



## Egyptian Vase

This vase, from Egypt, is carved from alabaster, a soft stone which is soluble in water. Unfortunately the lip to the vase had been broken and required repair.

At first glance this would appear to be a relatively straightforward operation, but the translucent nature of the stone did not make things so simple. Following treatment trials the material chosen for the repair was a 'water white' embedding resin. The resin had to be cast into position on the vase using a mould. To replicate the qualities of the stone a translucent filler was added along with powder pigments to imitate the streaking.

Once cast, the profile of the repair needed to be shaped to tie in precisely with the original. To capture the worn qualities of the surface the repair was 'weathered' by roughing and pitting the surface, into this prepared surface paint was rubbed to imitate dirt accumulations as found elsewhere on the vase.

