



Friends news : University of Wisconsin-Madison Library. Vol. 4, Issue 1 Summer 2006

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Airport exhibition On Wings of Art features library collections, university resources

By Michael Worringer

On Wings of Art, the inaugural exhibition in the Art Court at the newly renovated Dane County Regional Airport, features works from the Department of Special Collections and art purchased by the Friends of the UW-Madison Library.

The exhibition consists of seven individual shows that highlight many aspects of aviation, mapping, and flight through historical photographs, maps, globes, sculptures, films, posters, rare books, and contemporary prints. On Wings of Art will be on display through October 31 in the main entrance of the airport. The exhibition, organized by Paula Panczenko, director of UW-Madison's Tandem Press and former Friends president, will be viewed by an estimated 1.25 million visitors.

"On Wings of Art highlights the incredible resources and talents within the community," Panczenko says. "I wanted to do something that appeals to an audience that might not ordinarily be exposed to these materials."

In the case exhibit "Birds in Books," Special Collections curator Robin Rider and intern Ann Myers present historically important ornithology titles by Alexander Wilson (1766–1813), who founded the study of birds in the United States with his nine-volume work *American Ornithology*, published a year after his death. The case also includes work by John James Audubon (1785–1851), who set the standard for bird painting until the early 1900s. Rider notes that the preeminent ornithologists of the time were hardly birds of a feather.



Snowy Owls, now on display in On Wings of Art at the Dane County Regional Airport. From John James Audubon, *The Birds of America: From Drawings Made in the United States and Their Territories*, the smaller seven-volume edition with hand-colored lithographs (1840–44).

"It is said that Wilson's success inspired Audubon to publish his studies, but it is also said that their relationship was not cordial," Rider says.

Featured drawings of "Birds in Books" include the American Robin, Whooping Crane, Sociable Vulture, Snowy Owl, and more. They are displayed in specially

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From the president

Memorial Library collections continue to impress

In this first message to you as president of the Friends, I must say that I am looking forward to serving in this capacity. Libraries and library work are near and dear to my heart. My own training in comparative and Italian literature and medieval studies was accomplished at Indiana University in Bloomington, where, as a native Hoosier, I found a congenial and intellectually stimulating environment. The library resources there were also first rate with rich holdings in the stacks and the marvelous collections in the Lilly Library.



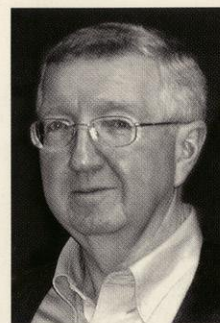
"I am still amazed at the discoveries that I continue to make both in the stacks and in the Department of Special Collections."



When I came to the University of Wisconsin in 1968, however, I was not disappointed; indeed, I found to my great pleasure that the resources of Memorial Library were every bit as rich as those I had left behind in Bloomington, and in certain ways even richer, thanks to the consummate care that bibliographers and colleagues have taken in nurturing the collection over the years. Even after being on the faculty here for almost forty years, I am still amazed at the discoveries that I continue to make both in the stacks and in the Department of Special Collections.

The UW certainly has one of the best collections in which I have had the pleasure of working. This assertion brings me to comment on the importance of building and maintaining library collections, not just for the immediate needs of students and faculty, but for future generations of scholars. The great resources of Memorial Library did not happen by accident; they are the ongoing

results of a conscious and concerted effort on the part of many individuals to assure that materials in a wide range of areas are available for consultation for generations to come.



One of the many important Friends programs provides grants to scholars who wish to work in our collections. That we have had numerous visitors over the past decade attests to the rich library resources available on campus that can be accessed easily and profitably.

It may not be completely inappropriate to recall the memorable comment of the notorious bank robber Willie Sutton, who, when asked by an eager young reporter assigned to cover his case, "Why do you rob banks?" immediately and succinctly responded, "Because that's where the money is!" I have often used this amusing anecdote as a way of opening discussions of why medieval scholars like to go to the great libraries of Europe to conduct their research: "Because that's where the manuscripts are!" And this is, of course, the truth. Most of the extant medieval manuscripts in the world are found in these major repositories, and scholars have no choice but to go there to conduct firsthand examinations of priceless codices.

Although Memorial Library does not have a wealth of medieval manuscripts, it more than compensates in terms of the resources it does offer, and for this reason students and scholars will say in response to the question, "Why do you go to Memorial Library?"—"Because that where the books and journals are!"

