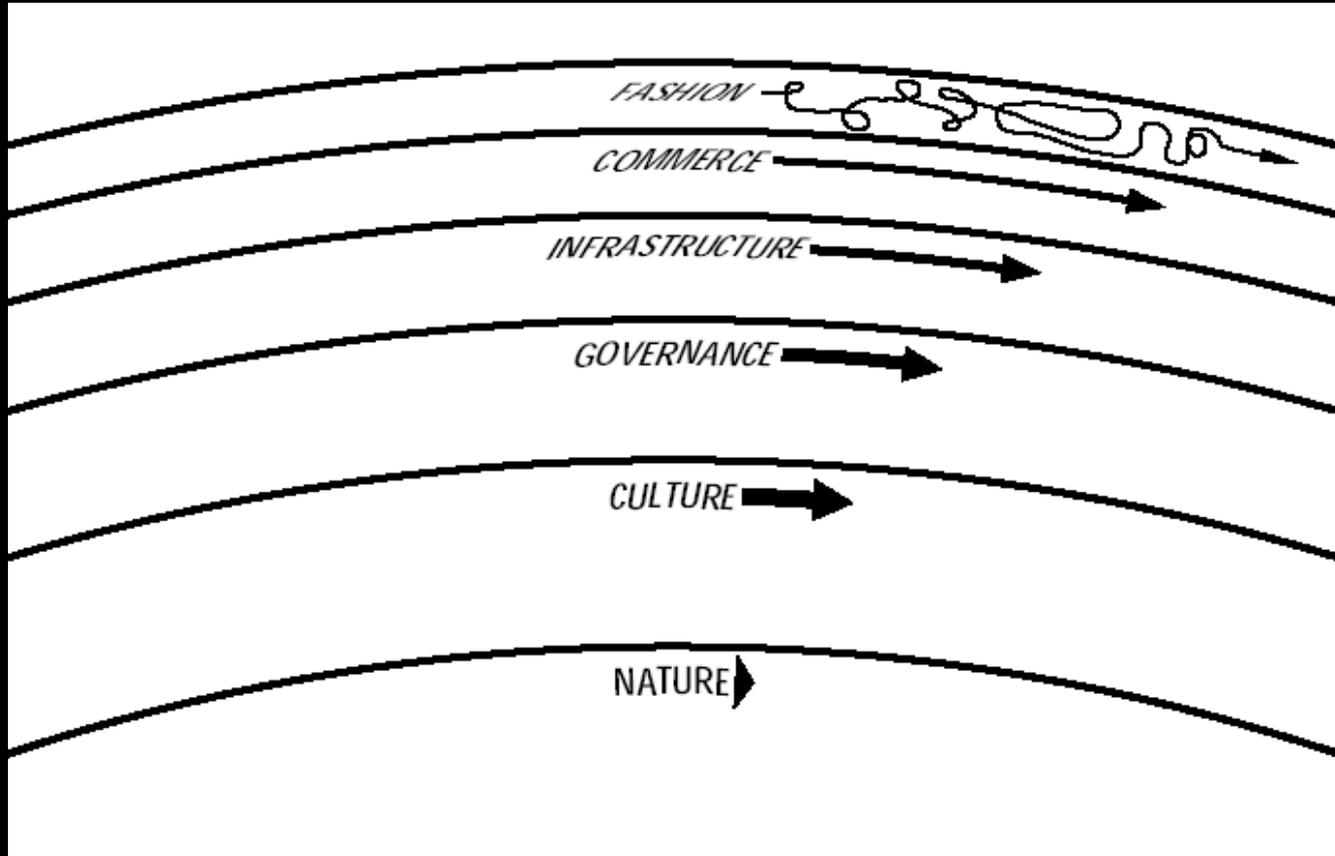
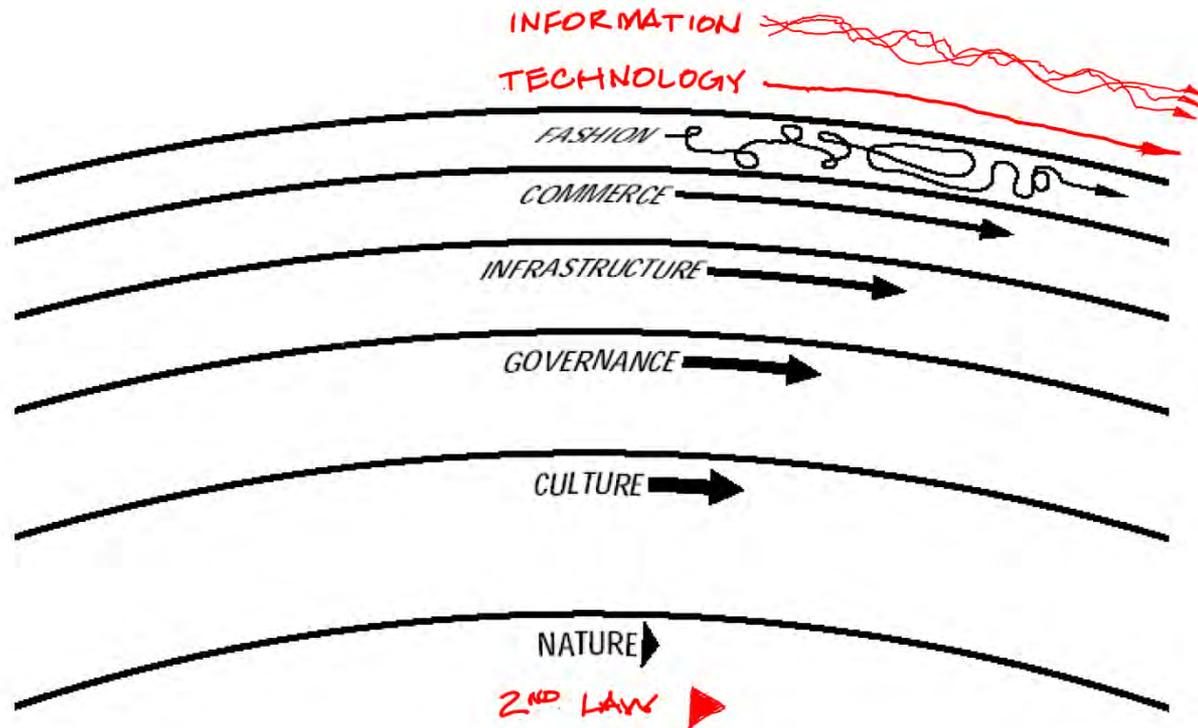


Stewart Brand's Shearing Layers of Change





The Conservation² Building = Efficiency • Longevity

Non-Mechanical Strategies
for
Energy-Efficient Collections Environments

Michael C. Henry PE, AIA
Watson & Henry Associates

The greenest BTU is the one never consumed

Non-Mechanical Strategies

- Utilize fixed & operable elements of the building & site
- Reduce peak external loads on the interior environment
- Moderate fluctuations from changing external or internal loads
- Thereby reduce the size/capacity of mechanical systems
- The systems can operate more efficiently, due to smaller range
- Require commissioning & maintenance, just like mechanical systems

Any non-mechanical strategy must be developed for the specifics of each collection, climate, building, site & institutional capacity.

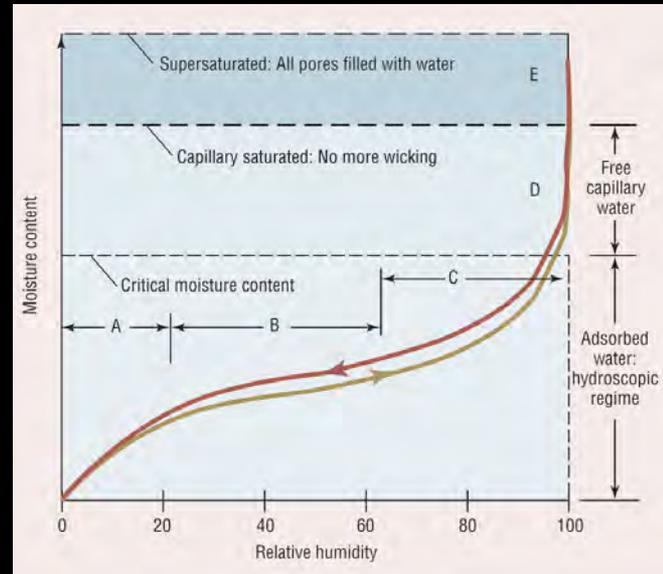
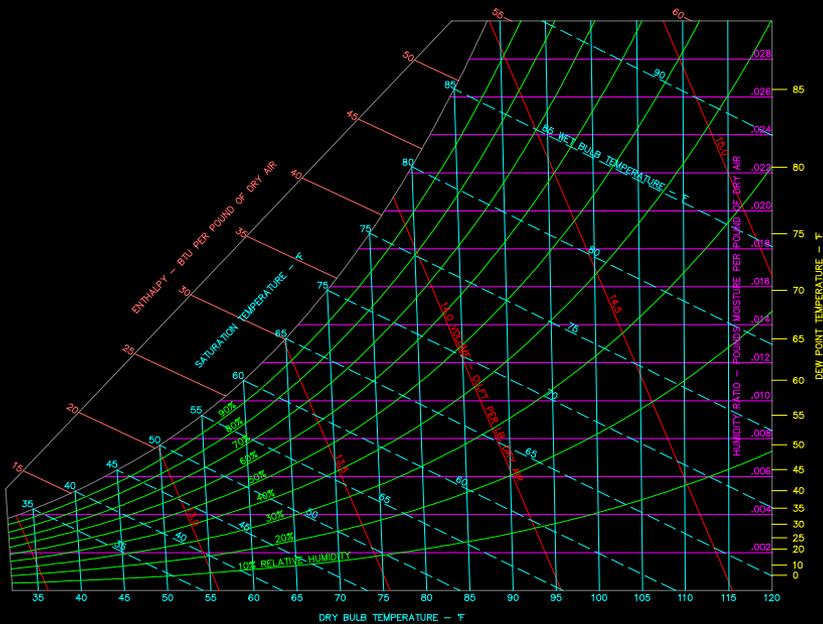


