

FIONA GRAHAM, CAPC, CAHP

Education

- Master of Art Conservation (Artifacts), Queen's University, Kingston, 1989
- B.A. (Honours), Art History, Queen's University, Kingston, 1987

Accreditation

- Member of the Canadian Association of Professional Conservators
- Member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals

Professional associations

- Canadian Association of Professional Conservators (former President)
- Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (former Education Committee member)
- Canadian Association for Conservation (former Secretary)
- American Institute for Conservation
- International Institute for Conservation
- Ontario Museum Association
- Society of American Archivists, Technical Sub-committee member

Languages

- English (mother tongue)
- French (fluent, spoken & written)
- Spanish and Italian (reading only)

Summary of skills

- Expertise in the conservation of built heritage and monuments, preventive conservation, and risk assessment
- Practical application of the *Standards & Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*
- Familiarity with federal, provincial, and municipal heritage bodies and legislation
- Delivering projects on time and on budget
- Innovative and engaging training of conservators and non-conservators, in person and online
- Using suitable language to communicate clearly with clients and allied professionals

Work history

- 2013 – present: Principal, Graham Conservation
- 2014 – present: Adjunct Professor, *Conservation Principles*, Queen's University Master of Art Conservation program
- 2009 – present: Course Developer and Tutor, *Collections Conservation*, online, Athabasca University Heritage Resource Management program
- 2012 – 2018: Instructor, *Materials Conservation*, Willowbank
- 2008 – 2013: Associate, Goldsmith Borgal & Co. Architects (GBCA)
- 2006 – 2007: Travelling Exhibitions Coordinator, National Gallery of Canada
- 2005 – 2008: Conservator in private practice
- 2001 – 2005: Conservator, Canadian Museum of Nature
- 1999 – 2014: Course Director, *Care of Collections*, Ontario Museum Association Certificate in Museum Studies program
- 1999 – 2001: Museum Advisor, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Recreation
- 1998 – 1999: Conservation Advisor, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Recreation
- 1997 – 1998: Conservator in private practice
- 1996 – 1997: Museum Planning Advisor, Canadian Conservation Institute
- 1992 – 1996: Collections Preservation Advisor, Heritage Services Division, Heritage Branch, Department of Canadian Heritage
- 1992: Fellow, Ethnology Lab, Canadian Conservation Institute
- 1991 – 1992: Conservator, Polychrome Sculpture Lab, Centre de conservation du Québec
- 1990 – 1992: Conservator, Decorative Arts Lab, Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal
- 1989 – 1990: Conservator, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History

Selected built heritage conservation projects

- National Printing Bureau Building Restoration, Gatineau:
Role – wood conservator. Conducting condition assessment, coordinating finish sample analysis, developing scope of work and treatment specifications for tender package, and supervising contractors conducting the treatment. Federal Heritage Building. (In progress.)
- Fairfield-Gutzeit House Conservation Plan, Loyalist Township: Developed a plan for the use and preservation of the 1759 historic house and associated collection. (2022)
- Bronze Lanterns Restoration, Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
Role – supervising conservator. Conducted condition assessment, developed treatment proposal, supervised contractors conducting the treatment, documented the treatment, and provided maintenance instructions. (2021)

