

International Preservation News

A Newsletter of the IFLA Core Activity
on Preservation and Conservation



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editorial

PAC is heartily happy to announce officially the creation of three new PAC regional centres in Brazil, Chile, and Trinidad & Tobago. There are now four PAC centres to cover the Latin American and Caribbean area, which underlines the concern of the region for preservation issues. A concern we were already well aware of when we decided to organise, jointly with the Section on National Libraries, a session on disaster planning, during the IFLA Conference in Buenos Aires next August. The results of the survey on disaster planning, purposely launched among national libraries worldwide will be reported during this session. I'd like to sincerely thank the three national libraries that have offered to host the new centres. We are now working at the creation of additional centres in Asia and Africa and at implementing partnership with concerned libraries in North America.

You all know that Ross Shimmon retired in March and we miss him a lot already. As a consequence, the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) had to nominate a new President. Joan van Albada, the Secretary General of the International Council on Archives (ICA) was chosen to succeed Ross in this position. No doubt that PAC collaboration with the archival world will be enhanced by this nomination.

Last but not least, we do encounter some concern about the contents and distribution of IPN, which Corine Koch, IPN editor, will explain below. I expect that you all will be happy to contribute.

Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff
PAC Director

Last summer, at the IFLA Conference in Berlin, PAC decided to extend its network of partnerships worldwide. This issue of « International Preservation News » (IPN) is almost entirely devoted to the new centers that have been developed since then in Latin America. That was a real pleasure to work on it with Pamela Benson (Trinidad & Tobago), Ximena Cruzat (Chile) and Celia Zaher (Brazil) and I wish to thank them sincerely. On preparing this issue, quite obviously, it seemed to me that the centers should be presented as a whole, not only as new collaborators, but also as speech communities. This is why, this time, the articles are published in the author's mother tongue and followed, if necessary, by a translation in English.

In the future, I will be very glad to publish papers by new partners and make visible their experience in the field of preservation and conservation. Of course, I also hope that the newsletter will be of some help to our new audience.

For PAC network to be efficient, it seems essential that its members should communicate as much as possible and that mailing lists should be updated regularly. Actually, I take this opportunity to point out that many copies are sent back to PAC office in Paris because of wrong addresses; in this connection, we have sent our readers a questionnaire so as to update our mailing list and we wish to thank those who have answered already. However, it is also particularly important that regional centers should check their lists so as to send mails to the right person in the institution addressed.

Eventually, I wish to add that it is always a fruitful and convivial experience to work on the editing of a paper despite national boundaries and the distance between us. Of course, PAC works in priority with its regional centers but we are also opened to spontaneous contributions of colleagues who think that their experience might be useful to other library professionals and wish to write an article presenting their own activities. If so, please feel free to write me at the address below.

Thank you in advance

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éditorial

C'est avec un très grand plaisir que nous pouvons annoncer officiellement la création de trois nouveaux centres PAC au Brésil, au Chili, et à Trinité & Tobago, ce qui porte à quatre le nombre de centres régionaux PAC en Amérique latine et en Caraïbe. Ces créations confirment l'intérêt des professionnels de la région pour les questions de conservation et de préservation, un intérêt dont nous étions déjà très conscients lorsque nous avons décidé, avec la Section des bibliothèques nationales, d'organiser à Buenos Aires une session sur la gestion des catastrophes. Les résultats de l'enquête sur les plans d'urgence que le PAC a lancée au préalable auprès des bibliothèques nationales du monde entier seront présentés lors de cette session.

Je voudrais remercier chaleureusement les trois bibliothèques nationales qui se sont proposées pour héberger ces nouveaux centres PAC. Par ailleurs, nous travaillons maintenant à la création de nouveaux centres en Afrique et en Asie ainsi qu'à l'établissement de partenariats avec des bibliothèques intéressées en Amérique du Nord.

Le départ à la retraite de Ross Shimmom en mars dernier (il nous manque déjà beaucoup) a nécessité son remplacement à la présidence du Comité International du Bouclier Bleu (ICBS). C'est désormais Joan van Albada, Secrétaire général du Conseil international des archives (ICA), qui assumera cette fonction et nous sommes persuadés que sa nomination renforcera les liens que nous avons déjà su tisser avec nos collègues des archives.

Enfin, je voudrais que vous lisiez attentivement la note de Corine Koch, qui rencontre actuellement quelques difficultés avec le contenu d'IPN et sa distribution. Nous espérons pouvoir compter sur votre collaboration active.

Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff
Directeur d'IFLA-PAC

L'été dernier, lors du Congrès de l'IFLA à Berlin, le Programme PAC a décidé d'élargir le réseau des centres qui relaient son action à l'étranger. Ce numéro d'« International Preservation News » (IPN) est presque entièrement consacré à ceux qui ont été créés depuis, en Amérique latine. Je voudrais d'ailleurs remercier sincèrement Pamella Benson (Trinité & Tobago), Ximena Cruzat (Chili) et Celia Zaher (Brésil) avec qui j'ai eu beaucoup de plaisir à travailler ici. Lors de la préparation de ce numéro, il m'a semblé évident de devoir présenter les centres dans leur globalité, comme de nouveaux collaborateurs bien-sûr, mais aussi comme les représentants d'une communauté linguistique. C'est pourquoi les articles sont publiés cette fois dans la langue maternelle de l'auteur et suivis, si nécessaire, d'une traduction en anglais.

D'une façon générale, je serai très heureuse que ces nouveaux partenaires collaborent aux prochains numéros et fassent ainsi part de leur expérience en matière de préservation et de conservation. Bien-sûr, je souhaite aussi que notre revue représente une source d'information utile pour les nouveaux lecteurs.

Pour que le partenariat mis en place par le PAC soit efficace, il paraît essentiel que les différents intervenants au programme communiquent le plus possible et que les fichiers d'adresses soient régulièrement actualisés. Je profite de cette occasion pour préciser que de nombreux exemplaires d'IPN sont renvoyés au Centre international à Paris pour cause d'adresses erronées ; c'est pourquoi, afin de mettre à jour notre fichier, nous avons déjà fait parvenir à nos lecteurs une fiche de renseignements et nous remercions ceux d'entre eux qui nous l'ont retournée. Mais il est aussi particulièrement important que les centres régionaux vérifient leurs listes de diffusion et que les envois soient nominatifs.

Enfin, je voudrais ajouter qu'il est toujours très enrichissant et convivial de travailler ensemble à la publication d'un article en dépassant les frontières. Bien sûr, le PAC travaille en priorité avec ses centres régionaux mais il est également ouvert aux contributions spontanées de collègues qui souhaiteraient collaborer à IPN et ainsi faire part de leur expérience à d'autres professionnels des bibliothèques. Si tel est le cas, n'hésitez pas à me contacter.

Merci d'avance

Corine Koch
Responsable de publication



Photo : Sylvie Biscioni



Preservación y Conservación en la Biblioteca Nacional de Chile



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por **Ximena Cruzat**
Subdirectora,
Biblioteca Nacional
de Chile

La Unidad de Conservación de la Biblioteca Nacional de Chile fue creada oficialmente en 1995, sin embargo, desde hacía ya varios años se había comenzado con algunas acciones de conservación. Después de la visita del Jefe de Conservación de la Biblioteca Nacional de Francia, Jean-Marie Arnoult en 1988, auspiciada por el Gobierno de Francia y luego del análisis del informe que entregó recomendando la creación del Servicio de Conservación, se comenzó a capacitar personal para ese objetivo en el extranjero y en Chile y a partir de 1991 se inició un programa de capacitación en conservación preventiva para el personal de la Biblioteca Nacional el que se mantiene en curso.

En 1993, el Gobierno de Japón donó equipamientos para la microfilmación. Con esa infraestructura se comenzó a microfilmear los materiales bibliográficos, principalmente los periódicos de la institución, en consideración a su deteriorado estado de conservación, las reproducciones solicitadas por los usuarios y los documentos manuscritos; posteriormente en 1995, este servicio pasó a formar parte de la Unidad de Conservación.

Para incrementar el proceso de reformato de los periódicos se obtuvo financiamiento de fundaciones privadas mediante proyectos específicos. En la actualidad, la ejecución de las tareas de microfilmación está a cargo de empresas privadas bajo la supervisión y del personal técnico de la Unidad de Conservación que tiene a su cargo los controles de calidad.

Las instalaciones del Laboratorio de Conservación se potenciaron y mejoraron para realizar en esas dependencias el primer curso de "Conservación de Papel en Archivos", organizado por el ICCROM y el Centro Nacional de Conservación y Restauración de Chile, en octubre - noviembre de 1994.

El Proyecto Medina

En 1995, se comenzó a preparar un importante proyecto para la conservación y procesamiento técnico del fondo patrimonial más valioso de la BN, la Sala Medina; la que reúne la bibliografía de la época colonial más importante de Hispanoamérica, primeros impresos publicados en la región, y obras sobre el continente americano. Esta colección fue reunida por el ilustre bibliófilo José Toribio Medina, quien la donó al estado chileno en 1929. Al mismo tiempo se comenzó a formar el personal técnico que ejecutaría parte del trabajo en el Laboratorio de Conservación.



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Biblioteca Nacional de Chile /
National Library of Chile

El Proyecto Medina se comenzó a desarrollar desde 1996 con el financiamiento de la Dirección de Bibliotecas Archivos y Museos y de fundaciones privadas con los objetivos siguientes:

- diseñar, implementar y ejecutar un programa de preservación y conservación de las colecciones para asegurar su permanencia;
- facilitar la comunicación de los impresos sin riesgo para los originales;
- formar, capacitar y constituir equipos profesionales y técnicos en beneficio del proyecto y las otras colecciones de la B.N.

Las acciones se desarrollaron a través de varios programas:

1. conservación y restauración de libros, documentos, cartas geográficas y obras planas;
2. microfilmación de documentos;
3. conservación de fotografías;
4. climatización mediante métodos naturales y protección de las salas;
5. digitalización de cartas geográficas.

El Proyecto Medina ha constituido un primer paso en materia de conservación integral de fondos de la Biblioteca Nacional y ha provocado un impacto positivo en las demás colecciones las que han comenzado a desarrollar en conjunto con la Unidad de conservación, proyectos que permitirán mejorar las condiciones ambientales, preservación y la salvaguarda del material bibliográfico y documental de carácter patrimonial.

En el año 1999 se desarrolló un **Proyecto patrimonial** con el objeto de aplicar medidas de conservación a los fondos de valor de las principales secciones de la B.N.; para llevarlo a cabo se determinó realizar algunas medidas de conservación que significaran cambios en las secciones para que su personal tomara conciencia de los beneficios que la conservación aporta a las colecciones y estimularlos a una mayor participación.

Hasta ese momento, los periódicos de la reserva (aquellos que se guardan para la posteridad) se encuadernaban, lo que provoca dificultades al momento de su microfilmación ya que se arriesga a perder parte de la información ubicada cercana al lomo.

Se diseñó un estuche adecuado para guardar aproximadamente una quincena, y como esos periódicos no los utiliza el público, se mantienen así en mejor estado y su microfilmación se realiza del mejor modo.

La Sección Chilena alberga en su bóveda materiales bibliográficos de gran valor patrimonial que constituyen el registro de la memoria intelectual de la nación y es misión de la Biblioteca Nacional su preservación para las generaciones actuales y futuras; por tanto, se planificó realizar un catastro de sus condiciones, higienizarlos y realizar restauraciones menores para los ítemes que tenían una mayor urgencia.

