

## Object Condition Report: Mounted Mammal Specimen

<b>General Information</b>	<b>Specimen Name</b>	Gorilla beringei beringei - Mountain Gorilla. Female.	
	<b>Catalog Number</b>	241232	
	<b>Provenance &amp; Status</b>	Provenance: Africa - Congo - Mt. Karisimbi IUCN Status: Endangered, Version 3.1	
	<b>Dimensions (L x W x H)</b>	58cm x 70cm x 71cm	
<b>Options</b>			
<b>Preparation Information</b>	<b>Preparation Type</b>	Full-Body Taxidermy Mount	Full-Body Taxidermy Mount, Mounted Head, Other (please specify)
	<b>Incision Location</b>	Ventral (?)	Ventral, Other (please specify)
	<b>Sutures</b>	Undetermined	Cotton Cord (Natural, White, Dyed), Cotton Thread (Natural, White, Dyed), Linen Cord (Natural, White, Dyed), Linen Thread (Natural, White, Dyed), None, Undetermined, Other (please specify)
	<b>Stuffing</b>	Probably plaster	Cotton, Tow, Excelsior, Straw, Paper, Hard Body Cast, Undetermined, Combination (please specify), Other (please specify)
	<b>Support (Legs)</b>	Probably wire	Undetermined, None, Bone, Wire, Wood, Cotton Wrapping, Tow Wrapping, Excelsior Wrapping, Unidentified Wrapping, Other (please specify)
	<b>Support (Tail)</b>	N/A	Undetermined, None, Bone, Wire, Wood, Cotton Wrapping, Tow Wrapping, Excelsior Wrapping, Unidentified Wrapping, Other (please specify)
	<b>Positioning</b>	Sitting with feet crossed/together, holding a stick in left hand and looking upwards	
	<b>Comments</b>	Animal collected in July 1925.	

Materials Present	<b>Materials Present - Specimen</b>	1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 13	Skin (1), Hair (2), Bone (3), Teeth (4), Nail/Hoof (5), Horn/Antler (6), Quill/Spine (7), Cotton (8), Bast Fiber (9), Metal (10), Glass (11), Plastic (12), Adhesive (13)
	<b>Materials Present - Labels</b>	15, 19, 20, 21, 23	Paper (14), Cardstock (15), Paperboard (16), Cloth (17), Metal (18), Manuscript Ink (19), Printing Ink (20), Pencil (21), Typescript (22), Cotton Cord (23), Linen Cord (24), Unidentified Cord (25), Cotton Thread (26), Linen Thread (27) , Unidentified Thread (28), Wire (29), Other (please specify)
	<b>Label(s) Text(s)</b>	Label 1: 241232 Label 2: Cleaned 9/28/99 (NOTE: this label was attached to the stick - it was removed and withheld and will be reattached once the mount is returned)	
	<b>Forms to Replace Body Structures</b>	Antlers/horns/horn cores - N/A Head/neck/nape - Plaster with skin stretched over it Earliners - Plaster Eyes- Glass Mouth - Plaster Teeth - N/A Torso - Plaster Genitalia - N/A Legs - Plaster with skin stretched over it Hooves/claws - Plaster Tail - N/A Other	Papier Maché, Cloth, Cellulose Nitrate, Other Plastics (please specify), Plasters, Glass, Enamel, Fiberglass, Wood, Wax, Styrofoam, Other (please specify)

Mat	<b>Detail Modeling and Finishing Materials</b>	<p>Musculature - Colorant, coating, possible suture, possible repairs on chest</p> <p>Antlers/horns/horn cores - N/A</p> <p>Ears - Colorant and coating</p> <p>Eyes - Colorant and coating</p> <p>Eyelines - Colorant and coating</p> <p>Nares - Colorant and coating</p> <p>Lips - Colorant and coating</p> <p>Mouth - Colorant and coating</p> <p>Teeth - N/A</p> <p>Hair including vibrissae - Colorant</p> <p>Skin (general) - Colorant and repairs</p> <p>Genitalia - N/A</p> <p>Legs - Colorant</p> <p>Feet - Colorant</p> <p>Hooves/claws - Colorant on nails</p> <p>Tail - N/A</p> <p>Other</p>	Colorant, Coating, Suture, Repairs During Finishing, Other (please specify)
	<b>Materials Present - Base</b>	N/A	
	<b>Materials Present - Other</b>	Wood - Stick prop associated with specimen. Held in left hand.	
	<b>Comments</b>		

