

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

122 East 58th Street, New York, New York 10022 212/861-3990 AFGGNYC@aol.com

April 2007

Dear Friends,

What a pleasure it has been to see so many of you this winter. We all had a wonderful time at the Winter Antiques Show, admiring the treasures and enjoying luncheon in the landmark Tiffany room. Peter Kenny and J. Michael Kelley were our informative and entertaining hosts as we picked our way through the lumber of the work-in-progress of the Metropolitan's new American Wing. Annabelle Prager graciously provided refreshments afterwards. We were joined at the Collectors Club by members of the Institute for Classical Architecture for a very lively lecture on the history of Tryon Palace given by Nancy Richards and Peter Sandbeck. We look forward to other collaborations with them in the future. Many of us learned fascinating new things about Georgian period frames at our sold-out visit to the Lowy Frame Shop. Space is still available, though, for Wendell Garrett's lecture on high times in Georgian England; sign up now to learn about the rakes' progress—or otherwise?—by calling the office or sending us an e-mail.

Members received the latest issue of *The Georgian* in our last mailing. If you did not get it, it is because you have not renewed your membership for 2007, so we hope you will do that right away. For one thing, the annual fall trip to England is open only to current members and you won't want to miss the trip to Weston Park in Shropshire, October 15–19. Invitations for this delightful trip will be mailed soon, so be sure to renew if you have not already done so.

Another Georgian Group treat our members can look forward to is their gala Anniversary Georgian Ball, to be held at Christie's in London on July 16. Prince and Princess Michael of Kent will attend this fancy-dress ball, which will also feature a three-course dinner, dancing, gaming, tableaux, and many other Georgian delights. Tickets are being offered to AFGG members at a special price.



Many dear friends have contributed to the fund established in memory of our late treasurer, Cordelia Richards. The fund will be used to purchase a Georgian-style bookcase for the Georgian Group headquarters in Fitzroy Square. The forty-eight-volume *Correspondence of Horace Walpole* that Cordy gave to the Georgian Group last year will thus be appropriately housed. We are very grateful to the generous donors who have made gifts to the fund.

With this AFGG newsletter you can reserve for our upcoming events. In May our friend General Sir Michael Rose will tell us about his latest book and later in the month we will have an exclusive tour of the works of George

Stubbs at the Frick Collection. Georgian architecture is being preserved on the island of Jamaica and expert Eryn Brennan will discuss these efforts at a lecture in June. In July, distinguished architect and author Mark Alan Hewitt will lecture on the work of Mott Schmidt, who designed elegant houses for the Rockefellers, Astors, Morgans, and their set. When we return from vacation in September John Wilton-Ely will welcome us back with a talk on Piranesi as Designer.

We are planning a trip to visit historic houses of the Hudson River later in the fall as well as a lecture on Hyde Hall by Gilbert Vincent, whom we met last year when we visited Cooperstown. Our annual meeting and Christmas party will be on Monday, December 3, so be sure to save that date. Details for these events will be forthcoming.

Bringing new enthusiasts to the support of Georgian architecture is a constant goal. We were pleased to take part in the "awareness fair" given by British Consul-General Sir Alan Collins (who is also our honorary patron) on March 12. We joined other British-American organizations and distributed brochures among the over two hundred guests. Our web site is www.americangeorgians.org. Be sure to check it for membership and event information; back issues of the AFGG newsletters are now available at our web site as well.

Best wishes,


John Kinnear
President

Washington's Wars
lecture and reception

General Sir Michael Rose

Wednesday, May 9, 2007, 6:00

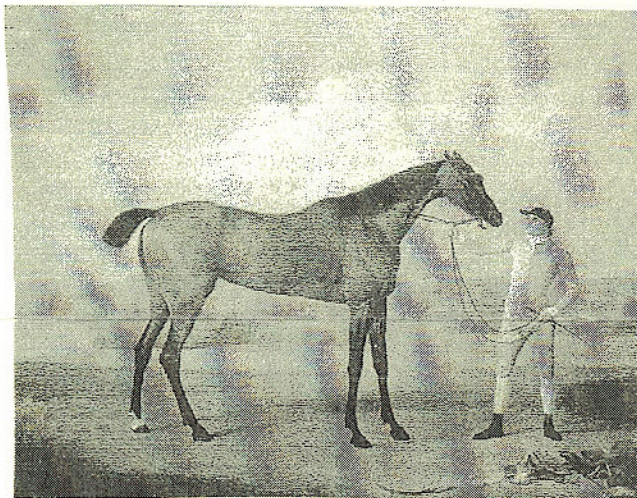
The Arsenal, Central Park [www.centralpark2000.org]
Fifth Avenue and 64th Street, New York City

