



Tel. 023 - 24 01 69

15th May 1984

30, Saxenrodeweg
2116 VA Bentveld
Holland

The Archivist
College of Notre Dame
P.O.Box 513
NOTRE DAME, Ind. - 46556

Dear Sir,

Papers of Robert Seton, Archbishop (1839-1928)

As a golf historian I would be much obliged for your help in the following matter:
In the Golfers' Magazine (Chicago, U.S.S.) of April 3rd 1914 the following entry may be found on page 75:
Archbishop Seton of New Jersey, in reorganising his family archives, discovered that one of his ancestors introduced golf from Holland into Scotland at the beginnings of the fifteenth century. The Archbishop has determined to pursue his investigations.

I have tried to find the Archbishops papers and in so doing found that upon his death in January 1928 at the Convent of St. Elisabeth, Convent Station, N.J. they were split into 4 parts which went to 1. the Convent, 2. the Seton Hall College, South Orange N.J., 3. the New York Historical Society, New York and 4. to your University. In investigating the 3 former lots I have not found his family papers or notes on them. In New York however I found a note of his to the effect that there was a box containing his family papers. Precise man that I have learnt him to be I am hoping that that box is in your keeping.

The search need not be too complicated. The reference in the above journal is correct. If this happened, it must have happened between 1400 and 1450 so only papers from that period or later notes on papers of that period are relevant.

Could you kindly inform me if your share in Robert Seton's papers includes that box and if so, whether the document or a reference is in it. If so I would be obliged for a photocopy of whatever you find relevant. Needless to say that I will be happy to reimburse you for the expenses incurred.

Looking forward to your news and thanking you in advance for your courtesy in this matter, I am,
sincerely yours

Steven J.H. van Hengel

The Archives
of
The University of Notre Dame

607 Memorial Library
Notre Dame, IN 46556
219-283-6447/6448

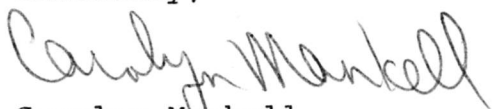
June 4, 1984

Steven J.H. van Hengel
30, Saxenrodeweg
2116 VA Bentveld
HOLLAND

Dear Mr. van Hengel:

Thank you for your most interesting inquiry of May 15, 1984, regarding the Seton family's possible connection with golf history. After an extensive search in the Robert Seton Collection which included genealogies, personal notes, reminiscences, and correspondence in both printed and manuscript form, I, however, must tell you that the documents provide no enlightening information on this subject.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Mankell
Assistant Archivist

tt

1st July 1984

30, Saxenrodeweg
2116 VA Bentveld
Holland

Miss Carolyn Mankell, Assistant Archivist
The Archives of the University of Notre Dame
607, Memorial Library
NOTRE DAME, Ind. - 46556

Dear Miss Mankell,

Having been abroad I am somewhat late in dealing with my mail and I would apologize for the delay in replying to your kind letter of the 4th June.

I am most grateful to you for the search which you made in Robert Setons papers, although they did not yield what I hoped they would.

The situation leaves me puzzled. If you had not known so before you will no doubt, when going through his papers, have been impressed by the meticulous precision of Robert Setons notes. He can not have made his remark to the journalist in 1914 without good cause.

Curiously, Robert Seton was not even a golfer.

So far, I have interpreted the article as him having found the evidence amongst his own papers.

I now start wondering whether he had been browsing through Seton family papers elsewhere?

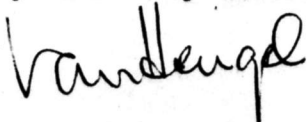
It is a fascinating chase!

Would you know of Seton papers, other than the ones that have been looked into by now? Or will I have to start up a chase in Scotland?

Sorry to trouble you once more, but I am sure you will by now have caught some of my interest.

With kind regards, thanking you again for your help in this matter, I am

yours very sincerely



Steven J.H. van Hengel

The Archives
of
The University of Notre Dame

607 Memorial Library
Notre Dame, IN 46556
219-283-6447/6448


July 9, 1984

Steven J.H. van Hengel
30 Saxenrodeweg
2116 VA Bentveld
HOLLAND

Dear Mr. van Hengel:

In response to your July 1, 1984, letter, I agree that your search for the Seton family's connection to golf history is a 'fascinating chase.' The Manuscripts Department at the New York Historical Society (170 Central Park West, New York, New York 10024) may be of help to you because they retain a small collection of Robert Seton materials, primarily diaries and notebooks. Good luck in your search.

Sincerely,


Carolyn Mankell
Assistant Archivist

tt