

Conservation Condition Glossary and Visual Reference Guide

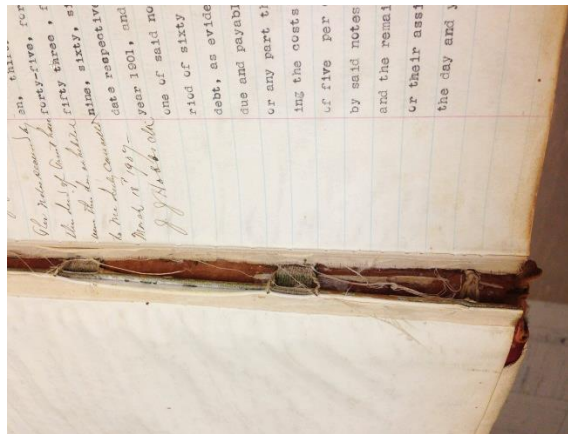
Library of Virginia 2015

Detached spine

Loose spine

Broken joint

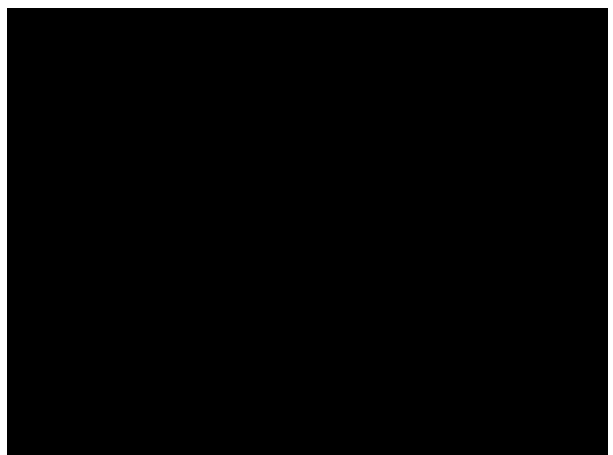
Broken hinge



Detached leaves

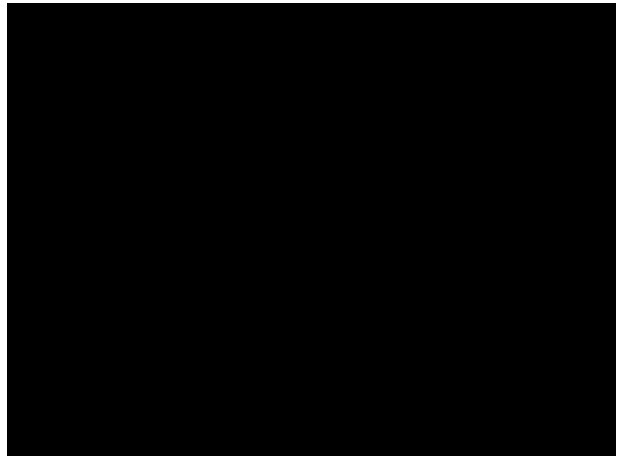


Detached signatures



Sewing broken

Loose text block



