

1863

1940

Sankofa:

The Treatment and Analysis of
*“The Surveying of Washington, DC
by Benjamin Banneker”*

Master’s Project
April 12, 2019

Image: American Negro Exposition Guidebook, 1940.

LaStarsha McGarity

3rd Year Graduate Intern in Objects Conservation at Saint Louis Art Museum

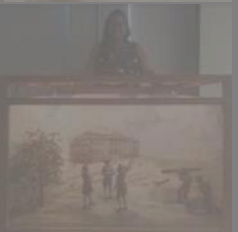
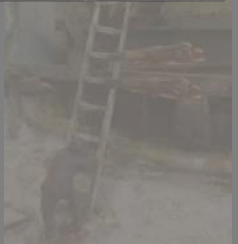
Advisor: Jonathan Thornton

Co-Advisors: J.J. Chen, James Hamm, Fiona Beckett, Theresa J. Smith, Rebecca Ploeger



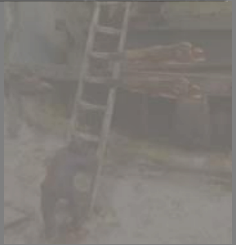


Introduction



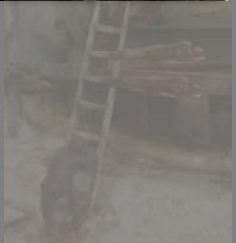


History





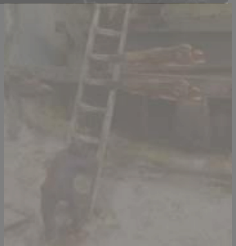
Examination and Analysis



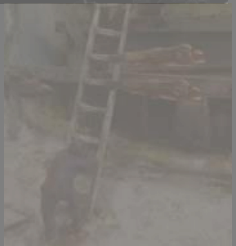


Treatment





Conclusions



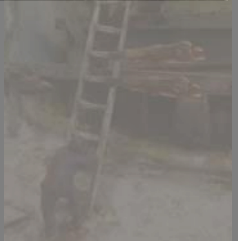
Acknowledgements



San – to return

Ko- to go

Fa- to fetch, to seek and take





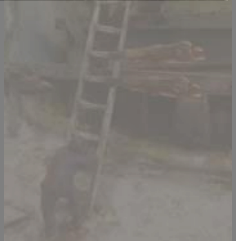
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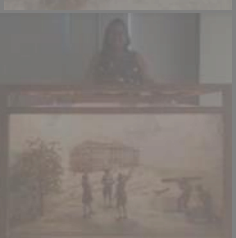
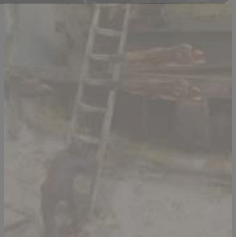
TUSKEGEE
UNIVERSITY



SAAM



Images: Tuskegee University, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Buffalo State College, and University of Delaware.



ERIK LINDGREN,
State Director of Exhibits



CHARLES C. DAWSON
Illustrator



WILLIAM E. SCOTT
Muralist

AMERICAN NEGRO EXPOSITION



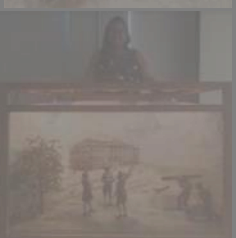
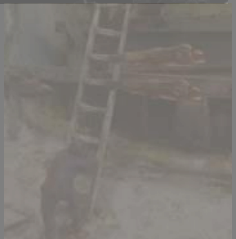
CHICAGO COLISEUM-JULY 4 TO SEPT. 2
• OFFICIAL PROGRAM AND GUIDE BOOK •
TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Held from July 4th to Labor Day
1940 in Chicago, Illinois

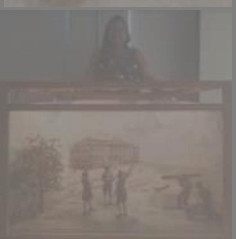
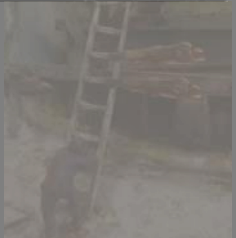
Considered the first major display
of the talents of African Americans

Viewed by more than 250,000
fairgoers

“The Surveying of Washington, DC
by Benjamin Banneker” was 21 in
the series of 33 dioramas.

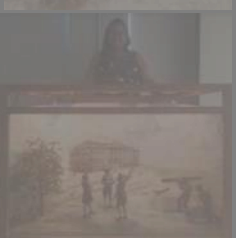
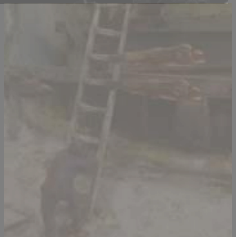


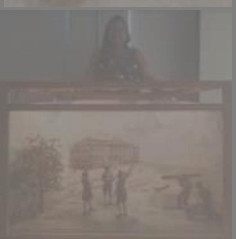
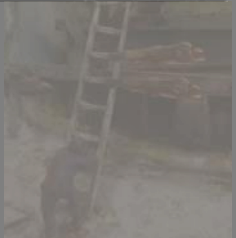
Images: Tuskegee University

