



NEW YORK STATE
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF CULTURAL EDUCATION

State Museum

State Library

State Archives

Summer School of the Arts

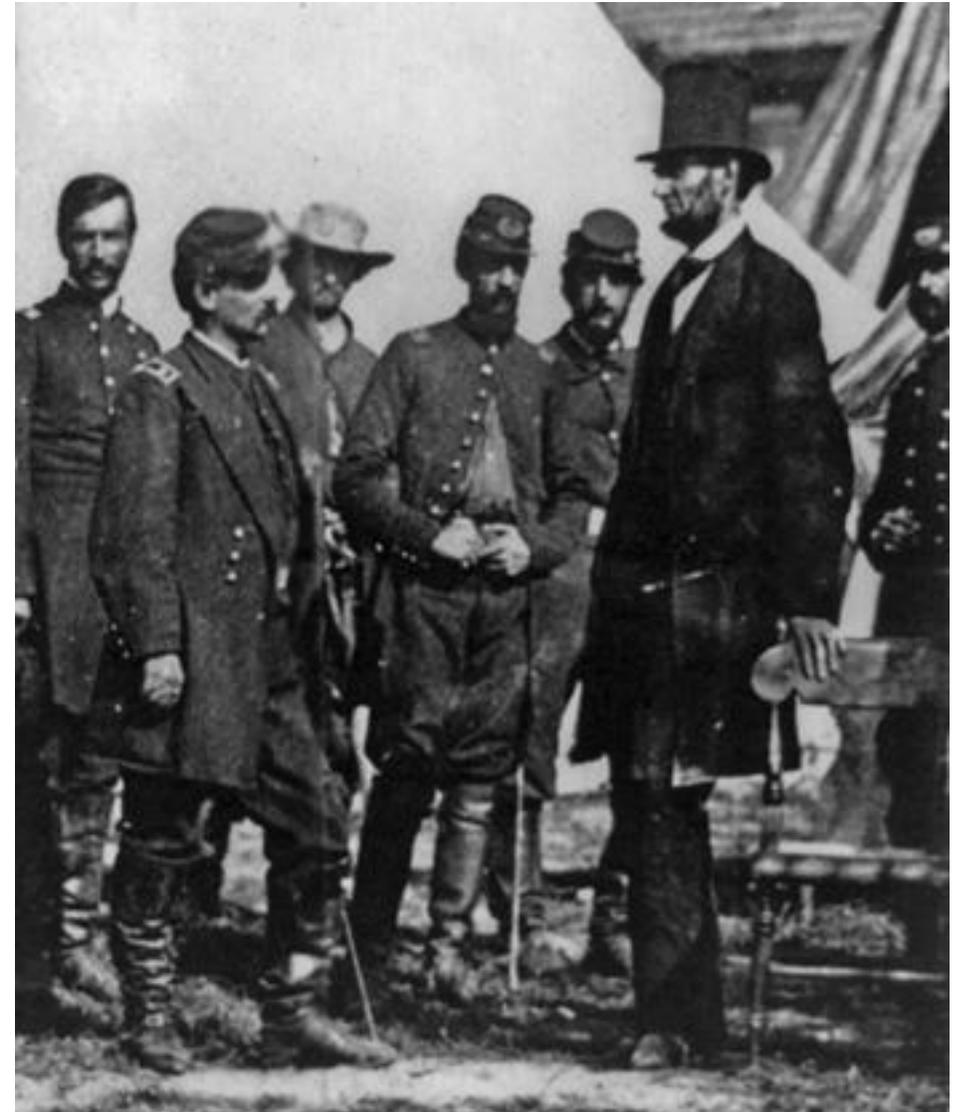
Public Broadcasting



The Draft Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation Conservation and Encasement Project

