

**Brussat Sculpture Conservation, LLC**

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**Examination and Treatment Report**

May 22, 2025

**Client**

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Marshall Fine Arts/Planting Fields Foundation

**Conservator**

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Melanie Brussat

**Object**

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Sofa

**Date**

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Late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with late 16<sup>th</sup> century tapestry fragments

**Artist/Attribution**

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Unknown

**Medium**

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Wood and tapestry

**Dimensions**

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**Description**

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“Charles of London provenance. English walnut sofa, with late 16<sup>th</sup> century tapestry border fragments, center female figure, fruit and floral motifs with gold/tan as dominant background color and reds, blues, and greens throughout.”

**Condition**

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The wood base of the sofa was damaged following a film shoot. The right and left front legs have snapped off, along with two breaks in the decorative wood tracery on the base.

## Treatment Procedure

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1. The broken dowels and excess adhesive were removed with a drill, acetone, water, and a scalpel, as necessary.
2. New oak dowels were cut to fit the existing holes.
3. The dowel hole on the right (when facing the sofa) was sealed with Acryloid B72, the dowel was inserted, and the gaps around the dowel were filled with WoodEpox epoxy putty. This joint was treated differently than the others, because it had been adhered with epoxy in the past, and the new adhesive needed to be compatible.
4. The remaining joints (the left dowel hole and the two joins on the wood tracery) were sealed with dilute Kremer high tack fish glue, and joined with full strength high tack fish glue after inserting the new dowel. All joints were clamped at least overnight.
5. A small area of WoodEpox that was visible around the right dowel was inpainted with Gamblin Conservation Colors.

## Condition photographs

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1. Before Treatment, overall





2. Before Treatment



3. Before treatment, details





4. Before treatment, details of broken dowels and old adhesive in dowel holes



5. During Treatment, detail of dowel holes cleared of old dowels and adhesive, with new dowel in place



6. After Treatment (with clamps and protection still in place on left side)



7. After Treatment

### **Recommendations for Care and Maintenance**

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1. If keeping the sofa in an environment with stable relative humidity is not possible, keep away from direct sources of heat or air conditioning, and keep out of direct sunlight.
2. The silk tassels of the upholstery are very fragile and prone to breaking. If possible, do not touch the tassels or place stress on them.