

From: Mr. R. Harper,
Department of Conservation,
City Art Gallery,
Queens Road,
Bristol

Pastel on Laid Paper
Portrait of J. Nelthorpe
by
Loitard
Size 26½" x 21½"

Report

Pastel had been restored at an earlier date and relaid on a sheet of check paper & fixed around the outside edge with animal glue. This has caused the paper to buckle and tear with the change in humidity. The backing paper had been turned around stretcher and glued. Small piece missing top right hand corner and repair made in top left. Originally the pastel was glued onto canvas and nailed to stretcher, which when removed caused small tears and nail holes around outside edge. The pastel had also been attacked by mould.

Recommendation

Remove backing paper from stretcher and remove pastel from backing paper. Consolidate all tears. Pastel to be sterilized, laid on sheet of acid free paper and fixed to stretcher. Pastel to be retouched. A sheet of blotting paper impregnated thymol to be laid on back of pastel.

Frame to be repaired.

Estimated cost £50 - £60.

Holburne & Menstrie Museum,

Bath

6th February 1978

Portrait of J. Nelthorpe

by

Loitard

Size: $26\frac{1}{4}$ " x $21\frac{1}{2}$ "

Pastel had been relaid on a sheet of paper and fixed around outside edge with animal glue. This has caused the paper on which the pastel is drawn to cockle and tear. The backing paper had been turned around the stretcher and glued; a small repair had been made in the top left corner. Pastel has also been attacked by mould.

Treatment

Released pastel from stretcher and removed backing paper and also animal glue from around the outside edge. Consolidate all tears using eltaline paper and very dry wheat starch; the pastel was then sterilized with thymol. A sheet of acid free Hodgekinsons paper was immersed in water laid around stretcher and fixed with gummed paper.

The paper on which the pastel was drawn proved to be in such a poor condition that it was impossible to paste and lay down.

The Hodgekinson's paper was pasted with a very dry wheat starch and the pastel was laid on this. A sheet of blotting paper impregnated with thymol was laid on back of pastel and then placed in its original frame.