

Queen's University, Master of Art Conservation Program
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Condition Report

PO 654-357

Owner's Number: 8-04

Owner	Queen's Archives –contact Margaret Bignell
Address	Queen's University
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Date	January 17, 2004
Examined by	Sabina Sutherland

Type of object	Tapa Cloth
Artist / Author	Unknown
Title	none
Medium	Hand-painted
Dimensions (cm)	H 26.5cm L 11.3cm W 60µm
Frame	none
Previous treatment	Previous treatment includes repairs made to tears using adhesive tape and a possible adhesive bandage.

GENERAL REMARKS:

abbreviations:

PCAPSB - Print Council of America Paper Sample Book

B -bottom ; T -top ; R -right ; L -left

BR -bottom right ; BL -bottom left ; TR -top right ; TL -top left

BRQ -bottom right quadrant TRQ -top right quadrant

BLQ -bottom left quadrant TLQ -top left quadrant

Ca(OH)₂ -calcium hydroxide H₂O - water soln - solution EtOH - ethanol

SUMMARY OF METHODS OF EXAMINATION

Normal light: reflected, transmitted, raking

Radiation: ultraviolet, infrared, x-ray

Sampling: fibre, section

Analysis: pH, spot tests, instrumental

Other:

STRUCTURE

PRIMARY SUPPORT:

Material	Tapa
Manufacture	N/a
Formation	N/a
Look-Through	N/a
Colour	Equivalent to beige (2) in PCAPSB
Thickness	60µm
Texture	Highly textured/rough
Surface	Matte
Signature	None
Inscriptions	None
Watermark	None
Collection Mark	None
Labels	none

SECONDARY SUPPORT, PRESENTATION FORMAT: none

CONDITION

PRIMARY SUPPORT:

Overall colour change	Tapa is darkened overall
Local colour change	A water stain was later found to be located at 28.0cmR, and measures ~7.5cm.
Planar deformation	<p><u>Creases</u> :</p> <p>The piece was folded and three major creases have resulted. They run vertically and span the entire length. The first is located 25.5cmL. The second is in the centre. It has been folded to the point where it is splitting. The split measures 15.0cm in length.</p> <p>Some horizontal creases are also occurring. The first is located 9.0cmT x 26.0cmL and is 9.0cm in length. The second is located at 3.0cmT x 58.5cmL and extends to the R edge. It measures 50.0cm in length.</p>
Holes, losses	<p><u>Holes</u> :</p> <p>Locations of possible tack holes :</p> <p>1.5cm B x 4cm R 2.0cm T x 6.5cm R 1.5cm T x 30.0cm R 2.0cm T x 57.5cmL 1.5cm T x 30.8cm L</p>

	<p>1.5cm T x 8.3cmL 2.0cmB x 15.0cmL</p> <p>other holes: 8.0cmT x 3.0cmL - 1.5cm long 5.8cmT x 5.0cmL 9.8cmT x 3.5cmL 4.5cmB x 4.0cm R 9.0cmB x 40.0cmL (measured from edge of loss) 3.5cmB x 43.0cmL -1.0cm long (measured from edge of loss) 4.0cmB x 46.3cmL 2.5cmB x 49.5cmL 4.5cmB x 53.0cmL(measured from edge of loss) 8.5cmB x 54cmL (measured from edge of loss) 4.0cmT x 58.0cmL 5.0cmB x 18.0cmR 6.5cmT x 41.0cmR 43.5cm BL-50.5cm BL x 23.0cm T</p> <p><u>losses</u> : There are small losses all along the edges. BL corner is missing-this loss measures 10.0cm x 6.0cm</p> <p>41.0cmL –loss is at edge, it extends down into the plane of the tapa by 2.5cm and is 6.5cm long at the top. 9.0cmB x 44.0cmR-measures 1.5cm in length (loss in media- partial loss of top layer) 6.5cmT x 41.0cmR-measures 1.5cm in length (loss in media-partial loss of top layer)</p> <p>34.5cmR-loss extends up from the bottom at 35.5cmR and is about 5.5cm in length-it is a partial loss of the top layer of the tapa, similar to the media loss noted above.</p> <p>At the bottom of the centre crease there is a triangular-shaped loss. It measures 3.0cm in length and 3.0cm in width at the base of the triangle.</p>
Cuts, tears, splits	<p>There is a large split occurring partially down the centre of the tapa where it is badly creased. It does not occur down the entire centre. It measures 14.5cm up from the bottom edge.</p> <p>There is a tear occurring at the TL corner. It measures 3.0cm in length and is located at 4.0cm from the TL corner.</p>

	At BL corner, there is a tear which measures 2.5cm in length
Surface damage	Surface damage has occurred in a few places slightly right of centre on the recto. Delamination is occurring at 9.0cmT x 45.0cmR
Biological deterioration	None apparent
Surface soil	Kneaded eraser test : quite a bit of surface soil was picked up
Hinge, tab, adhesive residue	Verso : old repairs using adhesive tape as well as medical tape (adhesive bandage) have been made
Accretions	A small group of white spots is located at 7.0cmB x 28.0cmL These appear to be the result of some sort of liquid which was splashed onto the cloth.