Christopher Kleinhenz

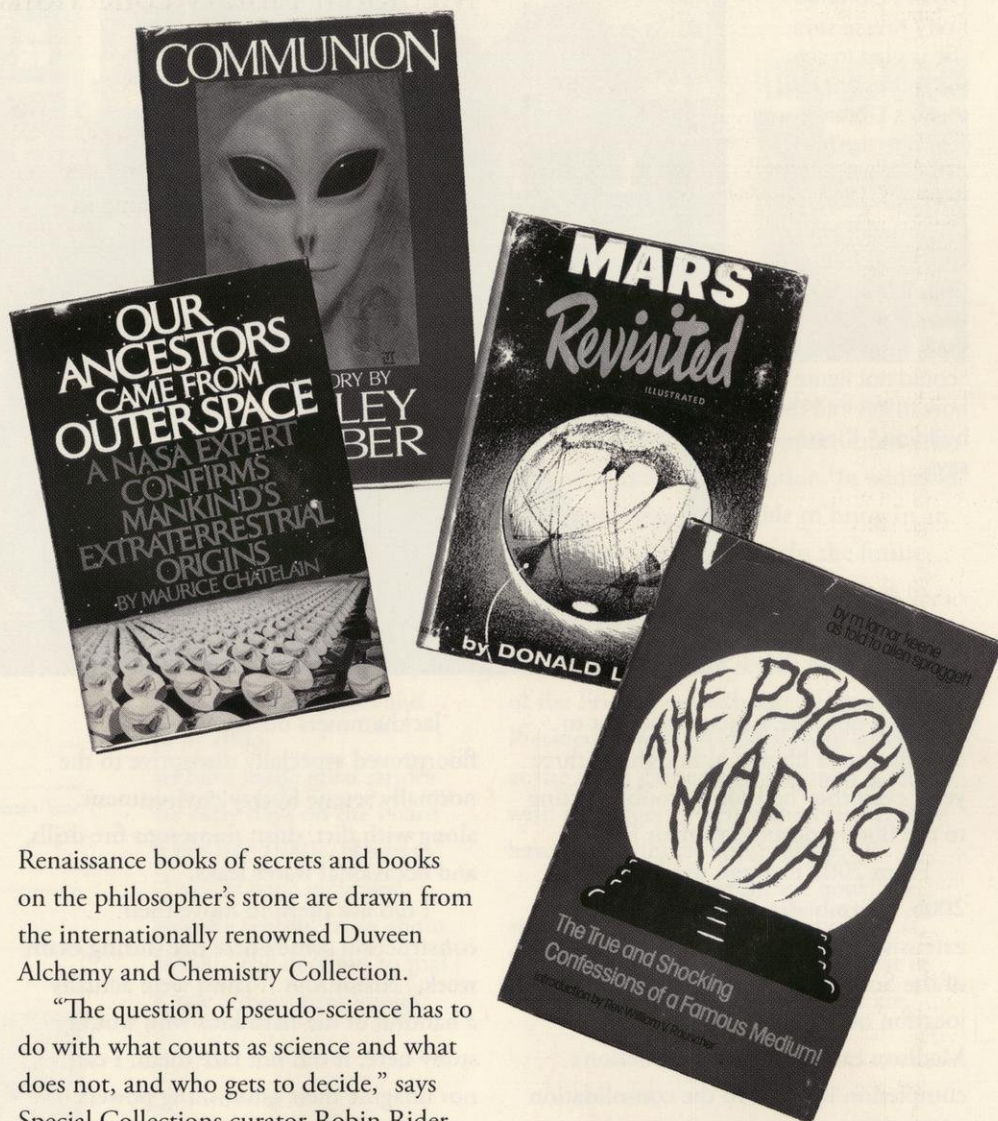
Special Collections lifts the veil on pseudo-sciences in Secrets Reveal'd

The occult suggests darkness and mystery, but holds the promise of light and understanding; the initiated can understand its secrets, communicated in riddles and esoteric symbols. For centuries both astrology and astronomy commanded respect; practical arts of alchemy laid the foundation for what we understand as chemistry. Later phrenology, mesmerism, and spiritualism assumed the mantle of science in their quest for truth. Not every pathway traveled in the name of scientific exploration, however, results in a tangible breakthrough, and over time an entire field may come to be discredited, even though its practitioners had absolute belief in its legitimacy.