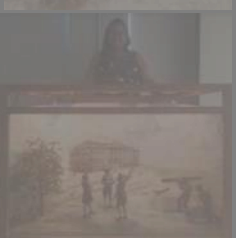
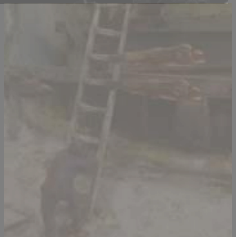


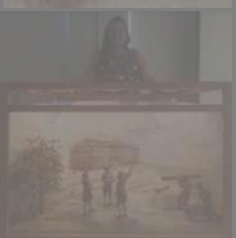
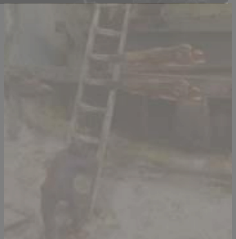
177642 A4N







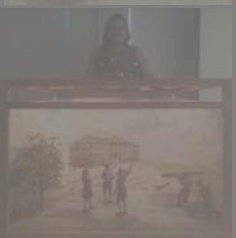
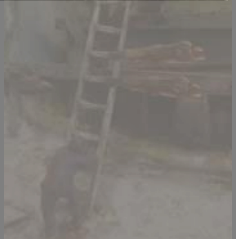




“I AM fully sensible of the greatness of that freedom, which I take with you on the present occasion; a liberty which seemed to me scarcely allowable, when I reflected on that distinguished and dignified station inwhich [sic] you stand, and the almost general prejudice and prepossession, which is so prevalent in the world against those of my complexion.

I suppose it is a truth too well attested to you, to need a proof here, that we are a race of beings, who have long labored under the abuse and censure of the world; that we have long been looked upon with an eye of contempt; and that we have long been considered rather as brutish than human, and scarcely capable of mental endowments.”

-Excerpt from correspondence between Benjamin Banneker and then Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson on August 19, 1791 (National Archives, 2018).



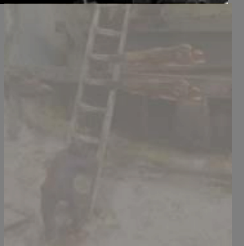
21 ¾ inches



177642 A7N

37 7/8 inches

55 ¼ inches



Materials

Wood

Masonite board

Plaster

Modeling wire

Wire mesh

Electrical wiring

Light fixtures

Stone

Screws and nails

Canvas

Watercolor





Materials

Wood

Masonite board

Plaster

Modeling wire

Wire mesh

Electrical wiring

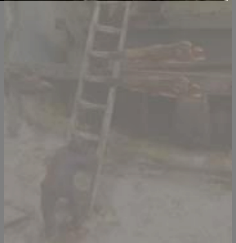
Light fixtures

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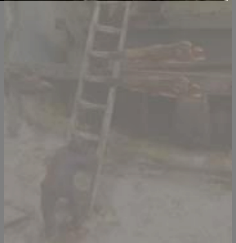
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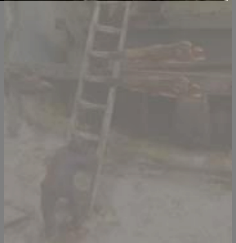
Light fixtures

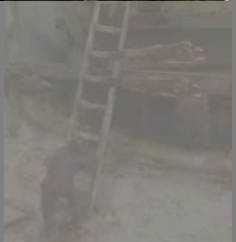
Stone

Screws and nails

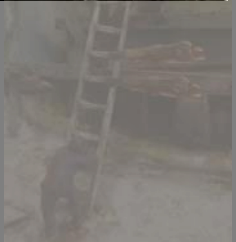
Canvas

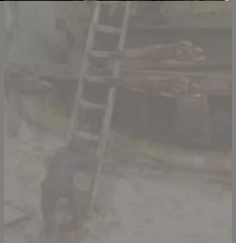
Watercolor





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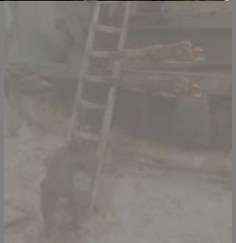


Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, enclosed in a green box.

