

# ELIZABETH DROLET

*Art and Archaeological Conservation Services*

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## Proposal – Mission San Gabriel

### Conservation 2023

Below is outlined the proposal for the general conservation needs of three baskets from the Mission San Gabriel collection, in anticipation of upcoming display of these items.

As part of the conservation work, a detailed treatment proposal will be provided for each object, outlining the current condition and recommended treatment steps. The condition of each object will be documented photographically before and after treatment, and a written report will be provided summarizing all actions taken and materials used in the treatment.

The objects are listed below in order of treatment priority, based on the current condition and the extent of required stabilization for display. Attached is an estimate of the total project cost.

#### MSG1029 – Cooking Basket

The basket is in good condition overall. There is some abrasion to the base, and several losses to stitches at the rim. The largest area of loss measures approximately 1 inch, but the stitches surrounding this area do not appear to be mobile. The surface is moderately soiled and lightly dusty overall. This slightly obscures the color difference between the background and the red and black of the designs. Some of the soiling on the basket interior is potentially from the original use of the object. There is a yellowish accretion on stitches on the exterior, just below the rim, in an approximately rectangular area. This appears to be an adhesive residue, and was possibly the location of a previously applied tag or label (Fig. 1). The location of the residue is fairly prominent, and will be visible when displayed.



FIGURE 1: YELLOWED ACCRECTIONS

#### Treatment options:

- Lightly clean the interior and exterior surfaces to remove loose dust and debris. Cleaning will be completed with a soft brush and vacuum. [ 2 hours ]

- If needed, additional dry cleaning can be completed with vulcanized rubber sponges to improve the overall appearance and visibility of the color variations within the basket. This will focus on the basket exterior, and no effort will be made to remove the surface patina developed from original use of the object. [ 3 hours ]
- Reduce or remove the adhesive residue on the exterior of the basket. Testing will be done to determine the solubility of the material. If possible, the material can then be removed with the application of an appropriate solvent, using a dampened swab rolled over the surface. If the material does not respond to common solvents, the material can be mechanically reduced using a scalpel, to minimize the appearance of the accretions. [ 2 hours ]

Estimated Time: 2 - 7 hours

### MSG1017 – Basket Tray

The basket is in good condition overall, with some small losses to the rim. There are scattered lost and broken stitches at the rim, but the areas surrounding these losses appear to be stable. The surface is moderately soiled and lightly dusty overall. This slightly obscures the color difference between the center and outer portion of the tray. There is a yellowish accretion on stitches at the center interior, in an approximately rectangular area. This appears to be an adhesive residue, and was possibly the location of a previously applied tag or label (Fig. 2). The location of the residue is fairly prominent, and will be visible when displayed.



FIGURE 2: YELLOWED ACCRETIONS

#### Treatment options:

- Lightly clean the interior and exterior surfaces to remove loose dust and debris. Cleaning will be completed with a soft brush and vacuum. [ 2 hours ]
- If needed, additional dry cleaning can be completed with vulcanized rubber sponges to improve the overall appearance and visibility of the color variations within the basket. No effort will be made to remove the surface patina developed from original use of the object. [ 2 hours ]
- Reduce or remove the adhesive residue on the interior of the basket. Testing will be done to determine the solubility of the material. If possible, the material can then be removed with the application of an appropriate solvent, using a dampened swab rolled over the surface. If the material does not respond to common solvents, the material can be mechanically reduced using a scalpel, to minimize the appearance of the accretions. [ 2 hours ]

Estimated Time: 2 - 6 hours

## MSG1023- 1 Seed Beater

The basket is in good condition overall. There are some small losses to the basketry elements, but these do not affect the overall appearance or structural stability of the piece. The cloth at the handle and the stitching affixing it appear to be stable. There is some soiling and a patina to both the plant fiber and cloth materials, this is possibly from original use of the object.

- The object is in good condition, and no treatment is currently recommended.

## ELIZABETH DROLET

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*Art and Archaeological Conservation Services*

# Work Estimate

**Date: 4/25/2023**

**ESTIMATE # 120**

**TO**

Steven Hackel  
Mission San Gabriel  
428 South Mission Dr  
San Gabriel, California 91776-1299  
626.808.7739  
Customer ID: I212

### Description of Services

Mission San Gabriel

#### Conservation Treatment of the Collection

- Treatment of two (2) baskets in preparation of the objects for display.  
MSG1017, MSG 1029
- Cleaning and repair of the objects, with documentation of individual condition before and after treatment, and reports summarizing all actions taken.

Labor billed at \$ 100.00 per hour

Estimated costs include supplies needed to carry out conservation treatments as proposed.

Itemized Costs	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
Labor	13 hours	\$ 100.00	\$ 1300.00
<b>Estimated Total</b>			\$ 1300.00

*Note: This estimate is not a contract or a bill. It is a best guess at the total price to complete the work stated above, based upon the initial assessment, but may be subject to change. If prices change or additional supplies and labor are required, I will inform you prior to proceeding with the work.*