



Winterthur/University of Delaware  
Program in Art Conservation  
Conservation Report



**Accession #:** 2001.0017.0024

**Object:** [Portrait of an Unidentified Woman with Cut Bangs Curled About the Forehead]

**Object Date:** 1869-1899

**Artist/Creator:** William Keyes Bachrach, Baltimore Photographic Company, 588 North Gay Street, Baltimore, MD)

**Materials:** Albumen photographic print

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

**Permanent Location:** UD Museums Collections

**Reason for Treatment or Examination:** Examined as part of the photo block documentation project with aims to add to the curatorial and conservation body of knowledge

**Examined by:** Tracy Liu, WUDPAC 2020

**Report Date:** 17 January 2018

**Size:**

*Image:* 13.9 x 9.8 cm (5.5 x 3.87 in)

*Mount:* 16.4 x 10.7 cm (6.5 x 4.18 in)

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**Description:** Cabinet card style albumen portrait showing three-quarters view of the bust of an unidentified woman enclosed in a Bachrach jacket.

**Condition Overview:** The photograph is generally in fair condition – it is structurally sound (no complete losses or eminent risk of future loss) and is stable to transportation and routine handling. As is typical with albumen prints, the photographic image has homogeneously yellowed. The surface appears soiled with evidence of heavy abrasion to the albumen binder. While there are no deep gauges or areas of loss, accumulation of many instances of light scratching and small areas of loss pervade are visually distracting in the highlights and have resulted in minor losses to the silver itself in the image. In addition to surface loss from abrasion, remnants of adhesive tape remain in the top right corner of the print.

The mount, composed of five layers (three of cardstock sandwiched between two tan-colored paper sheets) is also in fair condition – the lower right-hand corner is delaminating and there are tears and areas of loss to the top-most tan-paper layer along the top and left-hand borders. The reverse side of the mount has signs of staining, a purple tideline from mold, and light cockling along the top border, all presumably due to previous water damage.

The jacket shows heavy purple tidelines and staining from mold accumulation. Currently, there does not appear to be active mold growth. Tears and fraying are also present along folds of the jacket. Like the mount, the various layers making up the jacket are also fraying and delaminating at the edges.

**Treatment Summary:** Surface grime and dirt was removed with light tamping using a cosmetic sponge until sponge surface ceased to pick up grime. Following dry surface cleaning, the print was wet cleaned using natural enzymes from saliva cleared with deionized water. White spots of discoloration in the dark tones were masked with 2% v/v methyl cellulose in deionized water and inpainted with Sennelier watercolor pigments.