

TREATMENT PROPOSAL/AUTHORIZATION FOR TREATMENT

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Date: 9/3/07  
PCS Identification number: 08-02  
Owner/Custodian: Nancy Sparrow  
Address: Alexander Architectural Archive  
Battle Hall, Room 6, University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, TX  
Telephone: 512-475-4621  
Owner/Custodian call no.: KER  
Title/Subject/Description (.01): Kermacy residence. Unbuilt. (Drawing 2 of 2.)  
Creator: Kermacy Firm  
Date of production: 8/19/59  
Place of production: unknown  
Approximate dimensions (h x w): 26 5/16" x 35 7/8"  
66.9 cm x 90.8 cm

Conservator: Sarah Norris

Authorization

The undersigned requests and authorizes the Kilgarlin Center at the University of Texas, Austin, TX, to undertake conservation treatment of the artifact described in the attached Condition Report according to the procedures outlined in the appended Treatment Proposal. In the event the Owner/Custodian authorizes the Kilgarlin Center to proceed with the treatment recommended in the proposal such authorization shall be deemed to include acceptance by the depositor of the terms and conditions appearing in the original Authorization for Examination and Treatment. The undersigned further agrees that the Kilgarlin Center and the conservator may share any information or images obtained during the agreed upon examination, treatment, or investigation in written and public presentations.

Signature of Owner/Custodian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of conservator: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Description**

Primary support(hxw):	26 5/16" x 35 7/8" 66.9 cm x 90.8 cm
Image area(hxw):	24 1/2" x 34 5/16" 62.1 cm x 87.2 cm

### **General**

The architectural drawing is black ink, apparently from a felt-tip pen, on tracing paper. A gray ink stamp mark with the architectural firm's identifying information appears in the lower right corner of the image area. A square border appears around the image area in graphite. There are also thin reference lines of graphite appearing in the image area.

### **Media**

#### **Medium 1**

Black ink, apparently from a felt-tip pen, constitutes the image. The ink is thinly applied where it serves as an outline and more thickly applied in shaded regions.

#### **Medium 2**

Thin graphite lines appear within the image area and form a square border around it.

#### **Medium 3**

A stamp giving identifying information from the architectural firm was applied in gray in to the bottom right corner of the drawing. Inscriptions within the stamp appear in the black ink used in the image area.

### **Primary support**

The primary support is tracing paper that is thin #2, smooth in texture, and closest to beige #2 in color<sup>1</sup>, though noticeable yellowing has occurred. The support is darkened at the edges.

### **Condition**

#### **General**

The drawing is in fair condition overall with a support that is yellowed, embrittled, and darkened at its edges. Tears are prevalent at the support's edges, varying in length from 0.3 cm to 13.8 cm. While these tears do not extend into the drawing itself, two tears do cross the stamp at the lower right corner of the image area. The support is creased at its edges.

#### **Media**

##### **Medium 1**

The black ink is in good condition overall. There is one region in the middle of the image, approximately 3 cm in diameter, where the black ink has faded to brown. This may indicate that the ink is water-soluble.

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<sup>1</sup> Lunning, Elizabeth and Roy Perkinson. *The Print Council of America Paper Sample Book*. 1996: The Print Council of America.

## **Medium 2**

The thin graphite lines are in good condition overall.

## **Medium 3**

The gray stamp ink has faded to blue toward its left side. This may indicate that the ink is water-soluble. The ink is somewhat blurred in the middle of the stamp area.

## **Primary support**

The machine made tracing paper has become yellowed and embrittled. Ghosting, in the same black ink as the image, appears in the center of the image area. This ink may have been transferred from another drawing stored next to this drawing in the archive. Tears are prevalent at the support's edges, varying in length from 0.3 cm to 13.8 cm. While these tears do not extend into the drawing itself, two tears do cross the stamp at the lower right corner of the image area. The longest tear appears approximately 10.5 cm from the right top edge of the support. The support is creased from storage and use at the top and right edges, especially at the top left, top right, and bottom right corners. Two minor losses (maximum 0.3 cm diameter) appear near the graphite border at the image area's right edge.

## **Treatment Proposal**

1. Unobtrusively test stamp ink and black felt-tip ink for water-solubility.
2. Relax and flatten creased areas with local humidification, taking care to control moisture to avoid planar distortion of tracing paper.
3. Mend tears with wheat starch paste and thin Japanese tissue, focusing on tears that pose future danger in handling and tears that cross the stamp in the image area's lower right corner.
4. House drawing in a lignin-free 20 point folder.

## **Photography**

Digital images will be taken before and after treatment, displaying the object recto and verso, in ambient and raking light.

## **Possible Effects of Treatment**

The stamp ink and the black felt-tip ink could run when wheat starch paste is applied in the stamp area. Ink testing is planned to avoid this problem.

Humidification could introduce slight planar distortion in the primary support.

## **Treatment Notes**

Image area ink yields offset in five seconds. Stamp ink does not offset in 15 seconds.

Portions of the primary support were humidified and flattened by lightly spraying out blotter on one side and using reverse side beneath the object to make a blotter sandwich for one minute. Then the sections were dried under a blotter, glass, and weight. This method worked well except in the lower left corner, where slight curling was induced.

The least visible mends used very thin tissue with fibers pasted out in situ. However, these mends showed a greater tendency to cockle than did those where the tissue was pasted out off the drawing.

**Treatment Performed**

9/9/07

Ink testing: 10 min

Humidification: 50 min

Mending: 4 hrs

Tot: 5 hrs