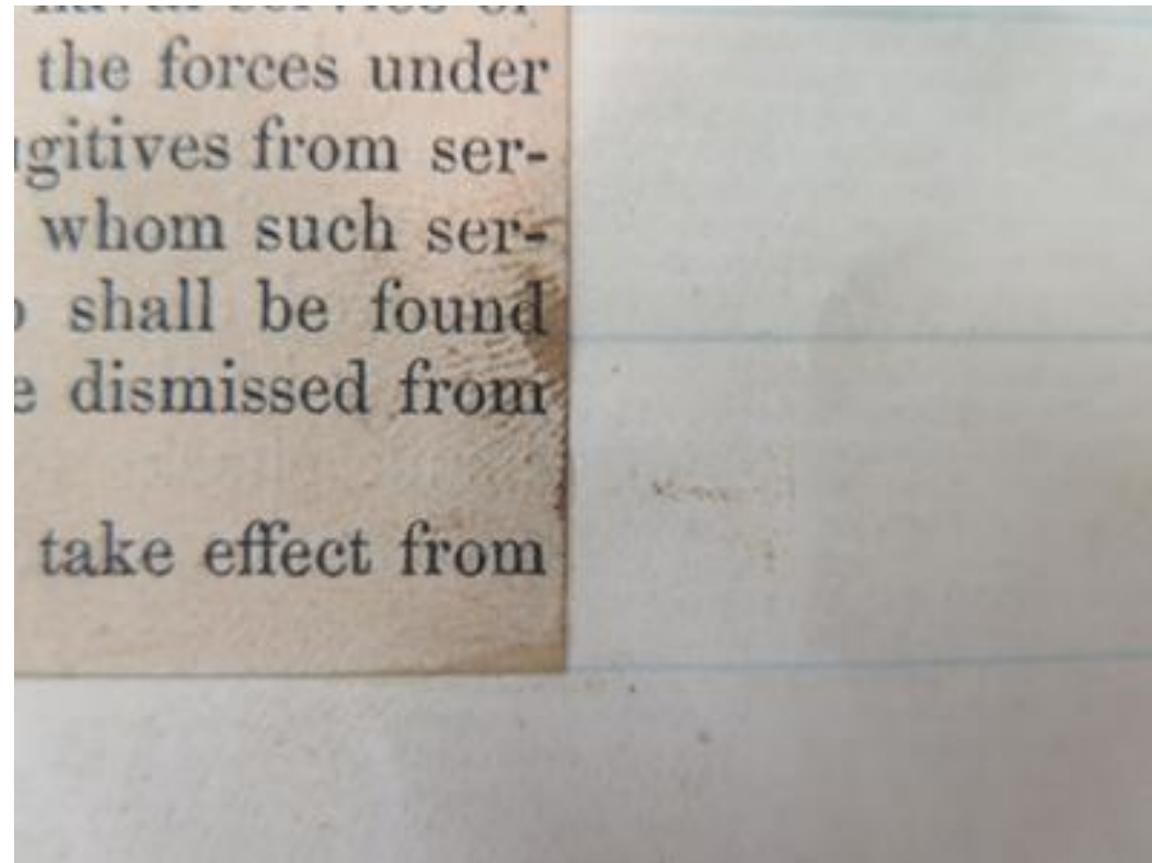
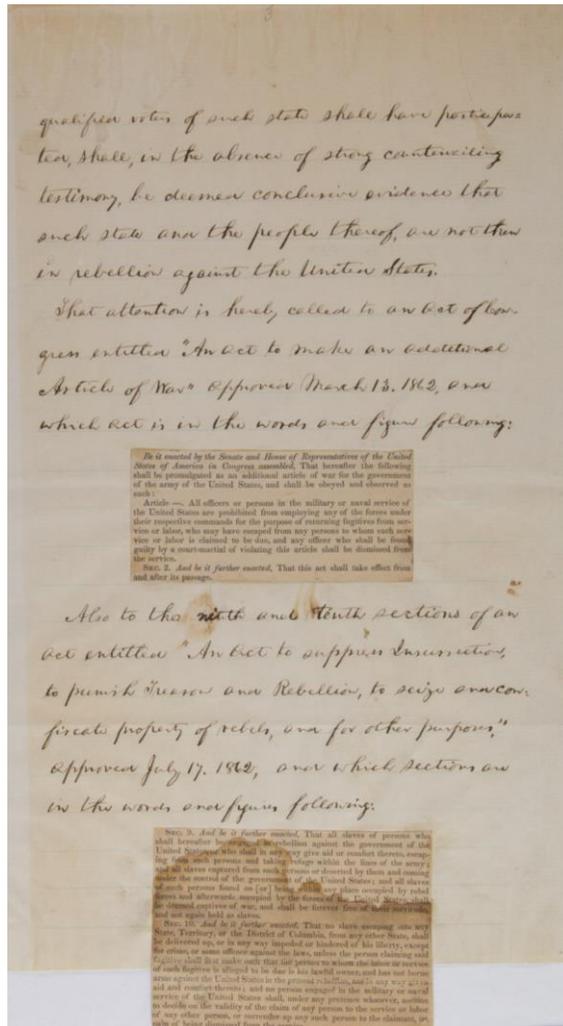
The Draft Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation

- President Lincoln issued the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862 – ordering that in 100 days the federal government would deem all slaves free in states still rebelling against the Union.
- The document is an important example of the path to freedom for African Americans and the nation.
- The New York State Library owns President Lincoln's handwritten draft of the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.



