



Winterthur/University of Delaware
Program in Art Conservation
Conservation Report



Accession #: 2001.0017.0050

Object: [Portrait of an unidentified adult man (seated?) before a brick edifice]

Object Date: circa 1911

Artist/Author: Unknown

Materials: Mandel-ette postcard, direct positive, tintype

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: Melissa King, WUDPAC 2020

Report Date: January 9, 2018

DESCRIPTION

This is an 8.89 cm x 6.35 cm rectangular direct positive tintype-style postcard featuring a man with a straw hat in a suit with a tie in front of a brick edifice.

CONDITION

The silver image is in poor condition and it is very dark colored due to severe oxidation and it is difficult to see the image without bright light. This is likely due to a lack of varnish layer that is typically found on tintypes with similar processing to this photograph. The collodion binder layer is cracked in many areas and there is a lot of cusping where the binder has detached from the primary paper support. In some areas, particularly along the edges, there is a complete loss of binder and silver image exposing the white of the paper below. There is a layer of surface dirt on the front and verso and there appears to be staining as a result of mold damage on the verso.