

Collecting with a Plan

The Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library

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An offer we couldn't refuse

The Problem

Another large collection

Where will it go?

When will it be processed?

The Problem

The size: Approximately 1300 items.

The backlog: At least three other recent book collections of similar size waiting for processing.

The Problem

Storage: Would like to keep it together, using donor's inventory system.

The Problem

Adding it to the queue: another large collection being cataloged at the time; two others in various stages of processing.

The Henry Ford



The Henry Ford provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories, and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Our purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to help shape a better future.

Benson Ford Research Center

- 31,000+ Trade Catalogs and Related Literature
- Rare materials, including
 - McGuffey Readers
 - Titles by Noah Webster
- 19th and 20th Century Periodicals
- Literature relating to:
 - Agricultural practices
 - Domestic life and etiquette
 - Automotive manufacturing
 - Design
 - Aviation
 - Industrial development
 - US history
 - Civil rights
 - Technology

Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library

Gift offer

Donor's library on "the
history of innovation"

Traces the history of
science and engineering,
1650-present

The Donor

— — —

Dr. Arthur S. Obermayer (1931-2016)

- American chemist, entrepreneur, and philanthropist
- Founder & president of Moleculon Research Corporation
 - Chemical, polymer, and pharmaceutical R&D company
- Inducted, along with wife Judith, into the White House's Small Business Innovation Research Hall of Fame

Acquisition Process

Donor contact through AskUs (LibAnswers)