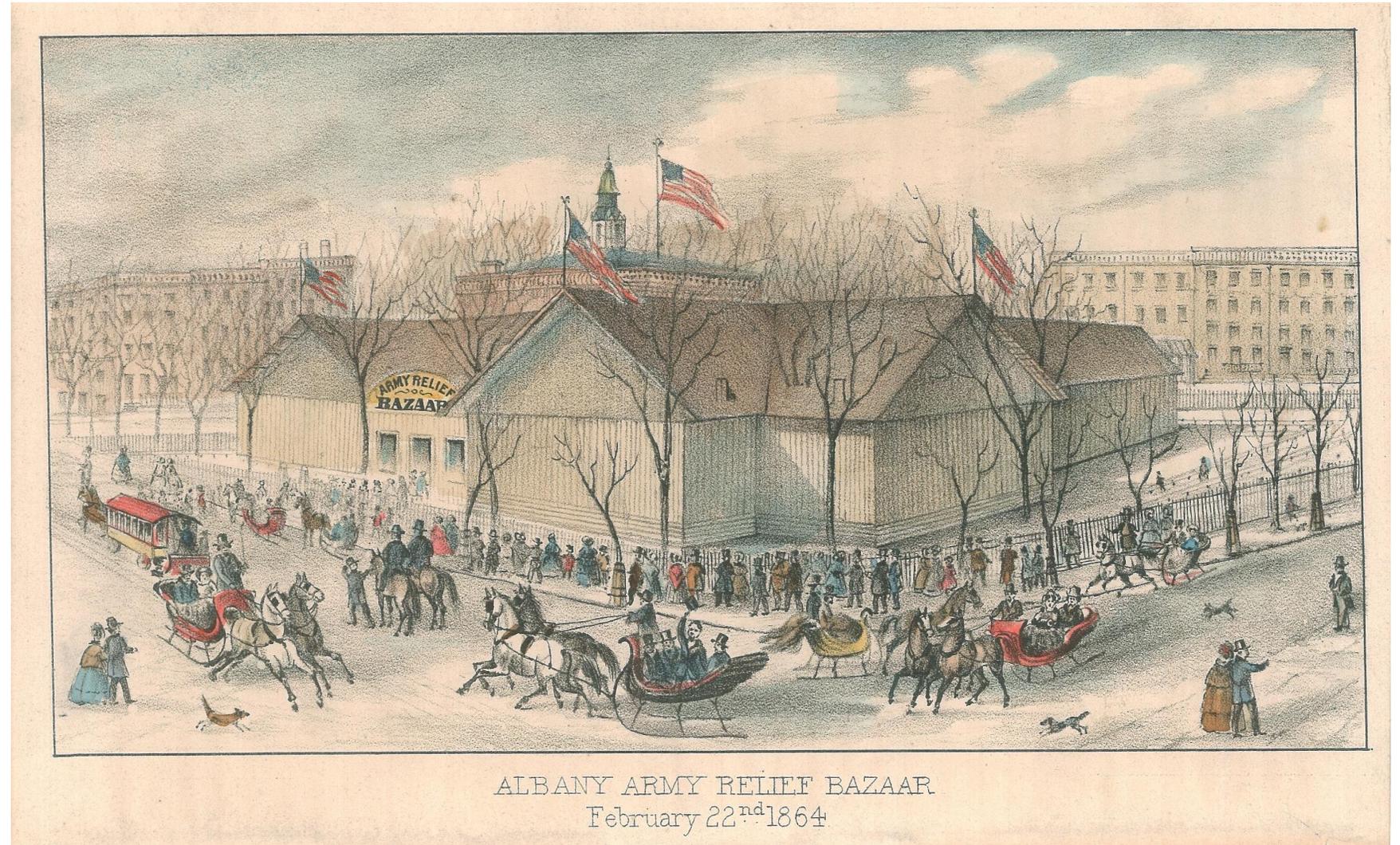
Photograph by Alexander Gardner, October 3, 1862

The Draft Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation



How the Proclamation came to the New York State Library

- President Lincoln donated document to U.S. Sanitary Commission to raise money for Union war effort
- Abolitionist Gerrit Smith won raffle for document in Albany
- Smith then sold the document to the NYS Legislature.
- Legislature deposited document in State Library.



