



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The Personal Library of Professor Anthony Cross, Historian and Scholar of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Russian Studies, is now Catalogued and Housed at Hillwood**

Washington D.C., January 20, 2016—Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens is pleased to announce the acquisition of the personal library of professor Anthony Cross, historian and scholar of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Russian studies and professor of Slavonic Studies at the University of Cambridge from 1985 to 2004. He is internationally known for his work on 18th-century Russia and Anglo-Russian cultural relations. Professor Cross has written and edited 25 books and has published over 400 articles, notes and reviews. Through his academic life, Professor Cross received several distinguishing accolades: In 1989, he was elected to the British Academy; he was invited to join the Russian Academy of the Humanities in 1996. In 2010 he received an honorary doctorate from the Institute of Russian Literature of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Pushkin House).

The collection, built over the course of 60 years, includes 2,330 books in Russian, English, French and German, on literature, art, architecture, drama, history, freemasonry, history of science, geography, bibliography, and St. Petersburg; hundreds of offprints; and several linear feet of Cross' personal files on individual authors and subjects.

The literature section of the collection includes numerous anthologies and histories, as well as works by, and studies on, all the leading authors of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Russia. The enlightenment and freemasonry sections include first editions of monographs by Pypin, Longinov, Vernadskii, and Barskov. The reigns of Peter I and Catherine II are particularly well represented in the history section, which includes more than 400 volumes. The fine art section covers not only painting and engraving but also architecture, sculpture, gem stones, ceramics, numismatics, museums, heraldry, and

genealogy. Additionally, there is an excellent section on the history of St. Petersburg, which includes many 19<sup>th</sup>-century studies but also a great many small-edition booklets and brochures.

Professor Anthony Cross' personal library is a welcome addition to Hillwood's special collections library, joining the assemblages of other prominent scholars such as Andrei Avinoff, former director of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History; Edward Kasinec, former chief of the New York Public Library Slavic and Baltic Division; and Anne Odom, former curator emerita at Hillwood. A dynamic research library, Hillwood's holdings reflect the institution's collection of imperial Russian and 18<sup>th</sup>-century French decorative arts within a broad social and art-historical context. The library contains approximately 38,000 items that consist primarily of monographs, auction catalogs, rare and antiquarian materials, Marjorie Merriweather Post's book collections, periodicals, and vertical and ephemeral files. Researchers are invited to use the library Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. While walk-ins are accepted, appointments are encouraged to guarantee access. The Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens special collections library abides by the interlibrary loan guidelines of the American Library Association. Direct email inquiries can be made to Elena Stuart at [estuart@hillwoodmuseum.org](mailto:estuart@hillwoodmuseum.org) or at 202.243.3934 for more information about the library or to make an appointment.

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### **About Hillwood**

When art collector, businesswoman, social figure, and philanthropist Marjorie Merriweather Post left to the public her northwest Washington, D.C. estate, she endowed the country with the most comprehensive collection of Russian Imperial art outside of Russia, an exquisite 18<sup>th</sup>-century French decorative art collection, and 25 acres of serene landscaped [gardens](#) and natural woodlands. Opened as a public institution in 1977, today Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens offers a gracious and immersive experience unlike any other. Highlights of the collection include Fabergé eggs, Russian porcelain, Russian orthodox icons, Beauvais tapestries, and Sèvres porcelain, and Post's personal collection of apparel, accessories, and jewelry. Thirteen acres of enchanting formal gardens include the Japanese-style Garden, Rose Garden, French Parterre, and a greenhouse full of orchids.

### **General Information**

**Location:** 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC  
Metro: VanNess/UDC, Red Line (20 minute walk)

**Information/Tickets:** (202) 686-5807 for information or [www.HillwoodMuseum.org](http://www.HillwoodMuseum.org)

[Facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum)

**Hours:** Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm. Closed Mondays, most holidays, and for several weeks in January.

**Café:** The HILLWOOD Café serves lunch Tuesday through Saturday from 11am to 3:30 pm.  
Afternoon Tea is served on Sundays only from 11am to 3:30pm.  
Express Dining, featuring a quick selection of sandwiches, salads, snacks, and beverages, is available Tuesday through Sunday from 10am to 4pm.  
Call (202) 686-5807 for café reservations.

**Suggested Donation:** \$18, \$15 seniors, \$10 college students, \$5 for visitors age 6 to 18.  
No donation is suggested for children under 6.