177642 A131R
NOV 2 2017

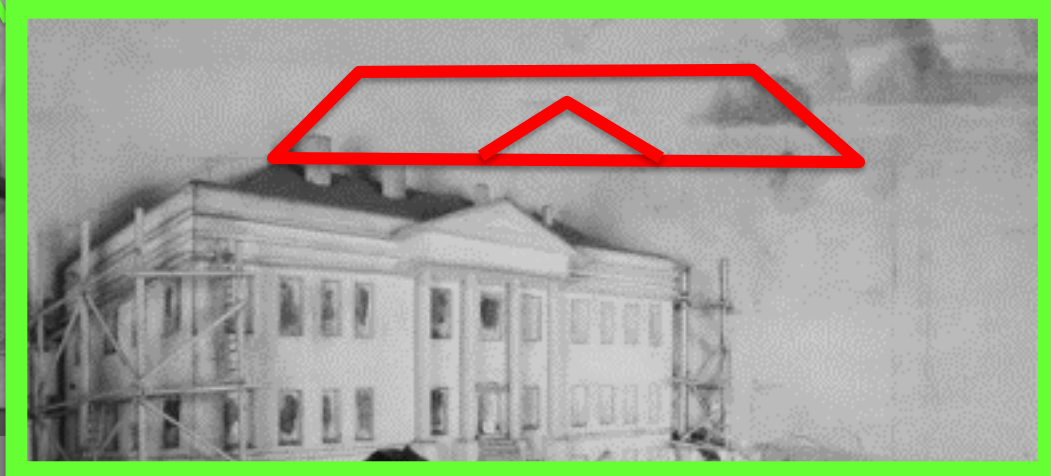
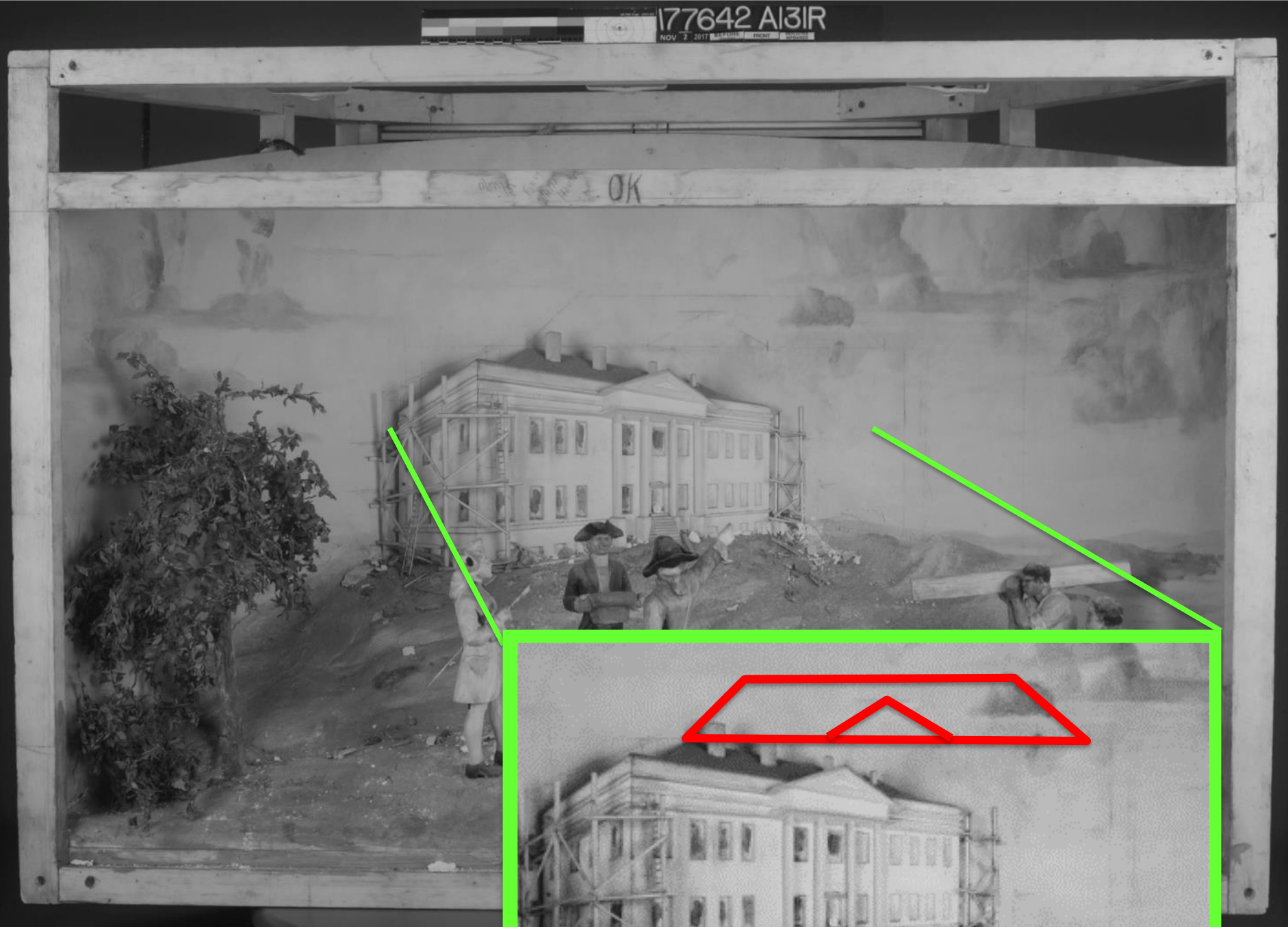
