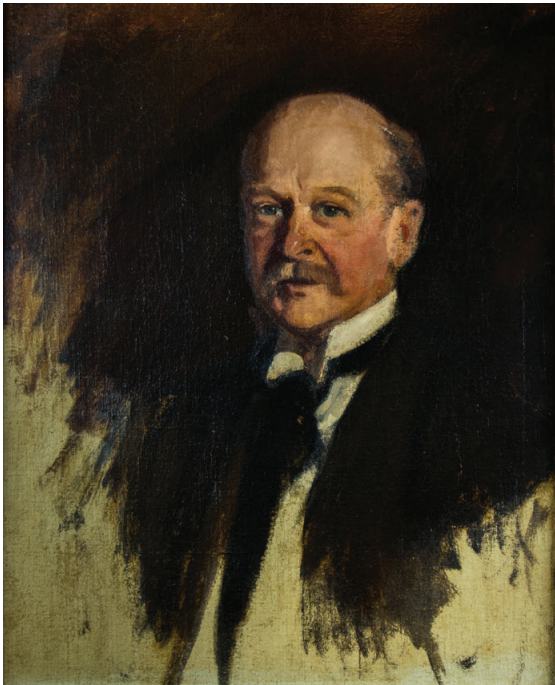


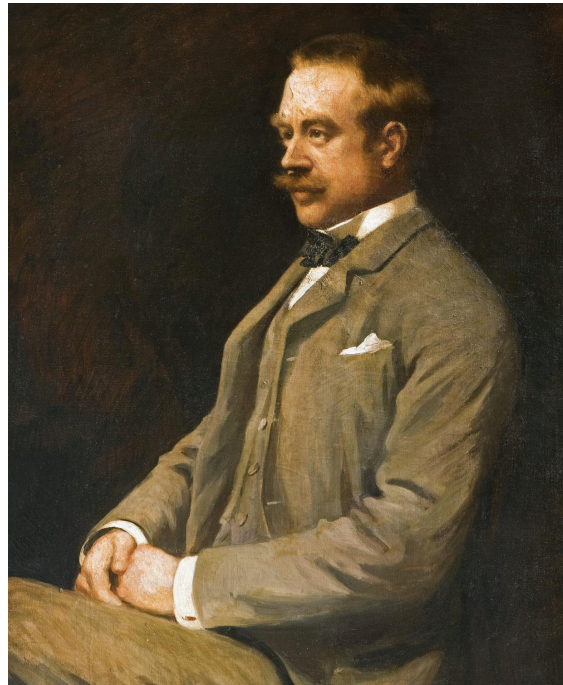
FRIENDS OF

Florham

FRIENDS PORTRAIT PROJECT UPDATE



CHARLES FOLLEN MCKIM



STANFORD WHITE

The significant and enterprising Portrait Project, initiated in 2013 by Gary Helm Darden, historian, associate professor of history, chair of the social sciences and history department and member of the Friends Board, was designed to tell through portraits the “history of this estate within the larger narrative of American history from the Gilded Age well into the 20th century.” Phase I, which has been completed, includes nine reproduced family portraits as well as a reproduction of a portrait of Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect for Florham and Biltmore, painted by Sargent. These portraits were hung in the Great Hall across from the main staircase as well as in Lenfell Hall, Hennessy Hall.

Among the portraits to be included in Phase II of the project are those of Florham architects, Charles Follen McKim and Stanford White, partners in the leading architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White, founded in 1872 and joined by White in 1879. Their work embodied the Beaux Arts style imported from Paris that brought Neoclassical forms to their height in the late Gilded Age.

In order to secure the rights and obtain permission to photograph digital images of the portraits, Darden and photographer Mark Hillringhouse first visited the University Club, 5th Avenue, N.Y.C., in August 2017. (McKim designed and completed the University Club in 1899.) Andrew Berner, the library director and

curator of collections, gave Darden and Hillringhouse a tour of the club and facilitated access to the image of McKim.

In September 2017, Darden and Hillringhouse visited Box Hill, the legendary country home of Stanford White in St. James, Long Island, N.Y., which was completed in 1885. They were given a tour of Box Hill by Daniel White, great-grandson of Stanford White, and brother of Architect Samuel White, who has spoken at several Friends events. Hillringhouse also captured the digital image of White at this time. As an aside, the White family has no record of the date or artist of the portrait, while the University Club has no date for the portrait of McKim, which was painted by Ellen Emmett Rand.

