



Tindell's Restoration Schools & Studios

By: DiAnna E. Tindell

DiAnna founded Tindell's Restoration Schools & Studios in Nashville, Tennessee. It is very broad scoped & has expertise in many fields to offer the best of each for restoration services. DiAnna is a member of many international groups & serves actively at regional & annual events. DiAnna has expertise from a Score of years training internationally and has taught many talented students in areas such as Graphic Art & Paper Conservation, Oil Painting & Frames, Crystal & Glass, Pottery, Porcelain, Marble, and many other Mixed Media types. She has restored many objects for museums and rare collections. She is a published columnist in many antique trade papers & magazines and has authored books on restoration. Tindell's Restoration has been featured on HGTV and other educational programs. Her website is a library of useful information & time well spent to view at: www.Tindell'sRestoration.com.

Paper Conservation & Restoration Series - Part 3 - Over-sized Larger Pieces

In Part 1 and Part 2, the goal was to begin with an overall understanding to include types of products, materials, as well as, training possibilities. In addition, looking at the least aggressive steps to clean pieces without using the wet applications. In this article as Part 3 of the series, a look at how over-sized larger pieces can be more challenging.

Recently our studio was commissioned to restore a very large wall display map. This was no ordinary piece. It was authenticated as having been taken from the Kehlsteinhaus - Eagle's Nest. It was in bad shape due to several factors. The map had been glued with a heavy thick glue to a stiff 8-ply cardboard that with age had become high acid, mold and damaging dirty base to support the map. In addition, it had not been stored properly with a signed letter by Adolf Hitler glued to one area on the map's front.



Not only did the 8-ply cardboard need removed to prevent further

damage to the map, but the entire map itself required many treatments to correct years of damage. The struggle with this project was it's size at 54" x 42". Not only is it difficult



to manipulate the center area(s) but there is also a risk to consider if processing as a complete submersion. Most standard manual equipment for graphic cleaning is limited to 40" x 30". This is probably because the handling of a paper any larger would require some expert configuration. During a bathing wet process, the piece becomes so soft it can often be compared to wet tissue. Imagine how easily that can be torn, stuck, or punctured.

Our studio always considers restoration with the least aggressive options first. Each step will begin with the testing and selection of the most delicate and helpful product. These



test are often given a minimum of 24 hours to review the results. The map required first the removal of the 8-ply cardboard. With special tools, we removed one layer at a time, stripping off each level of ply until the cardboard was on 1-ply. In this state, the map was no longer stiff and could very easily become punctured or torn.

The last layer had the old glue residues with it and the map. One inch at a time, the last layer had to be treated with a wet

