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## **NSCG Newsletter**

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## New Publication

### Mount-Making for Museum Objects

By Robert Barclay, Andre Bergeron, and Carole Dignard, with illustrations by Carl Schlichting

v + 57pp. Published by: Canadian Conservation Institute, Ottawa, Canada.

Price approx. £ 26

ISBN 0-660-17531-2

This publication is what it says it is and exactly what one would expect; it is intended for the relatively new mount-maker. The book's strengths lie in the fact that it stresses the use of different materials in good detail and is very good at stressing the conservation requirements of the specimen during mount making; and it is a good reference guide for the relative beginner. The book defines the importance of using conservation grade materials, using established techniques.

The diagrams are useful and informative and the book as a whole is a really good reference book though not a particularly good read. The book is simple in style, but there is no mention of potential problems or Health and Safety considerations.

Based on workshop experience of mount-making for artifacts the book stresses important conservation principles, with a strong emphasis on preventive conservation. The different materials used for mounting objects are discussed in full, including padding and cushioning used, finishing materials and adhesives, for example the use and application of cross-linked polyethylene foam in the mounting of a violin was described in extensive detail. The methods used for measuring objects for mounts is covered in detail.

The photographs are somewhat dreary and uninteresting (some are even out of focus) and could do with being livened up a bit; in particular, colour

photographs and diagrams would be more useful and interesting aesthetically. The book includes a useful bibliography and an appendix of tools and equipment.

The book is a little limited in the variety and size of objects covered, and in the absence of reference to natural history objects highlights a need for such work to be covered elsewhere. Despite this I think the book would be useful to natural history mount makers.

Overall the book is a good general introduction to the theory and practice of mount making and it is a good reference guide; the book would be particularly useful for relatively new mount makers.

*D.R. Gray*  
*The Natural History Museum*



## Accreditation

Simon Moore sits as the Group's representative on the UKIC committee dealing with accreditation for conservators. For those of you involved with natural sciences who have applied, Simon is available to assist and give guidance with the application. He has noted that there are one or two innocent looking pitfalls in the 'sponsor' section tickboxes which **must** be filled in. Simon is willing to advise on suitability of sponsors. He can be contacted at the address shown on the last page.