Julia Child said: "A cookbook is only as good as its worst recipe"

We should not look for recipes in collections conservation

Necessary Basics: The Physics of Air and Moisture

An understanding of psychrometrics & material response to moisture is essential to informed decisions about collections environments



J. F. Straube



“Scotty,” Chief Engineer of the Starship Enterprise protested: “I cannot ignore the laws of physics!”

We cannot afford to ignore them either.

Necessary Basics: Know the Climate

The external thermal energy & moisture that drive the interior environment



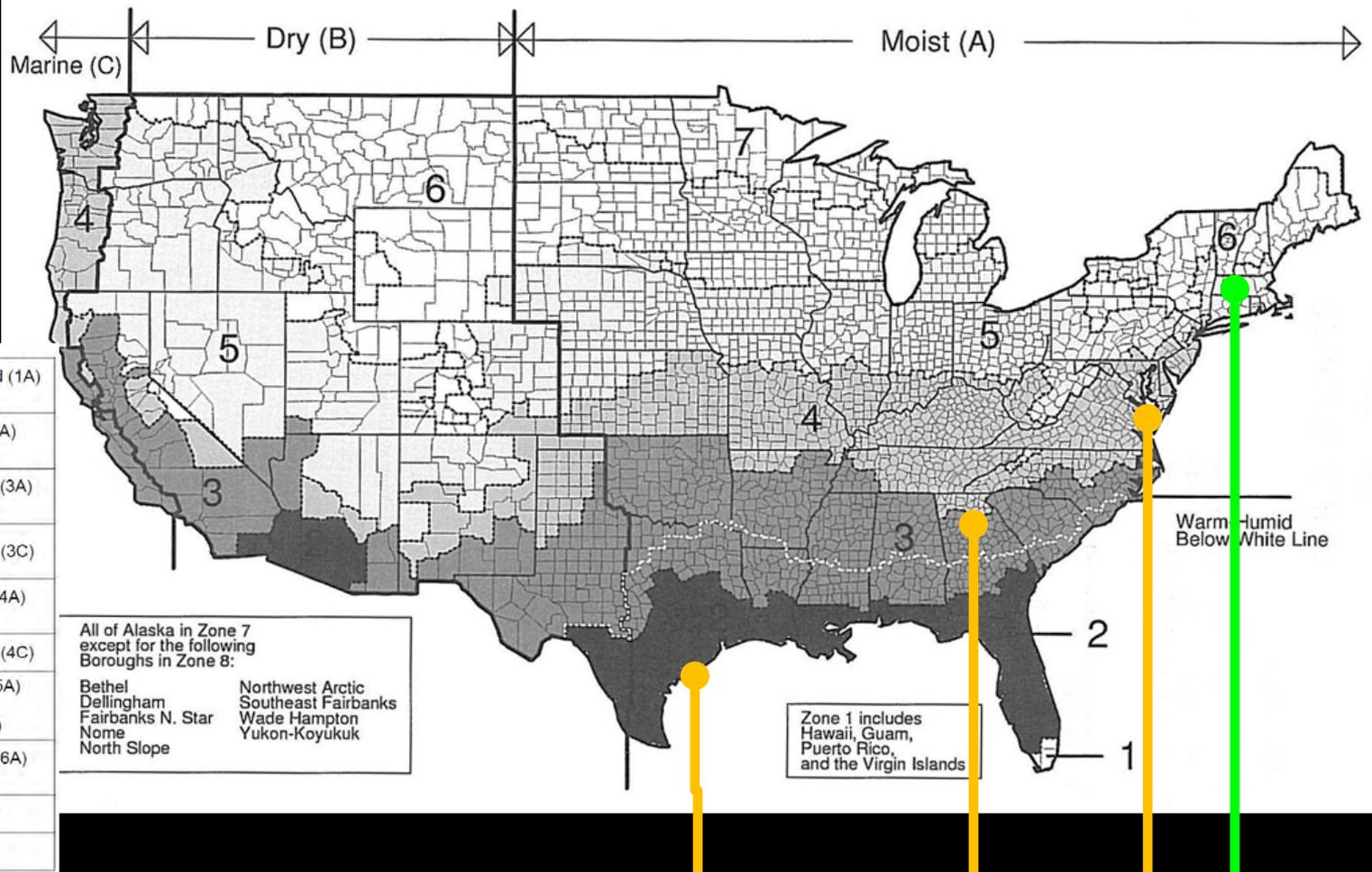
Cloud Cleaner, 2000 Robert & Shanna Parke-Harrison



Bob Dylan sang: *“You don’t have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind is blowin’...”*

The way the wind is blowing today, we need to find better solutions.

17 Climate Zones in the US



2A Hot-Humid: Corpus Christi, TX

3A Warm-Humid: Atlanta, GA

4A Mixed-Humid: Washington, DC

5A Cool-Humid: Chicopee, MA

Zone 2A Hot-Humid Corpus Christi, TX

Dry Bulb Temperature



Dewpoint Temperature
(Moisture Vapor)