Left behind after the sifting and winnowing of the scientific community is a rich historical record of pseudo-science and other aspects of the occult. The exhibit *Secrets Reveal'd: Pseudo-science, the Occult, and the Paranormal* from the Holdings of Special Collections, on display now through Friday, October 13, highlights UW-Madison Libraries' collections dedicated to these subjects.

Secrets Reveal'd draws much of its material from the Robert Schadowald Collection on Pseudo-science. Schadowald was a respected science journalist and technical writer whose research and writings explored topics ranging from UFOs and parapsychology to the flat-earth and hollow-earth movements. The collection includes nearly 900 rare and unusual books, pamphlets, and periodicals as well as correspondence, interviews, photographs, and research files. Most pertain to pseudo-science in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Other items featured in *Secrets Reveal'd* are earlier works on astrology, the hermetic tradition, animal magnetism or mesmerism, phrenology, and numerology.



Renaissance books of secrets and books on the philosopher's stone are drawn from the internationally renowned Duveen Alchemy and Chemistry Collection.

"The question of pseudo-science has to do with what counts as science and what does not, and who gets to decide," says Special Collections curator Robin Rider.

Rider notes that the work of Sir Isaac Newton further blurs the line between science and pseudo-science. As a recent NOVA presentation on PBS, Newton's *Dark Secrets*, pointed out, even the towering figure of Newton pursued the "covert art of alchemy."

"The exhibit title, *Secrets Reveal'd*, refers to the title of one of several books from Newton's library in our holdings," Rider says. "This volume contains Newton's own manuscript annotations on matters of ancient and secret practice. While some in the seventeenth century deplored alchemy as a bundle of errors,

Shown above are selections from the Robert Schadowald Collection on Pseudo-science: Maurice Chatelain, *Our Ancestors Came From Outer Space* (1978); Whitley Strieber, *Communion: A True Story* (1987), Donald Lee Cyr, *Mars Revisited* (1959), and M. Lamar Keene, *The Psychic Mafia* (1976).

others accorded it more respect. Scholars now recognize that Newton studied occult works closely and performed alchemical experiments in hopes of gaining power over nature."

The exhibit in 976 Memorial Library may be visited 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Physics Library remains constant amid renovations

Physics Librarian Kerry Kresse says she is glad to see student use of the Physics Library return to the levels of the years prior to the renovation of Chamberlin Hall. Fences surrounded Chamberlin for three years, during which time, most students “could not figure out how to get into the building,” Kresse says.



It does not take a rocket scientist to walk into a library, although for three years even they had some trouble getting to the library devoted to their field.

From 2002 through the spring of 2005, Chamberlin Hall underwent an extensive renovation following the exodus of the School of Pharmacy to its new location on the west side of the UW—Madison campus. The construction’s completion resulted in the consolidation of the Physics Department in Chamberlin, where the Physics Library has resided on the fourth floor since the early 1970s.

The library doggedly stayed open throughout the entire remodeling process, despite all the turmoil associated with an active construction site.

“Most people did not know where we were,” says Physics Librarian Kerry Kresse. “They could not figure out how to get into the building. When the construction fences went up, there were no signs for where to enter for a few months.”

Jackhammers on the fourth floor proved especially disruptive to the normally serene library environment, along with dirt, dust, numerous fire drills, and occasional water leaks.

“I did ask them to move their construction somewhere else during exam week,” Kresse says. “There were actually a handful of die-hard kids who would study here. It did not faze them. I can not imagine their astonishing powers of concentration.”

Despite these hazards that gave new meaning to the concept of chaos theory, Kresse never missed a beat in her daily work. She was recognized with the 2006 Librarian of the Year award for librarians with more than ten years of service from the UW—Madison Librarian’s Assembly.

In stark contrast to the noisy bustle of the construction years, the Physics Library has now returned to its quiet ways. In fact, it is so calm that the rustling of turning notebook pages often resonates throughout the 6,200 square-foot library.

In addition to its more than 47,000 books and journals, the library’s collections will soon include photographs and realia from the collections of Nobel Prize winner John Hasbrouck Van Vleck, a UW physicist from 1928–34 and son of Edward Van Vleck, the mathematics professor for whom the campus building is named. Kresse describes the majority of the library’s collections, however, as “bread and butter.”