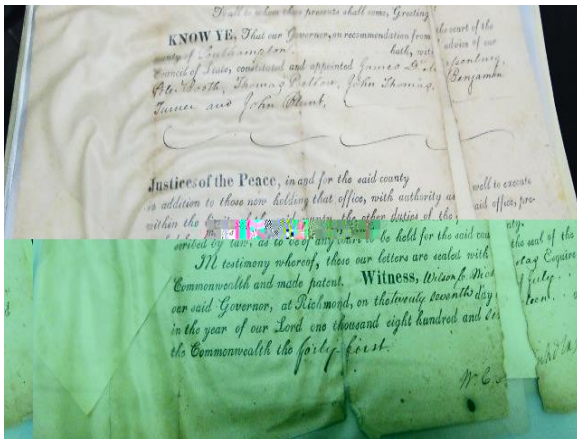
Brittleness



Edge chipping



Cockling

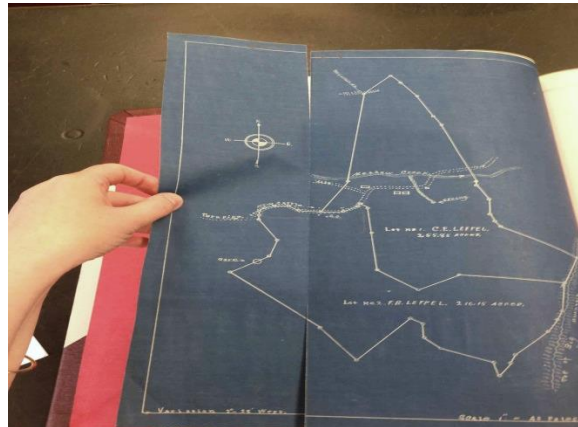


Crumpling



Tearing

Splitting



Water damage

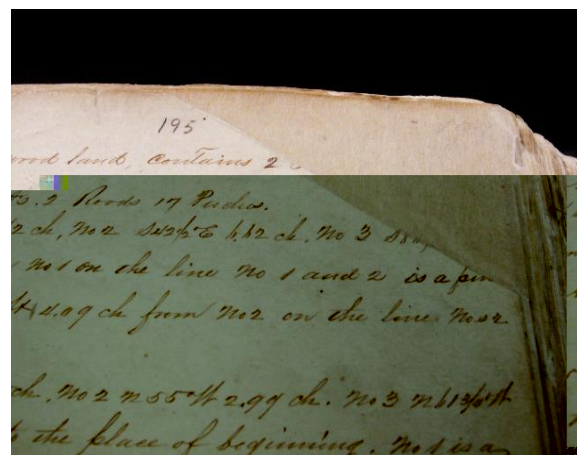


Foxing

Insect damage



Loss



Pressure sensitive tape

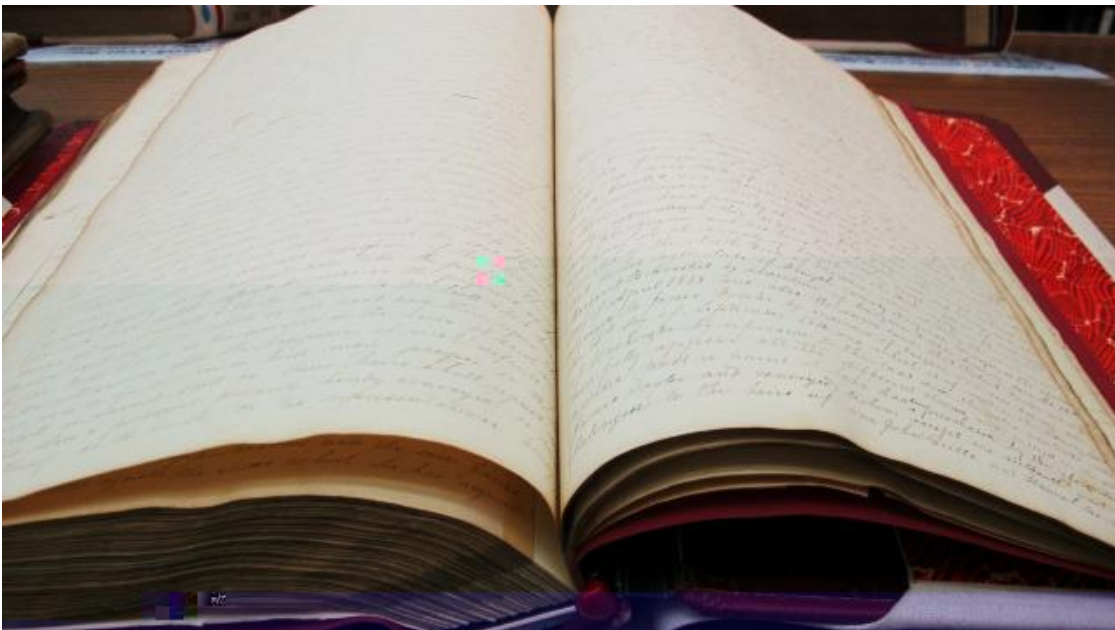
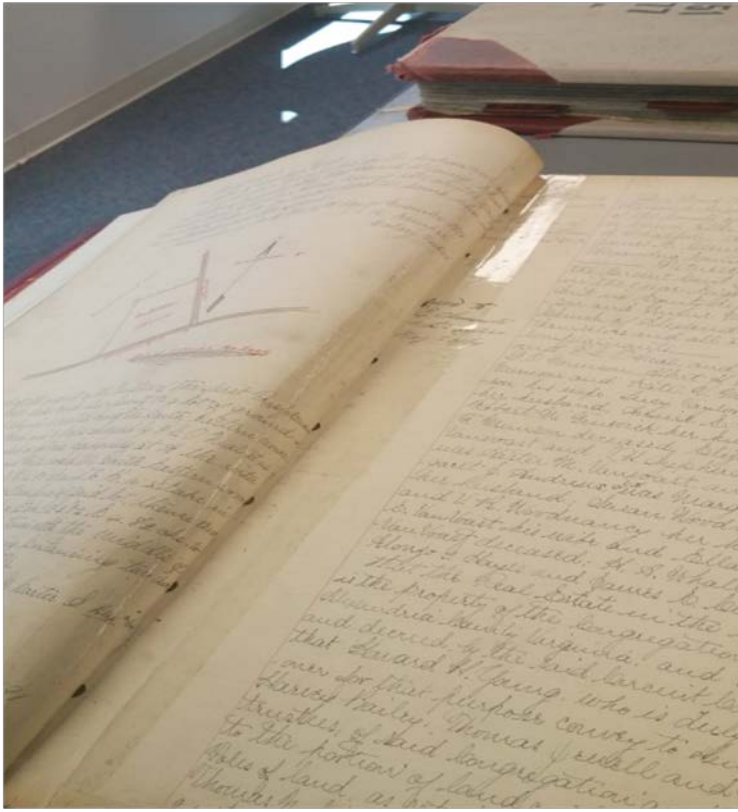
Linen tape



