



THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

January 2017

Greetings,

With 2016 having just drawn to a close, it's the perfect time to thank all of you who have supported the AFGG, either through membership, attending our events, or through a gift to our annual fund. 2016 was full of exciting programs, such as lectures by Wolf Burchard, Bettina Harden and Paula Bennett, and a spectacular October trip to Weston Park and several other estates in England and Wales. In December we held our holiday party and annual general meeting at the beautiful George F. Baker House; the festivities were attended by far-flung members who travelled from St. Louis, Richmond, Philadelphia, and Newport, as well as by our Honorary Patron, Antonia Romeo. We were delighted to see everyone there.



Weston Park attendees

Now it's time to look to 2017, which marks the 80th anniversary of the Georgian Group. We have several events planned, including the upcoming Winter Antiques Show, a tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's newly renovated British Galleries, an antique shop/gallery visit conducted by AFGG Vice President David M. Wood, fascinating lectures, including one by AFGG member B.J. Rahn, and much more.

The American Young Georgians also held several successful events in 2016. A particular highlight was their annual Fall Excursion: Executive Director Henry B. Joyce hosted them for a private tour and lunch at the landmark Coe Hall Mansion in historic Oyster Bay on Saturday, November 5th (pictured below).

And remember, if you haven't yet renewed your membership, or become a member for the first time, you



still can—please visit [our website](#) for all of the information. For now, I wish you and yours a happy, healthy 2017; I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

Regards,

John Kinnear, President

January:

Winter Antiques Show and Luncheon

Tour and Luncheon

Park Avenue Armory

Park Avenue at 67th Street

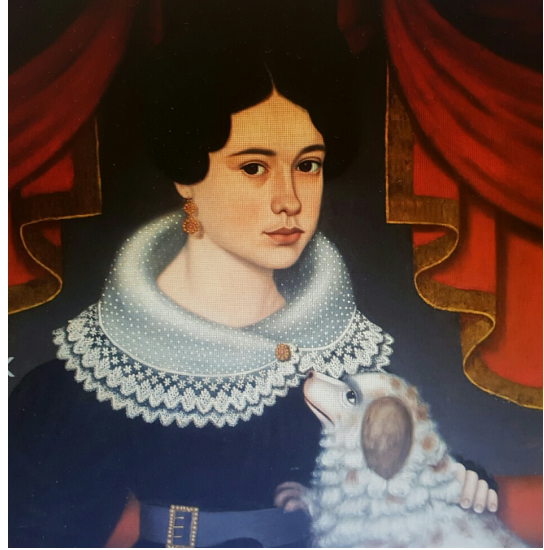
Tuesday, January 24, 2017

10:45 am

Tour the galleries and then enjoy a private luncheon in one of the special rooms. Spaces are limited—book early!

\$135 per person

(See Reservation Form for payment options)



February:

Elizabeth Jamieson: The Country House and the Horse-drawn Carriage

Lecture and Reception

Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm

The Colonial Dames of America

417 East 61st Street

Horse-drawn carriages were the dominant form of transport for England's polite society for over



two hundred years. The British carriage also had a major impact on the design and planning of country houses and their surrounding landscapes. Now no longer visible, it is easy to forget how important they were in Britain and America, both in terms of their use and of their symbolic significance. Drawing on primary research and empirical evidence, this talk will assess the practicalities of horse-drawn transport during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and examine the way such objects facilitated the lifestyles of their owners.

Elizabeth Jamieson is an independent researcher and furniture historian, and is the External Advisor to the National Trust on Carriages.

\$45 for members

\$20 for American Young Georgians

\$55 for non-members

(See Reservation Form for payment options)

March:**Antique Shop & Gallery visit with David M. Wood: Lerebours Antiques & De Gournay**

Date/time/meeting location to be announced

Join AFGG Vice President David M. Wood for an evening visit to two select Manhattan showrooms:

Lerebours Antiques

220 East 60th Street

Founded by Cathy Lerebours, Lerebours Antiques carries a veritable wealth of Continental and English antiques on 60th Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues – an area loosely known as “antiques alley.” Georgian interiors often included pieces from the Continent. “I am a complete and absolute Europhile,” Cathy admits. Frequent trips to the Continent feed her passion.



Regency style rosewood writing table, saber legs on gilded paw feet. English, Late 19th Century.

De Gournay

243 East 59th Street

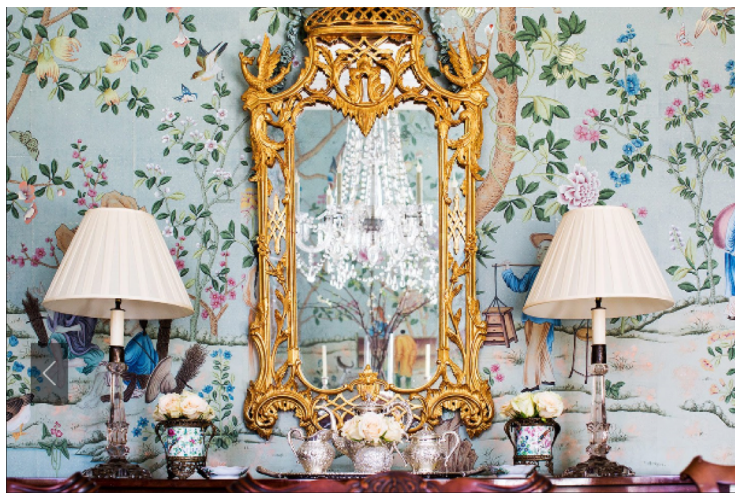
Claud Cecil Gurney founded the company in 1986 following an unsuccessful search for expert artisans to restore antique wallpaper in his family home. De Gournay artisans are experts in the correct choice of decorative detail and color for 18th Century-inspired, hand-painted Chinese wallpapers, as well as fabrics, furniture, mirrors and porcelain.

