THE ARTCARE™ ADVANTAGE: PROFILES IN CONSERVATION





THE CLIENT PROFILE

One of the many missions of The Nebraska State Bar Association Foundation is to preserve historical law-related documents for posterity and educational purposes. The Foundation was recently given a collection of materials relating to the Chief Justices of the United States Supreme Court. Included were 12 engravings of Chief Justices and 24 documents featuring the original signatures of all past and present Chief Justices.



Document signed by John Jay, before conservation treatment

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Artcare[™] Products *Help Preserve Supreme Court History* for Future Generations

THE CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

Each paper object had been housed in an acidic mat board or file folder. All images required cleaning, mending, and archival housing materials. The most common problems with the documents were surface dirt and tears; non-archival adhesive residue; and inferior quality housing that put the objects at risk for deterioration.

THE PROCESS AND SOLUTION

The original documents, which will go on temporary, short-term display for special occasions, were carefully cleaned and repaired. Each image was then placed in a storage/display housing consisting of an Alpharag Artcare 4 ply window mat and mount, plus Artcare Archival Corrugate backing board. Documents were attached to the Alpharag Artcare backing using either Japanese tissue and wheat paste, or Mylar photo corners. Because each of these original images is irreplaceable, the documents were also digitally scanned in order to create surrogates that could be used for permanent display.

THE SUCCESS OF ARTCARE™

The original collection of United States Supreme Court Justice documents is now securely and safely rehoused in Artcare materials that will protect them from harmful environmental substances. The images will be displayed on a rotating basis at the Nebraska Bar Association Foundation, which hosts ongoing visits by high school students studying U.S. Supreme Court history.



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The Artcare[™] Archival System

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MATERIALS USED

Alpharag Artcare[™] **4 ply** was used to create window mats and mounts.

Japanese tissue, wheat paste, and Mylar photo corners were used to mount images.

Artcare™ Archival Corrugate was chosen as a backing board to further secure images.

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