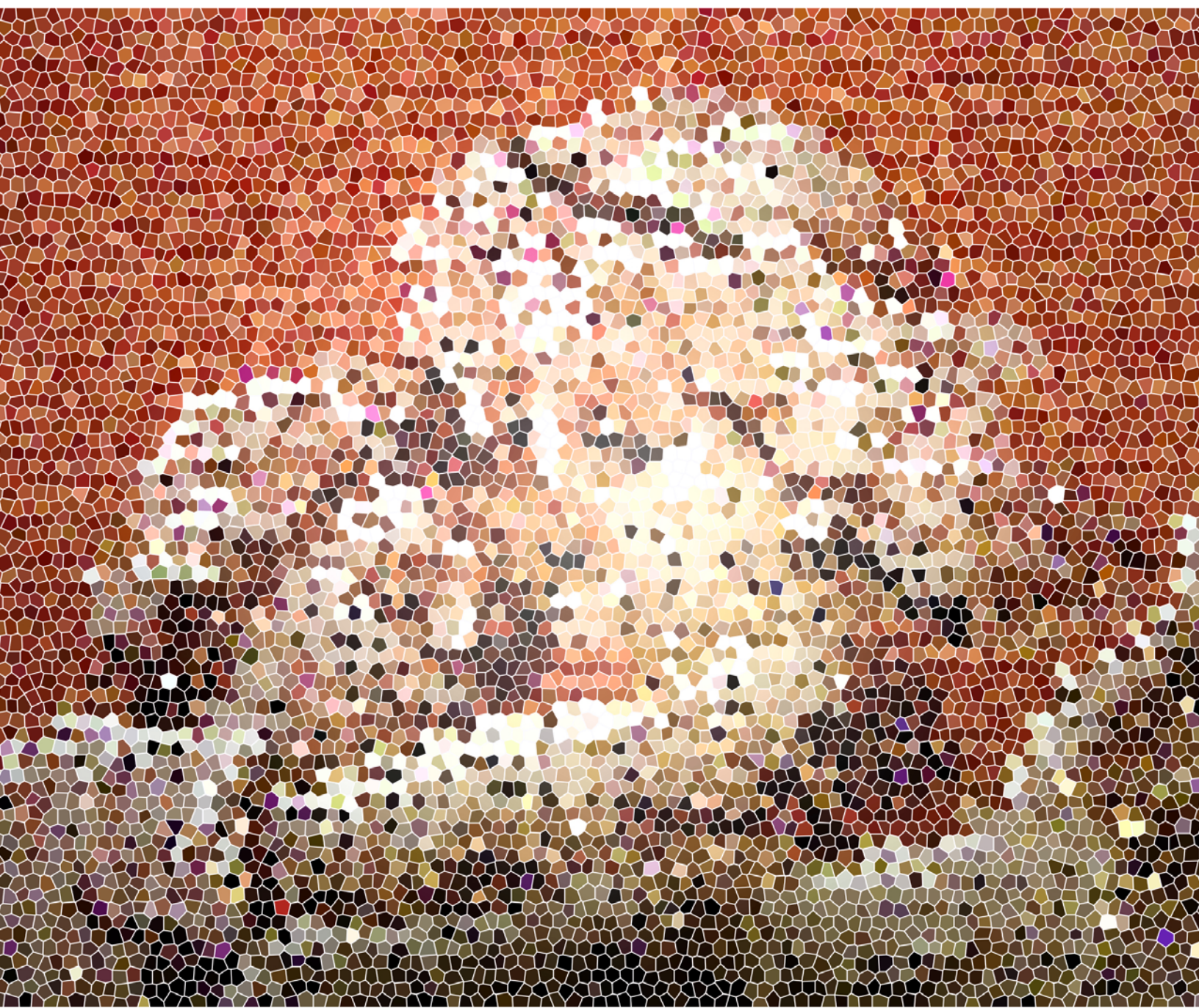




VICTORIAN BEADED ANGEL



TREATMENT OF A BEADED VICTORIAN ANGEL



Family heirloom, a Beaded Victorian Angel, before treatment. Beads missing in her hands, flowers, ribbons (three places), hair, wings, and her skirt (six). Yarn missing in several places, most notably in the lower left.

