**Title**
Overseas war views: a complete photographic record of all American sectors

**Author**
Abbott, Charles H.

**DESCRIPTION:**

**General Remarks**
This is a WWI photograph album.

**Binding**
Black cloth covered post binding with metal telescoping posts held together with a black tied cord.

**Textblock**
Composed of stubbed paper leaves.

**Primary Support**
Black machine paper with adhered single layer stubs constructed out of the same textblock paper.

**Medium**
This is a photograph album containing silver gelatin prints dating between 1914-1918.

**Attachments|Inserts**
There are typewriter printed letters and cloth army patches attached near the end of the album.

**Housing**
None.

**CONDITION:**

**Summary**
The album is coated in dirt and is in poor condition due to the inherently acidic and brittle album leaves.

**Binding**
Good condition aside from frayed corners and edges. There is a pressure sensitive catalog label adhered on the upper cover that appears to have stained the cover below.

**Textblock**
Upon close examination after disbinding, it was discovered that nearly every page suffers from tears along the joint fold.

**Primary Support**
The black machine paper is inherently brittle because it was made from poor quality materials.

**Medium**
The photographs are covered overall in a thick layer of soot and dirt that easily transfers to fingers when handled. Structurally, the photographs are in good condition and well adhered to the leaves.

**Housing Narrative**
No prior housing.

**Attachments|Inserts**
The attached letters and textile army patches are heavily soiled from dirt accumulation, but are in fair condition otherwise. The army patches contain gold thread that is dull and muted from accumulated dirt.

**Previous Treatment**
No previous treatment apparent.

**Materials Analysis**
The cataloging label adhesive softens when heated with an air pencil.
**Proposal**
1. Remove cataloging labels from the cloth cover.
2. Disbind.
3. Mend tears in album leaves.
4. Surface clean photos to remove loose dirt.
5. Add unbuffered interleaving tissue and re-bind album.

**Housing Need**
Corrugated clamshell

**Factors Influencing Treatment**
Unbuffered interleaving tissue will be added to protect the photographs from being abraded by the adjacent album leaves. Adding interleaving tissue will increase the thickness of the binding slightly, but since it is a post binding it will easily accommodate the extra thickness.

**Performed Treatment**
Treatment was performed by Veronica Sorcher under the supervision of the lab conservator.
1. The cataloging label was removed from the front cover with a hot air pencil and a crepe eraser. After removing the label, white residue, varnish, and writing from an older cataloging label was revealed and left untreated.
2. The black cord was untied and the album was disbound for paper repair and to add interleaving tissue.
3. The album leaves, attached letters, and photographs were surface cleaned with Absorbene smoke sponges to remove loose dirt. The textiles were dry surface cleaned by brushing off the loose dirt with a soft bristle brush and lifting dirt away with nearby suction from a HEPA filtered vacuum. The vacuum nozzle was covered with Remay to prevent loosing small bits of debris.
4. The tears in the album leaf joints were repaired with Uso Mino kozo tissue toned with Golden Acrylics and were adhered with wheat starch paste. Delaminating mends in the front three album leaves were further adhered with a 1:1 mixture of Jade 403 and methyl cellulose.
5. The white feathered edges of the mends were inpainted with black watercolor.
6. Un-buffered light impressions interleaving tissue was cut slightly smaller than the size of the album page. The interleaving was added inbetween each leaf without adhesive using hole punches.
7. The corners of the album cover were consolidated with wheat starch paste.
8. The album was rebound and tied to replicate the original knot.

**Housing Provided**
Corrugated clamshell

**Housing Narrative**
Volara foam inserts were added at the spine of the box to protect the black cord tie.

**Storage Recommendations and Handling notes**
Handle using a cradle to protect the vulnerable album leaves from tearing.

**TOTAL Treatment Time**
38 hrs
i27674125_835_A1N, Before treatment

i27674125_835_D1N, After treatment
i27674125_835_A3N, Before treatment, tears in joint

i27674125_835_D3N, After surface cleaning, interleaving, and paper repair
The Preservation Lab  Treatment Report, Cont'd

i27674125_835_A4N, Before surface cleaning

i27674125_835_D4N, After surface cleaning
The Preservation Lab  Treatment Report, Cont'd

i27674125_835_A5N, Before surface cleaning

i27674125_835_D5N, After surface cleaning
i27674125_835_A2N, Before treatment

i27674125_835_D2N, After surface cleaning and page repair
During treatment, textile surface cleaning

During treatment, repairing torn joints

During treatment, tear repair

i27674125_835_D6N, corrugated clamshell enclosure

Photography By: Veronica Sorcher