We assembled a panel of national experts



Independence National Historical Park
Katie Diethorn, Chief Curator



National Archives: Catherine Nicholson,
Deputy Director, Document Conservation Lab



The New York Public Library
Shelly Smith, Head of Conservation Treatment



Yale University
Paul Whitmore, Director of the Art Conservation Research Center, Center for Conservation and Preservation

Our expert panel made several recommendations

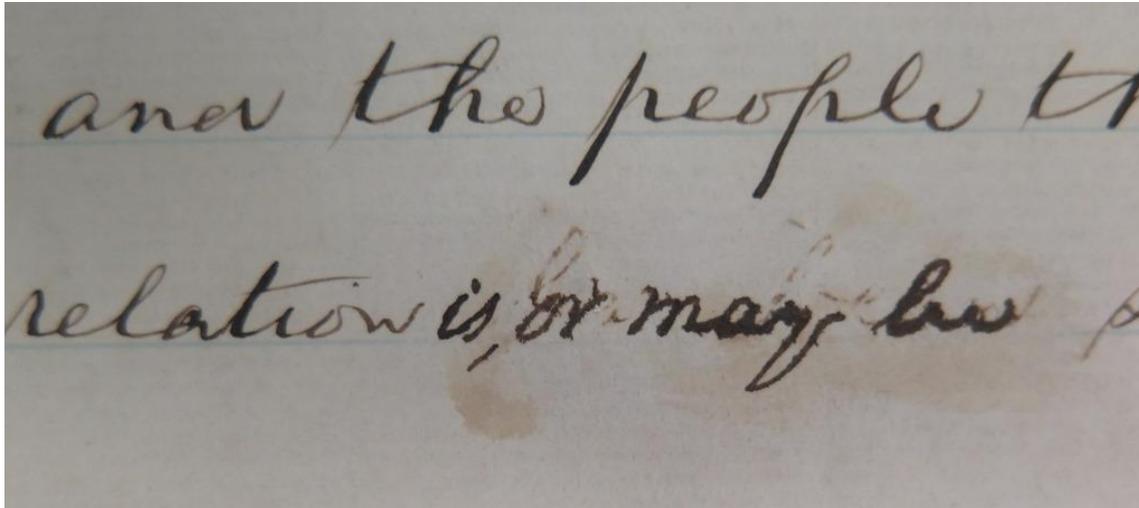
- A new encasement should be fabricated, since the old one was no longer serving its purpose.
- The document should be conserved by a paper conservator experienced with national treasures.
- A comprehensive program of care and stewardship should be established to accommodate the document in its new encasement.

