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Dr. Joyce Hill Stoner
ARTC-464
Fall 2018

Inpainting

Object: Frame for portrait of Major John Patton
Artist/Maker: unknown
Period: late 19th century (est.)
Materials: wood with composition ornament, gesso, bole, bronze paint
Dimensions:
Overall Dimensions: 35 x 40"
Rabbet: 25 ½" x 30 ¼"
Sight: 24 ½" x 29 ⅜"

This semester, I assisted in the inpainting of a frame that had been damaged in a fire. The structural Flügger fills had already been added by Megan Abercrombie, so I inpainted the losses and fills in the bottom proper right corner and edge of the frame using Golden PVA Conservation Colors and Mica Colors with ethanol as the diluent. Because the frame is gilded, I started my inpainting by painting a layer of a red bole color, mixed from Burnt Sienna, Red Iron Oxide, Yellow Ochre, a small amount of Viridian, and some white and black for toning.

After the bole color was laid down, I mixed a brown color using Van Dyke Brown, Red Iron Oxide, Yellow Ochre, and black and white to match the brown color of the frame, some of which in my corner had become stained by smoke. Then, for the top layer of my inpainting I mixed the Mica Color Super Bronze with the same brown color to obtain the proper sheen.

The most challenging aspect of this project was that I would mix and apply the perfect color to match the rest of the frame, but when the light would change, I would realize it did not match. This was especially apparent when we hung the frame up to work on it, and the angle of lighting on the bottom corner of the frame changed and my fill was far too light.



During Treatment



After Treatment