

informed Linden of the correct order in which the heads and figures of malagan were to be shown, he says as much in a letter in dated 11 August 1903 although his actual instructions no longer exist.) And his track record in caring for the malagan, no real restorations and no losses until c.1965-67, further attests that faith can be placed in the value of accepting this first photograph as a genuine point of reference for judging the history of the malagan.

Conservation of the malagan

Option two – returning the appearance of the malagan to as close as feasible to that of 1904 – was selected but with a couple of qualifications. First, once the black over-painting was removed would retouching be necessary? Second, any decision as to



Ill.18. Figure no.5 with earlobe restored, probably during restoration work of 1967.