ASSESSMENT



Top right and middle right, a beaded area with a 1 1/2-inch tear shown open and closed.

Bottom right, a second adjacent area to the tear, with 3 tears of 1/4-inch to 1/2-inch.

Top, reverse of the area shown right top and middle.



- I. The assessment in the MPF Conservation (hereafter known as MPFC) studio showed surprising information about the areas of extreme disintegration, an example shown top left, of the reverse side of the beaded item, and right.

- I.I. All areas ripped or disintegrated are areas where metallic beads have encountered either water or chemicals and have made the grid brittle and discolored, and leading to the disintegration.



- 1.2. Further, some of the threads holding metallic beads have solidified in the beads, shown best in the image previous page upper right, of a row of brown beads hanging in a line.
- 1.3. The metallic beads exhibit some type of degradation, assumably from the chemical or water applied to the piece; this appears as dull finish and even chipping.
2. Thirteen areas were found that contained bead loss, tears, or extremely loose beads; some of these are shown pages 2-4, right.
3. The piece is destined to be placed in a frame behind glass, so it is not imperative that every bead be secured for the type of use that inclusion in a pillow might warrant.
4. The goal of treatment is to repair all tears, and re-bead areas as necessary.
 - 4.1. Our client understands that due to time constraints, it is impossible to match every bead, therefore, substitutions will be made, and we will make every effort to find compatible beads.
5. While it was not discussed, MPFC will also attempt to fill the areas missing yarn, shown page 9.
6. All work will be reversible.



This page, right, top to bottom:

- ¾-inch tear with beads loose for 2-inches on skirt;
- ¼-inch tear with beads loose for 2 ½-inches;
- Two areas of lost beads and loose beads, on the flowers spilling from her hands and her pointed finger.

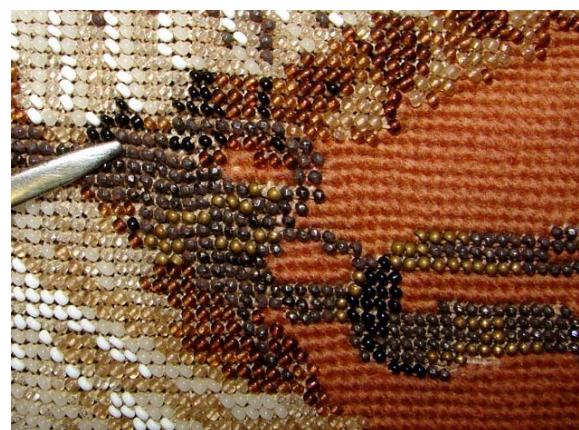


This page, right, top to bottom:

Loose beads in hair;

¼-inch tear with beads loose for 1-inch;

Three areas of lost beads and loose beads, on the tips of the ribbons around her waist and on the underside of the ribbon.



TREATMENT



Reparation of four areas on the backside of the beaded area of chemically or otherwise damaged threads. Reweaving in process, beginning with a freeform warp woven sufficiently deep into secured grid fibers, shown top right and left, then woven with a weft shown bottom, in completed areas.

7. Reparation of the grid which holds the beading and yarn needlework is the first step, allowing beading to occur.
8. The thread used was Coats and Clark nylon thread.
9. Reparation of four areas on the backside



of the beaded area of chemically or otherwise damaged threads was rewoven in order for beading to occur.

10. Reweaving began with a freeform warp woven sufficiently deep into secured grid fibers, knotted periodically, shown previous page top right and left.
11. A basket weave pattern for a weft thread was then created, over and under, shown previous page bottom, in completed areas, doubling the thread in many areas for a firmer grid.
12. Beading was done with a white cotton thread.
13. Beading used primarily the existing beads, shown top right, in image showing the bright white new grid.



13.1. MPFC was able to match the clear glass bead, the glossy black bead, and the glossy white bead, all #8.

13.2. MPFC made substitutions for the peach-gold bead, and the tortoise gold bead, with a pale gold or darker tortoise bead, all #8.

