Let er from the President

Three years — my term as the AFA President — has passed in a flash. As I write my last letter to you, I want to send thanks to our hard-working Board members and other volunteers, to our Administrative Director, Cheryl Hageman, and to every one of you who has referred a candidate to one of the Attingham programs, helped to support our organization and our funding of scholarship needs, and attended one of our Study Trips, Annual Fall Lectures or other activities. We are thriving, and it is because of you, our committed alumni.

There is much to look forward to in coming months. First and foremost are the Trust programs. The London House Course was run in April and the Study Programme in Belgium is taking place as you receive this newsletter. The Summer School will follow in July, and Royal Collection Studies in September and the French Eighteenth-Century Studies Course at the Wallace Collection in October will complete this year’s offerings. The Trust has worked hard to add new courses while maintaining its high standards for content and instruction, and many American scholars have been able to take advantage of the new programs. In 2014 more than 50 US residents will study in one of the Trust programs.

We can also look forward to our own activities, which include our Annual Fall Lecture on Monday, September 22, featuring Christopher P. Monkhouse ’66; RCS ’01 and The Irish Country House Comes to America. Further details can be found in the column to the left and on page 2. We also eagerly anticipate this year’s Study Trip to San Antonio and Austin, to be held October 8 to October 12. Jane Karotkin ’98; SW ’06; RCS ’09, working with Meg Nowack ’11, Merrill Parsons ’69; SP ’09; FES ’13, William Rudolph ’04; RCS ’12, Evan Thompson ’13 and Candace Volz ’10 are putting together a tremendous program which will achieve our usual high levels of insight and access, with a good mix of social time and fun. Further details are found on page 3.

In short, as I pass the torch to my successor, all is well at the AFA and, thanks to you, we can look forward to many years of continued success. Many thanks, and all good wishes.

— Clo Tepper ’11; SP ’04, ’07, ’10, ’13

Letter from England

As I write this, the London House course is in full swing in the Spring sunshine. Led by Giles Waterfield and Sarah Nichols it studies the chronological development of the London house from Renaissance to the present and has attracted a stimulating group of international participants (10 US members in the group of 25). I attended the day concentrating on the 20th century house organised by Gavin Stamp - a brilliant and rigorous insight into the wide variety of residential properties built in Hampstead and Highgate, including the Hampstead Garden suburb, with privileged access into a number of homes.

The course is one of six that Attingham is running this year. The first was held in March in partnership with the University of East Anglia as a module on the MA Art History course. We are now gearing up for our three annual summer programmes - the Study Programme in June (Belgium), the Summer School and Royal Collection Studies - and I am delighted to say that Rebecca Parker will soon be returning from maternity leave to mastermind the second Attingham/Wallace Collection course with Helen Jacobsen in October. We will be sad to see the departure of Meg Finnis (née Schützer-Weissmann) as administrator of the Summer School but wish her all the best with the new baby and welcome Rita Grudzien in her place.

Thanks to all for spreading the word. We have had a great US response this year thanks to your efforts.

— Annabel Westman, Executive Director, The Attingham Trust
**Upcoming AFA Programs and Events**

Registration fees may be submitted online at www.americanfriendsofattingham.org or by check payable to “American Friends of Attingham,” sent to: AFA, 307 Seventh Ave., Suite 1201, New York, NY 10001.

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**Sunday, September 14, 2 pm**

**2014 Tracey L. Albainy Lecture: Houghton Hall Collections**

Presented by Christine Gervais ’04; RCS ’08, Associate Curator of Decorative Arts, Rienzi, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Free of charge to Attingham alumni and guests. Further details TBA. The program has been organized by former AFA board member Brigitte Fletcher SP ’02; RCS ’03. This will be the third program in the Tracey L. Albainy Lecture series, commemorating the career and enthusiasm for European decorative arts of Attingham alumna Tracey Albainy ’90; SP ’00; RCS ’07, a specialist in European silver and ceramics.

