

Client: Ms. Mary Jo Davis
PO Box 232
West Burke, VT 05871

Date: May 8, 2012

Lab No.: 12-P-39

Title: Yacht America

Artist: anon

Date of Manufacture: 1851

Media: blue and black printing inks

Engraver: G. W. Lewis

Attachments/Frames: yes, not original

Type: Lithography (two-toned)

Dimensions: 16" x 22"

Platemark: no

Publisher: Brown & Severin

Watermark: no

Inscriptions: verso of secondary support
"VA 3041-16"

Description: The two-toned lithographic print depicts the "Yacht America" under full sail in a busy harbor.

Condition Summary: The artwork suffers from foxing, surface soiling, severe overall discoloration, and matburn as a result of poor-quality framing materials and overexposure to light.

TECHNICAL EXAMINATION:

Primary Support: The print was carried out on a smooth, off-white, heavy weight, machine-made paper of good quality and unknown fiber content. The primary support is adhered overall on the verso to a poor-quality, 4-ply paper board support with a wax-based, dry-mount tissue.

There is light surface soiling, foxing stains, matburn and overall discoloration present from contact with poor-quality framing materials and overexposure to light.

Media: The print was carried out with light blue and black printing inks. The contrast of the image has been altered as the brown discoloration makes the image look like a negative instead of a positive.

Previous Treatment: n/a

Treatment Limitations: The degree of overall stain reduction is not possible to predict prior to treatment. As with all backing removals, the process does involve mechanically removing the secondary support. All precautions will be taken to prevent small nicks to the verso of the primary support.

Anticipated Treatment Results: Overall surface soiling on the recto will be reduced using grated eraser crumbs which will be removed with a soft brush. The artwork will be



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placed face down on a prepared work surface and the secondary support will be removed with mechanical action and a scalpel. The residual wax-based adhesive will be reduced with the appropriate solvent.

Soluble acids and overall discoloration will be removed and reduced during aqueous treatment. Further reduction of disfiguring discoloration and foxing stains will be carried out using mild chemical bleach applied in the form of a mist to the recto and verso. The artwork will be rinsed and air-dried. Planar distortions will be corrected by humidifying the artwork in a chamber then flattening between dry blotters under light weights for several weeks.

The print will be reframed with a new frame using UV filtering glass and archival materials.