	<b>General Condition</b>	Good	Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor
	<b>Antlers/Horns</b>	N/A	Normal (R, L), Missing (R, L), Detrached but Present (R, L), Distorted (R, L), Torn (R, L), Cracked (R, L), Exfoliating (R, L), Insect Damage (R, L), Natural Deposits (R, L), Other Deposits (R, L), Other (please

<b>Hair</b>	<p>This specimen has a few areas of hair loss, chiefly on the left knee, the top of the left foot, the right shoulder, and on the right thigh near the knee. There is also an area on the right shoulder where hot glue was dripped onto the specimen's hair. Lastly, the specimen's hair has been compressed against the body where it was harnessed into its storage crate. The compressed area is in the form of an "x" harness.</p>	Normal, Faded, Shedding, Missing, Matted, Insect Damage, Frass, Natural Deposits, Other Deposits, Other (please specify)
<b>Skin</b>	<p>It is difficult to tell if the the actual skin of this specimen was used underneath the face and chest - these areas are so heavily painted and modeled that it seems unlikely. Still, it is evident that many repairs have been made over the years - the upper chest especially has several visible traces of work done. There is a vertical line from the right side of the neck down to the center of the chest - while this could possibly be a covered suture, it could also be a patch meant to repair cracked plaster. There is also extensive repair work around the right nipple and much horizontal cracking in the paint of the right pectoral. There is a long diagonal crack on the left pectoral starting by the neck and shooting downward. There are also some paint losses on the left pectoral. There appears to have been some attempted repair work to alleviate some of the paint losses to the pectorals near the hairline of the abdomen.</p>	Normal, Cracked, Stretched, Stained, Delaminating, Insect Damage, Frass, Natural Deposits, Other Deposits, Other (please specify)
<b>Sutures</b>	<p>The sutures, if there are any, are not visible. This specimen may mostly be plaster with patches of skin and hair or mostly modeled plaster with extensive use of gorilla hair grafts/plugs.</p>	Normal, Frayed, Stained, Torn/Ripped, Stretched, Missing, Other (please specify)

Condition Information	<b>Eyes &amp; Eyelines</b>	There is minor paint loss on the lower right and left eyelines. Both eyes and eyelines are somewhat dusty.	Normal (R, L) , Cracked (R, L,), Delaminating (R, L), Torn (R, L), Other (please specify)
	<b>Ears</b>	Both right and left ears are somewhat dusty.	Normal (R, L), Missing (R, L), Detrached but Present (R, L), Distorted (R, L), Torn (R, L), Cracked (R, L), Exfoliating (R, L), Insect Damage (R, L), Natural Deposits (R, L), Other Deposits (R, L), Other (please specify)
	<b>Nose</b>	There are two small circular dots of hot glue or some sort of adhesive on the right side of the nasal area. These are not thought to be due to any sort of repair work or condition issue per say, rather, these might be related to the hot glue drip on the hair on the gorilla's back. The gorilla's nose is also dusty.	Normal, Missing, Cracked, Torn, Exfoliating, Distorted, Natural Deposits, Other Deposits, Other (please specify)
	<b>Mouth</b>	There is paint loss around the mouth. There also appears to have been some repair work done to the hair on the chin. Additionally, there appears to be a crack in the upper lip on the right side of the mouth.	Normal, Missing, Cracked, Torn, Exfoliating, Distorted, Natural Deposits, Other Deposits, Other (please specify)
	<b>Teeth</b>	N/A	Normal, Missing, Cracked, Torn, Exfoliating, Distorted, Natural Deposits, Other Deposits, Other (please specify)
	<b>Head</b>	Of note are the dusty features, dots of glue, and minor areas of paint loss.	Normal, Hair Loss, Insect Damage, Frass, Skin Tear, Distortion, Other (please specify)
	<b>Neck</b>	There is hair loss and cracking in the paint and plaster on the right side of the neck, especially under the chin. There is a much larger crack above the right shoulder.	Normal, Hair Loss, Insect Damage, Frass, Skin Tear, Distortion, Other (please specify)
	<b>Back/Shoulders/Rump</b>	There is minor hair loss and some compression of the hair due to the x harness used in storage.	Normal, Hair Loss, Insect Damage, Frass, Skin Tear(s), Distortion, Other (please specify)