Diagnóstico Global de Almacenamiento y Conservación de Colecciones

En el año 2000 se realizó un Diagnóstico global de almacenamiento y conservación de colecciones para obtener una visión clara y precisa de las condiciones de conservación de todas las colecciones, a fin de generar un plan que contemple actividades a corto, mediano y largo plazo que permita dar una solución integral a los problemas que presentan los diversos materiales y dictar políticas de preservación que comprometan a todas las instancias institucionales que conforman la Biblioteca Nacional, con el fin de salvaguardar el valioso patrimonio que allí se custodia.

Sus objetivos:

- realizar un diagnóstico general del estado de conservación de las colecciones de la Biblioteca Nacional;
- describir las condiciones ambientales y de almacenamiento de las colecciones bibliográficas en uso y de reserva;
- identificar los síntomas de deterioro y sus causas, además del grado de las alteraciones que están afectando las colecciones;
- establecer las necesidades y acciones para conservar el material bibliográfico que custodia la Biblioteca Nacional.



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Medición de pH / pH measure

Al finalizar este proyecto, se obtuvieron algunas herramientas y beneficios concretos para las colecciones de la Biblioteca Nacional y sus diferentes unidades.

- Una ficha de encuesta que reúne toda la información necesaria de cada uno de los tipos de materiales existentes en la Biblioteca Nacional, acerca de sus características particulares, condiciones de almacenamiento y de su estado de conservación.
- Una base de datos con la información sobre el estado de conservación de las colecciones, que proporciona los fundamentos básicos para elaborar las políticas de conservación y programas de preservación de la Biblioteca Nacional. Este instrumento puede ser actualizado y completado a futuro a medida que las colecciones vayan creciendo y las condiciones de conservación sean modificadas y mejoradas.



Unión de rasgado a una partitura / Restoration of a damaged score

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- Registros de humedad relativa y temperatura de todas las secciones de la Biblioteca, que constituyen una base para el estudio climático del edificio, el cual puede realizarse periódicamente con el fin de registrar cambios y detectar nuevas problemáticas.
- Registros de luz visible y radiación ultravioleta de todas las secciones de la Biblioteca Nacional. Éstos sirven como base para tomar medidas de control a futuro y pueden tomarse como punto de partida para realizar rutinas periódicas de control de iluminación.
- El diagnóstico general del estado de conservación de las colecciones, e informes específicos para cada sección.
- Información iconográfica en diapositivas y en formato digital respaldada en CD, de todas las secciones de la Biblioteca Nacional, que reflejan su condición y deterioros actuales.

Posteriormente, sobre la base de este Diagnóstico, se realizó una propuesta de políticas de conservación a las secciones de la Biblioteca Nacional. Durante el año 2004 se ha programado una discusión sobre el tema de modo de incentivar el uso y aplicación de medidas preventivas y de conservación de colecciones.

Proyecto de Inserción Laboral de Jóvenes y Adultos Discapacitados en Tareas de Conservación del Patrimonio Bibliográfico

Una actividad que resultó emblemática para nuestra institución fue la ejecución del proyecto de Inserción Laboral de Jóvenes y Adultos Discapacitados en Tareas de Conservación del Patrimonio Bibliográfico.

Este proyecto emprendido por la DIBAM, Biblioteca Nacional y la Asociación Nacional Pro Niño y Adulto Deficiente Mental; estaba orientado a la formación laboral de discapacitados mentales para que desarrollen destrezas y contribuyan a la tarea de protección del patrimonio bibliográfico nacional.

Su objetivo fue la capacitación de jóvenes y adultos discapacitados en rutinas simples de higienización de materiales bibliográficos de la B.N.

El proyecto se desarrolló entre los años 2000 y 2002; los dos primeros años se trabajó en los talleres de la Escuela Nuevo Mundo y el último año, un grupo continuo en la escuela y seis de los más diestros alumnos concurren al Laboratorio de Conservación tres veces por semana durante medio día.

El Proyecto Conservación de Manuscritos del Archivo del Escritor

Fue financiado por la Universidad de Harvard y la Fundación Andes y comenzó en junio del 2003. Su objetivo es realizar la conservación y restauración de los principales legados, Pablo Neruda, Gabriela Mistral, Vicente Huidobro, Rubén Darío y otros, almacenarlos en condiciones de conservación y microfilmación de algunos legados pendientes.

Digitalización

La digitalización de originales, se desarrolla como apoyo a la conservación ya que evita la manipulación excesiva y a veces innecesaria de materiales originales tanto para consulta como para reproducción con los deterioros que eso implica. Si bien crea archivos de respaldo que pasan a constituir nuevas colecciones que hay que conservar, no reemplaza medidas de conservación de originales, ni a otras técnicas de duplicado análogas como microfilmación o respaldo fotográfico, ya que no se conoce la duración en el largo plazo de los soportes electrónicos ni la proyección de los equipos capaces de decodificar la información digital.

Todo indica que complementar la producción de masters en microfilm (para preservar información) y masters digitales (para mayor comunicación y acceso) es la estrategia ideal, puesto que existen equipos que pueden producir simultáneamente microfílm e imágenes digitales de alta resolución.

La BN realizó como proyecto piloto la digitalización de mapas originales de la Sala Medina. Su objetivo fue la elaboración de facsímiles digitales idénticos a los originales de manera de evitar la manipulación excesiva de mapas de valor patrimonial restaurados a través del Proyecto Medina.

En el año 2000 se llevó a cabo, en conjunto con la Universidad de Alicante, un proyecto de digitalización



Microfilmación / Microfilming

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de algunos ejemplares impresos y manuscritos para su incorporación en el portal de la BN de Chile en la Biblioteca Virtual Cervantes, su finalidad fue el acceso a contenidos a través de la incorporación de materiales bibliográficos a la Web. Esta colección se continuará incrementando de modo de mantener una pequeña biblioteca chilena virtual actualizada. En el año 2001 se dio inicio a los proyectos de digitalización 'MemoriaChilena' <www.memoriachilena.cl> y 'Referencias Críticas', publicado en el mismo sitio. Estos proyectos, si bien tienen por finalidad el acceso a la información, se han desarrollado manteniendo archivos de respaldo de las colecciones originales, fundamentalmente de aquellas más deterioradas, de mayor valor patrimonial y de mayor demanda de utilización por parte de usuarios. Los respaldos se almacenan en discos compactos en 2 copias; una al interior del edificio y una fuera (Biblioteca N° 4). Estos son en alta resolución 300 dpi o más en formato tiff (siguiendo estándares internacionales). En este sitio de contenidos están disponibles 200.000 páginas digitalizadas, más de mil libros completos, 4.500 imágenes y aproximadamente 5.000 capítulos completos. Este sitio obtuvo a fines del año 2003 el premio: primer lugar en Chile en cultura del Stockholm Digital Challenge. Este sitio competirá en la final que tendrá lugar en Estocolmo, en mayo del 2004, con 900 proyectos de todo el mundo en 5 diferentes categorías.

Respecto de otras colecciones digitalizadas, la colección fotográfica de la Sala Medina (la de mayor importancia histórica de la BN) se encuentra digitalizada en un 80 % faltando solamente algunas piezas de mayor formato que con la adquisición de un nuevo scanner se han comenzado a digitalizar. El resto de las colecciones del fondo están digitalizadas en un 30% aproximadamente.

En la actualidad están digitalizadas 730.000 páginas de periódicos de circulación nacional y 300.000 páginas de libros, manuscritos, artículos, revistas, etc.

A través de un convenio de la DIBAM con la Fundación Chile se comenzó en septiembre del 2001



Humectación / Humidification

a digitalizar los Archivos Sonoros de la Sección Música. Se realizó el traspaso de 342 carretes a CD del Archivo de la Palabra (voces grabadas de escritores) alcanzando un total de 395 horas, es decir cerca del 80% de la colección y de 172 cassettes de grabaciones de eventos musicales efectuados en la B. Nacional y Museo B. Vicuña Mackenna, alcanzando 394 horas es decir cerca del 70 % de la colección. Otras iniciativas de digitalización corresponden a parte de las colecciones del Archivo de Literatura, del Archivo del Escritor, la colección histórica de Referencias Críticas y los periódicos de circulación nacional.

IFLA-PAC

A fines del año 2003 la Biblioteca Nacional de Chile tuvo el honor de recibir el agreement en la designación como sede regional de IFLA-PAC. Para la Biblioteca Nacional de Chile es un desafío del mayor interés que esperamos cumplir a cabalidad irradiando a nuestros pares las tareas que emprendamos y las experiencias que obtengamos.

En el primer trimestre del año 2004 se han comenzado a esbozar líneas de trabajo para la planificación de algunas actividades para comenzar a ser ejecutadas en el marco del programa Escudo Azul. De este modo podremos estar en condiciones de iniciar cursos de acción en relación con la participación en iniciativas que tiendan a la prevención de desastres tanto naturales como provocados por el hombre, como asimismo, elaborar un plan muy acotado para ir trabajando las respuestas frente a tales eventualidades.

Este conjunto de acciones descritas son las principales ejecutadas desde los inicios de la operación de la prevención y conservación en nuestra institución. Los desafíos en esta área son muy altos y las tareas que nos esperan para este año y los siguientes son significativas.

La Biblioteca Nacional y el equipo de Prevención y Conservación sigue trabajando con entusiasmo y llevará adelante durante el curso del año 2004 tres iniciativas específicas que involucran a distintos cuerpos dentro de la Biblioteca Nacional y que dicen relación con políticas de conservación, capacitación en preservación y conservación y participación del personal en tareas manuales de conservación.

Por otra parte la Biblioteca Nacional de Chile abierta a los procesos de globalización y cooperación internacional, pondrá especial énfasis en el aporte de experiencias recíprocas a partir de IFLA-PAC y Escudo Azul.



Consolidación de cuero / Strengthening of leather

Conservation and Preservation at the National Library of Chile

by Ximena Cruzat

Deputy Director, National Library of Chile

English translation by Amanda Jolly

The Conservation Department at the National Library of Chile was officially created in 1995, although some conservation activities had begun in previous years. In 1988, the library received a visit from Jean-Marie Arnoult, Head of Conservation at the National Library of France (supported by the French government) who prepared a report recommending the creation of a Conservation Service. After analyzing his report, the National Library of Chile began training staff, both within Chile and internationally, to undertake this work. A preventative conservation training programme for staff at the National Library began in 1991 and continues currently.

In 1993, the Japanese government offered microfilming equipment to the National Library. Using it, the Library began to microfilm bibliographic material, principally periodicals (whose poor condition was due to the numerous reproductions solicited by the users) and manuscripts. After 1995, the microfilming service became part of the Conservation Department.

Further microfilming was carried out thanks to financial support from private foundations for specific projects. Today, microfilming for the institution is out-sourced to private companies, under quality control supervision from technical staff of the Conservation Department.

The facilities of the Conservation Laboratory were expanded and improved from October to November 1994 so that the first course in "Paper Conservation in Archives" organised by ICCROM and the Chilean Centre for Conservation and Restoration (CNCR) could be done.

The Medina Project

In 1995, preparation began for an important project aimed at the conservation and technical processing of the most valuable heritage collection at the National Library, the Medina Collection. This collection contains the most important bibliographic material from the Hispanic American colonial period, first editions published in the region and works about the American continent. These works were collected by the illus-

trious bibliophile, José Toribio Medina, who donated his collection to the government of Chile in 1929. In 1995, training started for technical staff to carry out this work using the Conservation Laboratory of the Library.

The Medina Project started in 1996 thanks to the financial support from the Directorate of Libraries, Archives and Museums (DIBAM) and private foundations. It had the following objectives:

- design, implement and carry out a preservation and conservation programme for the collections, to ensure their permanence;
- provide access to the printed materials without risk to the originals;
- create and train teams of professionals and technicians for this project and others for other collections in the National Library.

