

Painting Conservation Condition Report

Acc. Number: COE.1955.2.164A
Site: Coe Hall
Title: *Untitled 164*
Artist: Everett Shinn
Date: Early 20th century
Type: Oil on canvas
Dimensions: 13" X 36"
Conservator: Mary Betlejeski
Date of Examination: April 2008

Overall Condition

The mural is part of a suite of 8 decorative panels painted by Everett Shinn (1876-1953) for installation in Mrs. Coe's bathroom. At some point the canvas was removed from the bathroom to be framed up and sold. It is a painted canvas mounted to Masonite. The Masonite secondary support renders the object brittle and unstable. The paint and ground layers are however in good and stable condition.

Primary Support

The primary support is a plain tabby weave fabric. The fabric is in good condition and has been mounted to the smooth side of a 1/8" Masonite panel. The mounting to Masonite probably occurred after the painting was removed from the bathroom wall. The adhesive used to mount the canvas to the Masonite is unknown. Brown tape was used around all four sides to tidy and protect the edges. The uneven surface plane can be explained by the presence of broken remains of a lead white adhesive layer trapped between the canvas and the Masonite. The canvas was most likely originally attached to the bathroom wall with a lead white adhesive. When the mural was removed from the wall, some of the adhesive was also removed and left clinging to the reverse of the canvas. The radiograph clearly locates these areas. The uneven lead white adhesive layer has created distortions in the form of raised areas and depressions over what should be a flat surface plane.

The Masonite panel was backed with a 1/4" piece of fiberboard. This board was attached with four 3/4" circles of adhesive at each corner. The adhesive has since become brittle and have lost their adhesive qualities. As a result, the fiberboard is tenuously attached by one corner on the left side. The reverse of the fiberboard has three bar code stickers and writing.