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**Friday, September 19, 6-8 pm**

**Annual Members Meeting**

AFA Office, 307 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1201, New York City

Our Annual Members Meeting is open to all AFA alumni and provides an opportunity to reunite with fellow alumni and stay current on organizational issues. The Members Meeting will precede a quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Afterward light refreshments will be served and students will report on 2014 Attingham Trust courses. **No charge; RSVP by September 15.**

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**Saturday, September 20, 10 am-12 pm**

**Ladies’ Mile Historic District Walking Tour**

Join historian Matt Postal to explore one of Manhattan’s most interesting historic districts, the “Ladies’ Mile,” given landmark status in 1989. The district, located between Union and Madison Squares, and Park to Sixth Avenues, was considered the heart of Gilded Age New York. Our guided two-hour tour will focus on artful commercial structures from the Victorian era, including memorable cast-iron buildings that were erected by the most fashionable retailers of the day such as Arnold Constable & Company and B. Altman and Company. Particular attention will be paid to the lesser known east-west streets, where some earlier residential structures remain, including the Gothic Revival birthplace of Theodore Roosevelt, which was reconstructed by the pioneering architect Theodate Pope Riddle. After the tour, you may want to stay on and enjoy lunch with fellow participants and tour the interior of the Roosevelt house. (Admission is free; period rooms may be seen by ranger guided tour only, available on the hour between 1 and 4 pm.) $25 per person for the walking tour, guests welcome, space is limited.

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**American Friends of Attingham Annual Fall Lecture**

**The Irish Treasure House Comes to America**

Featuring Christopher P. Monkhouse

Eloise W. Martin Chair and Curator of the Department of European Decorative Arts at The Art Institute of Chicago

**September 22, 2014**

The Union League Club

38 East 37th Street, New York City

6:30 pm, Lecture; 7:30 pm, Drinks & Hors d’oeuvres

Please join Attingham alumni and friends for our Annual Fall Lecture, a special evening featuring Christopher P. Monkhouse. As curator of the upcoming landmark exhibition Ireland: Art on a World Stage, 1690-1840, at The Art Institute of Chicago, Mr. Monkhouse will speak on the disbursement of decorative and fine art from Ireland to America and the rich holdings on this side of the Atlantic. These transfers resulted in part from the Irish agricultural depression in the 1870’s and 1880’s and also from “The Troubles” during the early 20th century. Only since World War II has there been a slight change in direction, with selected Irish objects returning to the Emerald Isle. These ‘moving objects’ have benefited or suffered from Joseph Duveen, Henry Clay Frick, Andrew Mellon, William Randolph Hearst and many other prominent dealers and collectors.

The Art Institute exhibition, which will open St. Patrick’s Day, 2015, is the first to focus on the Georgian Era of Irish craftsmanship and will present 300 objects including paintings, sculpture, ceramics, glass, furniture, metalwork, textiles and bookbindings. The show will be seen exclusively in Chicago.

The evening will include a festive reception with Mr. Monkhouse. Tickets: $100 per person ($50 tax-deductible). RSVP by September 12.
AFA Study Trip: San Antonio/Austin
October 8-12, 2014

Join us for the annual Study Trip as we delve deep into the fascinating history of central Texas. San Antonio and Austin will be the focus of this year's trip, organized by an outstanding local host committee chaired by Jane Karotkin ’98; SW ’06; RCS ’09, including Meg Nowack ’11, Merribell Parsons ’69; SP ’09; FES ’13, William Rudolph ’04; RCS ’12, Evan Thompson ’13 and Candace Volz ’10.

The Study Trip will be based in San Antonio and begin with a special reception on the evening of October 8. Over the next three enjoyable days, two full days will be spent in San Antonio and we will take a day trip to the capital city of Austin. Participants will be provided with special access to historic and cultural destinations, visits to private residences, and excellent opportunities to socialize with fellow alumni and friends – all worthy of the Attingham tradition.

Planned highlights include:

- **The Alamo**, a mission more than 300 years old now proclaimed to be “the shrine of Texas liberty.” Our visit will be led by preservation specialist Pam Rosser, who oversees the ongoing conservation of the site’s historic Spanish Colonial frescos.

