

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP: A MESSAGE FROM MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY CHRISTINE DALTON

As we move through 2026, the Alumni Association Board is focused on strengthening and growing our community of Summer School alumni. One of our primary goals this year is to increase membership so that we can continue supporting the programs and scholarships that make the Victorian Society Summer Schools such a remarkable experience.

Membership does more than keep alumni connected—it directly supports scholarships for future Summer School participants. In 2025 alone, the Alumni Association contributed \$30,000 toward Summer School scholarships. Sustaining and expanding that support depends on alumni choosing to remain involved as members.

We are also working on several improvements designed to keep alumni engaged. One of the most exciting developments is the upcoming launch of a refreshed Alumni Association website. The new site will provide a more modern platform where alumni can access the newsletter, stay informed about upcoming travel study tours and events, and remain connected with fellow graduates.

As we continue to build the Alumni Association, we would very much like to hear from you. What aspects of membership do you value most? What would you like to see more of? Your feedback will help guide how the organization evolves in the years ahead.

If you are reading this newsletter and have not yet renewed your membership, we hope you will consider doing so. Alumni memberships help sustain scholarships and the programming that keeps our community active and connected.

To renew your membership, please download the [Membership Enrollment Form](#) or print the form on the next page and follow the instructions. Alternatively, you can also renew online at www.VSAalumni.org and use your credit card, debit card, or PayPal account.

The **Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit chapter of the Victorian Society in America, dedicated to supporting the summer schools through scholarships, fundraising, and engagement with alumni. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUMMER SCHOOLS
A Chapter of the Victorian Society in America supporting the Summer Schools through scholarships, fundraising, and engagement with alumni.

I'm renewing/enrolling as:

- \$60 Individual \$125 Household
- \$30 Student/Young Professional (age 35 or younger)

I am including additional funds for scholarships:

- Gwen Koch Memorial Newport Scholarship ▪ Duchscherer Memorial Scholarship ▪
- Professor Richard Guy Wilson Newport Scholarship ▪ Gavin Stamp Memorial
- London Scholarship ▪ Chicago Scholarship ▪ General Scholarship Support

Scholarship Name: _____ \$ _____

In Memory or Honor of: _____ \$ _____

Total Amount (Membership and Scholarship): \$ _____

(Membership fees and scholarship donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.)

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

PAYMENT BY CHECK made payable to the **Victorian Society in America**, mailed with this form to James Russiello, Alumni Treasurer, 316 East 88th St, New York, NY 10128. **Please add Alumni Assoc in the check memo line.**

ONLINE PAYMENT at www.VSAalumni.org (PayPal). To make it easier than ever, use this QR code to donate.

PLANNED GIVING: Please contact the Alumni Association (president@VSAalumni.org) about including it in your estate plan.

MY NEWS: Email news about your new position, publication, honorarium, move, advanced degree to: news@VSAalumni.org



RENEW TODAY AND CONTINUE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE MEMBER BENEFITS:

- Your subscription to the informative Alumni e-Newsletter
- Opportunity to attend exceptional Alumni Study Tours
- Opportunities to be published in the e-Newsletter
- Keep in touch with fellow Alumni on the Alumni Facebook site
- Tremendous satisfaction that comes from knowing you are supporting deserving students to benefit from the Victorian Society Summer Schools just as you did.

DONORS OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Officers and members of the Alumni Association Board are very appreciative of all alumni who help support our mission. We are pleased to acknowledge the following members whose contributions over and above the basic membership amount enable us to continue to provide significant financial assistance for scholarships to deserving students of the Victorian Society Summer Schools. This list donor contributions during the period October 1, 2025 through April 22, 2026. The donor list published in the Alumni Newsletter Issue 2026-71 (March) regrettably omitted some donors. We sincerely apologize for the error. If you see any errors in the current donor list, please email Alumni Association President **David Lamdin** at president@VSAalumni.com.

Benefactors (\$1,000 or more)

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Max Van Balgooy

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer School announces the destination for its next Study Tour: **Toronto, Canada!** The trip is being planned for early October: trip dates, cost, registration, and hotel information will be emailed as soon as they are finalized. Trip information will also be posted to the Alumni Association website and included in a future Alumni e-Newsletter. Stay tuned!