Sir Michael Rose will discuss his new book, *Washington's Wars*, about George Washington and fighting insurgencies in the eighteenth century and today. Sir Michael has some thoughts about superpowers in the days of King George III and other, more contemporary Georges. Sir Michael is a much-decorated retired general of the British Army, whose colorful career included service in Malaysia, the Middle East, Bosnia, and the Falkland Islands. He very kindly attended the Glimmerglass production of *Pirates of Penzance* last summer as guest of honor of the AFGG and we are happy to welcome him back. We are also pleased to be holding this event at Central Park's historic Arsenal; if weather permits we will be on the roof overlooking the spring greenery.



Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by May 1.

\$45 per person.



George Stubbs: a Celebration
tour and reception

Denise Allen

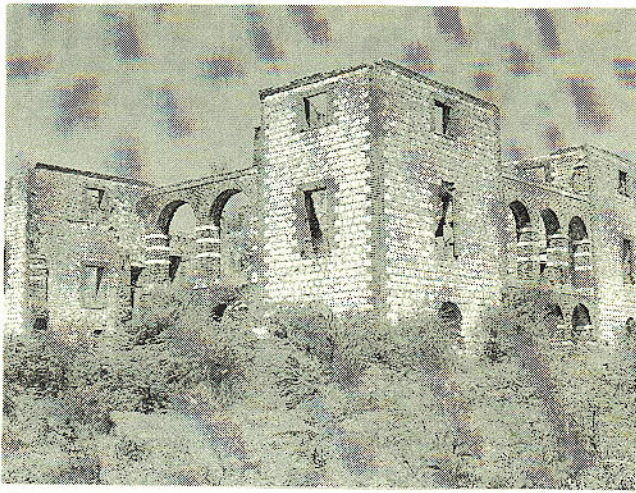
Monday, May 21, 2007, 3:00

The Frick Collection
1 East 70th Street, New York City

George Stubbs (1724–1806) is probably best known for his paintings of horses, whose aristocratic owners commissioned Stubbs to give their portraits the same heroic qualities as those of family members. The exhibit at the Frick Collection of seventeen of Stubbs's animal subjects reflects the artist's uncanny naturalism and appealing charm. We are fortunate to have the show's curator, Denise Allen, as our host for this private view. The museum will be closed to the public on the day of our visit. A reception will follow our tour.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by May 14.

\$45 per person.



Georgian Style in the Colonies
lecture and reception

Eryn Brennan

Tuesday, June 26, 2007, 6:00

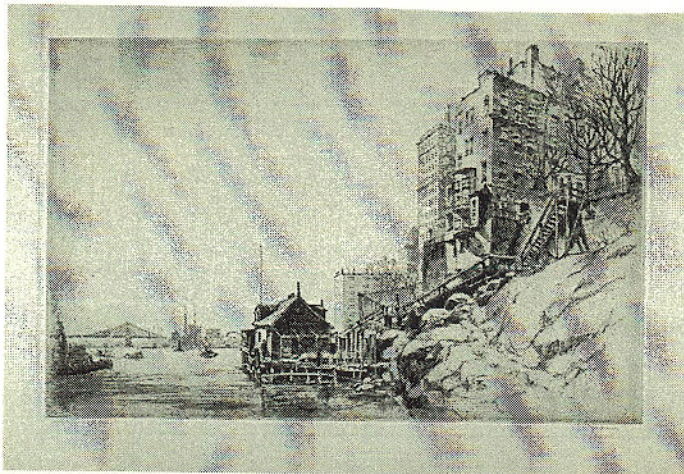
The Collectors Club

22 East 35th Street, New York City

How was eighteenth century architectural style translated from England to the outposts of empire? Eryn Brennan, director of development and communications for Falmouth Heritage Renewal and the Caribbean Preservation Institute, will discuss how and why Georgian architecture in Jamaica is different from its British counterparts. She will also talk about current efforts to preserve and restore specific buildings. Her lecture will be followed by a reception.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by June 19.

