

Preservation Lab - Examination and Treatment Report

Database ID	Treatment ID	Item Record #	Date received in Pres.	Conservator
1853	317	i17956699	10/17/2018	Catarina Figueirinhas, supervised by Asheigh Schieszer
Technicians	Jessica Ebert			

Department	Call Number	Date Returned to Origin
Classics Library	PA4494.A2 1828 v.4	12/18/2019

Title
Xenophontis Operum ..

Author Xenophon

DESCRIPTION:

General Remarks

This book was chosen to be a part of the Adopt-a-Book campaign by the University of Cincinnati Libraries. More information about the 2019 Adopt-a-Book event can be found here: <https://libapps.libraries.uc.edu/adoptabook/>.

As explained by the Classics Library curator Rebecka Lindau, in the 19th century steam-powered presses mass-produced classical texts printed on inexpensive paper in small sized books to fit in shirt pockets or belt pouches for the consumption of an increasingly literate public. The railroad and steamboat aided their distribution. The small sized texts could also be conveniently perused by itinerant scholars and easily carried by traveling salesmen and studied by school children. Smaller and more convenient book sizes in the 1800s sometimes aimed at counteracting and combating a waning emphasis on Greek and Latin in schools in Europe and the U.S. during this time, a "movement" eventually leading to such pocket sized books, like this this copy of the title Xenophontis Operum, v.4.

Binding

This is a brown half leather binding with paste paper covered boards. The paste paper has a treelike pattern resembling a tree-calf binding. The leather spine is decorated with gold tooling and the title is stamped in gold. An old call number label is adhered to the spine at the bottom. Adhered to the upper cover there on the bottom left corner there is a small Classics library label. The endpapers are made to a thin laid beige paper.

Textblock

The textblock is composed of alternating gatherings of three and five folios sewn through the fold onto two recessed cords. The edges are cut and decorated in bright yellow. The endbands are striped red and white stuck on endbands. Adhered to the front pastedown there is a University of Cincinnati bookplate and a library barcode label. In addition, adhered to the back pastedown there is a check out split.

Primary Support

The primary support is composed of a thin light beige machine-made wove paper. The endpapers are made to a thin beige laid paper.

Medium

The text is printed in black. There is a date red stamp on the bottom of the title page.

Attachments|Inserts

Adhered to the front pastedown there is a University of Cincinnati bookplate and a library barcode label. In addition, adhered to the back pastedown there is a check out split.

Housing

N/A

CONDITION:

Summary

Overall, this book is in fair condition. The textblock is good condition, however the binding is in fair condition with a torn and detached leather spine and missing leather corners.

Binding

The binding is in fair condition. The leather has deteriorated and is suffering from red rot. The leather spine is torn into two fragments. A small fragment of the leather spine is still attached to the front cover but detached along the back outer joint. The other fragment of the spine is completely detached. Also, the headcap is missing. In addition, all corners have losses of the covering leather, and the board is exposed and delaminating.

Textblock

The textblock is in good condition. There is a small staining of the endpapers along the corners caused by the leather corners. The sewing is still flexible, along with the spine linings and spine adhesive.

Primary Support

The primary support is flexible and has a good drape.

Medium

All the media appears to be stable.

Housing

Housing Narrative

N/A

Attachments|Inserts

The bookplate and library labels are in good condition.

Previous Treatment

Materials Analysis

TREATMENT:

Proposal

- 1.Consolidate the powdering leather to prevent further loss.
- 2.Dry surface clean the textblock to remove superficial dirt and prevent dirt transfer during handling.
- 3.Consolidate delaminating corners.
- 4.Reback and repair leather spine as one piece and fill in losses.
- 5.Add a protective polyester jacket.

Housing Need

Polyester book jacket

Factors Influencing Treatment

This book was part of the 2019 Adopt-A-Book event. In its current condition, it cannot be safely handled

without suffering further damage due to the damaged leather spine. As a result, this book is receiving conservation treatment to be safely handled by scholars.

Performed Treatment

1. Overall, the red rotted leather was consolidated with 3% klucel G in isopropanol. [CF, 0.15 hrs]
2. The endpapers were dry surface cleaned with an Absorbene smoke sponge, and areas with grime were further surface cleaned with a Staedtler vinyl eraser block. [CF, 0.15 hrs]
3. The exposed spine linings were consolidated with Zen Shofu wheat starch paste and lined with a Tengujo tissue and wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.35]
4. The torn leather spine was repaired as one with wheat starch paste. The endcaps were repaired, and losses were filled with toned Usu Gami thin tissue and wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.75 hrs].
5. In preparation for the spine reattachment, the leather on the boards was lifted with a Caselli spatula. [CF, 0.15 hrs].
6. The detached leather spine was lined with a toned Usu Gami thin tissue lining with flanges that extended beyond the spine width 1 cm. The spine was then reattached by adhering the lining flanges onto the board edges, under the lifter leather with wheat starch paste. [CF, 1.60 hrs]. The lifted leather was then adhered back down with Lascaux 498 HV. [CF, 0.45 hrs]. All the toned tissues that were used were previously toned with Golden and Liquitex acrylics.
7. The inner hinges were reinforced with Tengujo v-hinges and wheat starch paste. [CF, 0.15 hrs].
8. The book received a protective polyester jacket. [CF, 0.15 hrs].

Housing Provided

Polyester book jacket

Housing Narrative

Storage Recommendations and Handling notes

The book should be handled with care and the polyester jacket should not be removed.

PRODUCTION - WORK ASSIGNMENT AND TIME

Team Member	Jessica Ebert	70 minutes
Team Member	Catarina Figueirinhas	215 minutes
Team Member	Catarina Figueirinhas	10 minutes
Team Member		minutes

TOTAL Treatment and Documentation Time

The Preservation Lab



i17956699_1853_A01N - Before treatment
Upper Cover - detached spine



i17956699_1853_D01N - After treatment
Upper cover - Repaired



i17956699_1853_A02N - Before treatment
Lower cover



i17956699_1853_D02N - After treatment
Lower cover



Pocket-Size_Books_01N - Before treatment



i17956699_1853_D04N - After treatment



i17956699_1853_A03N - Before treatment
Spine torn and detached



i17956699_1853_D03N - After treatment
Spine repaired