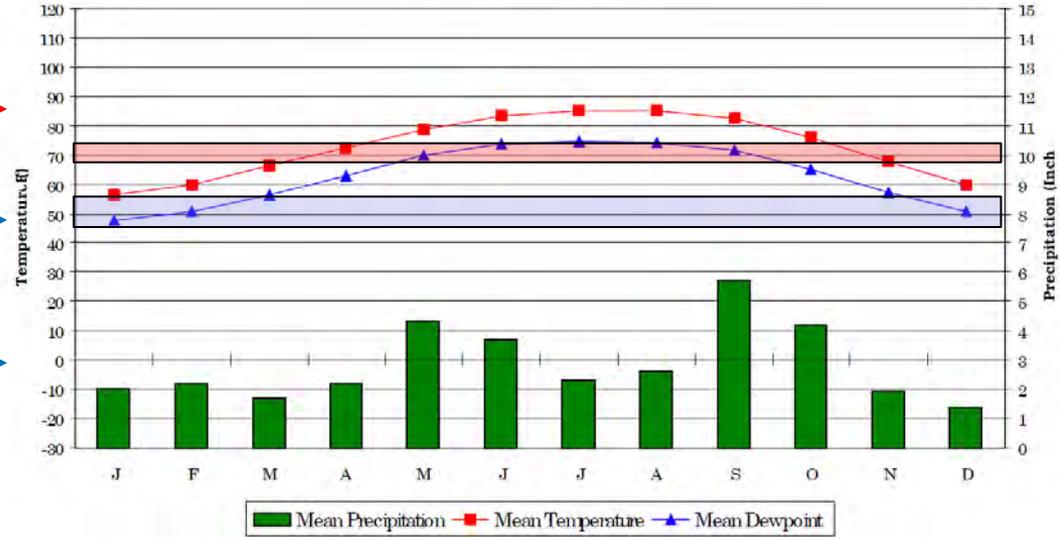


Rainfall

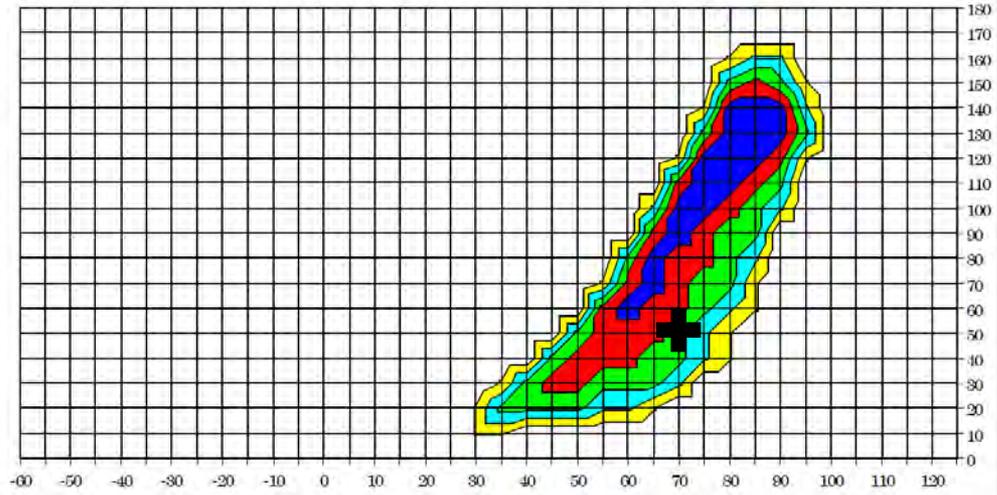


CORPUS CHRISTI NAS TX WMO No. 722515

Average Annual Climate



Long Term Psychrometric Summary



Dry Bulb Temperature →

Moisture vapor ↑

Zone 3A Warm-Humid Atlanta, GA

Dry Bulb Temperature



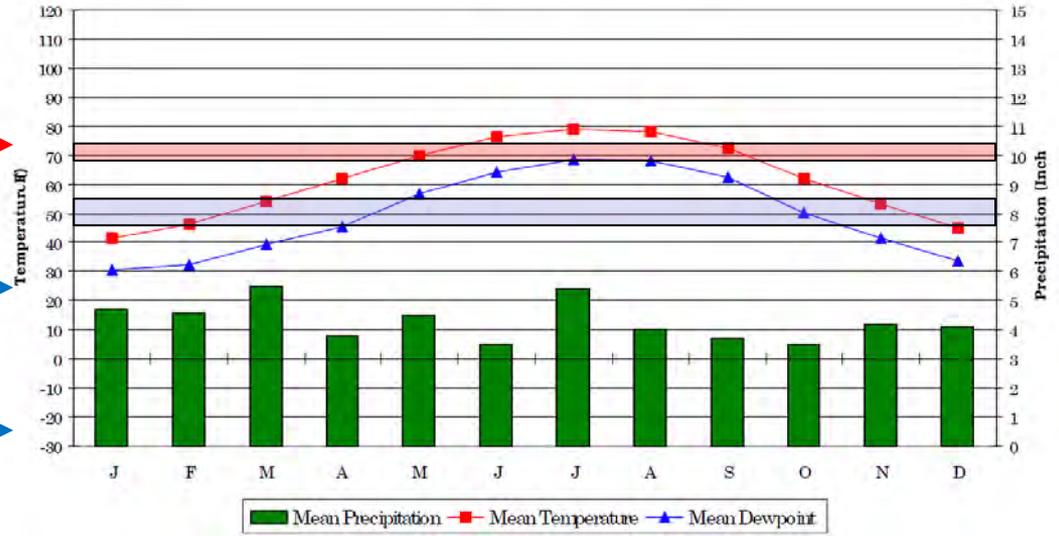
Dewpoint Temperature
(Moisture Vapor)