The work was divided as follows:

1. conservation and restoration of books, documents, geographic maps and other plans;
2. microfilming documents;
3. conservation of photographs;
4. climate control both naturally and through the installation of equipment in the collection rooms;
5. digitisation of geographical maps.



Confección de estuche para libros / Making of storage boxes for books

The Medina Project has been a first step towards the integral conservation of the National Library collections. It has provoked a positive impact in the staff

responsible for other collections who have begun to work with the Conservation Department to develop projects aimed at improving the environmental conditions, preservation and the protection of patrimonial documents and bibliographic material.

A Heritage Project was developed in 1999 aimed at applying conservation measures to all valuable collections in the major sections of the National Library. Carrying out these conservation measures caused changes in various sections, encouraging staff to become aware of the benefits of conservation of the collections and stimulating increased participation in this effort.

Until this time, the periodicals held in reserve (those kept for posterity) had been bound, creating difficulties when it came to microfilming, as there was a risk of missing information close to the spine/binding.

This situation has been overcome by designing a case to hold approximately 15 reserve (non public use) periodicals. This way, the periodicals remain in better condition and are easier to microfilm.

The storage departments of the Chilean Section house bibliographic materials of great heritage value which are a record of the intellectual memory of the nation. The mission of the National Library is to preserve these materials for current and future generations. For this reason, a detailed survey will be implemented to evaluate the condition of the collections and cleaning and minor restoration undertaken for the items in greatest need.

Overall Diagnostic on Storage and Conservation of Collections

In 2000, an Overall Diagnostic on Storage and Conservation of Collections was undertaken to obtain a clear and precise idea of the conservation condition of all the collections, with a view to planning short, medium and long-term strategies. The plan sought to give an integral solution to the problems presented by the diverse materials and to set preservation policies that included the different areas of the National Library, thus safeguarding this valuable heritage.

The objectives were to:

- carry out a general diagnostic of the state of conservation of the collections of the National Library;
- describe the environmental and storage conditions of the bibliographic collections in use and in reserve;
- identify signs of deterioration and their causes as well as the level of damages affecting the collections;

- establish the needs and the necessary measures to conserve the bibliographic material kept by the National Library.

At the end of this project, some concrete tools and benefits were obtained for the collections and different sections of the National Library.

- A questionnaire collecting the necessary information concerning particular characteristics, storage conditions and state of conservation of all kinds of material held by the National Library.
- A database with information about the state of conservation of the collections, information used to develop conservation policies and preservation programmes for the National Library. The database can be updated in the future as the collections grow up and the conservation conditions are modified and improved.
- Records of relative humidity and temperature for all sections of the Library, which are the basis for a climate study for the whole building, which can be carried out periodically to record changes and detect new problems.
- Records of visible lights and ultraviolet radiation for all of the sections of the National Library. These are used as a basis for taking future control measures and can be used as a baseline for routine checks of illumination levels.
- General diagnostic of the state of conservation of the collections and specific reports for each section.
- Visual information in slides and in digital format, backed up on CD, of the condition and current level of deterioration of all the sections of the National Library.

A set of Conservation Policies for all the sections of the Library will be developed using this Diagnostic as a basis. Discussion sessions on this topic have been planned for 2004 to encourage the use and application of preventive and conservation measures for the collections.

Heritage Bibliographic Conservation Work for Handicapped Young People and Adults

An emblematic activity for our institution was the project "Heritage Bibliographic Conservation Work for Handicapped Young People and Adults". This project,

developed by the DIBAM, was aimed at giving mentally handicapped people work experience and the opportunity to develop skills, while at the same time contributing to the protection of the national bibliographic heritage. Basic cleaning routines for bibliographic materials were undertaken by these workers.

The project took place between 2000 and 2002. During the first two years work was undertaken in the workshops of the Escuela Nuevo Mundo. In the final year one group continued in the school while the six most dextrous students worked in the Conservation Laboratory of the Library, three mornings a week

The Conservation of Manuscripts Held by the Writer's Archive Project

started in 2003 and was financed by Harvard University and the Andes Foundation of Chile. The project aimed at preserving and restoring the main bequests to the Archive, manuscripts of Pablo Neruda, Gabriela Mistral, Vicente Huidobro, Rubén Darío and others, storing them in appropriate conservation conditions and microfilming those that had not yet been completed.



Limpieza de las hojas / Cleaning of pages

Digitisation

Digitisation of originals has developed as a conservation support technique, as it avoids excessive and sometimes unnecessary handling of the originals, as much for consultation as for reproduction, and the

damage that this implies. Even though these back-up archives create new collections that need to be conserved, they do not replace conservation measures on the originals, nor other analogous reproduction techniques such as microfilming or photography, since the long-term durability of the electronic medium and the life span of the equipment needed to read the digital information is still unknown.

Every indication is that the ideal strategy involves using microfilm masters to preserve information and digital masters for better communication and access, given that equipment exists that can simultaneously produce microfilms and digital images at high resolution.

The National Library carried out a pilot digitisation project for the original maps in the Medina Collection. The objective was to produce digital facsimiles identical to the original maps, thus avoiding excessive handling of the heritage maps that had been restored as part of the Medina Collection project.

In 2000 some printed materials and manuscripts were digitised in conjunction with the Universidad de Alicante, in Spain, to be included in the National Library of Chile portal in the Cervantes Virtual Library (Biblioteca Virtual Cervantes), a project aimed at giving access to content through the inclusion of bibliographic material in the Web. This collection will continue to grow as a way of maintaining a small, up-to-date, virtual, Chilean library.

The digitisation projects 'Memoria Chilena' <www.memoriachilena.cl> and 'Referencias Críticas', developed on the same site, began in 2001. While the overall objective of these projects is access to information, they have been developed with a conservation perspective: that of producing back-up archives of original materials, principally the most deteriorated, of greatest heritage value and of highest user demand. The backups are stored on compact disks with two copies of each: one is kept at the National Library, the other off-site at Library N°4. These are at high resolution, 300 dpi or higher, in tiff format (adopting international standards).

The 'Memoria Chilena' site has over 200 000 digitised pages, more than 1 000 complete books, 4 500 images and approximately 5 000 complete chapters. This site was awarded the Stockholm Digital Challenge in 2003 as the best cultural site in Chile. The site will compete in the final to take place in Stockholm in May 2004, along with 900 other projects from around the world, divided into five different categories.

The historic Medina photographic collection has been 80% digitised. Digitisation has recently started on the missing large format pieces, using a new scanner able to carry out this work. Approximately 30% of the other photographs in the Medina Collection have been digitised. Currently 730 000 pages of national circulation periodicals are being digitised and 300 000 pages of books, manuscripts, articles, reviews etc.

The sound archives of the Music Section began to be digitised in September 2001 as a result of an agreement between the DIBAM and Foundation Chile. 342 spools have been transcribed to CD, forming the Word Archive (recordings of authors' voices), representing a total of 395 hours, or 80% of the collection. 172 cassettes recording musical events held at the National Library and in the Benjamin Vicuña MacKenna Museum have also been transcribed, making up 394 hours or 70% of the collection.

Other digitisation initiatives are taking place in the Literature Archive, the Writers' Archive, the historic Critical References collection and with the national circulation periodicals.

IFLA-PAC

At the end of 2003, the National Library was honoured to be named as a IFLA-PAC Regional Center. This is a

very exciting challenge for the National Library and one that we hope to meet completely, sharing with our colleagues the work that we are undertaking and our resulting experiences. In the first trimester of 2004 we have started to sketch out some plans for activities that can be undertaken as part of the Blue Shield Programme. In this way we hope to be in a position to participate in initiatives to prevent natural and man-made disasters, as well as developing an annotated action plan to face such eventualities.

The activities described in this article are the major efforts that have been carried out in this institution since the start of prevention and conservation work. The challenges are still great and the work for this and following years is considerable.

The National Library and the Prevention and Conservation Team continue to work with enthusiasm. During 2004 they will carry out three specific initiatives related to conservation policies, preservation and conservation training and staff participation in manual conservation work for different groups within the Library.

The National Library is open to the processes of globalisation and international cooperation and places special emphasis on the support provided by sharing experiences through IFLA-PAC and Blue Shield.

Conserver à la Bibliothèque nationale du Chili

Le Département de la Conservation de la Bibliothèque nationale du Chili a été officiellement créé en 1995. Depuis, l'établissement s'implique régulièrement dans différents projets.

Cet investissement a commencé en 1996 par la mise en place de mesures spécifiques visant à assurer la conservation de la collection patrimoniale la plus prestigieuse de la Bibliothèque, la Collection Medina. Il s'agissait non seulement de restaurer certains documents mais aussi de les microfilmer ou de les numériser, tout en établissant de bonnes conditions environnementales. Ce projet a été particulièrement moteur au sein de la Bibliothèque et les responsables d'autres collections se sont alors sentis concernés par les questions de conservation. Ainsi, un projet de sauvegarde des collections patrimoniales a-t-il été mis en place en 1999.

D'un point de vue plus général, il était nécessaire d'avoir une idée précise des conditions de stockage et de conservation. Pour cette raison, une étude a été engagée en 2000, permettant entre autres d'identifier le degré de détérioration, les causes des dommages et les mesures à prendre. Ce diagnostic servira à mettre au point un ensemble de directives à l'attention des différents services de la Bibliothèque.

L'intérêt porté à la conservation des documents conduit par ailleurs l'établissement à s'engager dans différents projets de numérisation ; 200 000 pages et plus de 1000 ouvrages ont d'ailleurs d'ores et déjà été numérisés dans le cadre du projet « Patrimoine du Chili ».

En cohérence avec la politique qu'elle défend en matière de conservation des documents, la Bibliothèque nationale du Chili a accepté de devenir Centre régional PAC. A ce titre, elle prévoit de s'investir particulièrement dans la sauvegarde du patrimoine documentaire et de participer aux initiatives menées dans le cadre du Bouclier Bleu.

The Establishment of IFLA-PAC Regional Centre for the Caribbean at the National Library, Trinidad and Tobago



by **Pamella Benson**,
Executive Director
of the National
Library and
Information System
Authority of
Trinidad and
Tobago (NALIS)

The National Library and Information System Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (NALIS) began services to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago from its new state of the art library building in March 2003.



National Library and Information System Authority of Trinidad and Tobago / Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires de Trinité et Tobago.

One of the major features of this new facility is the Preservation and Conservation Laboratory, which will be provided with all equipment, furniture and staff to make it a modern, efficient preservation and conservation centre which will serve the preservation, conservation and restoration needs of the libraries within NALIS as well as The National Archives and The National Museum, Trinidad and Tobago. The NALIS through the establishment of this centre will also provide the highest quality of service in this field for other institutions in Trinidad and Tobago, which require this specialised expertise, on a fee for service basis.

This centre will also be equipped to respond to preservation and conservation requirements in response to disasters as well as to the preservation and conservation of digital assets.

NALIS is also committed to provide consultancy and training opportunities in this area to libraries and other institutions in the wider Caribbean. It is in this context that the NALIS has accepted the responsibility of becoming the Regional Centre for IFLA-PAC for the Caribbean area. NALIS will work with The National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago, The National Museum and the Library of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, to carry out the objectives of the IFLA-PAC.

NALIS plans to engage in negotiations with foreign firms with expertise in this area to establish the laboratory. The proposal would be for the design layout of the laboratory, equipment and training of staff. The Preservation and Conservation Centre in the National Library Building will be operational by the end of 2004. It is hoped that the training would start in May 2004. This new proposal has resulted in a delay of our scheduled start up date.

NALIS is committed to its role as IFLA-PAC Regional Centre for the English-speaking Caribbean and looks forward to working with the International Centre to plan training for Caribbean conservators and other staff as soon as the equipment is installed.

