



**Winterthur/University of Delaware
Program in Art Conservation
Conservation Report**



Accession #: 2001.0017.0009

Object: [Oval format portrait of two unidentified young men in bowler hats]

Object Date: 1850-1900

Artist/Author: Unknown

Materials: Silver gelatin developing-out print (DOP)

Owner: University of Delaware Museums: "The Baltimore Collection"

Permanent Location: UD Museums Collections

Reason for Treatment or Examination: Examined as part of the photograph block documentation project and aimed to add to the curatorial and conservation body of knowledge

Examined by: Julianna Ly, WUDPAC 2020

Report Date: January 6, 2018

DESCRIPTION

This is an oval shaped, bust length, glossy silver gelatin DOP portrait of two men in bowler hats mounted on a dark grey cabinet card format.

CONDITION

This photograph measures 6.7 cm wide by 9.3 cm in length on a mount measuring 12.6 cm wide by 18.0 cm in length.

The silver image is in poor condition. It appears to have discolored slightly and has an overall yellow cast. The surface has a thin layer of grime and dust. The silver image has numerous accretions and fly specks scattered throughout. There is damage from moisture that has resulted in several disfiguring and distracting tidelines from moisture on the surface. There are paper remnants previously adhered to the front of the image left in three areas on the right sitter's hat. The mount consists of a wrapped a piece of black tape on both the recto and verso of the mount. The tape is 13 cm in length and starts in the middle of the right edge and extends diagonally towards the left-hand corner. All of the mount corners and the top edge exhibit loss, most likely from wear and handling. There is a tear in the top most paper layer of the mount that is 2 cm in length and located 3 cm in from the upper right edge. There is a puncture hole in the bottom right corner that goes through to the verso of the mount.

On the verso, all edges appear to be worn with losses and creases. There is a visible tide line that extends vertically into the right-half of the mount. In the upper-center of the mount, there are remnants of a pressure-sensitive tape that has a cracked and crazed surface. In areas where the tape had been previously removed, there is removal and disruption of paper fibers resulting in a lighter surface appearance. Dirt and grime is visible throughout and has concentrated along the edges of the pressure-sensitive tape that wraps around on the verso. There are two areas in the top left corner that appear to have been punctured; scratches and dents are scattered throughout.