



# THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

20 West 44th St. #508, New York, NY 10036 • (212) 991-9191 • [office@americangeorgians.org](mailto:office@americangeorgians.org)

January 2015

Dear Friends,

Welcome 2015! A new year full of activity, promise, and opportunity to celebrate Georgian art and architecture. We are happy to have so many renewing members and a good crop of new members, as well, to start us off on the right foot.

Our annual meeting at the **George Baker House** was as jolly as ever. **Madison Spencer** entertained us with the story of follies, which dotted the Georgian landscape. This fall we hailed the achievements of **John Foreman** at a reception on the roof of the Arsenal; his books and blog have made significant contributions to architectural appreciation. We visited **Warp and Weft**, where we learned about **Oriental rugs**, and heard a fascinating lecture by **Phillip Dodd** on **classical details** from the Georgian period. Our wonderful trip to **Norfolk** and its surrounding beauties was a highlight of the past season.

**Francis Morrone**, will usher in the new year for us with an illustrated lecture about the **Merchant's House**, in lower Manhattan. The **Winter Antiques Show** tour and lunch will be on January 23rd. In February the lecture by **Cary Briggs** on **antique bricks**, postponed from last fall, will be held at the lovely home of the **Colonial Dames of America**, who are also sponsors of the event. **Madison Spencer** will give us another insight into decorative architectural embellishments with a lecture on **lattices** in March, and in April **Mark Hewitt** will talk about living a modern life in a **vintage house**.

Renewal notices were mailed in October and if you have not yet done so, please renew your membership right away. The work of the AFGG and the support we give to the Georgian Group in England to preserve and protect Georgian architecture depends above all on our enthusiastic members. Most of our events are offered at a reduced price to members, who are also eligible to take part in the annual overseas trips and other activities throughout the year.

We wish you all a jolly new year and hope to see you soon in the coming season!

Best wishes,

John Kinnear  
President



*Chinoiserie folly, above  
Norfolk trippers, October 2014*

**Standing the Test of Time: the Merchant's House and the History  
of a Neighborhood Transformed**

***illustrated lecture***

Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 6:30

The Merchant's House

29 East 4th Street

Noted architectural historian Francis Morrone discusses the Merchant's House in the context of its neighborhood at a time when changes threaten the house anew. We'll look at the development of Lafayette Place and the creation of an exclusive residential neighborhood; the role of families, such as the Astors and Schermerhorns, in the neighborhood (including the development of the Astor Library); the loft and factory district (involving such notable concerns as the DeVinne Press); and the recent revival of the area as a fashionable address. We will look at how 29 East 4th Street has stood stalwart through all the changes.



Francis Morrone is an architectural historian and writer. He is the author of eleven books, most recently, *Guide to New York City Urban Landscapes*. He is the recipient of the Arthur Ross Award of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art.

*\$8 per person for AFGG members, \$10 for non-members* **RESERVATIONS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**



**Winter Antiques Show  
special preview tour and  
luncheon**

Friday, January 23, 2015,  
11:00 a.m.

Park Avenue Armory  
Park Avenue at 67th  
Street

Join us for a V.I.P. day at the 2015 Winter Antiques Show with a special preview and luncheon. This is the 61st year of the most prestigious antiques show in America, featuring the best of the best from antiquities through the 1960s. Held at the historic Park Avenue Armory in New York City, the show provides curators, established collectors, dealers, design professionals, and first-time buyers with opportunities to view and purchase exceptional pieces displayed by 73 exhibitors. One third of the show's exhibitors are specialists in Americana, with the rest featuring English, European, and Asian fine and decorative arts. From ancient Roman glass through mid-century Modern, every object exhibited at the Winter Antiques Show is vetted for authenticity, date, and condition by a committee of 160 experts from the United States and Europe.

