Conservators you can trust

Providing regulation and accountability in conservation
WHY IT MATTERS

The problem
There is no legislation or regulation governing the cultural heritage conservation profession in the UK. Anyone can call themselves a conservator-restorer.

The risk
People without the necessary skills, expertise and experience can undertake conservation and restoration treatment on objects, which may have financial, personal or cultural value. This can result in 'botched' restorations, like the cases reported recently by international media.

The solution
Icon fulfils the role of self-regulation of the conservation profession in the UK through formal accreditation and a mandatory Code of Conduct for members. We build trust in the conservation profession and provide assurance to the public of high quality work.
HOW IT WORKS

Quality guarantee
Icon’s accreditation process offers the most effective means of regulating the conservation profession. Accredited members are assessed and reviewed by a panel of their Accredited peers and are subject to regular Continuing Professional Development (CPD) reviews.

Trust and confidence
Using an Icon Accredited conservator allows members of the public to feel confident that the practitioner will work within the limits of their expertise as set out in Icon’s Code of Conduct. If the client is unhappy, then there is recourse through Icon’s robust complaints procedure.

Access and advice
The newly updated and redesigned Conservation Register guides anyone with a conservation issue to a number of qualified and competent practitioners covering a large range of specialisms and working across UK nations.

FIND OUT MORE

FIND OUT MORE

FIND A CONSERVATOR
WHY IT WORKS for conservators

Professional profile
The peer review process provides recognition of skills and competence across the conservation sector regardless of specialism and demonstrates parity with allied professionals. A new dedicated Pathway membership category supports conservators who are working towards becoming Accredited.

Accessible
We continuously work to ensure that Accreditation is accessible to all. We set membership fees so that they offer value for money and present minimal barriers to joining. Our fees are comparable to those of other membership and professional bodies within the heritage sector.

Transparency
Icon’s systems of self-regulation are transparent. Our Professional Standards, Code of Conduct and Ethical Guidance are publicly accessible online. Information about Icon Accreditation can be found on our website but we also offer people advice on pursuing Accreditation over the telephone and email.
**WHY IT WORKS** for clients

**Trust**
Icon’s Conservation Register is the first-ever publicly accessible directory of all Icon-Accredited conservators. These are skilled conservation professionals at the top of their game. They’re conservators you can trust.

**Easy access**
The Register’s free online tool will help you identify an Icon-Accredited conservator by object, specialism or material type. Directory entries provide career and biographical outlines, along with training and work histories. Many professional profiles also provide a detailed look at past examples of project work to give you a strong indication of the skills on offer.

**Guidance**
If it’s your first time selecting a conservator, the Conservation Register also provides support and guidance on the questions to ask, issues to bear in mind and the things you need to do when it comes to selecting your professional.
Join our fight against 'botched' restorations

MEMBERS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF ICON’S EFFORTS TO CARE FOR OUR PRECIOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE - JOIN US TODAY

THE INSTITUTE OF CONSERVATION