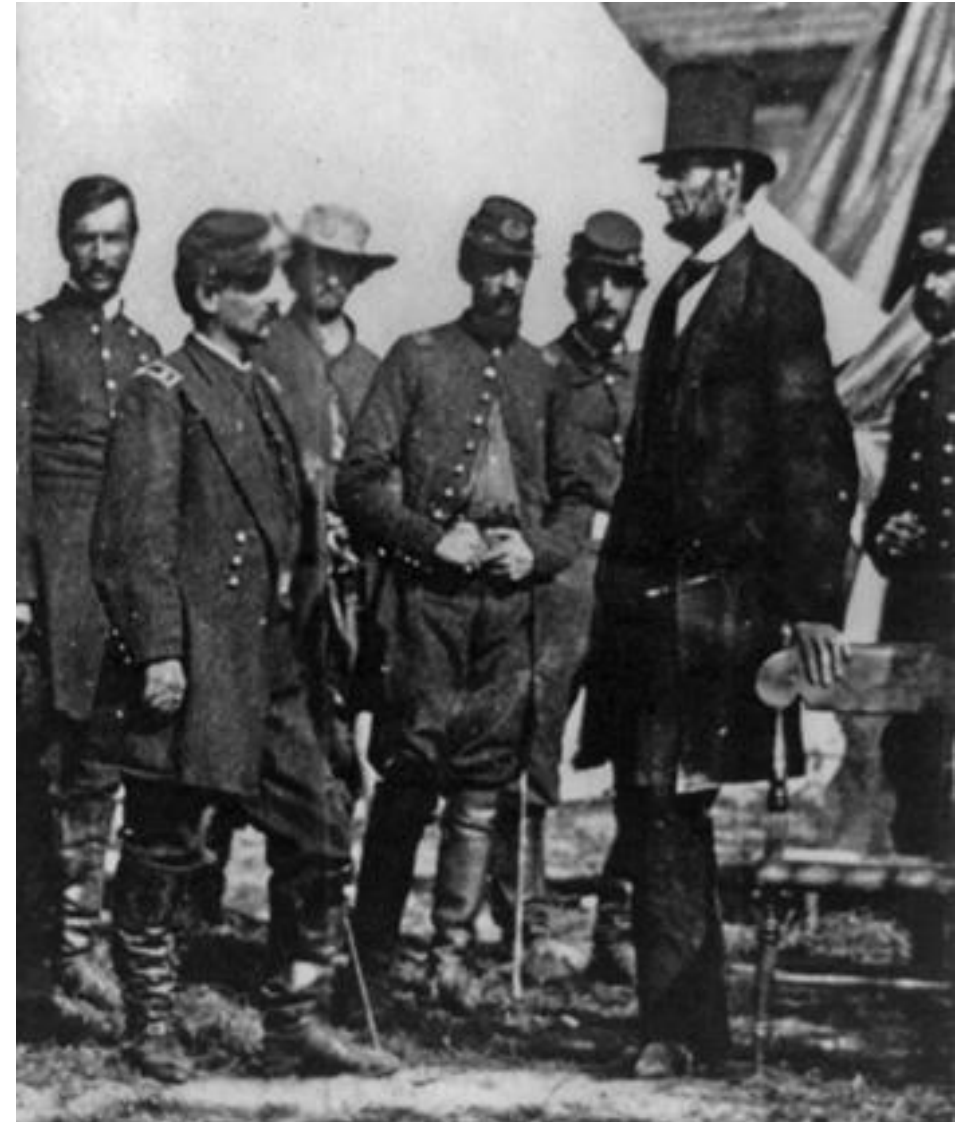


The Draft Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation Conservation and Encasement Project

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

qualifier votes of such state shall have participation, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such state and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States.

That attention is hereby called to a vote of honor
given entitled "An Act to make an additional
Article of War approved March 13, 1862, and
which act is in the words and figures following:

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter the following shall constitute an additional article of war for the government of the army of the United States, and shall be obeyed and observed as such:

Article—All officers or persons in the military or naval service of the United States are prohibited from employing any of the forces under their respective command for the purpose of extorting bribes from any person or persons, or from any Government, or from any officer or soldier, sailor or laborer, who may have come from any persons to whom such services or labor is claimed to be due, and any officer who shall be found guilty by a court-martial of violating this article shall be dismissed from the service.

