

Thursday, November 13, 2008

Chrysler Corporation funds Collection Conservation Plan

A generous grant from the Chrysler Corporation Fund will be a key component in helping Meadow Brook Hall realize long-term preservation goals.

The recently developed Collections Conservation Plan, funded from Chrysler's \$50,000 gift, will define a course of action for the care and management of the hall's collections. It addresses a variety of preservation goals ranging from remedial conservation efforts to major improvements in collections management.

Plan development was facilitated by Josephine Shea, art manager and curator of the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House. She evaluated the general state of the collections, reviewed curatorial practices and directed object assessment surveys. On-site surveys were conducted by conservators specializing in fine and decorative arts and textiles. Resulting reports included item-by-item surveys along with recommendations for future care and conservation.

Following completion of the surveys, the hall implemented several prioritized conservation projects, including installation of appropriate curtains for Matilda's bedroom, the purchase of storage materials for oriental rugs and costumes, and improvements to collections housekeeping methods.

Overall, the plan provides the necessary framework for future conservation initiatives. This framework, along with the recently developed Building Assessment Plan, is an essential tool for developing a long-range, strategic conservation effort.

Meadow Brook Hall extends sincere gratitude to the Chrysler Corporation Fund for its continued friendship and commitment to helping preserve this important historical landmark.

SUMMARY

A generous grant from the Chrysler Corporation Fund will be a key component in helping Meadow Brook Hall realize long-term preservation goals. The recently developed Collections Conservation Plan, funded from Chrysler's \$50,000 gift, will define a course of action for the care and management of the hall's collections.

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