

Addendum (*Archivaria* 31 and *Archivaria* 37)



General Editor's Note: In November 2006, during the copyright clearance associated with the preparation of e-*Archivaria*, the opportunity arose to clarify aspects of two specialized articles that appeared in *Archivaria* 31 (Winter 1990–91) and *Archivaria* 37 (Spring 1994) that were the subject of a controversy in the 1990s. As a result, the following “Update Note” was attached to the electronic versions of these two articles in the e-*Archivaria* Main Collection (<http://journals.sfu.ca/archivar/index.php/archivaria>).

The following papers

Burgess, Helen D., Duffy, Stephen, and Tse, Season, “The Effect of Alkali on the Long-Term Stability of Cellulosic Fibres,” *Archivaria* 31 (Winter 1990–91), pp. 218–19,

and

Burgess, Helen D. and Goltz, Douglas M., “Effect of Alkali on the Long-Term Stability of Cellulosic Fibres Containing Lignin,” *Archivaria* 37 (Spring 1994), pp. 182–202,

were the subject of a controversy in the 1990s.

This controversy was centred on the issue of whether it was safe to deacidify ligneous papers. Subsequent work has shown that deacidification is beneficial no matter what the fibre content of paper. The controversy and the response are to be found in the following three articles. Firstly, see page 120 of the December 1994 issue of *The Abbey Newsletter*, then note the article “What you Should Know Before Deciding to Deacidify” by Margaret Hey on pages 6 and 7 of *Paper Conservation News* 75 (September 1995). Finally, note the response by David Grattan in “What you Should Know Before Deciding to Deacidify Paper Records – A Response by Scientists at the Canadian Conservation Institute” in *Paper Conservation News* 82 (June 1997), page 10, which sums up CCI’s view of the issue.

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