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SAVING STUFF

How to Care for and Preserve Your Collectibles,
Heirlooms, and Other Prize Possessions

By Don Williams, Senior Conservator of the Smithsonian
Institution, and Louisa Jaggar

"I am someone to whom stuff is serious business, so *Saving Stuff* is indispensable. Luckily, it covers saving books, because one thing I know I'll always want to save is *Saving Stuff* itself."—
Sam Posey, author of *Playing with Trains*

"*Saving Stuff* provides a wealth of invaluable advice to anyone who wishes to care for, preserve and display personal collections and family treasures." —Betty C. Monkman, Curator (Retired),
The White House

How do you keep your grandmother's silver from tarnishing? How can you protect your signed Mickey Mantle jersey from getting eaten by moths? How can you save your child's very first macaroni art project? How can you keep your family photo albums in tact?

The answers to these questions and many more can be found in *Saving Stuff: How to Care for and Preserve Your Collectibles, Heirlooms, and Other Prize Possessions* (Fireside/A Division of Simon & Schuster; June 2, 2005; ISBN: 0-7432-6416-9; \$16.00) by Don Williams, Senior Conservator of the Smithsonian Institution, and Louisa Jaggar.

For the serious collector and the sometimes sentimentalist, *Saving Stuff* is an easy to use guide on how to apply the techniques of museum professionals to keep prize possessions looking like new.

Readers will learn easy and foolproof methods to save the "Museum of You"—anything and everything precious and priceless to them, such as:

- Photographs, books and letters

- Childhood memorabilia from baby hair to art work
- Furniture
- Family heirlooms from china to silver, rugs to wedding dresses
- Sports and political memorabilia
- Musical instruments
- And much more!

Saving Stuff also explains the various factors that makes stuff fall apart. While the “Antiques Road Show” craze remains strong, *Saving Stuff* can help readers discover if some of their valuables are worth keeping or should be thrown in the trash.

Filled with stories on how the Smithsonian takes care of our national treasures, plus practical advice from Williams (the saving expert) and Jaggar (the expert saver), *Saving Stuff* will entertain while helping readers protect all of their treasures.

More Advanced Praise for *Saving Stuff*...

“Don Williams has distilled years of research and museum experience into practical advice for anyone concerned with preserving a collection--from the beginning collector to the connoisseur.”
--Joseph Godla, Senior Conservator, Historic New England

"With clear step-by-step instructions accompanied by engaging personal anecdotes from Don and co-author, Louisa Jaggar, *Saving Stuff* provides the "right stuff" for preserving the personal artifacts of our lives and makes a great read besides!"—Robert L. Self, Conservator, Monticello

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Don Williams is Senior Conservator at the Smithsonian Institution. During his career, he has consulted on the preservation of artifacts, including Archie Bunker’s chair and Franklin Roosevelt’s desk. He has served as Education Coordinator of the Smithsonian Center for Material Research and Education and leads conservation workshops throughout the country. Mr. Williams lives in Washington, DC.

Louisa Jaggar has been a columnist for *Washington Parent* and has contributed articles to *Diversion* and the online site, *Family Travel Network*. She has written for *PBS* and the University of Chicago, among others. She lives in Glen Echo, Maryland.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

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