

The Edith Wharton Society



Edith Wharton and History

Pittsfield, MA

June 26-28, 2008

Dear Conferees,

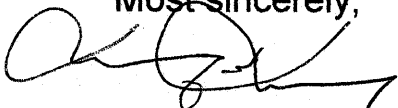
The Edith Wharton Society welcomes you to the *Edith Wharton and History Conference*. We have a very full schedule, and we hope that you will find your time in the Berkshires as refreshing as it is enlightening. In your registration packet you will find, along with this program, your name tag, your ticket for the banquet and your pass to the Mount. The latter two items cannot be replicated, so please secure them. There are also some informational items on the Berkshires and some forthcoming Wharton books.

The registration table will be staffed throughout the conference, and we will be able to answer any questions about the conference. For information about the area or the hotel, please contact the Crowne Plaza staff.

An American breakfast buffet is served, in Dewey's Restaurant, from 6 a.m. until 10 a.m. Although lunch will be served to us as a group, it will be "portable." On Friday evening, at the banquet, please bring your ticket to the banquet, and leave it on the table at your place. We will be enjoying our Roman Punch, for a toast. There will, however, be a cash bar available. Gratuities for meal servers are included in your registration fee; however, the bartenders are not included.

The conference associates, Heather Gunnoud and Lorien Crow, will be working with me at the registration desk. I look forward to meeting the many scholars with whom I have enjoyed a long correspondence.

Most sincerely,



Margaret Murray
Conference Director

The Edith Wharton Society gratefully acknowledges the support of those institutions that have contributed to the *Edith Wharton and History Conference*:

The Mount

The National Endowment for Arts

Kean University

Washington State University

Western Connecticut State University

Particular gratitude must be extended to our webmaster, Donna Campbell, for her invaluable technical support.

Edith Wharton and History

Thursday, June 26, 2008

1:00-2:30

Wharton and Economics: Conf. 1: Moderator: Irene C. Goldman-Price, Editorial Board, *Edith Wharton Review*

William Blazek, Liverpool Hope University-“Men’s Business in *The Custom of the Country*”

Judith Saunders, Marist College-“The Hazards of Reciprocal Altruism: *The Glimpses of the Moon* and *The House of Mirth*”

Hildegard Hoeller, City University of New York-“Lost in Translation: Financial Plots and the Modernist Reader in Edith Wharton’s *Custom of the Country*”

1:00-2:00

New England: Conf. II: Moderator: Alan Price, Penn State, Hazelton, *emeritus*

Annette Benert, Moravian College-“The Poisons of Rural Poverty: Misery in Western Massachusetts”

Kristen Elias Rowley, University of Nebraska-“Edith Wharton’s New England Regionalist Writing: The Role of the Image of Authorship”

2:30-3:00 **Coffee Break**

3:00-4:30

Wharton and Politics: Conf. I: Moderator: Hildegard Hoeller, City University of New York

Linda Costanzo-Cahir, Kean University-“‘Freedom Like a Beast’: Politics and Enlightenment in *The Valley of Decision*”

Ferda Asya, Bloomsburg University-“The Darwin Connection: A Kropotkinian Reading of Edith Wharton’s *The Age of Innocence*”

Elaine Pigeon, Université de Montréal-“‘All Souls’ and the Rise of Fascism”

Keiko Beppo, Kobe College- "Edith Wharton and the World War I: Re-reading Wharton's War Stories"

5:45 In Memoriam Edie Thornton: Conf. I: Elsa Nettels

6:00-7:00- Cocktail Party (cash bar) Patio

Friday, June 27, 2008

6:00-9:00: Breakfast Rockwell's

9:00-10:30

Abortions and Adoptions in *Summer*: Conf. I: Moderator: Katherine Joslin, Western Michigan University

Donna Campbell, Washington State University, "What Charity Saw: Wharton's *Summer*, Lois Weber's *Where Are my Children?* and the Progressive Era Social Problem Film"

Karen Weingarten, City University of New York- "Citizenship and the Regulation of Women's Reproduction in Edith Wharton's *Summer*"

Carol Singley, Rutgers University, "Kinship, Adoption, and Family Law in *Summer*"

9:00-10:30

Wharton's Writings on Wharton Writing: Reflections, Revisions, Preparations: Conf. II: Moderator: Meredith Goldsmith, Ursinus College

Amber Harris Leichner, University of Nebraska- "*The Touchstone: A Study of Female Authorship in the Early Twentieth Century*"

Bonnie Shannon McMullen, Independent Scholar- "In the Mood for Ghosts': Spectral Anticipations of *The Custom of the Country*"

Judith Funston, State University of New York, Potsdam- "A New Woman in Old Clothes: Edith Wharton's *Duchess Violante*"

10:30-12:00

Fashion and Architecture: Conf. I: Moderator: Julie Olin-Ammentorp, LeMoyne College

Constance Haytock, American Society of Landscape Architects-“What Mrs. Wharton Learned in Rome: An Examination of Six Roman Villas and Their Influence on the Writer/Critic”

