Additional Considerations: Underground, High-Bay and Remote Storage Facilities

Ann Seibert

Preservation Programs Office National Archives and Records Administration College Park, Maryland

1999 – Alternative Archival Facilities

 Paul Banks – "Alternative Space Options"

 "From the monumental, to the forbidding, to the cozy, to the patently unsuitable."
 <u>http://www.nara-at-work.gov/</u> archives_and_records_mgmt/ archives_and_activities/ preservation/storage_alternatives.html

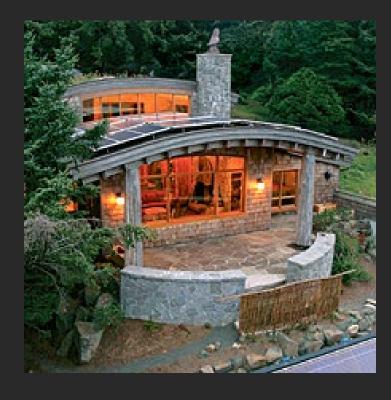
Goals

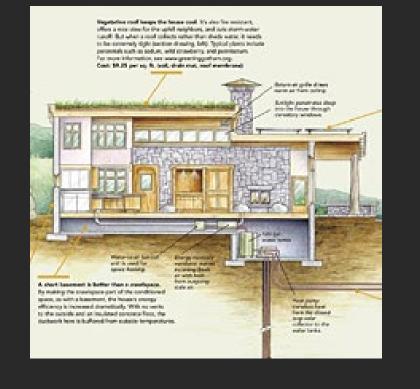
 Without sacrificing holdings and preservation goals

Reconcile needs with costs
Go beyond minimum performance
Leadership in achieving energy savings

"Zero Energy, Infinite Appeal"

by Nathan Good, *Fine Homebuilding*, March, 2006, 25th Anniversary Edition.





Supplement specifications and program requirements with dialogue & decisions Fire suppression Monitoring Water detection This is where collaboration, teamwork and communication are paramount.

High-bay Storage Environment

- Stable, dark and minimal handling
- Working conditions training in safety
- Precision for managing system
- Tracking system must be flawless and robust



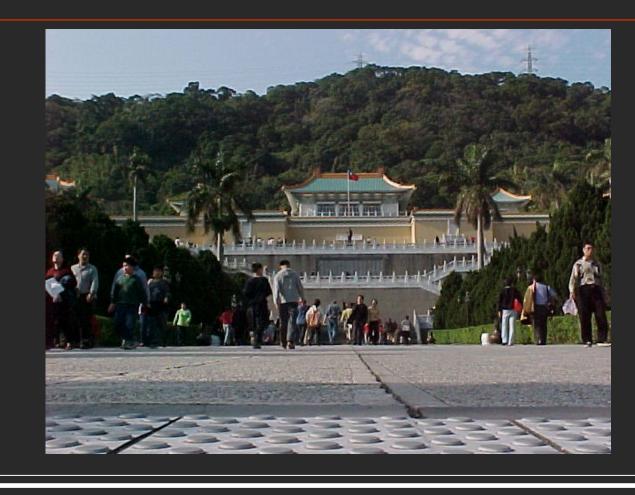
Ft. Meade, LOC, LCIB

Additional Considerations

High-Bay

- Fire-suppression and limiting damage in single incident
- High level of intellectual control to link for tracking
- Air-circulation and monitoringStability

National Palace Museum – Taipei, Taiwan From Wikipedia file source



Entrances to Lenexa, KS and Lee's Summit, MO – NARA facilities





NARA - Remote and Underground

Lenexa, Kansas

- Archival storage
- Records Center storage
- Cold storage
- Lee's Summit, Missouri
 - Archival storage
 - Records Center storage

NARA space entrance in Lenexa



Additional Considerations

Underground

- Temperature stability and no extraneous light
- Managed RH stability
- Ventilation & human comfort
- Maintaining pollutant standards
- Security for collections