\$45 per person.



The Architecture of Mott B. Schmidt
lecture and reception

Mark Alan Hewitt

Thursday, July 19, 2007, 6:00

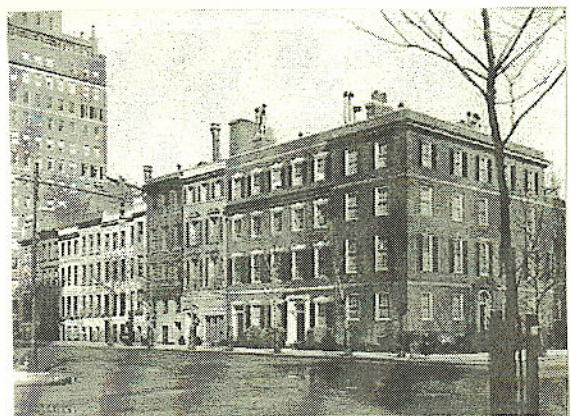
The Collectors Club

22 East 35th Street, New York City

During their heyday, New York's plutocrats developed a taste for eighteenth-century style that was manifested in many of the outstanding Georgian-revival houses still gracing the streets of Manhattan today. Among the most sought-after architects of the period was Mott B. Schmidt, who designed residences for the rich and famous. Mark Hewitt, a distinguished architect with degrees from Yale and the University of Pennsylvania, is the author of, among many other works, *The Architecture of Mott B. Schmidt*. Mr. Hewitt will give us his expert analysis of Schmidt's work and influence. A reception will follow his lecture.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by July 12.

\$45 per person.



SUTTON PLACE: ANNE MORGAN'S TOWN HOUSE
Northeast Corner and East 57th Street
APRIL 2, 1936. ABBOTT FILE 95

Piranesi as Designer

tour and reception

John Wilton-Ely

Wednesday, September 26, 2007, 3:00

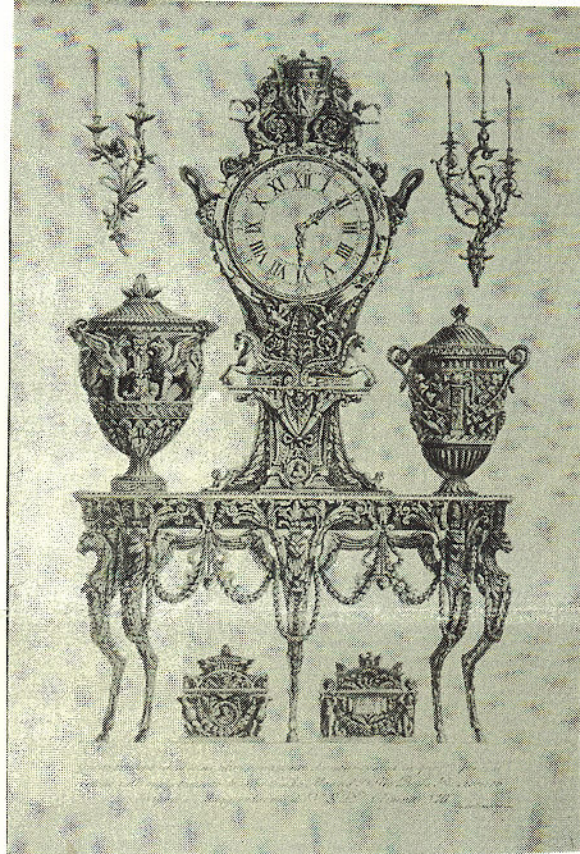
Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum

2 East 91st Street, New York City

John Wilton-Ely returns to New York this fall as one of the curators of an exhibit devoted to the works of Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720–1778). Although best known as a graphic artist, Piranesi was also a prolific designer, whose work influenced many of the Georgian era's most admired architects. The exhibit at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum is the first to focus on this aspect of Piranesi's work. John Wilton-Ely, a renowned expert on this eighteenth-century master, has agreed to give us a private tour of the exhibit and to discuss this fascinating work. Our tour will be followed by a reception.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by September 19.