Tape adhesive residue

Onion skin tape

Stripping

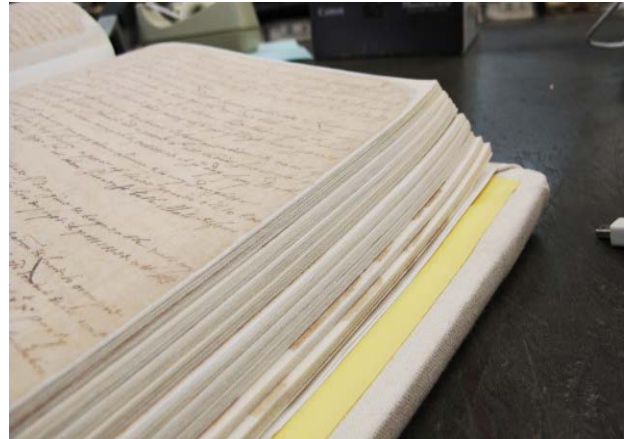
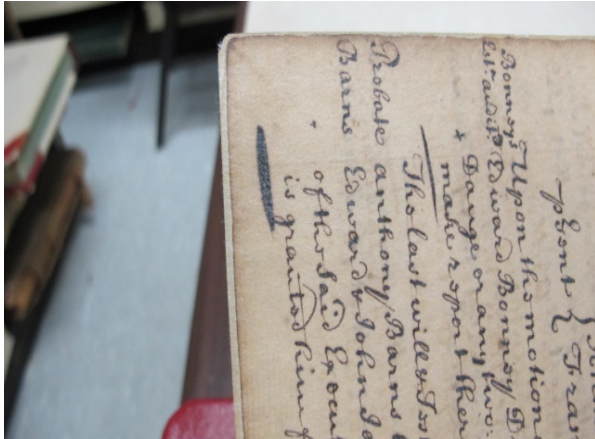


