

**PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG**

**The American Institute for Conservation  
of Historic and Artistic Works**

**Book and Paper Group**

**SIXTH EDITION  
October 1989**

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PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG  
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE  
(Revised 1989)

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
  
- †13. Mold/Foxing Treatments
14. Dry Cleaning
15. Hinge, Tape, and Adhesive Removal
- †16. Washing
- \*17. Sizing/Resizing
18. Solvent 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. Mounting
31. Inpainting
  
- \*40. Matting and Framing
41. Encapsulation
42. Lamination and Impregnation
43. Environment
44. Exhibition/Storage
45. Transportation/Packing
- \*46. Adhesives
47. Materials/Tools/Equipment
48. 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 include 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.

## PAPER CONSERVATION CATALOG

### PARTICIPANTS

October 1989

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

Contributors: B. Aitchison, V. Blyth-Hill, C.W. Bowen, M. Cohn, P. De Santis, M. Ellis, K. Garlick, J. Krill, L. Kruth, M. Mickelson, K. Nicholson, A. Owen, J. Page, L. Schaffer, M. Watters

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

Compilers: T. Jirat-Wasiutynski, K. Potje

Expressed Interest: N. Ash, K. Bachmann (blue prints, tracings), V. Blyth-Hill (collage and composite pieces), D. Chandler, M. Cohn, T. Jirat-Wasiutynski, A. Maheux, H. Maxson, D. Thomas, J. Thompson, K. Zukor.

5. Condition Forms and Description

Expressed Interest: J. Klinger Freeman

6. Visual Examination (1986)  
Liaison: N. Ash  
Compiler: T. Jirat-Wasiutynski  
Contributors: N. Ash, C. Bowen, B. Byers, G. Carriveau, M. Cohn, J. Cowan, A Dwan, T. Fairbanks, R. Irvine, D. Kushel, R. Lafontaine, A. Maheux, D. van der Reyden, T. Vitale, E. Walsh, G. Young  
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  
Expressed Interest: H. Burgess, K. Carey, D. Clement, M. Cohn, R. Couch, A. Dwan, T. Jirat-Wasiutynski, H. Krueger, K. Lovette, J. Mankowski, J. Thompson
17. Sizing (1988)  
Liaison: D. Hamburg  
Compiler: W. Henry  
Contributors: T. Albro, N. Ash, C. Baker, S. Barger, T. Barrett, A Dwan, R. Espinosa, K. Garlick, D. Hamburg, B. Meierjames, J. Munn, K. Nicholson, K. Orlenko, S. Rogers Albro, T. Vitale
18. Solvent Treatments
19. Bleaching (1989)  
Liaison: D. van der Reyden  
Compilers: H. Burgess, D. van der Reyden, K. Keyes  
Contributors: C. Baker, K. Buchberg, M. Cohn, T. Fairbanks, C. Foster, A. King, J. Krill, H. Krueger, D. Mayer, G. McKay Lodge, J. Sterrett, M. Stevenson, J. Walsh

- '20. Alkalization and Neutralization (1985) (Bibliography and Special Considerations 1986)  
Liaison: K. Nicholson  
Compiler: R. Couch  
Contributors: M. Cohen, A. King, K. Nicholson, R. Parliament, R.D. Smith, P. Sparks, D. van der Reyden  
Expressed Interest: H. Burgess, K. Carey
- \*21. Enzyme Treatments  
Liaison:  
Compilers: J. Klinger Freeman  
Expressed Interest: P. De Santis, M. Haupt, L. Koehnline, T. Owen, H. Szczepanowska, A. Thenen, R. Wolbers
- '22. Humidification (1984)  
Liaison:  
Compilers: D. Hamburg, D. van der Reyden, T. Vitale.
- '23. Consolidation/Fixing/Facing (1988)  
Liaison/Compiler: S. Rogers Albro  
Contributors: S. Bertalan, D. Clement, A. Craddock, A. Dwan, K. Eirk, J. Goldman, D. Hamburg, D. Hartwell, F. Herrenschildt, E. Kaiser-Schulte, K. Keyes, J. Krill, C. Maynor, T.K. McClintock, S. Melching, M. Mickelson, J. Munn, S. Page, F. Prichett, A. Seibert, J. Sterrett, Y. Strumfels, D. Thomas, T. Vitale, M. Watters, F. Zieske
- '24. Backing Removal (1985)  
Liaison: M. Mickelson  
Compiler: P. Mohr  
Contributors: D. Hamburg, M. Mickelson  
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, M. Cohn, D. Evans, B. Futernick
- '25. Mending (1984)  
Compilers: N. Ash, K. Nicholson  
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, M. Cohn, J. Mankowski
- '26. Filling of Losses (1987)  
Liaison: M. Mickelson, T. Vitale  
Compilers: D. Evans, B. Futernick  
Contributors: N. Ash, C. Baker, K. Buchberg, M. Cohn, L. Hollander, A. King, J. London, M. Mickelson, P. Mohr, K. Nicholson, F. Perez, S. Rodgers Albro, D. van der Reyden, T. Vitale  
Expressed Interest: K. Carey, J. Mankowski
- \*27. Suction Table Treatments  
Liaison:  
Compilers: M. Ellis, T. Vitale M. Weidner  
Expressed Interest: M. Dirda, R. Futernick, S. Michalski, E. Schulte, C. Smith, J. Stone, S. Zachary
- '28. Drying and Flattening (1984)  
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  
Contributors: T. Barrett, B. Fiske, L. Kruth, K. Nicholson, T.K. McClintock, S. Rodgers Albro, P. Volent
30. Mounting
31. Inpainting  
Expressed Interest: M. Cohn
- \*40. Matting and Framing (1988)  
Liaison: S. Bertalan  
Compilers: S. Bertalan, H. Phibbs  
Contributors: M. Brown, K. Buchberg, M.B. Cohn, A. Dwan, M. Ellis, B. Fiske, R. Fishman, U. Hobson, A. King, L. Kruth, M. Lebwohl, H., Maxson, S. Melching, M. Mickelson, K. Nicholson, D.H. Norris, A. Owen, F. Shores, E.K. Schulte, D. Thomas, J. Thompson, D. van der Reyden, P. Volent, F. Zieske
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
- \*46. Adhesives (1989)  
Liaison: C. Maynor, D. van der Reyden  
Compiler: C. Smith with S. Bertalan, A. Dwan, J. English, C. Nicholson, S. Rodgers Albro, K. Schenck, L. Stiber, S. Wagner  
Contributors: C. Baker, M. Baker, L. Carlson, D. Clement, K. Eirk, L. Gilliland, D. Hamburg, J. Krill, D. Mayer, T.K. McClintock, F. Mowery, F. Prichett, J. Ruggles, M. Smith, J. Sterrett, D. Thomas, T. Vitale, P. Volent,  
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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