SPRING 2018

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends:

We started this year with fresh eyes, new faces and renewed dedication to our mission.

Our mission: Advise and assist the administration and board of trustees of FDU in the care, maintenance and historic preservation of the Twombly estate. Central to the mission and purpose of the Friends is the related objective of informing the public of the various historical assets the University offers the community. To fulfill this combined mission, the Friends offers a wide range of events to raise funds and awareness to preserve this grand historic site.

We transition to our next phase through the use of digital invitations and information, online registration and social media and events intended to spread the

word of the jewel in our backyard — Florham and its surrounding landscape. Through lectures, small bites and beverages, tours and an exciting new event aimed at a younger set, we want to ensure our community learns to see this beautiful gem as a place of interest worth treasuring.

Requests for tours of the estate come more frequently, and we are training others to guide guests through the first floor of Hennessy Hall (the mansion) and gardens. Tours must be scheduled in advance. In addition, we are thrilled to support the Florham Campus Historical Timeline created by a group of Dr. April Patrick's University Honors Program students. The timeline is available at <http://view2.fdu.edu/campuses-and-centers/florham-campus/>

[about-the-florham-campus/florham-campus-historical-timeline/](#).

Working with these students makes our mission come full circle from past to present.

Lastly, in the fall, we plan to celebrate the addition of a pair of beautiful 19th-century Aubusson tapestries in Lenfell Hall to evoke the feeling of the original tapestries installed in the Drawing Room. This is truly exciting.

All of these wonderful projects can only be done through your support and enthusiasm and the board of Friends of Florham's dedication. Our archives are rich, our collective knowledge increases, and we make new Friends regularly. Thank you.

*Most sincerely,
Lisa MacNair*

HAIL AND FAREWELL TO LINDA

Linda Meister, one of the most active and productive members of the Friends, has retired from active involvement in the activities of the Friends, and is now an honorary trustee of the board. Serious, disciplined and productive, she was an active member of the Friends board for more than 20 years, president of the board for eight years — and there have been very few areas of the Friends' activities that do not reflect Linda's significant contributions.

Under Linda's aegis, the rehabilitation of the Great Hall was completed and the President's Office was renovated. She was also directly involved in obtaining a grant to digitize the valuable archives donated by the Burden family, selecting an archivist and ensuring that this valuable history is available to all researchers online.

Linda's contributions and expertise were recognized formally when, in 2012, she and board

member Suzy Moran were awarded Presidential Medals and Citations by the late FDU President J. Michael Adams. The citation to Linda acknowledged her work as "an accomplished preservationist who provided the leadership and knowledge needed to restore the first floor of Hennessy Hall to its former glory and provide a suitable setting for a global university."

We look forward to seeing Linda again at future Friends events.



**SAVE THE DATE!
SEPTEMBER 27
LECTURE BY GARY H. DARDEN
THE WHITE HOUSE:
FROM "PRESIDENTIAL
PALACE" TO THE PEOPLE'S
HOUSE, 1792–1962**

FLORHAM ACHIEVES ARBORETUM DESIGNATION



CONGRATULATIONS! FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY, FLORHAM RECEIVED 2017 TREE CAMPUS USA RECOGNITION

The Tree Campus USA program honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation.

To obtain this distinction, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Florham has met the five core standards for sustainable campus forestry required by Tree Campus USA, including establishment of a tree advisory committee, evidence of a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects. Your entire campus community should be proud of this sustained commitment to environmental stewardship.

If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time. Communities worldwide are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use. Fairleigh Dickinson University, Florham is stepping up to do its part. As a result of your commitment to effective urban forest management, you are helping to provide a solution to these global challenges.

Recognizing the beauty of the Florham Campus and its historical importance as a landscape designed by the most famous landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Peter Woolley, as campus provost, in January 2017, organized an Arboretum Committee. The Committee comprised representatives of the Friends of Florham, faculty, staff and students. The initial mission of the Committee was to explore whether the Florham campus could achieve the designation of "Tree Campus," and if so, to prepare all the necessary studies and paperwork to submit an application. The Arboretum Committee met throughout spring and was able to submit the completed application in the summer.

ArbNet, the interactive community of arboreta, accredited the Florham Campus as a Level I Arboretum in November 2017. The ArbNet description stated:

"The Florham Arboretum is situated on the Fairleigh Dickinson University campus in Madison, N.J. It is the former Florham estate of Florence Vanderbilt Twombly and Hamilton McKown Twombly developed in the 1890s. Some notable landscape architects who had a role in the landscape were Frederick Law Olmsted, the Olmsted Brothers, Warren H. Manning and Brinley and Holbrook. Management of the estate's landscape and greenhouses was under the direction of Arthur Herrington, noted horticulturist and plant breeder, who came to Florham from Kew Gardens, England.

