



About the Image Permanence Institute

IPI is a non-profit, research laboratory at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) devoted to preservation research. Funding for IPI's research and outreach efforts has come primarily from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. IPI provides information, education opportunities, consulting, products, and testing services aimed to improve the preservation of cultural heritage collections worldwide.

Acknowledgments

The foundation of the methodology outlined in this publication was developed over years of partnership between James Reilly, founder of IPI, and Peter Herzog, of Herzog/Wheeler & Associates, and informed by the work of other professionals and organizations. Our partners in the field made possible the practical demonstration of these strategies within their collections spaces, and we are grateful for their participation. Generous funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services supported both the fieldwork and publication of this guide.

Next Steps

While this resource is a guide for mitigating risk when working to achieve sustainable preservation, each institution that chooses to use it will have to apply it to their own circumstances, and the outcomes will be as unique as each of our individual buildings and organizations. The concept of sustainable preservation has gone from the periphery of discussions to the mainstream, with numerous workshops, conference tracks, and symposia dedicated to the topic. We hope that this guide will help continue that conversation and inspire others to begin their own journey toward sustainable preservation.

Whether you choose to use this methodology to guide your institution's progress toward more sustainable preservation, or if you take a different approach to the same goal, please consider sharing your experience with your professional field. Success inspires others, and lessons learned provide critical perspective. Sustainability and sustainable preservation practices are goals that are larger than any single institution – our greatest advances and impacts can be achieved if we work to share these efforts among our allied cultural heritage professions.