

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Update on Dreamings pamphlet
Date: Monday, 9 December 2013 2:45:50 PM

Edited copy s 47F
(privacy)

[REDACTED]
National Museum of Australia
PO Box 1901 | Canberra | ACT 2601
P [REDACTED] | F [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 8 December 2011 5:22 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Update on Dreamings pamphlet

[REDACTED]

I just thought it worth giving you an update on the status of the treatment and further findings during treatment.

Condition:

As noted in my previous email, there has been some change to the paper where hinges have been removed. The changes are fairly minor and I believe we can certainly go some way to minimising these changes. The paper is textured and where the hinges were attached the texture is not as pronounced as on the rest of the paper surface - this has, to a large degree, caused the "discolouring" that I noted in the previous email. The effect is due to the contrast between the textured paper and the areas where application and removal of hinges have led to the texture on the paper surface being flattened. The way light bounces of the page, affects the appearance - these areas look lighter than the surrounding paper. There were also areas that appeared darker and, with the naked eye, could almost be interpreted as being dirty. Again this appearance is due to the surface characteristics of the paper, which has been skinned in some areas and had paste residues in others.

Treatment to Date:

- I worked with magnification to remove loose and excess Japanese paper fibres, but at the same time found that some of the areas that had at first appeared like additional paper on top of the document were in fact misaligned areas of skinning. These have been re-aligned.
- Larger areas of adhesive residues that were sitting on the surface of the paper have been removed. It is evident that some of the adhesive has soaked into the paper in the areas where the document was hinged - I have not attempted to remove this as it will disturb the paper surface too much. They may cockle if the paper is subject to changes in humidity but there is little risk of damage.
- I was able to re-instate some of the texture of the paper locally by running a fine brush with deionised water along the line of the raised texture - the paper has "plumped up" in some of these areas significantly reducing the visual impact that had resulted from the paper being flattened.
- After this I very lightly humidified the document and let it dry with minimal weight on top - 3 blotters and some acid-free board. This has evened out the appearance of the document.
- I have carried out some further work to reinstate texture and this has been quite successful. I experimented with the application of Japanese paper fibres on the surface in line with the texture lines, where the paper texture had been burnished flat and would not "plump up". This worked in

two areas and I have left them there but paste/size consolidation of areas where the surface was skinned in combination with "plumping" was the most successful approach.

- I am very conscious that overworking the paper could result in more differential discolouration so will stop the work as soon as I see no further benefit.

The document is stable and very much intact. When you get it back you will be able to see some of the "discolouration" effect caused by flattening of the texture, but it is certainly much improved. With regard to the cause of the problem - I think that the hinging method was inappropriate for a paper such as this. It should have been hinged using different adhesive and a different application method, or not hinged at all. Clearly the technique used to remove the hinges could also have been improved.

For this particular instance, you may not gain any comfort from the methodologies have been altered re hinging of such items and that this example has demonstrated why the changes were necessary. However, I do hope that this provides the South Australian Museum with some reassurance for the future.

I will prepare a report for you in the near future.

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

National Museum Australia

t: [Redacted]

m: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

>>> [Redacted] 29/11/2011 11:34 AM >>>

Thanks [Redacted] - will do.

Cheers

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

National Museum Australia

t: [Redacted]

m: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

>>> [Redacted] <[Redacted]@samuseum.sa.gov.au> 29/11/2011 11:33 AM >>>

Hi [Redacted],

Thankyou for your reply. Please go ahead with the treatment.

Regards,

■

From: ■ [mailto:■@nma.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 28 November 2011 1:26 PM
To: ■ (SAM)
Subject: Re: FW: Return of Dreamings pamphlet

■

It is one of those days.....

I am happy to send you a more formal document separately but so that we can get things moving, I thought I would dash off this quick email.

Condition:

There has been some change to the paper where hinges have been removed. The changes are fairly minor and I believe we can certainly go some way to minimising these changes. The paper is textured and where the hinges were attached the texture is not as pronounced as on the rest of the paper surface. There is also slight cockling. There is some discolouration. Close examination indicates that this might be, in part, due to Japanese paper and adhesive residues. There is also a very small area where the paper surface is fractured.

Treatment:

- Working under the microscope, dry removal of loose and excess Japanese paper fibres, followed by reintroduction of minimal moisture to allow for local removal of starch paste and the remainder of the Japanese paper fibres held by the adhesive.
- Allow treated areas to dry under cover but without too much pressure to reduce local cockling but so as not to flatten the texture. It is hoped that this may also result in the texture of the paper surface "redeveloping" to a degree.
- Very light humidification of the document as a whole, followed by drying under cover but without too much pressure. This may be repeated several times as this is a very gentle treatment involving only very slight increase in moisture and minimal pressure to control drying. The aim of this stage is to make the texture of the paper more uniform across the whole; making the local areas of change less visible.
- A Japanese paper fibre repair will be applied to the fractured paper surface.

I really hope this helps and is sufficient for you to approve the treatment which I will commence tomorrow if you give the go ahead.

Best regards

■

■
■

National Museum Australia

t: ■
m: ■

■@nma.gov.au
>>> ■ (SAM)" <■@samuseum.sa.gov.au> 28/11/2011 11:49 AM >>>

Dear [REDACTED],

How are you, hope all is well in Canberra.

Could you please send a copy of the treatment proposal?

Best,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nma.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 24 November 2011 12:59 PM
To: [REDACTED] (SAM); [REDACTED] (SAM)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Return of Dreamings pamphlet

Hi [REDACTED]

As per our conversation this morning I wanted to advise you that when the Dreamings pamphlet was removed from display our Conservation staff noted a minor change in the condition of the object.

[REDACTED] has inspected the object and recommended that it undergoes treatment prior to return. [REDACTED] is happy to provide documentation of her proposal and discuss her recommendation with you or [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] number is [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nma.gov.au>

If you are happy to proceed with [REDACTED] treatment proposal there will be a delay of at least one week in returning the object by 30 Nov as planned. As soon as [REDACTED] has completed her work I will arrange transport on the next available IAS service to Adelaide.

Thank you for being understanding in regard to this matter.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
National Museum of Australia

Ph [REDACTED]
>>> "[REDACTED] (SAM)" <[REDACTED]@samuseum.sa.gov.au> 23/11/2011 10:00 AM >>>

Dear [REDACTED],

I just realised that I haven't replied to your email. I am so sorry I thought I had!

Thankyou for organising IAS. I will be the contact person Monday-Wednesday ([REDACTED]), if it is Thursday or Friday please have them contact [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]. When you have an idea of the date and rough time, could you please let me know.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nma.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 November 2011 3:11 PM

To: [REDACTED] (SAM)

Subject: Return of Dreamings pamphlet

Hello [REDACTED]

As you will be aware the loan of the Dreamings pamphlet (SAMA 08/02) is due to end on 30 Nov. I just wanted to let you know that the pamphlet will be removed from display next week to be condition checked by our Conservation staff and packed for return to SAM.

If you are in agreement I will arrange for IAS to deliver the pamphlet to:
South Australian Museum, North Terrace Adelaide

Could you please let me know if I you'd like me to provide IAS with your details as the contact person, or if another member of your staff will oversee the return of the pamphlet.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

National Museum of Australia
Ph 02 6208 5413