



Winterthur/University of Delaware
Program in Art Conservation
Conservation Report



Accession #: 2001.0017.0010

Object: [Postcard portrait of an unidentified couple in Atlantic City]

Object Date: 1917–1930

Artist/Author: Royal Studio, 827 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, New Jersey

Materials: Photographic postcard, 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 conservation block documentation project and aimed to add to the curatorial and conservation body of knowledge.

Examined by: Meghan Angelos, PhD Student, Art History

Report Date: January 11, 2018

DESCRIPTION

This is a rectangular, silver gelatin developing-out print (DOP) photographic postcard of an unidentified couple. The woman, who is seated on a windowsill, wears a light, floral-print hat, white shirt, pleated skirt, and boots seated, while the man, dressed in a hat, suit, and tie, stands on the far side of the windowsill, partly behind her.

CONDITION

The filamentary silver image is faded throughout and exhibits localized mold staining, particularly along the upper edge, with additional spots on the man’s chin, shirt, and jacket, the woman’s skirt, and the bottom left corner. The upper left corner is missing and appears to have been torn off. Several creases are visible at the outer edges of the postcard, leading to image loss in some areas. Abrasions along the top edge have also contributed to image loss. Both recto and verso exhibit significant surface dirt and grime. On the verso, there are accretions that were possibly caused by insects, as well as additional, though lighter, purple mold staining.