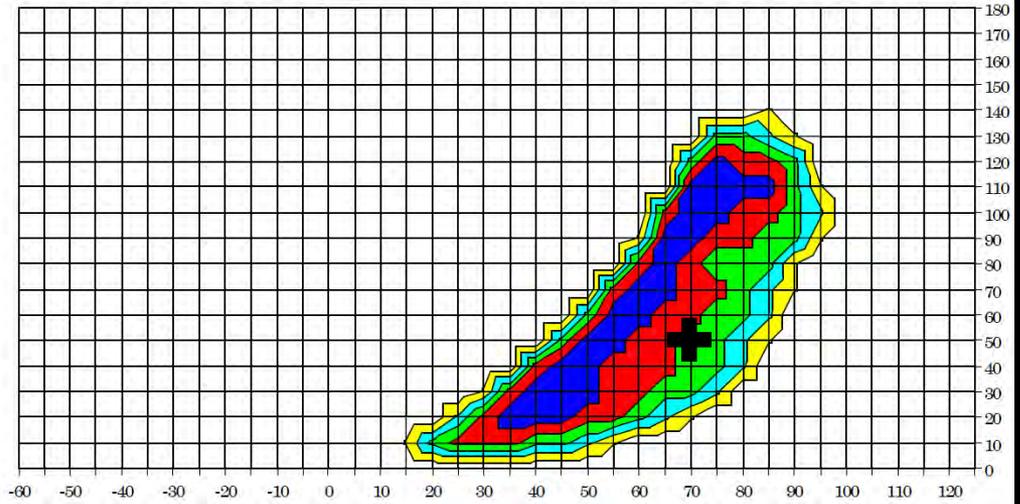
Rainfall



Average Annual Climate



Long Term Psychrometric Summary



Moisture vapor →

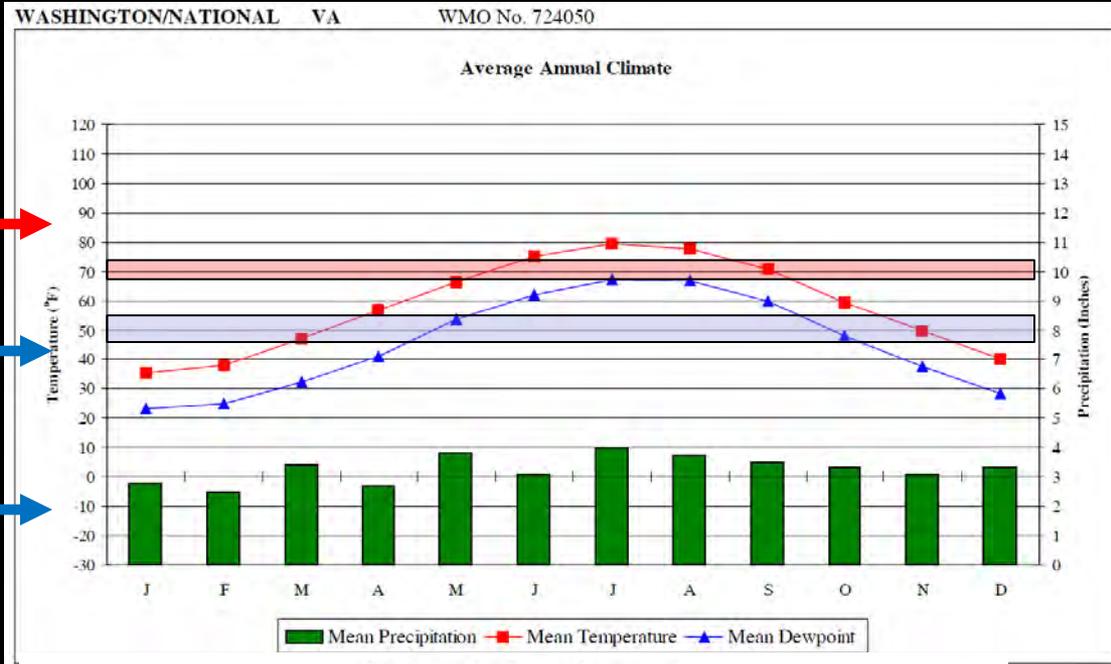
Dry Bulb Temperature →

Zone 4A Mixed - Humid Washington, DC

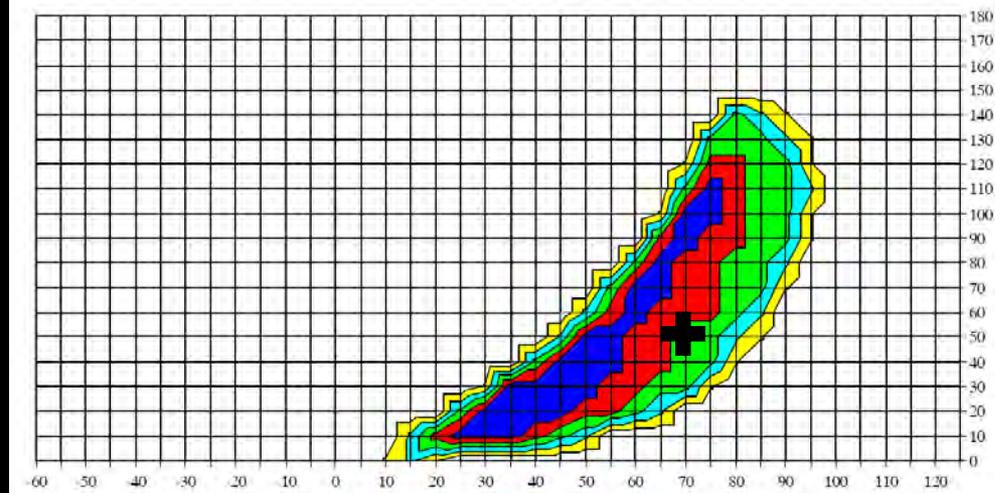
Dry Bulb Temperature →

Dewpoint Temperature
(Moisture Vapor) →

Rainfall →



Long Term Psychrometric Summary



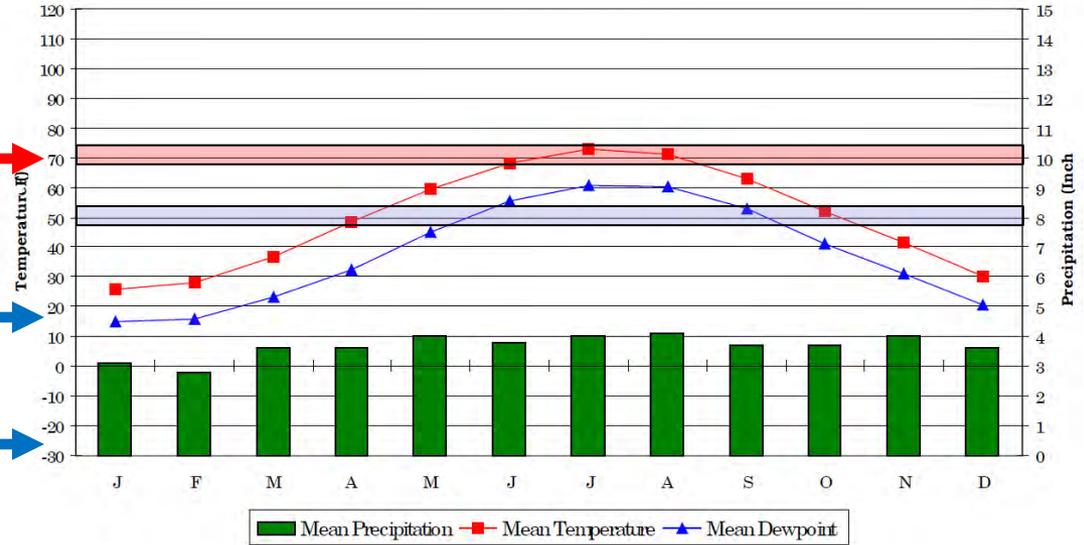
Moisture vapor →

Dry Bulb Temperature →

Zone 5A Cool-Humid Chicopee, MA

CHICOPEE/WESTOVER ARB MA WMO No. 744910

Average Annual Climate

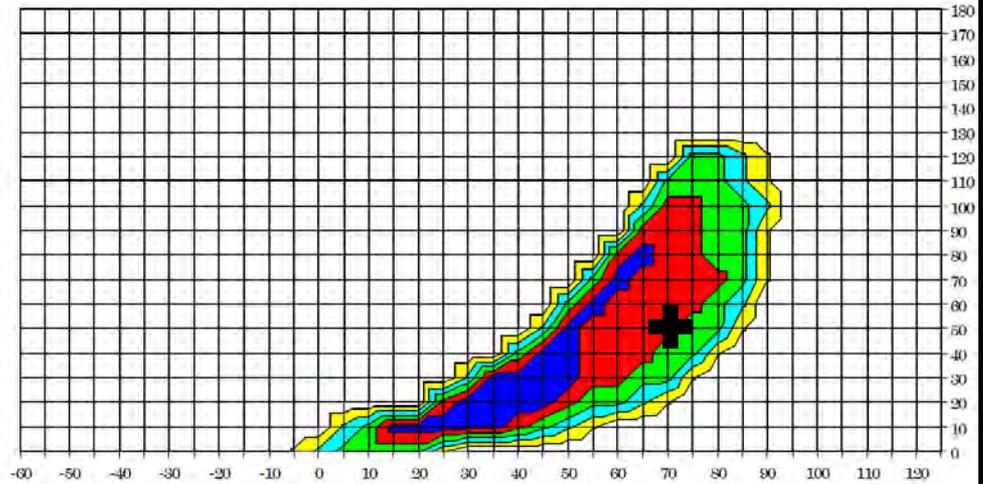


Dry Bulb Temperature →

Dewpoint Temperature
(Moisture Vapor) →

Rainfall →

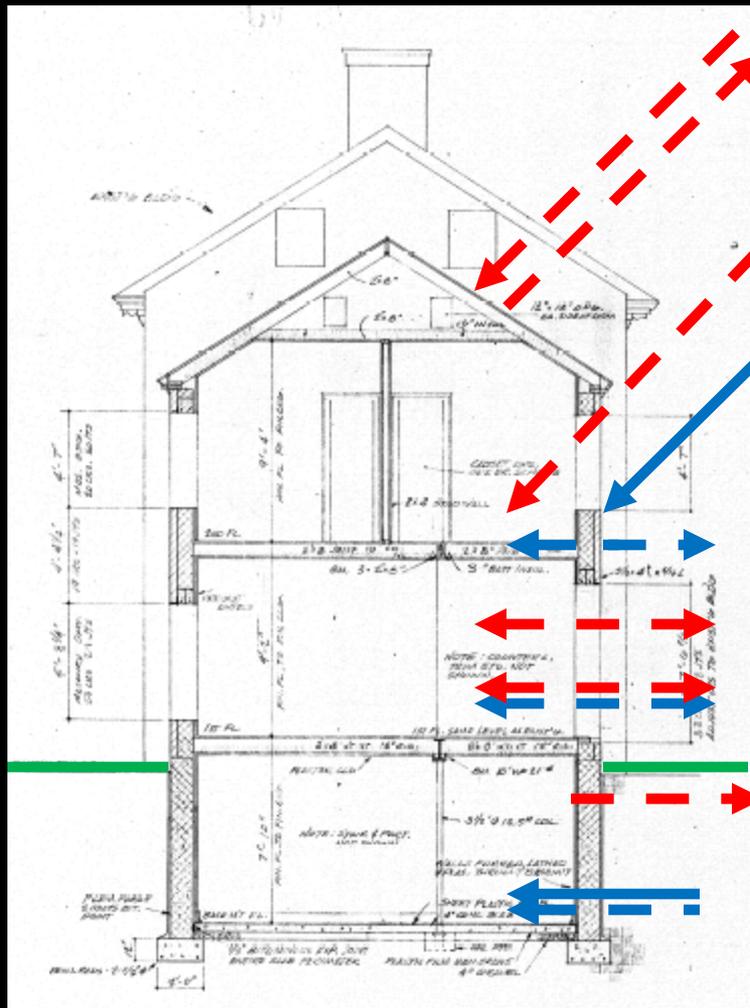
Long Term Psychrometric Summary



Moisture vapor →

Dry Bulb Temperature →

Climate results in external moisture & thermal energy loads



• Thermal gains from solar radiation &
Thermal losses from night re-radiation

Thermal gains from solar radiation thru windows

Water (liquid) from rain, absorbed

Water (vapor) drying to inside or outside

Thermal losses/gains due to convection

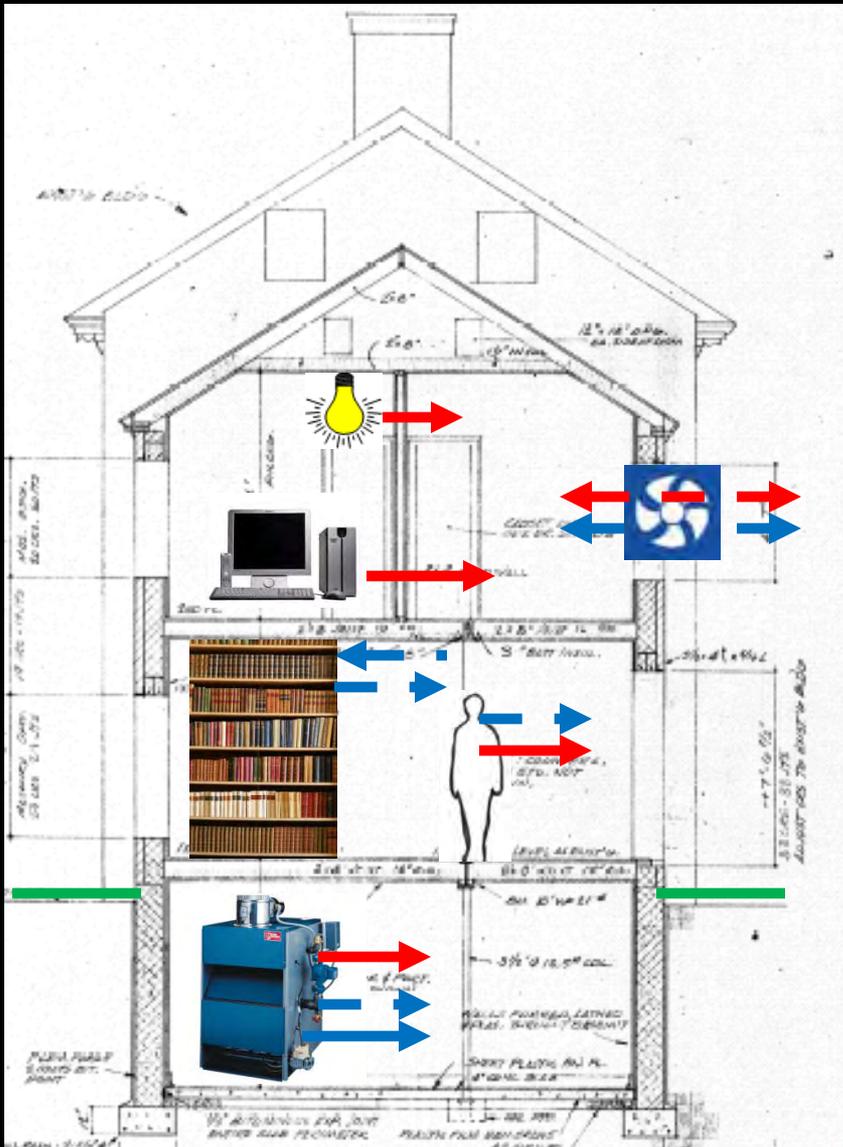
Thermal/Water vapor losses/gains w. air exchange

