

HIGH WATERMARKS

In each newsletter, CCAHA highlights a few books or websites we think will be of interest to collections managers, conservators, and collectors. This issue's suggestions have to do with preserving collections of personal documents such as letters and journals, whether in print or digital format.



CARING FOR YOUR TREASURES: RESOURCES FROM THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC WORKS

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) is the national membership organization of conservation professionals. AIC's members include conservators, scientists, archivists, and art historians, but its website also features resources for nonprofessionals looking to properly care for their personal heritage. Click on the "Resource Center" link, then the "Caring for Your Treasures" link to find guides covering preservation of almost everything that could possibly be found in a home—old letters, home videotapes, tableware, and much more.

>> www.conservation-us.org



LETTERS OF NOTE

A wonderful reminder to save and digitize old letters, this blog-based archive of "correspondence deserving of a wider audience" offers readers a fascinating letter,

postcard, telegram, fax, or memo almost every day. Postings usually include a brief introduction, a transcript, and often a scan of the original. A couple of reader favorites: the 9th-century letter template once used by local officials in China to apologize for embarrassing behavior at dinner parties and the note from late-night talk show host Conan O'Brien that politely declines an invitation to a fan's prom in 2003.

>> www.lettersofnote.com

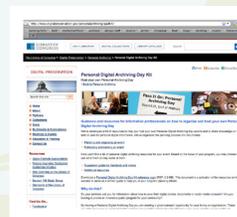


ORGANIZE YOUR DIGITAL LIFE: HOW TO STORE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS, MUSIC, VIDEOS, AND PERSONAL DOCUMENTS IN A DIGITAL WORLD

By Aimee Baldrige

So much of our correspondence, photography, journaling, and other personal documentation now exists only in digital form, and even paper copies can be easily digitized. In this very readable resource, Baldrige details how to create a user-friendly digital archive of both born-digital and paper materials.

>> [National Geographic/192 pages/\\$19.95](http://National Geographic/192 pages/$19.95)



PERSONAL DIGITAL ARCHIVING DAY KIT

Since formats and technologies seem to be ever-changing, many collecting institutions are finding that their patrons

frequently have questions about saving digital photos, emails, and social media accounts. The Library of Congress developed this web-based kit to help libraries, archives, and other organizations host Personal Digital Archiving Day events to answer these questions. The kit includes instructions for planning, publicizing, and running an event, as well as lists of suggested handouts and other resources.

>> www.digitalpreservation.gov/personalarchiving/padKit