

Furniture Conservation Training Program

Master Reading List

Revised March, 1996

Introduction to Furniture Conservation

- Course Text
- Conservation Ethics and Principles
- Wood Technology
- Insect Infestation

Furniture History and Construction

- European
- American

Methods of Examination, Analysis and Documentation of Furniture

- Examination and Documentation
- Photography, UV, IR, Radiography
- Microscopy
- Principles of Chemistry and Material Technology
- Analysis
- General Analytical Texts (Classical)
- General Analytical Texts (Instrumental)

Survey of Non-Wood Materials for Furniture Conservation

- Bone and Ivory
- Ceramics
- Glass
- Leather
- Metals
- Ormolu
- Parchment
- Paper
- Plastics
- Reeds, Rushes, Cane
- Shell
- Textiles

Adhesives for Furniture Conservation

- Veneering Techniques
- Adhesive Technology
- Conservation of Adhesive and Veneer Problems

Structural Conservation of Furniture

- General Structural Deterioration and Conservation
- Consolidation of Degraded Wood
- Upholstery Conservation
- Joinery and Fabrication

Coatings for Furniture Conservation

- Miscellaneous Coatings History, Technology, and Materials
- Coatings Technology References
- Solubility
- The Finishing Craft
- Coatings Analysis and Evaluation
- Coatings Deterioration and Conservation
- Evaluation of Appearance
- Color Theory
- Technology of Natural and Synthetic Dyes
- Synthesis, Modification, and Properties of Polymers and Films
- Health and Safety
- Detergents and Detergency
- History of Painted American Furniture
- Lacquered Furniture
- Paint and Painting
- Panel Paintings
- Polychrome Sculpture
- Treatment of Painted Furniture

Gilding Conservation

- Craft of Gilding
- Conservation of Gilt Wooden Surfaces
- Case Studies and Treatment Abstracts
- Identification of Frames, Looking Glasses, and Painted Furniture

Exhibition, Storage, and Handling of Furniture

- Disasters
- Environment
- Exhibition and Storage
- Packing, Handling, and Transport
- Collection Surveys

Conservation Administration and Management

- Museum/Conservation Administration and Management
- Marketing and Finance for Conservation
- Legal and Ethical Issues
- Studio Design

NOTE: Some of the information contained in the following references may be inappropriate for the practice of furniture conservation. However, it is important for conservators to be well versed in the range of literature available to both the general public and restorers. Discussion of information applicability can take place during the course.

Introduction to Furniture Conservation

Course Text

Hoadley, R. Bruce. *Understanding Wood: A Craftsman's Guide to Wood Technology*. Newtown, CT: Taunton Press, 1980, xiii + 256 p.

Conservation Ethics and Principles

American Institute for Conservation. *American Institute for Conservation Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*. Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, Standards adopted, 1963; Ethics adopted, 1967. Published together, May 1968; revised, 1979; 1985; and, 1994.

Angst, Walter. "The Case for Scientific Furniture Conservation," *Museum News*, vol. 56, no. 6, July/August 1978, pp. 24-28.

Angst, Walter. "Collector Versus New Antiques," *Curator*, vol. 21, no. 4, 1978, pp. 265-282.

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Ashley-Smith, Jonathan. "The Ethics of Conservation," *The Conservator*, no. 6, 1982, pp. 1-5.

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International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation. *The Conservator-Restorer: A Definition of the Profession*. ICOM Working Group, Training in Conservation and Restoration, Paris: ICOM Committee for Conservation, 1984.

McGiffin, Robert F. *Furniture Care and Conservation*. Nashville, TN: American Association of State and Local History, 1983, xvii + 233 p.

National Conservation Advisory Council. *Conservation of Cultural Property in the United States*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1976.

National Conservation Advisory Council. *Conservation Treatment Facilities in the United States*. Washington, DC: National Conservation Advisory Council, 1980 (includes a copy of the American Institute for Conservation Code of Ethics), vii + 43 p.

National Conservation Advisory Council. *Report of the Study Committee on Education and Training*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1979, 64 p.

National Conservation Advisory Council. *Report of the Study Committee on Scientific Support for the Conservation of Cultural Property*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1979, 75 p.

Orraca, Jose. "Shopping for a Conservator," *Museum News*, vol. 59, no. 4, January/February 1981, pp. 60-66.

Phillips, Charles. "Advocates for the Artifact. What Role Do Conservators Play in State and Local History?" *History News*, vol. 37, no. 7, July 1982, pp. 15-17.

UNESCO. "Conservation: A Challenge to the Profession," *Museum*, vol. 34, no. 1, 1982, whole issue.