"The main entrance is flanked to the left by weeping European beech leading to an alley of American linden. Southern Japanese hemlock, Western hemlock, Washington English yew and a grove of Japanese false cypress grace the approach to the mansion. Adorning the great lawn

in front of the Mansion are two large specimens of Cedar of Lebanon, a large Nordmann fir, a large weeping Canadian hemlock and a spectacular linden (Tilia "Peticolaris"). They have a collection of common boxwood greater than 15 feet in height and width. To the northwest of the mansion stand oaks that originated prior to the estate's development that were plotted on the 1890 topographic site survey."

With this designation, the Committee is now seeking a grant that will assist in providing a nature trail through the campus, which will identify important trees and which may be enjoyed by the FDU community and the public.

This designation as an arboretum will help us preserve, protect, enhance and enjoy the remarkable Florham landscape.

GILDED AGE LUNCHEON



JENNIFER JOHNSON



FROM LEFT: RUTHI BYRNE, FDU PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER A. CAPUANO, SUE CAPUANO AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN MILA M. JASEY

The Friends stepped back a bit in time, hosting the highly successful Gilded Age Luncheon and Tea on May 18, 2017 in Lenfell Hall. The event, which was presented by the Cosy Cupboard Tea Room in Convent Station, N.J., featured a variety of teas, delectable meal, 50/50 raffle and an auction including grand prizes such as Tom Petty tickets and a catered dinner party by FDU's own Chef Jeff Gourley.

The event committee — Friends trustees Lisa MacNair, Dawn Dupak, Susan Garrubbo, Valerie Adams, Jennifer Johnson, James Howard and Karin Hamilton of FDU — definitely produced a different and memorable event and should take a bow. More-

over, the waitstaff, comprised of FDU students in "uniform," were engaging and professional as they served the luncheon guests.

Guests were served a four-course tea, opening with salad and followed by a three-tier serving of tea sandwiches, scones and petit fours. The tea and luncheon were prepared by Cosy Cupboard.

A highlight of the event was the presentation by James Howard about the histories and various types of tea, including country teas such as Russian, Greek, French and Chinese. He explained the tradition of the English afternoon tea was introduced in the mid-19th century. Howard commented that in addition to

the varieties of tea available and the pleasure of drinking tea, it also offers health benefits.

The Friends were appreciative of the Joint Legislative Resolution by Senator Richard Codey, Assemblywoman Mila Jasey and Assemblyman John McKeon of the New Jersey Legislature presented at the tea by Jasey. The Resolution celebrates the publication of *Florham: an American Treasure: From the Gilded Age Vanderbilt Twombly Estate to a Contemporary University Campus*, which was written by Friends trustees and members Carol Bere, Samuel Convisor, Walter Cummins and Arthur Vanderbilt II.



FROM LEFT: CAROL BLACK, SAMUEL CONVISSOR AND WALTER CUMMINS



FROM LEFT: ASSEMBLYWOMAN MILA M. JASEY AND DAWN DUPAK

CHEON AND TEA



GUESTS ENJOYING THE DAY IN LENFELL HALL



FDU PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER A. CAPUANO



GARY H. DARDEN



FROM LEFT: VALERIE ADAMS, KAREN LEWIS AND KIMBERLY ADAMS WALSH



JAMES HOWARD, CENTER, OF COSY CUPBOARD INSTRUCTS THE WAIT STAFF

FRIENDS VISIT HYDE PARK



FROM LEFT: POR SCHOLTE AND JENNIFER JOHNSON



MANSION LIVING ROOM



FROM LEFT: ANN WELLBROCK AND MARY KAY STRATIS

The Friends hosted a successful and fun fundraising trip to the Vanderbilt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, N.Y., on December 5, 2017. The day comprised a bus ride from Florham to Hyde Park, a delicious box lunch and a fascinating tour of the mansion at Hyde Park decked out in holiday decor. The Hyde Park site, one of the oldest historic sites on the Hudson River, is related, in a sense, to the Florham family and to Florham itself.

