

IIC International Training Centre for Conservation
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Scientific Approaches to Paper & Photograph Conservation

Prioritization Tools -
From Risk Assessment
to Significance and Value Assessment
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- Introduction
- Risk and value assessment at TNA
- History and overview of available methodologies
- Quantitative Value Assessment
- Where do we stand today?
- What next?

Valuing our collections –
what matters to us ?



Domesday book versus
Magna Carta

3

- Risk Assessment
- Significance Assessment
- Value Assessment

1. Overall framework for preventive conservation and remedial conservation (Michalski, 1990)
2. Risk assessment (Waller, 1994)
3. Significance 2.0 (Collections Council of Australia, 2009)
4. Assessing Museum Collections (Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands, 2014)
5. QVA – Quantitative Value Assessment (Pedersoli, 2016)
6. The QuiskScan – a quick risk scan to identify value and hazards in a collection (Anna E. Bülow, Agnes W. Brokerhof, 2017)
7. Benefits of Risk Assessment for Conservation in a Library (Rogerson and Garside, 2017)
8. Pride and Prejudice (Anna E. Bülow, Agnes W. Brokerhof, 2017)
9. Value management scan: Setting priorities in management and care of collections (Anna E. Bülow, Agnes W. Brokerhof, 2017)
10. Reviewing Significance 3.0 (Caroline Reed, 2018)

QVA – Quantitative Value Assessment

It is a tool to quantify the distribution of value in a cultural heritage institution

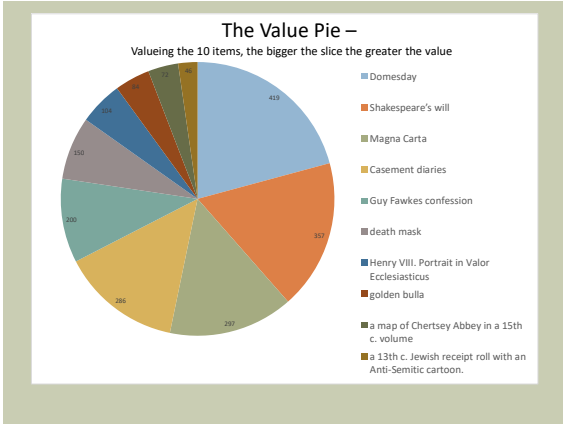
QVA – 7 STEPS

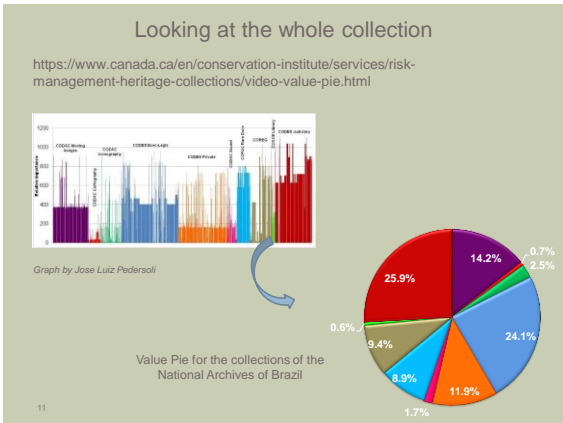
1. Review institutional mission
2. Identify significance-determining attributes
3. Define identified attributes
4. Assign weights to the attributes
5. Score the occurrence of each attribute in the different components of the heritage asset
6. Calculate the relative importance of each component of the heritage asset
7. Build the value pie

ATTRIBUTES

1. This item is historically unique. 10
2. This item offers great research potential. 5
3. This item offers commercial opportunities eg. digitisation. 3
4. This item is of high material value. 3
5. Access to the item comes with security risks. 3
6. The item is physically vulnerable. 5
7. This item is accessible to stakeholders. 5
8. This item is of great public interest. 10







- ### And now? What can we do with it?
- Identifying treasures and gems
 - Identifying security and other risks
 - Using the numbers for calculating cost benefit ratios
 - A strong evidence base to inform strategy, resource allocation and funding bids for collection management, rationalisation and development
 - A narrative for communicating collections' importance to governing bodies, managers and funders

What next?

- Using this great tool box of methodologies and adjusting them to the needs of individual institutions
- Further increasing the profile of the conservation profession