- Where Legends Meet, Whitehorse:
Role – treatment conservator. On site treatment of a monumental bronze, copper and steel outdoor sculpture to remove a deteriorated coating, repair damage, restore the metal surface, and protect with a wax coating. The project included a condition assessment, artist consultation, extensive documentation, and treatment report. (2021)
- Facility Assessments, Ontario Heritage Trust: Conducted risk assessments at three historic house museums and provided the OHT with costed and prioritized recommendations for conservation-related improvements, including restoration of heritage interiors and repair and maintenance of the heritage building. National Historic Sites (Fulford Place and Homewood) (2021)
- Bronze Statue Conservation Program, Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
Role – supervising conservator. Conducted condition assessments prior to treatment, refined treatment proposal as required, supervised contractors conducting the treatment, documented the treatment, and provided maintenance instructions. Also conducted annual condition assessment of all statues. (2018 – 2021)
- Massey Hall Restoration, Toronto:
Role – wood and metals conservator. Conducted condition assessment of all heritage wood and metal elements in Massey Hall and developed treatment specifications for tender package. National Historic Site. (2017-2018)
- Sir John A. Macdonald Building, Ottawa:
Role – plaster conservation consultant. Assisted plaster restoration contractor in meeting FHBRO and PWGSC conservation standards. Developed and maintained documentation system; reviewed and set standards for submittals and shop drawings; conducted site visits and submitted site visit reports; liaised with plaster restoration sub-contractors. Federal Heritage Building. (2013-2014) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- Union Station Train Shed Restoration, Toronto:
Role – conservator. Created documentation and inventory management system for heritage elements including unique identifiers, mapping, labelling, location tracking, condition reports and treatment records. Produced treatment specifications for each type of heritage element. National Historic Site. (2012 – 2014) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- Heritage Evaluation of Decorative Metalwork, Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
Role – conservator. Assisted architectural historian in identification of interior and exterior heritage elements. Completed condition assessments, identified need for major conservation treatments and changes to maintenance procedures. Conducted cleaning tests to determine practical maintenance methods and provided client with clear instructions regarding products and methods to use on each type of metal surface. Produced comprehensive documentation. Provided training to custodial staff. (2011, 2014) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- Functional Program, Canada Agriculture and Food Museum, Ottawa:
Role – museum planner. Developed the functional program which formed the foundation for the design of the new Learning Centre, a much-needed exhibition and education space on the CAFM site. In 2015 this adaptive re-use project received the National Trust for Canada's Ecclesiastical Insurance Cornerstone Award for Built Heritage. (2013) *As Associate with GBCA.*

- Bronze Tripartite Light Conservation, Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
Role – project manager, contract administrator and materials expert. Developed treatment protocol, supervised treatment, and produced comprehensive documentation. (2011) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- Birks Clock Restoration, City of Hamilton:
Role – project manager, contract administrator and materials expert. Conducted condition assessment, arranged for finish analysis, consulted with structural engineer, developed treatment protocol, supervised treatment, and produced comprehensive documentation of this monumental clock. (2010) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- 34 Hazelton Avenue Heritage Impact Assessment, Toronto:
Role – heritage consultant. Completed a Heritage Impact Assessment of plans to convert a heritage building into condominiums. (2010) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- Stained Glass Laylight Conservation, Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
Role – project manager and contract administrator. Managed conservation project involving two specialist conservators, a structural engineer, and trades. (2009) *As Associate with GBCA.*
- Risk Assessment for Parliamentary Precinct Collections:
Role – conservator. Conducted a risk assessment of parliamentary heritage collections and recommended actions to safeguard them, with a focus on emergency management and coordination by Parliamentary Precinct Partners. (2005) *In association with Competitive Insights.*

Preventive conservation projects

- Third Party Review of Architectural Plans, Beaty Biodiversity Museum and Research Centre, UBC:
Assisted architects with meeting criteria for Movable Cultural Property Category “A” designation in the design of a museum annexe. (2023)
- Storage Upgrade, Fairfield House, Loyalist Township:
Assessed collection storage conditions and implemented upgrade for pest-vulnerable artifacts including documentation, cleaning, and rehousing. (2022)
- Mould Remediation, Fairfield-Gutzeit House, Loyalist Township:
Removed mould from twenty pieces of historic furniture. (2022)
- Conservation Plan, Fairfield-Gutzeit House, Loyalist Township:
Developing a plan for the use and preservation of collections in five museums located in heritage buildings. (2022)
- Storage Plan, City of Coquitlam: Assessing collection storage needs and providing space requirements and conservation criteria for off-site storage. (2022)
- Storage Plan, Vancouver Maritime Museum: Assessed collection storage needs and provided space requirements and conservation criteria for off-site storage. (2021-2022)