In May 1895, Frederick Vanderbilt (Florence Twombly's brother) and his wife, Louise, purchased the 600-acre estate and commissioned McKim, Mead & White, the architects of Florham, to design the 54-room mansion, which was built between 1896 and 1899

in the Beaux Arts style. Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect for Florham, also designed the Hyde Park landscape. Following Frederick Vanderbilt's death in 1938, his heir donated a part of the estate to the National Park Service in 1940.

Several participants praised the knowledgeable tour guide who brought the mansion alive. As Walter Cummins, professor emeritus of English and honorary Friends trustee, noted, "He was steeped in the history of the estate and the building. Those Vanderbilts were more casual than 'ours.' When we were there, a number of the interior rooms were undergoing renovation, with furniture draped and scaffolding outside for the extensive exterior

work. Still, we got a sense of that mansion and our familiarity with Florham gave us a comparative perspective that most visitors lack." Dawn Dupak, another Friends trustee, added, "The tour guide had visited other Vanderbilt residences and was able to point out details and features that recur in the various houses. It made the tour feel very personal."

Alice Cutler of Morristown spoke for many of the participants, "The bus trip was absolutely marvelous and so well organized ... I enjoyed learning more about the Vanderbilts and their Gilded Age country estate, an excellent example of McKim, Mead & White, the premier architectural firm of the time. I will definitely sign up for the next bus trip!"



RANGER ALLAN DAILEY



BEAUTIFUL VANDERBILT CHINA



NATALIA SEMENOVA



COZY SITTING AREA



FROM LEFT: DONNA GAUTIERI AND ALLISON D'AGOSTINO



A WELCOMING MOUSE

SCULPTING THE LAND: CREATING GILDED AGE GARDENS

Have you ever wondered how those beautiful gardens at Florham were designed? On April 29, the Friends sponsored a fascinating lecture by trustee Ed Zimmermann about Frederick Law Olmsted, and his approach to professionalizing the work of the landscape architect. With Florham as an example, Zimmermann

shared the significance of Olmsted's systematic approach to design, management and execution; the work of other landscape architects at Florham; and their importance as pioneers in the industry.

Zimmermann has been involved in the landscape industry

for 38 years. He attended Paul Smith's College (studying forestry and business); managed landscapes; and implemented garden designs for residential, commercial projects and public schools. Zimmermann is currently branch manager at Davey Tree Management, which has done work at FDU for 18 years.

AMERICAN GIRL LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 3, for a unique celebration of American Girls of all ages in beautiful Lenfell Hall, Hennessy Hall, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

The Friends are collaborating with the Morris County Historical Society (Acorn Hall), which will share an exclusive exhibit of 20th-century dolls of different sizes. An interpreter will be available to talk about each doll in the collection. American Girl® dolls Samantha and Luciana, representing the past and the present, will be featured at the luncheon.

The event will include an exciting raffle offering American Girl® prizes, crafts and the opportunity to win a Grand Tea for eight at the Cosy Cupboard Tea Room in Convent Station, N.J. Children will have the opportunity to take photos with their dolls, and every child will receive a goodie bag.

Imagine, Samantha might have lived in a home as beautiful as the Florham mansion! Maybe she even visited Florence Vanderbilt Twombly with her Grandmary.



American Girl
LUNCHEON
Hosted by Friends of Florham

Sunday, June 3, 2018
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Register online @ www.myfdu.net/agfof

Crafts Raffles

Fairleigh Dickinson University
285 Madison Avenue
Madison, NJ

Your participation helps preserve the magnificent Hennessy Hall Mansion and grounds.

Cost: \$350 table of 10
\$35/Adult
\$30/child

Contributions in excess of \$30 per ticket are tax deductible.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **September 27:**
5:30 p.m., Gary H. Darden, **The White House: from “Presidential Palace” to the People’s House, 1792–1962**, Hartman Lounge
- **Fall:**
Small Bites, Wine and the Unveiling of Portraits and Tapestries, Lenfell Hall, Hennessy Hall
- **December:**
Friends Day Trip to the New York Botanical Garden



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FLORHAM

AN AMERICAN TREASURE



From the Gilded Age Vanderbilt-Twombly Estate
to a Contemporary University Campus

ORDER THE BOOK

Copies may be purchased at the Florham Campus bookstore and online <https://tinyurl.com/ybg3u8lu>, or by sending a check for \$25.00 (includes shipping) to Barbara Dawson, c/o Friends of Florham; FDU, 285 Madison Avenue, M-MS1-04, Madison, N.J. 07940

BECOME A FRIEND

Join the Friends of Florham. Participate directly in our efforts to preserve the architectural history of Florham, and support our informative programs *Your support will make a difference!*

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