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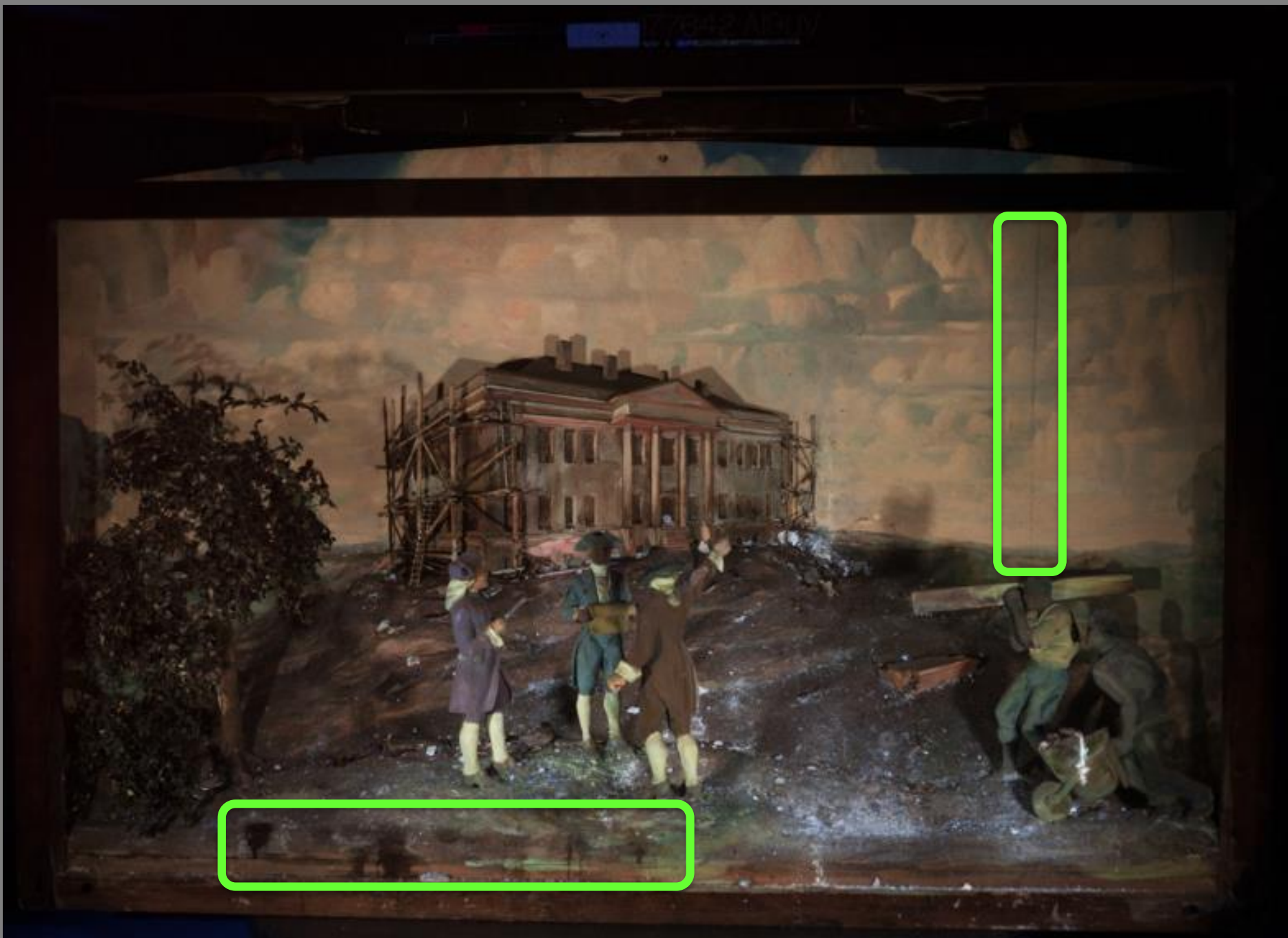
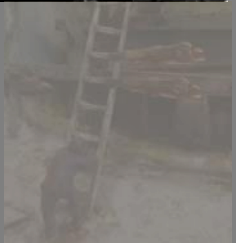


