PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG

The American Institute for Conservation
of Historic and Artistic Works

Book and Paper Group

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# PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG
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PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
(Revised 1994)

The purpose of this project is to compile a catalog of conservation treatments for art and historic artifacts 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 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 chapters 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 necessity, safety and adequacy of a treatment for a particular object 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. The project is a collective volunteer effort of the BPG, with members compiling catalog chapters and making long or short contributions to these chapters. The Editorial Board in Washington, D.C. meets regularly to review chapter drafts. A list of topics and a standard outline format have been developed. Treatment chapters 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 chapters in the standard format to serve as examples. From 1985 to 1994, twenty-two additional chapters 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 topics. The format is intended to be simple and flexible enough to encourage paper conservators to contribute any specialized technique or innovation, however broad or narrow in its application.

The catalog itself can be thought of as a goal but the process of writing chapters 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 a useful, attractive, vehicle while also performing the necessary professional task of recording our body of knowledge.

It is intended that catalog editions be integrated with each other. A new table of contents has been printed to aid in assembly. Copyright information is included on the inside cover of this edition and should be retained.

Please contact the Project Director with any questions relating to the catalog. (See AIC directory for address/telephone number.)

Project Director: Catherine I. Maynor
Editorial Assistant: Anne Pierce
Following is the list of chapters showing the status of the Catalog at the completion of the second three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This list, originally drafted during the 1984 pilot project, has been periodically revised by the Editorial Board to reflect the needs and interests of the Book and Paper Group membership as the profession has evolved. Some topics have been added while others, thought to be redundant or otherwise unnecessary, have been deleted (gaps in numbering reflect these revisions, as well as the intention to leave room for adding new treatment topics). Topics such as enzyme treatments and suction table treatments are considered to be core chapters and remain as an incentive to future efforts. Another group of topics, numbers 42-45, relate to the broader field of collections management and preventive care and have been addressed to some extent in existing publications. While these topics are enormous, as they pertain to all conservation specialities, they may be addressed within the catalog at a future time.

* 1. Fiber Identification
  2. Media Identification
* 3. Media Problems
* 4. Support Problems
* 5. Written Documentation
* 6. Visual Examination
  9. Instrumental Analysis
* 10. Spot Tests
* 12. Mold/Fungi
* 13. Foxing
* 14. Surface Cleaning
* 15. Hinge, Tape and Adhesive Removal
  16. Washing
* 17. Sizing/Resizing
  18. Parchment Treatments
  19. Bleaching
* 20. Alkalization and Neutralization
  21. Enzyme Treatments
* 22. Humidification
* 23. Consolidation/Fixing/Facing
  * 24. Backing Removal
  * 25. Mending
  * 26. Filling of Losses
  27. Suction Table Treatments
  * 28. Drying and Flattening
  * 29. Lining
  * 30. Inpainting
  * 40. Matting and Framing
  41. Encapsulation
  * 42. Environment
  43. Exhibition/Storage
  44. Transportation/Packing
  * 45. Integrated Pest Management
  * 46. Adhesives

* Chapter has been printed

(NOTE: DISCARD PREVIOUS CHAPTER LIST)
PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG
FORMAT
(Reprinted 1994)

Each major topic (chapter) is identified by a specific number to facilitate indexing and cross-referencing.

Each treatment chapter (12-31) 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 below for 1.4 Treatment Variations:

1. **Major Treatment Topic**
   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 chapter. 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 body of the outlined information to keep the chapter simple enough for easy reference.
PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG
PARTICIPANTS

May 1994

Participation is encouraged both for the chapters below and for those which have not yet been begun. Please review this list and update your interest by contacting the Project Director.

**Editorial Board Liaison:** Editorial Board contact for a specific chapter. 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 chapter.

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

**Available for Consultation:** Interest in contributing to a specific chapter.

1. **Fiber Identification** (Draft)
   - Editorial Board Liaison: C. Maynor
   - Compiler: D. Mayer
   - Available for Consultation: K. Carey

2. **Media Identification**
   - Available for Consultation: T. Burns, K. Carey, M. Cohn, M. Hamill, R. Hill, J. Krill, D. Mayer, S. Murphy, K. Pavelka

3. **Media Problems** (1985)
   - Compiler: N. Ash

4. **Support Problems** (1990)
   - Editorial Board Liaison: A. Dwan, K. Schenck
   - Compilers: T. Burns (Jirat-Wasiutynski), K. Potje

5. **Written Documentation** (1994)
   - Compilers: H. Krueger, S. Melching, K. Nicholson