*\$125 per person*





## Colonial Williamsburg Bricks: Georgian Brickmaking in Colonial America

*lecture and reception*

Cary Briggs

Wednesday, February 18, 2015, 6:00

The Colonial Dames of America

417 East 61st Street

**RESCHEDULED**

Cary Briggs is founder and creative director of Tidewater Brick Co., the exclusive distributor of Colonial Williamsburg Bricks. In his illustrated presentation, he will tell the history and reveal the variety of bricks made and employed in the Georgian era. He will focus on the heritage and conservation of wood fired bricks during that period and highlight some of the brickwork projects that are being carried out in Williamsburg and at various historic sites in Britain.

This lecture is sponsored with the Colonial Dames of America. A reception will follow.

*\$45 per person for AFGG members; \$55 for non-members; \$20 for American Young Georgians*

## Let Us Laud Lattice

*lecture*

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 6:00

Sotheby's Institute of Art

570 Lexington Avenue, 6th Floor

As a follow-up to his talk on Georgian follies given at our annual meeting in December at the George F. Baker House, Madison Spencer will return our way to offer up a celebration of all things lattice. Like follies, lattice falls into that oft overlooked realm of seemingly purposeless construction that, in the right hands, is architectural magic. This should prove to be the perfect introduction to spring. Madison Spencer has architectural studios in New York, Charlottesville, and Newport. He has served on the board of the Department of Historic Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia and is a member of the INTBAU College of Traditional Practitioners based in London.

The lecture will be followed by a reception.

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## **The Vintage House**

### ***lecture and reception***

Wednesday, April 15, 2015, 6:00

Mark Alan Hewitt

The Colonial Dames of America

417 East 61st Street



Do you live in an old, old house? Have you always wanted to live in an historic house? Mark Alan Hewitt is the expert you need to know. Together with Gordon Bock, Mark Alan Hewitt has written *The Vintage House*, a must-have primer for homeowners and professionals who want to achieve truly compatible, stylistically accurate additions and renovations. Their expert perspective on dealing with historic buildings includes new design ideas and techniques. Compact water heaters, sustainable building practices, geothermal heating, as well as blending new windows or dormers without destroying historic character; all these are covered in this important book. Mark Alan Hewitt has a master of architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania and has taught architecture and historic preservation at Rice University, Columbia, and New Jersey Institute of Technology; he is a recipient of an NEH fellowship at the Winterthur Museum and received the Arthur Ross Award in 2009 for his writing on classical architecture.

The lecture will be followed by a reception.

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## **AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2015**

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**AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP**  
***RESERVATION FORM, Winter–Spring 2015***

***Standing the Test of Time***

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29 East 4th Street

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at **\$8; \$10 non-members**

enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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20 West 44th Street, #508, New York, New York 10036

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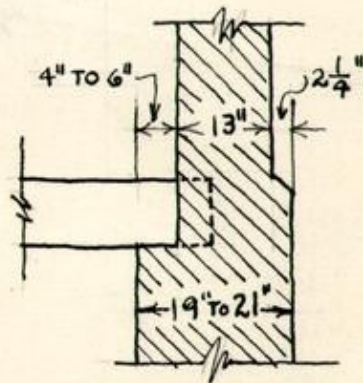
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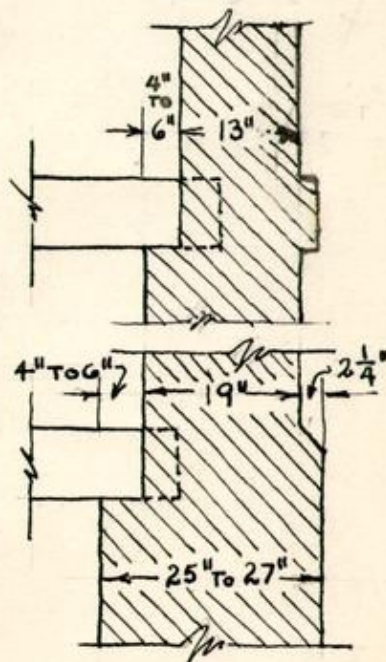
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ONE-STORY BLDG.



TWO-STORY BLDG.

18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
BRICK WALL SIZES