Restoration of the Great Hall, Solarium, West Porch and Round Room are the focus in 2017
Part of the $1M Room-by-Room Restoration Plan

April 7, 2017 — Akron, Ohio — Work continues on restoration of the Manor House interiors, part of the $1M Room-by-Room Restoration funded by the 2015 2nd Century Campaign for Stan Hywet. Last year the restoration of the Tower Landing and the Library were completed. In 2017, the focus is on the Great Hall, the Solarium, the West Porch, including the West Porch Fountain and the Round Room.

“Restoration involves research and the use of experts who can advise on appropriate treatments and textile reproduction. We also refer to original fabric samples and photos in the archives as a place to start,” according to Julie Frey, Director of Museum Services/Curator.

In the Great Hall, custom-made fabric and trim for the door and window curtains have arrived; this fabric is now at the draperist, where the curtains are being assembled. New “glass curtains” have been created and installed in the Solarium. The woodwork was sanded and stained and the marble floors and fountains have been cleaned. Custom-made upholstery fabric has been made; the trim is currently being developed.

The built-in painted settee and free-standing settee on the West Porch received treatment by ICA Conservation Lab to stabilize and repair the painted decorative surface. New sheers were made for the windows and doors, and soon, the floors will be cleaned and polished, removing the old grime and layers of wax. A protective mat surface will protect the tiles in the future. The West Porch Fountain was cleaned (phase II) in March 2017. Additional cleaning and restoration is to be scheduled (Phase III). The tiles on the base of the fountain were removed over the winter; Stan Hywet is working with the Pewabic Tile Company in Detroit to make replacement tiles. In the Round Room, new custom sheers have been hung on the interior windows.

A complete list of project details is attached (reverse side).

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Manor House Room-by-Room Restoration: April 2017 Update

Great Hall
- Custom made fabric and trim for Great Hall door and window curtains shipped to Stan Hywet. All materials are at draperist; curtains are being assembled.

Solarium
- Custom-made upholstery has been completed and will ship soon.
- Custom made trim for upholstery is under development at Kravet’s in NYC.
- 85% of objects have received restoration work at ICA Conservation Lab in Cleveland. Objects still to be conserved are the marble column, wood painted fire screen, small book shelf, red painted desk.
- Silk Chinese collar (hangs over fireplace) still at ICA.
- New sheers completed and installed.
- Woodwork was sanded and stained by local woodworker and sculptor David Shankland.
- Marble floors and marble fountain bowl and base was cleaned and polished by Smith Metal and Marble Restoration.
- Smith Metal and Marble Restoration will also repair/clean two marble topped pier tables.

West Porch
- Built-in painted settee and free standing settee received conservation treatment over the winter.
- Custom-made fabric was received from Kent State University and is awaiting delivery to upholstery company to make custom bench cushions and pillows.
- New sheers made for windows and doors in West Porch are completed.
- New frames were created for curtain valances to properly stretch and display them.
- Floors will be cleaned and polished by Smith Metal and Marble Restoration soon to remove old grime and wax. A mat surface coating after cleaning will protect tiles in the future.
- Harp piano was moved back to Music Room where it was originally located.
- ICA Conservation Lab is working on a table lamp original to West Porch, receiving restoration to lamp base and creating a new shade.

West Porch Fountain
- Phase II cleaning was completed in March 2017.
- Phase III of the cleaning is still to be scheduled. This will involve additional restoration work to the stone bowls, as well as applying glazing to the fountain mural tiles.
- Fountain base tiles were removed January 2017; Stan Hywet is working with Pewabic Tile Company (Detroit) to make replacement tiles.

Round Room
- New custom made sheers hung on interior windows.