And, And it is further enacted, That this act shall take effect from and after the passage thereof.

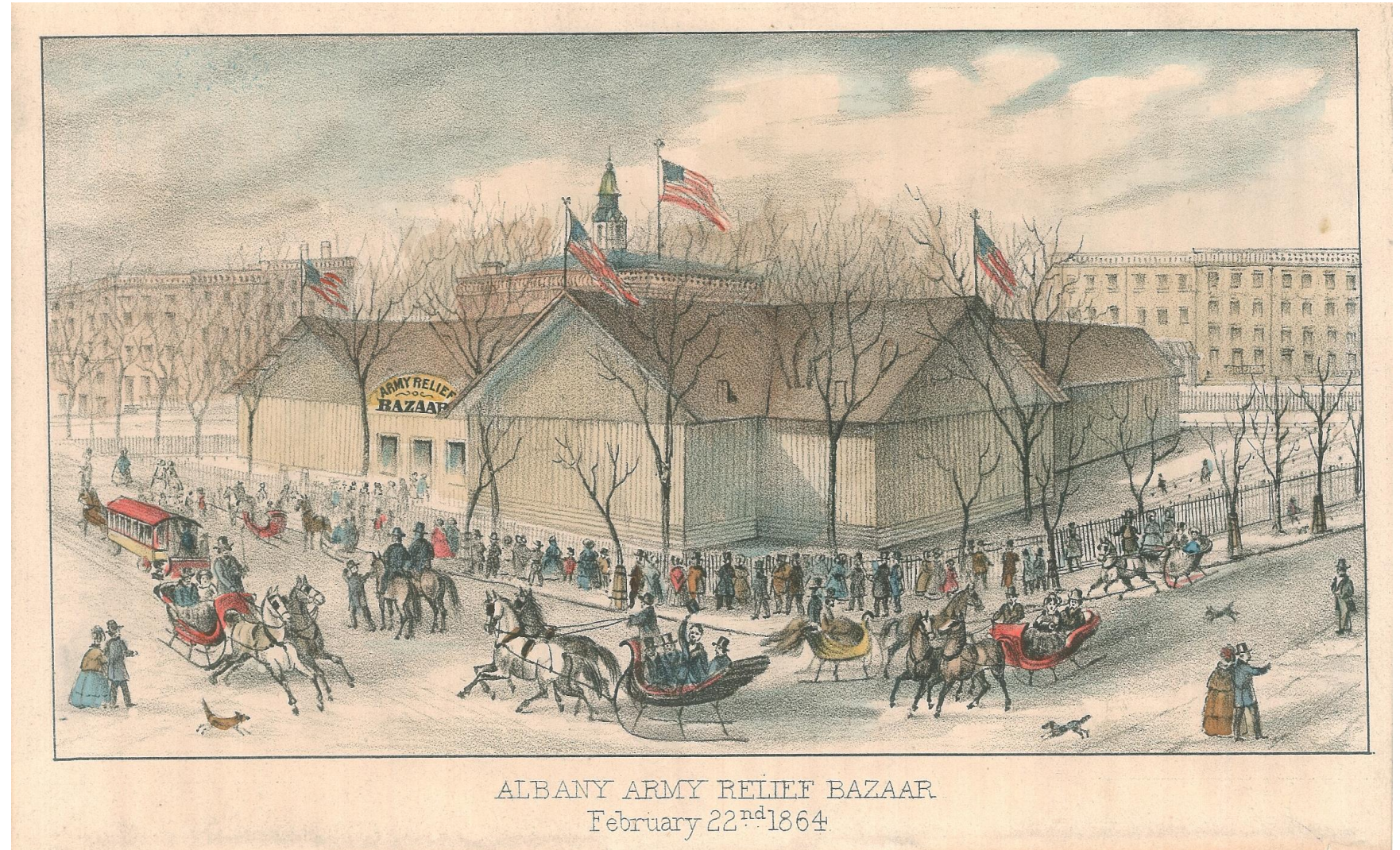
Also to the sixth and seventh sections of an act entitled "An Act to suppress Insurrection, to punish Treason and Rebellion, to seize and confiscate property of rebels, and for other purposes." Approved July 17, 1862, and which sections are in the words and figures following:

[illegible]

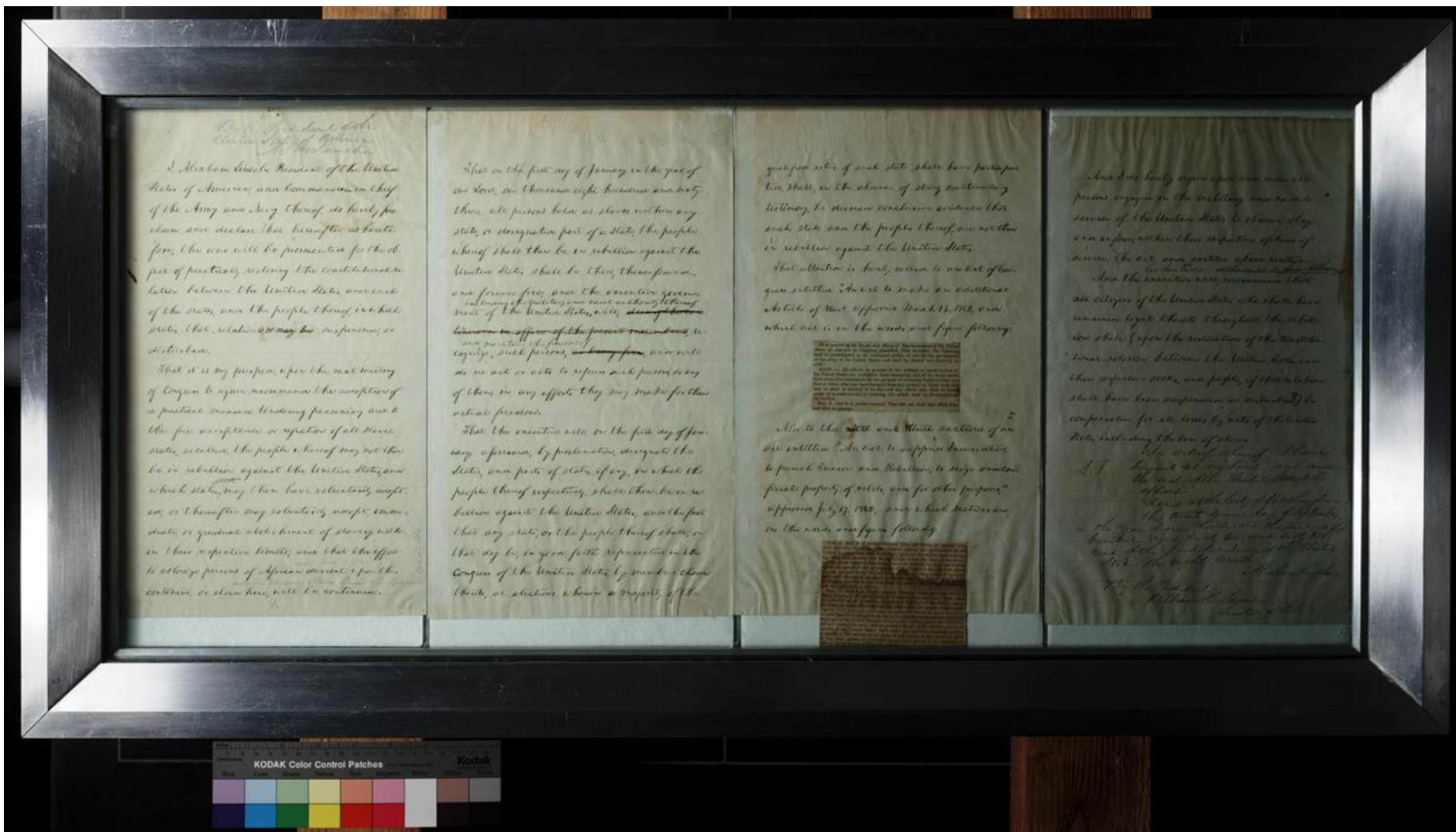
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How the Proclamation came to the New York State Library

- 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.