Thermal losses to soil at frost line, neutral below

Water (liquid + vapor) gains from soil moisture

These are dynamic, synergistic processes that we try to manage with the envelope

Building occupancy results in internal moisture & thermal energy loads



Thermal gains from lights & office equipment

Water (vapor) adsorption/desorption of porous materials & contents

Thermal/Water vapor losses/gains from ventilation air for occupant health

Thermal/Water vapor gains from occupants –

Thermal/ Water (liquid + vapor) gains from building systems

We can manage these loads in how we use & occupy the building

Essential Non-Mechanical Strategies



- Eliminate moisture at the source
roof drainage, surface water & subsurface water
- Minimize uncontrolled air & moisture vapor infiltration/exfiltration
entries, windows & doors, open flues, any envelope perforations
- Minimize or control direct & indirect solar gain
shades/blinds/filters at windows, skylights & other glazing, cool roofs



*"Excellent!" cried Watson
"Elementary," replied Holmes*

These strategies are obvious, but are often overlooked or ignored

Essential Non-Mechanical Strategies



- Zone the building according to environmental needs
more stable needs at interior, less stable needs along perimeter & under roof
- Separate collections zones from people “comfort” zones
this is especially true for office areas where comfort affects productivity
- Separate collections from events/variable occupant loads



*“Excellent!” cried Watson
“Elementary,” replied Holmes*

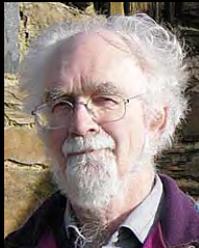
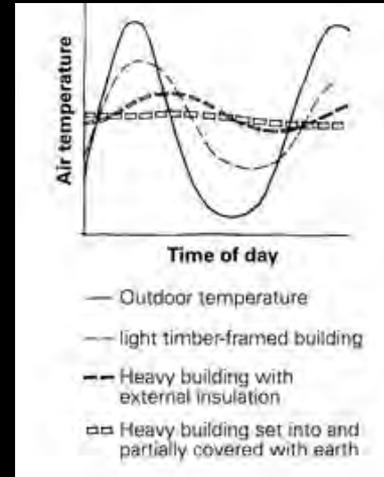
These strategies are obvious, but are often overlooked or ignored

Possible Strategy: Thermal Mass

It depends on climate, use & materials...



Michael C. Henry, 2006



Tim Padfield: *“The climate in unventilated stores & archives can be entirely passively controlled in temperate regions.”*

In other climates, it can help.

Thermal Mass in Buildings

- Slows transport of thermal energy from outside to inside and reverse (+)
but interior thermal loads may still dominate
- Stabilizes T & stable T yields stable RH (+)
provided that there is no moisture vapor gain or loss in the space
- In Dry climates, can raise interior T (night) & lower interior T (day) (+)
but this requires a substantial diurnal temperature range
- In Zone 2 Hot-Humid, thermal mass yields high interior T, lower RH (+/-)
- Provides thermal inertia when systems are off (+)

- In all climates, location of insulation (inside/outside) is critical (!)
- Less effective cool/cold zones if interior T is not maintained (!)
- In Zone 4A, Mixed-Humid, interior RH may be high in spring if interior T is low over winter (!)
- Must also address the roof (!)
These tend to be low-mass due to cost and weight.

Possible Strategy: Simple Geothermal

Geothermal is the rage, but why buy all the pipes & pumps?



Janet Sheridan, W&HA, 2011

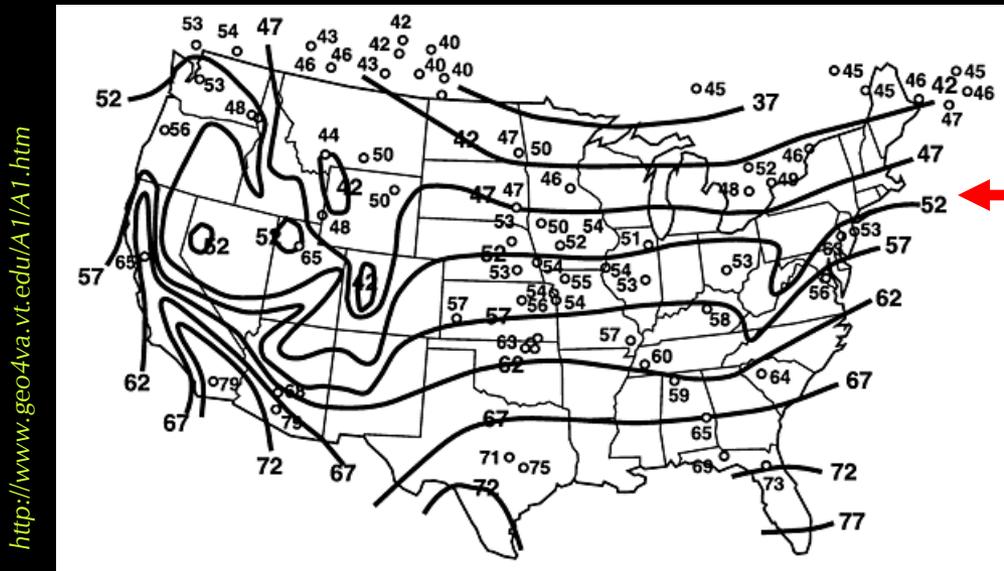


*“My potatoes don’t like light, mold or heat,
and I don’t need air conditioning!
I put my money in that (earthen) bank!”*

Problem solved?