Initial review by appropriate staff

Check current holdings

Acquisition Process

Proceed through Collections Committee

Estimated shipping costs included

Acquisition approved

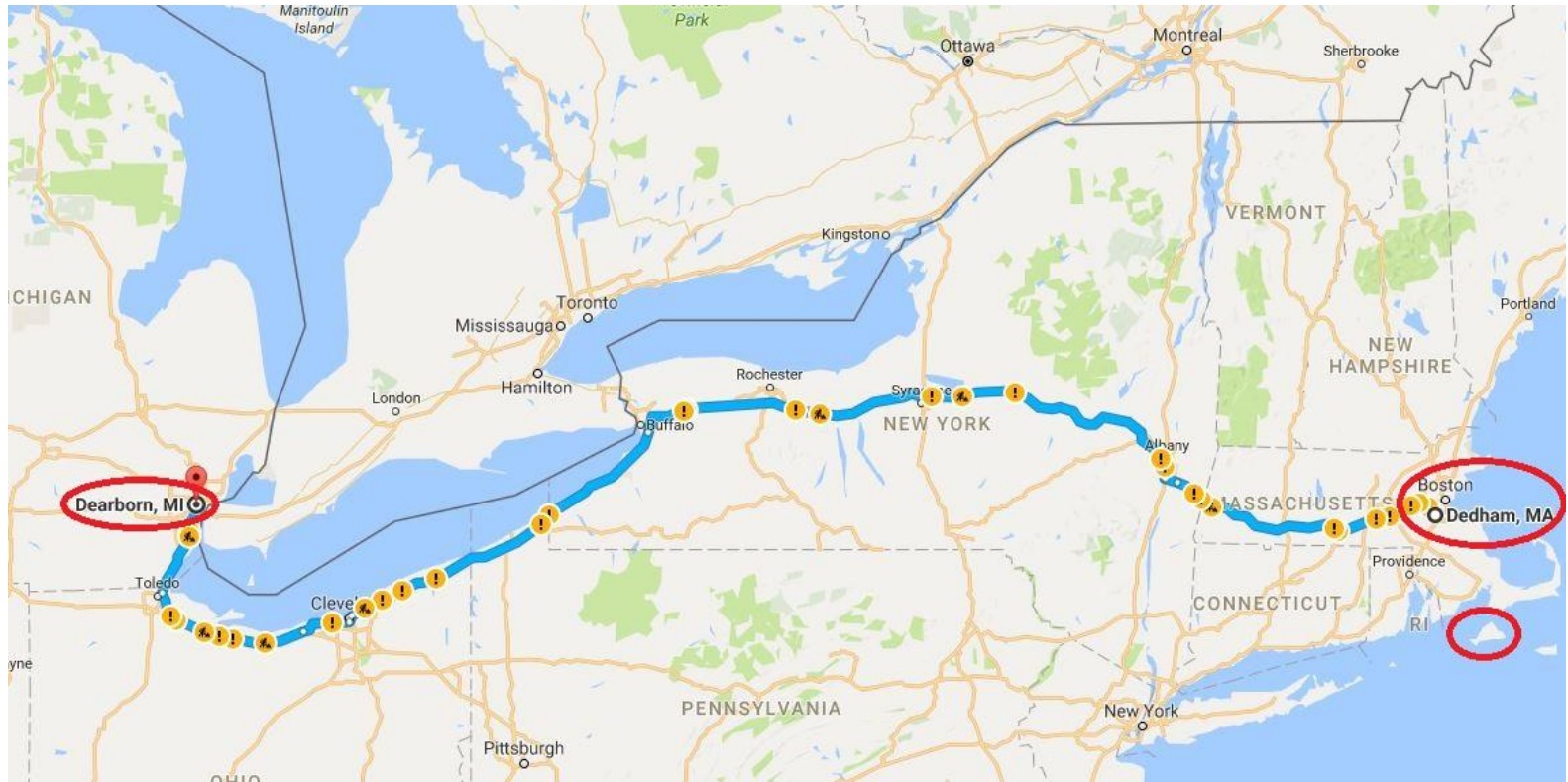
Getting Here

Curator oversaw packing and shipping.

Held briefly in art storage warehouse in Boston.

Coordinated with trip to Martha's Vineyard.

Getting Here



The Solution

Donor inventory

Conservation tracking

Available storage space



The Arrival

Inventorying

Checked against donor's list

Conservation examination

Separated items needing treatment

Recorded on list



Conservation

144 number of items identified as needing conservation work

42 completed (as of 3/9/2017)



Conservation

— — —

The screenshot shows a software interface for a digital archive. The main window is titled 'Catalogue (1) - Display'. On the left, there is a table with 'Field' and 'Value' columns. The right pane is titled 'Object Page View - All Attached Images' and displays the following information:

Object ID:	2016.20.A90703
Object Name:	Book
Title:	Book, "Flying Machines: Past, Present and Future," by Alfred W. Marshall and Henry Greenly, 1907
Current Location:	[BFRC3.LIB.2.1.2-2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRC3 - [ARCH.2016.20] Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library, Accession 2016.20
Physical Description:	128 pages, softbound
Material:	Paper (Fiber product)
Technique:	Printing (Process)
Subject (Genre terms):	Books

At the bottom of the window, there are tabs for 'Display', 'Object 1 of 1', 'saraha', 'Archiving', and 'emuthf'.

Tracked in EMu

Item record created

Conservation

Conservation request submitted

Conservation (1) - New

File Edit Select View Tools Tabs Multimedia Window Help

252911

Conservation Number:

Record Type: **Conservation**

Request Status: **New Request**

Request Details

Requested By: Sarah Andrus

Date Requested: 29 March 2017

Expected Completion Date: 29 June 2017

Actual Completion Date:

Completion Notification Date:

People To Notify: *

Request Information

Purpose: General Treatment

Associated Event:

Associated Loan:

Associated Movement:

Request 1 | Request 2 | Authorisation | Objects | Finance | Object | Objects | Desc

New | Record 1 of 1 | saraha | Archiving | emuthf

Conservation (1) - New

File Edit Select View Tools Tabs Multimedia Window Help

252911

Treatment Requested

Repair spine. Please leave all tabs and papers with item.

Request 1 | Request 2 | Authorisation | Objects | Finance | Object | Objects | Desc

New | Record 1 of 1 | saraha | Archiving | emuthf

Conservation

Location updated

Custom location

created for collection

The screenshot shows a library catalog record for a periodical. The record is titled "2016.20.5A89701 - Periodical - 'Book,' 'Scientific American, Vols. 76 & 77, 1897.' Published by Munn & Co., 1897" - Rank: 2. The record is currently located at "BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer Personal Library, Accession 2016.20". The record was moved by Erin Murray on 21 March 2017. The movement history shows that the record was previously located at "E 600 Collections Processing - Conservation - 600 - Paper Lab" and "BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer P." on 01 December 2016 and 13 April 2016, respectively.