The previous encasement was created in the late 1960s



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)**

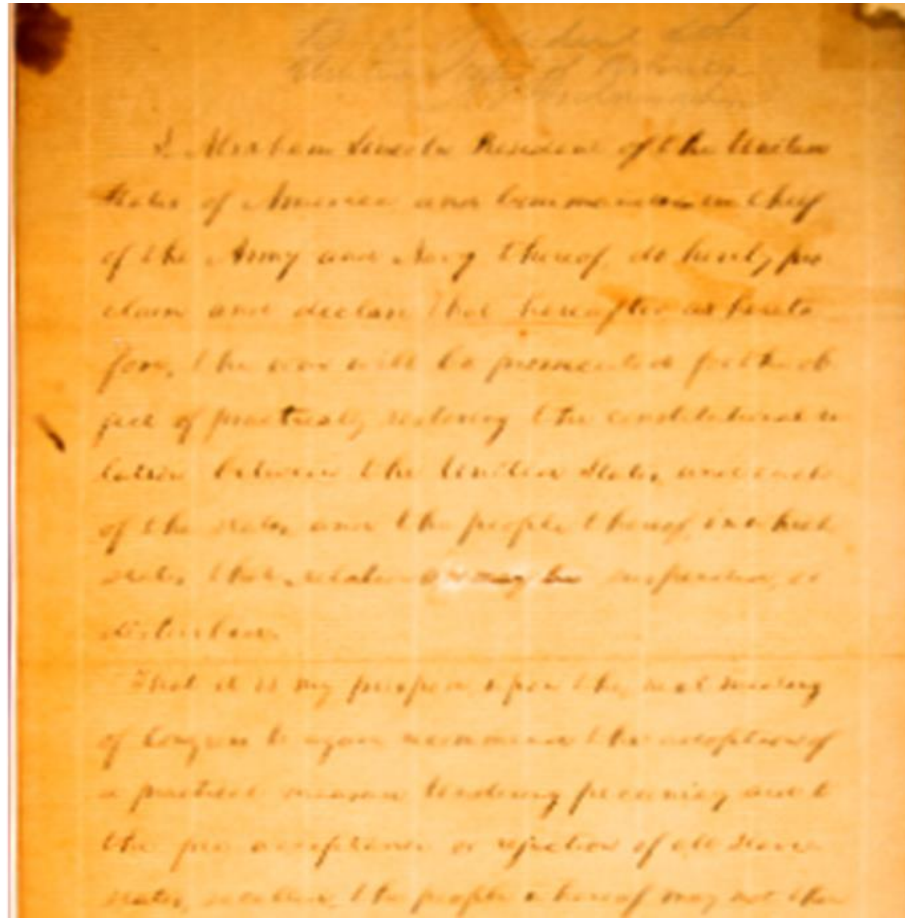
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