NALIS in its role as leader in the library and information field in the Caribbean already is building the awareness of the need for preserving and conserving library materials and is especially committed to ensuring that all material, published and unpublished in all formats which reflect the history and development of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean will be preserved, conserved. Rare materials and documents will be converted to digital form to allow for the widest possible access without having to handle the source document.

I look forward to reporting on the start up and progress of our regional centre in a future edition of "International Preservation News".

NB: Pamella Benson has been Executive Director of the National Library and Information System Authority since its establishment in 1999.

La mise en place du Centre régional IFLA-PAC pour la Caraïbe à la Bibliothèque nationale de Trinité & Tobago

par **Pamella Benson**, Directeur exécutif,
Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires, Trinité & Tobago

La Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires de Trinité & Tobago a ouvert les portes de son nouveau site en mars 2003.

Ce nouveau lieu se caractérise principalement par l'existence d'un laboratoire réservé à la préservation et à la conservation. Les moyens logistiques et humains dont il sera pourvu en feront un centre spécialisé efficace et moderne qui répondra aux besoins en préservation, conservation et restauration des services internes à l'établissement mais également à ceux des Archives nationales et du Musée national de Trinité & Tobago. La Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires, en mettant en place ce centre, représentera également dans ce domaine un prestataire de services pour les autres institutions de Trinité & Tobago qui auraient besoin d'un avis spécialisé.

Ce centre sera également équipé pour répondre aux besoins en cas de catastrophe mais aussi pour conserver au mieux les ressources numériques.

L'établissement s'investit également dans son rôle de consultant et de formateur dans ce domaine auprès des bibliothèques et des autres institutions situées dans les Caraïbes en général. C'est dans ce contexte que la Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires a accepté de devenir Centre régional IFLA-PAC pour la région des Caraïbes. Pour mener à bien les objectifs du PAC, l'établissement travaillera en collaboration avec les Archives nationales, le Musée national et la Bibliothèque universitaire des Antilles (Campus St-Augustine), de Trinité & Tobago.

La Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires envisage de s'adresser à des entre-

prises étrangères spécialisées dans ce domaine pour mettre en place le laboratoire. Cet appel d'offres concernerait la conception du laboratoire, le matériel et la formation du personnel.

Le Centre PAC sera opérationnel sur le site de la Bibliothèque nationale à la fin de l'année 2004. Nous espérons pouvoir commencer la formation en mai 2004. Ce nouvel appel d'offres a retardé le début des opérations tel qu'il avait été programmé.

La Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires est particulièrement impliquée dans son nouveau rôle de Centre régional PAC pour la partie anglophone des Caraïbes et attend avec impatience de mettre en place la formation des restaurateurs et des autres membres du personnel de la région, aussitôt que le matériel sera installé.

La Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires est un élément moteur dans le domaine des bibliothèques et de la documentation dans les Caraïbes ; à ce titre, elle mène déjà un travail de sensibilisation sur la nécessité de préserver et de conserver les documents de bibliothèques. Elle veille particulièrement à ce que soient préservés et conservés tous les documents concernant l'histoire et le développement de Trinité & Tobago, publiés ou non, quel que soit leur support. Les documents rares seront transférés sur support numérique afin de pouvoir être consultés sans limitation et sans qu'il soit nécessaire de manipuler le document original.

Il me tarde de rendre compte, dans un prochain numéro de « International Preservation News », des débuts et de l'évolution de notre Centre régional.

NB : Pamella Benson est Directeur exécutif de la Bibliothèque nationale et Administration des systèmes documentaires depuis sa mise en place en 1999.

Centro Regional PAC para el Caribe

Para fines del año 2004 entrará en funcionamiento un Centro Regional PAC para la región del Caribe. Tendrá como sede la Biblioteca Nacional y la Administración de Sistemas Documentales de Trinidad y Tobago, donde desde el presente se realiza un trabajo de concientización de la necesidad de preservar los documentos, particularmente aquellos que tienen que ver con la historia y la evolución de Trinidad y Tobago.

Este establecimiento se afianza como un elemento impulsor en materia de preservación y conservación. Para ello, se debe instalar un laboratorio especializado que atenderá no sólo las necesidades internas, sino igualmente las de instituciones externas, los Archivos Nacionales o el Museo Nacional, por ejemplo. La Biblioteca Nacional y la Administración de Sistemas Documentales se ha ocupado de la capacitación e igualmente, para satisfacer la demanda que existe en este campo, Pamella Benson, Directora Ejecutiva, aceptó asumir la responsabilidad del Centro PAC.

O Programa de Preservação Tradicional e Digital no Centro IFLA-PAC na Biblioteca nacional do Brasil



por **Celia Ribeiro Zaher**,
Diretor, Centro de
Processos Técnicos
(Fundação
Biblioteca Nacional)

Os trabalhos da Biblioteca Nacional na área da preservação e restauração vêm se desenvolvendo desde 1982 quando foi efetuada uma reforma importante nessa área visando o redimensionamento do espaço físico e a formação de pessoal no exterior. Esse trabalho de reforma englobou a área de preservação em microfilme e a parte referente à microrreprodução que foi ampliada com novos equipamentos, frigorífico para guarda de matéria-prima, filmes virgens, etc.

Nessa ocasião, foram adquiridos novos equipamentos de microfilmagem, bem como adaptados os espaços para uma linha de preparo, higienização e pequenos reparos dos jornais a serem microfilmados dentro do Plano Nacional de Microfilmagem, que prevê o levantamento e a duplicação em microfilme dos jornais do país visando completar a Hemeroteca Memória Nacional, através da reprodução de coleções completas e sem falhas.

O acervo de microfilmes da Biblioteca Nacional é de 56 mil rolos que reproduzem 25 anos de trabalho de microfilmagem de jornais selecionados e de obras raras, que foram preservados por esse meio e que, assim, possibilitam a consulta ao microfilme evitando o acesso aos originais e permitindo que os mesmos sejam preservados.

O trabalho do Laboratório de Microfilmagem é considerado pioneiro no Brasil e já formou um número considerável de pessoas através de cursos que oferece, anualmente, como parte do Curso de Preservação realizado pela Biblioteca Nacional nas diferentes

idades brasileiras, em colaboração com as Secretarias de Cultura dos Estados.

Na área de Conservação o Laboratório de Restauração forma e treina pessoal não especializado nas práticas de higienização e feitura de caixas especiais de guarda e em pequenos reparos de páginas danificadas ou capas de época.

Esse trabalho é complementado pelo de fumigação e planificação, quando é o caso, e de restauração propriamente dito que requer uma especialização e conhecimentos que não podem ser adquiridos em curtos prazos de aprendizado. Por isso, os restauradores que trabalham no Laboratório da Biblioteca Nacional foram formados em cursos no exterior de nível universitário e/ou em cursos altamente especializados em centros no exterior, como Espanha, França e Estados Unidos. Esse grupo de profissionais participa anualmente em congressos e cursos de atualização em temas específicos de interesse.

Assim, são altamente capacitados nas práticas mais modernas e repassam esses conhecimentos em manuais de ensino e cursos anuais para pessoas com formação mínima já assegurada.

Esse cabedal de conhecimentos será posto à disposição não somente a nível nacional como já é prática, mas também para os países que estarão cobertos pela abrangência do Centro Regional de Preservação e



Laboratório de restauração - vista geral / General view of the restoration laboratory

Conservação (PAC/LAC/Brasil). Em 2003, a Biblioteca Nacional enviou restauradores que fizeram avaliações e prepararam relatórios sobre as mudanças e práticas necessárias a serem adotadas nos laboratórios do Paraguai e da Bolívia. Durante a visita, esses especialistas deram cursos de princípios de Preservação e melhores práticas a serem seguidas.

Essa assistência técnica foi financiada por organismos internacionais entre eles a OEA e a ABINIA. Esperase que a criação oficial de um centro PAC para esses países no Brasil possa angariar recursos especiais e promover ainda mais esse tipo de assistência técnica entre países vizinhos.

Outro projeto é o de produzir em espanhol alguns dos manuais utilizados nos cursos e formar monitores nos países para multiplicar esses treinamentos com custo zero. Esse material seria produzido para a realidade de cada país e teria um kit de fotos e apresentações em forma gráfica para facilitar a transferência de conhecimentos localmente.

Outro aspecto atual da preservação é a por meio de transferência para suporte digital ainda pouco conhecido e praticado em alguns países da América Latina pelo alto custo do equipamento necessário em sua utilização de forma rotineira. A Biblioteca Nacional iniciou a transferência de suporte para arquivos digitais já há alguns anos, com a transferência, inicialmente de microfilmes e cromos para arquivos digitais.

Em 2000 obteve-se o apoio financeiro de instituições nacionais de fomento à pesquisa para a montagem



Máquina obturadora de papel / Leaf casting

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de um laboratório de digitalização a partir do suporte papel, inclusive de mapas de grande formato.

Os projetos aprovados de elaboração de fluxos para a criação de bibliotecas virtuais de temas de interesse nacional permitiram à Biblioteca Nacional desenvolver uma infraestrutura de pessoal e de equipamento e que cobrisse desde o atendimento de público através de arquivos digitais de microfilmes de jornais de nosso acervo já microfilmados, mas, também, ampliar essa prática para arquivos digitais de material raro e fora do alcance dos pesquisadores para consulta local. Assim os acervos cartográficos da Biblioteca Nacional estão sendo digitalizados e será disponibilizada através de site próprio em rede virtual com outras mapotecas do país.

A experiência adquirida pelos técnicos da casa e pelos coordenadores da bibliografia nacional e dos bancos de dados bibliográficos especializados permitiu o estabelecimento de fluxos de avaliação, identificação e digitalização de material, bem como o armazenamento desses arquivos digitais em bases de imagens com metadados identificadores.

Os equipamentos necessários à transferência para arquivo digital de suportes papel, filme e microfilme, bem como música fez do Laboratório um lugar ideal para se ministrar cursos de preservação digital com a possibilidade de aulas práticas e teóricas.

Para efetivar esse esforço foi organizado um Curso Regional de Preservação Digital com o apoio financeiro da UNESCO de 15 a 20 de dezembro de 2003, que treinou 50 participantes entre todos os países da América Latina de língua espanhola e o Brasil.

Esse curso teve grande sucesso e preparou os primeiros monitores para essa nova área de preservação dentro do contexto do programa Memória do Mundo e que será à base de um curso modelo a ser estabelecido pela UNESCO, proximamente, na América Latina.

Espera-se que a descentralização dos Centros IFLA/PAC/LAC responda aos anseios dos usuários da IFLA/PAC pelas possibilidades que pode oferecer de transferência de experiências no campo da preservação tradicional bem como da preservação digital, nova preocupação do futuro de nossos acervos.

The Program of Traditional and Digital Preservation at the IFLA-PAC Center of the National Library of Brazil

by Celia Ribeiro Zaher,
Director, Center for Technical Processes
(National Library Foundation)

The work carried out at the National Library in the field of restoration and preservation had been developing since 1982 when, for the first time, a major reform was undertaken of this area with a new development plan which gave new physical dimension for the space allocated, as well as provided education and training for the staff at outside institutions. This reform encompassed preservation and microfilming areas, as well as the part concerning micro reproduction which was enlarged with new equipment and low temperature rooms for storage of raw material, virgin films, etc. On this occasion, new microfilm equipment was purchased and the existent space was adapted to create a production line from preparing leaf hygiene and small repairs on newspapers before proceeding to microfilming within the National Microfilming Plan, which is responsible for the research, identification and microfilm reproduction of national newspapers for the National Memory Collection of Periodicals to be achieved through reproduction of missing numbers to complete collections.

Microfilming

The microfilm collection at the National Library holds 56 thousand rolls which reproduces 25 years of work in microfilming selected newspapers and rare works which were preserved through this media. This policy has offered consultation through microfilming reading and permitted access to surrogates thus preserving the originals.

