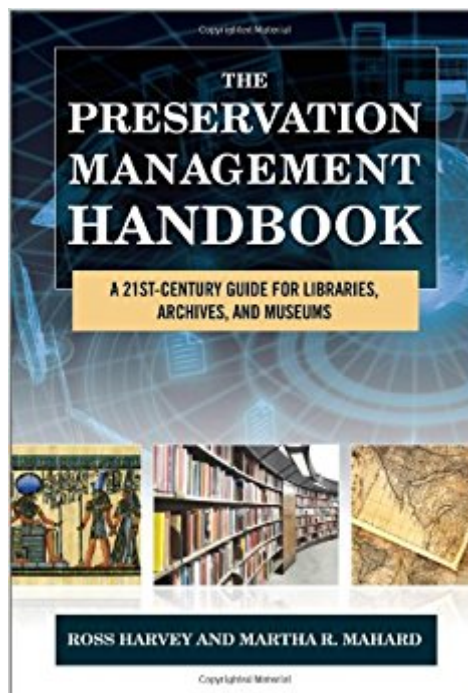




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The Preservation Management Handbook: A 21st-Century Guide For Libraries, Archives, And Museums



Synopsis

Cultural heritage professionals – museum curators, museum professionals, archivists and librarians – work with their specialized knowledge to prioritize the needs of their collections. Preservation managers draw on experts in climate control, fire safety, pest management and more in developing the large overview of a collection and its needs. And all the special materials within the collections have their experts too. Here, in one volume, is a wide range of topic-specific expertise that comprises both an enduring text for preservation students as well as an essential one-stop reference for cultural heritage professionals – particularly those in small- to medium sized organizations where resources are limited and professional help is not always at hand. The editors introduce the reader to the essential tools and principles of a preservation management program in the twenty-first century, addressing the realities of diverse collections and materials, and embracing the challenges of working with both analog and digital collections. The sections on planning and managing a preservation program contain the basic starting point for any kind of collection, regardless of size and content. Written with the small collection in mind, the principles are nevertheless scalable and widely applicable.

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Customer Reviews

The recently published *The Preservation Management Handbook: A 21st-Century Guide for Libraries, Archives, and Museums* by Ross Harvey and Martha R. Mahard provides a snapshot of what 21st century preservation looks like, and a framework for how to manage preservation in this

ever widening context. . . .[I]t can serve as useful reading for anyone working in preservation, and the media section is a particularly handy reference tool. [T]his book seems to be best suited as a textbook for an Introduction to Preservation course. There is a real need for such a text. . . .I am grateful to the authors for tackling the large challenge of perceiving and portraying what preservation looks like, or should look like in the 21st century. (Library Preservation 2)The Preservation Management Handbook fills a void in current literature as a textbook for the preservation of information resources in the digital age. The editors and contributors to this volume have served the profession by mapping a new approach to a rapidly changing landscape. . . .The book includes clear explanations of the structure and vulnerabilities of library media and materials, from paper objects and books, to photographs, sound and moving-image materials, digital media, textiles, and paintings. . . . The Preservation Management Handbook is a good resource to keep within reach as an up-to-date compendium, and guide to other resources, on the preservation of library materials. (Metropolitan Archivist)One of the book's strengths lies in the fact that it addresses the current issues surrounding digital (especially 'born digital') records. This is not surprising as Harvey has written extensively about the subject in other publications. Saving digital records is a growing challenge for most repositories, and it is important that this is addressed in any new overview alongside the more traditional materials and methods. The authors brought in additional specialists to contribute sections to the final part of the book, each in their respective area of expertise. As a result, each specific category of material (paper, photographs, etc.) receives a solid overview that provides a strong introduction for beginners. . . .[I]t is an excellent resource that provides a foundation on which to build further education. The Preservation Management Handbook could be an introductory textbook or a useful reference volume for those with experience. Harvey and Mahard have succeeded in capturing the current state of a field that is changing more rapidly than it has in the past. (Technical Services Quarterly)This manual is a very useful textbook for a preservation management course taught within information, archive, or museum studies programs. The use of experts for the materials chapters provides excellent information by format type and references standards and other useful websites for more in-depth information. . . .As a textbook for semester long course work this manual provides an abundance of resources for the student. The bibliography and list of standards are helpful. I recommend this book for professionals who may be starting out in collections management or who have recently been assigned that responsibility. It also serves as an excellent reference tool for collections management across cultural institutions with collections of all types. (Library Resources & Technical Services (LRTS))This is a very strong book that belongs on any archives' preservation bookshelf. From

a practical standpoint, the fourth section alone makes the book worth the investment. . . . That the book is designed for libraries, archives, and museums is exciting, perhaps even enhancing possibilities for partnerships on collaborative preservation projects between institutions. The book promises to be useful in a classroom setting as well, giving students a strong understanding of the most important concepts in managing preservation programs in any type of cultural heritage institution. Ross Harvey, Martha R. Mahard, and the many expert contributors of chapters on materials have created a much-needed textbook that fills a void in the literature. The Preservation Management Handbook is a must-have work for archivists involved in the preservation of cultural heritage collections, particularly those in small institutions or without a formal preservation background. (The American Archivist) I would not be surprised if The Preservation Management Handbook were to be referenced in GLAMR course content as an introductory textbook or a useful reference volume for those with experience. Harvey and Mahard have successfully captured the current state of an ever-changing field. (Archives and Manuscripts: Journal of the Australian Society of Archivists) Ross Harvey and Martha Mahard take preservation out of an institution-specific setting. Of particular value are the authors' thoughtful discussions about longevity, choice, quality, integrity, and access. Their book includes the components one would expect to find in a preservation program: assessment and planning; artifacts and information; risk assessment; the environment; media-specific concerns; and so on. Harvey and Mahard have made an important contribution to preservation by writing a book that will expand the forums in which its basic principles are considered. (Michele V. Cloonan, Dean Emerita and Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston)

Ross Harvey is Adjunct Professor in the School of Business IT and Logistics at RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia. He was formerly on the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston, and has held positions at universities in Australia, Singapore, and New Zealand. Visiting Professorships at the University of British Columbia, 2008 and the University of Glasgow, 2007-2008 allowed him to observe digital preservation practice at first hand. Martha R. Mahard is a Professor of Practice at Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science where she teaches courses in management of photographic archives, moving image collections, art documentation, and digital preservation. She holds a Doctor of Arts degree in Library Administration from Simmons.

Great information for the collection manager.

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