MEDIA:

The media is stable overall, however, there are some losses. They are noted as follows :
 9.0cmB x 44.0cmR –measures 1.5cm in length (loss in media-partial loss of top layer)
 6.5cmT x 41.0cmR –measures 1.5cm in length (loss in media-partial loss of top layer)

34.5cmR—loss extends up from the bottom at 35.5cmR and is about 5.5cm in length—it is a partial loss of the top layer of the tapa, similar to the media loss noted above.

SECONDARY SUPPORT: no secondary support

Record of Tests

PO 654-357

page 1 of 2

date	test	location	observations	conclusion
Jan 18, 2005	Solubility of media in dH ₂ O			
	Dark brown colour	BL corner	Colour was picked up	Soluble
	Meduim brown colour	2.0cmB x31.0cmL 4.0cmT x 40.0cmL	Colour was picked up	Soluble
	Light brown colour	1.0cmB x 15.5cmL 1.5cmB x 46.0cmL	Colour was picked up	Soluble
	On tapa w /o media	1.4cmB x 30.5cmL	No surface dirt appeared to have been removed	Media, and not dirt was being picked up in the above cases
Feb 23, 2005	Solubility of media in acetone			
	Dark brown Colour	BR corner	Did not pick up colour after four attempts on the same area	Insoluble
		1.0cmB x 18.0cmR	“ It was remarked that the colour was not pushed down through the tapa	Insoluble
		BL corner	Some colour picked up, also some was transferred to the paper underneath	Soluble
	Medium brown colour	3.5cmB x 5.5cmR 0cmB x 51.5cmL	Did not pick up colour Did not pick up colour	Insoluble Insoluble

Record of Tests

PO 654-357

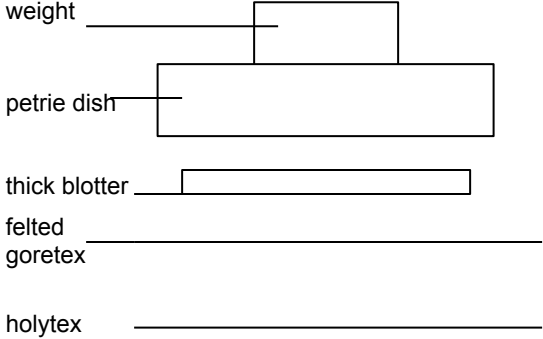
page 2 of 2

date	test	location	observations	conclusion
Feb 23, 2005	Solubility in acetone cont'd for medium brown colour... Light brown colour	13.0cmB x 5.0cmL	Did not pick up colour	Insoluble
		1.0cmB x 5.5cmR	Did not pick up colour	Insoluble
		25.5cmB x 44.5cmR	Colour transfer to paper underneath	Soluble
		1.5cmB x 15.5cmL	Did not pick up colour	insoluble

Treatment Record

PO 654-357

page 2 of 3

Date	Treatment	Time spent
	<p>Diagram of local humidification chambre :</p>  <p>The blotter was soaked in boiling water in order to speed the humidification process.</p>	
<p>March 21, 2005</p>	<p><u>Removal of adhesive residue :</u> The adhesive residue on the far right edge was removed with acetone using the suction table. The solvent was applied to the area with a soft brush. The suction was kept low in order to avoid causing any damage to the object. The adhesive stains were removed quite easily.</p> <p>The other areas of adhesive residue will be reduced by other means as they are located in areas where the media will be affected if solvents are used.</p>	<p>2.5 hours</p>
<p>March 22, 2005</p>	<p>Tear repair continued using Japanese paper (Kurotani #4) and a dry wheat starch paste. The areas to be repaired were once again, locally humidified.</p>	
<p>April 1, 2005</p>	<p>Paper for fills was toned in order to match the general area in which it is to be placed. Light areas were made to match the natural colour of the tapa and darker areas were toned to match the darkest pigment.</p> <p>The tones were achieved using a dilute wash of Liquitex acrylic paints. The light tone included burnt umber, raw sienna, and titanium white. These fills were adhered using a dry wheat starch paste.</p>	<p>Fill preparation : 2 hours</p>

Treatment Record

PO 654-357

page 3 of 3

Date	Treatment	Time Spent
April 2, 2005	The dark fills were made using the burnt umber alone to tint the Japanese paper. Previous repairs which were made in order to stabilise loose bits for the surface cleaning of the verso were removed and replaced with the tinted paper of the appropriate colour.	Fill application : 2 hours
April 3, 2005	The remaining repairs were made to the tapa. Also, the two large repairs made to the edges had begun to curl. These were reinforced with another layer of Japanese paper with the intention to make it slightly thicker, and therefore less sensitive to fluctuations in relative humidity. The tapa was humidified locally using the previously mentioned method (on a larger scale) and placed between blotters and under weight to dry.	
April 10, 2005	The weight was removed from the tapa, and it was left to readjust to the environment in order to monitor whether any changes would occur. Some of the old undulations returned slightly, however, the tapa was still flatter than it was when it originally arrived for conservation treatment.	
April 11, 2005	The fills were cut down, and some graphite was applied to the light-coloured fills. This was done not only to give them a bit of a weathered look, but also to give the fills a bit of texture. The flat areas of colour seemed to be competing with the highly textured surface of the tapa, and this caused them to be slightly distracting to the eye.	