INVITATION TO A SPECIAL EVENT

The Victorian Society in America and the Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools are delighted to invite you to attend a lecture by Professor **Richard Guy Wilson** on Thursday evening, **May 7, 2026**, in New York City. His topic will be "*The Colonial Revival: The American Architectural Style*." This lecture will consider the diversity of the Colonial Revival in America, ranging from red brick Georgian to the Mission of the West, and will emphasize the period 1870–1920, drawing attention to the roots of modern design.



Commodore William Edgar House (McKim, Mead & White, architects), Newport, Rhode Island, 1884–86

A reception will be held immediately after the lecture, honoring Professor Richard Guy Wilson, who is Director Emeritus of the VSA's Newport Summer School. The event will run from 6.00 to 8.00 pm at the New York School of Interior Design, located at 170 East 70th Street in Manhattan.

The evening's net proceeds will benefit The Victorian Society Scholarship Fund and The Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. If you are unable to attend on May 7, please consider making a fully tax-deductible donation via one of the following methods:

Ticket/Donation Payment Options

1. Credit card, PayPal, Venmo, or bank transfer:

Visit [Donations-Victorian Society](#): Select "Custom Amount," then "Summer School Scholarships," then "Write Us a Comment," then type "RGW Scholarship Event."

2. Check:

Write check payable to "Victorian Society in America / RGW Scholarship Event" and mail it to "VSA National Office, 2 Kings Highway West, Suite 108, Haddonfield, NJ 08033."

LEVELS OF SUPPORT

- Benefactor: \$500 (10 tickets, \$400 tax-deductible)
- Patron: \$250 (4 tickets, \$210 tax-deductible)
- Donor: \$150 (2 tickets, \$130 tax-deductible)
- Friend: \$80 (1 ticket, \$70 tax-deductible)
- Member of Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools, VSA, or VSA Metropolitan Chapter: \$50 (\$40 tax-deductible)

For further information, contact the Victorian Society's National Office: (856) 216-8124 or info@victoriansociety.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration, and we hope to see you on May 7.

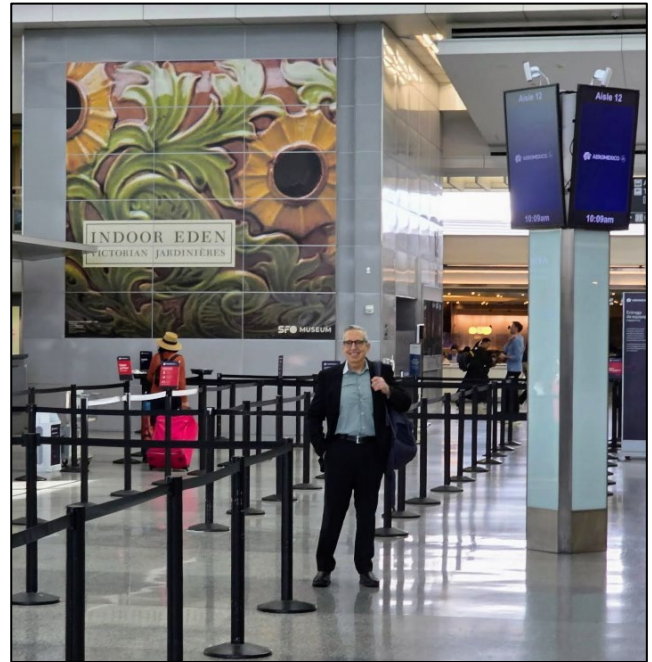


ALUMNI NEWS

On Saturday, March 21, 2026, Newport Summer School alumnus **Brian D. Coleman** gave a short lecture and guided tour of a new exhibit "[Indoor Eden: Victorian Jardinères](#)" at the Aviation Museum and Library within the Dianne Feinstein International Terminal of San Francisco International Airport (SFO), located in the pre-security section on the Departures level (Level 3). The exhibition, which runs until January 16, 2028, is composed of items from Dr. Coleman's private collection, and is worth perusing if you're passing through or otherwise delayed at SFO.

