowledge.
PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG
CATEGORIES
(Revised 1989)

1. Fiber Identification
2. Media Identification
3. Media Problems
4. Support Problems
5. Condition Forms and Description
6. Visual Examination
7. Authentication
8. Documentation
9. Instrumental Analysis
10. Spot Tests

11. Mold/Foxing Treatments
12. Dry Cleaning
13. Hinge, Tape, and Adhesive Removal
14. Washing
15. Sizing/Resizing
16. Solvent Treatments
17. Bleaching
18. Alkalization and Neutralization
19. Enzyme Treatments
20. Humidification
21. Consolidation/Fixing/Facing
22. Backing Removal
23. Mending
24. Filling of Losses
25. Suction Table Treatments
26. Drying and Flattening
27. Lining
28. Mounting
29. Inpainting

30. Matting and Framing
31. Encapsulation
32. Lamination and Impregnation
33. Environment
34. Exhibition/Storage
35. Transportation/Packing
36. Adhesives
37. Materials/Tools/Equipment
38. Pest Control and Fumigation

*Outline has been printed. Contributions for expansion are actively sought.
Outline in progress. Contact compiler to submit your contributions.
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Note: Discard 1988 list of categories.

**PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG**
**FORMAT**
(reprinted 1989)

Each major category is identified by a specific number to facilitate indexing and cross-referencing.

Each treatment category (13-31) is broken down into six subheadings: **Purpose**, **Factors to Consider**, **Materials and Equipment**, **Treatment Variations**, **Bibliography**, and **Special Considerations**. Each of these subheadings can be further outlined as shown for 1.4 below, i.e., with **Treatment Variations** numbered 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.3, etc.

1. **Major Treatment Category**
   Definition:

1.1 **Purpose**

1.2 **Factors to Consider**

1.3 **Materials and Equipment**

1.4 **Treatment Variations**
   1.4.1
   1.4.2
   A.
   B.
   1.
   2.
   a.
   b. (etc.)

1.5 **Bibliography**

1.6 **Special Considerations**

The **Bibliography** can be annotated to the extent that the subject dictates.

**Special Considerations** can take many forms. It may included extended essays relating to the material in the preceding outline. It can offer a critical review of the existing literature or can evolve into a dialogue between conservators with complementary or dissenting viewpoints. **Special Considerations** material is segregated from the broader body of the outlined information in an effort to keep the outline simple enough for easy reference.
Participation is encouraged both for the outlines below and for those which have not yet been begun. Please review this list and update your interest by contacting the Editorial Assistant or a member of the Editorial Board.

**Liaison:** Editorial Board contact for a specific outline. Answers questions consults with committee, communicates suggestions, etc.

**Compiler:** Either outlines a specific category, fleshing it out in considerable detail, or outlines and develops a major topic within a specific outline.

**Contributor:** Contributes to discrete areas within a specific category outline. Contribution can range from a sentence to an essay.

**Express Interest:** Interest in contributing to a specific outline.

1. **Fiber Identification**
   **Liaison:**
   **Compiler:** J. Snyder
   **Expressed Interest:** K. Carey

2. **Media Identification**
   **Expressed Interest:** K. Carey, M. Cohn, T. Jirat-Wasiutynski

3. **Media Problems (1985)**
   **Compiler:** N. Ash
   **Expressed Interest:** D. Chandler (pastels stretched on supports), R. Couch, J. Goldman (Japanese), T. Jirat-Wasiutynski, N. Jones (iron gall ink), H. Meriams, W. Phelan, J. Thompson, T. Owen

4. **Support Problems**
   **Liaison:** A. Dwan
   **Compiler:** T. Jirat-Wasiutynski, K. Potje

5. **Condition Forms and Description**
   **Expressed Interest:** J. Klinger Freeman
   Liaison: N. Ash
   Compiler: T. Jirat-Wasiutynski
   Expressed Interest: K. Carey

7. Authentication
   Expressed Interest: K. Carey, M. Cohn

8. Documentation

9. Instrumental Analysis
   Expressed Interest: A. Craddock, M. Mickelson

10. Spot Tests
    Liaison: D. van der Reyden
    Compiler: P. Ellis, E. Estabrook, L. Samuel, S. Urry, J. Weber
    Expressed Interest: K. Lovette, D. Mayer

13. Mold and Foxing Treatments
    Liaison: S. Bertalan
    Compiler: M.W. Lee
    Contributors: E. Cain
    Expressed Interest: L. Hall, M. Hey, K. Lovette

14. Dry Cleaning
    Expressed Interest: J. Mankowski

15. Hinge, Tape, and Adhesive Removal

16. Washing
    Liaison: S. Rogers Albro
    Compiler: C. Baker, L. Carlson, L. Hall

    Liaison: D. Hamburg
    Compiler: W. Henry

18. Solvent Treatments

    Liaison: D. van der Reyden
    Compilers: H. Burgess, D. van der Reyden, K. Keyes
'20. Alkalization and Neutralization (1985) (Bibliography and Special Considerations 1986)
Liaison: K. Nicholson
Compiler: R. Couch
Expressed Interest: H. Burgess, K. Carey

'21. Enzyme Treatments
Liaison: J. Klinger Freeman
Compilers: J. Klinger Freeman
Expressed Interest: P. De Santis, M. Haupt, L. Koehnline, T. Owen, H. Szczepanowska, A. Thenen, R. Wolbers

Liaison: D. Hamburg, D. van der Reyden, T. Vitale

'23. Consolidation/Fixing/Facing (1988)
Liaison/Compiler: S. Rogers Albro

Liaison: M. Mickelson
Compiler: P. Mohr
Contributors: D. Hamburg, M. Mickelson
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, M. Cohn, D. Evans, B. Futernick

Compilers: N. Ash, K. Nicholson
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, M. Cohn, J. Mankowski

Liaison: M. Mickelson, T. Vitale
Compilers: D. Evans, B. Futernick
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, J. Mankowski

'27. Suction Table Treatments
Liaison: M. Ellis, T. Vitale M. Weidner

Compilers: D. Hamburg, T. Vitale
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, M. Cohn, J. Mankowski, H. Szczepanowska, J. Stone
29. Lining (1988)
Liaison: A. Dwan
Compiler: A. Owen

30. Mounting

31. Inpainting
Expressed Interest: M. Cohn

40. Matting and Framing (1988)
Liaison: S. Bertalan
Compilers: S. Bertalan, H. Phibbs

41. Encapsulation
Liaison:
Compilers: C. Atwood, C. Morrow, B. Minter, P. Spitzmueller
Expressed Interest: K. Carey

42. Lamination and Impregnation
Expressed Interest: J. Klinger, B. Shaw

43. Environment

44. Exhibition/Storage

45. Transportation/Packing
Expressed Interest: J. Klinger Freeman

Liaison: C. Maynor, D. van der Reyden
Expressed Interest: J. Mankowski, J. Stone

47. Materials/Tools/Equipment
Expressed Interest: C. Smith

48. Pest Control and Fumigation
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, J. Klinger, J. Mankowski

Outline in progress. Contact compiler or C. Maynor, Project Director, to submit your contributions.
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