

Conservation

Why is conservation important in public art galleries? What does art conservation involve? Explain the difference between preventive and interventive conservation. Whose responsibility is conservation?

How does conservation fit in with Bendigo Art Gallery's Mission Statement? (read the statement on page 6)

Humidity and temperature

What levels of humidity and temperature are required for safe preservation of artwork?

Humidity _____%

Temperature _____°C

What damage can high or low humidity do to specific mediums?

High humidity:

Low humidity:

What is foxing and how does it appear on a work on paper?

Explain the role of a temperature and humidity sensors in measuring humidity at Bendigo Art Gallery?

Since when has the Gallery used its current environmental control system? What benefits does having an international standard airconditioning/environmental control system bring to the Gallery?

Lighting

How can it do damage? What levels are required for safe display of different mediums? How can you see this in practice at Bendigo Art Gallery?

Sensitivity to light	Lux level	What Mediums
High sensitivity		
Medium sensitivity		
Low sensitivity		

What sort of light globes are used at Bendigo Art Gallery and why?

Explain the process of *rotation* for sensitive artworks

Pests and Rodents

What sort of pests do damage to which mediums?

Pest	Medium/artform	Type of damage
Moths		
Rodents		
Silverfish		
Cockroaches		

What rules do public art galleries like Bendigo Art Gallery follow to monitor pest damage? Explain IPM.

Handling

Explain the different gloves used and handling requirements:

Nitrile latex

Cotton

Riggers

What devices are used to move artworks safely around the Gallery?

Storage

What storage requirements are required for specific art forms?

Paintings and large framed works on paper:

Small framed works on paper:

Unframed works on paper:

Small 3-dimensional works such as ceramics:

Large sculptures:

Materials

Discuss some of the archival materials used with various art forms:

Travelling exhibitions

Explain the features of travelling crates or frames (using the example at the Gallery)

Signage

Feet

Interior

Explain the role of condition reports (see example on page 7)

Other conservation concerns:

What else can damage artworks in a Public Gallery and how does Bendigo Art Gallery prevent such damage?

Bendigo Art Gallery Mission Statement

Bendigo Art Gallery is a permanent establishment administered in the public interest whose primary functions are to collect, preserve and display works of art and to elucidate their history and background for the pleasure and education of the public.

The Gallery carries out this task by performing the following primary functions as ends in themselves:

- To acquire appropriate works of art for its collection.
- To ensure that works for which it is responsible are adequately housed, documented and cared for.
- To display its collections to their fullest advantage.
- To expand public understanding of art.
- To ensure that the premises are accessible to the public and are safe and attractively maintained.

Bendigo Art Gallery Condition Report

Condition Report PAINTING

ARTIST

TITLE

MEDIUM

DIMENSIONS

ACCESSION NUMBER

PAINTING SUPPORT

Tension/Strength

Surface Plane

Damages

AUXILIARY SUPPORT

PAINT FILM

Craquelure Pattern

Cleavage/Cupping

Losses

Scratches/Abrasions

SURFACE

Appearance

Surface Dirt

Abrasions/Damages

FRAME

Rigidity

Splits Cracks Losses

Gilding Paint Losses

FITTING

Secured By

Backing Board

Glazing

Alignment

GENERAL COMMENTS

EXAMINED BY

EXAMINATION DATE