



Testo Climate Monitoring Solution at the Gilcrease Museum and the Helmerich Center for American Research.



Gilcrease Museum

Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma specializes in the history of the American West with collections of Western and Native American art. The museum has a collection of over 350,000 pieces including in excess of 12,000 paintings, drawings and prints plus more than 250,000 archeological objects. Many art objects are made of organic materials: a Native Chief's headdress, textiles or Western prints/ drawings are very fragile and require a reliable system of environmental monitoring to provide a continuous flow of data for further analysis in a specialized software. Testo Saveris 2 WiFi temperature and humidity loggers are used throughout the Museum and the Helmerich Center for American Research to provide environmental records.

Thomas Gilcrease had a great affinity for the native American culture he experienced as a child. His family moved to live on the Creek Nation's tribal land, and in 1899, as a 9-year-old, he was enrolled on the Creek Nation tribal rolls. Thomas Gilcrease gained a great wealth later in life when he discovered oil on his allotment. He never forgot his childhood and became an avid collector of Native American artifacts and cultural objects. His passion was extended to Western art and historical artifacts related to the settlement of the West. Thomas Gilcrease started with storage buildings for his art collections at the present museum site and in 1955 transferred his collections to the City of Tulsa. Gilcrease Museum is managed by The University of Tulsa in a public/private partnership with the City of Tulsa.



Gilcrease Museum Entrance



Saveris 2 H1 installed in the storage area

The Challenge.

Many museum objects were created by Native Americans and not meant for permanent safekeeping. Many objects are made of wood, clay, and different types of textiles, paintings, prints and drawings on non-archival papers. The challenge is to slow down the aging process by providing optimal storage environment conditions for diverse types of art materials. To do so, the record of environmental conditions as they change throughout the year must be maintained. The monitoring data needs to be analyzed in predictive software that also uses historical meteorological records to give an indication of optimal indoor environmental settings for different sets of collections.

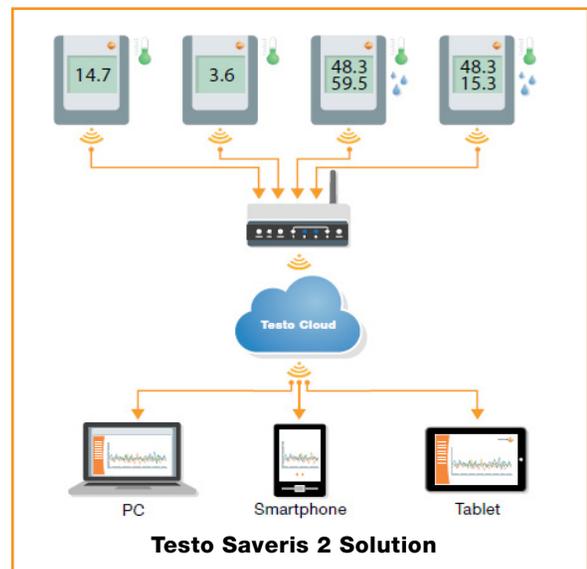
The Solution.

At Gilcrease Museum, Testo Saveris 2 data loggers were placed at sensitive artwork locations and areas suspected of having air circulation problems. Testo Saveris 2 WiFi data loggers eliminated manual data collection and provided continuous data flow. The CSV format files are exported from the online dashboard for further analysis in environmental analysis software. The Saveris 2 loggers and their data are clearly visible at the Saveris 2 account website that provides a full set of controls to set the alarms and system notifications. Both alarms and notifications are automated and delivered by text message and/or email.

“Just like many other museums we had used temperature and humidity data loggers in the past. However, one of the major drawbacks of stand-alone data loggers is that you need to collect data manually by walking the facility regularly and afterwards you have to upload data to the respective folders on your computer. All this is now done automatically by our Saveris 2 system. Once we named and grouped in our online dashboard the WiFi data loggers we have been able to select relevant measurement points and generate corresponding reports for a certain time frame. That saves us a lot of time – and you also can no longer forget to gather data from a certain point. It’s always available.”



Joanna Didik
Chief Conservator
Gilcrease Museum



More Information.

You can obtain further information on the testo Saveris 2 environmental monitoring solution and its deployment in museums, archives, galleries, and libraries at www.testo.com.