	<p><b>Abdomen</b></p> <p>See notes on skin for a discussion the upper abdomen.</p> <p>Lower abdomen: The lower abdomen appears somewhat distorted - it is unknown if this is due to time or if the abdomen was created this way. Additionally, there are numerous holes and flakes in the paint. Finally, there is a patch of hair loss on the right side of the specimen.</p>	<p>Normal, Hair Loss, Insect Damage, Frass, Skin Tear(s), Skin Stretched at Sutures, Distortion, Other (please specify)</p>
	<p><b>Tail</b></p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Normal, Hair Loss, Insect Damage, Frass, Skin Tear(s), Distortion, Exfoliation, Other (please specify)</p>
	<p><b>Legs</b></p> <p>Right Arm: Minor hair loss on and around the inside of the right elbow. Repair work was likely performed in this area.</p> <p>Left Arm: Upper left armpit - it is evident that this area was repaired. There is also a deep crack running down the inside aspect of the upper arm.</p> <p>Right Leg: Minor hair loss on and around the knee</p> <p>Left Leg: There has been a repair to the knee area as evidenced by "muddy" charcoal-colored paint, matted hair, missing hair, and flaky paint.</p>	<p>Normal (RF, RR, LF, LR), Distorted (RF, RR, LF, LR), Broken (RF, RR, LF, LR), Detached but Present (RF, RR, LF, LR), Hair Loss (RF, RR, LF, LR), Skin Tear (RF, RR, LF, LR), Insect Damage (RF, RR, LF, LR), Frass (RF, RR, LF, LR), Natural Deposits (RF, RR, LF, LR), Other Deposits (RF, RR, LF, LR), Other (please specify)</p>
	<p><b>Feet</b></p> <p>Right Hand: There are minor paint losses on on the tips of all five digits, chiefly the nails. There is also a white chalky substance present, predominantly on the palmar surface of the hand.</p> <p>Left Hand: There is hair and and paint loss on outside of hand and all 5 digits. The paint cracking and loss on the 1st digit (thumb) is particularly bad. There is extensive paint loss on the palmar surface.</p> <p>Right Foot: There is paint loss on the 5th digit.</p> <p>Left Foot: There is hair loss on the inner surface of the foot (the arch)</p>	<p>Normal (RF, RR, LF, LR), Distorted (RF, RR, LF, LR), Broken (RF, RR, LF, LR), Detached (RF, RR, LF, LR), Digits Missing (RF, RR, LF, LR), Hair Loss (RF, RR, LF, LR), Skin Tear (RF, RR, LF, LR), Insect Damage (RF, RR, LF, LR), Frass (RF, RR, LF, LR), Natural Deposits (RF, RR, LF, LR), Other Deposits (RF, RR, LF, LR), Other (please specify)</p>

	<b>Base</b>	N/A	Normal, Distorted, Broken, Detatched, Cracked, Stained, Insect Damage, Frass, Natural Deposits, Other Deposits, Other (please specify)
	<b>Other</b>	Stick - Normal	Please specify
	<b>Comments</b>	NMNH STAFF: Please reassociate tag with stick once specimen is returned. The tag is in the specimen's original storage crate, located at MSC.	

<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>Arsenic</b>	Not tested	Positive, Negative, Not Tested
	<b>Mercury</b>	Not tested	Positive, Negative, Not Tested
	<b>Magnetic Material</b>	None detected, but wires likely used in armature.	Tail (Positive, Negative, Not Tested, NA), Legs (Positive, Negative, Not Tested, NA), Body (Positive, Negative, Not Tested, NA)
	<b>Other</b>		Please specify

<b>Display Requirements</b>	<b>Display Lighting</b>	Light intensity may be 100-150 lux (10-15fc); no detectable UV	Please specify allowable light levels
	<b>Display RH/Temp</b>	RH from 40-60% over the course of a year, with slow (seasonal) rate of change between extremes; temperatures in the 65-75°F range, again with slow rate of change between extremes.	Please specify allowable RH/Temp
	<b>Display Orientation</b>	Existing pose, on soft foam base for support.	Existing Stand, Base or Associated Bracket, Other (please specify)
	<b>Display Bracketing</b>	Specimens must be enclosed in a well secured case/vitrine. Please provide bracketing specifics to NMNH conservator. Labels attached to specimens may not be removed at any time.	Please specify restrictions regarding display brackets