The work of the Microfilm Laboratory is considered pioneer in Brazil and has formed a very large number of personnel who attended courses offered annually on the Training Program on Conservation and Preservation held by the National Library at the different Brazilian cities, in collaboration with the Secretaries of Culture in these other State legislatures.

Training

In the area of preservation, the Restoration Laboratory trains non-specialized personnel in best practices of hygiene of paper and manufacturing of special boxes for safekeeping and storage, as well as on small repairs of damaged leaves or ancient cover binders. Fumigation processes complement this work together with planification of paper if it is the case; if restoration *per se* is needed, it can only be performed by personnel with high level of expertise and knowledge. This kind of personnel needs extensive training which cannot be imparted in short-term training courses or in-training services and stages. To achieve this goal the restoration experts who work at the Laboratory of the National Library have attended courses outside the institution at university level and/or courses highly specialized in restoration centers, such as those in Spain, France and United States. This group of professionals also attends annual meetings such as congresses and courses of updating in specific themes of interest. As a result, they are extremely well informed of new practices and can transfer their knowledge through manuals of training practices and annual courses given to people with a minimum of already acquired training or working experience. This accumulated knowledge will be utilized, not only at



Área de tratamento aquoso / Aqueous treatment area

Translation: PAC Center of the National Library of Brazil.

national level, as it is practiced already today, but also offered to countries which will be assigned under the responsibility of the coverage of the Regional Center for Restoration and Preservation in Brazil (PAC/LAC/Brazil).

In 2003, the National Library sent restorators to evaluate and prepare technical reports on possible changes and common practices to be adopted by laboratories of Paraguay and Bolivia. During these visits, these specialists gave courses on principles of preservation and best practices to be followed and applied locally.

International institutions, among them the OAS and ABINIA, financed this technical assistance. It is expected that the official launching of an IFLA-PAC Center in Brazil, aiming at these particular countries will help to identify and obtain special funds and promote, even more, this type of technical assistance among neighboring countries.

Translations

Another project is the production in Spanish of some manuals used for courses and to train monitors of countries to multiply these training courses locally with no extra cost. The reality of each country will be taken into consideration when producing this material which will have a kit with photos and presentations in graphic format to facilitate transfer of knowledge at national level.

Digitisation

Another new aspect of preservation is through means of transfer to digital support yet less known and

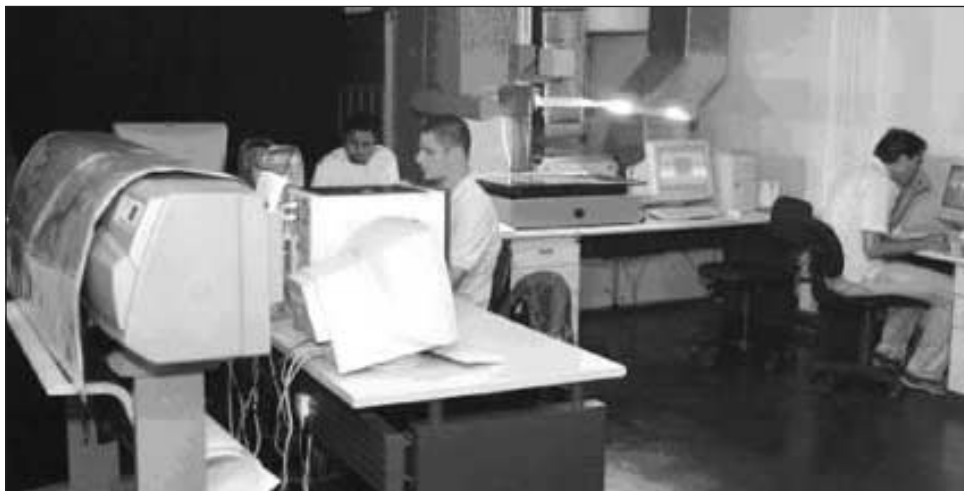
practiced in some countries of Latin America in view of the high cost of equipment needed to use it in a routine manner. The National Library has initiated the transfer of artifacts to other supports as surrogates over the years, initially to microfilms and films and from these to digital archives.

In 2002, it was possible to obtain financial support from national institutions of promotion of research for the creation of a digital laboratory to work in transferring originals in different supports to digital surrogates, mainly maps of large format.

The projects approved for the elaboration of a flow of work for the creation of virtual libraries of themes of national interest have permitted the National Library to develop an infrastructure of personnel and equipment. This service provided replies to public and researchers requests by copying on digital archives already microfilm newspapers collections and amplified this practice to create digital archives of rare material thus facilitating consultation of material which was outside the reach of researchers in local consultation.

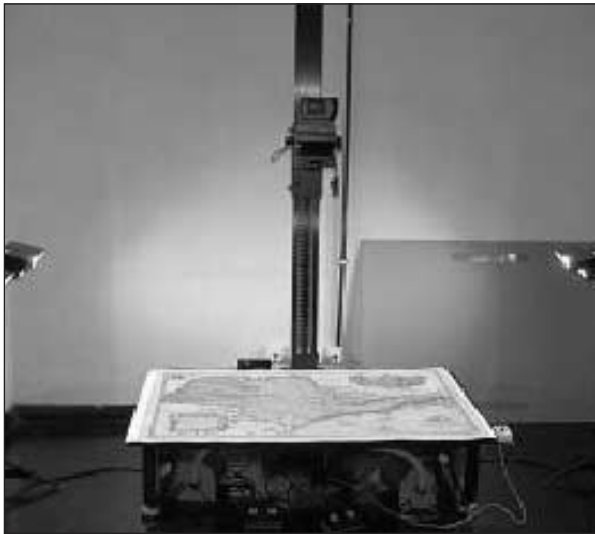
Virtual library on maps

The major project aims, at present, to digitize the cartographic collection of the National Library and make it available through a website before end 2004. In consequence, this digitized collection will create this Virtual Library on Maps from the XVIth to the XVIIIth century, which will include also other map collection in libraries in the country.



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Vista parcial do laboratório de digitalização / Partial view of the digitisation laboratory



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Scanner de papel para grandes formatos /
Scanner of paper for large formats

The experience acquired by the photographers and by the librarians responsible for the national bibliography and the specialized image and bibliographical databases has allowed the establishment of charts of evaluation, identification and digitizing of material, as well as the storage of digital archives in image databases with metadata identifiers.

The existence of essential equipment to create digital surrogates from paper support, film and microfilm, as well as music, made the laboratory an ideal place to minister courses on digital preservation with theoretical and practical classes.

In order to be able to offer such facilities to outsiders it was organized a Regional Course on Digital Preservation with the financial support of UNESCO from 15th to 20th December 2003, which trained

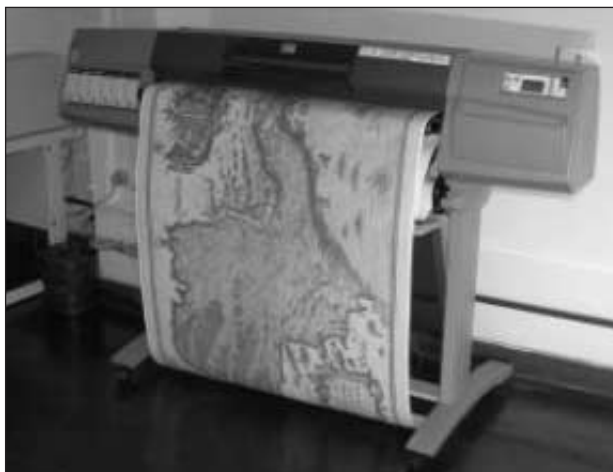


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Rede de Macintosh para captura de imagens /
Macintosh network for image capture

50 participants from all Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America and Brazil. This course was very successful and prepared the first monitors for this new phase of the preservation area, which was launched within the context of the 'Memory of the World' Program. This course is intended to serve as basis of a model course to be established by UNESCO, in the near future, in a Latin America country.

It is hoped that the decentralization of the IFLA/PAC/LAC Centers will respond to the needs and expectations of the users of IFLA-PAC by opening up new possibilities of technical assistance, which will make it possible to transfer experiences in the field of traditional preservation, as well as digital preservation, which appears as a new concern in the future of our collections.



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Impressora HP para grandes formatos / HP printer for large formats



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Vista parcial dos escaners de microfilme e cromo /
Partial view of scanners of microfilm and film

La conservation à la Bibliothèque nationale du Brésil : tradition et modernité

C'est en 1982 que la Bibliothèque nationale du Brésil a mis en place un programme pour la conservation de ses documents. Les efforts se sont portés sur l'aménagement des espaces de stockage, la formation des personnels, le microfilmage et la micro-reproduction. La collection de microfilms représente aujourd'hui 56 000 bobines contenant périodiques et ouvrages rares, l'équivalent de 25 années de travail. Le laboratoire de microfilmage, dont le savoir-faire est reconnu, a proposé des formations à de nombreux personnels venus d'autres institutions du pays.

Le laboratoire de restauration emploie du personnel non-spécialisé qu'il forme à la confection de boîtes de rangement ou à de petites réparations. Les travaux plus lourds sont effectués par des restaurateurs spécialisés qui vont, si besoin, suivre un enseignement à l'étranger et font ensuite part de leur savoir-faire par le biais de manuels ou d'ateliers de formation. L'un des souhaits du Centre PAC est d'ailleurs bien de partager cette expérience avec les pays compris dans son aire géographique.

Enfin, c'est la conservation sur support numérique qui mobilise les énergies du personnel. En 2002, un laboratoire a ainsi été créé, permettant de numériser principalement des cartes de grand format. D'ici la fin de l'année 2004, une collection de cartes, dont la réalisation s'étend du XVI^e au XVIII^e siècle, devrait être disponible sur Internet. En décembre 2003, un atelier sur la conservation par le numérique, réalisé grâce au soutien de l'UNESCO, a accueilli 50 participants venus de tous les pays d'Amérique latine et du Brésil. Dans cette continuité, le Centre PAC souhaite pouvoir engager de nouvelles collaborations, tant en matière de conservation traditionnelle que de conservation sur support numérique.

La conservación en la Biblioteca Nacional de Brasil: tradición y modernidad

En 1982 la Biblioteca Nacional de Brasil estableció un programa de conservación de sus documentos. Los esfuerzos estuvieron dirigidos al acondicionamiento de los depósitos, la formación de recursos humanos, la microfilmación y la microrreproducción. La colección de microfilmes representa actualmente 56.000 rollos que contienen publicaciones periódicas y libros raros, equivalentes a 25 años de trabajo. El laboratorio de microfilmación, cuya calidad es reconocida, a brindado capacitación a numerosas personas provenientes de otras instituciones del país.

El laboratorio de restauración emplea personal no especializado, que recibe adiestramiento para fabricar estuches o realizar reparaciones pequeñas. Los trabajos más difíciles son efectuados por los restauradores especializados que siguen, de ser necesario, cursos en el exterior y que posteriormente transmiten sus conocimientos a través de manuales o talleres de capacitación. Una de las aspiraciones del Centro PAC es compartir esta experiencia con los países que forman parte de su zona geográfica.

Finalmente, es la conservación en soporte digital la que moviliza las energías del personal. En 2002, se creó un laboratorio, el cual ha permitido digitalizar principalmente los mapas de gran formato. Para fines de 2004, una colección de mapas, cuya realización abarca del siglo XVI al XVIII, deberá estar disponible en Internet. En diciembre de 2003, se realizó un taller sobre conservación digital, gracias a los auspicios de la UNESCO, al cual asistieron 50 participantes de todos los países de América Latina y Brasil. Siguiendo esta continuidad, el Centro PAC desea poder lograr nuevos esfuerzos de cooperación, tanto en materia de conservación tradicional como de conservación en soporte digital.