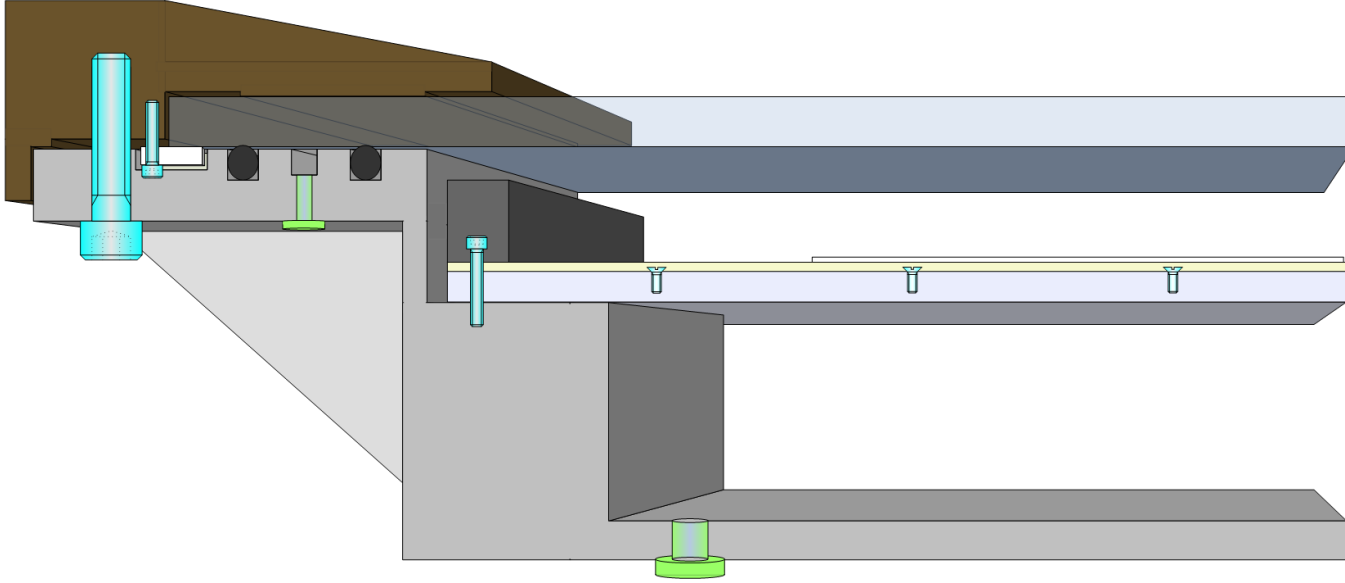
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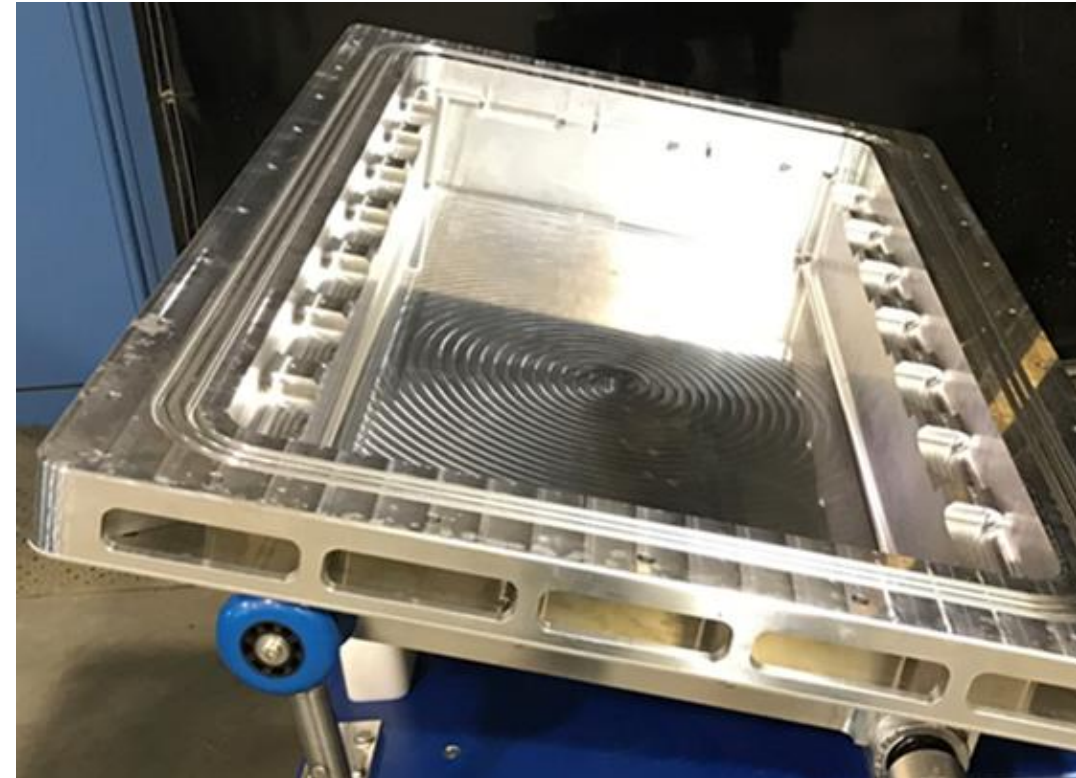
Paper conservator Catherine Nicholson carefully examined and conserved the four leaves