\$45 for members

\$20 for American Young Georgians

\$55 for non-members

(See Reservation Form for payment options)



‘Abbotsford’ design on Ice Blue India tea paper.

**April:
Conservation Department at the Metropolitan
Museum of Art**

Tour

April 5—Final date/time/meeting location to be announced

We have been invited for a rare, behind-the-scenes visit to the Conservation Department at the Met, which will be working on the restoration and reinstallation of the British Art Collection.

This is an event not to be missed and spaces will be limited!



B.J. Rahn: Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown—Georgian Polymath: Architect, Engineer, Landscape Designer

Lecture and Reception

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 6:00 pm

The Colonial Dames of America

417 East 61st Street

Responding to the changing taste of the era, between 1751 and 1783 Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown developed a style of landscape design enhancing the innate character of a site, or ‘genius of the place,’ in a manner which combined aesthetic pleasure and agricultural viability. This



principle of Design conforming to Nature, rather than being imposed on Nature, was an illusion contrived by Brown’s ingenious engineering which redirected water courses, leveled hills or created contours, and moved whole villages to widen a vista or open a prospect. For the ‘improved’ landscape he designed neoclassical architectural follies and sourced classical sculpture to stimulate thought and inspire aesthetic appreciation. Brown transformed the English countryside and so captured the spirit of the age in the nearly 200 properties he ‘improved’ that his fame spread and his style became known as *le jardin Anglais*. Brown’s three major talents will be discussed in relation to three estates -- Croome Park, Corsham Court, and Claremont.

After receiving a Ph.D. at Columbia University, Professor B. J. Rahn, joined the English Department at Hunter College in New York, where she taught, researched, and wrote about 18th century literature and culture for three decades. Long an admirer of British landscape gardens,

she celebrated Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown’s the tri-centenary in 2016 by visiting his home in the Manor of Fenstanton in Cambridgeshire, touring nine estates with landscapes designed by Brown, and attending a conference sponsored by the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust.

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\$20 for American Young Georgians

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June:

Millbrook, New York House Tour & Luncheon

Daytrip

Saturday, June 3, 2017

8am pick-up at Park Avenue and 72nd Street

Join us for a trip to Millbrook where we will be seeing 4 houses we have not previously visited, including Lithgow (gardens pictured below), as well as enjoying a lunch at a special local venue.

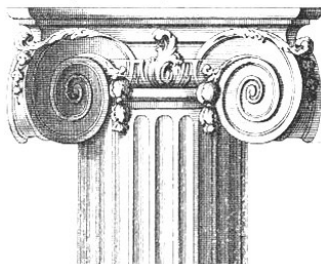


\$195 per person

(See Reservation Form for payment options)

COMING SOON!

Don't forget our annual trip to the UK! We're planning for Scotland in October and we'll share details early: the 2016 tour sold out by March and we're limited to 30 spaces. They go quickly!

**Board of Directors:**

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AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP
RESERVATION FORM, Spring/Summer 2017

Winter Antiques Show and Luncheon — Tuesday, January 24th; 10:45 am

Park Avenue Armory

Park Avenue at 67th Street

\$135 per person

Pay via PayPal* by clicking on the link: [Winter Antiques Show and Luncheon](#)

Please reserve _____ places at \$ _____/person *Enclosed \$ _____*

Elizabeth Jamieson: The Country House— Thursday, February 16th; 6:30 pm

The Colonial Dames of America

417 East 61st Street

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[\\$45 for AFGG members](#)

[\\$20 for American Young Georgians](#)

[\\$55 for non-members](#)

Please reserve _____ places at \$ _____/person *Enclosed \$ _____*

Antique Shop & Gallery visit with David M. Wood: Lerebours Antiques & De Gournay

Time/location to come

Pay via PayPal* by clicking on the appropriate link:

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The Colonial Dames of America

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[\\$55 for non-members](#)

Please reserve _____ places at \$ _____/person *Enclosed \$ _____*

Millbrook, NY House Tour and Luncheon — Saturday, June 3rd; 8am pick-up at Park Avenue and 72nd Street

\$195 per person

Pay via PayPal* by clicking on the link: [Millbrook Trip](#)

Please reserve _____ places at \$ _____/person *Enclosed \$ _____*

Please make your check payable to **The American Friends of the Georgian Group** and mail it to us at
20 West 44th Street, #508, New York, New York 10036

To pay via **Paypal**, click the links provided or visit [our website](http://americangeorgians.org): americangeorgians.org.

*Please note: PayPal charges a fee for its service