Library of Congress Helps Rebuild National Library of Iraq

by Alan Haley,

Senior Preservation Specialist,
Library of Congress

NB: A previous mission had been organised by UNESCO and sent to Baghdad, Bassorah, Mossoul, in June-July 2003 (see the article by Jean-Marie Arnoult in IPN 30). Library of Congress sent another mission, exclusively to Baghdad, which Alan Haley is reporting here. The interest of the Library of Congress for the recovery of the National Library of Iraq is to be praised but it seems that contacts with members from the previous UNESCO mission would have been fruitful for further international cooperation (see also pp. 29-30).

Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, PAC Director.

In the wake of the overthrow of the Hussein regime, U.S. Government agencies have been called upon to lend their expertise in a number of areas to help rebuild the infrastructure of Iraq. The Library of Congress is no exception to this effort, and responded to the call by sending a three-person delegation to Baghdad on October 25th, 2003. Leading the team effort was Mary Jane Deeb, Ph.D., Arab World Specialist, accompanied by Michael Albin, Chief, Anglo-American Acquisitions, and Alan Haley, Senior Preservation Specialist of the Conservation Division.

The goal of their visit was to evaluate the conditions at the site of the National Library of Iraq, and make recommendations for establishing a new library to ensure that what remained of this resource could once again be a dynamic tool in the educational and cultural life of Iraq. This would prove to be a challenging task, given that the NLI had suffered two arson attacks in the early weeks of the war (on April 10th and April 14th, 2003). Up until the LC team visit, what little information there was available indicated that losses were huge, and that any new National Library would require considerable reacquisition of destroyed collections. The reality of the situation was more complex, as it was discovered that various collections that had been

missing were later found or returned, some in salvageable condition, and some not.

An examination of the arson damage at the site of the old National Library, first visited by Deeb, Albin and Haley on October 29th, made it clear that certain documents were targeted, specifically the archives from the Hussein regime years (late 1970's to 2003). The contents of the two large rooms where they had been housed had been completely converted to fine ash, with nothing in evidence left to recover. Yet, adjacent rooms housing special literature collections of Iraqi authors survived intact. This gave the LC team some optimism regarding the books in the stacks section of the NLI. Shortly after the April arson incidents, the door to the stacks had been welded shut to prevent theft, and no one had since entered to examine the collections. The door was unsealed for the first time since April the day before the LC delegation visit. What was found was cause for muted celebration, as the majority of the collection, though disheveled, appeared to be intact, suffering only from the heavy deposits of soot and ash that had seeped into those spaces during the arson attacks. Though the complete loss of the archives from the late 1970's to the present was in itself a disaster, the bright news indicated that a revived National Library would have much of its original holdings as a foundation for the future.



Haley and Albin survey archives turned to ash at NLI.

Coinciding with the LC delegation's visit was the return to the NLI of large portions of the archives and book collections with religious content. These items had been removed for safekeeping at the outbreak of the war, to another Baghdad neighborhood known as Sadr City, by two Shiite clerics. The archives had been packed in cardboard boxes and rice bags. Though there appeared to be collateral damage from the necessary hasty packing and transfer, these materials appeared to be in fairly good condition and can be salvaged with careful handling and protective enclosures, with actual conservation intervention desirable at some later date.

A visit in the following days to the House of Manuscripts gave the LC team another reason to be hopeful for Iraq's paper-based treasures. Formerly housed in the National Museum but made a separate entity in 1988, the House of Manuscripts holds approximately 50,000 items, some dating to the XVth century and including illuminated manuscripts and fine decorative leather bindings. The collection was transferred to a bomb shelter in the Yarmouk district of Baghdad at the beginning of the war. Great sacrifices were made by House of Manuscripts staff and the neighbours living in its vicinity to protect these national treasures, specifically paying out of their own pockets for armed guards to keep the manuscripts safe from

looters. Aluminum trunks were being used to store much of the collection in the underground facility, but many of the bound manuscripts had also been shelved there, and despite the ongoing conflict outside, staff conservators continued their work for the collection by resewing broken bindings, mending page tears and filling losses with great skill. It is hoped that the House of Manuscripts conservators can continue their work and receive additional training to enhance this outstanding collection of materials.

Unfortunately, a similar fate did not befall the archives removed at another date, about 1,200 Ottoman archival documents, 4,000 rare and 'forbidden' books, 2,000 documents from the British colonial era, and about 30-40,000 documents from the era of the monarchy (between 1920 and 1958). These had been taken for security from the NLI to the Board of Tourism Building in April, 2003, and stored in a basement. With the bombing of Baghdad, water mains were broken, and the basement flooded. The documents rested in several feet of water for many weeks until their condition was discovered by an electrician doing a routine building check. Labor was then contracted to move the soaked documents to an apartment building, where they were stacked in four rooms. By the time the LC team saw them in early November, they were still very wet, but had developed serious outbreaks of mold on



House of Manuscripts conservator working during war.



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A conservator's nightmare: Haley at the scene of water-damaged archives.

most of the surfaces. Indeed, the odor of mold was apparent outside the building, so extensive was its range within. Surprisingly, there was not much evidence of ink damage, though much of the material was inaccessible for examination due to its fragile, wet (and potentially toxic) condition.

These documents had suffered greatly not only from the water and mold, but also from the handling that was required to move them first from the NLI to the Board of Tourism, then from the wet basement to the apartment building. Transfer of materials was completed by dedicated laborers who unfortunately did not have training in the handling of documents. Clearly, there was loss of information during the second transfer of the wet materials, and a complete disarray of any previously maintained order. A preservation plan for this part of the NLI would require curatorial input as well as rescue measures from preservation and conservation specialists. It was urgent that these documents be stabilized at the very least by another transfer to freezer space. Fortunately, what was at first thought unlikely to be available under war conditions revealed itself during another site visit, when the LC delegation was asked to evaluate the Republican Officers Club as a potential site for a new National Library.

The Coalition Provisional Authority and Ministry of Culture suggested the Republican Officers' Club as a potential library site, and the LC delegation was escorted there by Kristen Jenkinson-McDermott, CPA Program Coordinator, who said, pointing to the new building, "Consider this your canvas, now paint us a new library." It was a pleasure for the LC team to take on this request, as the Club consisted of three floors of marble, fountains, steel and glass, in a historically significant neighborhood on the banks of the Tigris River. There was adequate space for a number of necessary library functions, including a theatre that seats several hundred people, large oval marble cocktail bars that could easily be converted into circulation desks, and ample spaces for reading rooms, shops, cafeterias and a fully equipped conservation facility. The building did not, however, have the necessary structural integrity for withstanding the weight of stacks; however, adjacent land parcels can accommodate a new stack building that can be connected to the Club building by a bridge.

On the basement level of the Republican Officers' Club, during the regime days, state-of-the-art kitchen facilities were the scene of preparation of many an elaborate feast for hundreds of military officials and



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The Republican Officers' Club on the Tigris. Country club becomes National Library?

their guests. Included in the kitchen facilities were three very large, walk-in freezers. With a minimum of reinforcement of the power source, the building engineer, specialist Paul Drake of the Florida National Guard, determined that these freezers could be operational. Thus, the emergency measures necessary to stabilize the water-damaged documents had been found. In the weeks immediately following the LC mission, the damaged archives were once again transferred to a new and colder location upon the recommendations of the LC team, after having been wrapped in freezer paper and placed in aluminum trunks to minimize any further damage from stacking and handling. The latest word from Baghdad is that the documents continue there in their frozen state, and the electrical supply (often unreliable in Baghdad) has been once more updated to be stable, this in anticipation of the upcoming heat of Baghdad's summer weather.

The Library of Congress hopes to participate in any training and consultation as part of the effort that must still be made to ensure that Iraq will once again have an operational National Library. Funding, always in short supply for cultural endeavours, appears to be in question for a new stacks building, contrary to what was indicated to the LC delegation in a November 2nd, 2003 discussion with the Minister of Culture. Though budget and construction delays can be expected, it is hoped that the funding will be finally provided for a new stacks building at the site of the Republican Officers' Club, as well as the necessary money to rebuild the systems that were damaged in the war

(HVAC, wiring for Internet, etc.). In the meantime, the NLI librarians are working with a system recommended by LC to clean the approximately 1,000,000 books of the soot, ash and dust, using HEPA filter vacuums and soot sponges, so that they can someday be used once more by Library patrons. There is also a proposal in development to establish a temporary conservation facility at the site of the old NLI, where interim measures might be taken to restore some of the items more seriously damaged during this difficult time in Iraqi history.

There is particular concern for the frozen documents and their fate. Document salvage companies are hesitant to send staff into such a high-risk area at this time to continue drying and mold removal for the water-damaged collection. Such measures must be done in conjunction with area specialists in order to reunite loose documents with their proper groupings. An alternative plan might include training Iraqis here at LC and other locations in the U.S. in mold removal, paper mending and use of appropriate archival housing, which might be purchased with grant funding. With such training and archival supplies, the Iraqi librarians will be able to continue this important work upon their return to Baghdad, perhaps at a temporary conservation facility, at a time when security concerns do not allow the presence of foreign preservation specialists. The Library of Congress is committed to helping our Iraqi colleagues in reaching their goals.

For a complete copy of the report on the Library of Congress Mission to Iraq, please refer to our website: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/iraqreport/iraqreport.html>.

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Pía Rodríguez, IPN 25, August 2001 - pp. 14-18

Capacitación en preservación: Chile sigue los pasos de Brasil / Preservation Training: Chile is now in Brazil's Footsteps
María Antonieta Palma, IPN 25, August 2001 - pp. 19-20

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E. S. Tchernina, S. A. Dobrusina, IPN 20, December 1999 - pp. 34-35

• WEB ARCHIVE

The Royal Swedish Web Archive: a 'Complete' Collection of Web Pages
Allan Arvidson, IPN 26, December 2001 - pp. 10-12

PANDORA: the Australian Electronic Heritage in a Box
Cliff Law, IPN 26, December 2001 - pp. 13-17

The New Preservation Tasks of the Library Community
Johan Mannerheim, IPN 26, December 2001 - pp. 5-9

**Cultural Emergency Response
Press Release**

Date: 3rd March 2004
For immediate release

**First Activity of the Cultural
Emergency Response for
Baghdad University Library
Concluded**

The first activity of the Cultural Emergency Response (CER) of 25,000 Euros to help refurbish the Reading Room of the Central Library of the University of Baghdad, damaged during war in Iraq, has been concluded.

The Cultural Emergency Response (CER), a joint initiative of the Prince Claus Fund of the Netherlands and the International Committee of the Blue Shield, allocated the funds. The decision to help refurbish the reading room followed a report by Jean-Marie Arnoult, Inspecteur Général des Bibliothèques, in France, on the damage to archives and libraries caused by the war and the subsequent looting. Mr. Arnoult, an authority on archives and libraries in Iraq, took part in the second UNESCO mission last July and made a number of recommendations for action on his return. The money from the CER has been used to buy tables, chairs and computer equipment. Mr. Wishyar Muhammed, Library Adviser with the Coalition Provisional Administration, identified the need for refurbishment

of the reading room. He also facilitated the purchase of the furniture and equipment.

Mr. Muhammed said: "Following the collapse of the Saddam's regime in Iraq last April not only government offices and public buildings were looted and burned but universities, libraries and museums were not safe from such a barbarous act. Among them was the Central Library of the University of Baghdad. We were desperate and thought that the library would never reopen. However, it was only through the help of some good friends of the Iraqi people and human culture and civilization who showed interest in helping the library, that it became possible to refurbish it once more. Among them was the Cultural Emergency Response (CER) which made a generous donation of 25,000 Euros to be spent on the library's reading room. On behalf of myself, as a representative of this library and library adviser in the CPA in Baghdad and also on behalf of all the University's students, its staff and President of the University, I express my sincere gratitude and thanks to CER and the Dutch people".