\$55 per person.



AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP *UPCOMING EVENTS*

Houses of the Hudson

Day trip to eighteenth-century and Georgian revival houses in the Hudson Valley
date to be announced

Great Houses of Shropshire and Staffordshire

Details to be mailed soon for our annual trip to England
October 15—19, 2007

Hyde Hall and Cooperstown in the Georgian Era

Lecture and reception
November 14, 2007

Annual Meeting and Christmas Party

Meeting and Christmas cheer
December 3, 2007

*For additional information, send an e-mail to AFGGNYC@aol.com.
Membership information is at our web site: www.americangeorgians.org*

Anniversary Ball

Your presence is requested at a ball celebrating the 70th anniversary of the

Georgian Group

on Monday 16 July 2007

Seven o'clock

Christie's, London

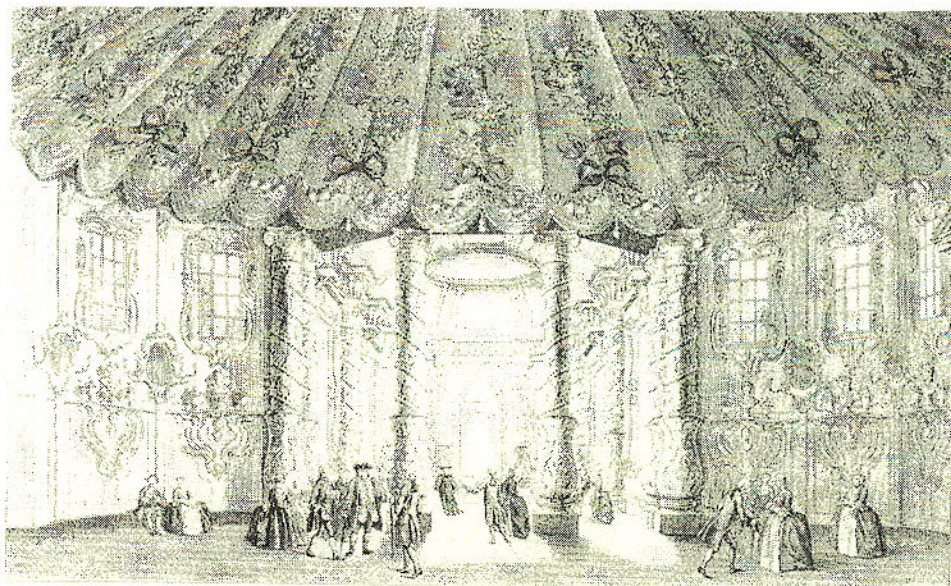


Members of the American Friends of the Georgian Group are invited to this spectacular event to be held in the Great Rooms at Christie's in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. In surroundings designed to evoke the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, the evening's entertainment will include a three-course dinner, dancing, gaming, tableaux, live music, silhouettes, and photographs.

Georgian dress or evening dress are required. Special costumes and dance lessons can be arranged through the Georgian Group.

AFGG members can book reservations on line at www.georgiangroup.org.uk: go to *upcoming events*, then *events by month*, then *July 2007*. You may also reserve by sending your check in the amount of \$325 per person to The American Friends of the Georgian Group, 122 East 58th Street, New York, New York 10022. **MEMBERS ONLY**

**AMERICAN FRIENDS
OF THE
GEORGIAN GROUP
RESERVATION FORM**



Washington's Wars

lecture and reception, Wednesday, May 9, 6:00

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Please reserve _____ places at \$45 per person

enclosed \$ _____

Reserve by May 1

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tour and reception, Monday, May 21, 3:00

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enclosed \$ _____

Reserve by September 19

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please make your check payable to **The American Friends of the Georgian Group** and mail it to us at
122 East 58th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022

NAME _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____