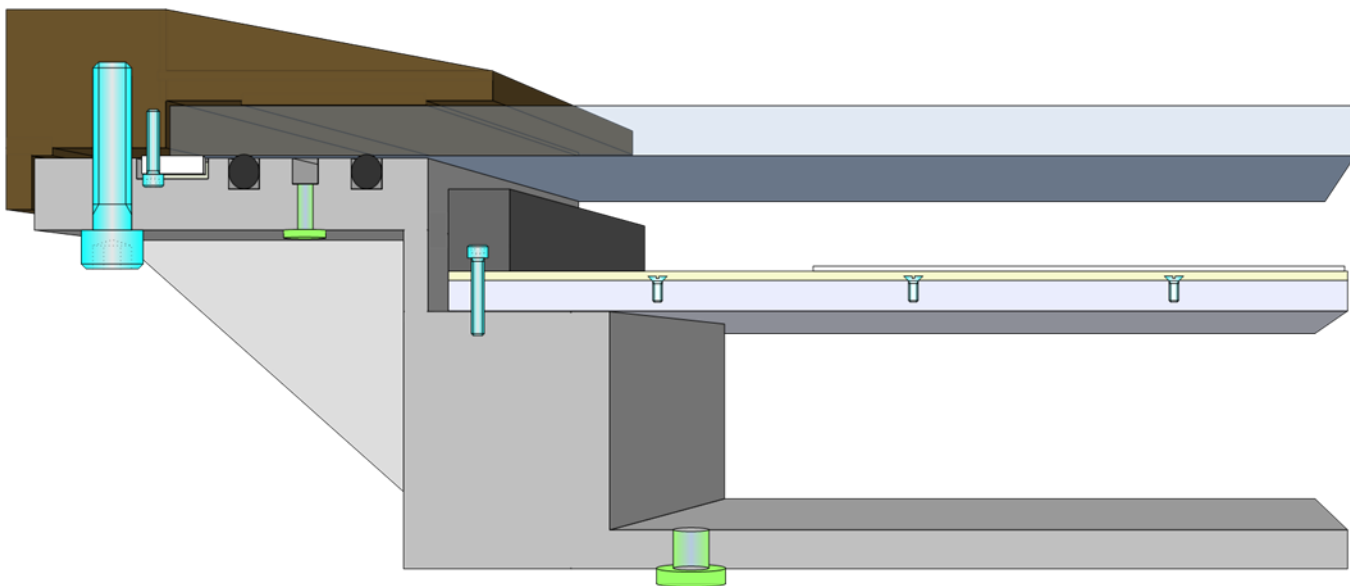
The new encasement design



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

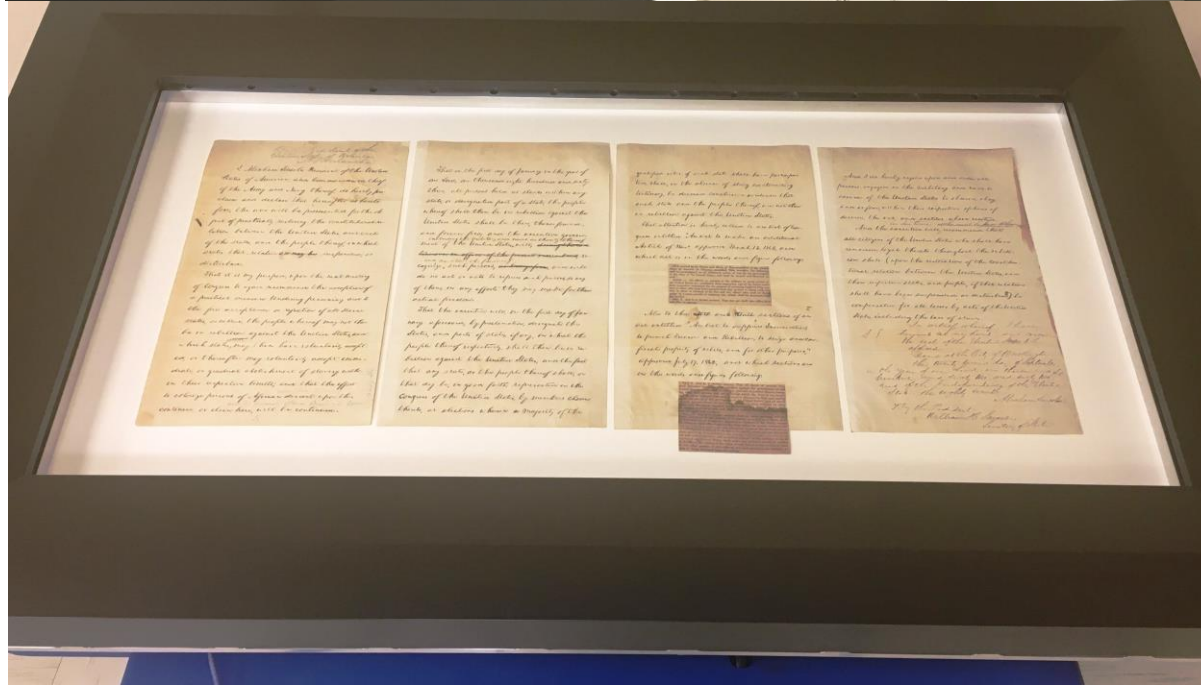
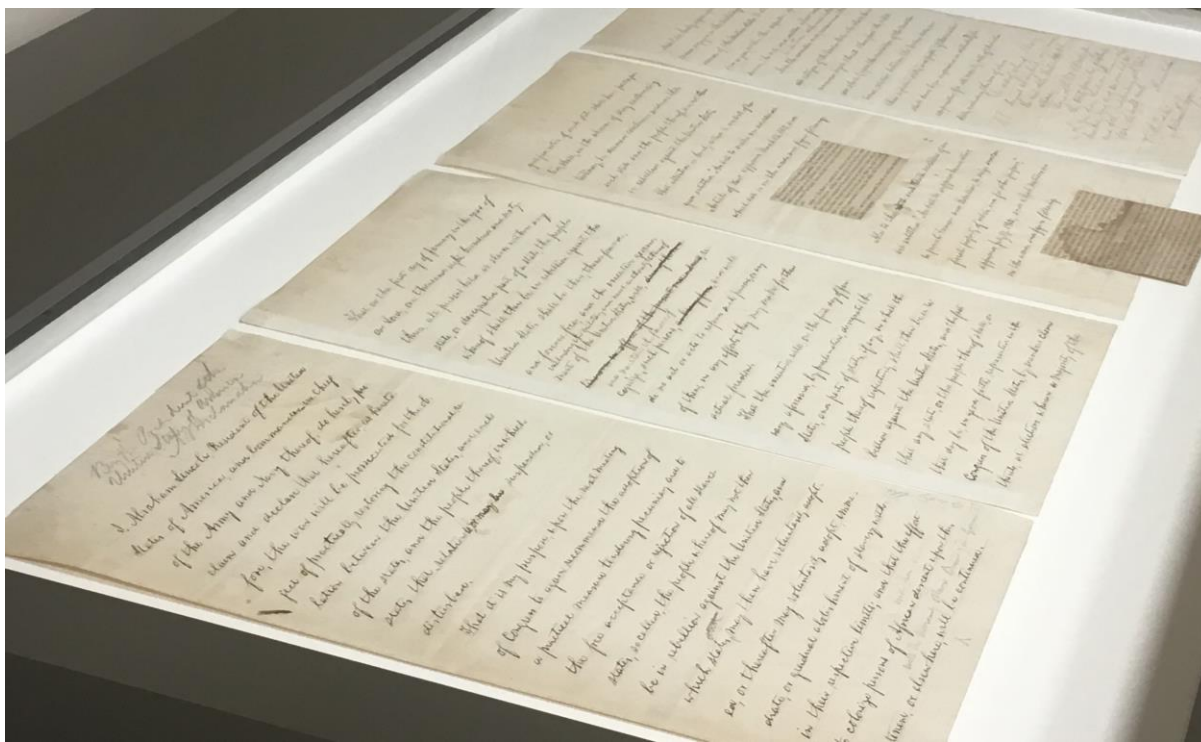


The assembly required thorough attention to detail



Liza Duncan and colleagues
carry out the final check.

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





Museum
Library
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Office of Cultural Education

**NEW YORK STATE
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

OFFICE OF CULTURAL EDUCATION

State Museum

State Library

State Archives

Summer School of the Arts

Public Broadcasting



Thank You