

Living Room



Living room, Laurelton Hall, c. 1925. Photograph by David Aronow.

> Located at the easternmost point of the main level of Laurelton Hall, the living room was linked to the reception hall by a passageway.

> This approximately 1,600-square-foot space was referred to as the forest room. Its walls and ceilings enveloped the visitor. A painted pattern of gray-green interlacing chestnut leaves enhanced the effects of natural light and the colored light of the lamps. The result was reportedly akin to the richly varied light of an actual forest clearing.

The room's centerpiece was a massive wood table over which green turtleback-glass globes and shades were suspended from a wrought-iron yoke. The surface of the desk was covered with plants and flowers, stacks



Morse Museum Object Guide

Objects in this gallery are from or related to the living room at Laurelton Hall. Objects from the living room are specifically marked. Others have been selected because they are similar to objects displayed in the room or because they provide context. Unless otherwise noted, they were designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933) or one of his artists and made under the name of one of his companies.

1) Hanging from replicated iron yoke:



Two turtleback globes, c. 1905 Living room, Laurelton Hall Cast and leaded glass, bronze 56-044:1. 2

Three turtleback dome shades, *c. 1905* Living room, Laurelton Hall Cast and leaded glass, bronze 56-045:1, 2; 64-009

Lamp screen, c. 1910 Dragonfly Leaded glass 2004-005

2) On replicated desk, left to right:



Reading lamp, c. 1898 No. 269, Scarab design Cast glass, bronze Marks on base: 269 / TIFFANY STUDIOS / NEW YORK / [conjoined TGDco] 70-012

Vase, c. 1904–14 Glazed white clay Marks: [conjoined LCT] / 7 78-0011 Vase, c. 1904 Living room, Laurelton Hall Glazed white clay Marks: [conjoined LCT] / 201 A-Coll., L.C. Tiffany – Favrile / Pottery 79-532

3) Inset in replicated desk, back to front, left to right:

> Tea screen, c. 1900 Bronze, glass Gift of Louis Platt 77-052

Letter rack, c. 1905 No. 1008, Etched Metal and Glass design, Grapevine pattern, medium Bronze, glass

Marks: TIFFANY STUDIOS / NEW YORK Gift of Mrs. J. C. Willox Sr.

62-013

Engagement pad, c. 1905 No. 1022, Etched Metal and Glass design, Grapevine pattern Bronze, glass Marks: TIFFANY STUDIOS / NEW YORK / 1022 84-005

Box, c. 1905 No. 815, Etched Metal and Glass design, Grapevine pattern Bronze, glass Marks: TIFFANY STUDIOS / NEW YORK

79-525

Living room, Laurelton Hall.

c. 1925.
Photograph by David Aronow.

of magazines, and personal items. In the background, a grand mantel displayed Tiffany glass and pottery.

At one end of the room, steps led to an alcove where Tiffany eventually placed several of his prized leaded-glass creations, including sections disassembled from the Four Seasons, a large window from Tiffany's award-winning exhibit at the 1900 Paris Exposition Universelle. Other parts of the window were installed in the reception hall at the garden entrance to the house. On adjacent walls were two exhibition windows, one of a figure with gourds and another featuring a maiden feeding flamingoes. The largest of the living room windows, *The Bathers*, ran the width of the alcove and was destroyed in the fire of 1957.

These important windows, with their depictions of nature, enhanced the unity of the room both architecturally and thematically. Resonating with Tiffany's spirit, the forest room epitomized Tiffany's personal aesthetic and lifelong pursuit of beauty.

Guestbook, 1916–51
Leather, paper, gold leaf
Maker unknown
Stamped on spine: LAURELTON HALL
OYSTER BAY LONG ISLAND, N.Y.
BY LOUIS C. TIFFANY
Inscribed: The fullfillment of Louis C.
Tiffany's 'Quest of Beauty'
is his creation "Laurelton."
George F. Kunz. June 4th 1916.

Beginning on wall left of entrance:

1999-022

- 4) Old Mill at Freiburg, 1877
 West gallery, art gallery, Laurelton Hall, with oil-on-canvas version in living room, Laurelton Hall
 Exhibited: The Art Institute of Chicago, Twelfth International Exhibition of Water Colors, 1932
 Watercolor and gouache on paper
 Signed, lower left: L.C. Tiffany
 Signed, lower right: Louis C. Tiffany
 Gift of Rollins College
- 5) Four panels from the Four Seasons window, c. 1899–1900 Living room, Laurelton Hall Exhibited: Exposition Universelle, Paris, 1900, and Prima Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte Decorativa



75-006

Moderna, Turin, Italy, 1902 Leaded glass Marks, left to right: Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring 57-017, 57-019, 62-033, 57-018

- 6) Window, c. 1898
 Living room, Laurelton Hall
 Exhibited: Grafton Galleries,
 London, 1899
 Figure with gourds
 Leaded glass
 Frank Brangwyn, 1867–1956, designer
 U-070
- 7) Taming the Flamingo, (also known as Feeding the Flamingoes), 1888
 Art gallery, Laurelton Hall
 Exhibited: World's Columbian
 Exposition, 1893
 Awards: Specific Merit,
 World's Columbian Exposition,
 Chicago, 1893
 Watercolor on paper
 Signed, lower left: Louis C. Tiffany 88
 85-011
- 8) Window, c. 1892
 Living room, Laurelton Hall
 Exhibited: World's Columbian
 Exposition, Chicago, 1893
 Maiden feeding flamingoes in the court
 of a Roman house
 Leaded glass
 Marks, lower right: Tiffany Glass &
 Dec. Co. 333–341 Fourth Ave N.Y.
 II-072





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