

FALLON & WILKINSON, LLC
Furniture Conservators

Boscobel House and Gardens
1601 Route D
Garrison, NY 10524
ATTN: Jennifer Carlquist

September 9, 2025

Dear Jennifer,

The following is our treatment report for the barrel back chair attributed to Duncan Phyfe.

Thank you,
Randy

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Randy S. Wilkinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Randy S. Wilkinson, Principal
Fallon & Wilkinson, LLC

Note: The quoted estimated treatment cost will be honored for 30 days from the date of the Treatment proposal
By accepting this treatment proposal, I grant permission to Fallon & Wilkinson, LLC to use treatment photographs of my object for educational and/ or promotional purposes.

**Conservation
Treatment Proposal**

Project No.
24-052



Boscobel
House and
Gardens

9/9/2025



<i>Object</i>	Barrel Back chair, 37.5”h x 24”w x 25”d , Mahogany Accession number 76.29
<i>Description</i>	A finely carved barrel back chair attributed to Duncan Phyfe, upholstered in a modern horsehair show cover with brass nails and trim.
<i>Condition</i>	The chair was in fine condition with some notable exceptions. There were numerous scratches, dents, and minor abrasions due to the collapse of the ceiling in the spring of 2024, along with an excessive amount of plaster dust and debris on the show cover and the wood. Also, there were two breaks in the top rail that appeared to be old and were slightly unstable. The show cover had faded. The brass nails were corroded and had left corrosion marks on the trim.
<i>Treatment Proposal</i>	The following was our executed treatment for the barrel chair: - Removed the damaged show cover and stained thin batting underneath - Examined frame for previous upholstery evidence. See below for results. - Consolidated the split in the top rail - Cleaned the surface of dirt - Improved on minor dents and abrasions with touch up techniques - Waxed the wooden frame - Applied a new horsehair show cover (Emil Rotter oHG, Orpheus R19) over a thin layer of dacron over the existing under upholstery with no adjustment to the existing overall look - Communicated with curator to choose a trim from several options (see below) - Applied new trim (Schumacher, Harry Cotton Gimp, black, 74826) with new brass coated trim nails (Osborne, French natural 3/8) in a spaced pattern, reusing previous nail holes as much as possible.

Remnants of previous show covers

There were remnants of three different previous show covers on the chair. Because the remnants were so small, it was hard to determine what the larger pattern of the fabric may have been. The remnants suggested the following types of show covers:

1. Red and tan plain weave fabric, possibly wool, much finer weave than jute webbing
2. Multicolored fabric on a black background, possibly silk
3. Red leather

Location	Fabric on reverse
 PL rail, near rear	 Plain weave red and tan
 PR seat rail, near rear leg	 Plain weave red and tan



Rear rail, middle



Multicolor on black background



PL seat rail, near middle of rail



Multicolor on black background



Rear seat rail, underside



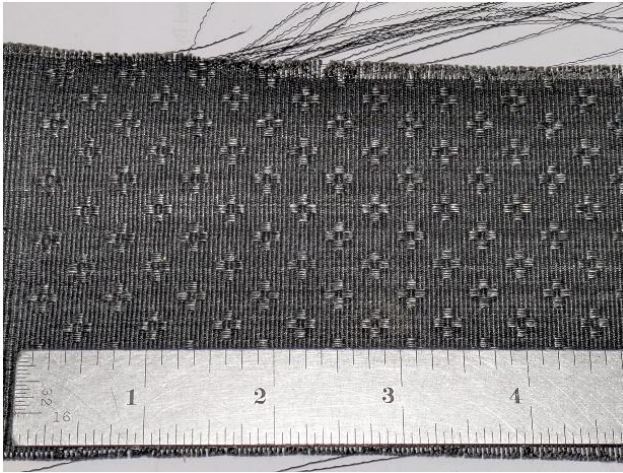
Red leather

Gimp choices

	Current gimp
	1/2" AURELIA GIMP ITEM: 982-56148-33 COLOR: 33 ONYX A lustrous, multi-tonal gimp, featuring a raised central cord detail edged with pinstripes and picot edges. 1/2" AURELIA GIMP - ONYX - Samuel and Sons
	Schumacher Eleanor Gimp Trim G503-2 / Jet Item Width 1/2" Wide (1Cm) [Actual width 5/8" → too wide] Rayon Schumacher Eleanor Gimp Trim Jet Fabric Bistro Columbia South Carolina

	Schumacher Narrow Faille Tape Trim 74989 / Black Regular price 0.5" Viscose A narrow grosgrain tape with a beautiful hand and subtle tonal variations, this is a versatile choice for an elegant finishing touch. Available in multiple colors and widths. Schumacher Narrow Faille Tape Trim Black Fabric Bistro Columbia South Carolina
	This exquisite, narrow silk gimp is a lovely woven embellishment with subtle texture and dimension. It is available in a range of colors and additional widths. Item Width 1/2" (1Cm) Content 100% Silk Schumacher Pierre Silk Gimp Narrow Black Fabric Bistro Columbia South Carolina
	This versatile cotton gimp is a lovely woven embellishment with subtle texture and dimension. Available in a range of useful colors, it makes a beautiful border or design accent. Item Width 0.5" 100% fibranne Harry Cotton Gimp - Black - Schumacher 74826 -Trim – The WorkRoom ➔ This was the final choice for the gimp

Treatment images



Orpheus R19 fabric



Dust on chair, before treatment



Detaching trim and nails, showing the severe fading of the show cover and corrosion from the nails on the trim



Show cover removed from out back, showing cotton batting



Burlap under cotton batting of outback



Muslin filler cover from inner back is tacked to the outside of the stay rail and the horsehair show cover of the seat is tacked to the outside of the seat rail



Four pieces of webbing support the burlap for the outback



A black cotton pull fabric was sewn to the bottom edge of the inner back show cover



Soiled padding under previous show cover



Readhering split crest rail



Applying the new showcover on the inner back



Smoothing out the horsehair of the inner back



The chair ready for trim



Matching up new nails with old holes with the aid of the previous trim above it



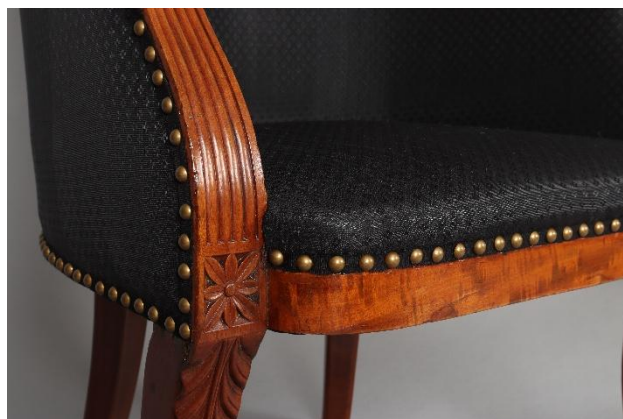
Front of chair, after treatment



Rear of chair, after treatment



Detail of seat, after treatment



Detail of PR front corner, after treatment