Simple Geothermal: Earth-Banked & Below-Grade Structures

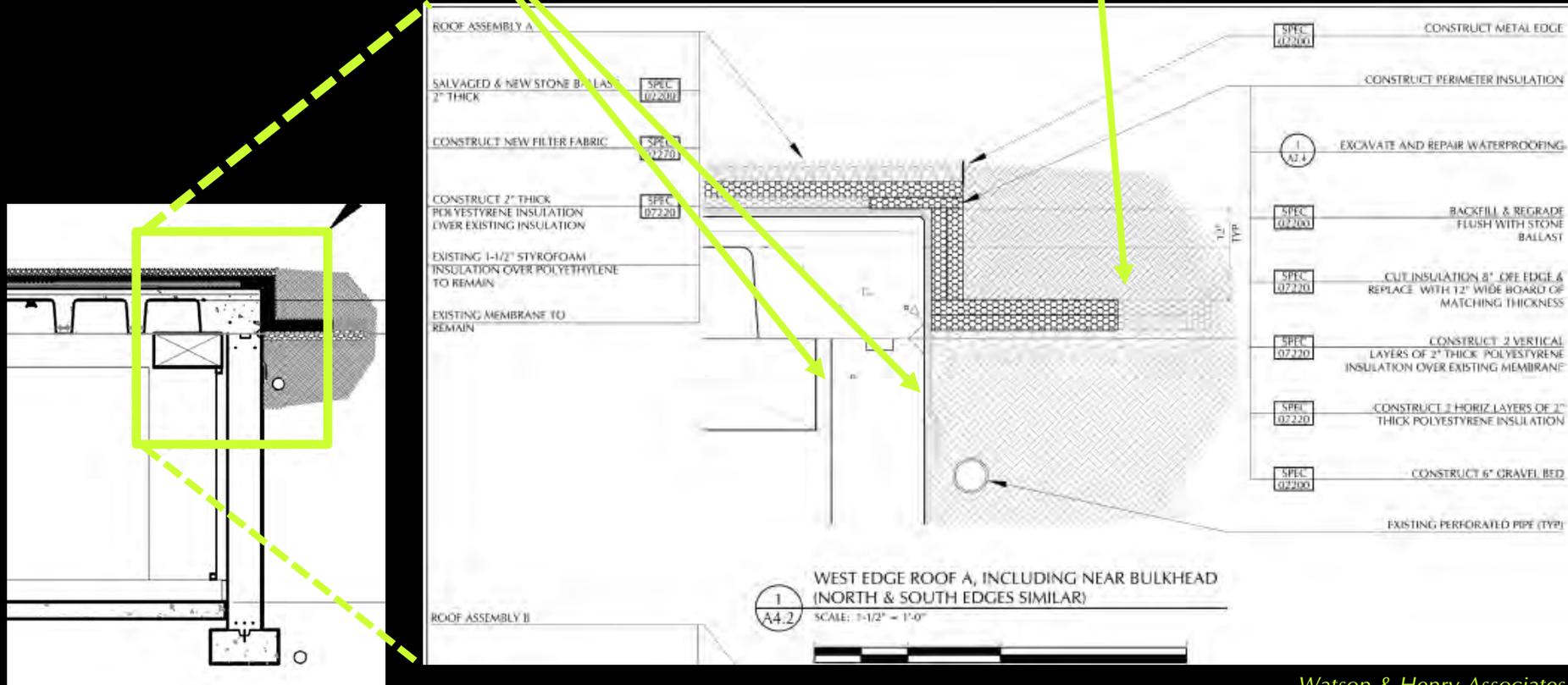
- A semi-infinite variant of high thermal mass design (+), (!)
- Soil T below frost line is more stable than ambient air T (+)
- Soil T below frost line is near the range of conservation T (+)
- Soil is a free heating or cooling source, when used passively (+)
- Soil type & groundwater are considerations for heat transfer (!)
- Exterior waterproofing is critical (!)
- Interior dew point temperature must be below wall temperature (!)



Average soil temperature below frost line

Earth-Banked & Sub-Grade Structures: Rethinking Insulation *frost-protected foundation design*

- Insulation “apron” around structure, just below grade
- No insulation inside/outside the wall below frost line



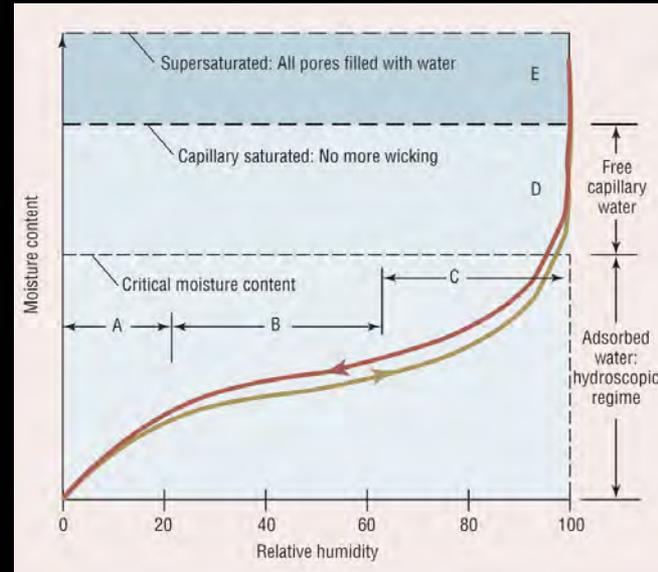
Watson & Henry Associates

Possible Strategy: Moisture Buffering Building Materials

It depends on climate, building use & materials...



Michael C. Henry, 2003



J. F. Straube



Tim Padfield: *"Passive climate control of museum exhibition rooms is limited by the large air exchange required by people."*

Passive strategies cannot overcome large air exchange or internal loads

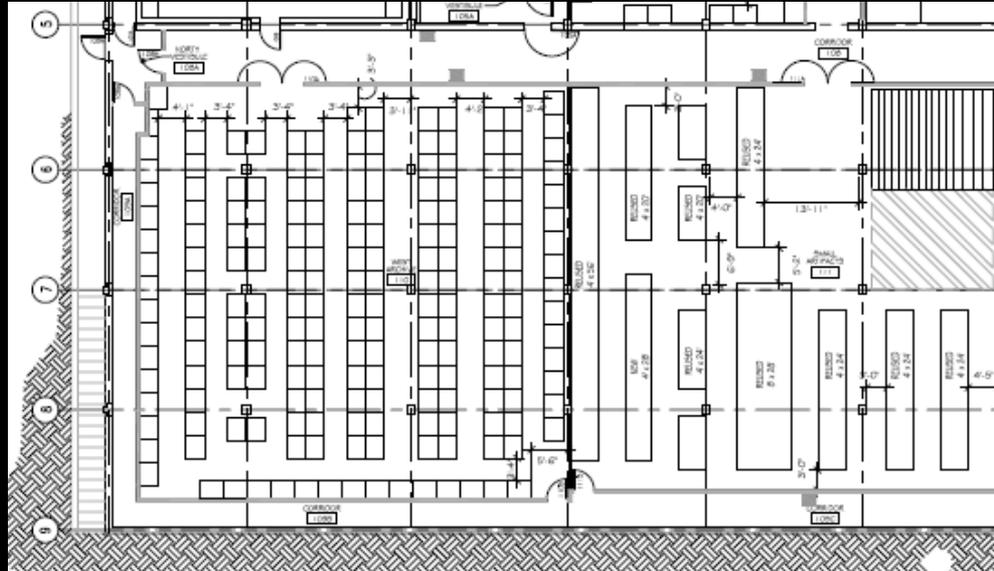
Moisture Buffering with Building Materials

- Can moderate daily variations in interior RH (+)
But response (adsorption/desorption) time is slow
- Can moderate seasonal variations in interior RH (+)
But this applies to buildings with low occupancy, small infiltration & very small ventilation loads
- Provides buffering when systems are shut down (+)

- Does not remove excess moisture from interior or exterior sources (!)
Dehumidification is required for these loads
- Buffering must be substantial relative to moisture capacity of room air (!)
- Response time depends on surface area of the buffer material (!)
Paints and coatings may diminish performance
- Porous construction materials may require long drying time.

Possible Strategy: Cascaded Thermal & Moisture Gradients

Box in box enclosures



L. L. Bean (the company): *"The "layering" method is the most effective way to dress for a wide range of winter conditions."*

It can work for buildings, too.

Box in Box, Layered Enclosures

- Distributes functions of the exterior wall between two walls (+)
vapor control is in warm interior wall, resolves condensation issue
exterior wetting and drying remains with the exterior wall
leaks are in the corridor
- Reduces steep moisture vapor gradients across the wall assembly (+)
- Enhances thermal stability (+)
isolates space from exterior T swings and radiant gains/losses
- Allows adaptation of existing conventional exterior wall assemblies (+)
An excellent rehabilitation/adaptive reuse strategy

- Requires additional space for perimeter corridors (!)
- Extra cost of wall construction (!)
- Roof must be dealt with also (!)

Possible Strategy: Collection Housing

*We focus on space T & RH,
but what does the stored material experience?*



Foekje Boersma, 2007

Buffering by Collections Housings

A simple field trial for buffering of textiles & paper in housings & cabinets in a passive, thermally massive, moisture-buffered, double-wall collections storage & archives building near Ahmednagar India



