Greenwich Shistorical society

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Greenwich Historical Society Newsletter











LOST LANDSCAPE REVEALED: CHILDE HASSAM and The Red Mill, Cos Cob January 16-March 28



In celebration of a recently acquired Childe Hassam painting, *The Red Mill, Cos Cob*, Curator of Exhibitions and Collections Maggie Dimock presents an exhibit offering a view into Cos Cob at the turn of the 20th centuries and the role this town played in the development of American art. *Lost Landscape Revealed* explores how Hassam, one of America's foremost

Impressionists, and fellow artists, including Elmer MacRae and Kerr Eby, captured the appearance of the waterfront community known as Cos Cob's Lower Landing. Through paintings, photographs and artifacts, this one-time busy mercantile district will be brought to life.

The exhibit will be on view January 16–March 28, 2021. Visitors must reserve tickets in advance by visiting www.greenwichhistory.org/visit.

Special Members-Only Preview Days: Wednesday-Friday, January 13-15.

Curator Happy Hour

February 2, 2021 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. Members: Free | Non–members: \$10 Join us for a virtual tour of our latest exhibition, *Lost Landscape Revealed: Childe Hassam and* The Red Mill, Cos Cob. Curator Maggie Dimock will lead the tour through the gallery, highlighting key pieces from the Historical Society's collection and themes relating to the Cos Cob art colony and the industrial Cos Cob Lower Landing of the late 19th century. Learn about the vibrant art colony that once inhabited the Bush–Holley House and the community that inspired them. We invite participants to BYO cocktails and snack to enjoy while we share this time together online!

We Welcome New Staff Members



Leslie Albamonte

Project Archivist
Leslie Albamonte, MBA,
IMLS is our Project

Archivist. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), she is addressing our backlog of unprocessed and under-described collections to increase public access to information, ideas and networks through stewardship of the library and archives collections.



Kelsie Dalton

Digital Project Associate
Kelsie Dalton, BA History,
is our IMLS Digital
Project Associate. She is

scanning and cataloging photographs and other images across a number of collections to share them through our digital collections portal (digital.greenwichistory. org) and the Connecticut Digital Archives, which will link to the National Archives.



Stephanie Lally

Director of Finance & Accounting

Stephanie has been in finance for the past 20

years, working for PepsiCo, Time Inc. and most recently NBC Universal. She holds an MBA in Finance and Marketing from Fordham University. As a child, she would visit family in Greenwich to go boating and developed a fondness for New England architecture and appreciation for preserving its history.



Theresa Andre

Communications Associate
Theresa has a varied
background which
includes spending time

in higher education, events and hospitality and, most recently, digital marketing and communications. She's looking forward to furthering the message and contributing to the Historical Society's educational programs and cultural events.



rom our snowy outpost here at the Historical Society campus, we send along our best wishes for a healthy, hopeful and prosperous 2021.

Reflecting on a complicated year, we remain grateful for the many generous ways our membership responded to new formats in programing, fundraising and providing education resources to teachers, parents and students.

We are looking forward to meeting the challenges and opportunities ahead this winter. Here's a taste of what's to come:

In January, we open a gemlike exhibition Lost Landscape Revealed: Childe Hassam and The Red Mill, Cos Cob, which celebrates a new acquisition to our collections and contextualizes the work of early Impressionists from the Cos Cob art colony. Join us for members—only preview days and also for related programming offered onsite and online.

We are launching a new preservation partnership with **Historic Properties of Greenwich**, with a panel focusing on the benefits of protecting historic Greenwich homes.

Our curatorial, education and archives

staff are busy ramping up our online *History from Home* series that will feature a variety of themes supporting upcoming exhibits focused on the work of American Impressionists Childe Hassam and John Twachtman, as well as Greenwich gardens and landscapes.

Schoolchildren can enjoy a new series of **Winter Break Programs**, and annual **Chocolate Sunday** festivities will go on in a new, but no less delicious format.

Finally, we express our sincere gratitude for the success of the **Antiquarius** team, committee and local partners who together raised over \$120,000 for the Historical Society's programs in 2021. This major annual fundraiser has a long and rich tradition in Greenwich and continues to evolve and thrive with member support.

Thank you, as always, for your engagement, ideas and enthusiasm as we embark on this new and exciting year.

Debra Mecky Executive Director & CEO

On the cover

- Elmer Livingston MacRae, Cos Cob in Winter, circa 1910. Oil on canvas adhered to pressed wood. Greenwich Historical Society, Gift of Alfred B. Van Liew in memory of his grandparents, Herbert Henry Ferris and Edna Reynolds Ferris.
- Shipbuilders at the Palmer & Duff shipyard, circa 1890–1900.
 Greenwich Historical Society, Photograph Collection.

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- Childe Hassam, The Red Mill, Cos Cob, 1896. Oil on canvas. Greenwich Historical Society, Museum Purchase with funds from Susan and Jim Larkin, Sally and Larry Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Peter L. Malkin, Debbie and Russ Reynolds, Reba and Dave Williams, and Lily Downing and David Yudain.
- Elmer Livingston MacRae, Cos Cob Harbor, Winter, 1910. Oil on canvas. Greenwich Historical Society, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh B. Vanderbilt.
- Childe Hassam, The Mantelpiece, 1912. Oil on wood (cigar box lid). Greenwich Historical Society, Museum Purchase with Donor Funds.



