

Fundamentals of the Conservation of Photographs



SESSION: Photograph Conservation: Past, Present and Future

INSTRUCTOR: Monique Fischer

SESSION OUTLINE

ABSTRACT

Photograph conservation in the United States is a very young profession launched over twenty-five years ago by a small group of conservators and photographers. In those twenty-five years, the profession has grown and changed from a group that has primarily focused on the treatment of photographs towards research on matters such as coatings used for photographs and the preservation of photographs. As we enter the digital age, our professional group will need to mature again as we face many challenges with the new technology.

Drawing on my nearly fourteen years of experience conserving photograph collections, large and small, this presentation will examine how photograph conservation in the United States has changed, how research has improved the field's approach to treatment, and how new technology may impact the work of the photograph conservator.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this session, participants should be able to:

- Understand the history and evolution of the field of photograph conservation in the United States
- Identify some of the important trends in the development of the field of photograph conservation
- Anticipate future directions and issues within the field

CONTENT OUTLINE

- PowerPoint lecture on the subject of "Photograph Conservation: Past, Present and Future"
- Group discussion led by Barbara Burianova and Monique Fischer regarding the history, current state and future directions of photograph conservation



SESSION OUTLINE CONT'D.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

 = Essential reading material

 = Available online

-  Edmondson, Thomas. 2005. Digital photography! But what about our careers! (Or, what is photograph conservation?). *Topics in Photographic Preservation* 11: 3-5.
-  Flukinger, Roy, and Barbara Brown. 1993. Curatorship and conservation at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center: The evolution of a process. *Topics in Photographic Preservation* 5: 73-83.
-  Romer, Grant. 2005. What is a photograph? *Topics in Photographic Preservation* 11: 1-2.
-  Simonova-Bulat, Elena. 2005. Photograph preservation in Russia. *Topics in Photographic Preservation* 11: 131-40.
-  Valverde, María Fernanda. 2003. The education of photograph conservators in Mexico. *Topics in Photographic Preservation* 10: 126-31.

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