

Classical American Homes  
Preservation Trust  
and The Richard Hampton Jenrette Foundation

Annual Report | 2018





## To Friends, Donors, and Fellow Preservationists

For nearly two decades, Dick Jenrette delighted and educated friends and supporters of Classical American Homes Preservation Trust with his lively introductions to the annual report. These incisive essays were always eagerly anticipated and well worth the wait from year to year. A skilled writer, Dick possessed a special talent, as all great teachers do, for communicating knowledge and excitement about a topic (preservation!), and framing it in the context of current events, politics, economics, March Madness — you name it. Preservation and education, Dick’s twin passions, were his primary reasons for establishing Classical American Homes Preservation Trust and remain the pillars of our mission today. Though sadly no longer with us, Dick has firmly set us on our course into the future. Keep your eyes on this space, where in the years ahead we will continue to report to you on our plans and new initiatives designed to build on Dick’s legacy of excellence.

Though a year of tremendous loss for all in our CAHPT family, 2018 was filled nonetheless with consequential events and activities, including the official transfer from Dick’s estate of four of his former residences — Roper House, Edgewater, Estate Cane Garden, and the George F. Baker, Sr. townhouse, — as well as over 1,400 works of fine and decorative arts from his collection. And in

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On the cover: Edgewater – Barrytown, New York – circa 1825. A sweeping view, looking north, of Edgewater’s monumental Doric colonnade and the serene blue waters of the Hudson River. *Photo by Pieter Estersohn.*

Left: The Edgewater drawing room bathed in golden afternoon light, with its fine collection of New York classical furniture, including the pair of Duncan Phyfe card tables original to the house, which flank the entrance to the later Alexander Jackson Davis designed Octagon Library. *Photo by Pieter Estersohn.*

the very best spirit of preservation and education, as well as to mark the 50th anniversary of Dick's purchase of Roper House in 1968, we engaged the services of Richard Marks Restorations and Architectural Conservation to conduct a careful investigation and assessment of this great Greek Revival mansion. We also sponsored, in part, a course at the Clemson University/College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation centered on producing an historic structure report on Roper House. The building assessment and historic structure report are both firsts of their kind for Classical American Homes, and it is our intention to extend this type of thoughtful investigation and analysis to the rest of our properties in the coming months and years. And there is more, so please read on to learn about other noteworthy acquisitions, preservation activities, social events and educational programs in 2018.

Finally, in closing, we want to express our deepest gratitude to those who supported Classical American Homes Preservation Trust with your donations in 2018, a total of \$1,286,000 in individual gifts. This includes over \$350,000 earmarked for the Richard Hampton Jenrette Memorial Fund, which we hope to continue to build upon and to use in support of the Trust's educational mission. Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,



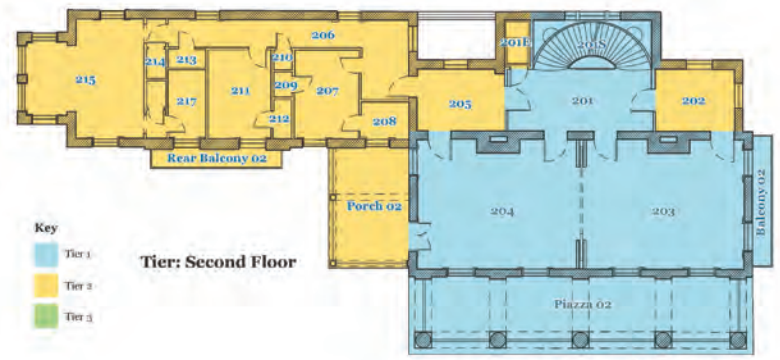
Margize Howell  
Co-President



Peter M. Kenny  
Co-President



An exhibition featuring twenty-three young artists and designers working in the classical tradition held against the backdrop of Delano & Aldrich's historic George F. Baker House was a highly successful collaboration with the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art. A diverse range of works included drawings, busts, plaster casts, and furniture. *Photos by Institute of Classical Architecture & Art – Brandon Mitchell.*