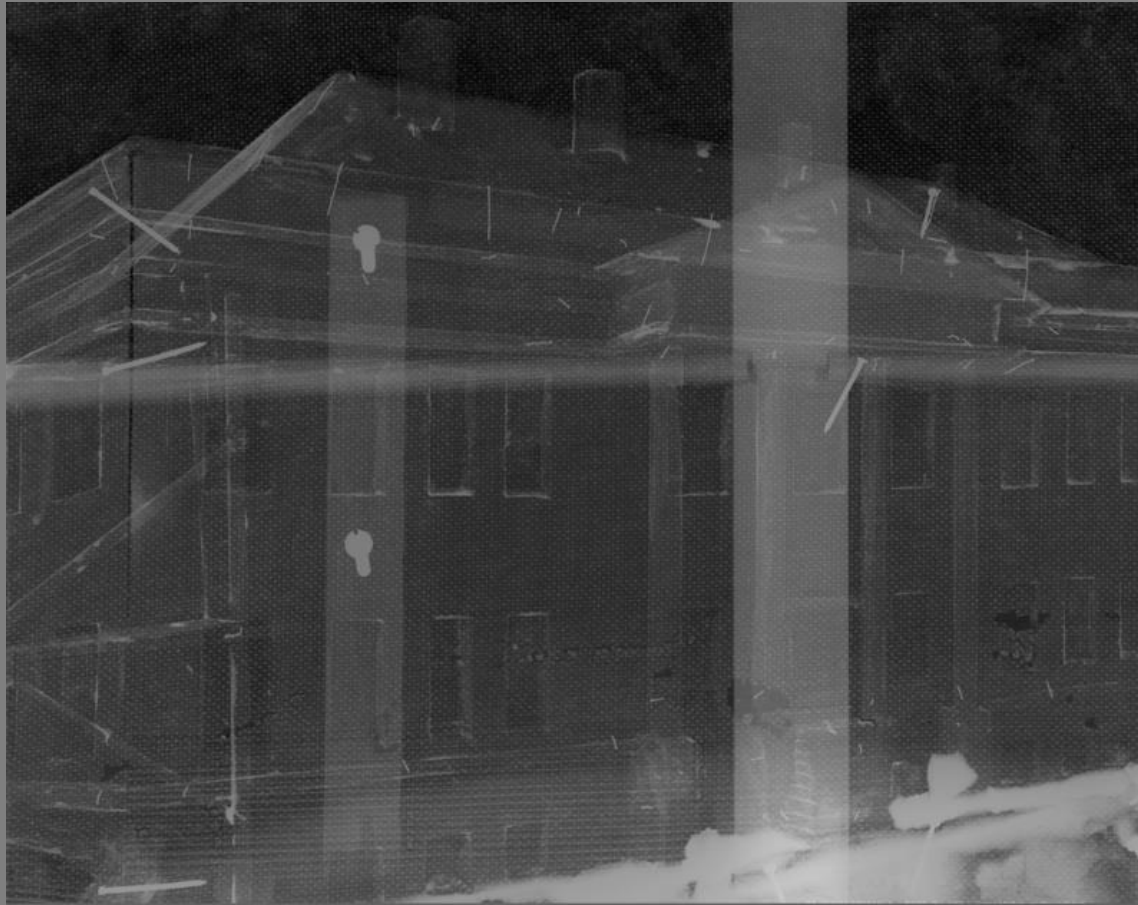
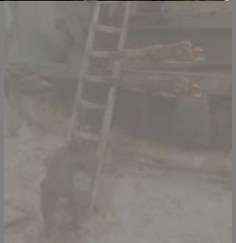