NB:

The Cultural Emergency Response (CER) is a joint initiative of the Prince Claus Fund and the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS), established on 26 September 2003. The purpose of the CER is to provide limited emergency assistance in the event of damage to, or destruction of, cultural property arising from human action or natural disaster.
<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/pcf-e.htm>

To consult Jean-Marie Arnoult's report, please see at:
<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/iraq2407.htm>

**Secours d'urgence pour
les biens culturels : première
opération terminée à la
Bibliothèque universitaire
de Bagdad**

Voici conclue la première opération du Secours d'urgence pour les biens culturels (CER) avec un budget de 25 000 Euros destiné au réaménagement de la salle de lecture de la Bibliothèque centrale de l'Université de Bagdad endommagée pendant la guerre en Irak.

Le Secours d'urgence pour les biens culturels (CER), résultat d'une initiative commune entre la Fondation Prince Claus des Pays-Bas et le Comité international du Bouclier Bleu, a financé l'opération. C'est un rapport de Jean-Marie Arnoult, Inspecteur Général des Bibliothèques en France, sur les dégâts causés par la guerre, aux archives et aux bibliothèques, et sur le pillage qui s'ensuivit, qui a été à l'origine de la décision d'aider au réaménagement de la salle de lecture. Après avoir participé à la seconde mission de l'UNESCO en juillet dernier, Monsieur Arnoult, spécialiste des archives et des bibliothèques irakiennes, a déterminé, à son retour, un certain nombre de mesures à engager.

Le budget du CER a permis d'acheter des tables, des chaises et du matériel informatique. Monsieur Wishyar Muhammed, Conseiller pour les bibliothèques au sein de la Coalition, a affirmé la nécessité de réaménager la salle de lecture. Il a également facilité l'achat du mobilier et du matériel.

Selon Monsieur Muhammed : "Après la chute du régime de Saddam en Irak en avril dernier, les services du gouvernement et les bâtiments publics ont été pillés et brûlés mais les universités, les bibliothèques et les

musées n'ont pas non plus été à l'abri d'un acte aussi criminel.

Parmi ces institutions, se trouvait la Bibliothèque centrale de l'Université de Bagdad. Nous étions anéantis et pensions que la bibliothèque ne rouvrirait jamais. C'est seulement grâce à l'aide d'amis du peuple irakien, d'amis de la culture et de la civilisation humaines qui ont montré leur désir d'aider la bibliothèque, qu'il est devenu possible de la remeubler une fois encore. Parmi ces amis, il y avait le Secours d'urgence pour les biens culturels (CER) qui a généreusement offert 25000 Euros pour la salle de lecture de la bibliothèque. En tant que représentant de cette bibliothèque et Conseiller pour les bibliothèques au sein de la Coalition à Bagdad, mais aussi au nom de tous les étudiants de l'Université, de son personnel et de son Président, je souhaite exprimer ma sincère gratitude et mes remerciements au CER et au peuple néerlandais."

NB :

Le Secours d'urgence pour les biens culturels (CER) est une initiative commune engagée le 26 septembre 2003 par la Fondation Prince Claus et le Comité international du Bouclier Bleu (ICBS). L'objectif du CER est d'apporter une aide d'urgence, lorsque des biens culturels sont endommagés ou détruits par l'homme ou par une catastrophe naturelle.

<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/pcf-e.htm>

Le rapport de Jean-Marie Arnoult est consultable sur :

<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/iraq2407.htm>

Pour plus d'information /

Further information from:

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E-mail: vanalbada@ica.org



Second Protocol of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property Comes into Force

The International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) welcomes the entry into force, on 9 March 2004, of the 1999 Second Protocol to the "1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict". With the accession of Costa Rica, the 20th state to have acceded on 9 December 2003, the necessary number of states for its coming into force has now been achieved.

The Second Protocol greatly strengthens and clarifies cultural protection. It introduces new measures, including the designation of a new category of cultural property under Enhanced Protection. It also establishes an Intergovernmental Committee responsible mainly for supervising the implementation of the Convention and the Second Protocol, and an International Fund for the Protection of Cultural Heritage.

The Second Protocol completes the Hague Convention. It is not retrospective, and it does not bind those states that have not adopted it by rati-

fication or accession. Costa Rica joins 19 States which have already ratified or acceded to the Second Protocol: Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cyprus, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Honduras, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Qatar, Serbia and Montenegro, and Spain.

Joan van Albada, Chair, International Committee of the Blue Shield.

For more information on the 1954 Hague Convention and 1999 Second Protocol: <http://portal.unesco.org/culture/>

Le Deuxième Protocole de la Convention de La Haye pour la protection des biens culturels entre en vigueur

Le Comité international du Bouclier Bleu (ICBS) se réjouit de l'entrée en vigueur, le 9 mars 2004, du Deuxième Protocole de 1999 relatif à la "Convention de La Haye de 1954 pour la protection des biens culturels en cas de conflit armé". Avec l'adhésion du Costa Rica, vingtième Etat à l'avoir ratifié le 9 décembre 2003, le nombre d'Etats nécessaire à son entrée en application est désormais atteint.

Le Deuxième Protocole renforce considérablement la protection des biens culturels : il introduit en effet de nouvelles mesures, avec la création d'une nouvelle catégorie de protection renforcée pour les biens culturels particulièrement importants pour l'humanité ; il crée aussi un Comité intergouvernemental chargé de veiller à la mise en œuvre de la Convention et du Deuxième Protocole, et un Fonds pour la protection des biens culturels en cas de conflit armé.

Le Deuxième Protocole complète la Convention de La Haye. Il n'est pas rétrospectif et il n'engage que les pays qui l'ont adopté, soit par ratification, soit par adhésion. Costa Rica se joint aux 19 Etats qui ont déjà ratifié ou adhéré au Deuxième Protocole : Argentine, Autriche, Azerbaïdjan, Bélarus, Bulgarie, Chypre, Salvador, Espagne, Gabon, Guinée équatoriale, Honduras, Jamahiriya arabe libyenne, Lituanie, ex-République yougoslave de Macédoine, Mexique, Nicaragua, Panama, Qatar, et Serbie-et-Monténégro.

Joan van Albada, Président, Comité international du Bouclier Bleu.

Pour plus d'information sur la Convention de La Haye de 1954 et le deuxième Protocole de 1999 :
<http://portal.unesco.org/culture/>

Further information is available from / pour plus d'information :
Joan van Albada
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60, rue des Francs-Bourgeois
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Tel. +(33) (1) 40 27 63 06
Fax: +(33) (1) 42 72 20 65
E-mail: vanalbada@ica.org

For more information about ICBS:
<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/protect.htm>



Mr. Masaki Nasu has been appointed PAC Director for Asia in replacement of Mr. Takao Murayama. Mr. Nasu

has been working at the National Diet Library since October 1974.

Mrs. Galina Kislovskaya has left the Library for Foreign Literature for another job.

Mrs. Natasha Goncharuk will replace her as the new Director of PAC Center for Eastern Europe and the CIS.



The « Leather Conservation News » will no longer be published. Volume 17, Number 1 (2001), is the last issue published. Subscription renewals for volumes 18 and beyond will be refunded, either directly or via a subscription service, if applicable. Subscribers who are current through Volume 17 will be refunded for half of that year's subscription.

Paul S. Storch, Managing Editor, explains: « This decision was based on the fact that we have had great difficulty in soliciting and receiving adequate written submissions in order to stay on our publication schedule. There are a number of explanations for this drop-off in submissions over the past three to four years – an increase in related publications on the Internet, a decrease in institutional budgets, an increase in workloads for conservators, and a desire on the part of conservators to publish in juried journals. »



Publications

Translations

« IFLA Principles for the Care and Handling of Library Material » have been translated into Croatian and Italian.

To order copies of the Croatian version, please contact:

Croatian Library Association
C/o Nacionalna i sveučilna knjižnica
Hrvatske bratske zajednice 4
10 000 Zagreb – Croatia
Tel/fax: 385 (0) 1 615 93 20
E-mail: hkd@nsk.hr

For more information about the Italian version, please contact:

Luciano Carcereri
Via Firenze, 7
70059 Trani (BA) - Italia

The PDF version can be downloaded from:

<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/news/pchlm-it.pdf>

Mediterraneum. Protection and Exploitation of Cultural and Environmental Patrimony (vol. 3)

Protection of Cultural Heritage of Algeria

Edited by Fabio Maniscalco

The third volume of the collection of studies « Mediterranean. Protection and Exploitation of Cultural and Environmental Patrimony » focuses on questions about protection of cultural heritage of Algeria, the largest State of Maghreb and one of the richest in Africa from a historical and cultural point of view, which underwent the loss of a large part of its historical memory because of colonialism, civil wars, natural disasters and politico-economical instability.

The document is divided into three sections:

- the first one analyses the administrative organisation, rules and general questions about protection of cultural heritage in Algeria;
- the second one presents some practical experiences concerning protection and management of Algerian cultural heritage;
- the third one includes the main texts of law about protection of cultural heritage, with implicit reference to the whole north-African context.

Contributions by S. Abdulac, A. Di Tolla, F. Maniscalco, A. Misiani and L. Serra

180 p., 25 €

Information and orders:
Tel./Fax: 39 081 563 0121
E-mail: massaeditore@libero.it

SEPIADES Recommendations for Cataloguing Photographic Collections

Edited by
Edwin Klijn



In 2003, the European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA) concentrated on a major project called SEPIA: « Safeguarding European Photographic Images for Access ». As a result, an advisory report entitled « SEPIADES – Recommendations for Cataloguing Photographic Collections » was edited by the working group.

As shown in a survey achieved by the European Visual Archive-Project in 1999, there was a wide range of different descriptive models for photographic collections and no commonly used model; this is why the SEPIA working group aimed at creating one, based on the experience of different institutes involved in the project: Stockholm City Museum, Norwegian Archive Library and Museum Authority, National Library of Spain,

Finnish Museum of Photography. SEPIADES is not meant to be a strict and rigid tool; it is therefore supposed to be used beside existing descriptive models and recommended to choose the elements that can meet the specific needs of an institution.

The main features of the SEPIADES model are as follows:

- multi-level description;
- listing of highly recommended core elements;
- many pre-selected lists and references to relevant resources;
- detailed suggestions for identification and condition assessment;
- extensive definitions usage notes and examples for elements (over 400);
- recommended use of Dublin Core for photographic collections;
- overview of relevant literature.

In cooperation with the working group, a software tool has been developed by the Netherlands Institute for Scientific Information Service and should be available soon.

2003; 248p.

European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA)
Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
P.O. Box 19121
1000 GC Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Tél: (31) 20 551 08 39
Fax: (31) 20 620 49 41
E-mail: ecpa@bureau.knaw.nl
Website: <http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/>

The Northeast Document Conservation Center posts Self-Survey Guide on-line

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) announces the on-line availability of its latest publication, « Assessing Preservation Needs: A Self-Survey Guide ». The purpose of this guide is to help small to medium-sized institutions with limited preservation experience and budgets to design a program ensuring that their historical collections survive in usable condition as long as possible. In an effort to make this important information available at no cost to

anyone at anytime, NEDCC has posted the text on its website at <www.nedcc.org>.

To order the hardcopy edition, send a check made out to NEDCC for \$ 15.00 to:
Juanita Singh
Northeast Document Conservation Center
100 Brickstone Square, Andover, MA
01810
USA

Prétirés Congrès francophone du papier



L'Association technique des pâtes et papiers du Canada a publié récemment les Prétirés du Congrès francophone du papier qui s'est tenu à Québec, du 14 au 16 mai 2003.