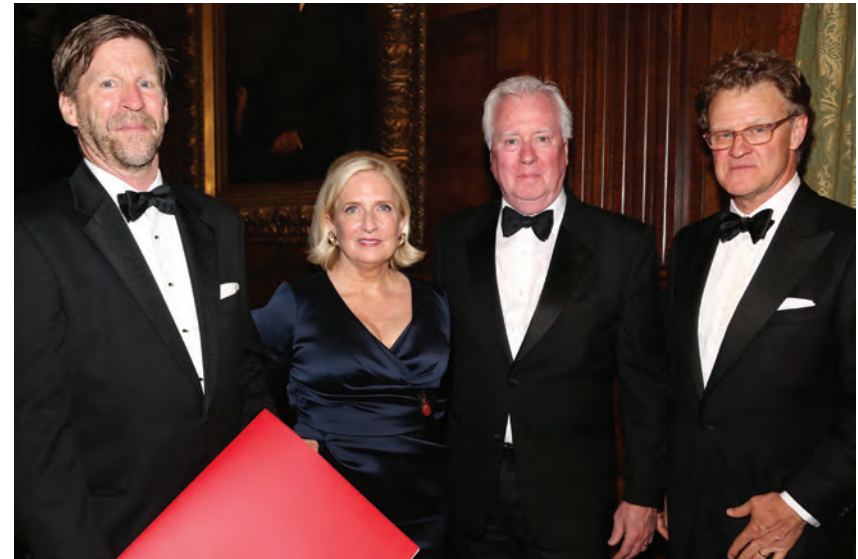


Education is part of our central mission. Left: Students from the Clemson University/College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation who worked on a historic structure report for Roper House. *Photo by Amalia Leifeste.*

Right: a diagram of the Roper House second floor keyed to show integrity, use and significance.

Above right: Student scholars at the 2018 Emerging Scholars Colloquium held at the Baker Houses in partnership with the Decorative Arts Trust.

Lecture and book signings were held both in New York and at Edgewater. Pieter Estersohn who wrote and photographed, *Life Along the Hudson*, gave an illustrated talk with Peter Kenny on the Livingston family at Edgewater, which they reprised later at the Baker Houses for the inaugural Richard H. Jenrette Memorial Lecture. Pieter pictured on the right with James Reginato. Thomas Jayne's book, *Classical Principles of Modern Design*, both chronicles and puts a contemporary view on the lessons from Edith Wharton and Ogden Codman's *The Decoration of Houses*. He is pictured here at his book signing with Catherine Sweeney.



The 2018 Arthur Ross Award for Patronage given by the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art to Margize Howell and Peter Kenny for work honoring the importance of Classical American Homes through careful preservation and a commitment to public accessibility. (L-R ICAA Board Member Philip Leiderbach, CAHPT Co-Presidents Margize Howell and Peter Kenny, ICAA Board Chairman Russell Windham). Photo by Sylvain Gaboury/Patrick McMullan Co.



Acquired at auction in December 2018 along with an original D. Phyfe & Son recamier from the front hall at Millford, this silver ewer by renowned London silversmith Paul Storr (1770-1844) bears the engraved initials of John Laurence Manning. It is shown on a swath of floral silk fabric reproduced from the original “old French style” upholstery used in the Millford double parlors.



Millford's crowning glory, the Corinthian capitals from its monumental front portico, have once again been returned to their original grandeur by the tireless efforts of restoration carpenter Michael Phelps in a project completed in the summer of 2018. Shown here is a fully restored capital from one of the pair of columns between square piers, or antae, that frame the main entrance door. *Photo by John Teague.*

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Audited financials will be available in October 2019  
on our website or by emailing [Julie@classicalamericanhomes.org](mailto:Julie@classicalamericanhomes.org).