- Mould Remediation Plan, Clarington Museums and Archives: Equipped a museum experiencing a mould outbreak at four sites with a detailed remediation plan including conservation procedures for mould-affected artifacts. (2021)
- Facility Assessments, Ontario Heritage Trust: Conducted risk assessments at three historic house museums and provided the OHT with costed and prioritized recommendations for conservation-related improvements. (2021)
- Mould Remediation Plan, Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives: Enabled a museum to successfully halt a mould infestation by recommending immediate emergency stabilization measures. Equipped the museum with a detailed remediation plan including conservation procedures for mould-affected artifacts. (2019)
- Revised Standard Facility Report, Canadian Museum of History: Enabled the museum to better meet the needs of Canadian and international lenders by updating the Standard Facility Report. (2019)
- Storage Plan, PAMA (Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives): Provided the museum with a phased solution for addressing issues in on-site and off-site storage of museum, fine art and archival collections. Included in the plan were budget estimates and an action plan for moving collections. (2018)
- Art Reinstallation Plan, National Arts Centre: Readied the NAC for optimum reinstallation of their art collection after renovations substantially altered the display environment, specifically in terms of light, ultraviolet radiation, and relative humidity fluctuations. (2017)
- Operations Review, RCMP Historical Collections Unit: Assessed all aspects of Unit operations and identified opportunities for improving the Unit's ability to meet its service mandate, primarily in the areas of governance and management. (2016)
- Storage Plan, Gananoque Civic Collection: Assessed collection storage conditions and made detailed recommendations for reorganization, new storage furniture, and enclosures. The recommendations were followed, and collection preservation is now enhanced. (2015)
- Storage Plan, North Vancouver Museum: Equipped the museum with a roadmap for enhanced collection preservation by providing a detailed collection storage plan with budget estimate and shelving design. (2015) *In association with Fraser-Spafford Ricci Art & Archival Conservation Inc.*
- Functional Program, Canada Museum of Science and Technology: Developed the functional program which formed the foundation for the design of a renewed museum that meets the needs of visitors, staff and collections. In 2018 this project received the Ontario Museum Association Award of Excellence in Special Projects (2015) *In association with GBCA.*
- Functional Program, Canada Agriculture and Food Museum: Developed the functional program which formed the foundation for the design of the new Learning Centre, a much-needed exhibition and education space on the CAFM site. In 2015 this adaptive re-use project received the National Trust for Canada's Ecclesiastical Insurance Cornerstone Award for Built Heritage. (2013) *In association with GBCA.*
- Storage Plan, Toronto Reference Library: Resolved a complex spatial puzzle and improved collection preservation conditions through the design of new compact storage layouts for Special Collections in renovated Toronto Reference Library spaces. (2012) *In association with GBCA.*
- Conservation Assessment, Museum of Inuit Art, Toronto: Outlined improvements to improve conservation conditions for collections on display and to assist the museum in

obtaining Movable Cultural Property Program designation. (2011) *In association with GBCA.*

- Storage Criteria, City of Calgary Public Art Collection: Assessed the storage needs of the collection and developed conservation design criteria for a self-contained, insulated storage unit within a warehouse. The recommendations, which the City has followed, included environmental guidelines (ASHRAE Class A), energy saving ideas, accessibility considerations, lighting, security, fire protection, and environmental monitoring. (2010)
- Conservation Requirements, PAMA (Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives): Ensured that PAMA's collections needs were met by providing conservation criteria (environment, lighting, space needs, storage design, security, fire protection, etc.) to architects designing expansion of the complex. (2009) *In association with GBCA.*

