



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Tatura Museum Conservation Project

Update Number 3 | 8 August 2023

In this update

Returning items to
Tatura

Finalising treatment
reports for each item



This project is supported
by the Victorian
Government through the
Living Heritage Grants
Program.

Project leads:

George Ferguson -
Secretary, Tatura and District
Historical Society.

Penny Tripp -
General Manager
Grimwade Conservation
Services, University of
Melbourne.

Contact:

taturamuseum@gmail.com

Returning items to Tatura



Image (t to b): Conservators Larry Edwards and Peter Mitchelson unpacking items from transit tubs; Larry Edwards returning hanging items to storage.

The Grimwade Conservation Services team consisting of General Manager Penny Tripp, Textile Conservator Larry Edwards and Book and Paper Conservator Peter Mitchelson travelled to Tatura on Wednesday 2 August 2023 to return all items that have undergone conservation treatment over the last few months in their labs in North Melbourne.

12 textile items and 3 books received conservation treatment under the Victorian Government Living Heritage Grant Program.



Images (l to r): Peter Mitchelson presenting the detailed conservation work he completed to each book; Larry Edwards discussing the textile treatment work completed to each item.



Images (l to r): Peter Mitchelson demonstrates careful object handling techniques for fragile books; Larry Edwards discussing the Maintenance Plan updates as they related to management of pests in collection.

Finalising condition and treatment reports

To support the conservation treatment of each item, a conservation Condition and Treatment Report was created. The report includes a detailed description of the condition of the item before conservation, what treatment work was completed, and before and after reference photos. These reports are critical in documenting the history of the item whilst in the care of the collection and become an important reference for future conservation work.

Grimwade Conservation Services
99 Shiel Street
North Melbourne VIC, 3051
Australia
p: 03 9348 5700
e: gcs-info@unimelb.edu.au

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Condition and Treatment Report Form

JOB NO: BO-23-18629

Artist/Author: C7442	Ref No:
Origin:	Date/Period:
Title: 'Under Consideration' Poems in two languages	
Item: Other - Book	
Owner/Collection: Tatura Internment and PoW Camp Museum	
Date Quoted: 13/02/2023	
Examined By: Nori Zachri	

DESCRIPTION

Dimensions:
L 208 x W 150 (including opened spine damage) x 11 D mm

Binding Style:
Stab sewn

Materials:
Paper with Gaffer tape applied to spine

Inscriptions:
Written in black ink in the bottom corner of the first page 'Tatura 28 Okt. 1941'
Written in pencil on the bottom edge of the inside of the back cover '744Z'

Condition:
Poor condition. The cover is fully detached with losses along all edges and minor tears, abrasions and creases. The Gaffer tape has failed along the spine however is still attached to the back cover. The back cover has a 15 mm tear at the tail along the line of Gaffer tape and another two at the head parallel to the spine and approximately 20 mm and 15 mm in length. There is a piece of paper tape over the inside of the back cover between these two tears. The Gaffer tape laps over the tail area inside the back cover. There are minor losses to the top edge of the back cover and the bottom corner appears to have been trimmed slightly and the top corner has loss. The gutters up until page three have been reinforced with paper tape. There are numerous tears to the text block, most notably horizontal tears starting from the joint and extending out into the pages on the first and last pages. There are numerous minor stains and surface dirt throughout the text block.

TREATMENT

1. Digital photographs were taken, the book was examined and the condition report written.
2. The book was dry cleaned overall using smoke sponges and soft brushes.
3. 100% ethanol was applied directly onto the Gaffer tape and enclosed within sheets of Mylar to form a vapour chamber. After 20 minutes the tape was able to be peeled away.
4. The residual adhesive left by the Gaffer tape was cleared using a poultice of 50:50 ethanol and acetone in hydroxypropylcellulose.
5. A poultice of 5% Methylcellulose was applied to the tape inside the folds of the first three pages, then peeled and scraped away using metal spatulas.
6. The first three pages of this book were loose and their spine edges were torn and have minor losses. A strip of 11 gsm kozo paper

Grimwade Conservation Services - ABN 84 002 705 224

Image: Actual condition and treatment reports.

Image-BO-23-18630-AT-Inside Front Cover-Der Struwwelpeter-20-7-2023.JPG



Recto BT.JPG



Image: Sample pages of before and after photos from the condition and treatment reports.