

icon

THE INSTITUTE OF CONSERVATION

Conservators you can trust

PROVIDING REGULATION AND
ACCOUNTABILITY IN CONSERVATION





What is Icon?

Formed in 2005, the Institute of Conservation is the professional body for all those working to conserve cultural heritage

- ❑ Promote the value of conservation and the conservation profession
- ❑ Set and maintain Professional Standards for the conservation sector
- ❑ Run the system of Professional Accreditation for Conservator Restorers
- ❑ Support 24 specialist interest groups and networks

What is Icon Accreditation?



Established in
2000 with 1,100
Accredited
members



Common
framework for
all
conservation
professionals



Assessment
based on
'proficient'
standard



Supported by
CPD review
and Icon
professional
development
events

Why does Accreditation matter?

Problem

- Anyone can call themselves a conservator or a restorer

Risk

- People without skills/knowledge/experience undertake conservation treatments badly > botched restorations and further damage

Solution

- Icon provides self-regulation for the conservation profession



Hallmarks of an Icon Accredited conservator

- ❑ An appreciation of the complex relationships between materials, culture, history and context
- ❑ An understanding of the range of philosophical approaches that can be taken
- ❑ A 'toolbox' of skills, expertise and experience that can be deployed to ensure the proper care and conservation of cultural heritage
- ❑ An ability to develop and implement a responsible approach to the care and management of cultural heritage following best practice guidelines
- ❑ A commitment to ongoing learning and development (CPD) monitored through regular reviews



How Accreditation benefits commissioners

- ❑ Commitment – ACRs are passionate about conservation and care deeply about delivering positive outcomes for the client and the object
- ❑ Confidence – Provides evidence to funders that clients are careful custodians and have appointed suitable professionals to support the project
- ❑ Quality guarantee – ACRs are peer-assessed and subject to regular CPD review to ensure that their knowledge is up to date
- ❑ Reducing project risk– Assurance about getting it right, the first time
- ❑ Remedy – Icon’s Code of Conduct and complaints procedure

Who are our accredited members (ACRS)?



How do I verify Accredited status?



ACCREDITED MEMBER

Conservation Register: <https://www.conservationregister.com/>

Find out more / digital resources

- ❑ What is Icon Accreditation: www.icon.org.uk/accreditation/what-is-icon-accreditation.html
- ❑ Why accreditation matters: <https://www.icon.org.uk/resource/chief-executive-s-blog-why-accreditation-matters.html>
- ❑ Conservators you can trust: <https://www.icon.org.uk/resource/conservators-you-can-trust.html>
- ❑ Short subtitled video for clients: <https://youtu.be/3VHSF0tVisc>
- ❑ Conservation Register: <https://www.conservationregister.com/>