Selected professional development

- Introduction to the First Nations Principles of OCAP, 2022
- Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: D(d)plomacy for Neighbors and Nations, UCLA/Getty Conservation Program, 2022
- Life Cycle Assessment webinar, American Institute for Conservation, 2021
- Collaborative Conservation webinar, American Institute for Conservation, 2021
- Sustainable Museum Lighting webinar, American Institute for Conservation, 2021
- Sustainability in Museums webinar, International Council of Museums, 2021
- Conservation is not Neutral, American Institute for Conservation, 2021
- Ancestors Speaking: Objects and Cultural Sovereignty in Native America webinar, UCLA/Getty Conservation Program, 2021
- Decolonizing Collections & Prioritizing Community Partnerships webinar, AIC, 2020
- Contested Monuments webinar, American Institute for Conservation, 2020
- Energy Sustainability for Heritage Institutions, Canadian Conservation Institute, 2019
- Reading Architectural Drawings, AIC/IAMFA, 2017
- Share the Care: Collaborative Preservation Approaches, AIC/IAMFA, 2016
- Choosing and Implementing and Automatic Fire Suppression System, AIC/IAMFA, 2016
- Summit on Museum Preservation Environment, Smithsonian Institution, 2013
- Exhibition Lighting, Canadian Conservation Institute, 2013
- Architectural Conservation, Ryerson University, 2008
- Preventive Conservation, ICCROM-CCI Advanced Course for Trainers, 2003
- Project Management, Algonquin College, 1996

Recent presentations

- *No More Compromises: Examining the Role of the Conservator in the Museum*, CAC Annual Conference, Hamilton, 2022
- *Conservation Planning, Care of Collections* course, Ontario Museum Association, 2022.

- *Intersectional Environmentalism in Heritage Conservation: A Panel Discussion* webinar, MANA Contemporary, 2021
- *Teaching Conservation Principles in a Virtual Environment*, Distance Learning for Conservators in the Pandemic Era webinar, University of West Attica, 2021
- *Caring for Belongings*, Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitíohkwa Language and Cultural Center, Tyendinaga, 2020
- *Teaching Conservation in a Global Pandemic*, Heritage Conservation Learning in the COVID World: Challenges and Opportunities webinar, ICCROM and Athabasca University, 2020
- *Mould & Misery*, American Institute for Conservation Annual Conference, 2020
- *Housekeeping for Museums*, Kingston Association of Museums, Napanee, 2019
- *A Fresh Approach to Meeting Conservation Standards*, Ontario Museum Association Annual Conference, Kingston, 2017
- *Conservation for the 99%: The role of the conservator in the small museum*, CAC Annual Conference, Regina, 2017
- *Conservation Funding in Canada*, American Institute for Conservation Annual Conference, Montreal, 2016

Publications

- "Archival Environments", chapter in *Archival and Special Collections Facilities*, 2nd edition, Society of American Archivists (in development)
- "Care of Natural History Collections", Canadian Conservation Institute website, 2017
- "Risk Assessment of Collections in Exhibitions at the Canadian Museum of Nature", *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, Volume 44, Number 3, Fall/Winter 2005
- "A Review of Feather Cleaning Techniques", in *Fur Trade Legacy: The Preservation of Organic Materials*, Canadian Association for Conservation, 2005
- "Salvage of Soot-Damaged Museum Collections", in *Help! A Survivor's Guide to Emergency Preparedness*, Museums Alberta, 2001
- *Standards for Community Museums in Ontario: Revised Edition (2000)*, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, 2000 (co-author)
- "Fire Recovery at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Parts 1 and 2", *Collection Forum*, Volume 15, Numbers 1-2, Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, 2001
- "The Fire at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Parts 1 and 2", *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, Volume 39, Number 1, Spring 2000
- "Robert Murray: Material Connections – Glossary", in *Robert Murray: The Exhibition Catalogue*, National Gallery of Canada, 1998
- "Yee Ha! Test driving a new seminar in the Yukon", *CCI Newsletter*, March 1997
- "Fire Protection in Museums", in *Preprints of the Cultural Property Conservation Conference*, Taipei, Taiwan, 1996
- "Setting Our Sights on Site", *CCI Newsletter*, September 1995

- *Soft Packing Manual*, Exhibition Transportation Services, Gatineau, Quebec, 1996
- “Fire Recovery at the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History – Parts I and II”, *Preprints of the ICOM-CC Conference, Washington, D.C., 1993*
- “Handling of Museum Objects”, *Saskatchewan Museums Association Newsletter*, November 1989.