The following is an overview of the exhibition, as published in *Panorama*, a quarterly newsletter of Victorian Society New York: "During the Victorian era (1837–1901) houseplants became more accessible to the masses. Plant enthusiasts adored hardy species such as parlor palms (*Chamaedorea elegans*) and the cast iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*), given its common name for its ability to tolerate dismal conditions, such as low light and gas-lit homes. Simultaneously, a passion for ferns of all kinds, referred to as "pteridomania," reached a fever pitch. Commonly referred to as jardinières from the French word for "female gardener," ornamental pots and plant stands served as essential components of indoor décor. Larger potteries, like Minton in Staffordshire, as well as smaller art pottery studios, such as Bretby and Ault Pottery in Derbyshire, supplied the demand for wares. *Indoor Eden* showcases an array of English jardinières, pedestals, and vases, while also exploring historical topics, from Wardian cases, or the first terrariums, to fern fever and floriography. These objects and stories combine to explain some of the origins of our love of houseplants, decorative

planters, and the continued desire for green spaces today."



*Brian Coleman outside the "Indoor Eden Victorian Jardinères" exhibit at SFO.
Photo by Nicole Mullen. Photo courtesy Brian Coleman.*



*"Dragon" jardinière 1890,
Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville, Derbyshire, England
Collection of Brian D. Coleman*



***"Oceana" jardinière and pedestal c. 1900,
Ault Pottery, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, England.
Collection of Brian D. Coleman.
Photo by Brian D. Coleman.***

Sarah Mezzino (London '07 and Newport '16) was a panelist on March 13 at the recent Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums (MAAM) Building Museums conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Sarah is a trustee at The Hopewell Museum [<https://thehopewellmuseum.org/>] in Hopewell, New Jersey, a small museum of state and local history founded by women in 1922. Panelists, including the architects and executive director, discussed the museum's reimagining process that began in 2018. This process assessed the museum's vast collection, which largely reflected the women's sphere and re-imagined its exhibit spaces. Unfortunately, these efforts were thwarted by the Covid-19 pandemic. With the small museum closed to the public, the institution's leadership seized the opportunity to refine the museum's mission and address

the challenges of exhibiting and preserving its collection in a 1877 Second Empire structure.

An impromptu Alumni Association get-together occurred on January 24, 2026, at the Park Avenue Armory in New York City. **Kathleen Bennett** (Newport '89, London '01-'06), **Jim Buttrick** (Newport '99, London '00), **Jennifer Carlquist** (Newport '08), **John Graham** (London '83), **Chris Mathias** (Newport '16, London '18), **Alessandra Merrill** (Newport '16), **Pauline Metcalf** (London '80 and Newport '05), **James Russiello** (Newport '12 and London '13), **Peter Trippi** (London '92; Newport '05), **Sergei Troubetzkoy** (Newport '90), and **Ken Turino** (London '93 and Newport '16) all gathered to view the annual [Winter Fair](#), a leading design fair presenting fine and decorative arts works and antiques. **Peter Trippi**, Newport Summer School Assistant Director, Editor-in-Chief of *Fine Art Connoisseur* Magazine, and Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) President Emeritus, returned the following day during the blizzard no less to moderate the panel discussion "Guardians of the Past & Present: Conservation in Action."



***Left to right: Pauline Metcalf, Jennifer Carlquist,
Kathleen Bennett, Elizabeth Leckie, Peter Trippi, and
John Graham.
Photo by James Russiello.***

IN MEMORIAM



Photo courtesy of Chelsea Community Church

Hilda Mae Regier (London '16) passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of February 15, 2026. She was born on May 1, 1934, into a Mennonite family in Goessel, Kansas. She earned a BA at Bethel College, North

Newton, Kansas, and enrolled in a PhD program at Iowa State University, earning an MA in journalism there before moving to New York City for practical experience; she remained there until 2022 when she relocated back to North Newton to be closer to family. Hilda worked in the trade press, later writing for medical journals, and eventually being an editor of one medical journal before later pursuing a career in freelance journalism.

Hilda moved to Chelsea in the late 1960s, at a time when the now tony Manhattan neighborhood was very much up and coming. As president of the Council of Chelsea Block Associations in 1973, Hilda led community opposition against a large federal project that would have disturbed the historic residential enclave, which had been designated a historic district in 1970. She first rented a basement apartment at 325 West 22nd Street, an 1846–47 Greek Revival-style rowhouse built as part of the Clement Clark Moore's Chelsea residential development. The rowhouse had long been divided into multiple housing units. Hilda purchased the building in 1977, moving into the apartment occupying the former double parlor where she then set about painstakingly restoring the 19th-century painted murals that she discovered under layers of paint. The

neighborhood gradually gentrified, as neighboring properties flipped through LLCs and new owners cleared out old tenants, gutted properties, and constructed large additions. In 2005, a neighbor's renovation destabilized the shared party wall between the rowhouses, which resulted in significant damage to Hilda's property, including shattering one of her twin parlor chimneypieces. After more than a decade of legal proceedings, the New York State Appellate Division's decision in *Ehrenberg v. Regier* (2016) created a precedent for repairs on shared party walls in New York, the property owner causing the alterations has a nondelegable duty to maintain its structural integrity. Hilda resumed restoring the parlors, always proudly showed off her restoration work to various groups, including a last time in August 2021 to Victorian Society friends when with great effort she showed a concealed paneled storage niche for dining table extension leaves.