Disassembly of the old encasement

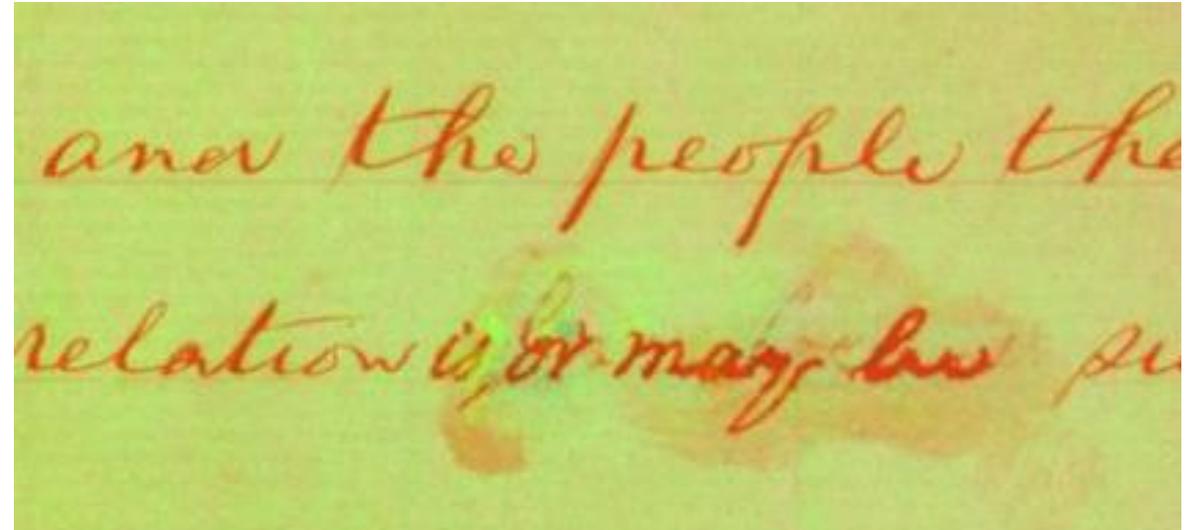


Areas of interest were photographed
using special techniques

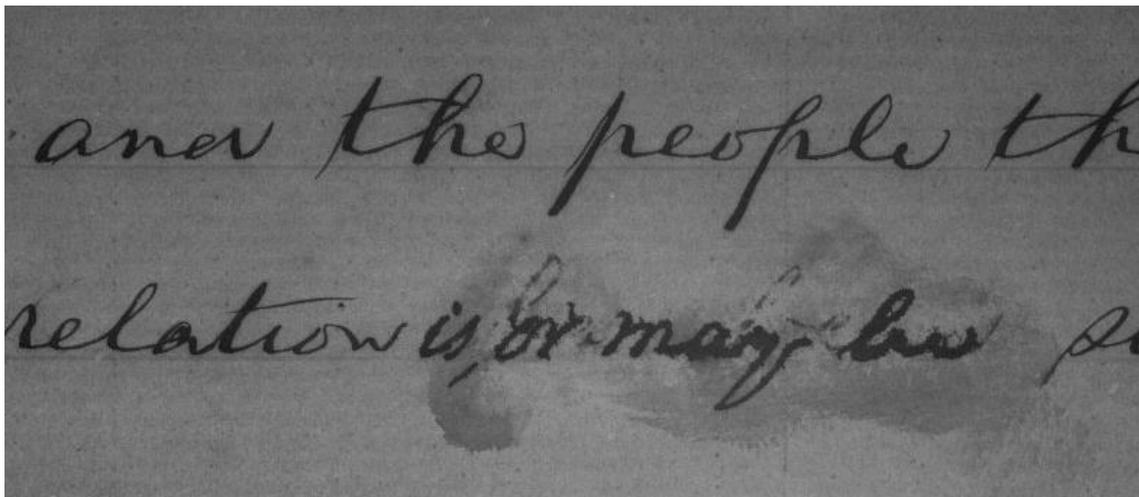
by J. J. Chen (Buffalo State College Art Conservation Program)



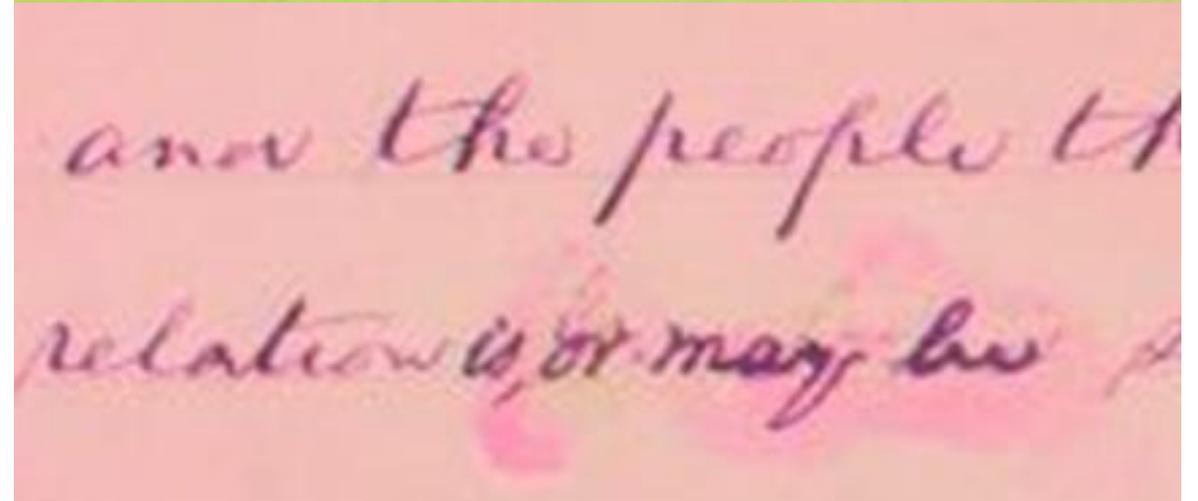
and the people the
relation is, or may be



and the people the
relation is, or may be



and the people the
relation is, or may be



and the people the
relation is, or may be

Paper conservator Catherine Nicholson carefully examined and conserved the four leaves



