

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens  
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OHRAB Interim Progress Report  
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Project Title: Processing the Irene Seiberling Harrison Collection

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Project Summary: The project addresses the papers of Irene Seiberling Harrison, oldest daughter and second child of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company co-founder F.A. Seiberling. Prior to the implementation of the grant the papers were haphazardly arranged in 43 boxes and not accessible for research. There was no sense of what most of the boxes contained other than what had been obtained by a brief, visual inventory of each box. The goals of the proposed project are to organize the collection, rehouse the materials into archival folders and boxes and create a finding aid which will allow researchers and staff to access and utilize the materials.

Summary of Activities to Date:

- A portion of the supplies needed for the project have been purchased and are being used in the processing of the grant funded materials. The additional materials will be ordered shortly when the staff is ready to utilize them.
- A graduate student from Kent State University was hired to intern at Stan Hywet Hall & Garden this summer to work exclusively on this project. She graduated in August but has continued to work on the project as a volunteer.
- The project now comprises 47 boxes as some items were rehoused to address preservation issues. Currently, 22 boxes are done meaning that 53% of the collection has been processed to date. The completed boxes are organized (box lists have been created and data has been entered into the detailed inventory) and preservation was carried out on a case by case basis. For several of the boxes, important correspondence has been scanned and photographic visual files have been created for framed objects.
- Three boxes are in process and work will be continue on the remaining 22 boxes. One particular area of focus will be how to handle the high volume of newspaper clippings. Their condition will be assessed and a decision will be made regarding the most useful type of finding aid or index to create. A new volunteer is currently being trained to process these clipping files in conjunction with the grant project.
- The Collections department already anticipates using materials discovered in the collection in the upcoming 2016 exhibition surrounding family life at Stan Hywet Hall & Garden. A mobile app is also in production with hopes for completion in 2017. Materials from this collection would also be utilized in the creation of this product.