Left to right: Margot Gayle, Joyce Mendelsohn, and Hilda Regier, May 2006.

Photo courtesy of Victorian Society New York

Hilda attended local community boards and events for decades, and was a strong force for historic preservation in the city. She was a longtime director of the local preservation

group, Save Chelsea!, and was term-limited twice after two, 10-year stints on the board of the Metropolitan Chapter of the Victorian Society in America (Victorian Society New York), last serving as the chapter president from 2014–17. Hilda organized many tours, lectures, mailings, and newsletters for the Victorian Society New York, and always helped to fundraise for the [Margot Gayle Fund for Preservation of Victorian Heritage](#). She was inquisitive, with many questions and observations about the architecture and preservation world. She was also a founding

member of the Chelsea Community Church in 1975, which since its founding has rented space within the landmarked St. Peter's Episcopal Church on West 20th Street. She was buried at the Tabor Mennonite Church in Newton, Kansas, on February 23, 2026. Several members of the Victorian Society attended her memorial service on Sunday, April 19, 2026, at the Chelsea Community Church. The church posted an obituary and photo slideshow: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIKW5olW0DY>).

2025 VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUMMER SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT ESSAYS

Victorian Society London Summer School Essay

—Kathleen Laraia McLaughlin

I had the privilege of attending the Victorian Society's 2025 London Summer School, an experience I will always be grateful for—especially because a Victorian Society scholarship made it possible. The program was intellectually rich and personally transformative. I'm currently in my fourth year of research on Victorian British art photographer Julia Margaret Cameron. While many study her photographs, my work focuses more on her life and historical context.

As someone with dyslexia, I learn best through seeing, hearing, engaging, and being physically present in a space. The immersive, two-week format of the Summer School was invaluable to me. I returned home with a wealth of experiences, detailed notes, and new friendships that continue to inspire my research.



Kathleen McLaughlin is a Senior Lecturer at Loyola Marymount University, with a background in fine art documentary photography. She is currently researching Victorian photographer Julia Margaret Cameron.

What I hoped to gain from the program was a deeper understanding of Victorian life—its architecture, design, religion, and ideology. I came in with little background in architecture, so it was thrilling to learn about the motivations and beliefs that shaped the work of Victorian designers. Early lectures at the Art Workers' Guild introduced these ideas, and I was fascinated to learn how deeply personal ideologies informed design. For instance, A.W.N. Pugin's Catholic faith and reverence for the Middle Ages shaped his belief that materials should never be disguised—an ethos that reminded me of later movements like Russian Constructivism for function and aesthetic art for everyone.

After returning home, I found it hard to describe the experience—it was so full, so rich, so layered. Every church, manor, and historical site was extraordinary. But one visit stands out in my memory: the Crossness Pumping Station. It was especially meaningful for my research. The building exemplifies the Victorians’ engineering ambition, aesthetic pride, and cultural values. To construct a facility for pumping sewage with such ornate beauty—and to embellish its interior for official visits—says so much about the era. The lecture there was a highlight. For the first time, I learned in vivid, graphic detail how waste was historically managed in England—from cesspits in back gardens to the infamous “night soil men.” The climax of this history, the Great Stink of 1858, finally made sense to me. It explained why so many elites fled London for their country homes in summer.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the program was the daily contact with experts.

Each day we learned from passionate specialists in their fields. Standout moments for me included meeting Rosemary Hill at the Palace of Westminster, Kate Davey at the Royal Courts of Justice, Dr. Alison Smith on Victorian painting at Tate Britain, and Ian Dungavell at Highgate Cemetery. Just as valuable was spending the entire program alongside our two extraordinary Victorian Society leaders, Kit Wedd and Anne Mallek, whose generosity and knowledge shaped every day.