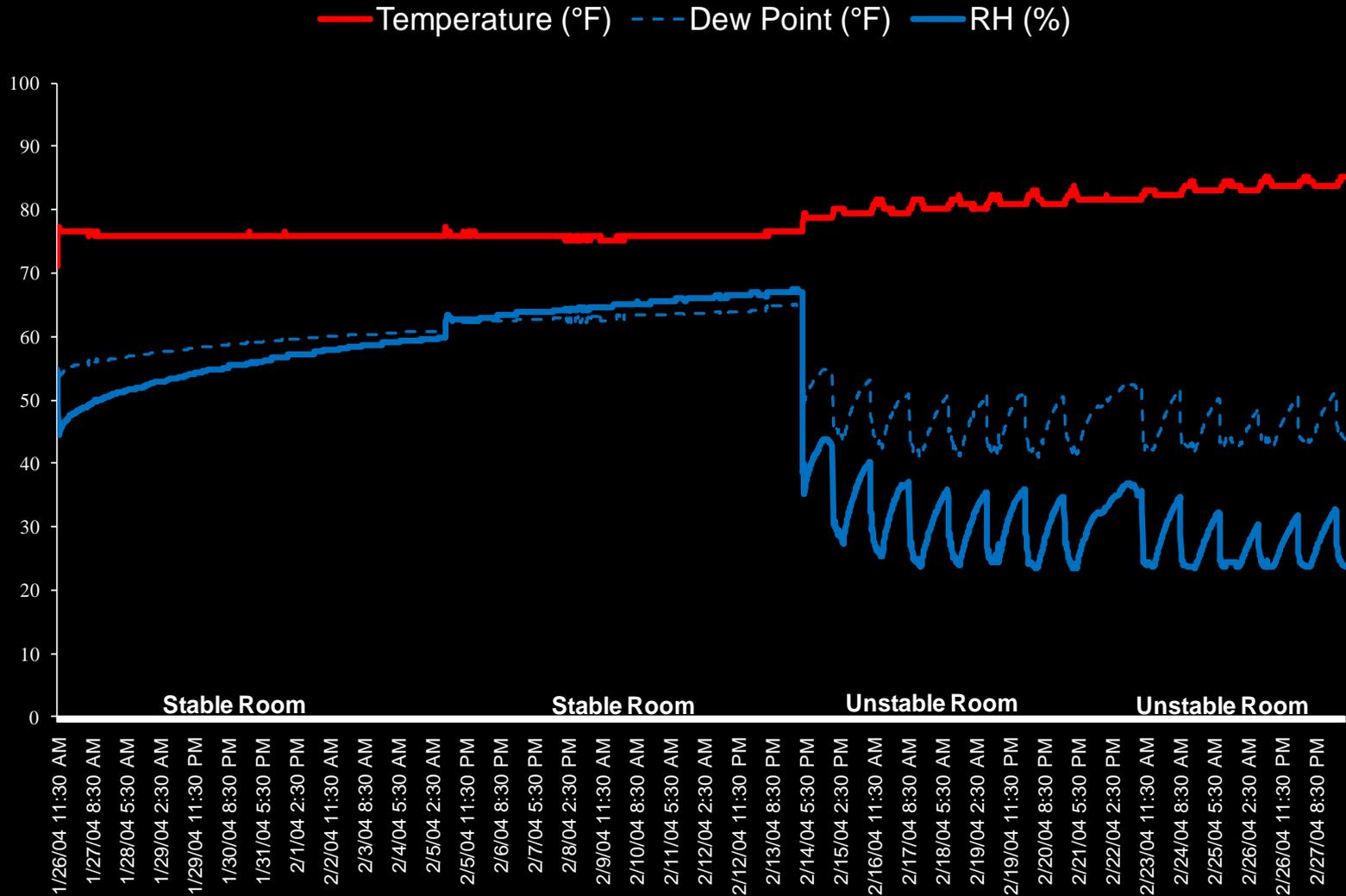
Michael C. Henry, 2003



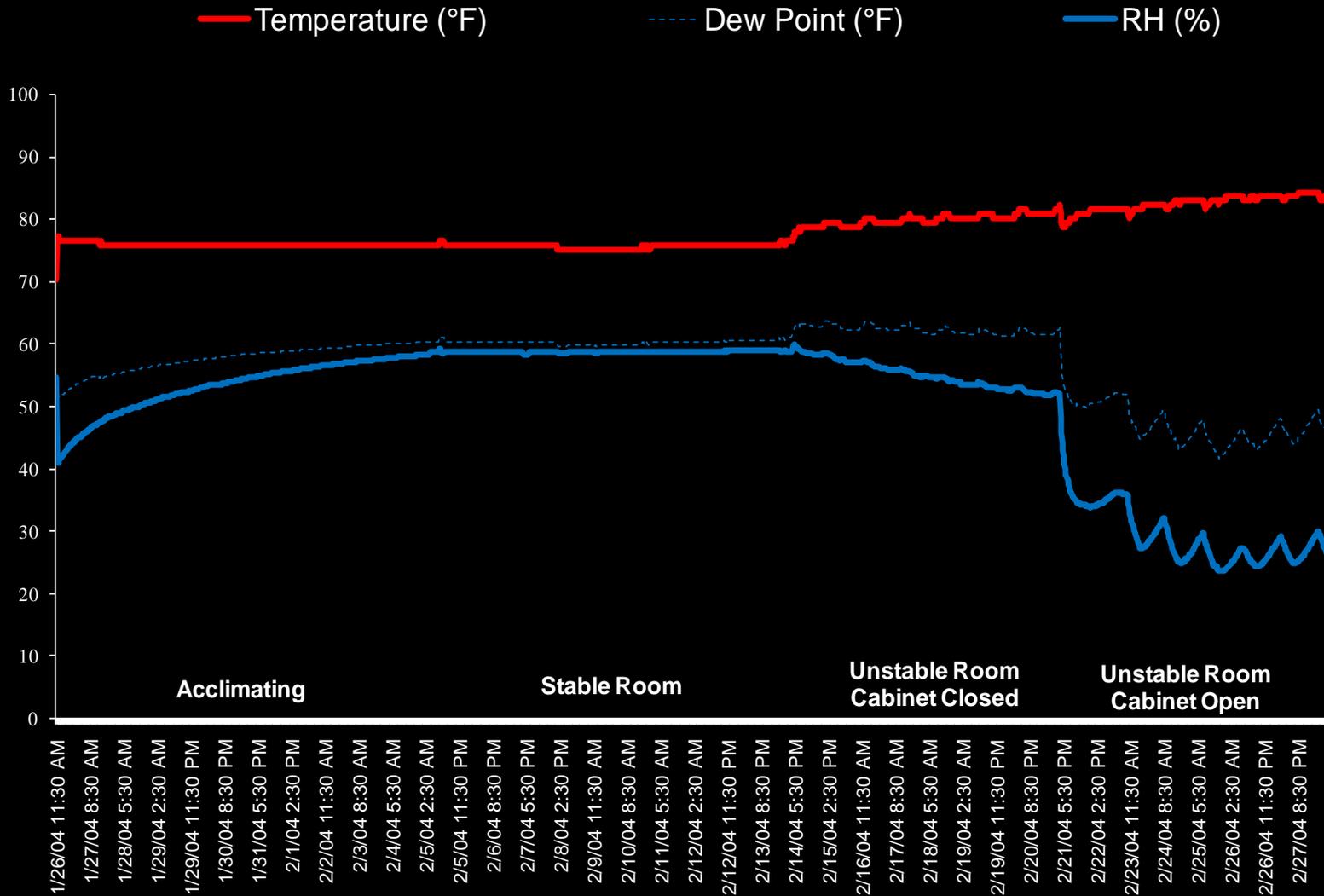
Michael C. Henry, 2003

- Interval 1: proxy materials acclimated in stable unconditioned room
- Interval 2: in *Coroplast*® boxes, set in metal cabinets with gasketed doors closed in stable room
- Interval 3: moved to unstable room, cabinet doors remain closed
- Interval 4: cabinet doors opened in unstable room

