PRESERVATION CONCERNS IN OFF-SITE STORAGE SPACES

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THE CONSERVATION CENTER FOR ART & HISTORIC ARTIFACTS (CCAHA)

Non-profit paper conservation lab and preservation education organization:
- Book, paper, and photo conservation treatment
- Housing and framing
- Digital imaging
- Preservation services
INTENTIONAL VS. NON-PURPOSE-BUILT

❖ “Archival Storage” (Harvard Model): PI = 100-280 years
❖ “Annex Storage” (non-purpose-built): PI = 10-58 years
PRESERVATION-RELATED REASONS FOR OFF-SITE STORAGE

- Disaster back-up
- Climate control
  - Specialized environments
- Space is a preservation consideration as well
  - Collections on-site
  - Enclosures
  - Oversized
- Tiered preservation considerations
PRESERVATION-RELATED CHALLENGES FOR OFF-SITE STORAGE

- Handling training
- Climate control
- Neighbors
- Risk during transport
- Monitoring
- Housekeeping
- Fire risks
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How does your institution approach preservation for your off-site storage facility?
2. What are barriers to implementing preservation initiatives at off-site storage?
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

3. Are there ways that institutions could collaborate to help one another achieve preservation goals at off-site storage facilities?
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

4. How could conservators or preservation specialists help your institution incorporate off-site storage into overall strategic preservation planning efforts?
QUESTIONS?

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