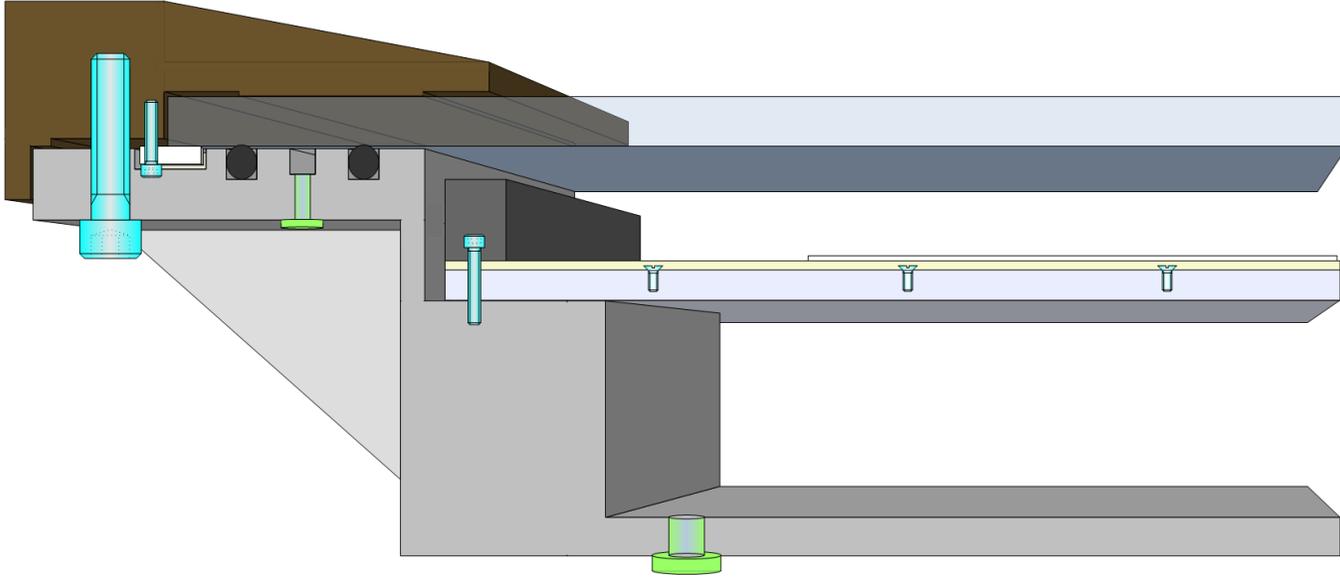
John Jay
Secretary of the Convention
to the People of the United States

I, John Jay, Secretary of the Convention
of the States of America, and Commissioner in Chief
of the Army and Navy thereof, do hereby pro-
claim and declare that hereafter as soon
as the same shall be presented for the
purpose of practically restoring the constitutional re-
lation between the United States and each
of the States and the people thereof, each
State that relation may be suspended, or
dissolved.

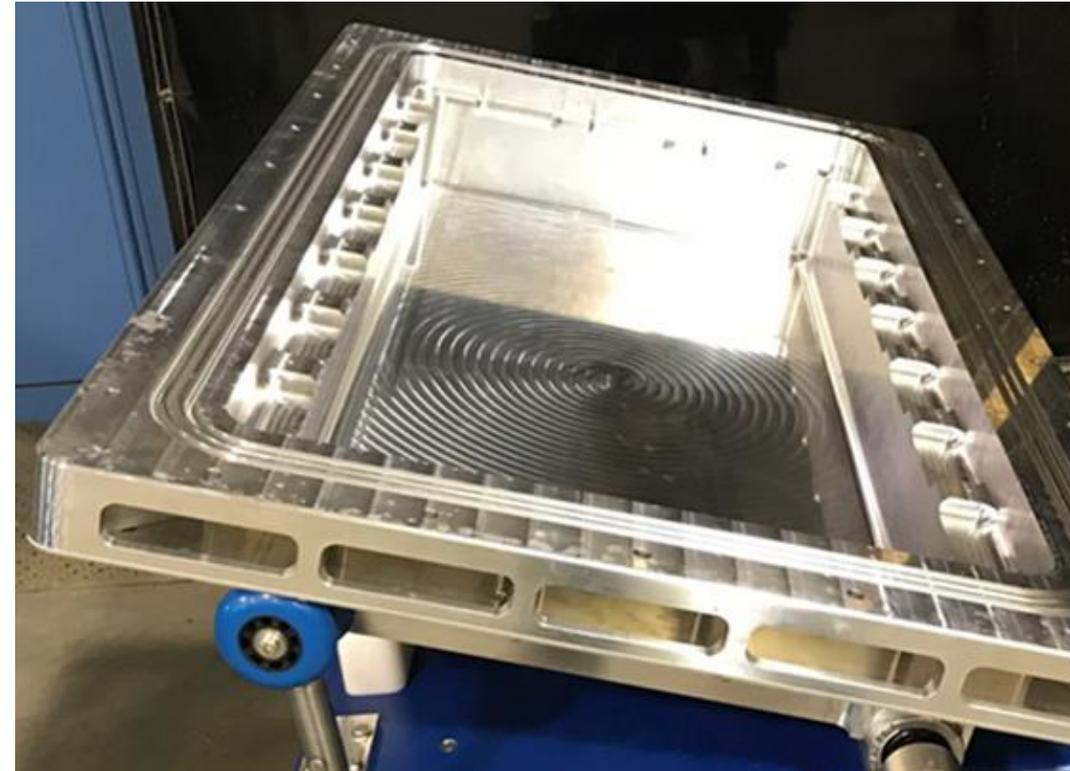
That it is my purpose upon the next meeting
of Congress to propose to the adoption of
a practical measure leading to the
the practical acceptance or rejection of all these
States, so that the people thereof may not be



