

Report of Task Agreement # J8100100266

Park: Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site

Project: Stabilize Metals

Investigator: Rich Lange

Project Number: UAZCP – 226

Cooperator: Ms. Margaret Kipling, Ms. Audrey Harrison

Final Project Report

The cooperators worked to stabilize 136 metals objects selected as a final group by Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic site for treatment. The cooperators assisted the NPS conservator with before treatment documentation, which included bulk treatment proposals and before treatment photographic documentation. Most of the objects were related to the blacksmith shop and included objects like branding irons, tools, hardware, and machine parts.

The cooperators performed treatments on all objects. The goal of the treatment of these pieces was to reduce corrosion, loose surface dirt and grime, and apply protective coatings to reduce risk of future corrosion, especially for objects returning to display in the blacksmith shop where they are subject to a less controlled environment. There were three main treatment groups, which differed in the cleaning methods, solvents, passivating layers, and coating methods, depending on the condition of the surface, presence or absence of paint, and the desired appearance of each object after treatment. Harrison, a pre-program cooperator, and Amy Molnar, a pre-program conservation intern, received training and experience in the treatment techniques used.

The cooperators packed the objects for return to the park and completed all after treatment documentation, including treatment reporting in a Filemaker Pro database, a bulk treatment report, and photographic documentation after treatment. The cooperators compiled this information for delivery to the park.