Cet ouvrage rassemble les différentes communications présentées au cours de trois sessions sur :

- la fabrication de la pâte,
- la fabrication du papier,
- l'environnement et l'énergie.

La première partie est riche en informations sur la façon d'améliorer la stabilité du raffinage et de la qualité de la pâte, ou de parvenir à une meilleure gestion de la cour à bois. Mais les auteurs s'interrogent aussi sur le meilleur moyen de déterminer le début et la fin de la « saison de la poix », période très problématique pour les papetiers, ou de limiter les pertes du système de tamisage fin.

Dans une deuxième partie, on apprend ce que signifie d'évaluer les contrôles et les équipements d'une machine à papier ou d'améliorer la rentabilité du mixte des produits grâce à un système de gestion des coûts. Enfin, les communications de la troisième session mettent en lumière un procédé destiné à stabiliser et valoriser les boues de papetières, les économies d'énergie que peut représenter le fonctionnement des lessiveurs en discontinu ou encore l'intérêt pour l'environnement d'utiliser le dioxyde de chlore résiduel qui réduit la charge des SRT (soufres réduits totaux).

Chaque article est précédé d'un résumé en français et en anglais.

Cette publication comprend également quelques éléments sur les deux tables rondes qui se sont tenues au cours du Congrès, l'une autour de la satisfaction de la clientèle, et la seconde sur la santé et la sécurité au travail.

2003; 95p.

ISBN : 1-896742-85-8

51.00 \$ US

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du Canada

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Montréal, QC, Canada H3C 3X6

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Fax : (514) 392-0369

e-mail : pubs@paptac.ca



Book Reviews

Disaster Management for Libraries and Archives

Edited by
Graham Matthews
and
John Feather



A new book focusing on disaster management for libraries and archives has been published in December 2003. It aims to gather current professional and practical opinions and advice on various aspects of disaster management. It addresses managers beginning to work on, or reviewing, disaster management within their institutions. The examples in real contexts highlight the challenges faced and the effectiveness of appropriate solutions. The publication brings together several contributions by librarians, academics and conservators who explain the importance and scope of disaster management planning, what can be done before, during and after incidents.

The book starts by focusing on the different phases necessary to the implementation of a disaster control plan, from prevention to recovery. It goes on to offer advice on risk assessment and management methods. In the following chapters, the authors put the stress on two of the major factors causing damage and destruction, namely fire and water, giving examples of recent disasters from libraries and archives around the world, presenting this way, case study materials. A chapter on cooperative projects in the United States follows and gives examples of how partnerships and collaborations to achieve support and assistance might be a way to deal with disaster management.

In chapter 7, this is the impact of a major library fire in Sweden which is considered, and more particularly its psychological effects on both staff and population. Chapter 8 describes the devastating effects of war in Croatia through a personal account of events and reflection upon them.

The penultimate chapter of the book considers the short-term issues of the aftermath of disasters (salvage and treatment of documents, organisation of service continuity) but also the long-term financial, political and technological issues. The final chapter signposts the reader to a wide range of other useful sources of information.

The safeguard of cultural heritage implies that librarians and archivists should review and consolidate good practice in disaster management, and consider new issues and how to deal with them. To this effect, "Disaster Management for Libraries and Archives" is a very interesting publication.

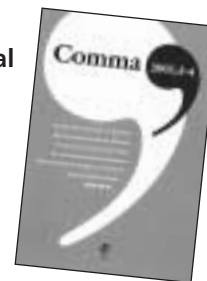
2003 – 254p. £ 45.00

ISBN: 0 7546 0917 0

Ashgate Publishing Limited
Gower House, Croft Road
Aldershot, Hampshire
GU113HR, UK

Comma 2001. 3-4 International Journal on Archives

by Gabriella
Albrecht-
Kunszeri,
Gerrit de Bruin,
Maida H. Loescher,
René Teygeler,
Bihanne W. Wassink,
Bert van Zanen



"Comma" is published four times a year by the International Council on Archives (ICA). It is its chief serial publication.

This issue is divided in two parts, the first one focusing on the questions surrounding preservation of archives in tropical climates and the second one consisting in an annotated bibliography. No doubt the reader will appreciate the multilingual introduction available in English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic. The rest of the book is written in English.

Part one "Preservation of Archives in Tropical Climates", which is divided in seven chapters, starts with listing some basic concepts and approaches relating to conservation problems in the tropics, focusing more particularly on the role of different NGOs fighting against these problems.

In chapter 2 which is most of all dedicated to terminology, the authors put the emphasis on the essential role of preventive measures to be implemented according to a methodical approach and processes that do not require expensive equipment.

In the third part, the stress is laid on the different types of writing documents found in the tropics. In chapter 4, the authors focus on buildings, emphasizing on good housekeeping and maintenance as the best way to preserve collections. As for preventing fluctuations in temperature and relative humidity that are major disadvantages in tropical climates, they encourage professionals to use simple

solutions and traditional methods that turn out to be very efficient.

Chapter 5 is devoted to storage. Once again, the authors lay the stress on the necessity to apply traditional methods for stabilizing environmental conditions (use of folders to store documents for example) rather than complex and expensive processes like air-conditioning systems that might prove to be inadequate.

Chapter 6, which is devoted to disaster preparedness, is all the more interesting since the literature published so far related most of the time to non-tropical situations. The authors focus on risk analysis, methods to fight natural and man-made disasters and worldwide cooperation for preventive and recovery operations.

The seventh and last chapter is dedicated to integrated pest management, which is particularly relevant in countries where climatic conditions encourage the proliferation of pests. This section reviews the most common varieties (including moulds) found in libraries and archives, followed by a very interesting part devoted to treatments, emphasizing on non-chemical ones that can be quite successful.

The second part of this issue consists in a bibliography by chapter and subject. It is available in both hard copy and on the website of the European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA) which gives the opportunity to correct and update it so that it remains relevant.

As appendices, the reader will find a very useful glossary of abbreviations and a list of addresses of contacts and institutes.

A paper by Gabriella Albrecht-Kunszeri and Maida H. Loescher, focusing on the move of archival records ("Moving Archival Records: Guidelines for Preservation") has been added at the end of the volume

and will no doubt interest all professionals who need to implement the best preservation practices when moving archives.

2001 – 288p.
ISSN: 1680-1865
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60, rue des Francs-Bourgeois
75003 Paris - France
Tél: + 33 (0) 1 40 27 63 06
Fax: + 33 (0) 1 42 72 20 65
e-mail: ica@ica.org



Events and Training

Online Disaster Planning Tool for Libraries and Archives

May – June 2004
Massachusetts (USA)

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) have just implemented an Online Disaster Planning Tool for Libraries and Archives. The object is for users to be able to print out a completed institutional disaster plan specifically tailored to their institution based on the information that they input. Initially, the tool will be available to Massachusetts institutions through the NEDCC's website. But several workshops are already set for May and June. They will address the theory and rationale for developing a disaster plan and then demonstrate to trainees the procedure for implementing one in their own institutions.

The workshops have been planned as follows:

- May 4th, 7th, 17th, 25th
- June 8th, 14th, 18th, 21st.

All sessions are scheduled from 9-4.

For more information:

Rachel Devins

Tel: (617) 267-9400 x 234

Or (800) 952-7403 x 234

E-mail: rachel.devins@state.ma.us

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)

Annual Meeting

9-14th June 2004

Portland (United States)

The 32nd Annual Meeting of American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) will take place in Portland (Oregon) from 9 to 14th June 2004. The General Session topic will be: « Toward a Clean State: Current Thoughts on the Responsibility, Philosophy, Practices and Controversies of Cleaning Cultural Property ».

In recent years, a number of cleaning techniques have been developed or adapted by conservators. That is why the speakers will examine the issue from different perspectives:

- Philosophy and Ethics of Cleaning,
- History of Cleaning,
- Aesthetics of Cleaning,
- Mechanics of Cleaning.

On the other hand, various workshops will be organized that will focus on the following topics:

- Fundamentals of Conservation Lighting,
- Digital Photography 101,
- Assessing Risks to Your Collection,
- Abstracting and the Conservation Profession,
- Respirator Fit Testing,
- Safety in the Decontamination of Cultural Property: Mold.

More information available at <http://aic.stanford.edu/profdev> or contact Eric Pourchot

Tél: (202) 452 9545, ext 12

E-mail: epourchot@aic-faic.org

**Stage international
Conduite d'un projet
de conservation
des collections
de bibliothèques
ou d'archives**

27 septembre - 15 octobre 2004
Bibliothèque nationale de France
(Paris)

Organisation : Département de la Conservation (BnF), Délégation aux relations internationales (BnF) avec le concours d'IFLA-PAC, Direction des Archives de France.

Ce stage s'adresse aux responsables conservation des bibliothèques ou archives étrangères. Son objectif est de permettre d'acquérir les connaissances techniques et méthodologiques indispensables en matière de conservation des fonds. Des exposés théoriques, en alternance avec des travaux pratiques, des études de cas et des visites, permettront aux stagiaires d'appréhender entre autres :

- les principes généraux de la conservation ;
- les dégradations mécaniques, biologiques et chimiques des collections et leurs causes ;
- les moyens d'action ;
- le transfert de support (microfilm, numérisation) ;
- la prévention en cas de sinistre...

L'enseignement se déroulera sur trois semaines, du 27 septembre au 15 octobre. Du 18 au 22 octobre, une semaine optionnelle est proposée, au cours de laquelle les stagiaires pourront étudier de façon plus approfondie un support particulier : œuvres photographiques, documents audiovisuels, manuscrits ou documents d'archives. Les cours seront dispensés en français mais un accompagnement partiel en anglais est prévu.

**International Preservation
Workshop**

27th September - 15th October 2004
National Library of France (Paris)

Organisation: Preservation Department (BnF), Direction for International Relations (BnF) in cooperation with IFLA-PAC, National Archives of France.

The workshop is aimed at library and archives professionals in charge of preservation in foreign countries. Its purpose is to provide technical and methodological knowledge in the field of collections preservation. Practical and theoretical courses will allow trainees to focus, among other topics, on: major principles on preservation and conservation; causes of mechanical, biological and chemical deteriorations of collections; means of action; transfer on a different carrier (microfilm, digitisation); disaster management...

Courses will take place from 27th September to 15th October. An optional week is proposed from 18th until 22nd October for trainees to study one carrier in particular: photographs, audiovisual documents, manuscripts or archives.

Training will be provided in French but partial teaching in English has been planned.

Pour plus d'informations /
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**Ensuring the Long-term
Preservation and Adding Value
to the Scientific
and Technical Data**

5-7th October 2004
Frascati (Italy)

This event follows the success of a first symposium organized in 2002 and hosted by CNES in France.

This year, it will be hosted by the European Space Agency in its ESRIN Centre in Italy. It will concentrate on important issues that have shown an evolution during the last years, and in some cases still require answers; they span from storage technologies to archive information systems architecture,

- to standards applied in information systems,
- to security in order to protect data from unintentional damage or intentional systems hacking,
- to data exchange among different archives.

These issues are of great interest in different disciplines, from Space data to Experimental Physics to Industry Technical Data.

The theme of the Symposium 2004 will be: « From Preservation to Access », with emphasis on the extraction and utilization of the information contained in the data preserved for the long-term. The user point of view and the techniques available today to ensure a proper preservation and utilization of information by future generations will be the main focus. Further, the provision of the right information at the right moment to the proper person, through added-value data and services, will be a major concept to be explored by speakers. The main topics to be examined will be as follows: Technology and Standards, Added-value Services, Users Expectations, Lessons Learned, Future Prospects.

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