



BUFFALO STATE

The State University of New York

ART CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT • ROCKWELL HALL 230 • 1300 ELMWOOD AVE. • BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14222 • 716-878-5025

PAPER TREATMENT REPORT **In-Progress**

CNS 197833-32

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OWNER/AGENT

DATE RECEIVED

Buffalo and Erie County Public Library

October 2, 2019

EXAMINER

FACULTY SUPERVISOR(S)

Margaret Priest

Theresa J. Smith

DATE OF REPORT

April 23rd, 2026

ARTIST/MAKER (Owner Attribution)

J. O. Lewis

TITLE ("") or DESCRIPTION

Portrait of Pe-che-co, A Pottowattomie Chief from *The Aboriginal Port-Folio*

DATE/PERIOD OF MANUFACTURE

1935

PUBLISHER

Lehman and Duval

IMAGE/DESIGN TECHNIQUE

MEDIUM

Lithograph, hand-colored with watercolor

DIMENSIONS OF IMAGE (H x W, inches)

Approximately 9 x 7 in

SUPPORT MATERIAL

TYPE QUALITY

Handmade wove

DIMENSIONS (H x W, inches)

18 ¼ x 11 ½ in

ESTIMATED ORIGINAL COLOR

Beige I (Lunning and Perkinson 1996)

COLOR AFTER TREATMENT

Beige II (Lunning and Perkinson 1996)

MOUNTING

MATTING

FRAMING

I. OBSERVATIONS DURING TREATMENT

The dark blue hand-coloring on the scarf was found to be water-soluble after about 1 minute of exposure to a small drop of water.

II. TREATMENT PERFORMED

1. Written and photographic documentation was completed prior to, during, and following treatment to record condition and procedures.
2. The front and back of the paper were dry cleaned with cosmetic sponges,¹ soot sponges,² and a Mars Staedtler vinyl eraser³ to remove dirt and embedded grime.
3. Residual tissue, fragments, and backing material on the binding edge were gently removed with dental tools.
4. The large accretion on the right side was removed by gently scraping with a microspatula.
5. A water drop test for was performed on the paper to determine the presence of a water-reactive size.
6. Additional solubility tests were performed on each type of media applied to determine if they were water sensitive. The dark blue of the scarf was found to be soluble in water, so the paper could not be washed.
7. Using a light amount of heat, moisture, and pressure from hands, the folds were gently undone and held under thick blotter paper⁴ and weights to flatten.
8. Tears were mended with wheat starch paste⁵ and supported with HM-1 Japanese tissue⁶ from the back with additional paste where necessary.
9. Excess tissue extending over the edges of the page were trimmed with a scalpel.
10. Additional fragments from the binding edge were attached with wheat starch paste and supported with HM-1 tissue.
11. Creases were lightly dampened with DI water on a cotton swab and gently smoothed with a dental tool through Hollytex⁷ to minimize their appearance.

III. PROPOSED TREATMENT REMAINING

1. Perform written and photographic documentation following treatment.
2. Humidify overall before drying and flattening in a hard-soft blotter drying setup.
3. Create archival housing.

¹ Swisspers Premiun Cosmetic Wedges, polyurethane foam.

² Vulcanized rubber sponge, distributed by Talas, Brooklyn, NY.

³ Mars-Plastic vinyl eraser, #526 52, Staedtler, Nürnberg, Germany.

⁴ 100% cotton, acid and lignin free, without optical brighteners, 100 pt., Talas, Brooklyn, NY.

⁵ *Zin shofu*, precipitated wheat starch, distributed by Talas, Brooklyn, NY.

⁶ Japanese paper, HM-1 Tengucho Ash, Hiromi Paper International, Santa Monica, CA.

⁷ Hollytex, distributed by Conservation Materials Ltd., Sparks, NV, or Talas, Brooklyn, NY.