- **King William**, San Antonio’s first designated historic district and an architectural must-see. Settled by Germans in the 1840s and named for the 1870s King of Prussia, the eclectic area features impressive examples of Greek Revival, Victorian, and Italianate styles. We will visit a private residence and **Villa Finale**. Built in the late 19th century, the villa and its many collections once belonged to Walter Mathis, the 20th century preservationist credited with the district’s revitalization. Now a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, we will meet with curator Meg Nowack.

- The **San Antonio Museum of Art**, once known exclusively for its significant collection of art of the Americas, has made sizeable expansions to its building and collections over the last 25 years, William Rudolph, The Marie and Hugh Half Curator of American Art and Mellon Chief Curator and Merribell Parsons, Curator of European Art, will share with us highlights of SAMA’s collection which now contains more than 25,000 works representing 5,000 years of history and cultures from around the world.

- **Mission San José**, also known as the “Queen of the Missions,” is among the San Antonio missions nominated for World Heritage Site status.

- The **McNay Art Museum**, Texas’s first modern art museum. This important collection of 19th and 20th century European and American art is located on the premises of the 23-acre estate of oil-heiress Marion Koogler McNay.

- Built in 1856, the **Texas Governor’s Mansion** is considered to be the most historic house in Texas. Jane Karotkin, Friends of the Governor’s Mansion Administrator and Curator, will introduce us to the recently restored National Historic Landmark’s collection of early 19th century American furniture and the nearby **Texas State Capitol** building.

- Austin’s **Hyde Park**, including a reception at a private residence and a visit to the **Elisabet Ney Museum**, a portrait collection housed in the former studio of the 19th century sculptor.

Registration: The cost of $850 per person (and, in addition, a suggested $300 tax-deductible contribution to the AFA), includes all admissions, travel by private coach, and most meals (not breakfast). A hotel near the San Antonio Museum of Art on the city’s famed River Walk is holding a block of rooms for our group at the nightly rate of $99 + tax.

*Space is limited to 30 participants and expected to fill quickly! To reserve your place contact Cheryl Hageman at attingham@verizon.net or 212-682-6840, then submit payment online at www.americanfriendsofattingham.org or by check payable to “American Friends of Attingham.”*
ATTINGHAM APPLAUSE: Earlier this year media and public attention once again focused on the heroic efforts of the "Monuments Men," the nickname for the team of curators, scholars and architects formed by the US Army, credited with the protection and recovery of tens of thousands of priceless works of art and artifacts stolen by the Nazis during World War II. Officially the group was called the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section, and grew from 30 men to nearly 300 men and women, including Edith Stanton '56.

Ms. Stanton was not portrayed in the recent fact-based movie directed by George Clooney, however she was featured in The New York Times article "Not All Monuments Men were Men" (Tom Mashberg, Art & Design, January 29, 2014) and The Washington Post's "Fiction meets fact in the art of war" (Michael O'Sullivan, On Exhibit, February 14, 2014). Before beginning her career at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (where she was curator of textiles from 1949-1970), Ms. Stanton was a captain in the Women's Army Corps. We are pleased to recognize her role as Officer in charge of the Wiesbaden Collecting Point in Germany until August 1947, where she oversaw a facility with weatherproofed storage and restoration areas.

Photo: Edith A. Standen, left, and Rose Valland in 1946. Credit: James J. Rorimer papers, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution

2014 Attingham Course Participants FROM THE US*

LONDON HOUSE COURSE, APRIL 22-28, 2014

Eve Barsoum
Architectural Historian, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, Washington D.C.

