

CONSERVATION REPORT

OBJECT	LOCATION	NUMBER
DEC. SCUL.: ORNAMENT arabesque/scroll and birds, plaster, 16th C	Lobby to the Breakfast Room, South side	A3

IMAGE OF OBJECT PRIOR TO TREATMENT (Recto & Verso)



DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT

Plaster relief panel with arabesque decoration. The surface of recto is painted with a distemper type paint (water sensitive) The surface on the recto has what appears to be a second layer of paint on the high areas of the relief, possibly to represent ageing. Over all surfaces is a thin layer of loose dirt. On verso there is evidence of organic material and possibly string embedded in the plaster perhaps as a form of strengthening. There are also rust stains indicating that there may be metal re-inforcement in the panel as well.

DIMENSIONS in centimetres (h : w : d)

The panel is uneven along the edges therefore the measurements refer to the maximum dimensions
77.9 : 28 : 6.5

LABELLING & NUMBERING

Existing labelling:

None

Existing numbering:

3 ANT scratched on the verso

Also **12** scratched on the verso

Modern Numbering:

A3 painted in black on proper left side at lower edge

FIXINGS

On the verso there is a modern mirror plate (f) screwed, and probably fixed with adhesive, to the proper right side near the upper edge. This plate was probably fixed on the panel (by Holden Conservation) when it was put on display in the New Picture Room in the 1992.

There is evidence that this panel once had a metal loop fixing on the upper edge as there are two cut ends of metal 3cm apart still visible at the centre back of the upper edge. There is no other evidence of fixing points such as holes.

TREATMENT HISTORY

IMAGE OF OBJECT PRIOR TO TREATMENT FOR ANNOTATION (recto & verso)



KEY

a	Small losses to the surface of the paint and plaster
b	Abrasions and chips to edge of panel
c	Rust stains on verso
d	3 ANT scratched on verso
e	Example of organic material embedded in plaster on verso

f Modern mirror plate fixed on verso

IMAGE OF OBJECT PRIOR TO TREATMENT (edges showing areas of paint loss)



proper Left side edge



proper right side edge



upper edge



lower edge

CONDITION PRIOR TO TREATMENT

The general condition of the surface of the recto of the panel is good, although the painted surface has a layer of dirt on it which gives the panel a dingy appearance.

There are some small areas of loss to the paint surface and plaster on the recto which are probably quite recent as they are visually noticeable and show the white plaster surface. **(a)**

All the edges of the panel have areas of flaking paint and abrasions at the edges. On the upper edge the loss to the surface is due to abrasion not flaking

There are rust stains visible on the verso of the panel which may indicate the presence of metal in the panel as a form of reinforcement **(b)**

TREATMENT

Surface cleaning

All surfaces were first cleaned with a soft brush and a vacuum to remove loose dirt. The recto was then cleaned with swabs & saliva to remove further dirt

Consolidation

where there was loss and flaking to paint on the recto and edges the surface was consolidated with

Filling

Areas of paint loss and small damages to the cast were filled with layers of Flugger

Retouching

Areas that were filled with Flugger were painted with acrylic paints to match the surrounding original paint surface

RISK ASSESSMENT TO OBJECT

To avoid strain on structure and risk of cracking carry the panel vertically not horizontally

HEALTH & SAFETY

IMAGES OF OBJECT AFTER TREATMENT



REPORT AUTHOR & JOB TITLE

Jane Wilkinson, Head of Conservation

DATE

2016