Finally, the other participants were an essential part of the experience. We shared ideas, backgrounds, and areas of expertise. Every site visit sparked rich conversations. Each day built seamlessly on the last, forming a continuous stream of learning, beauty, and camaraderie. I feel deeply fortunate to have taken part in this program, and I carry its lessons with me as I continue my research.

Passport to Professional Growth: How the Victorian Society’s London Summer School Elevates Careers, Expertise, and Passion
— Priscilla Brendler

If you’ve ever dreamed of combining serious professional development with unforgettable travel, the Victorian Society’s London Summer School is the golden ticket you didn’t know you needed. Fifteen days, dozens of historic sites, a hundred years of history, and countless opportunities to sharpen your expertise in architecture, preservation, design, and cultural heritage. Whether you’re a preservationist, museum professional, academic, architect, interior designer, or history enthusiast looking to boost your credentials, this immersive program delivers more than memories—it offers powerful professional benefits that continue long after your suitcase is unpacked.

So lace up your walking shoes (trust me, you’ll need them) and step into a whirlwind journey that blends scholarship, design, seldom-seen sites, and insider access into a career-transforming adventure.



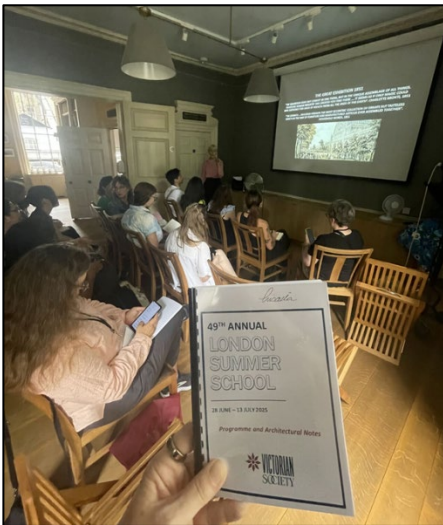
Priscilla Brendler is the Executive Director of the Greater Hudson Heritage Network in New York State, with specialized skills managing three grant programs on object/art conservation and collection care.

1. Deep Immersion with Leading Scholars—Your Network Just Levelled Up

The Victorian Society London Summer School isn't just a tour; it's a mobile classroom led by top-tier experts. From day one at London's Art Workers' Guild, participants engage with renowned historians and curators like Alec Forshaw, Joanna Banham, Rosemary Hill, Simon Martin Bradley, Alison Smith, Ian Dungavell, and Kit Wedd (to name only a few!). Their names appear not only on book spines, but also in archives, museums, libraries, and footnotes around the world.

Through lectures on William Morris wallpapers, A.W.N. Pugin's architectural legacy, and Victorian material culture, participants gain firsthand insights that exceed what can be learned in textbooks or conferences. Learning directly from scholars who've literally written the book on the subject deepens your authority in your field—and gives you credible names to reference in future projects, research, and grant proposals.

Professional Takeaway: Access to thought leaders enhances your intellectual toolkit, strengthens research foundations, and builds connections that become lifelong resources.



2. Behind-the-Scenes Access: Insider Knowledge You Can't Google

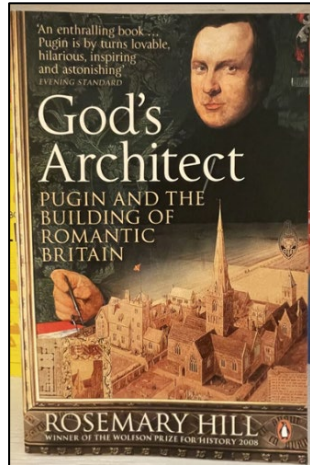
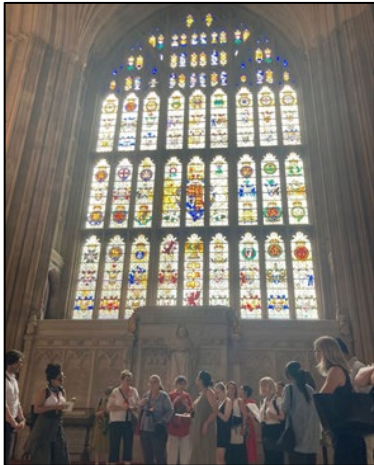
Want to impress your colleagues with a real-world understanding of Victorian craftsmanship and preservation techniques? The London Summer School equips participants with exclusive experiences that go far beyond public tours.