Ward, Philip. *The Nature of Conservation: A Race Against Time*. Marina del Rey, CA: The Getty Conservation Institute, 1986, ix + 69 p.

Williams, Marc A. *Keeping It All Together: The Preservation and Care of Historic Furniture*. Worthington, OH: Ohio Antique Review, 1988, 64 p.

Wood Technology

Brommelle, N.S., and A.E. Werner. *Deterioration and Treatment of Wood*. Joint Meeting of the ICOM Committee for Scientific Museum Laboratories and the ICOM Sub-Committee for the Care of Paintings. Washington and New York, September 1965, pp. 1-21.

Buck, Richard D., David Kolch, and James S. Horns (compiler). *The Behavior of Wood and the Treatment of Panel Paintings*. 1978 Oxford Conference, The 7th International Congress of the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, Wood in Painting and the Decorative Arts. Minneapolis, MN: Upper Midwest Conservation Association, 1978, 68 p.

Core, H.A., W.A. Cote, and A.C. Day. *Wood Structure and Identification*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, Second Edition, 1979, pp. 1-124.

Desch, H.E. *Timber: Its Structure and Properties*. London: MacMillan Press Ltd., 1973, pp. 3-82, 123-267.

Dietz, A.G.H., E.L. Schaffer, and D.S. Gromala, eds. *Wood as a Structural Material: A Compilation of Introductory Educational Modules Especially Prepared for Engineers and Architects at the First Clark C. Heritage Memorial Workshop on Wood*, USDA Forest Products Laboratory/University of Wisconsin - Vol. II. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University, 1982.

German, Laurie. "The Physical Effects of Oxalic Acid on Wood," *Papers Presented at the Wooden Artifacts Group, Cincinnati, OH, 1989*. Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, 1989.

Haygreen, John G., and Jim L. Bowyer. *Forest Products and Wood Science: An Introduction*. Ames, IA: Iowa State University Press, 1982, pp. 1-104, 157-269.

Hoadley, R. Bruce. "The Dimensional Response of Wood to Variation in Relative Humidity," *Conservation of Wood in Painting and the Decorative Arts, Preprints of the Contributions to the Oxford Congress, 17-23 September 1978*. London: International Institute for Conservation, 1978, pp. 1-6.

Jeronimidis, G. "Fracture of Wood and Factors Which Influence It," *Conservation of Wood in Painting and the Decorative Arts, Preprints of the Contributions to the Oxford Congress, 17-23 September 1978*. London: International Institute for Conservation, 1978, pp. 7-10.

Panshin, Alexis John, and Carl deZeeuw. *Textbook of Wood Technology: structure, identification, properties, and uses of the commercial woods of the United States and Canada*. McGraw-Hill Series in Forest Resources. New York: McGraw-Hill, 4th Edition, 1980, pp. 11-53, 127-238, 286-392.

Rasmussen, Edmund F. *Dry Kiln Operator's Manual*, USDA Agriculture Handbook No. 188. Madison, WI: Forest Products Laboratory, 1968, pp. 1-62, 141-157.

Siau, John F. *Transport Processes in Wood*. Springer Series in Wood Science. New York: Springer-Verlag, 1984, ix + 245 p.

Skaar, C. *Water in Wood*. Syracuse Wood Science Series, vol. 4. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1972, pp. 1-125.

Stamm, Alfred J. "Wood deterioration and its prevention," *Conservation of Wooden Objects*, vol. 2, *Preprints of the Contributions to the New York Conference on Conservation of Stone and Wooden Objects 7-13 June 1970*. 2nd edition, London: International Institute for Conservation, pp. 1-12.

Wangaard, F.F., ed. *Wood: Its Structure and Properties: A Compilation of Introductory Educational Modules Especially Prepared for Engineers and Architects at the First Clark C. Heritage Memorial Workshop on Wood, Madison, Wis., August 1979*, USDA Forest Products Laboratory/University of Wisconsin - Vol. 1. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University, 1981, pp. 51-203, 233-286.

Insect Infestation

Edwards, Stephen R., Bruce M. Bell, and Mary Elizabeth King, eds. *Pest Control in Museums: A Status Report (1980)*. Lawrence, KS: Association of Systematics Collections, 1981.

Hickin, Norman E. "Insect Damage to Wood in the Decorative Arts - A World Problem," *Conservation of Wood in Painting and the Decorative Arts, Preprints of the Contributions to the Oxford Congress, 17-23 September 1978*. London: International Institute for Conservation, 1978, pp. 19-22.