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### *2018 Group Visitors to Classical American Homes Preservation Trust and The Richard Hampton Jenrette Properties*

The Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, Hillsborough, NC  
The American Friends of the Georgian Group,  
New York, NY  
The American Museum in Britain, Bath, United Kingdom  
Ashwick 50+, Efland, NC  
AXA/Equitable Southern Region Retirees Club,  
New York, NY  
Bayou Bend Museum, Houston, TX  
Bull City Running Club, Durham, NC  
Carolina Preserve Singles Club, Cary, NC  
Chaitanya Academy, Efland, NC  
Charleston Visitors Bureau, Charleston, SC  
Clemson University, Clemson, SC  
College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA  
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The Decorative Arts Trust, Media, PA  
The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI  
Duke Raleigh Hospital Guild, Raleigh, NC  
Durham Tech, Durham, NC  
Finley YMCA, Raleigh, NC

Forward Arts Foundation, Atlanta, GA  
The Friends of the Neill-Cochran House Museum,  
Austin, TX  
The Garden Club of America, New York, NY [3x]  
Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce, Hillsborough, NC  
Hillsborough Running, Hillsborough, NC [2x]  
Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston, SC  
Hudson River Heritage, Rhinebeck, NY  
The Institute of Classical Architecture & Art,  
New York, NY  
Junior League of Charlotte, Charlotte, NC  
Laurence Manning Academy, Manning, SC  
The Magazine ANTIQUES, New York, NY [2x]  
Mayewood Middle School, Sumter, SC  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY [2x]  
Mount Sylvan Church, Durham, NC  
Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts,  
Winston-Salem, NC [2x]  
The National Society of the Colonial Dames,  
Washington, DC [2x]

The Nature Conservancy, Arlington County, VA  
The New England Genealogical Society, Salem, MA  
Newcomers of Raleigh, Raleigh, NC  
The New York Central Park Conservancy, New York, NY  
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission,  
Raleigh, NC  
Orange County Department of Aging, Chapel Hill, NC  
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA  
Preservation Society of Charleston, Charleston, SC  
Raleigh Fine Arts Society, Raleigh, NC  
Reynolda House Museum, Winston-Salem, NC  
Russell Reynolds, New York, NY  
United States Department of State, Washington, DC  
Vintage Ladies Group, Williamsburg, VA  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA  
Virtuoso Voyager Club, New York City, NY [2x]  
The Walpole Society, London, United Kingdom  
Wayside Garden Club, Burlington, NC  
Winterthur Museum, Library and Garden,  
Winterthur, DE

*Total visitation in 2018 was nearly 19,000.*



Dick Jenrette in one of his favorite places at Edgewater – another 1853 A. J. Davis addition – where he loved having breakfast and reading while looking out at the Hudson. His list of priorities written in 2010 outline his commitment to historic preservation and to the mission of Classical American Homes Preservation Trust. *Above photo and back cover photo by Gavin Asbworth.*

## *Classical American Homes Preservation Trust – Priorities*

by Richard H. Jenrette

*Circa 2010*

- 1] First priority. Keep the properties in tip-top physical condition. Each is unusual and will attain further scarcity value as the years go by. I believe the “world will beat a path to them” — with little or no marketing — if we do our job as good preservationists.
- 2] Try to make the houses beautiful — exterior and interior — so they will be pleasing to those who visit. They don’t need to be “frozen in time” to the Manning era at Millford, or the Donaldsons at Edgewater. Try to acquire and display original furnishings if they meet the test of beautiful. Let’s preserve the best.
- 3] Focus on “high-end marketing,” specifically group tours as opposed to “retail” or “walk-in” marketing. Mass marketing, catering to “walk-ins” is not appropriate, except on special occasions, at most of our properties. Roper House in Charleston is an exception because of its location — but admitting 100,000 visitors a year (easily attainable at this site on the Battery) would quickly wear out this old house and its furnishings. Our houses need to be open to the general public on some occasions but not all the time. Our house tours should be fun experiences.
- 4] Remember our goal Education, on classical subjects — architecture, furnishings, landscapes, and music that have stood the test of time but seem endangered. Education implies young people, students, etc., but also applies to older generations. We can all keep learning even in our “Golden Years.” We sometimes appreciate beauty even more in old age.
- 5] Keep building CAHPT’s endowment — don’t let it erode — and avoid going in debt! The funds should be conservatively invested with preservation of capital the first goal. Don’t feel compelled to “beat the market” every year.
- 6] If finances and management skills permit, we can consider possible expansion beyond the current six sites. In general, I think we should always stay “small and solid.”



## Classical American Homes Preservation Trust

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