Display	<b>Case Materials</b>	Use materials that do not offgas organic acids. Use materials that have passed the Photographic Activity Test (PAT). No direct contact between specimens and alkaline buffered materials (use pH neutral materials). Ideally, scavengers, such as MicroChamber paper, would be used to mitigate any potential pollutants inside display cases	Please specify conservation materials
	<b>Comments</b>		

Handling Reqs	<b>Handling - Gloves</b>	Specimens in the NMNH collections are known to have been treated over time with a variety of long-lived toxic chemicals. Wear nitrile gloves for all handling to avoid hazards to handler and transfer of human oils, acids, and salts to the specimens	Nitrile, Cloth, Other (please specify)
	<b>Comments</b>	Please return specimens in original shipping and packing containers	

Reviewer Info	<b>Compiled By</b>	Courtney Prutzman
	<b>Institution</b>	National Museum of Natural History
	<b>Date</b>	May 7, 2013

Condition Deinstallation	<b>Comments</b>	Transcription of hand-written notes: "condition unchanged"

Reviewer Info	<b>Compiled By</b>	Carrie Duran
	<b>Institution</b>	SMNH
	<b>Date</b>	1/6/2014

Condition upon Return to NMNH	Comments	<p>Upon opening the crate, it was discovered that the specimen had slipped free of the straps during transit. The specimen was found with its face against the side of the crate, leaning on the left arm and Tyvek-wrapped stick (prop). The following specific condition notes were recorded:</p> <p><b>Nose</b>--left nostril, outer side (upper lip) scraped and damaged from impact with side of crate during shipping. Tip of armature now protruding through septum. Evidence of impact on crate wall.</p> <p><b>Feet</b>--left hand, dorsal surface hair loss and revealing of modelling material. Approximately 1.5cm long.</p> <p><b>Stick</b>--piece detached from knot in stick; some exfoliating bark; hand rubbing on Tyvek during transit wore a hole through the Tyvek, likely causing the hair/skin damage to dorsal surface of left hand.</p>
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Reviewer Info	Compiled By	Evan Cooney (Conservation Technician) and Rebecca Kaczkowski (Winterthur Conservation Fellow)	
	Institution	NMNH	
	Date	1/16/2014	

Treatment Proposal	<b>Rationale</b>	The primary goal of the following treatment is to stabilize and repair damage to the specimen recently sustained during transit. Treatment will not address other condition flaws outlined in the preceding condition assessment of May 7, 2013. Given the continued value of the specimen, aesthetic reintegration and compensation will be minimal and readily reversible.
	<b>Testing</b>	None proposed.
	<b>Proposal</b>	<p><b>1.</b> Perform before, during, and after treatment photodocumentation.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Mechanically remove large dust/grime deposits over the face and left hand via a HEPA vacuum affixed with a rheostat, micro-nozzle covered with cheesecloth, and a soft brush.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Fine-scale cleaning of the face will follow a top-down approach; the methods and materials outlined below will be tested first in small areas to select the most effective approach.</p> <p><b>3a.</b> The glass eyes will be cleaned with a combination of mechanical and aqueous methods, likely including cosmetic sponges followed by swabs dampened with a 1:1 solution of pure water in ethanol.</p> <p><b>3b.</b> The face will be cleaned with a combination of methods, likely including cosmetic sponges and. An aqueous- or solvent-based cleaning system may be necessary to remove tightly bound grime. Due to the complex nature of the surface (i.e. painted/pigmented wax and previous conservation treatment) solubility testing of the affected areas will determine the best materials and methods.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Reattach fragments of left nostril with a conservation-grade adhesive such as 1:1 Lascaux® 360HV:498HV or Paraloid® B-72.</p> <p><b>5.</b> Compensate for areas of loss surrounding the left nostril damage with a conservation-grade fill material; likely fill materials would be Flügger acrylic spackle or Milliput® epoxy resin.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Consolidate exposed ferrous armature at septum with a thin solution of Paraloid® B-48N in acetone and fill for losses with the same methodology outlined in step 4.</p> <p><b>7.</b> Compensate for skin and fur losses on the dorsal side of the left hand with either Japanese-tissue or acrylic fur fills toned with acrylics to blend with the surrounding area.</p>
	<b>Long-term Recommendation</b>	The specimen should be stored in an enclosure to eliminate visible light/UV exposure. A long-term enclosure should be an inert/non-acidic housing to protect the specimen from environmental factors.

