

ALICE PRESCOTT WHYTE

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Science and aesthetics comprise a large part of any conservator's work. For Alice Prescott Whyte, there's an emotional component as well, as when she restored the portrait of a woman that had been smuggled by a client from Hungary in 1959. The painting was of her mother, and it was an incredibly emotional experience for both of us," she recalls. Most assignments are less draining but equally satisfying. Not just a studio conservator, she loves treating big murals and is currently working on a series of paintings for St. John's Episcopal Church in Essex. Now in her 23rd year as a conservator, she treats antique and contemporary paintings, mostly 19th and 20th-century panels and oil on canvas works.

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