

BASIC DATA

Erdödy Garden Chair
Date: late 19th century
Technique: wooden folding garden chair with woven seat
Owner: Jastrebarsko Museum, Croatia

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(textile specialization)

The garden chair from the Erdödy Castle in Jastrebarsko dates back to the late 19th century.



Picture 1
Family photo from the garden (photo: Stjepan Erdödy 1900. - owned by the Jastrebarsko Museum) In the picture we see that the chair is located in the park of the castle itself.
Picture 2 - chair in the Museum1980.



Picture 3,4,5
Chair before conservation-restoration works with visible damages

CHALLENGES IN THE CONSERVATION-RESTORATION OF THE ERDÖDY WOODEN CHAIR



Picture 6 - photo of the Museum building in Jastrebarsko

Erdody garden chair - description of the condition

The garden chair was made of solid turned wood with 2 x 8 pieces of turned slats. The wood is natural, only treated with oil/wax glaze as protection. The mechanism of the connected slats serves to unfold and fold the chair. The seat is made of canvas, as is the backrest of the chair. The seat is fixed with nails to the wood, while the backrest can be removed from the chair. The fabric is made of a brown cotton base and wool and cotton red/black patterns and decorated with a multi-colored stylized ethnographic geometric pattern. The chair was in poor condition, both the wooden and canvas parts. Structurally both due to age and inadequate old renovations. The wood (oak and cherry) was quite dry, but traces of wormholes are noticeable. The biggest damages, such as washing away of the protective layer, are visible on the legs of the chair at the very bottom in contact with the floor. The rickety legs were joined together with inadequately driven steel nails and glue.



Picture 7,8,9
Chair before conservation-restoration works with visible damages

The fabric is made of brown cotton warp, while the effective wefts that form the pattern are woolen (red, light blue, ochre, black, light brown) and white cotton. Along the upper edge of the seat, which is twisted, a decorative multi-colored woven fabric is sewn and is not visible in the finished form. The backrest is pulled over the chair slats over the sewn-in side tunnels. Unexpectedly, these were originally sewn to the front of the backrest with white cotton thread. The backrest itself is cut from a rectangular piece of fabric shaped into a tunnel inside which is the lining, which is not visible in the finished form. The canvas was badly damaged on the edge parts that suffered the most mechanical damage and is very dirty. Irreversible damage from dark corrosion is found in areas where the fabric was nailed to the chair. Cocoons and damage caused by moths were found in the inner folds of the backrest.



Picture 10 - wood tinting and waxing
Picture 11 - dismantling, removing tassels (strips) from the canvas



Picture 12,13,14
Pre-washing, washing and rinsing of fabrics

PROCEDURES PERFORMED ON THE CHAIR

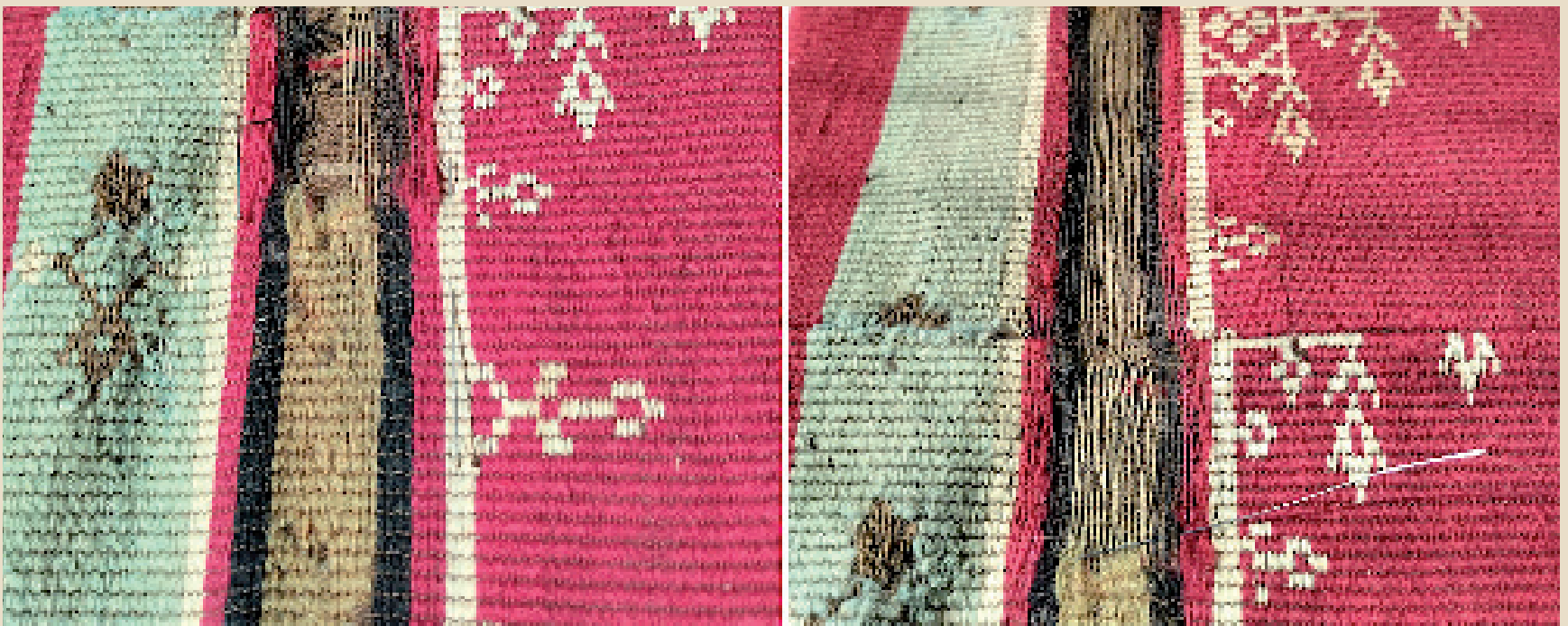
- description of the existing condition, description of the object, photo documentation before, during and after the procedure
- fumigation of the chair
- disassembly of the legs and other slats of the chair
- cleaning the surface mechanically and chemically
- local stabilization

ON WOOD

- puttying, repairing edges, straightening, gluing cracks, replacing dowels
- reconstruction of missing elements: making edges with sawdust putty, making new dowels for connecting parts
- final layer is made with a colorless oil glaze

ON TEXTILE

- wet cleaning, drying and straightening of fabrics
- preparation of materials for closing the damage (procurement of backing fabric, dyeing of fabric, cotton threads and filaments for lining and sewing)
- closing the damage (lining the damaged parts with a new suitable fabric prepared, sewing the missing weft elements and cross-stitching with suitable silk threads)
- closing the damage on the decorative strip
- edge and side processing by sewing with cotton threads



Picture 15,16
Closing the damage, sewing of edges and photo before and after sewing works

