

The Holt Research Center at the Haley Memorial Library & History Center Centralizes Collection Storage with High-Density Shelving

The Holt Research Center at the Haley Memorial Library & History Center in Midland, Texas, serving the Permian Basin, moved into a new building with a collection that had been stored across several rooms, shelving types, cabinets, boxes, and flat files. Southwest Solutions Group supported the archive storage relocation by moving and reshelving the collection, installing Spacesaver wide span shelving and flat files, and helping consolidate materials into a secured archive storage environment.

INDUSTRY

Museum

The Holt Research Center at the Haley Memorial Library & History Center required organized storage and controlled staff access to archives and collections.

LOCATION

Midland, Texas

The West Texas archive storage project supported the organization's move into a newly completed facility in the Midland-Odessa region.

FACILITY TYPE

Archives

The project focused on archival collection storage, boxed archives, flat files, library shelving, and workroom capacity.

SOLUTION

High Density Storage

The storage plan consolidated the collection into a secured environment where staff could better control access.

PRODUCTS USED

Centralized Archive Storage System

Spacesaver shelving and flat-file storage centralizes archival materials, improves organization, and makes documents easier to protect, locate, and access.

OPERATIONAL GOAL

Centralize the collection and improve access control

The archive needed to move materials from multiple locations into one organized storage environment while supporting large map preservation with less handling.

THE PROBLEM

Scattered Archive Storage Created Capacity, Organization, and Retrieval Challenges

Before the move, The Holt Research Center at the Haley Memorial Library & History Center stored library materials on wooden shelving in four locations. Other archival materials were distributed among four-drawer cabinets, open shelving, boxes, flat files, and multiple rooms. Some boxed archives were stacked on available cabinet space because existing storage was limited.



BEFORE

01

The entire collection needed to be moved into a new building after construction was completed.

02

Library materials were stored on wooden shelving in four separate locations.

03

Archival materials were spread across cabinets, open shelving, boxes, flat files, and several rooms.

THE SOLUTION

Centralized Archive Storage with Shelving, Flat Files, and Workroom Support

Southwest Solutions Group developed a high-density archive storage approach that moved the collection into the new facility, protected collection continuity during reshelving, and added storage systems for books, boxed materials, large-format documents, and incoming collections.



WHAT WE INSTALLED

Collection Move and Reshelving

Books and existing wooden shelving were relocated to the new archive space. Additional items were inserted into the collection before reshelving so the library could maintain a continuous collection order.

WHY IT FIT

The move followed a rolling sequence: shelving sections were unloaded, wooden shelves were moved into position, books were reloaded, and the next sections were prepared for relocation.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

Spacesaver wide span shelving, flat files, and other static shelving were installed to support archival collection storage in the centralized space.

A Phased Archive Move Planned Around Collection Continuity

The implementation required careful sequencing because the archive was moving, reorganizing, and integrating collection materials at the same time. Southwest Solutions Group coordinated the relocation of books and existing shelving while also receiving and installing workroom furniture, storage shelving, wide span shelving, and flat files.

01

SITE COORDINATION

Establish the Final Storage Layout

On the first day, the team reviewed the final goal with the project lead. The crew then worked backward from that layout to define what each phase of the archive relocation needed to include.

02

PLANNING

Move Books and Existing Shelving in Phases

The move of books and shelving took six days. The process included unloading shelving, moving wooden shelves, reloading books, and continuing through the next sections.

03

EXECUTION

Insert Collection Materials During Relocation

Additional portions of the collection were integrated into the library during the move. This required careful planning to avoid back-shifting books later to create room for added materials.

04

HANDOFF

Manage Unique Physical Move Constraints

One unusual handling challenge required bookshelves to be moved whole through the circulation desk window.

RESULTS

Centralized Archive Storage Improved Organization, Security, and Collection Access

The completed project consolidated archival collections into one secure storage environment, giving staff better control over valuable historical materials while improving organization, retrieval efficiency, and long-term preservation. The dedicated workroom also supports processing new acquisitions without disrupting the main archive collection.

PRIMARY OUTCOME

Centralized Collection Storage

Materials previously stored across multiple rooms, cabinets, shelving systems, boxes, and flat files were consolidated into one organized archive storage environment.

WORKFLOW

Faster Retrieval and Better Organization

Consolidating the collection into one location reduced search time, simplified retrieval, and made archival materials easier for authorized staff to locate and manage.

COLLECTION PROTECTION

Improved Security and Preservation

Housing the collection in a secured archive environment helped protect valuable historical materials while supporting long-term preservation and controlled staff access.

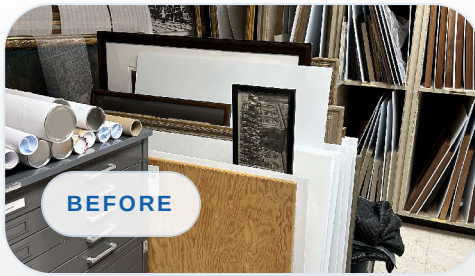
LONG-TERM VALUE

Additional Capacity for Future Collections

The new archive storage system increased available capacity for books, boxed archives, maps, oversized materials, and future acquisitions while creating a dedicated workroom for processing incoming collections.

Before and After Archive Storage Transformation

These project photos show how archival materials were consolidated from multiple storage locations into a secure, centralized archive using high-density shelving and flat file storage systems.



READY TO SOLVE A SIMILAR PROBLEM?

Planning an Archive Move or Collection Storage Upgrade?

Southwest Solutions Group helps libraries, museums, archives, universities, and historical organizations design high-density storage systems that improve collection preservation, organization, security, and retrieval.

Whether you're relocating a collection, expanding archive capacity, preserving historical records, or improving storage for oversized materials, our specialists can recommend a solution tailored to your facility and workflow.