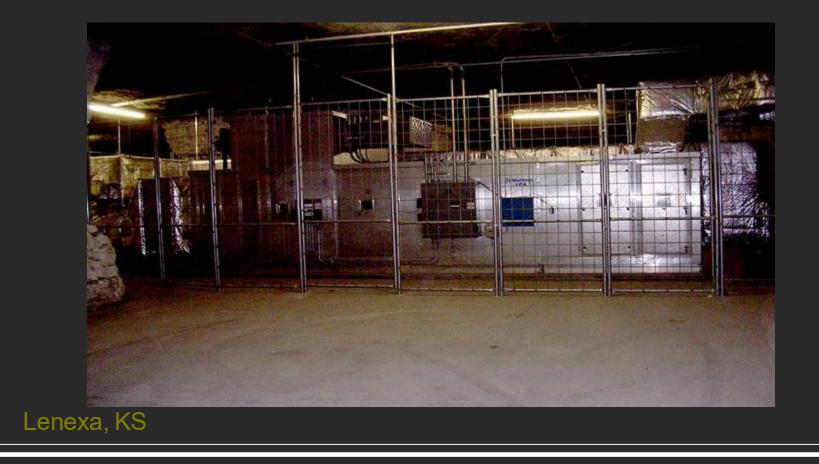
Underground – Raw space



Lenexa, KS

20th Annual Preservation Conference - Additional Considerations - 3/16/06

HVAC freezer system underground



Lenexa



Lee's Summit

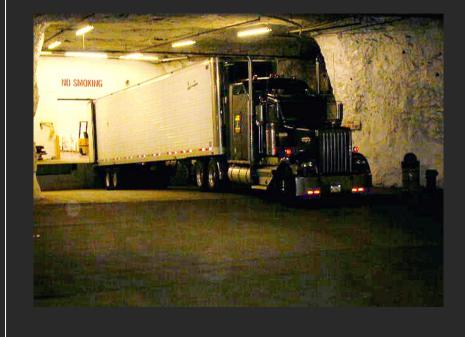


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Lenexa cold storage

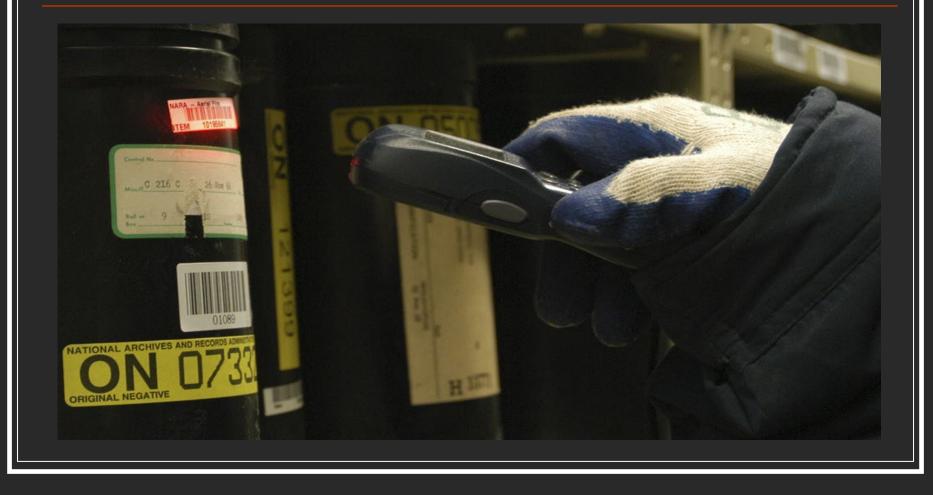


Ventilation & Power issues





Tracking by barcodes



Human comfort





Remote facilities

Pros

- Potential for lower costs
- Increased security



Lenexa, KS

Remote Facilities

- Additional considerations
 - Relocation costs for current staff
 - Decreased ability to provide training and/or oversight for new staff or contractors

Remote facilities

- Additional consideration
 Risks to items from transport
 Shipping costs

Remote Facilities

Opportunities to be developed
 Delivery by digital surrogates to clients everywhere



Communication & Collaboration

- Process is important
- Resolve issues
- Resolve issues in a way that honors everyone's contribution
- Resolve issues in a way that does not look for culprits.
- **Resist the temptation to search for panacea.**

Future Considerations

- Gathering of information on operating costs and design developments
- More sharing of information with allied professionals
- More partnerships
- More creativity

Thanks

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