

**Object ID:** 1968.208      **Conservation ID:** CL2.1968.208

**Conservator:** Emily Brzezinski

**Culture:** Ochethi Sakowin (Sioux)

**Title:** Pipe bag

**Object Name:** pipe bag

**Dates:** n.d.

**Medium:** skin, quillwork, beadwork

**Dimensions:** L: 32 in, W: 7 in, L: 38.625 in, W: 7 in

## Condition Description

The quilled rawhide strips next to the beaded panel are nearly torn through and brittle. The bag portion is deformed. Many quilled pieces are detached at one end. There is water damage and spots on fringes. Insect damage caused some grazing in the quillwork. White beads at rim are loose. The old repairs are failing, unaesthetic and damaging: for some of the quilled elements sewn to the bag the thread is not holding. The quillwork wrap is unstable and unraveled or unraveling especially where support is torn.

There is ethnographic use or wear and surface deposits consisting of grime and stains. There are two water marks. The surface is darkened. Fringe is brittle.

## Treatment Report

**Treatment Start Date:** 4/5/2021

**Done Date:** 4/20/2021

### Treatment Report

1. The object was photographed before treatment. (2 hr)
2. The failing thread repairs attaching the damaged leather and quills was removed mechanically. (1 hr)
3. Cleaning Beadwork (2.75 hrs)
  - The beadwork and upper leather section were vacuumed with a soft bristle brush. The unstable quillwork was not cleaned.
  - The beadwork was cleaned with a mild enzymatic solution and cleared with ethanol, both applied with a cotton swab. The metal beads exhibiting ferrous corrosion was only cleaned with ethanol.
  - The corrosion on the metal beads was mechanically reduced with brushes, scalpels, and ethanol applied with a cotton swab.
4. Stabilizing beadwork (0.75 hr)
  - The section of lost beads located on the side with the green horse in the middle of the spear was stabilized with 15% Paraloid B72 in acetone applied to the loose thread or end of the loose threads.
  - The loose string of beads at the top edge was stabilized. Undyed hair silk was threaded through several beads on the loose string and beads on the string directly to the right. The hair silk was tied, and both ends reinforced with 15% Paraloid B72.

5. Stabilizing quill work (3.5 hr)

- The leather and quillwork were tested for any reaction to acetone and ethanol to determine the solvents' effects on the leather and dyes. Tests yielded no adverse effects.
- A barrier layer of 10% Paraloid B72 in acetone was applied to all areas that required adhesive.
- Lifting and unstable quills were attached with 30% Paraloid B72 in a solution of 90:10: acetone:ethanol, held in place with rare earth magnets padded with Volara or padded hair clips
- The 10% Paraloid B72 was also applied to the edges of quillwork at the edges of the detached leather strips to provide additional stability when the leather was reattached.
- 10% Paraloid B72 was applied to the edges of areas of insect damage that exhibited flaking or lifting.
- Two areas of quillwork had been repaired with the same green-brown thread that had been used to attach the leather. The thread was removed and loose quills beneath stabilized in the methods described above.

6. Cleaning quill work (1 hr)

- The quills were vacuumed with a variable speed vacuum and natural fiber bristle brush.
- Areas exhibiting heavy dust or debris were further cleaned with polyethelene cosmetic sponges.
- The heavily-soiled areas were further cleaned with distilled water applied with a cotton swab, rolled against cotton blotter paper before application to remove all excess water from the swab.

7. After curatorial consultation, the detached sections of quillwork were not reattached to the object. The actual locations could not be determined, and the losses were small enough that reattaching would have minimal visual impact.

8. The broken leather quill work strips were reattached to the base of the leather bag. (6.5 hrs)

- Japanese paper was toned with Winsor Newton watercolors
- Once dried, small pieces of the toned paper were mixed with wheat starch paste to form a thick paste.
- The paste was used to attach the leather end back to the base of the bag. Given the deterioration of the leather and angle, the butt joint alone may not be enough to hold the leather with repeated handling. The majority of the repairs are on Side A (white horse), with some reinforcement on Side B.
- As necessary, the paper repairs were additionally toned with Winsor Newton watercolors.

9. The object was photographed after treatment (1 hr)

**Treatment Summary**

Surface cleaning and structural stabilization

**Hours:** 18.00

**Actual Costs**

Contractor/Item	Hours/Quantity	Rate/Price per Item (\$)	Subtotal (\$)
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**TOTAL**