“This library is kind of a workhorse library,” she says. “Physics is not flashy. There are not a lot of old books because the emphasis is really on the new.”

Some of the items are purchased through gift funds from UW alumnus and philanthropist David Grainger. These include new and expanding areas of physics such as chaos theory, fractals, and nuclear astrophysics. Now that the construction is complete, these materials are once again easily accessible.

“I was really afraid when our numbers started to go down,” Kresse says. “It is nice to see that the students are coming back.”

Profile

Loni Hayman

“I live in a library,” admits Loni Hayman, longtime member of the Friends of the UW–Madison Library, as she scans her husband’s study in her home just west of campus in Shorewood Hills. Ceiling-to-floor bookshelves on all sides of the room are full and in some cases overflowing with books.

“We are starting to double up,” she says, gesturing to a few rows where hardcover and paperback treasures have been buried behind others. There are still more titles upstairs, she adds.

Hayman, who became vice president of the Friends board of directors in April, developed her appreciation for books and libraries many years ago while traversing the globe with her husband, David Hayman, UW–Madison professor emeritus and internationally recognized James Joyce scholar.

“That is what got me interested in libraries to begin with,” Loni says. “When he was writing his dissertation as a very young man, we lived in France. After that we went to Buffalo. We went to England.

We went everywhere there were Joyce manuscripts to study.”

Hayman says during her six months in London, she often visited exhibits at The British Library, where David worked.

“It is just kind of an affection that developed,” she says. “He was the scholar, and I sort of helped and got interested!”

An art history major in her own right, Hayman received her master’s from UW–Madison and spent about ten years working first as a volunteer and later as an editor at the Elvehjem (now Chazen) Museum of Art on campus. She also collaborated on an historical cookbook, *A Literary Feast: Recipes and Writings by American Women Authors from History*, with Friends members Joan Jones and Anne Tedeschi in 2003.

The Friends have made great strides since Hayman’s early days on the board of directors in the late 1980s. Hayman estimates the Friends have increased their annual income tenfold from about \$4,000 to \$40,000. The decision to make the used book sale a more prestigious

semiannual event instead of a small monthly sale is responsible for much of the revenue increase. The funding has allowed the Friends to begin programs that provide grants-in-aid for visiting scholars and grants to campus libraries for acquisitions and preservation. In addition, the Friends have been able to bring in an array of notable speakers. In the future, Hayman would also like the Friends to develop a collector’s society.

While she fondly recalls early meetings of the Friends at the home of then-President Frank Horlbeck, who served tea at the small gatherings, Hayman is happy with the larger presence the Friends now have in the library community.

“We are more significant now,” she says. “People pay more attention to us. We have taken a more active interest in the libraries and what their needs are.”



Coming this fall...

On **Thursday, September 21**, FELIX: A Series of New Writing features poets Matthea Harvey and Robert Casper.

On **Thursday, September 28**, the Friends will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Woodman Astronomical Library. Jim Lattis, astronomy professor and director of the

University of Wisconsin Space Place, and David Null, university archivist, will give a joint presentation on the history of the library and astronomy at the university.

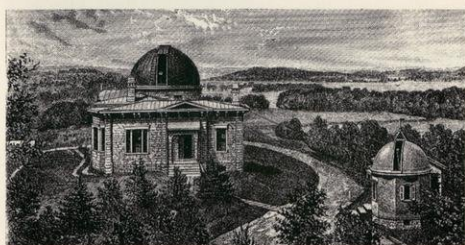
From **Wednesday, October 18–Saturday, October 21**, the Friends will host the twenty-second semiannual used book sale in Memorial Library.

On **Thursday, October 26**, UW–Madison School of Music Professor Catherine Kautsky presents “The Fairies are Exquisite Dancers: An Afternoon of French Make-Believe,” featuring music by Debussy, Ravel, and other pre-World War I French composers.

The repertoire will be based on a concurrent exhibit of books by Arthur Rackham and will include readings, songs, and piano music on the themes of childhood and make-believe.

On **Thursday, November 30**, the second FELIX event of the semester features poets Peter O’Leary and Sina Queyras.

Times, locations, and more details will be published in the fall newsletter. For current, updated information, visit <http://giving.library.wisc.edu>.



