



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Dear Royal Oak members,

I want to thank you for generous support of our 2019 National Trust Appeal for the Library at Blickling in Norfolk. Your donation allowed us to exceed our goal of \$250,000 to help the National Trust improve the physical environment of the library and preserve the books, and to catalog and digitize the collection, making it available to a wider audience.

Although the Trust had to close all its properties due to Coronavirus, a significant part of the work had already been completed, and the remaining portion will be finished once it is safe to reopen the property. An updated status report from the National Trust about the project is included for your review, as well as a letter from Heather Jermy, General Manager, Blickling Estate.

As a token of our appreciation for your support, I am including a print of a digitized plate from one of the rarer original volumes in the collection: *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands* (London 1754), by Mark Catesby.

Catesby was an English naturalist who studied flora and fauna in the New World. Published in several volumes over a number of years, it was the first published account of the flora and fauna of North America and included 220 hand-colored plates of birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, mammals and plants.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Royal Oak Foundation and the National Trust.

Sincerely,

Ian Murray
Executive Director