

1998: The Library Shelving Facility opens in Hamden. Its ideal environmental conditions (50°F/ 30% RH year round) and its book cleaning operations make it a model for preserving collections for the long term.

Yale's Southeast Asia Collection, the Cambodian Genocide Program at the Center for International and Area Studies, and the Preservation Department collaborate with the Documentation Center of Cambodia to preserve and copy records of the Khmer Rouge state police archives.

2001: Yale is selected as a test site for new environmental monitoring tools: the Preservation Environmental Monitor (PEM) and its associated software, Climate Notebook. These tools were developed at the Image Permanence Institute. Art of the Book is the first collection to be monitored.

FY 2001/2002 number of books bound: 69,753 costing \$551,882.

2002: Roberta Pilette is hired as Head of Preservation/Preservation Officer for Yale University Libraries.

2003: 1,365 volumes are microfilmed at Yale University Library.

2004: Core Program is renamed RaMP: Reformatting and Media Preservation.

1998

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1998: The millions of books in the Sterling book stacks benefit from a controlled environment for the first time: 68°F ±2°F and 43% ±3% relative humidity, along with excellent air filtration, reduction of damaging ultraviolet light, and addition of fire safety equipment.

1999: Sterling Stacks Cleaning Project begins as an effort to remove years of dust and dirt from books and shelves. Dust and dirt particles abrade the surface of paper and bindings, and attract moisture and pests.

Items are sent out for mass deacidification for the first time at Yale.



Gisela Noack, former Chief Conservator, inspects rare books from the Law Library after they were recently removed from the freezer.

2003: A broken water pipe from a bomb at the Law School causes water to flow into the rare book storage area of the Law Library. Quick notification of the Preservation Department allows 400 wet volumes to be frozen, saving all of the volumes from permanent loss. This unfortunate event spawns much media coverage for the Conservation Lab and the Preservation Department.