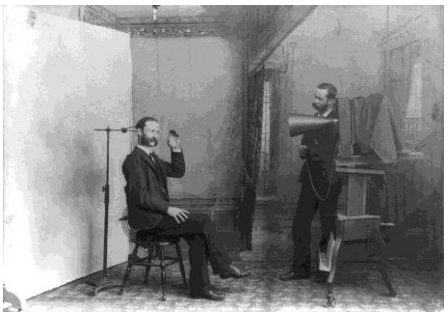

Fundamentals of the Conservation of Photographs

SESSION: Macroclimate: Climate for Archiving - parameters and standards

INSTRUCTOR: Bertrand Lavédrine

SESSION OUTLINE

Abstract

The protection of photographs is accomplished through a set of physical barriers that meet specific and complementary objectives. Air quality, temperature, and relative humidity determine the life expectancy of photographs, and most of these factors act in synergy. Fragile images may survive for many decades if preserved under strictly regulated relative humidity and temperature conditions. Even images considered among the most stable may be severely damaged if the atmosphere is too polluted or too humid. Standards have been established for the preservation of photographs and collections, the storage and exhibition conditions, enclosures, etc.

Learning Objectives

Understanding and assessing risks to photographs collections; identification of damages and deterioration; how to prevent damage and protect photographs These should provide food for thought in a decision making process for setting preservation conditions and make the participant conversant with photographic standards and their usefulness and limitations.

Content Outline

- Air Quality
    - Humidity (definition) and impact on photographs
    - Temperature and influence on life expectancy
    - Pollutants

- Standards
  - For storage
  - For processing photographs
  - For life expectancy

BIBLIOGRAPHY

📖 = Essential reading material

💻 = Available online

💻 2000. Environment and Storage in *Safeguarding the documentary heritage - a guide to standards, recommended practices and reference literature related to the preservation of documents of all kinds.* UNESCO. http://webworld.unesco.org/safeguarding/en/all_envi.htm