John Braymer
Executive Vice President/CEO, Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects

John Clark
CEO, Clarkstar Productions

Barbara File
Archivist, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Judith Herrnstadt
Urban Planner (retired)

Jennifer Klos
Curator, Oklahoma City Museum of Art

Anne Nellis Richter
Adjunct Professor Lecturer, History of Art, American University

Stacey Sloboda
Associate Professor of Art History, Southern Illinois University

Steven Spandle
Architect, Fairfax & Sammons Architecture

Susan Odell Walker
Head of Public Services, The Lewis Walpole Library, Yale University

2014 Attingham Course Participants FROM THE US*

STUDY PROGRAMME, JUNE 11-19, 2014
THE HISTORIC HOUSE IN BELGIUM: FLANDERS, WALLONIA AND BRUSSELS

Cynthia Bronson Altman
Curator, Kykuit, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Ann Fay Barry
Historic house restoration

Janet Blyberg
Assistant Curator, Exhibitions, Research and Publishing, Peabody Essex Museum

American Friends of Attingham Scholar

James Buttrick
Architectural historian

Margaret Civetta
Partner, DLA Piper LLP (US)

Robert Domergue
President, Robert Domergue & Company

Hank Dunlop
Professor Emeritus, California College of the Arts

Linda Eaton
John L. & Marjorie P. McGraw Director of Collections and Senior Curator of Textiles, Winterthur Museum

Robin Miller
President, D. Miller Restorers, Inc.

Christopher Molinar
Historic design consultant

Margaret O’Neil
Contractor, New Jersey Office of Historic Sites, Division of Parks and Forestry

Karin Peterson
Museum Director, State Historic Preservation Office, CT Department of Economic & Community Development

Deborah Trupin
Textile Conservator, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

ROYAL COLLECTION STUDIES, AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

Angela George
Assistant Professor and Assistant Director, MA Programme in History & Decorative Arts, Smithsonian Institution

Stewart Rosenblum Scholar

Thomas Michie
Senior Curator of European Decorative Arts and Sculpture, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

David Parsons
Director of Finance & Administration, Historic Hudson Valley

Scott Ruby
Associate Curator of Russian and Eastern European Art, Hillwood Estate Museums and Gardens

Paula Madden Scholar

Melinda Watt
Assistant Curator, European Sculpture and Decorative Art Department, Supervising Curator, Antonio Ritti Textile Center

* Selection for the French Eighteenth-Century Studies Course (October 12-17, 2014) not complete at the time of printing. Course members will be listed in the December 2014 newsletter.
ATTINGHAM SUMMER SCHOOL 2014
AFA RECRUITING AND SELECTION COMMITTEES REPORT

This year forty-six American scholars applied to attend the Summer School. That is an excellent pool from which the Selection Committee filled the twenty-four slots allotted to American Friends of Attingham. Just how important are you to our success in recruiting first-rate candidates for the Summer School? The answer is you are essential. The efforts you make to alert colleagues to this opportunity and the letters of recommendation you write make this program work. This year fifty-two of you wrote letters of recommendation. Applicants credited sixty-six of you as their source for first learning about the Summer School; three times more than all the other sources combined. THANK YOU for your enthusiastic and able assistance in helping American Friends of Attingham achieve our mission which is to recruit for all the Attingham Trust programmes.

— Jeffrey Herr ‘98; RCS ‘01; LW ’10, Vice President for Recruiting

It is my great pleasure to introduce the Attingham Summer School Class of 2014, which was chosen from a large and outstanding pool of applicants. Thanks to all of you who encouraged candidates to apply and who wrote letters of reference on their behalf. The 24 American residents selected for this year’s class will join an equally exceptional group of 24 scholars from outside the US, including the United Kingdom, Australia, Croatia, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Malta, The Netherlands, New Zealand and Turkey, maintaining the strong international community that has characterized the Summer School in recent years. The American scholars, aged 25 to 63, are engaged in a wide range of professions as curators, conservators, directors, and educators working in museums and historic houses, as well as architects, academics and doctoral students. They hail from seventeen different states, including California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Thanks to the continuing generosity of our funders we were able to offer some degree of financial assistance to 20 of our scholars – the largest number in recent years. Funding remains critical to securing the very best candidates, and we are enormously grateful to the individuals and foundations who provide such generous assistance. If you or your organization would be interested in helping to support an Attingham scholar, please contact Cheryl Hageman or any member of the Board to learn more. In the meantime, it is never too early to begin spreading the word for 2015. Your enthusiasm for Attingham is our single greatest tool in attracting the next outstanding class. Please direct potential candidates to our website: americanfriendsofattingham.org.