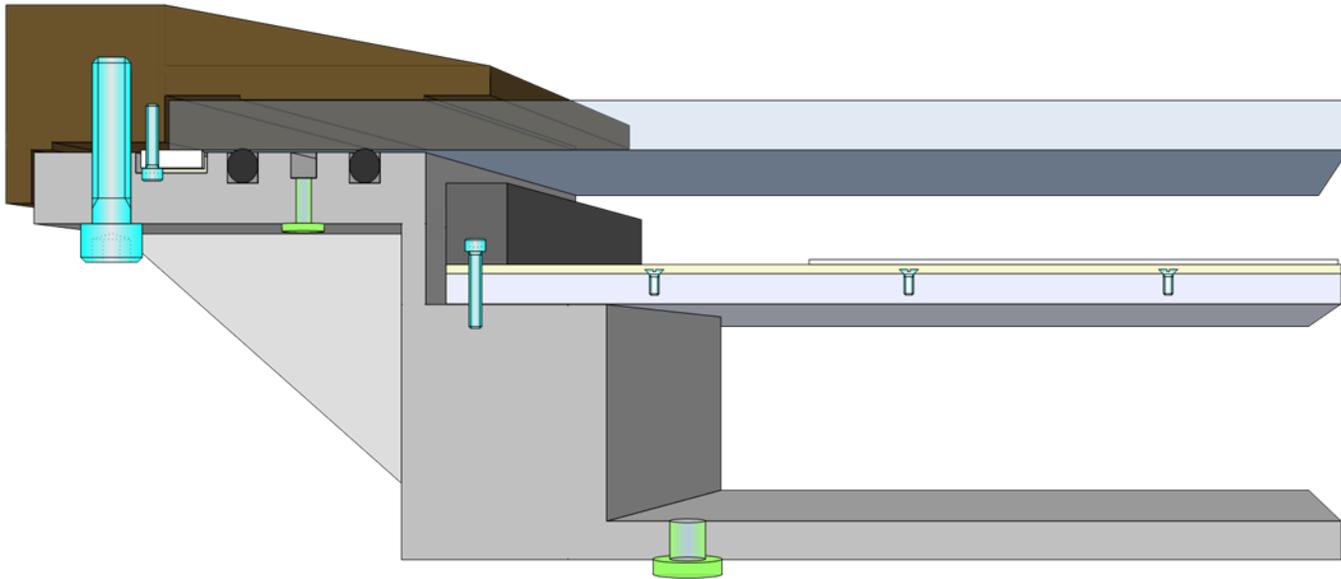
The new encasement design



- Base was milled from a solid block of aluminum weighing 690 pounds.
- Ours is the NIST engineers' 12th encasement.