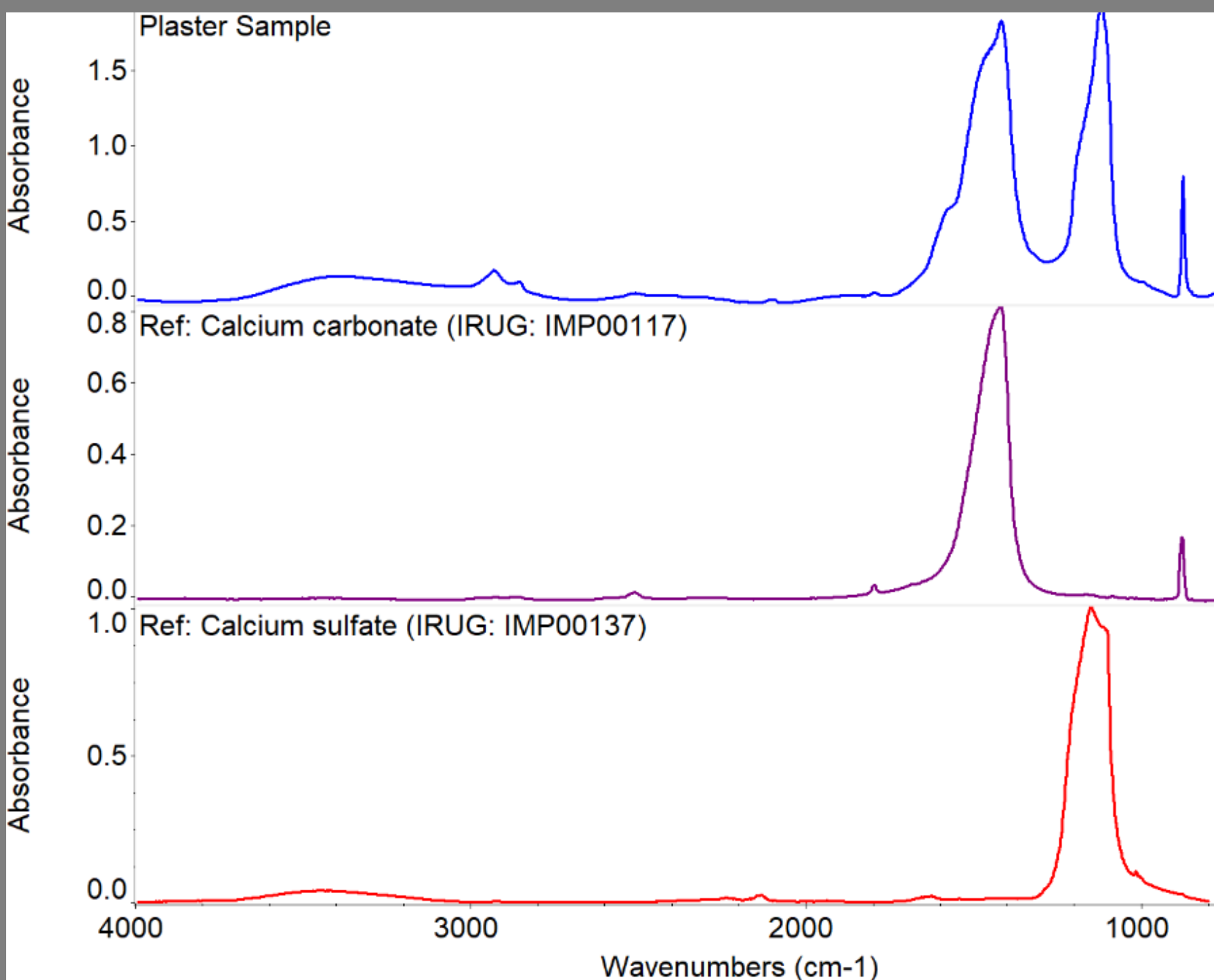
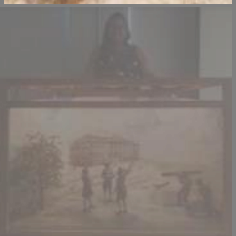
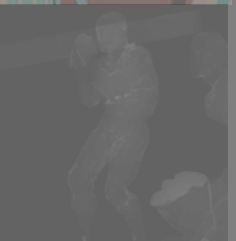
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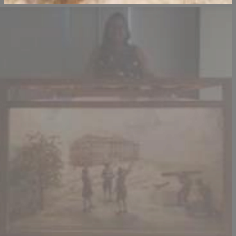
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Treatment included:

