



Winterthur/University of Delaware
Program in Art Conservation
Conservation Report



Accession #: 2001.0017.0029c

Object: [Portrait of an unidentified young woman outdoors, seated in the grass near a birdbath]

Object Date: 1900-1950

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 conservation block documentation project and aimed to add to the curatorial and conservation body of knowledge

Examined by: Karissa Muratore, WUDPAC 2020

Report Date: January 13, 2018

DESCRIPTION

This is an outdoor portrait of an unidentified young woman. She is seated, leaning on her right hand, in the grass near a birdbath and smiling at the camera.

CONDITION

The photograph measures 6.98 x 11.6 centimeters (2.75 x 4.57 inches). These measurements vary from those on Artstor.

The filamentary silver image is in very poor condition. It appears to have suffered severe loss and purple staining due to mold and water related damage, leaving only the bottom edge and a patch on the left side still visible. The remaining visible image has faded and discolored to a greenish tone. In addition, grime, dust, and mold specks have accumulated on the back and front surfaces. The gelatin binder also exhibits small vertical scratches/abrasion and smaller areas of image loss, likely due to abrasion of the surface. All four corners are worn, likely due to mechanical damage such as improper handling and storage. The verso exhibits the same purple staining due to mold, black mold specks, and water related damage as seen on the recto.