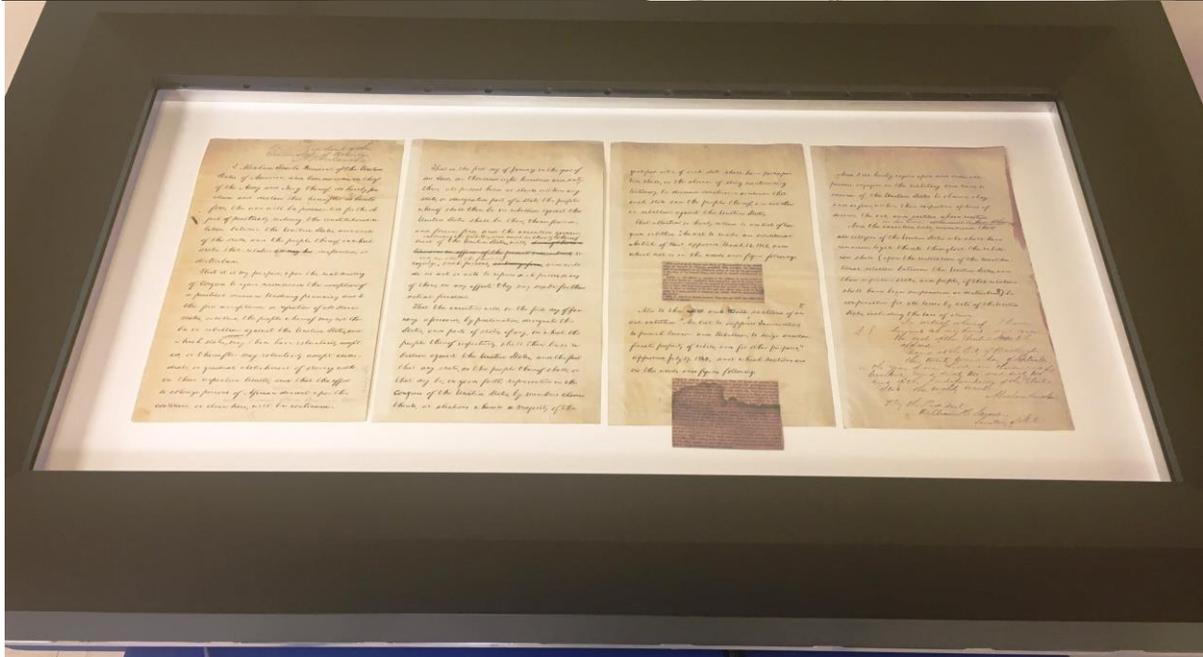
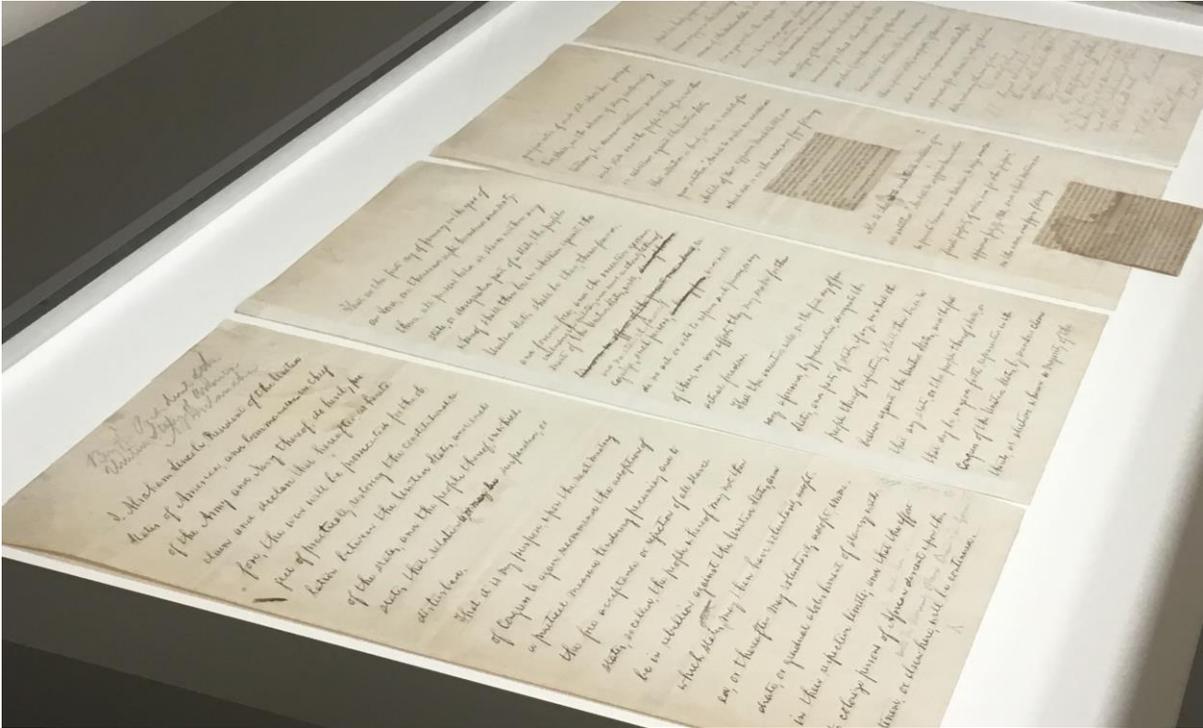


The assembly required thorough attention to detail



Liza Duncan and colleagues
carry out the final check.

The Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation in its new encasement and with monitoring devices in place





**NEW YORK STATE
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

OFFICE OF CULTURAL EDUCATION

State Museum

State Library

State Archives

Summer School of the Arts

Public Broadcasting



Thank You