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Akron Art Museum Lanterns

Akron Art Museum
One South High
Akron, OH 44308

The Akron Art Museum has been a long-time institutional member of the ICA. During its recent renovation and expansion, the AAM housed most of its collection in the ICA's fine art storage facility. Akron also asked ICA objects conservators to do a condition assessment and refurbishment of two ornamental, reproduction outdoor lanterns on the museum's facade. The reproductions were made in the 1980s, bronze and glass copies of the original lighting on the building, made circa 1899.

The primary goal of the treatment was to slow and prevent further environmental degradation to the surface of the lanterns. The resulting aesthetic improvement was a secondary benefit. The lanterns were carefully deinstalled, disassembled into their numerous component elements, and cleaned. Surface corrosion was removed and a corrosion inhibitor was applied, then the objects were repatinated. Incralac (a protective acrylic coating for copper and bronze) and wax coatings were applied. Finally, the lanterns were rewired and reinstalled on the building.