— Beth Carver Wees ’81; RCS ’04, Vice President for Selection

THE 63RD ATTINGHAM SUMMER SCHOOL, JULY 5-22, 2014

Michele Anstine  
Assistant CEO/ Director, Read House and Gardens/ Chief Program Officer, Delaware Historical Society  
Royal Oak Foundation Scholar

Genevieve Cortinovis  
Research Assistant, Saint Louis Art Museum  
Royal Oak Foundation Scholar and David M. Maxfield Scholar

Brandy Culp  
Curator, Historic Charleston Foundation  
New York Community Trust/ Edward Maverick Fund Scholar and American Friends of Attingham Scholar

Alice Dickinson  
Collections Manager, New York Yacht Club  
Summer School Class of 2013 Scholar

Jan Dorscheid  
Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Furniture and Woodwork Conservation (2013-2016), Philadelphia Museum of Art  
Lillian A. Terry Trust Scholar and Decorative Arts Trust Scholar

Ann Glasscock  
Ph.D. student of Art History and Material Culture, University of Wisconsin-Madison/ Project Assistant, Chipstone Foundation  
Royal Oak Foundation Scholar

Craig Johnson  
Site Manager, James J. Hill House, Minnesota Historical Society  
Royal Oak Foundation Scholar

Vanessa Lyon  
Assistant Professor of Art History, Grinnell College  
American Friends of Attingham Scholar

Sarah Mezzino  
Curator of Decorative Arts & Design, The Lawrenceville School  
The Ida and William Rosenthal Foundation Scholar

Christina Michelon  
Ph.D. student of Art History, University of Minnesota/ Graduate Assistant American Friends of Attingham Scholar

Sequoa Miller  
Ph.D. student of American Decorative Arts, Yale University/ Curatorial intern  
Royal Oak Foundation J. Thomas Savage Scholar

Alexis Mucha  
Coordinator of Catalogue Photography/ Gallery Attendant, Bard Graduate Center: Decorative Arts, Design History, Material Culture  
American Friends of Attingham Scholar

Pascale Patris  
Conservator, Metropolitan Museum of Art  
David Wilton Metropolitan Museum of Art Scholar

Laurel Peterson  
Ph.D. student, History of Art, Yale University  
American Friends of Attingham Scholar

Quillan Rosen  
Assistant, Michele Beiny, Inc.

Christine Spier  
Gallery Teacher, The J. Paul Getty Museum  
Royal Oak Foundation Scholar

William Strollo  
Director of Education and Public Relations, Wilton House Museum  
The National Society of Colonial Dames of America Scholar

Maud Tabor-Thomas  
Fine Artist and Portrait Painter/ Teaching Artist & Instructor, National Gallery of Art & The Yellow Barn at Glen Echo  
American Friends of Attingham Scholar

John H. Waters  
Architect/ Independent Scholar  
New York Community Trust/ Edward Maverick Fund Scholar
2013 American Friends of Attingham

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Alumni News

Do you have news? Email Alumni News to attingham@verizon.net

Penny McCaskill Hunt ’95 has retired after 30 years as Executive Director of The Decorative Arts Trust. She plans to remain busy with four-in-hand driving, the Philadelphia Athenaeum, land conservation in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and by working in her many gardens.

Robert M. Kelly ’93 lectured with Judy Anderson about 18th century wallpaper at the season’s opening of Herkimer Home, the c. 1764 dwelling of General Nicholas Herkimer in the Mohawk Valley of upstate New York. The “West St. Mary’s” pattern from Adelphi Paperhangings was hung in a parlor.

Dr. Sarah Meschutt ’88; SW ’97, ’98, ’04; RCS ’00, is project director for content and curatorial input at the forthcoming American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, due to open in 2016. Presently the museum design is complete and the 80,000 sq ft structure is to be ready in August 2014.

Philip A. Siebert ’69 continues to be in the antiques business focusing on Chinese antiques offered through auction houses and returning to Chinese collectors on mainland China.

Matthew Thurlow ’05 has been named Executive Director of The Decorative Arts Trust.

Evan Thompson ’13 is now Executive Director of the Austin-based organization, Preservation Texas.