Imagine:

- climbing through the crypts of Westminster Cathedral, admiring its mosaic-laden Byzantine beauty
- tracing the stained-glass legacy of William Morris at All Saints Church Selsley
- standing under the dramatic Gothic vaults of the Palace of Westminster as historian and author Rosemary Hill unpacks Pugin's design genius
- exploring the engineering marvels of the Crossness Pumping Station, where sanitation history saved London from the "Great Stink" (you'll never look at your toilet the same way again!)

These behind-the-scenes moments give contextual expertise—the kind that enriches interpretation, exhibition planning, architectural restoration, and public education.

Professional Takeaway: Direct engagement with historic sites sharpens analytical observation, contextual understanding, and real-world preservation strategy—skills impossible to glean solely from photographs or archives.

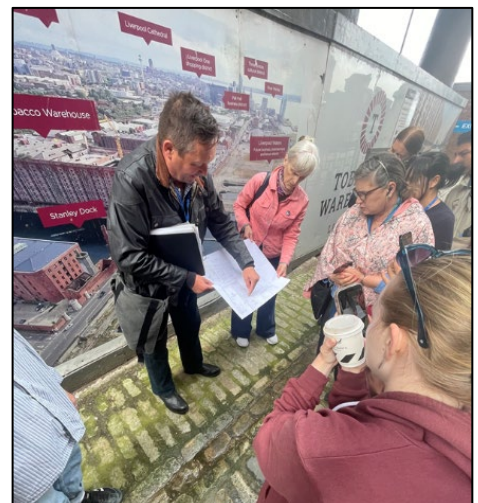
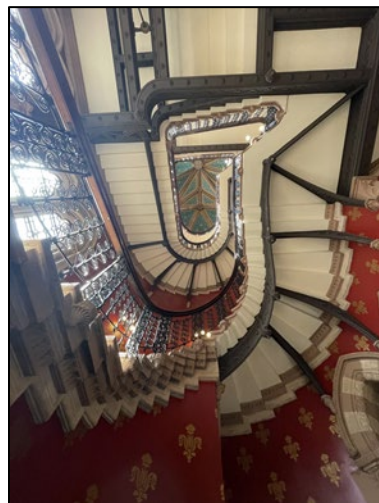


3. Expanding Preservation Practices: Lessons from the Past for Today's Challenges

From social housing in London's East End to adaptive reuse in Liverpool's historic docks, the itinerary traces how Victorian-era innovation informs current preservation strategies.

Site visits highlight how 19th-century urban growth and architectural experimentation parallel modern concerns: affordable housing, sustainability, adaptive reuse, and heritage tourism. Walking tours of London's King's Cross and St. Pancras, Bedford Park, and Liverpool's Stanley Dock showcase how historic structures evolve into vibrant contemporary spaces—insight crucial for planners, preservationists, fundraisers, and nonprofit leaders navigating development pressures.

Professional Takeaway: Seeing active preservation in action strengthens your ability to advocate for historic structures, communicate their value, and craft compelling funding narratives linked to community benefit.