Reviewer Info	<b>To be Treated By</b>	Rebecca Kaczkowski Contract Conservator	Submitted via email August 6, 2014
	<b>Supervisor</b>	Cathy Hawks Conservator, National Museum of Natural History	Approval granted via email August 7, 2014
	<b>Department Representative</b>	Darrin Lunde Collections Manager, Division of Mammals, Department of Vertebrate Zoology	Approval granted via email August 7, 2014

Treatment Report	Testing	None performed
	Treatment Steps	<p>1. Carried out condition assessment and before-treatment photodocumentation.</p> <p>2. Mechanically removed large dust/grime deposits over the face and left hand via a HEPA vacuum affixed with a rheostat, micro-nozzle covered with cheesecloth, and a soft brush.</p> <p>3. Fine-scale cleaning of the face followed a top-down approach.</p> <p>3a. The glass eyes were cleaned with cosmetic sponges followed by a 1:1 solution of RO water:ethanol.</p> <p>3b. The face was cleaned with cosmetic sponges and microswabs. Further cleaning was unnecessary.</p> <p>4. To achieve better adhesion for the detached pieces from the left nostril, the pieces and corresponding areas on the face were first consolidated with a 10% (w/v) solution of Paraloid® B-72 in acetone.</p> <p>5. Reattached large pieces to left nostril with HMG® B-72; similarly reattached fragment on stick.</p> <p>6. Compensated for small losses around left nostril, upper lip, and armature wire protruding at septum with a thick mixture of Flügger® tinted with acrylics.</p> <p>7. Compensated for fur loss on dorsal surface of left hand with a similarly colored and textured synthetic fur; the faux fur was affixed to the hand with HMG B-72.</p> <p>8. Created a sink-mount support for the stick with a Hollinger acid-free handling tray, Ethafoam, and Volara. A printed label was affixed to the handling tray denoting its association with the mount. The new storage housing for the stick was placed next to the male <i>Gorilla beringei</i> within the same crate (#29).</p>
	Conservation Materials Used	<p><b>Cosmetic sponges:</b> Marketed as a make-up applicator, these soft sponges, made of non-latex polyurethane, are ideal for safely removing dust and dirt from fragile surfaces.</p> <p><b>Flügger®:</b> Acrylic spackle composed of calcium carbonate in a butyl methacrylate binder. Manufactured by Flügger A/S, Denmark.</p> <p><b>Paraloid® B-72:</b> Clear colorless thermoplastic acrylic resin composed of an ethyl methacrylate (70%) and methyl acrylate (30%) copolymer; manufactured by Rohm &amp; Haas.</p>
	Current Condition	Through conservation treatment, the areas damaged during the transit of the specimens from loan were repaired. Aesthetically, the damaged areas were reintegrated with the surrounding areas, and a new handling tray/storage mount for the specimen's prop stick will reduce abrasion/further losses to the bark.

Conservator Info	Treated By	Rebecca Kaczkowski
	Date Completed	August 12, 2014

**From:** [Lunde, Darrin P.](#)  
**To:** [Hawks, Catharine](#); [Kaczkowski, Rebecca](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Gorilla Proposal  
**Date:** Friday, August 08, 2014 7:26:09 AM

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I've looked it over. It looks good.

Darrin

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**From:** Hawks, Catharine  
**Sent:** Friday, August 08, 2014 6:48 AM  
**To:** Kaczkowski, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Lunde, Darrin P.  
**Subject:** RE: Gorilla Proposal

Hi Becky

I have approved the treatment – see attached, and am copying Darrin so he can look it over.

Cathy

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**From:** Kaczkowski, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 07, 2014 3:45 PM  
**To:** Hawks, Catharine  
**Subject:** Gorilla Proposal

Hi Cathy,

Attached is the gorilla proposal. I retained the initial condition assessment that Courtney completed last spring (unchanged), incorporating the damage notes that Evan and I recorded in January upon the specimen's return. Please let me know if you have additional suggestions, edits, etc.

Rebecca A. Kaczkowski  
Winterthur/University of Delaware Conservation Fellow, Class of 2014

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