In Memoriam

Sadly we note the passing of four Attingham alumni:

James “Jim” Henry Burke ’63; SW ’89, was a retired art dealer and former editor for Harcourt Brace Publishing Company. He attended the University of Iowa before joining the US Army Air Corps during WWII. Jim later completed his degree and went on to obtain a master’s degree in library science from Columbia University. He spent most of his adult life living in New York City before returning to his native Iowa in 2009.

Dr. Thomas P. Kugelman ’94; SW ’07, a dermatologist by profession, was also a skilled cellist (former member of what is now the Connecticut Valley Chamber Orchestra) with a life-long interest in antiques. Inspired by a honeymoon visit to Winterthur, Thomas and his wife Alice Kugelman ’94; SW ’07 made 17th and 18th century furniture a shared passion, through which they explored genealogy and the rich backstories of objects. They co-authored Connecticut Valley Furniture by Eliphalet Chapin and his Contemporaries, published by the Connecticut Historical Society in 2005.

T. Tyler Potterfield, Jr. ’04, is remembered for his life’s devotion to architectural preservation. A native of Montgomery County, Maryland, Tyler had been a preservationist in Georgia and Ohio before making his home in Richmond in 1991. Prior to his untimely passing, he served as the city’s housing and senior preservation planner and wrote Nonesuch Place (VA): A History of the Richmond Landscape, published by The History Press in 2009.

Grace Yeomans Thaler ’94 of Beacon Hill and Wellfleet, Massachusetts, was an independent decorative arts appraiser and consultant, specializing in Chinese Export porcelain and ceramics. Grace had previously held leadership positions at Sotheby’s New York and Grogan & Company (Dedham, MA). She served on the Board of the Furnishings Committee of the Shirley-Eustis House Association (Roxbury, MA), the Board and Collections Committee at Gore Place (Waltham, MA), and the Board of the National Society of Colonial Dames in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, of which she was to become President this year.
RECENT EVENTS

AFA MID-WINTER REUNION, FRI. JANUARY 24

More than 120 Attingham alumni and their guests gathered for the AFA Mid-Winter Reunion, mingling within the majestic interiors of the stately James B. Duke House, which now serves as New York University’s Institute of Fine Arts. The event, as per usual, was scheduled to coincide with the opening weekend of the Winter Antiques Show. The jolly evening allowed alumni the chance to reconnect with old Attingham classmates, and meet new friends.

TOUR OF WILLIAM KENT: DESIGNING GEORGIAN BRITAIN, SAT. JANUARY 25

AFA was invited back for a second tour of this fabulous exhibition. (The first was led by curator Susan Weber for members of the Phelps Warren Society last fall.) Our docent brought to life the nearly 200 items included in this major exhibition now on view at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Participants who recently had the opportunity to visit Houghton and Holkham Halls with the 2013 Study Programme in Norfolk contributed a few special stories.

BROOKLYN DAY TRIP, SAT. MAY 3

With cherry blossoms in full bloom and the feeling that Spring has finally sprung, an enthusiastic group of 30 enjoyed a full and varied day in Brooklyn. We began with a trolley tour of the 175-year old Green-Wood Cemetery, a stunning example of the rural cemetery movement imported from Europe. Entertaining stories were shared about many of its famed inhabitants. The group then proceeded on to tour the Wyckoff-Bennett Homestead, a rare example of an eighteenth century Dutch-colonial farmhouse nestled into the bustling neighborhood of Sheepshead Bay. The house is the private residence of Stuart Mont and contains many interesting artifacts from the original family. After lunch, decorative arts curator Barry Harwood ’93; RCS ’06, highlighted the recently renovated period rooms at the Brooklyn Museum and a special behind-the-scenes look into the museum’s private storage area. Throughout our travels John Krawchuk ’05, Director of Historic Preservation, NYC Parks & Recreation, willingly shared his expertise on notable Brooklyn landmarks including Prospect Park, Grand Army Plaza, the Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Arch. The day ended with a gracious reception at the Brooklyn Heights home of preservationists Nancy and Otis Pearsall.

Many thanks to all involved!