

TREATMENT REPORT FOR CONFESSIONAL BOX AT SAN GABRIEL MISSION

by Catherine Keaveney,
Furniture & Wooden Objects Conservator

Confessional
Mission San Gabriel Historical Collection
Wood, 18th Century

CONDITION: The confessional underwent an intensive conservation treatment in 2019. Since that time there has been a fire on the mission premises and all artifacts removed from the buildings during repair. The Confessional, now being reinstalled into the exhibition space, needs cleaning and stabilization. The crown and crucifix which were removed for safety during storage need to be reattached.



TREATMENT: The current phase of treatment, completed June 8th 2023, involved a light cleaning of the reinstalled Confessional. The crown piece construction is of cobbled pieces which over the years have deteriorated and needed to be stabilized. Original nails were protruding where the original attachment had been made and these attachment points have been honored whilst also adding metal plates on the inside to give strength and support and longevity in the exhibition space. The crucifix was also attached and stabilized as part of the crownpiece.