Dry surface cleaning

→ Aqueous cleaning

Consolidation

Filling

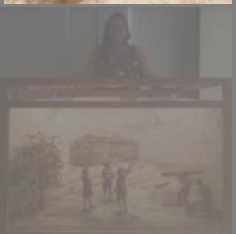
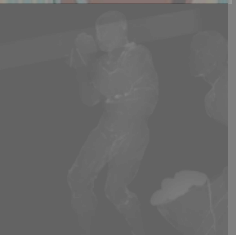
Removal of a previous repair

→ Reintegration of loose components

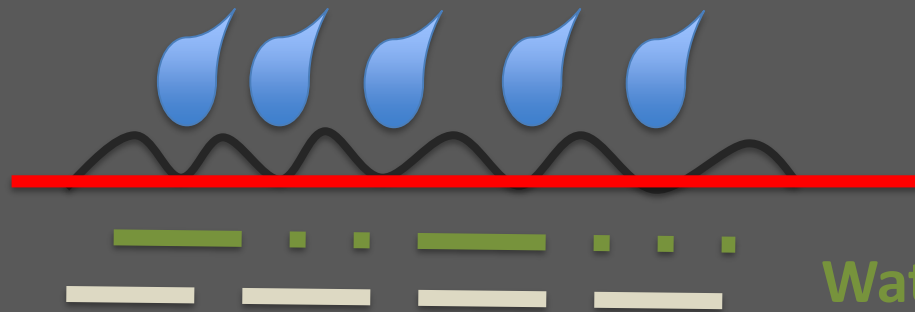
Inpainting

→ Lighting

Housing



Dirt layer

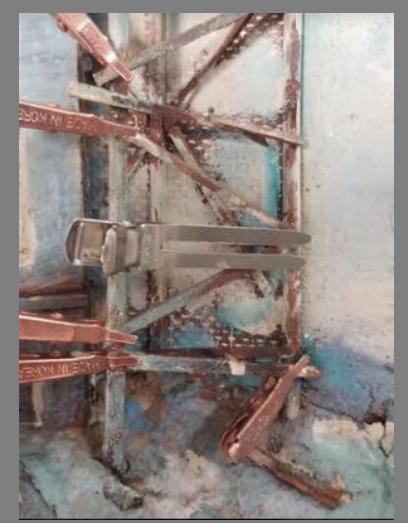


Deionized Water

Gamsol

Watercolor and Plaster layers







Incandescent Light,
recorded color temperature of 2782K

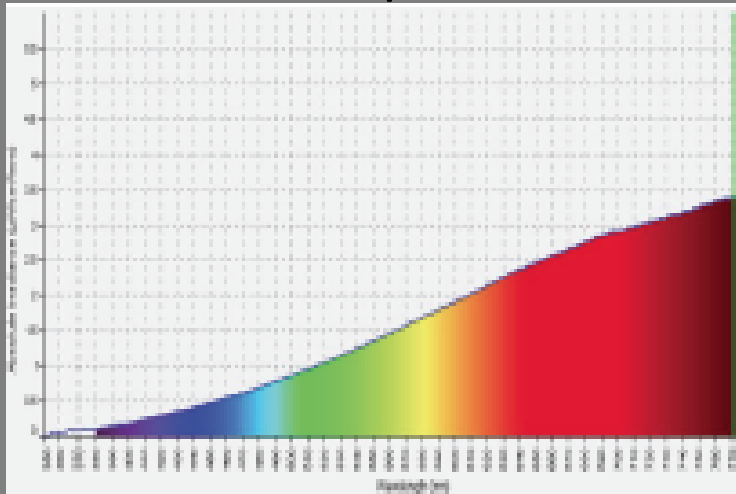


Image: Popular Mechanics

New LED Ribbonlyte,
recorded color temperature of 2677K

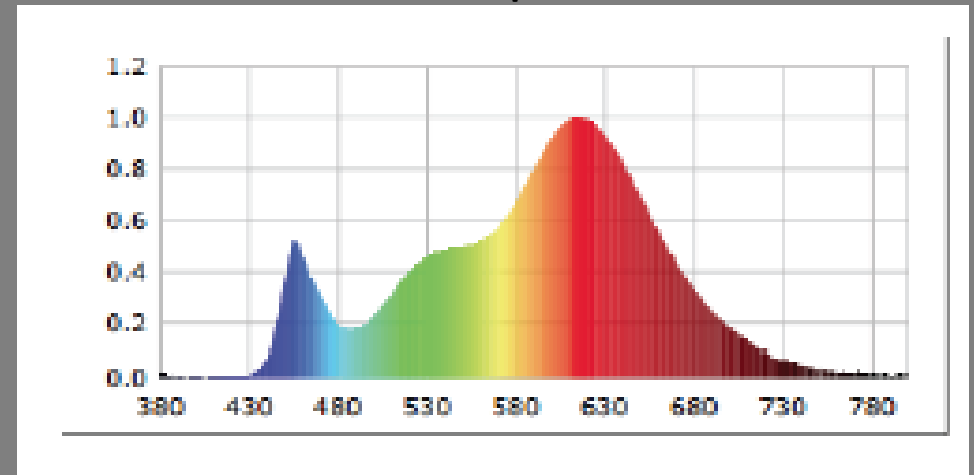
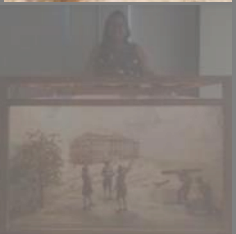
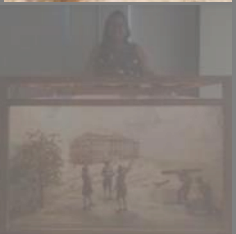


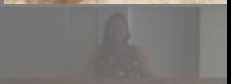
Image: Acolyte Complete Integrated LED Lighting Solutions.



Image: Kaitlyn Wright

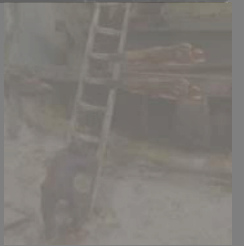
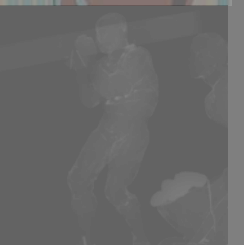




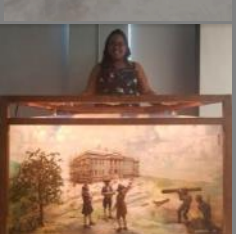
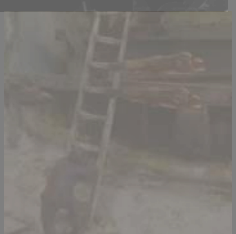
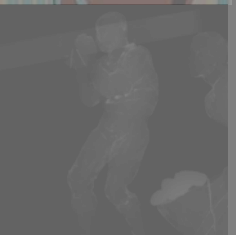


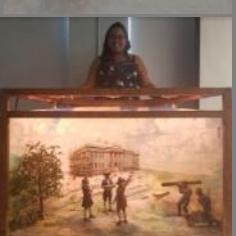
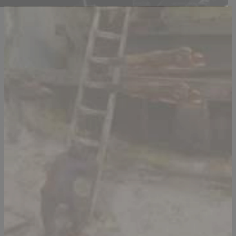
1950

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MAY 7 2011

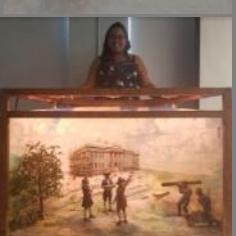
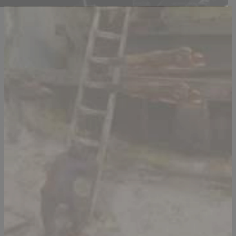