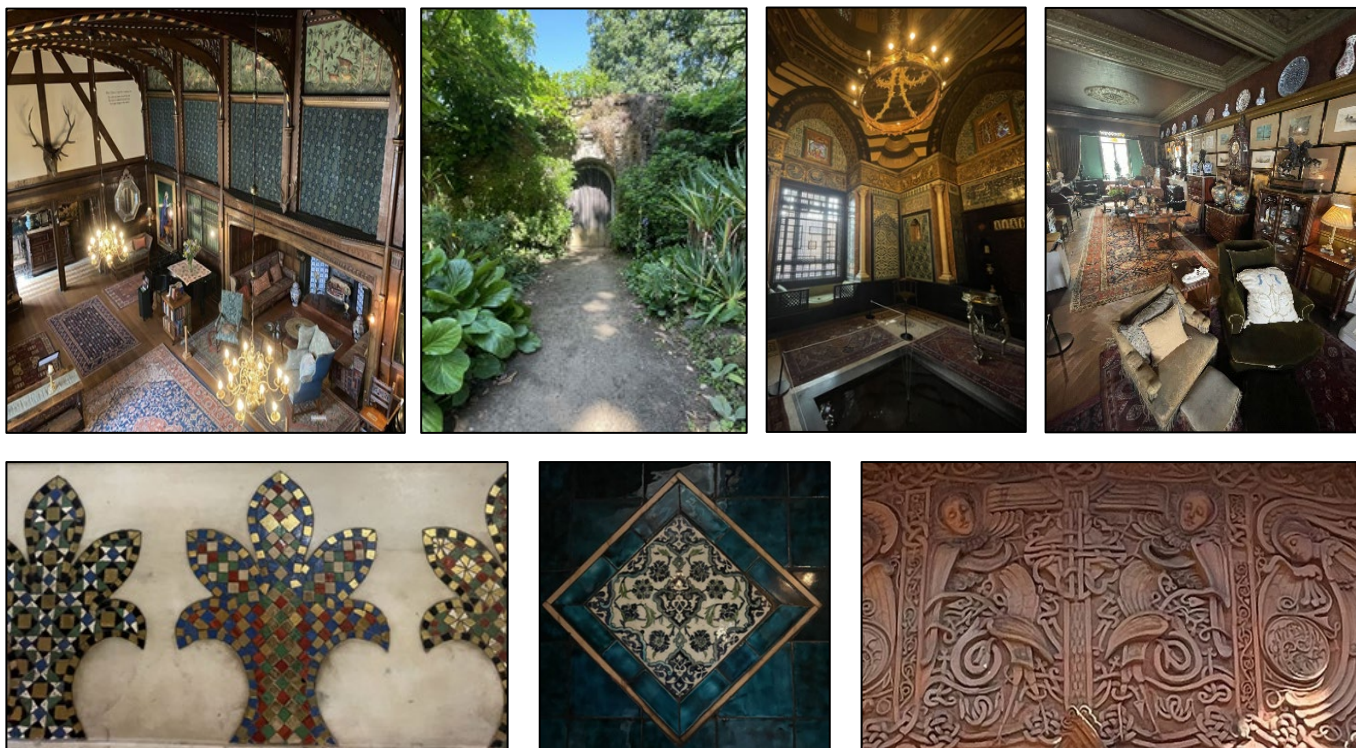


4. Cross-Disciplinary Creativity: Inspiration for Curators, Designers, and Educators

If historic design is your domain, be prepared to swoon. The London Summer School is a parade of Victorian aesthetics—rich wallpapers, marquetry, stained glass, mosaics, carvings, ceramics, and lush Arts and Crafts gardens.

At Kelmscott Manor, Wightwick Manor, and Standen House, Morris & Company interiors envelop you in pattern and philosophy. At Munstead Wood, the home of Gertrude Jekyll, design becomes experiential—rich color, garden structure, texture, and architecture harmonize into a living masterclass in composition. And inside London’s Leighton House and Sambourne House, exoticism and eccentricity offer lessons in maximalist curation that modern museums echo anew.

Professional Takeaway: Exposure to Victorian art and craftsmanship enriches creative thinking and informs exhibit design, interpretational aesthetics, and mission-driven programming.



5. Strengthening Professional Identity Through Shared Experience

One of the program's most enduring benefits is the cohort itself. Whether bonding over lectures, galleries, city strolls—or yes, English tea and biscuits—the shared journey builds a professional network that lasts.

Participants exchange research ideas, preservation challenges, and best practices over cream teas and pints of beer in historic inns and taverns, and country strolls across the Cotswolds. These conversations spark collaborations, open doors to new projects, and provide long-term peer mentorship.

Professional Takeaway: Informal exchange and enduring camaraderie connect you to a national (and international) community of professionals with shared passions and complementary expertise.



6. A Journey That Reawakens Wonder—And Sustains Your Work

Professionals steeped in heritage know the emotional weight of their work. Passion sustains us, but wonder renews us, and this program delivers both in exhilarating measure.

From the ethereal glow of Watts Chapel's gilded gesso to the soaring stone chapels of Oxford colleges; from somber Victorian cemeteries to the whisper-quiet galleries of the Tate Britain; each experience rekindles the curiosity that first called you into the history field.

And just like that, professional inspiration becomes personal nourishment.



7. Credentialing That Carries Weight—Literally and Figuratively

At the close of Day 15, as biscuits, scones, and elderflower squash accompany the clink of champagne glasses, graduates receive certificates of completion—symbols of both achievement and authority. These credentials strengthen résumés, bolster grant applications, affirm continuing education commitments, and reinforce professional credibility.

Professional Takeaway: Formal recognition signals seriousness, dedication, and verified professional development—all advantageous in career advancement.