Winter Vacation Fun!

Join us for safe, creative and educational activities at the Historical Society during winter break. Masks must be worn by all attendees. Reservations required.

No more than 10 children per session.

Members: \$15 / Non-members: \$25

Pointillism Painting

February 9th, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., ages 8–12 Re-create and reinterpret the centerpiece of our new exhibit: Childe Hassam's *The Red Mill, Cos Cob.* In this session, students will learn about the Cos Cob art colony, Impressionism, Pointillism, perspective and the refraction of light. By the end of the class, students will have created their own version of *The Red Mill* with their own unique spin.

Ships in the Harbor

February 10th, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., ages 7–10 Inspired by our new exhibit's look at the history of Cos Cob Harbor, this class will focus on creating a pair of paper boats. Students will learn about Greenwich's shipping history, historic boat building, buoyancy and structural integrity. By the end of the class, students will have created two beautiful, functional paper boats to take home.

Mini Monster Makers

February 11th, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m., ages 6–8 Take a page from the book of former Greenwich resident Jim Henson, and create some monsters. In this class, students will learn a little about Jim Henson's time in Greenwich and the history of puppetry, and create three different types of puppets.

Upcoming Events

Story Barn: New Beginnings

January 14, 2021 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. via Zoom Members: \$15 / Non-members: \$20



Join us for our second Story Barn ZOOM. Story Barn is a longstanding tradition at the Historical Society, celebrating the fine art of sharing our personal histories. Warm, funny, touching and uplifting, Story Barn sessions are sure to leave participants (in person or virtual!) feeling the warmth of our clever and insightful community. Led by beloved Master of Ceremonies Bonnie Levison, the evening features stories loosely based on the theme "New Beginnings." Let us know if you have a story to share!

Creating Family Archives with Margot Note

February 18, 2021 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. via Zoom Members: \$10 | Non-members: \$15



Everyone collects a lifetime of papers, photographs and mementos that tell the stories of their lives. In a time when most of us are spending more time at home, we may have the opportunity to preserve our legacy, as well as to be more reflective of our lives and their meanings. Now may be the time to tackle these family and personal memories to provide ourselves and our loved ones comfort and connection.

Join Margot Note, author of Creating Family Archives: A Step-by-Step Guide for Saving Your Memories for Future Generations, in a webinar where you can learn the easy steps to take to organize and preserve what's meaningful to you.

Make History Now!

Protect Historic Properties and Enjoy the Economic and Environmental Benefits for Greenwich Homeowners and Realtors

Co-sponsored by Greenwich Historical Society, Historic Properties of Greenwich, Preservation Connecticut and Greenwich Association of Realtors

January 27, 2021 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. via Zoom Members: FREE | Non-members: \$10

With the escalation in homes being demolished for more contemporary structures, the need for saving Greenwich's classic New England heritage is greater than ever. The permanent protection of our historic homes is the driver of a strategic alliance between Greenwich Historical Society and the recently formed Historic Properties of Greenwich.

Join us with preservation leaders Jane Montanaro, Executive Director, Connecticut Preservation, and Elise Hillman Green, Russell S. Reynolds and Anne Young, Co-Founders, Historic Properties of Greenwich, as they share research on the economic and environmental benefits of local property historic designation and outline practical steps homeowners can take to save our community history.

Register for events: greenwichhistory.org/events

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HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

January 1, January 18, February 15

OFFICE, MUSEUM STORE AND CAFÉ

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, noon-4:00 p.m.

MUSEUM GALLERIES

Wednesday–Sunday, noon–4:00 p.m. by appointment

BUSH-HOLLEY HOUSE

Temporarily closed for regular tours or by appointment (*Members Only*)

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

By appointment

ADMISSION

\$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$7 group rate

FREE: Youth under 18, members, active military/Blue Star and free for all the first Wednesday of every month.

Visit all 21 museums on the Connecticut Art Trail for \$25. Buy a passport at the museum lobby desk or at ctarttrail.org.

Sweets & Crafts: Valentine Kits to Go!

Pick up February 6–14 \$45 members, \$50 non-members



Our annual Chocolate Sunday celebration takes a new delicious twist this year with a special take-home package to share with your Valentines! Enjoy a specially wrapped package of hot chocolate, sweets and chocolate treats with two Valentine mugs. Our curators and education staff have created a Valentine-inspired craft kit based on historic designs in our collections. A perfect way to sip, celebrate and create together at home!

Preorder recommended, or purchase at our Museum Store.

Thank you to all who helped us celebrate ANTIQUARIUS 2020: TOGETHER AT HOME



Reimagining this important Historical Society fundraiser – including the Greenwich Winter Antiques + Design Show, the Holiday Boutique,

House Tour, Holiday Entertaining Workshop and Design Panel – was the perfect end to a year that challenged us to find new ways to connect with our community. We are pleased to have exceeded our goals, thanks in large part to generous support from our dedicated event sponsors, patrons, friends and local businesses, who share our commitment to preserve and interpret Greenwich's history to strengthen the community's connection to our past, to each other and to our future.