Hickin, Norman E. "Wood-Destroying Insects and Works of Art," *Conservation of Wooden Objects*, Vol. 2, *Preprints of the Contributions to the New York Conference on Conservation of Stone and Wooden Objects 7-13 June 1970*. 2nd edition, London: International Institute for Conservation, pp. 75-80.

Mallis, Arnold. *Handbook of Pest Control: The Behavior, Life History, and Control of Household Pests*. 6th Edition. Cleveland, OH: Franzak and Foster Co., 1982, pp. 277-310.

McGiffin, Robert F. *Furniture Care and Conservation*, Nashville, TN: American Association for State and Local History, 1983, pp. 149-155.

Mori, Hachiro. "Insect Pests of Wooden Cultural Properties and Their Control in Japan," *Conservation of Wood in Painting and the Decorative Arts, Preprints of the Contributions to the Oxford Congress, 17-23 September 1978*. London: International Institute for Conservation, 1978, pp. 15-17.

Story, Keith O. *Approaches to Pest Management in Museums*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, Conservation Analytical Laboratory, 1985.

Zycherman, Lynda A., ed. *A Guide to Museum Pest Control*. Washington, DC: Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation and the Association of Systematics Collections, 1988, xi + 205 p.

Furniture History and Construction

European

Bemrose and Sons. *Manual of Buhlwork and Marquetry with Practical Instruction for Learners*. London, c. 1870 (4 vols.).

Bishop, Robert and Patricia Coblentz. *Furniture 1*. The Smithsonian Illustrated Library of Antiques. New York: Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 1979.

Boyce, Charles. *Dictionary of Furniture*. New York and Oxford: Round Table Press, 1985.

Chippendale, Thomas. *Gentleman and Cabinet-Maker's Director*. New York: Dover, 1966, reprint of 3rd edition.

Cescinsky, Herbert. *The Gentle Art of Faking Furniture*. New York: Dover, 1967.

Duncan, Alastair. *Art Deco Furniture*. New York: Holt, Reinhart and Winston, 1984.

Duncan, Alastair. *Art Nouveau Furniture*. New York: Clarkson N. Potter, 1982.

Garner, Philipe. *Twentieth Century Furniture*. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1980.

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Gilbert, Christopher. *The Life and Work of Thomas Chippendale*. New York: MacMillian, 1978, 2 vols.

Gusler, Wallace. *Furniture of Williamsburg and Eastern Virginia*. Richmond, VA: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1979.

Hayward, Helena, ed. *World Furniture*. London and New York: Hamlyn, 1965.

Ketchum, William, Jr. *Furniture 2*. The Smithsonian Illustrated Library of Antiques. New York: Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 1981.

Klatt, Erich. *Die Konstruktion Alter Möbel*. Stuttgart: Julius Hoffman Verlag, 1977.

Kreisel, Heinrich. *Die Kunst des Deutschen Möbels*. München: Verlag Beck, 1968-1973, 3 vols.

Mercer, Eric. *Furniture 700-1700*. New York: Meredith Press, 1969.

Roubo, Andre Jacob. *L'art du Menuisier*. Paris: Leonce Laget, 1976 (reprint of 1769-1775 editions).

Savage, George. *French Decorative Art, 1638-1793*. New York: Praeger, 1969.

Watson, Francis. *Louis XVI Furniture*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1973.

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American

Ames, Kenneth. *Victorian Furniture: Essays from a Victorian Society Autumn Symposium*. Philadelphia, PA: Victorian Society in America, 1983.

Art and Antiques. *Nineteenth Century Furniture: Innovation, Revival and Reform*. New York: Billboard Publications, 1982.

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DeWolfe, Elsie. *The House in Good Taste*. New York: The Century Co., 1913.

DiNoto, Andrea. *Art Plastic: Designed for Living*. New York: Abbeville Press, 1984.

Downs, Joseph. *American Furniture: Queen Anne and Chippendale Periods*. New York: Bonanza, 1962.