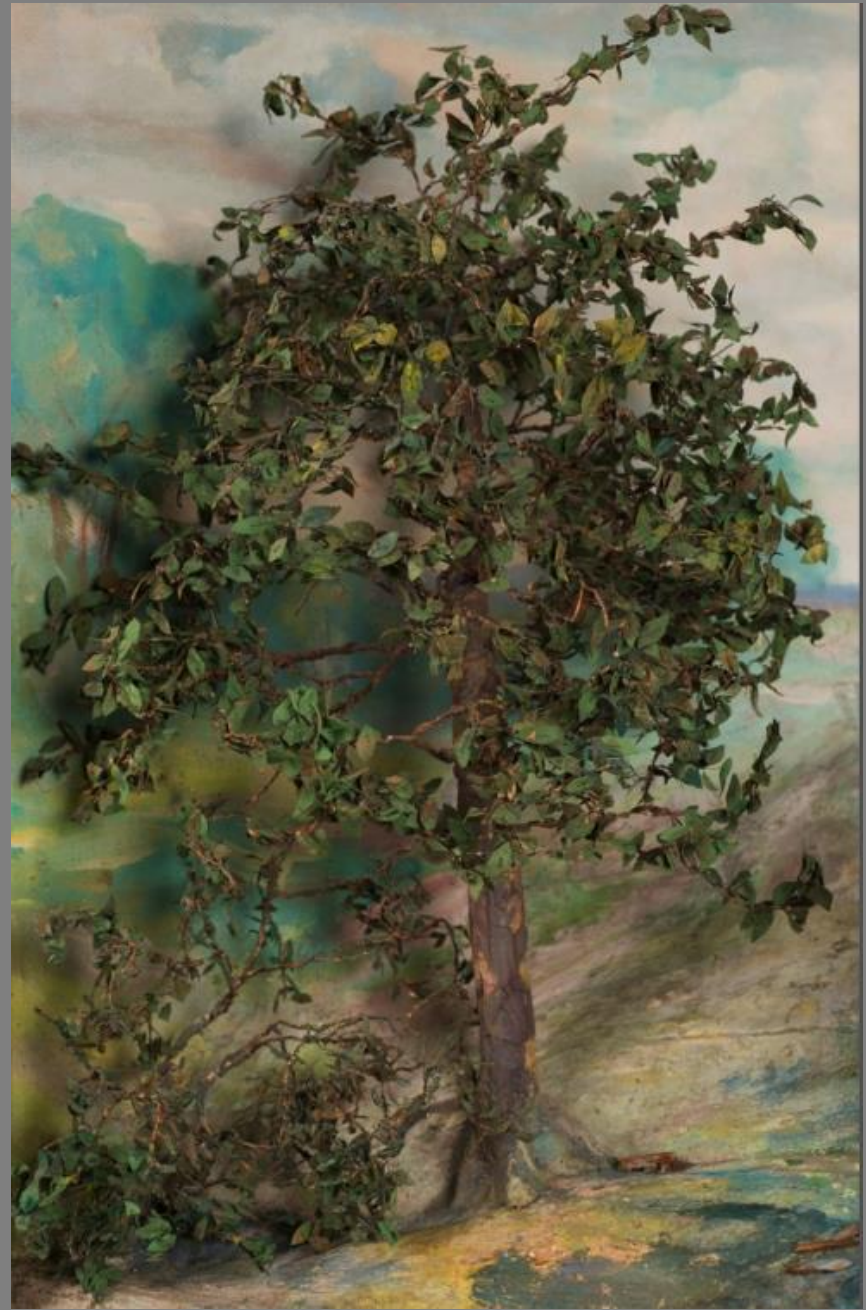
Before Treatment



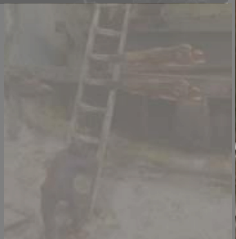
After Treatment



Before Treatment



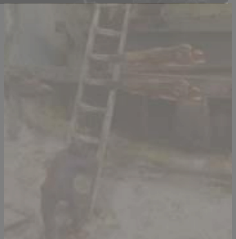
After Treatment



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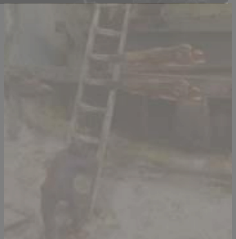
After Treatment



**Before
Treatment**



**After
Treatment**



Before Treatment



After Treatment

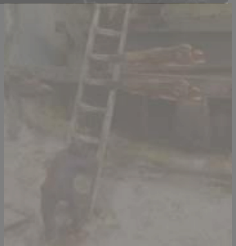
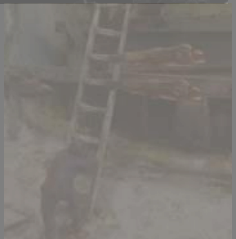


Image: Rebecca Ploeger
Color corrected for the
purpose of
this presentation

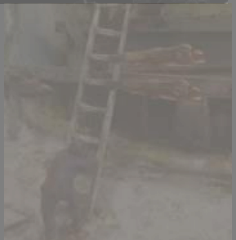


Sincere gratitude is owed to:

- The conservators and students of WUDPAC
- The staff of the Legacy Museum, especially Jontyle Robinson and Theo Moore
- Acolyte Complete Integrated LED Lighting Solutions
- The faculty and staff of the Garman Art Conservation Department, especially Dr. Aaron Shugar for editing and Patrick for coordinating, and C/o 2019, 2020,& 2021
- Saint Louis Art Museum Conservation staff
- Academy Museum of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, especially Sophie Hunter
- ANAGPIC organizers and moderators

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- Buffalo State Tuition Scholarship
 - F. Christopher Tahk Art Conservation Fellowship
 - Bruce and Gail Johnstone Art Conservation Fellowship
 - Paul R. Jones Initiative of the University of Delaware
- Dr. Joyce Hill Stoner and the Winterthur/ UD Program in Art Conservation



177642 D36N

