CHRISTOPHER MILLS CONSERVATION SERVICES, LLC

Metropolitan Museum of Art: Islamic Galleries, NYC

Morroccan Court/Application of Traditional Materials to Carved Atlas Cedar

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The Moroccan Court is located in the Islamic wing on the second floor of The Metropolitan Museum. The Court is a modern interpretation of a traditional Arab-Spanish region period court/enclosure. In 2011, Moroccan craftsman carved and installed an ornate ceiling surround, doors and Mashrabeya screen into Atlas Cedar using traditional tools and materials. CMCS was contracted to apply an historically accurate finish medium that was sympathetic to the region and aesthetically convincing as aged wood. The work included the following tasks:

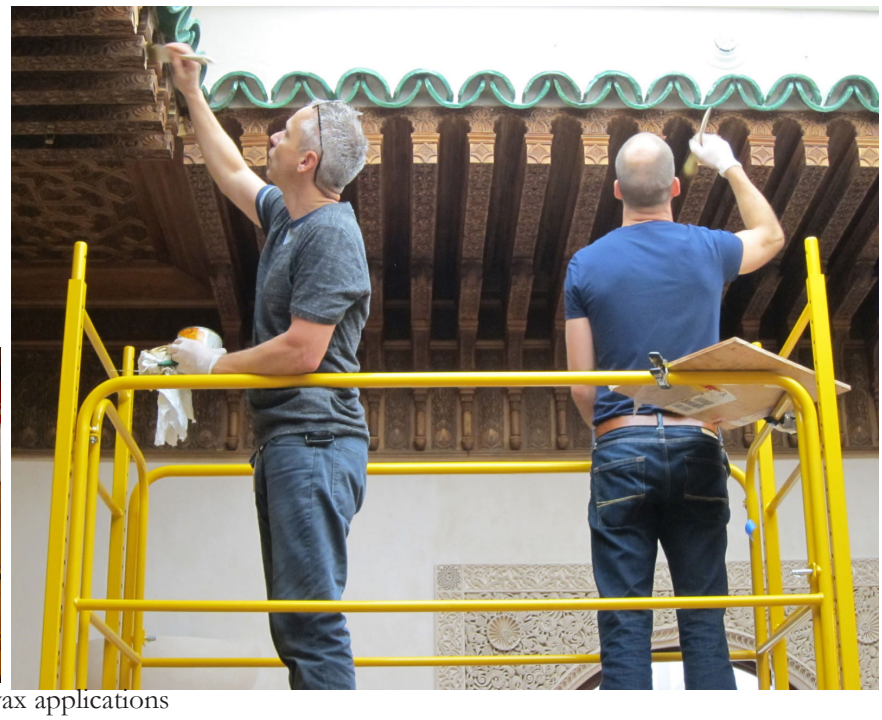
- Apply traditional poppy seed oil finish to ornately carved ceiling surround
- Assist in the design and manufacture of alternative wood finishes including wax-infused oil
- Fill and inpaint irregular surfaces to match surrounding wood color and grain

Carved wood before treatment

During oil application

During third application of traditional poppy seed oil

Inpainting doors



Grinding pigments into medium and tinted wax applications

Toned and finished