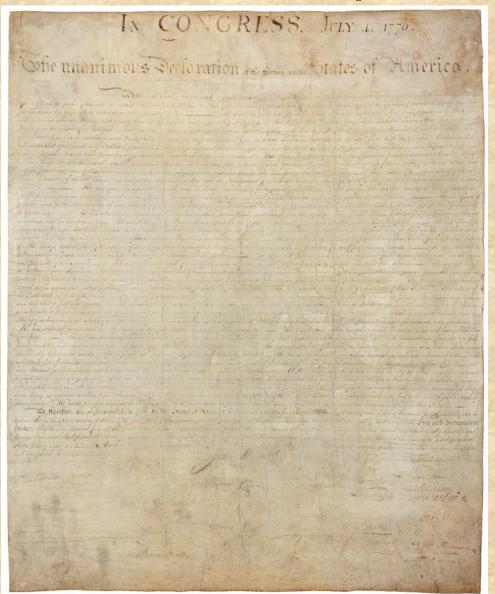
The Charters of Freedom Documents

Evidence and Examination

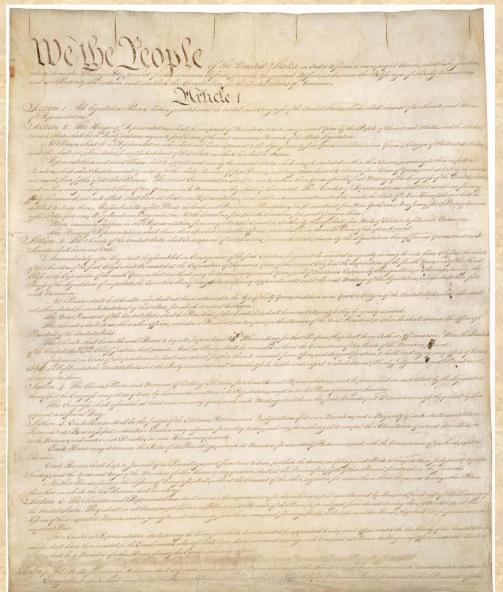
Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler

Catherine Nicholson

Declaration of Independence



The US Constitution page 1



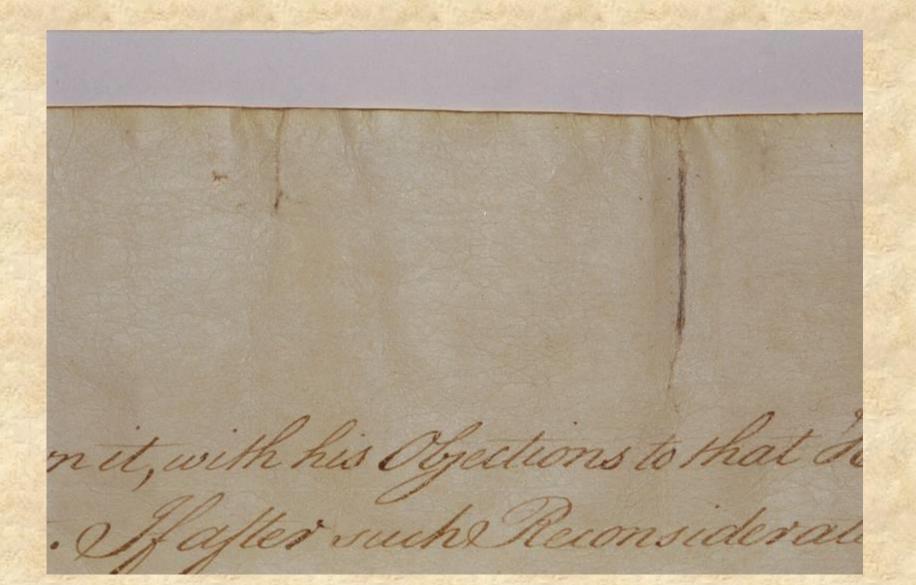
The Bill of Rights

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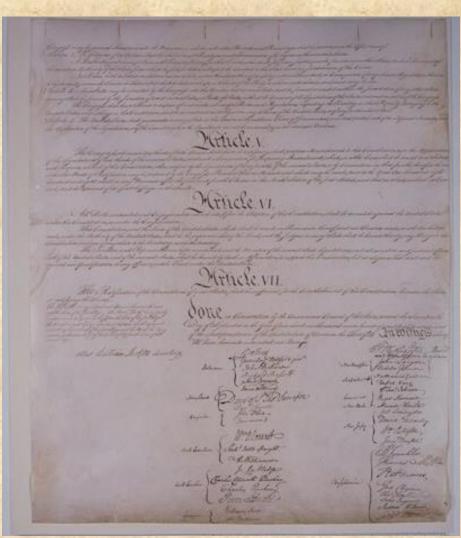


