



Conserve O Gram

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Museum Facility Specifications: Selected References

Well over 300 parks and centers in the National Park Service manage museum facilities. These facilities include exhibit spaces, collection storage spaces, research spaces, curatorial workrooms, and conservation laboratories. A facility can be a single structure wholly dedicated to curatorial activities or be dedicated space(s) within a multipurpose structure. A facility can be in a newly constructed building or in renovated and adaptively used space within an existing or historic structure. The references in this *Conserve O Gram* provide sources for park staff, curators, collections managers, conservators, architects, engineers, and designers to consult when outlining requirements and specifications for collection facilities.

Museum facilities are specialized spaces. Within these spaces the goal is museum collection preservation, whether the collections are stored, exhibited, researched, or conserved. The preservation emphasis means that the security, fire protection, climate control, structural load requirements, and general construction methods for these spaces may be more demanding than for typical construction.

References are grouped in the following categories:

- Fire Protection (Detection/Suppression) Systems
- Security (Intrusion Alarm) Systems
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems
- Wall, Floor, and Ceiling Finishes
- Lighting Systems for Museum Facility Spaces
- General Construction
- Insulated Modular Structures

Future *Conserve O Grams* are planned for each of these categories that will provide additional information and guidance on developing facility specifications and requirements. NPS staff can contact the Museum Management Program for information about parks that have recently developed or upgraded museum facilities.

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