

2019 Grainger -- Cataloging Project

Our project goal is to establish intellectual and physical control of all the music scores existing in the Percy Grainger House. An accessible catalog of the music will be completed and items will be rehoused in appropriate archival materials in a climate controlled environment.

In January 2017 Anastasia Matijkiw, Program Coordinator, DHPSNY, and Amelia Parks, Archives Specialist, DHPSNY, visited the Percy Grainger House, White Plains, New York. They recommended (in part) in the report abstract:

Before the Society begins to serve researchers, it is imperative that they better understand and define their collections in order to make them more accessible. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Establishing intellectual and physical control over their collections, starting with a preliminary inventory.*
- Determining what materials are considered archival collections, historical collections, or records of the society. Materials that are not within the scope of the mission of the organization should be removed from collections storage.*
- Removing collection materials from the basement and thoroughly inspecting them for mold growth. Materials with mold should be thoroughly cleaned. Ideally, all archival materials should be relocated to adequate storage spaces not in the basement.*
- Rehousing collections in appropriate archival materials.*

In furtherance of these goals, the Society has initiated a preliminary survey detailing the collections, room by room. We have also begun the ongoing process of removing extraneous objects and materials from the house, acquired over many decades of past property management. The collection of music scores, housed in locations throughout the house, has been determined as the initial priority for cataloging of our collections. [John Roscigno](#), Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Studies at California State University, Northridge, has graciously offered to spend his Fall 2019 sabbatical cataloging the music.

The project will

- Organize all the music scores and provide appropriate archival housing in a central location
- Complete a comprehensive inventory and create a database detailing what music scores are in our collection
- Assess individual object conditions, allowing for collections care planning such as cleaning and conservation, if needed
- Allow for virtual exhibits and expand access of images and documentation
- Supplement (and cross reference) other existing catalogs of Percy Grainger's music
- Allow for a deeper understanding of Percy Grainger, how he worked as a conductor, how he edited his compositions and what he valued as important to save