

Photographic Materials

- Officers & Committee
- News & Past Events (Eligible members only)
- Resources (Eligible members only)

About this Group:

The Photographic Materials Group came about in 1994 as the Photographic Materials Conservation Group to bring together individuals and institutions interested in the conservation of photographic materials. Under the chairmanship of Chris Woods and Ian Moor the Group maintained active profile within the conservation profession, helping to increase awareness of photographic materials and their care. Now as the Photographic Materials Group in Icon we've seen the membership roll increase to over 350.

The Group's aims are:

- To preserve the exchange of ideas and information relating to photographic preservation and conservation
- To promote the development of sound conservation practices
- To promote the publication of scholarly articles on photographic conservation and related fields
- To develop and maintain links between the Group and related disciplines
- To disseminate responsible information on the care and conservation of photographs

2006 has seen the election of a new committee who are keen to build on the work of former officers. The committee will continue to promote the aims of the Group and in particular will encourage the useful exchange of information between all those working in the field - whether students or qualified practitioners in the public or private sectors.

Election of Officers

Become more involved in the Icon PhMG by volunteering to become a committee member! Direct involvement in the organisation of our activities is a rewarding experience and gives you the opportunity to help develop and further the aims of the Group. Please write a short piece about your interest/ involvement in photographic materials and what you could bring to the Group, send to Anita Bools anita.bools@nationaltrust.org.uk by 26 October 2007.

We want to hear from you!

If you can assist in organising meetings we'd be particularly glad to hear from you. We'd welcome offers of venues where we can hold our meetings - and of course offers of papers - but even if, or especially if, you've got questions that need answers we want you to get in touch with us and tell us what they are. We'll do our best to arrange events that address these concerns, you can get in touch by emailing Dominic Wall at dominic_wall@yahoo.co.uk

Work of the Group

Meetings

A very successful and well-attended one day conference on Cold Storage of Photographs was held on 11 June 2007 at the National Trust headquarters in Swindon with guest speakers from the UK and abroad. The day also included tours of the nearby cold storage facility and conservation studio at the National Monuments Record.

Ideas for future conferences on specific topics are welcomed by the Committee.

Online Resources

We aim to develop a list of recommended online resources, available on these pages.

Publications

We aim to publish, electronically or in print, proceedings of meetings as much as our resources, funds and other factors permit us to. We are indebted to any authors who will help us in this aim. We also aim to publish highlighted talks from meetings organised by our predecessor body, the Photographic Materials Conservation Group, 1994-2005.

A special letter to our membership!

Dear Members,

As part of my duties as your Professional Development committee member, I am writing to let you know about a series of evening talks I am organising under the banner Lets Talk About Photography. We are looking for a wide range of speakers to create a series of talks that will provide a comprehensive vision of Photography. We would like to include photography historians, conservators, artists, dealers, curators, archivists, suppliers of conservation materials, and all those with an interest in our photographic heritage.

At present, I am looking for venues to host these evening talks in London and throughout the UK. If you are able to help find such venues, please do get in touch so that we can put together an exciting programme that will reach the widest possible audience. Thank you very much for helping us to move forward with this new venture for the Group.

Àngels Arribas, Photographic Conservator. Contact: angels.post@3xl.net

Forthcoming Events

Lets Talk About Photography Series

The PhMG 'Lets Talk About Photography' Series have been invited to join a special event organised by the British Library: 'The Wonderful World of Photography', a discovery day on Saturday 7 November 2009.

Photographic History Without Photographs

Conference Centre Auditorium

The British Library

Saturday 7 November 2009

11am - 12pm

Speaker: Michael Pritchard, Photographic Historian

The first photographic histories published from the 1880s were written by reference to the principal people, discoveries and events to produce all encompassing surveys of the medium, usually based on histories published in the early manual and photographic press. There are less well known sources - some of which are represented in the Library collections - that can give us a broader understanding of photographic history. This lecture looks at some of these: manufacturers' and photographers' trade catalogues, patents, company documents, auction catalogues, handbills and printed ephemera and discusses what else they can tell us about photography.

Concentrating on the period from 1839 to the 1930s but occasionally venturing up to the 1960s this lecture is heavily illustrated and is intended to be of interest to both a general and specialist audience.

Booking

This lecture is free to attend but pre-booking through Angels Arribas, Conservator of Photographs is essential. You must register by 30 October 2009, maximum of 30 people.

- Archaeology
- Book & Paper
- Care of Collections
- Ceramics & Glass
- Conservation Science
- Ethnography
- Furniture & Wood
- Gilding & Decorative Surfaces
- Historic Interiors
- Metals
- Paintings
- Photographic Materials
- Private Practice
- Stained Glass
- Stone & Wall Paintings
- Textiles

- Scotland

- Teaching Forum