Grants to libraries on the rise

Twenty-six grants were awarded from the Friends board of directors for materials or projects in campus libraries. The grants usually support the acquisition of new materials or the preservation or conservation of existing collections.

This year the Friends awarded more than \$21,000 for projects, such as the acquisition of atlases and aquaculture resources and the preservation of nineteenth-century musical imprints and publications by Wisconsin composers.

"We received a substantially larger number of grant applications this year, all of them sound, so we worked to provide at least partial funding of all requests," says Tom Garver, Friends library liaison.

The following libraries or selectors for library departments received grants this year: American Indian Studies Library, Arthur H. Robinson Map Library, Biology Library, Center for Instructional Materials and Computing, English Humanities, Ethnic Studies, European History, European Humanities, Geography Library, Law Library, Library and Information Studies, Mathematics Library, Microimaging, Music Library, Plant Pathology Library, Preservation Laboratory, Reference, Ruth Ketterer Harris Library, Slavic/East European Studies, Social Science Reference Library, South Asia Studies, Special Collections, University Archives, Water Resources Library, and Women's Studies.

The Friends library grants program gave out five more grants and nearly \$2,000 more than in 2005.

On Wings of Art *(continued from page one)*

constructed cases with protective ultraviolet light filters in triplicate because the Art Court is frequently awash in sunshine.

An artistic interpretation of bird studies is the subject of *Natural Philosophies*, artwork by Wisconsin artist Martha Glowacki, which has been purchased by the Friends for eventual permanent display on campus. Glowacki drew inspiration for the piece from historical books she found in various campus libraries. Currently it resides in the airport as part of the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's contribution to On Wings of Art, "Works from Starry Transit by Martha Glowacki." Starry Transit, which looks at night migration of birds, was installed at UW-Madison's Washburn Observatory for ten weeks last fall.

"Including some of the work from Starry Transit seemed like a good fit for

this first airport exhibition," Glowacki says. "On a personal level, I know that I would love to be able to look at an art show while at any airport. I hate to fly—looking at a good art exhibition is a first-rate diversion."

The other exhibit participants in On Wings of Art also have UW-Madison connections:

- "Flying on Film" looks at aviation in the cinema using materials from the university's Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research.
- "Terra Sphaeroides (Spherical Earth)," organized by Madison entrepreneur John Taylor, honors the History of Cartography project affiliated with the university's Department of Geography.
- "From a Distance—Benjamin Edwards" features Edwards, an artist published by Tandem Press, a printmaking studio affiliated with

Van Gemert fills role as acting director of General Library System

Ed Van Gemert, deputy director of the UW-Madison General Library System, assumed the role of acting director July 1 when Director Kenneth Frazier went on leave from his position to serve as interim chief information officer for the campus.

Van Gemert has served as deputy director of GLS since 2003 and was an associate director since 2001. He has held a variety of library positions since 1982.

Frazier has served as director of the libraries since 1992.



Ed Van Gemert

the university's Department of Art in the School of Education.

- "Bird's-Eye Views" presents aerial panoramas from Wisconsin Historical Society collections on campus.
 - An exhibit tracing local aviation roots also uses photos from the Historical Society.
- "UW-Madison resources may be known globally among scholars, but they are not necessarily recognizable by the community at large," Panczenko says. "I really wanted to draw significant attention to them."



Paula Panczenko

Book sale raises nearly \$22,000

The Friends raised the second-highest total in the history of the used book sale at this spring's event March 22–25 in Memorial Library.

According to James Dast, chief organizer of the semiannual event, the Friends raised \$21,857 to support Friends programming, including grants to UW–Madison libraries, grants-in-aid for visiting scholars, and guest lectures.

“We are most grateful to our donors who make the sale a success. Volunteers are an important factor in the success of the sales as well,” Dast says, noting that 51 volunteers worked more than 300 hours to help move nearly 15,000 books.

The Friends are currently accepting donations for the fall 2006 book sale, which will run from Wednesday, October 18 through Saturday, October 21. Donations may be placed in the Open Return book drops found in most campus libraries. Materials may also be dropped off at the Lake Street loading dock of Memorial Library weekdays from 7 a.m.–3 p.m. Donors with larger collections should contact the Friends for assistance with packing and transportation.

For more information, call (608) 265-2505, e-mail friends@library.wisc.edu, or visit <http://giving.library.wisc.edu/friends/book-sales.shtml>.