The Victorian Summer School: Not Just a Trip—A Transformation

After 15 days, thousands of steps, and a lifetime of impressions, participants return home not only filled with memories, but equipped with:

- enhanced scholarly knowledge
- enriched cultural fluency
- technical understanding of preservation practices
- expanded professional networks
- renewed passion for their craft

The result? A revitalized professional ready to interpret history more richly, advocate more persuasively, and lead with deeper insight.

So, if you've ever yearned for professional development that feels more like an epic adventure than a seminar, pack your notebook, grab sensible shoes, and prepare to fall in love with Victorian history all over again.

London is calling.

Victorian Britain is waiting.

And your career? It's ready to blossom!

Don't miss out on an experience of a lifetime.

SUPPORT THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUMMER SCHOOLS

Stock Donation

A donation of long-term appreciated stocks directly to the Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools can help you save on capital gains taxes. At the same time, you can deduct the full market value of the gift, subject to certain annual limits, potentially saving on the net investment income tax. Compared with donating cash, or selling your appreciated stock and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may potentially increase your gift and tax donation.

Stock gifted to the Alumni Association will go into our Endowment Fund, which is managed by eCIO. To donate stock from your current custodian to the Alumni Association, please share the following information with your broker in order to complete the electronic transfer successfully:

Charles Schwab Delivery Instructions: Delivery to DTC Clearing 0164

Client Name: THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY IN AMERICA

Custodial Account Number: 4159-0651

Please notify Alumni Association President David Lamdin at president@VSAalumni.org when a stock donation is being made. If you have any questions on how to make the donation, please contact eCIO (Investment Advisor) at (608) 291-4646.

Planned Giving: The Heritage Society of the Alumni Association

The **Heritage Society of the Alumni Association** supports our efforts to provide student scholarships for future Victorian Society Summer Schools. The Alumni Association is humbled to have an extraordinary group of supporters who feel so strongly about our primary mission to raise funds for student scholarships that they have generously included the Alumni Association in their estate planning. You are invited to join this special group of Alumni by making a planned gift such as a bequest in your will or beneficiary designations of IRAs or retirement plans.

Hank Dunlop (Boston '78; London '81, and Newport '88) has joined the Heritage Society of the Alumni Association with a

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUMMER SCHOOLS

A Chapter of the Victorian Society in America

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Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) designation from his IRA. **John C. Freed**, a longtime VSA and Alumni Association supporter, made provisions for a \$10,000 bequest to the Alumni Association in memory of his partner, **Paul Duchscherer** (Newport '91). **Paul Duchscherer** very thoughtfully made provisions in his trust for a \$10,000 bequest to the Alumni Association as well as designating the Alumni Association as the beneficiary of all future royalties from his many books and other publications. The **Bob and Carole Chapman Fund** very generously awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the Alumni Association Chapter in memory of **Carole Chapman**. **Robert Rettig** (London '06) recently advised us that he had made provision in his estate planning documents for both the VSA and the Alumni Association. These very generous alumni members have made thoughtful gifts and designations to help ensure that current and future generations of students will be able to attend the educational opportunities presented by the VSA Summer Schools.

You can join these members of the Heritage Society of the Alumni Association and support the mission of the Alumni Association while maximizing the benefits of a deferred gift. Your gift becomes part of your estate planning to protect valuable assets from income, capital gains, and/or estate taxes.

Requests by Will or Living Trust

This common estate planning technique allows you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime and avoid estate taxes. GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE, CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES, CHARITABLE LEADTRUSTS, CHARITABLE REMAINDER ANNUITY TRUSTS, CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUSTS, and a POOLED INCOME FUND are some of the other estate planning techniques you can discuss with your financial advisor to provide funds to the Alumni Association for scholarships to future Summer School students.

To include the **Alumni Association** in your will or trust, the following is suggested wording to take to your attorney: "After fulfilling other provisions, I give, devise and bequeath _____% of the residue and remainder of my estate (or \$_____ if a specific amount) to the Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools, a 501(c)(3) organization, to benefit the Alumni Association (tax ID # 23-1710978), located at 2 Kings Hwy West, Suite 108, Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

It is crucial that the **Alumni Association** be identified as your gift will, otherwise it will go to the national VSA organization with whom we share EIN **23-1710978**.

Please let us know about your estate plans if you decide to join the **Heritage Society of the Alumni Association** by contacting Alumni Association President David Lamdin at president@VSAalumni.org.