SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM

CONSERVATION REPORT

OBJECT	LOCATION	NUMBER
Plaster cast	No. 13 Staircase, recess between 2nd and 3rd	SC52
	floor, west side	



KI	KEY		
a	Areas of plaster loss		
b	Areas of worn paint		

DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT

A plaster cast of part of the front of an antique alter in the Vatican Museum

MATERIALS

Plaster, front face painted

DIMENSIONS in centimetres

h 100: w 70: d 15

These dimensions are approximate

LABELLING & NUMBERING

Existing labelling:

None

Existing numbering:

52sc

Scraped on verso



Photograph to show location of number on verso

Modern Museum number:

SC52

In white on lower edge of side at proper left

FIXINGS

Twisted metal wire loop attached to the cast through two holes drilled through the centre of the top of the cast

TREATMENT HISTORY

No evidence of previous treatment in inventory

CONDITION PRIOR TO TREATMENT

Dust and dirt is bonded to the surface of the cast giving it a dull, dirty appearance. The paint surface has dried out in areas causing unsightly crazing in the paint.

It is structurally sound

There are some chipped areas of plaster and paint particularly on the edges

There is evidence of the green paint which was used on the walls of the recess to cover the original marbling around the beginning of the twentieth century. This seems to have been carelessly flicked onto the cast.

TREATMENT

Cleaning:

The cast was dusted with a soft brush. The surface of this cast was left as it is in order to have a record of the appearance of a dry, crazed paint surface (much like SC55 and SC63 before their treatment) and to preserve the colour of the early 20th century paint

Filling and retouching:

Areas of plaster and paint loss (a) were filled with Flugger and retouched with acrylics

Retouching:

Areas where paint had been worn away (b) were retouched and toned in

RISK ASSESSMENT TO OBJECT

Carry this cast vertically on its edge to avoid putting unnecessary strain on it Wear nitrile gloves to prevent marking the cast and to ensure a firm grip

HEALTH & SAFETY

This object is very heavy and should be lifted by two people

REPORT AUTHOR & POSITION	DATE
Lucy Sims, Assistant Conservator	14th January 2013

IMAGE OF OBJECT AFTER TREATMENT