   - Editorial Board Liaison: N. Ash
   - Compiler: T. Jirat-Wasiutynski

9. **Instrumental Analysis**
   - Available for Consultation: A. Craddock, S. Melching, M. Mickelson, K. Tidwell
10. **Spot Tests (1990)**
   Editorial Board Liaison: C. I. Maynor, D. van der Reyden
   Compiler: D. D. Mayer

12. **Mold/Fungi**
   Editorial Board Liaison: S. Bertalan
   Compilers: M. Wood Lee, L. Olcott Price, S. Bertalan

13. **Foxing**
   Editorial Board Liaison: S. Bertalan
   Compilers: J. Derow, A. Owen

14. **Surface Cleaning**
   Editorial Board Liaison: K. Schenck
   Compilers: S. Duhl, N. Nitzberg

15. **Hinge, Tape, and Adhesive Removal**
   Editorial Board Liaison: A. Seibert
   Compilers: E. O'Loughlin, L. Stiber

16. **Washing**
   Editorial Board Liaison: S. R. Albro, M. Mickelson, K. Nicholson
   Compilers: M. W. Harnly, C. Mear, J. E. Ruggles Compilers 1st Draft: C. A. Baker, L. Carlson, L. E. Hall

17. **Sizing (1988)**
   Editorial Board Liaison: D. Hamburg
   Compiler: W. Henry

18. **Parchment Treatments (1994)**
   Editorial Board Liaison: T. Boone Wallis
   Compilers: A. Quandt, W. Newman
   Contributors: T. Albro, N. Bell, F. Bearman, L. Bigrigg, V. Bunting, D. Burns, E. Clancy,
Compilers: A. Quandt, W. Newman

Editorial Board Liaison: D. van der Reyden
Compilers: H. Burgess, D. van der Reyden, K. Keyes

* 20. **Alkalization and Neutralization** (1985) (Bibliography and Special Considerations 1986)
Editorial Board Liaison: K. Nicholson
Compiler: R. Couch

21. **Enzyme Treatments**
Available for Consultation: P. DeSantis, J. Klinger Freeman, M. Haupt, L. Koehnline, E. Morse, P. DeSantis Pell, T. Owen, H. Szczepanowska, A. Thenen, R. Wolbers

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

* 23. **Consolidation/Fixing/Facing** (1988)
Editorial Board Liaison/Compiler: S. Rogers Albro

* 24. **Backing Removal** (1985)
Editorial Board Liaison: M. Mickelson
Compiler: P. Mohr
Contributors: D. Hamburg, M. Mickelson

* 25. **Mending** (1984)
Compilers: N. Ash, K. Nicholson

Editorial Board Liaison: M. Mickelson, T. Vitale
Compilers: D. Evans, B. Futernick

27. **Suction Table Treatments**
Editorial Board Liaison:
Compilers: M. Ellis, T. Vitale, M. Weidner

Compilers: D. Hamburg, T. Vitale

* 29. **Lining** (1988)
Editorial Board Liaison: A. Dwan
Compiler: A. Owen

* 30. Inpainting
Compiler: K. Schenck

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

41. Encapsulation
Editorial Board Liaison:
Compilers: C. Atwood, C. Morrow, B. Minter, P. Spitzmueller

42. Environment
Available for Consultation: J. Krill, S. Melching, K. Pavelka, A. Robb, T. Taylor, K. Tidwell, E. Wendelin, J. Wright

43. Exhibition/Storage

44. Transportation/Packing
Available for Consultation: V. Blyth-Hill, J. Klinger Freeman, V. Lee, K. Tidwell, E. Wendelin, J. Wright

45. Integrated Pest Management

Editorial Board Liaison: C. Maynor, D. van der Reyden

*Chapter has been printed.

(NOTE: PLEASE DISCARD PREVIOUS LIST OF PARTICIPANTS)
It is intended that catalog editions be integrated with each other. A new table of contents will be printed each year to aid in assembly. Copyright information will be included on the inside cover of all printings and should be retained.

Additional information is sought for and can be contributed to an existing outline at any time by contacting the compiler or a member of the Editorial Board. Miscellaneous brief contributions will be printed and added to the end of existing outlines until sufficient changes and additions have been made to warrant incorporating this information into the body of the outline and reprinting it.

Please contact the Project Director, Board members, or compilers with your questions, contributions, or interests in working on the catalog. (See AIC directory for addresses/telephone numbers.)

Editorial Board:

Project Director: Catherine I. Maynor

Sarah Bertalan Antoinette Dwan Catherine Nicholson
Janet English Sylvia Rodgers Albro Kimberly Schenck
Doris Hamburg Dianne van der Reyden

Editorial Assistant: Karen Kittredge
PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG

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23. Consolidation/Fixing/Facing (1988)
28. Drying and Flattening (Draft 1984)
29. Lining (1988)
40. Matting and Framing (1988)