

Poster abstract

Karen Holloway

The preparation of acrylic films for the reintegration of losses in photographs with a glossy surface

Compensating for losses in photographic material is carried out to both stabilise the physical structure of the print and to reintegrate the image in order to improve its visual appearance.

Fills generally involve the insertion of a material matching surface characteristic such as texture, weight and tone. It is important that surfaces are similar as light reflecting from different surfaces will draw attention to the area. Filling and toning photographs with glossy surfaces can be difficult and time consuming, especially when the loss is quite large.

This poster will demonstrate how acrylic paint, a commonly used material in paper conservation, can be formed into a flexible film which can be worked to match the surface characteristics of the print and draw the eye away from the damaged area.

Other novel methods of reintegrating losses in photographic material will also be shown.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

Karen Holloway has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Conservation of Cultural Materials from the University of Canberra, (paper stream). In her final year of study, she was accepted into the inaugural "Conservator in Training" program at the National Archives of Australia. Within the Archives she held several positions including Exhibitions Conservator and Lab Manager working on a diverse range of material. She has a special interest in photographic material and in 2004 obtained a Graduate Certificate in the Conservation of Photographs. Karen joined the Australian War Memorial in 2009 where she is currently acting Lab Manager.

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