

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
Paul and Gladys Richards Research Grant for Studies in British Transferware
Transferware Collectors Club
Grant Proposal – August 2022

Project Summary

In August 2021, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library was the grateful recipient of a \$7,500 Paul and Gladys Richards Research Grant for Studies in British Transferware from the Transferware Collectors Club (TCC). The grant was in support of hiring an early-career museum professional to study a portion of Winterthur's British transferware collection using the Transferware Database of Patterns & Sources and related resources as primary tools to identify patterns and manufacturers, improve dating, and note related period and modern documentary material. This information would then be recorded internally in the EMu museum object database, which populates Winterthur's online museum collection site. The goal of the project was to complete improved records for approximately 600 objects. The project manager was Leslie Grigsby, Senior Curator of Ceramics and Glass at Winterthur. Amy Griffin, a graduate of the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture (WPAMC), was hired as the cataloguer and intended to complete most of the work remotely. Curatorial administrator Brigitte Burger took on administrative duties and department fellow Laura Fravel was added to the group as project assistant.

Extension Request

In April 2022, Leslie Grigsby reached out to the TCC with a request for an extension. The project had encountered major delays due in part to the loss of Leslie's husband in September 2021 and institution-wide internal network downtime that lasted several weeks beginning in January 2022. External access to the system continued to be sporadic for even longer, creating challenges for the cataloguer, who worked remotely from New England. Covid-related issues reduced hours when staff could directly access transfer-printed objects, and the project assistant departed Winterthur for a full-time permanent position elsewhere. The TCC invited Leslie to provide an estimate on time needed for an extension, at which time she began to review what had been completed to date.

Proposed Actions

Based on the low measurable level of accomplishment towards the grant goals, **we believe it would be most appropriate to terminate the grant agreement and return any unexpended grant funds.** Considering the myriad of extenuating circumstances, we cannot in good faith guarantee that the proposed project would be completed in a timely manner. However, Leslie plans to continue the work with no expectation of compensation. To date, \$5,393.70 of the grant funds remain.

Report on Work Completed

The project goal set in the original grant proposal was for the completion of improved records for approximately 600 objects. To date, 363 records have been completed. They are outlined below:

- **Winterthur EMu records with Bibliographic References re: TCC Pattern (information shared online):**
 - o **177** (finalized)
 - o **186** (newly received from cataloguer and to be finalized [proofed])
 - o **Total = 363**

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
Paul and Gladys Richards Research Grant for Studies in British Transferware
Transferware Collectors Club
Grant Proposal – August 2022

- **Winterthur objects Identified in EMu as published on the TCC database (information shared online):**
 - **73** (reflected in above total)
- **Web Description (with TCC credit) added to Winterthur EMu records (information shared online):**
 - **106** (reflected in above total)

Next Steps

The cataloguer, Amy Griffin, will no longer be working on the project. Leslie Grigsby, supported as needed by Brigitte Burger and newly hired department fellow Elizabeth Palms, will continue to work on Winterthur's transferware collection using the TCC database as time allows.

Leslie will proof and finalize 186 of the 363 records with bibliographic information linking patterns to the TCC database have that information in draft form and will confirm accurate title updates for these records.

The TCC database will continue as a major resource for further work on associating TCC patterns with Winterthur objects. Over time, Leslie will continue inserting pattern-matching references into the Winterthur database, upgrading Winterthur's digital record titles for better accuracy, and working to increase the number of object records, including web descriptions.

If the TCC is amenable, Leslie would like to continue including this credit line with relevant web descriptions:

Winterthur is grateful to The Transferware Collectors Club for research support provided by the Paul and Gladys Richards Research Grant Program for Studies in British Transferware.

We are incredibly grateful for the TCC's generosity and patience as we navigated the challenges presented during this grant period. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Danielle Dougherty, Assistant Director of Grants Management
ddough@winterthur.org
302-888-4771

Leslie Grigsby, Senior Curator of Ceramics and Glass
lgrigs@winterthur.org
302-888-4972