Katherine Joslin, Western Michigan University “Dressing Up”

Nadine Stewart, Fashion Institute of Technology-“A Milliner’s Life”

10:30-12:00

Wharton’s Books of the Homeless: Conf. II: Moderator: Shafquat Towheed, The Open University

Kristina Huff, University of Delaware-“A Bridge over Troubled Genres: Edith Wharton’s *The Book of the Homeless* and Genre”

Susan Goodman, University of Delaware- “‘A Gallant Piece of Architecture’: Edith Wharton’s *The Book of the Homeless*”

Caroline Hellman, City University of New York- “The Book(s) of the Homeless: Edith Wharton at Home with her Characters’ ‘Great Waste of Disoccupation’”

12-1:00-Lunch

1:00-2:00-Erika Koss: National Endowment for the Arts, Literature Specialist
“The Big Read and Edith Wharton’s *The Age of Innocence*” Conf. I:
Introduction: Hildegard Hoeller, President, *Edith Wharton Society*

2:00-3:30

Object Lessons and Osmology: Conf. II: Moderator: Gary Totten, North Dakota State University

Mary Marchand, Goucher College-“Object Lessons: Wharton and the New Connoisseurship”

Cecilia Macheski, La Guardia Community College “Visualizing Material Culture in *Ethan Frome* and ‘Roman Fever’”

Pamela Knights, Durham University-“A ‘mist of oponax’: Mapping non-visual sensation in *The Custom of the Country*”

2:00-3:30

Literary Connections 1:Conf. I: Moderator: Donna Campbell, Washington State University

Virginia Garnett, University of Delaware—"Edith Wharton and Vernon Lee's Writings on Writing"

Meredith Goldsmith, Ursinus College—"Undine and Her Sisters: *The Custom of the Country* and Middlebrow Novels of Remarriage"

Julie Olin-Ammentorp, LeMoyne College—"Out of the Provinces, Into the Limelight: Edith Wharton's Undine Spragg and Willa Cather's Thea Kronborg"

3:30-4:00-Coffee Break

4:00-5:30

Edith Wharton and the Modern Woman: Conf. I: Moderator, Laura Rattray, University of Hull

Julia Hans, U Massachusetts, Amherst—"Edith Wharton's Response to the New Woman: A Look at Three Satiric Sketches 1899-1916"

Emily Orlando, Fairfield University—"Crude Ascending the Staircase: Undine Spragg and the Armory Show"

Jessica Labbe, University of South Carolina—"Tripped up, gagged, and Pinioned': The Problematics of Female Movement and 'Management' in Wharton's *The Glimpses of the Moon*"

4:00-5:00

Edith Wharton and Modernity: Conf. II: Moderator: Harriet Gold, Université de Montréal

Diane Lichtenstein, Beloit College—"Twilight Sleep and Domestic Efficiency"

Gary Totten, North Dakota State University—"The Dialectic of History and Technology in Wharton's *A Motor-Flight through France*"

7:00-Banquet *Top of the Plaza*

Greetings: Hildegard Hoeller, President, *Edith Wharton Society*

Convocation Address: Margaret Murray, Conference Director

Guest Speaker-Suzanne Ferriss: "Fashioning Lives, Fashionable Lives: Edith Wharton and Chick Lit"

Saturday, June 28, 2008

6:00-9:00: Breakfast *Rockwell's*

9:00-10:30

Literary Connections 2: Conf. I: Moderator: Judith Saunders, Marist College

Elsa Nettels, College of William and Mary-"The Touchstone' and the Browning Love-Letters"

Kathy Fedorko, Middlesex County College-"Lily Bart Reborn: *Mrs. Dalloway* as Virginia Woolf's Revision of Edith Wharton's *The House of Mirth*"

Rita Bode, Trent University-"Edith Wharton and the Literary Past: Fathers and Lovers in Women's Writing"

9:00-10:30

World War I: Moderator: Conf. I: Carol Singley, Rutgers University

Ann Patten, University of Dublin, Trinity College-"Not Precisely Ghost Stories': References to the First World War in Wharton's Ghost Stories"

Melanie Dawson, College of William and Mary-"A Portrait of War-Time Feeling"

Shafquat Towheed, The Open University-"Reading the Great War: an Examination of Edith Wharton's Reading and Responses, 1914-1918"

10:30-11:30

'Staging Wharton': Conf. I: Moderator: Carole Shaffer-Koros, Kean University

Laura Rattray, University of Hull-"Staging History: Edith Wharton as Playwright"

John Anderson, Emerson College-"Performance and Theatricality in the Fiction of Edith Wharton and Henry James"

10:30-12:00

Edith Wharton and History: Conf. II: Moderator, Margaret Murray, Western Connecticut State University

Maureen Montgomery, University of Canterbury—"Edith Wharton: Narrating the Past"

Tarah Demant, Washington University in St. Louis—"Writing American's Race History in *The Age of Innocence*"

Martha Billips and Melissa McEuen, Transylvania University—"Historicizing Edith Wharton: A Pedagogical Experiment"

12:00-Lunch

