

## Treatment of ceramic object

### - Description of the object

The object is a ceramic mug made from china and it has floral designs over the sides of it, with a thin blue handle. It is made very thin and is quite fragile. The date of the piece is uncertain, but most probably 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### - Condition of the object

The object had been completely broken from falling on the ground. The mug was in five different pieces, including the handle. There was also a piece of the mug that was missing after treatment, so there is a sixth piece that should have been a part of the mug. The designs of the art is intact and have not been faded or broken away, so that area of the mug is in good condition.

### - Treatment carried out

The first step in the treatment is to partially put the mug back together, in order to see where the pieces match back together and if there are any pieces of the ceramic that are missing. After that, the ceramic is placed in a small container of sand in order to hold the base in place for putting the broken pieces back on the mug. The next step was to adhere a missing the the base of the ceramic by using paraloid b-72 on the edge of the piece being adhered to the base part. This is repeated until all of the broken pieces are adhered properly and left to dry and harden. Once all the adhesive was dry, the excess of it had to be scraped off carefully in order to not damage the art of the mug.

### - Any issues or discussions

One issue that presented to be an issue during the treatment is that there was a piece missing of the ceramic and it made it unable to complete the treatment. A good next treatment to infill the missing area in the ceramic is to use dental wax to cover the back of the missing piece and then to use a kind of putty that can harden in the missing hole and filling the missing part.

Other than the missing piece, the ceramic treatment did not have any other issues, besides maybe the excess paraloid b-72 drying on the ceramic, however that is quite easy to counteract, by carefully rubbing or scraping it off once it is dry enough to easily be removed.

Ultimately, the treatment worked quite well and the ceramic came out in much better condition.

### - Photographs of before and after with colour scale and identification



Before treatment



During treatment



After treatment