Field	Value
ID (Object)	2016.20.5A89701
Object Ty.	COO
Object Ra.	Rank 2
Denominal	Documents
Current Lc.	BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25]
Permanent	BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25]
Accession	[2016.20] - Gift
Credit Line	From the Collections ...
Object Na.	Periodical
Title (Des.)	Book, "Scientific Ame...
Title (Res.)	
Source (R)	
Collection	Arthur S. Obemayer ...
Creator's ...	
Place of C.	
Creator Di.	
Date Creat.	
Subject D...	
Date Note	
Date Type	
Date	
Note	
Materials (Paper (Fiber product)
Techniques	Printing (Process)
Color (Mat.)	
Description	416 pages, hardbound
Other Inac.	
Personal	
Corporate	
Geographi	
Subject (
Genre (C)	Books
Title (Oth.)	
Events an...	
Local Subj	
Associatio...	
Internal Te...	
Notes	
Notes Typ.	ID Location
Notes (No.)	Front of last page.
Condition ...	
Description	Catalogue
Assigned	Sarah Andrus
End Date:	07 June 2016
Type (Me...	
Value	
Identifier (

Current Location: BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer Personal Library, Accession 2016.20

Requested By:

Moved By:

Updated By:

Movement Notes:

Other Locations:

Permanent Location: BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer Personal Library.

Temporary Location:

Independently Movable:

Yes

No

Movement History:

Loc/Date/Moved/History_tab	Current Location	Moved By
1	BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer P...	
2	BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer P...	Erin Murray
3	E 600 Collections Processing - Conservation - 600 - Paper Lab	Erin Murray
4	BFRFC3 LIB 2.1.2.2.1.25] Benson Ford Research Center - Collections - BFRFC3 - [ARCH 2016.20] Arthur S. Obemayer P...	

Classification



A Mystery

Year is the base of ID number

Separated by donor created subjects

Single items with multiple object IDs

A New Home

Storage

Recently cleared space available

Discarded 7 bays of auction catalogs



A New Home

Storage

To be kept together as a collection







Retain original order



The Future

Cataloging

Physical processing

- 1  **Progress in flying machines**
Octave Chanute 1832-1910. Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library
Multiple versions found
To view, click on the title or the link to the right
- 2  **[Photocopy of page 165 of The Scientific American for September 8, 1860 containing two brief articles : "Flying machines in the future" and "Flying machines - a birdwoman."]**
Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library 1860
● Available at Benson Ford Research Center Book (non-circulating) (OBE A86001)
[Find it](#) [Details](#) [Virtual Browse](#)
- 3  **The Gentleman's Magazine: and Historical Chronicle, for the year 1785, volume 55, Part - the first.**
Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library 1785
● Available at Benson Ford Research Center Book (non-circulating) (OBE A78501)
[Find it](#) [Details](#) [Virtual Browse](#)
- 4  **The Langley aerodrome.**
Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library 1901
● Available at Benson Ford Research Center Book (non-circulating) (OBE A90101)
[Find it](#) [Details](#) [Virtual Browse](#)
- 5  **[Miscellaneous articles and letters regarding Jacob Friederich Brodbeck and his attempt at airtflight before the Wright Brothers 1885.]**
Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library 1968-1982
● Available at Benson Ford Research Center Book (non-circulating) (OBE A:UK05.1)
[Find it](#) [Details](#) [Virtual Browse](#)
- 6  **Aeronautics (New York : 1893-).**
Arthur S. Obermayer Personal Library 1893
● Available at Benson Ford Research Center Book (non-circulating) (OBE A89302)
[Find it](#) [Details](#) [Virtual Browse](#)

Conclusion

Problems were identified early on.

Items were tracked in multiple ways.

Collection has been regularly worked on since arrival.

A timeline is in place for completion.

Questions?

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