

Photograph Conservation: A Short Annotated Bibliography

General

Albright, Gary. "Care of Photographs." *Technical Leaflet*. Andover, MA: Northeast Document Conservation Center, 1999. <http://www.nedcc.org/leaflets/phocar.pdf>

Analysis of factors affecting the permanence of all photographs, including temperature and relative humidity, air pollution and dirt, light, and storage and handling. Includes a brief but helpful discussion of storage enclosures.

Lavédrine, Bertrand. *A Guide to the Preventive Conservation of Photographic Collections*. Los Angeles: Getty Conservation Institute, 2003.

Excellent synthesis of research on the preservation of photographic collections and established international standards. Key topics include photographic deterioration, environmental conditions, storage enclosures, exhibition guidelines, and digital preservation technologies.

Ritzenthaler, Mary Lynn. "Preservation." In *Photographs: Archival Care and Management*, Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler and Diane Vogt-O'Connor, 207-56. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2006.

Coverage includes physical characteristics of photographs, causes of deterioration, safe handling practices, environmental control and monitoring, storage enclosures, housing considerations, and preservation options for specific formats.

To Have and to Hold: Preservation of Photographic Collections. Safeguarding European Photo Images for Access (SEPIA). <http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/photo/>

Overview of major 19th- and 20th-century photographic processes, types and causes of deterioration, handling considerations, storage and environment recommendations for specific formats, and digitization issues. Includes an extensive searchable reference list.

Identification

Fischer, Monique. "A Short Guide to Film Base Photographic Materials: Identification, Care, and Duplication." *Technical Leaflet*. Andover, MA: Northeast Document Conservation Center, 2004. <http://www.nedcc.org/leaflets/nitrate.htm>

Good introduction to cellulose nitrate, cellulose acetate, and polyester-based photographic materials. Includes a discussion of film base characteristics, identification methods, stages of deterioration, duplication considerations, and handling recommendations for each of the three materials.

Reilly, James. *Care and Identification of 19th Century Photographic Prints*. Rochester, NY: Eastman Kodak Co., 1986.

Comprehensive, amply illustrated analysis of 19th-century photographic and photomechanical print processes. Includes a detailed examination of 19th-century printing history, component materials, forms of deterioration, and stability of specific materials, and outlines best practices for the care, storage, and display of paper photographs. Also features a convenient pull-out print process identification guide with color illustrations.

Enclosures

Albright, Gary. "Storage Enclosures for Photographic Materials." *Technical Leaflet*. Andover, MA: Northeast Document Conservation Center, 1999.
<http://www.nedcc.org/plam3/tleaf411.pdf>

Excellent overview of the advantages and disadvantages of the many storage enclosure options for photographic prints and negatives. Includes an updated list of suppliers.

Color Photographs

A Consumer Guide to Traditional and Digital Print Stability. Rochester, NY: Image Permanence Institute (Rochester Institute of Technology), 2004.
http://www.imagepermanenceinstitute.org/shtml_sub/consumerguide.pdf

Concise, illustrated overview of color print technologies, identification techniques, environmental factors, display options, and storage and handling recommendations.

Wilhelm, Henry. *The Permanence and Care of Color Photographs: Traditional and Digital Color Prints, Color Negatives, Slides, and Motion Pictures*. Grinnell, IA: Preservation Publishing Co., 1993.
http://www.wilhelmresearch.com/pdf/HW_Book_758_Pages_HiRes_v1a.pdf

Classic work focusing on color photography, particularly the characteristics of color transparency films, color negative films, and color papers. Discussion encompasses the physical nature of photographic materials, factors affecting permanence and stability, causes of deterioration, and comprehensive recommendations for the storage, handling, and exhibition of both color and black-and-white photographs.

Photo Albums and Scrapbooks

Conservation of Scrapbooks and Albums. St. Louis, MO: American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, Book and Paper Group, 1999.

Discusses the structure and treatment of photographs mounted in albums, as well as the albums themselves. Includes information on albumen print albums.

Ogden, Sherelyn. "Preservation Options for Scrapbook and Album Formats." *The Book and Paper Group Annual* 10 (1991).

<http://aic.stanford.edu/sg/bpg/annual/v10/bp10-14.html>

Addresses the complex issues faced in making preservation determinations for scrapbooks and describes various treatment options including preservation of the original format, duplication, basic stabilization, and format substitution, with specific examples of each.

Repositories

Photograph Preservation and the Research Library. Mountain View, CA: Research Libraries Group, 1991.

Coverage includes preservation planning for photographic holdings, duplication options, access and bibliographic control, and photograph preservation as a component of preservation programs.

Ritzenthaler, Mary Lynn, and Diane Vogt-O'Connor. *Photographs: Archival Care and Management*. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2006.

Comprehensive guide to the archival management of photographic collections that examines the history of photography, causes of deterioration, and a wide range of preservation issues and techniques for specific photographic formats and processes, including environmental and storage conditions and monitoring, housing and enclosures, and risk assessment.

Available from <http://preserve.harvard.edu>
<http://preserve.harvard.edu/bibliographies/photographconservation.pdf>

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