- Eastlake, Charles Locke. *Hints on Household Taste in Furniture, Upholstery and Other Details*. New York: B. Blom, 1971.
- Ettema, Michael J. "Technological Innovation and Design Economics in Furniture Manufacture," *Winterthur Portfolio*, vol. 16, no. 2-3, Summer/Autumn 1981, pp. 197-224.
- Fales, Dean, Jr. *American Painted Furniture 1660-1880*. New York: E.P. Dutton, 1972.
- Forty, Adrian. *Objects of Desire*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1986.
- Garvan, Beatrice and Charles Hummel. *The Pennsylvania Germans: A Celebration of Their Arts*. Philadelphia, PA: Philadelphia Museum of Arts, 1982.
- Gilbert, Christopher. *The Life and Work of Thomas Chippendale*. New York: MacMillan, 1978, 2 vols.
- Gusler, Wallace. *Furniture of Williamsburg and Eastern Virginia*. Richmond, VA: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1979.
- Hanks, David. *Innovative Furniture in America: From 1800 to the Present*. New York: Horizon Press, 1981.
- Hummel, Charles. *A Winterthur Guide to American Chippendale Furniture: Middle Atlantic and Southern Colonies*. New York: Crown, 1976.
- Jobe, Brock and Myrna Kaye. *New England Furniture*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1984.
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- Montgomery, Charles. *American Furniture: The Federal Period*. New York: Viking Press, 1966.
- Phillips, Lisa. *High Styles: Twentieth Century American Design*. New York: Whitney Museum of American Art in association with Summit Books, 1985.
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Wilk, Christopher. *Marcel Breuer, Furniture and Interiors*. New York: Museum of Modern Art, 1981.

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Methods of Examination, Analysis and Documentation of Furniture

Examination and Documentation

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Doyal, Sherry. "The Analysis and Documentation of Upholstered Objects," *Upholstery Conservation, Preprints of a Symposium held at Colonial Williamsburg, February 2-4, 1990*. East Kingston, NH: American Conservation Consortium, 1990, pp. 42-54.

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McGiffin, Robert F., Jr. *Furniture Care and Conservation*. Nashville, TN: American Association for State and Local History, 1983, pp. 24-37.

Perkins, John, ed. *Computer Technology for Conservators: Proceedings of the 11th Annual IIC-CG Conference Workshop, Halifax, Canada, May 13-16, 1985*. Halifax, Nova Scotia,

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Podmaniczky, Michael Sandor. "Some Thoughts on Documentation Regarding an Early Nineteenth-Century New York Looking Glass," *Gilded Wood: Conservation and History*, Deborah Bigelow, ed. Madison, CT: Sound View Press, 1991, pp. 263-268.

Yeomans, Wendy. "Documentation of circa 1737 Stools at Hampton Court Palace," *Upholstery Conservation, Preprints of a Symposium held at Colonial Williamsburg, February 2-4, 1990*. East Kingston, NH: American Conservation Consortium, 1990pp. 55-62.

Photography, UV, IR, Radiography

Asmus, John F., Darrell Westlake, and Ralph F. Wuerker. "The Use of Holography in the Conservation, Preservation and Historical Recording of Art," *The British Journal of Photography*, vol. 13, August 1976, pp. 684-688.

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Gilardoni, A., et al. *X-Rays in Art*. Italy: Gilardoni S.p.A., 1977.

Graham, D. and T. Eddie. *X-Ray Techniques in Art Galleries and Museums*. Boston, MA: Adam Hilger Ltd., 1984.

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Kushel, Dan. *Photodocumentation for Conservation: Procedural Guidelines and Photographic Concepts and Techniques*. American Institute for Conservation Eighth Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, May 1980. Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, 1980.

Leisher, William and Richard Amt. *Required Photographic Equipment*. American Institute for Conservation Eighth Annual Meeting, San Francisco, May 1980. Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, 1980.

Magliano, Patrizia and Bruno Boesmi. "Xeroradiography for Paintings on Canvas and Wood," *Studies in Conservation*, vol. 33, no. 1, 1988, pp. 41-47.

Robertson, Clements L. "The Visual and Optical Examination of Works of Art," *Museum News* - technical supplement, vol. 46, no. 4, December 1967, pp. 47-52.

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Butler, Marigene H. *Polarized Light Microscopy in the Conservation of Painting*. Chicago, IL: State Microscopical Society of Illinois, 1970.

Crown, David A. *The Forensic Examination of Paints and Pigments*. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas, 1968.

Delly, John. *Photography Through the Microscope*. Rochester, NY: Photographic Products Group, Eastman Kodak Co., 1988.

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Principles of Chemistry and Material Technology

Brady, George S. and Clauser, Henry R. *Materials Handbook*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1979.

Brill, Thomas B. *Light, Its Interaction with Art and Antiquities*. New York: Plenum Press, 1980.

Mills, John S. and Raymond White. *The Organic Chemistry of Museum Objects*. London: Butterworths, 1987.

Torraca, Giorgio. *Solubility and Solvents for Conservation Problems*. Rome: ICCROM, 1978.

Wilks, Helen, ed. *Science for Conservators. Book 1: An Introduction to Materials*. London: The Conservation Unit, 1987.

Analysis

Baker, Mary T. and David von Endt. "Introduction to FTIR Analysis of Coatings," *Papers Presented at the Wooden Artifacts Group, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 1987*, Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, 1987.