The fall 2006 semiannual used book sale will be October 18 through October 21.

Grants-In-Aid program brings five scholars to campus

The Friends Grants-In-Aid program is bringing five scholars in the humanities to UW–Madison this year. The Friends award a small number of grants each year that allow access to collections for scholars who live beyond a reasonable commuting distance. The grants generate increased scholarly use of specialized research collections and raise awareness of the diverse resources of campus libraries. This year the Friends host scholars from Italy, England, California, and New York.

Antonella Barzazi, an assistant professor of modern history at the University of Naples specializing in histories of books and libraries, will be researching books, libraries, and culture in Venice between the Counter-Reformation and the Enlightenment.

Elena Brambilla, a professor of history of science at the University of Milan specializing in the histories of the church and of universities, will study a survey of the administration of the sacraments, especially baptism and penance in

Western Europe from 1550–1800 and their effect in both spiritual and civil life.

Lisa Kohlmeier, an assistant professor of history at La Sierra University and a Claremont Graduate University Humanities Fellow, will travel from California to further her research in women's intellectual and cultural history. Kohlmeier will study the life, writings, and influence of Olgivanna Lazovich Wright, the third wife of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Nils Langer, a professor of German who specializes in linguistics at England's University of Bristol, will examine changes in German usage in the United States from 1830–1880 by looking at emigrant letters and school books.

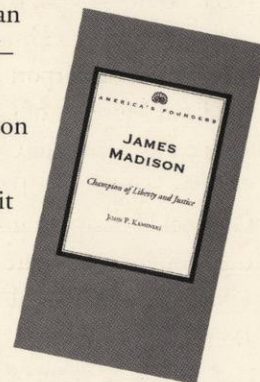
Karl Schoonover, an independent scholar of media studies and art history who lives in New York, will trace the early twentieth-century fascination with the visual residue left by photographic blur by studying the university's collections of little magazines and the history of science.

Kaminski adds to America's Founders series with Madison book

John P. Kaminski, UW–Madison historian and director of the Center for the Study of the American Constitution, has released his third Parallel Press chapbook in the America's Founders series, *James Madison: Champion of Liberty and Justice*.

Unlike traditional biographies, Kaminski's chapbook series, which began in 2004, emphasizes the character, mannerisms, and physical appearance of the subjects as seen largely through the eyes of their contemporaries.

Parallel Press is an imprint of the UW–Madison Libraries. For more information on the America's Founders series, visit <http://parallepress.library.wisc.edu/chapbooks/history/index.shtml>.



Emphasis on treatment distinguishes conservation from preservation

By Andrea Rolich, Preservation

What is library and archives preservation, and how does it differ from conservation? Confusion regarding the scope of these terms is understandable, since their meanings have evolved and shifted over the years.

In current usage, *preservation* is the

broader term. It embraces every activity that has an effect on the condition of collections and involves all means necessary to keep materials usable for as long as they are needed—which may or may not be “forever.” The terms of retention and the nature of preservation efforts are determined by the mission of the institution, the composition of the collections, and the purposes for which they exist.

Preservation considerations have a role to play in all library functions, including policies and procedures governing the acquisition and processing of materials, circulation decisions, shelving and storage practices, collection maintenance issues, and cataloging of preserved materials.

Other preservation activities relate to building design, security, environmental control, pest management, emergency preparedness and response, preservation education, assessment of materials on an item and collection level, last-copy issues, and reformatting/conversion of brittle materials to another medium.

Conservation is a sub-category of preservation and deals with treatments

applied to individual items to protect them or improve their physical condition. Examples of conservation work include binding repair, surface cleaning and washing of paper, deacidification, construction of protective enclosures such as boxes or polyester encapsulation, and various other procedures necessary to keeping materials in usable condition.

Though most library and archives collections still consist of paper-based materials, specialized collections and sub-collections may contain many other kinds of items: film-based formats, magnetic media, sound recordings, or a dizzying array of digital files. Each has its own preservation needs and options for treatment.

An emphasis on preventive preservation, achieved primarily through environmental control, safe handling and storage practices, and appropriate use policies can help to minimize the need for more costly remedial preservation. In short, preservation may be viewed as assets management, with the goal of ensuring access to collections.



Conservation Lab Supervisor Marta Gomez repairs a damaged book.

Friends NEWS

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