Constitution: central pinhole & slit

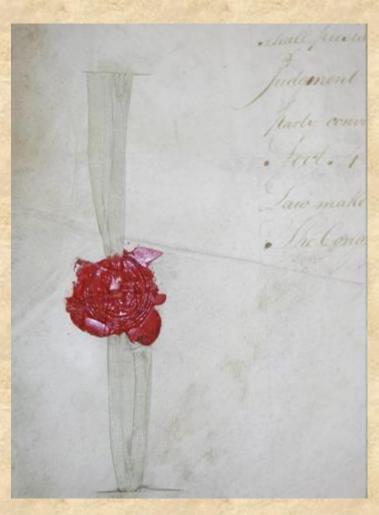


Constitution: vertical slits





Maryland Ratification of the Constitution



The Scribes

Timothy Matlack

Jacob Shallus

William Lambert

Rule lines for the scribes





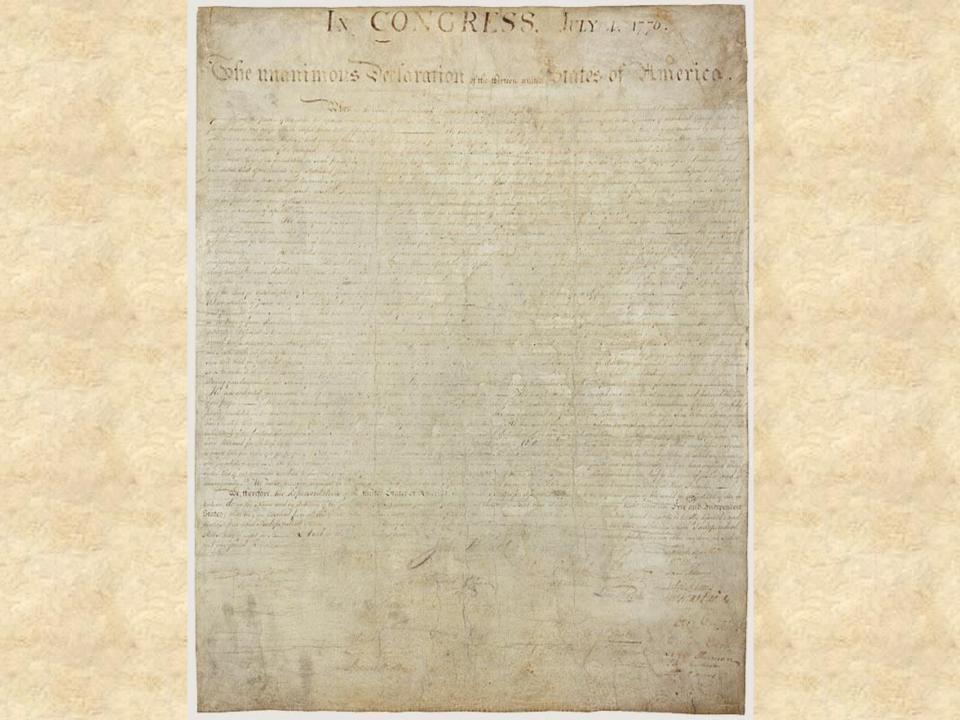
Ink smears, spatter, splotches

r atherwise, during the 12 Hales, and who shall

Erasures and corrections

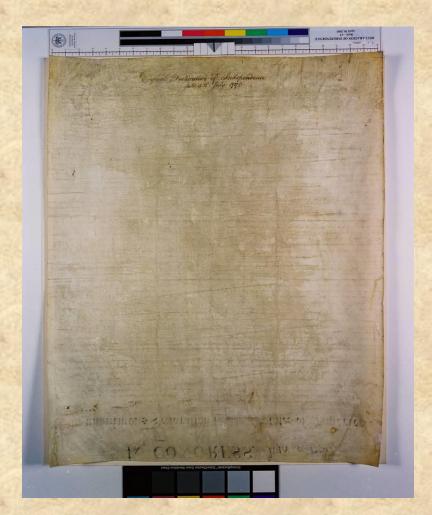
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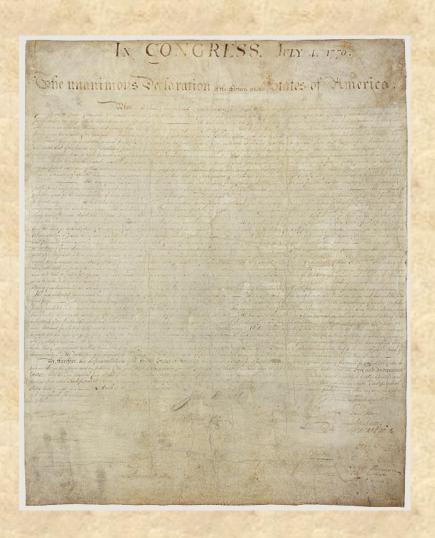


