
The Newberry Library

Conservation Treatment Report

ItemID: 419

Call Number: Case Wing fZ 412.85	Conservator: Sarah Norris
Title: Nova Reperta	Contact Person: Paul Gehl
Author: Stradanus (Jan van der Straet and Philipp	Date Examined: 12/31/2008
Publication Date: 16th century?	Date Returned: 2/24/2009

<u>Selection method:</u>	<u>Format:</u>	<u>Housing:</u>
general	book	Drop spine box

Media:

The engravings are printed in black printers' ink.

Support: **H** **W** **D**

The engravings are printed on cream-colored, laid, handmade paper.

Binding: **H** 26.0 cm **W** 32.0 cm **D** 1.5 cm

Engravings are stubbed together and sewn on five slim cord supports. The item is bound quarter style in red leather and decorative paper, with decorative paper endsheets and pastedowns. Bookplates are present inside both boards.

Presence of Foreign Substances:

None.

Change in Appearance:

The item is in fair condition.

Structural Changes:

The front endsheet and first two engravings have separated from the binding as a group. The title page is loose, as well. All 19 engravings display surface grime. Staining appears, especially in the margins. The paper is very soft and several tears appear along the edges. The paper displays breakage along the stiff, yellowed stubs.

Treatment Completed:

The engravings were manually disbound and the old binding retained. Stubbed engravings were separated manually. Engravings were washed in a bath of deionized water for 20 minutes and then in a bath of deionized water conditioned to pH 8.5 with a saturated CaOH solution for 15 minutes. Stubs were removed in the bath. Engravings were then re-sized in thin methyl cellulose. Engravings reached near-dryness in a drying rack and completed drying between blotters and boards under light weight.

The engravings were re-stubbed together with wheat starch paste and usumino tissue. New endsheets were created of Tim Barrett UICB handmade paper, stubbed into folios like the engravings. Sewing holes were punched and the textblock was sewn without supports and with a link stitch. Folded folios of 20-point board were sewn to the textblock according to a sewn-boards conservation binding concept designed by Gary Frost. This binding allows a flat opening so the engravings would not sustain further damage where the old, stiff stubs had caused them to crack. The outer endpapers were pasted to the board as stubs. Marbled paper was deacidified on the verso with Bookkeeper spray and pasted down as doublures.

The engravings were mended with wheat starch paste and usumino tissue.

Housing Completed:

The previous binding was housed in a wrapper and included with the new binding in a phase box.

Examination, Documentation, and Treatment: 10

Housing or Mounting: 3

Total Treatment hours: 13