Glue residue/staining

Red rot



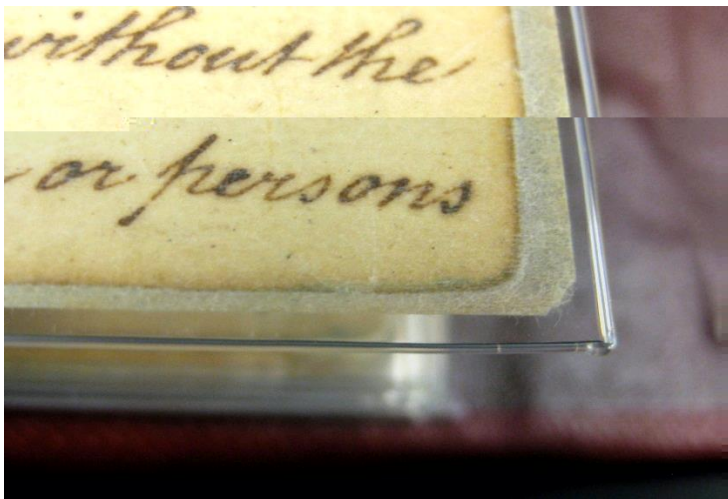
Cellulose acetate lamination



Modern film lamination



Mylar encapsulation over lamination



Archival Materials: Material intended to be long lasting due to its high chemical stability and low acid content.

Brittle: Character of an item that is easily broken, weak or inflexible. In paper items, it is usually associated with high levels of acidity.

Cockling: Distortion or waviness caused by rippling of the paper or parchment support.

Deacidification: Application of an alkaline solution to neutralize harmful acidic compounds in an object.

Delamination: Removal of cellulose acetate or other plastic laminate material using solvent or heat.

Dry-cleaning: Removing surface dirt using specialized dry sponges or grated eraser crumbs.

Encapsulation: A transparent Mylar enclosure used to protect paper artifacts from the environment.

Endpapers: The two or more pages placed in the front and back of a book between its covers and text block. The part of the endpaper nearest the cover is called the pastedown while the part of the endpaper that is not pasted down is called the fly sheet or fly leaf. Endpapers can be blank or printed with a design, map or other information.

Flyspeck: Small dots of fly excretions encrusted onto paper that can cause staining, weakening and other damage.

Foxing: Reddish-brown spots appearing mainly on paper objects, associated with mold growth and/or iron deposits and exposure to high humidity conditions.

Heat-set Tissue: A lightweight paper coated with thermoplastic acrylic adhesives used for mending paper.

Hinge: The interior juncture of the spine and covers of a book. The outside of this same juncture is called the joint.

Humidification: Controlled application of moisture to relax paper items and their supports.

Insect damage: Losses and staining caused by insects feeding off of an object's compositional material.

Japanese Tissue: All-natural, long-fibred paper produced in Japan and used for mending tears and lining paper supports because of its inherent strength and long-term stability.

Lamination: A coating of plastic in the form of a film or impregnation, usually cellulose acetate.

Linen tape: A cloth tape with a water-activated adhesive used for hinge repair.

Lining: Supporting and strengthening the original paper by backing it with a secondary support on the reverse side, usually using Japanese tissue.

Loss: A missing area in a physical support, such as a paper page.

Mold: Minute organisms that grow and feed on organic matter in high humidity conditions that can cause staining and weakening.

Mylar: A brand name for archival polyester film.

Onion skin tape: A thin, translucent, brownish colored paper tape historically used to repair paper.

Post-binding: A type of binder using metal posts that hold bound material in place through drilled holes. May be used with or without Mylar encapsulation.

Pressure sensitive tape: Tape with a ready-made sticky adhesive, such as Scotch tape or masking tape.

Red rot: A degradation process found in vegetable-tanned leather which manifests as a powdering of the leather's surface, structural weakness through loss, and a felt-like consistency.

Signature: A gathering of flat pages that are folded, usually in half, to create a unit. A signature usually contains multiples of 4 printed pages.

Stripping: A method of reattaching cut pages to tabbing using adhesive strips for rebinding purposes.

Text block: The pages of a book as an entire unit. In other words, what is left if one removes the cover of a book.