Evidence of rolling and folding



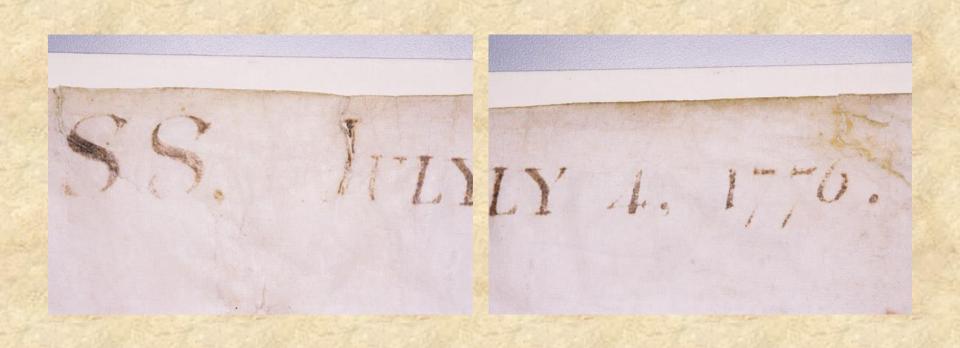


Engrained dirt and grime



- Handprint
- Random marks
- Possible printer's ink

Evidence of trimming



Ragged edge

United State the Objections become a Law. the Bill she Return in who

Evidence of mounting

- Y-shaped punctures
- Adhesive for mounting



Evidence of mounting

 Corner torn on Declaration in previous drum mount



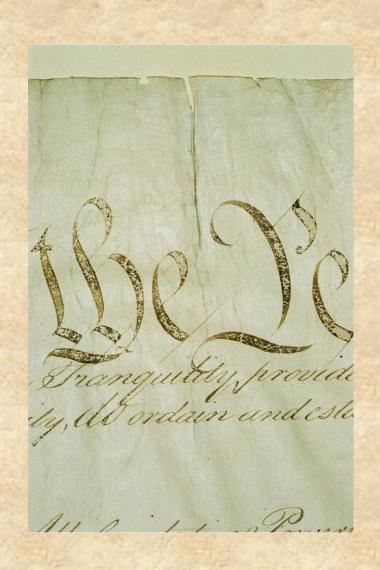
Insect feeding uda.

Examination

- Decisions about treatment steps
- Baseline measurements for the future
- Overlay maps for future reference
- Measuring thickness
 & dimensions



Ink characterization





Ink condition

tom of Majo



Securing the ink



- Removing the cover glass
- Checking for any ink flakes

Ink consolidation



Ink identification

- Samples from nontextual ink spatter
- Indicator paper for presence of Fe +2



Parchment testing



- Baseline data
- Comparative state of preservation of the various parchments
- Shrinkage
 Temperature
 determinations
- Gregory Young, Canadian Conservation Institute

Previous exhibition sites

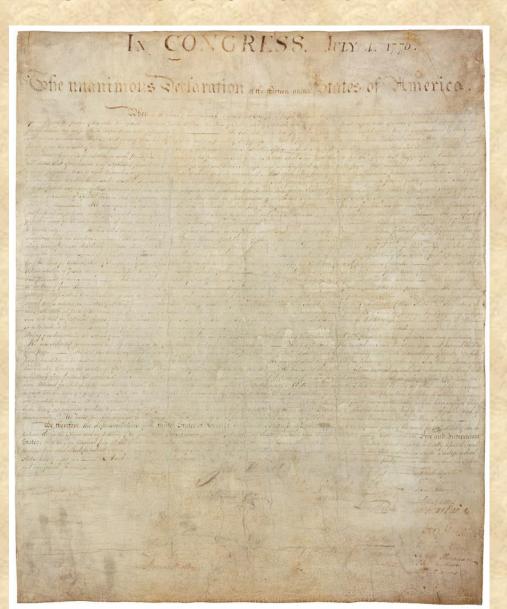


This is the case in the Library of the Stare Department at Washington, which all visitors see. The large document in the soper part of the case is the facultaile of the Declaration of Independence, made some years ago, when the original was removed from this case to arrest the fading from exposure to light. Thomas Jefferson's original draft, shown shows on this page, is the document directly under the centre of the facilities of the Declaration. The powerful to the lab of the draft is an exching of Jefferson; the document on the right of the draft is Jefferson's memorandum of the Inscription which he wished placed on the electic shaft to be executed to his memorany.

