

Library Services

Challenge

Libraries and archives are transforming to provide innovative new services to meet increased demand and changing access requirements. These improvements put pressure on collections managers and administrators, who must manage physical and digital collections alongside public spaces. Shrinking physical storage and increased digital expectations impact how to manage, protect, and provide access to collections and content.

Transformations are disruptive to you and your community. Whether it's collection shifts to digitisation or setting up offsite storage, these projects involve a lot of moving parts that can put collections at risk.

You may have asked yourself questions like:

- > What are other libraries and archives doing?
- > How do I get started, and what are my options?
- > Where can I get information on best practices?
- > How do I tailor these options to the unique needs and preservation requirements of my collections?
- > What are the best strategies for managing this process with my key stakeholders?

When embarking on a new project, what if you could:

- > **Know** that you are using proven best practices?
- > **Reduce** the stress of planning and executing your project?
- > **Continue** to provide service to your community?
- > **Ensure** that your collections will be protected?
- > **Demonstrate** to stakeholders that resources will remain safe and accessible?
- > **Trust** your vendor to respond to changing project conditions with expert solutions?



Special collections and archives

Projects involving special collections and archives can introduce risk. Custom workflows and training are needed to ensure that collections have the appropriate stabilisation, care and handling, inventory control, and chain-of-custody. Iron Mountain has developed new methods and tools for handling fragile library and archival materials. Understanding the critical importance of preserving and protecting collections, in-depth knowledge of classification methods, and appropriate supplies and equipment are hallmarks of our experience.



Iron Mountain Library Services



Planning and consulting | Whether you are planning long-term preservation goals or facing an unanticipated project, Iron Mountain can help. Having access to a trusted group of partners – librarians, archivists, and logistics experts – lets you know that you have the best team to anticipate the unexpected. Don't know how to get started? Our team will provide a comprehensive plan to design workflows and set expectations, helping you manage the project to completion.



Collection relocation | Relocating your collections is a daunting process, but providing the right level of protection will ensure they are accessible to future patrons. Whether you are executing a temporary move or relocating collections into long-term storage, Iron Mountain's Library Services team will develop your project with workflows specific to the needs of your organization and collections. With the right tools and supplies, your collections are cared for by expertly trained staff and tracked through Iron Mountain's secure chain-of-custody.



Collection storage | Offsite collections management has become a standard practice for libraries and archives facing high demand for space. Although most organizations would prefer to maintain their own facilities, it is often more practical to collaborate with a vendor in order to meet the necessary security, environmental controls, scalability, and access requirements with an outsourced solution.

With Iron Mountain Library Services, you will have access to multi-tenant or private vault storage options with appropriate environmental controls for your collections. From circulating collections to irreplaceable archives and rare books, Iron Mountain can provide local storage solutions to meet your organization's needs. You can access collections through mediated or unmediated patron requests, through our online portal, or through an integration with your content management system.



Staffing | Whether onsite or remote, executing large projects at scale with expert staff can reduce

costs and accelerate delivery. Iron Mountain Library Services can provide you with the staffing solution you need to ensure the accurate, timely, and successful delivery of your projects.



Inventory and tracking | Updating inventories and databases is critical work that can often be combined with other projects, such as digitization or relocation. Our legendary asset tracking capabilities provide digital and physical support when you are verifying holdings, correcting classification discrepancies, barcoding, RFID tagging, or updating cataloging records.



Archival digitization | Iron Mountain provides a full suite of digital imaging services for cultural heritage organizations and special collections. Our experience in multi-format digitization workflows, combined with extensive preservation knowledge, provides comprehensive reformatting capabilities for valuable collections. With industry-leading digitization centers in multiple cities across North America, our highly trained staff provides services in preservation and imaging wherever you are based.

We have extensive experience in digitizing special collections, including manuscripts, documents, and bound volumes; oversized items; newspapers; prints and photographs; transparencies and negatives; paintings and other two-dimensional art; and three-dimensional objects. Each project is scoped and configured to your requirements, including options for the preparation of materials for digitization, metadata capture, quality control, asset hosting, and meeting guidelines such as FADGI.



Media digitization | A media preservation program is critical to ensuring access to your at-risk audiovisual assets. Inherent deterioration and a multitude of formats and technologies limit access to these collections. Digital facsimiles of analog formats create usable resources while preserving unique content. Iron Mountain can provide digitization solutions for nearly all audiovisual media formats.

What Iron Mountain provides

- Expert librarians and archivists who understand your collections and the needs of your organization
- Proprietary tools and workflows specifically designed for rare books, archives, and special collections
- A project staff who have extensive training in the care and handling of your collections
- A global footprint with a local presence to best serve your needs no matter your location
- Scalable archival digitization of all print and media formats with options for structured metadata and machine learning discovery
- Complete solutions with a single business vendor who can scale to ensure your project is executed safely and on schedule



Conclusion



Our team of passionate and experienced librarians and archivists has been in your shoes and understands the challenges associated with your project. That's why when it comes to managing your collection – whether physical or digital, moving within the same building or storing offsite – you know you can count on Iron Mountain Library Services. This dedicated team, with the support of Iron Mountain's 70 years of global logistics and chain-of-custody expertise, is committed to ensuring your project meets your deadline and that it stays protected.



Learn more

To learn more, contact Iron Mountain's librarians and archivists at ironmountain.co.uk | ironmountain.com/ie

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About Iron Mountain

Iron Mountain Incorporated (NYSE: IRM), founded in 1951, is the global leader for storage and information management services. Trusted by more than 220,000 organisations around the world, and with a real estate network of more than 85 million square feet across more than 1,400 facilities in over 50 countries, Iron Mountain stores and protects billions of information assets, including critical business information, highly sensitive data, and cultural and historical artifacts. Providing solutions that include secure storage, information management, digital transformation, secure destruction, as well as data centres, art storage and logistics, and cloud services, Iron Mountain helps organisations to lower cost and risk, comply with regulations, recover from disaster, and enable a more digital way of working.

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