Colorado’s Connecting to Collections
Statewide Preservation Survey

www.BCR.org   |  800.397.1552
Introduction: What is the Colorado C2C statewide preservation survey?

- The IMLS funded Colorado Connecting to Collections Grant is a planning project to:
  - create a culture of emergency preparedness among our institutions and communities
  - develop a Consortium of heritage institutions to provide ongoing guidance for the project and the future implementation
  - Expand upon Heritage Preservation’s Heritage Health Index
The planning grant allows for:

- An online statewide survey
- Twelve on site surveys
- 2-3 day training workshops and conference sessions based on survey results
- Online training materials available
- Advisory Committee final meeting to set preservation goals and implementation plans for Cultural Heritage institutions around the state
Who has responded?

Which category best describes your institution?

- Public library
- History museum
- Academic library
- Other (please specify)
- Government agency (non-academic)
- Archive in library
- Special library
- Historical society
- Archive
- Historic house museum
Preservation Training

On which of the following preservation topics did you or your staff attend training session in the past three years, and which topics interest you for training in the next three years?

- Planning and Prioritizing (assessment, policies)
- Emergency Management
- Storage and Handling
- Reformatting for Preservation
- Conservation Procedures

Legend:
- Orange: Past 3 years
- Blue: Next 3 years
- Purple: Don't know
Urgent need for information

On which of the following topics does your institution most urgently need information?
Environmental conditions

For which of the following environmental conditions does your institution have controls?

- Temperature
- Humidity
- Light
- Dirt and dust (air filtering)
- Pests and vermin
- None of these

Bar chart showing the percentage of facilities with controls for each condition.
Suppression Equipment

Which of the following fire prevention or suppression equipment does your institution have?

- Smoke detectors
- Fire alarms
- Wet-type sprinklers
- Dry-type sprinklers
- Automatic fire suppression systems, e.g., Halon
- Fire extinguishers
- Hose

Legend:
- All Facilities
- Some Facilities
- Don't know
Extinguisher Training

Has your staff had fire extinguisher training?

59% said No
Damaged Collections

In the past five years, has your institution experienced any disaster that damaged collections, the facility or the grounds?

- No
- Yes, please specify (e.g., collections, grounds)
- Don't know
Causes

What caused the disaster?

- Fire (including electrical, wildfire)
- Flood (natural disaster)
- Hail
- Heavy snow
- High wind
- Hail
- Earthquake
- Tornado
- Wind damage, including human-caused
- Other

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Written Disaster Plans

Has a written disaster plan for the recovery of damaged collections been prepared for the institution?

74.3% do not have a current plan
Drills

Have you conducted an on-site disaster preparedness and response drill?

77.1% have not completed a drill
Continuity of Operations Plan

Do you have a continuity of operations plan as part of your disaster plan?

65% said no or they don’t know if they have a plan
Surveys and Assessments

Has your institution done a preservation survey or assessment?
(Assessments typically include building condition, collection condition and preservation policies.)

29% said yes they have had a preservation survey
Collection Specific Surveys

Have preservation surveys been done for any parts of your collection—for example, special collections, photographs, maps, textiles, local history, institutional archives, or furniture?

28% of the surveys are collections specific
Need for a Survey

Does your institution need a site survey of building condition, collection condition and preservation policies?

- Need in the next 3 years—43.6%
- 6.9% urgent
- No need
- Urgent need
- Don't know
Overall Conditions

For each of the following formats, what is the overall condition of those items in your institution's holdings?

- Biological/zooological
- Specimens
- Sound recordings
- Moving images (including videos)
- Archaeological materials
- Textiles
- Scrapbooks
- Metal objects
- Sculpture
- Ethnographic materials
- Other
Funding for Preservation

If you were to receive a significant increase in funding for preservation, what are the top five things you would do with it?

- Digitize selected materials
- Upgrade environmental conditions
- Implement policies and preservation priority action items
- Implement Low Cost/No Cost Improvements in Climate Control
- Purchase storage furniture and enclosures
- Create a written disaster plan
- Improve storage methods and handling practices
- Increase protection from theft and vandalism
- Plan for water and fire damage mitigation
- Conservation work on collections
- Other
Digital Collections Initiative?

Does your institution have a digital collection initiative? (A project or program to digitize or acquire born digital materials.)

59%
Digital Preservation Plan?

83% said NO plan
Retention of Digital Collections

94% expect to retain their collections more than 10 years
Additional Components

• Site Surveys
• Training workshops developed
• Recommendations for implementation
Interested in following along…

- http://c2cwikico.bcr.org
Contact Information

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