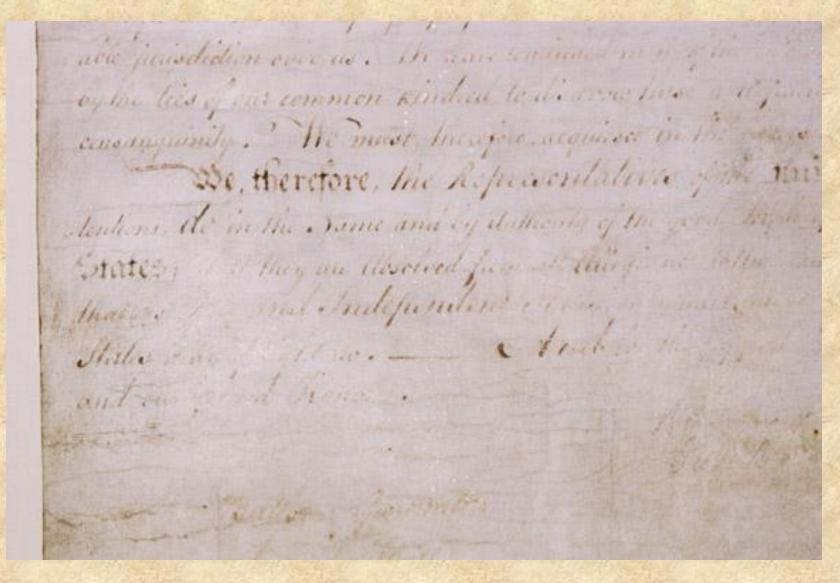


Condition of the Declaration

- Early accounts
- 1817 Richard Rush, Acting Secretary of State
- 1819 John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State

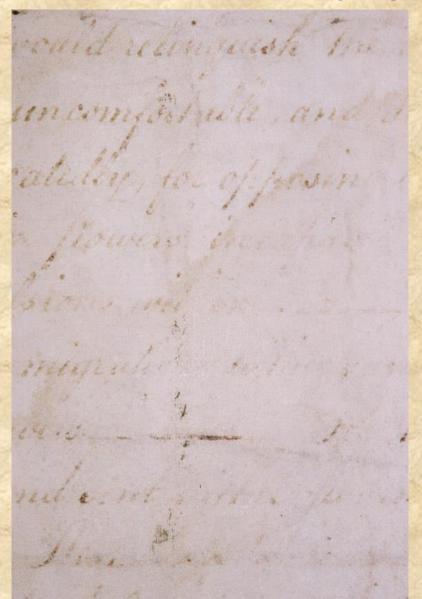


Light damage?





Water damage



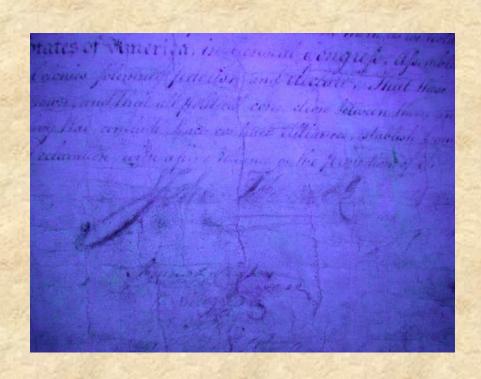


Tyler and Binns engravings

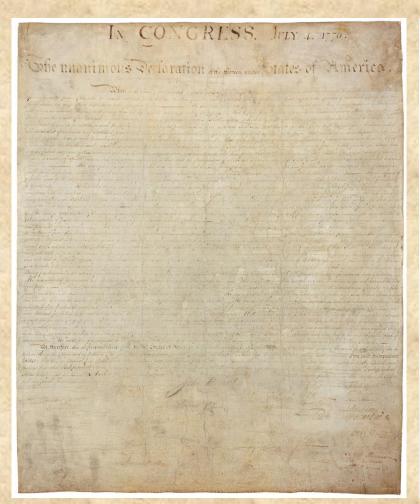


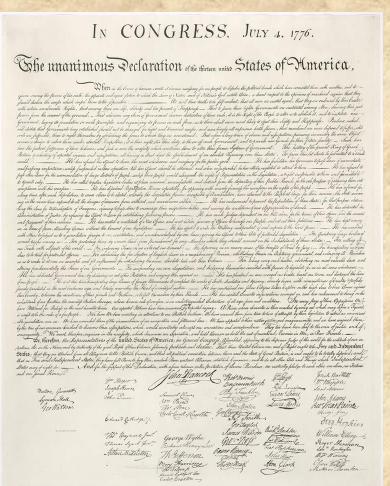


UV photography



The Declaration of Independence





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