Carriveau, Gary W. and Diana Omecinsky. "IR Investigation of Resinous and Synthetic Varnishes," *American Institute for Conservation Preprints of the Tenth Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, 26-30 May 1982*. Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, 1982, pp. 141-149.

Cramer, John A. and Peter G. Markow. "An Analysis of a Commercial Furniture Refinisher: A Comprehensive Introductory NMR Experiment," *Journal of Chemical Education*, vol. 60, no. 12, December 1983, pp. 1078-1079.

Derrick, Michele. "Infrared Spectral Analysis of Natural Resins Used in Furniture Finishes," *Papers Presented at the Wooden Artifacts Group, New Orleans, LA, 1988*, Washington, DC: American Institute for Conservation, 1988.

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Kurtz, Otto. *Art Forgeries and How to Examine Paintings Scientifically*. Gloucester: Geoncestes Art, 1979.

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Miller, Judi. *Analysis of Waxes and Wax-Resin Mixtures by Gas Chromatography*. Unpublished manuscript, n.d.

Miller, Judi. *Gas Chromatographic Analysis of Drying Oils*. Unpublished manuscript.

Mills, John S. "Identification of Organic Materials in Museum Objects," *Conservation in the Tropics. Proceedings of the Asia-Pacific Seminar on Conservation of Cultural Property, February 7-16, 1972*. Rome: ICCROM, 1972, pp. 159-170.

Mills, John S. "The Gas Chromatographic Examination of Paint Media, Part 1: Fatty Acid Composition and Identification of Dried Oil Films," *Studies in Conservation*, vol. 11, no. 2, 1966, pp. 92-107.

Mills, John S. "The Identification of Paint Media - An Introduction," *Conservation and Restoration of Pictorial Art*. London: Butterworths, 1976, pp. 69-71.

Mills, John S. and Raymond White. "Natural Resins of Art and Archaeology: Their Sources, Chemistry and Identification," *Studies in Conservation*, vol. 22, no. 1, 1977, pp. 12-31.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Research Laboratory. *Application of Science in the Examination of Works of Art*, 3 vols., William Young, ed., Proceedings Seminars: 1959, 1965, 1970.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Research Laboratory. *Application of Science to the Dating of Works of Art*. Proceedings of the Seminar, September 23-25, 1974. Boston, MA: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1978.

Organ, Robert M. "Science for the Conservator and the Curator," *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, vol. 20, no. 1, 1981, pp. 41-44.

Tite, M.S. *Methods of Physical Examination in Archaeology*. London and New York: Seminar Press, 1972.

van Zelst, Lambertus. "Fine Art Examination and Conservation," *Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology Supplement Volume*. 3rd edition. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1984, pp. 392-442.

White, Raymond. "The Application of Gas-Chromatography to the Identification of Waxes," *Studies in Conservation*, vol. 23, no. 2, 1978, pp. 57-68.

General Analytical Texts (Classical)

NOTE: In this section and the General Analytical Texts (Classical), the listing includes many books of nearly identical character. It is recommended that you acquire one from the classical (wet chemistry) group and one from the instrumental group, or other books of similar nature.

Christian, Gary D. *Analytical Chemistry*. New York: John Wiley, 1970.

Laitinen, Herbert A. *Chemical Analysis*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1960.

Skoog, Douglas and Donald West. *Analytical Chemistry*. Philadelphia, PA: Saunders College Publishing, 1980.

General Analytical Texts (Instrumental)

NOTE: In this section and the General Analytical Texts (Instrumental), the listing includes many books of nearly identical character. It is recommended that you acquire one from the classical (wet chemistry) group and one from the instrumental group, or other books of similar nature.

Bauer, Henry H., Gary D. Christian and James E. O'Reilly. *Instrumental Analysis*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., 1978.

Robinson, James W. *Undergraduate Instrumental Analysis*. New York: Marcel Dekker, 1987.

Saferstein, Richard, ed. *Forensic Science Handbook, Vol. 1*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1982.

Survey of Non-Wood Materials for Furniture Conservation

Bone and Ivory

Canadian Conservation Institute. *Care of Ivory, Bone, Horn and Antler*. CCI Notes 6/1. Ottawa, Canada: Canadian Conservation Institute, 1983.

LaFontaine, R.H. and P. Wood. "The Stabilization of Ivory Against Relative Humidity Fluctuations," *Studies in Conservation*, vol. 27, no. 3, 1982, pp. 109-117.

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Snow, C. and T.D. Weisser. "The Examination and Treatment of Ivory and Related Materials," *Adhesives and Consolidants, Preprints of the Paris Congress, 2-8 September 1984*. London: International Institute for Conservation, 1984, pp. 141-145.

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