

63.54 In Progress Treatment Report

Margaret Priest

The front of the painting was dry cleaned with a soft brush and PU cosmetic sponges to remove loose dust.

As they were found to be slightly open under magnification, small cracks spanning the border of the original picture plane and extended areas were consolidated under the microscope with Aquazol 200 in DI water. Other areas of loss along the right edge were likewise consolidated. The painting was cleaned with cotton swabs in 7.5 pH sodium citrate solution in DI water to remove grime and discolored varnish components. After cleaning, areas of consolidation were adjusted with additional Aquazol 200 to ensure strong adhesion.

The solubility of the varnish and inpainting was evaluated with organic solvents. They were found to be soluble in isopropanol, acetone, and xylene; and insoluble in odorless mineral spirits. After evaluating the estimated saturation of the painting with odorless mineral spirits, the decision of varnishing remains.

Proposed treatment remaining:

- Continue written and photographic documentation during and after treatment
- Varnish for improved saturation as deemed appropriate
- Perform corrective retouching in areas of removed overpaint
- Dry clean accessible surfaces of the frame
- Consolidate areas of insecurity on the frame
- Rehouse the painting with updates to backing, framing, and hanging hardware