13.3. We were unable to match the metallic beads, and so substituted one of the above beads in an appropriate pattern.



14. Existing loose beads were secured, infilling as necessary with existing beads previously removed, described above, shown next pages.
15. The beads were secured back 2-3 beads as necessary, shown center and bottom right.
16. In five other areas beads were loose and simply secured, shown next page top and middle right.

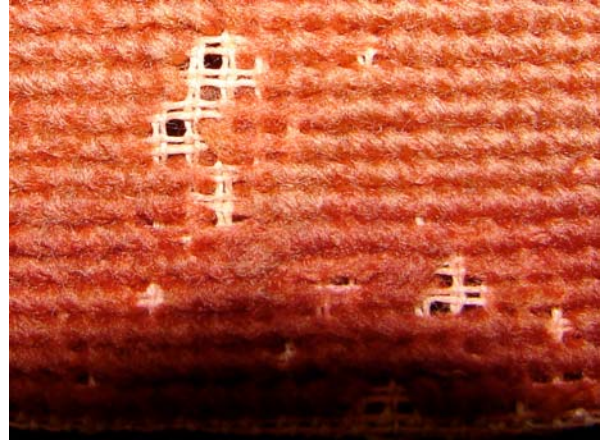


17. New beads were added, assuming color placement in areas unknown, shown top left.

18. Missing yarn, especially in the lower right border, shown next page top right. was problematic, and outside our scope of work.



19. However, MPFC was able to “steal” $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch to 1-inch tails of yarn to fill in several of the open areas of grid, shown center right.
20. This was used to fill in many of the small areas, as shown top right where one of the longest pieces was used to fill in two holes, and is seen as a lighter copper-colored yarn.
21. Unfortunately, we were unable to “steal” enough small pieces to completely fill in the open holes.
22. MPFC decided, since the goal was reparation that was non-invasive, to fill in the other holes with small clear sparkling beads, so as to look like stars, and then scattered some across the field, thereby covering the other holes in the missing field, and the positioning can be seen from the backside, shown bottom right.
23. Of course, this is easily reversible if the client chooses; it was not part of the original intention, but served to make a pleasing appearance to the angel.



AFTER TREATMENT



Angel with baby, after treatment, above.





2009 12 14 ANGEL ASSESS 1



2009 12 14 ANGEL ASSESS 2



2009 12 14 ANGEL ASSESS 4



2009 12 14 ANGEL ASSESS 5



2010 1 12 ANGEL REPAIR 4



2010 1 12 ANGEL REPAIR 6



2010 1 12 ANGEL REPAIR 7



2010 1 12 ANGEL REPAIR 9



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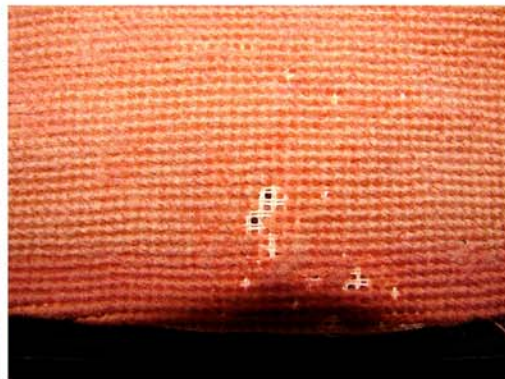
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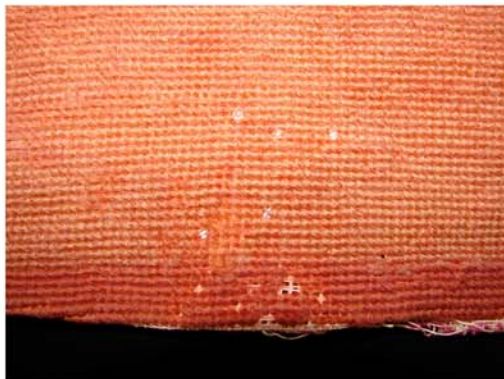
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