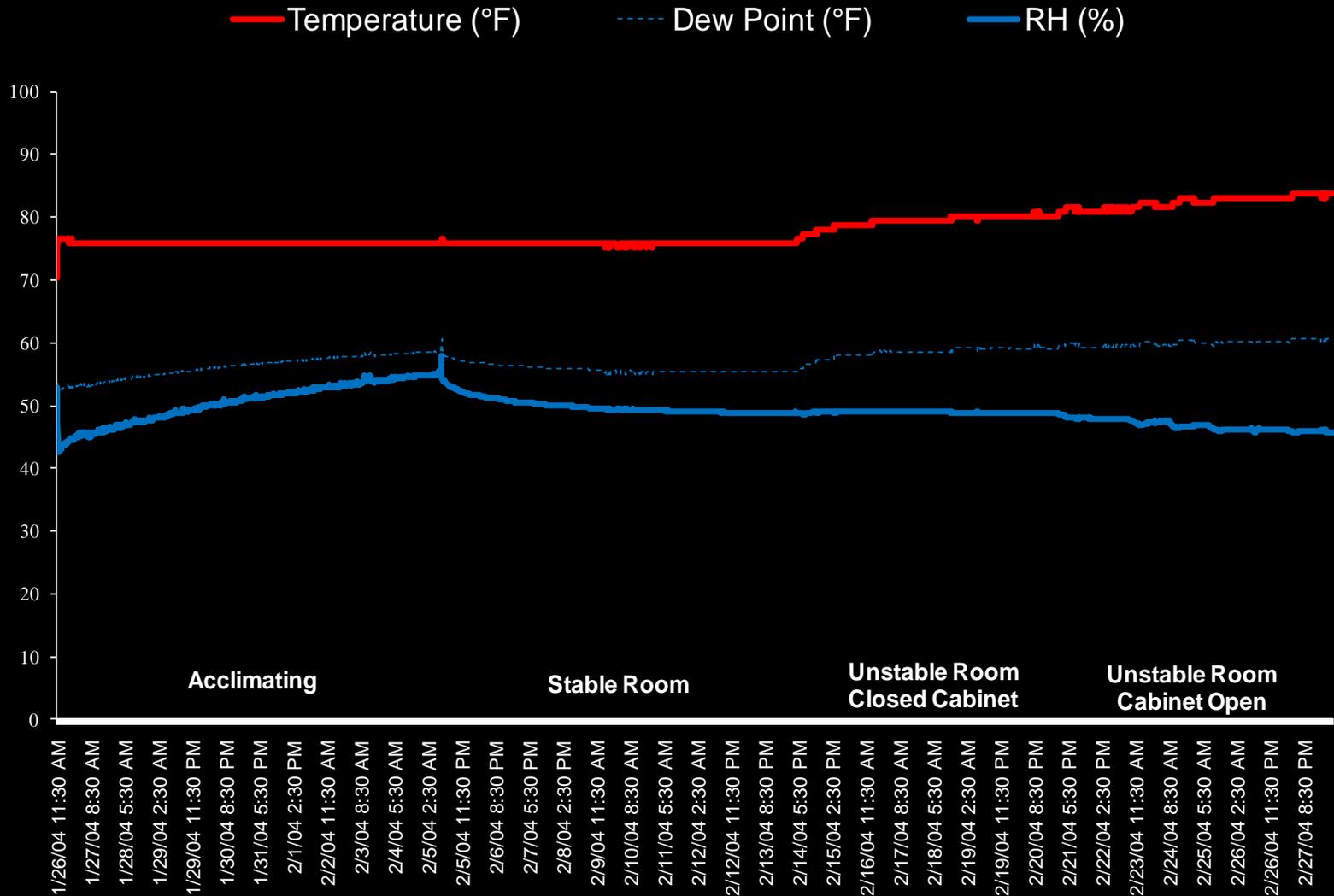
Housing Trial: Room Conditions



Housing Trial Textile Bundle in Box



Housing Trial Paper in Box



Acclimating

Stable Room

Unstable Room
Closed Cabinet

Unstable Room
Cabinet Open

Essential Strategy: Measure Results

*Is our knowledge of what is needed for collections longevity
“meagre & unsatisfactory”?*



Coastline Measure, 1987 Mark Tansey

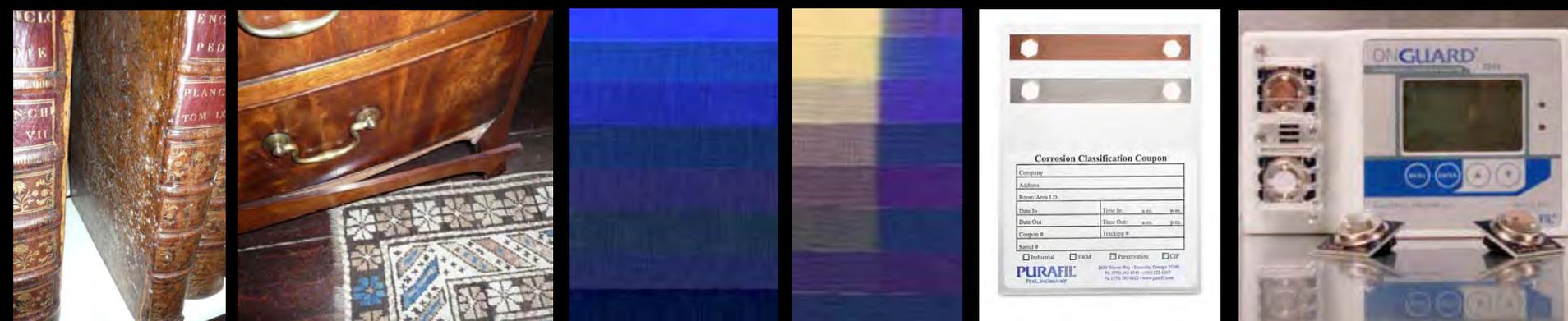


Lord Kelvin said: *“...when you can measure what you are speaking about, and express it in numbers, you know something about it; but when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meagre and unsatisfactory kind.”*

Measuring Results: Detecting Change in Collections

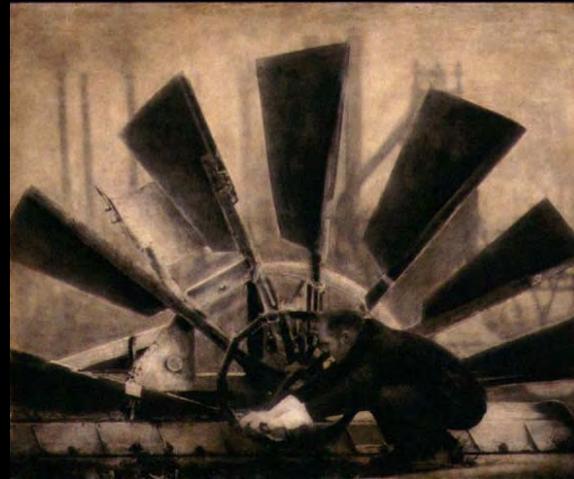
We need better methods for repeatable measurement of small change:

- Observation of a vulnerable object/material (qualitative):
periodic, optical or enhanced-optical, non-invasive
- Observation/testing of a proxy object/material (qualitative/quantitative):
periodic, enhanced-optical, chemical-mechanical
examples: blue wool scales, corrosion coupons
- Dosimetry monitoring by proxy (quantitative):
real-time, measurement of change in proxy material
examples: OnGuard[®] corrosion logger, LiDO, stain gauge & chip

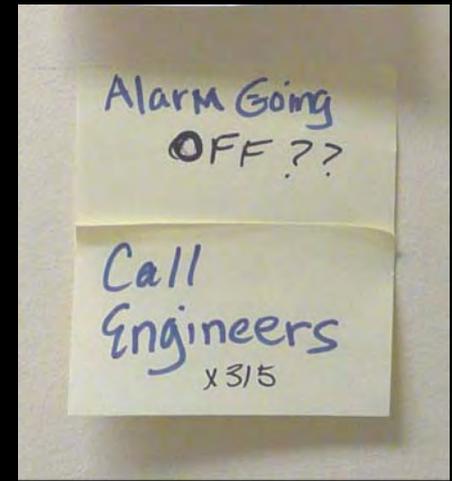


Essential Strategy: When the Lights Go Out

Require robust, resilient & survivable buildings for collections



Windmaker, 2000 Robert & Shanna ParkeHarrison



- Infrastructure failure?
- Natural disasters?
- Evacuation of staff?
- Obsolescence of systems?
- Rolling brownouts or rationing?
- Increased energy costs?

Essential Strategy: Economic Justification

Use Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA)



The Everett Collection

LCCA allows fair comparison of non-mechanical strategies with conventional mechanical strategies, because LCCA accounts for total cost of ownership.

Life Cycle Cost Analysis: Total Cost of Ownership

All quantifiable costs of ownership of a building, system or component, incurred over its complete life cycle at present day value:

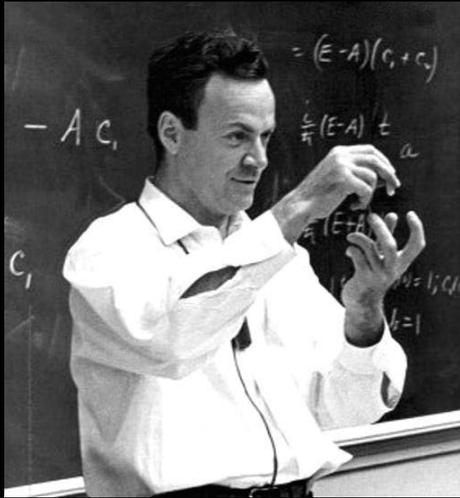
- Initial Costs: purchase, acquisition, design, construction
- Energy Costs: fuel, electricity
- Operation Costs: service, maintenance, repair, mid-life upgrades
- Replacement Costs: at end of service life
- Residual Costs: salvage values (credit) & removal/disposal costs
- Finance Charges: interest payments on loans for the above
- Fees & taxes: carbon taxes or offsets, if incurred

Life Cycle Cost Analysis: Service Life Considerations

Four significant factors for a building with a nominal 100 year life cycle:

- Energy Costs: for environmental management & lighting
- Operation Costs: for service, maintenance, repair, mid-cycle upgrades for mechanical & electrical systems
- Replacement Costs: for systems and components with short service life
- Residual Value: resale of salvage values (credit) at end of life cycle

A closing thought



Dr. Richard P. Feynman said:
*“Our responsibility is to do what we can,
learn what we can,
improve the solutions,
and pass them on.”*

Seems like a good way of working out our *Conservation²* issues

Thank you for listening