



**Edith
Wharton
in Paris**

An International Conference

**June 28 - July 1
1991**

Sponsored by

The Edith Wharton Society

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Annette Zilversmit, Editor, *Edith Wharton Review*, and
Professor, Long Island University, Brooklyn

Edith Wharton In Paris

The Mona Bismarck Foundation:

34 Avenue de New-York, Paris

The turn-of-the-century Paris town house belonged to Mona Bismarck (1897-1983), a Kentucky-born expatriate famed for her beauty, wealth and glamorous style of living. Countess Bismarck left the bulk of her fortune, including the house, for the creation of the foundation that bears her name. The Bismarck Foundation, from its headquarters alongside the Seine, organizes art exhibits, concerts, seminars and other cultural events.

Friday

June 28 1991

4:00 - 6:00

Mona Bismarck Foundation

Registration

6:00 - 7:00

Buffet Dinner

7:00 - 8:00

Large Group Session

Katherine Joslin, Western Michigan University: Welcome

Roger Asselineau, The University of Paris, Sorbonne: "Edith Wharton: She Thought in French and Wrote in English"

8:00 - 9:00

Shari Benstock, University of Miami: "Landscapes of Desire: Edith Wharton and Europe"

Saturday

June 29 1991

9:00 - 10:45

Mona Bismarck Foundation

Small Group Sessions

Writing the War Years I: Room 1

Judith Sensibar, Arizona State University: Chair and Session Organizer

Lillian Robinson, University of Hawaii and University of Texas at Austin (visiting): "Wars They Have Seen: Wharton, Stein, and the French Wounded"

Claire Tylee, West London Institute: "Edith Wharton—Feminist War-Writing?"

Judith Sensibar: "'Behind the Lines' in Edith Wharton's *A Son at the Front*: Rewriting a Masculinist Tradition"

Jane Marcus, University of Texas at Austin: Respondent

Cultural Blendings: Room 2

Annette Zilversmit, Long Island University, Brooklyn: Chair

Katherine Papierniak-Beau, University of Paris, Sorbonne: "The Family Dilemma in Edith Wharton's European Fiction"

Barbara Schubeler-Jillson, Vesalius College: "From Stereotype to Reality: Edith Wharton's Developing Resolution of Cultural Polarity: 'Madame de Treymes,' *The Age of Innocence* and *The Buccaneers*"

Monika Elbert, Montclair State College: "Wharton's Ethnographic Perspective and the Making of *Summer*"

Annette Zilversmit: "France in the Imagination of Wharton or Why Edith Wharton Never Became French"

Woman's "Place": Room 3

Marsha Harper, New York: Chair

Rhonda Skillern, University of Texas at Austin: "Becoming a 'Good Girl': Law, Language and Ritual in Edith Wharton's *Summer*"

Julie Olin-Ammentorp, Le Moyne College: "Wharton through a Kristevan Lens: The Maternity of *The Gods Arrive*"

Sandra Chrystal Hayes, University of Notre Dame: "An Individual Case: Ellen Olenska Beats the Market Conditions"

Joyce Meier, University of Iowa: "Small Things Matter: Edith Wharton in France"

French Writers: Room 4

Adrian Harding, American University of Paris: Chair

Clare Colquitt, San Diego State: "*Histoires de Leurs Vies*: The Public and Private Autobiographical Writings of Edith Wharton and George Sand"

Anne Shullenberger Lévy, Yale University: "One Misstep and Novelistic Choreography: A Comparative Study of *L'Assommoir* and *The House of Mirth*"

Jackie Vickers, Keele University, England: "The Influence of Paul Bourget on the works of Edith Wharton"

Helen Killoran, University of Washington: "'Pascal and a Solution to 'Kerfol'"

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 - 1:00 Small Group Sessions

Writing the War Years II: Room 1

Judith Saunders, Marist College: Chair

Gaynor Blandford and **Katherine Kleitz**, Tufts University: "Language, Spirits and the 'Dark Enigma': Intersecting Worlds at a Moment of Stasis in Edith Wharton's French War Novels"

Margaret R. Higonet, Harvard University: "A Woman in the Forbidden Zone: Wharton on War and Death"

Jean Gallagher, Queens College, CUNY: "Edith Wharton and the Iconography of War Propaganda"

Americans in Paris: Room 2

Karin Woodruff Jackson, University of Maine at Augusta: Chair

Linda Wagner-Martin and **Robert Martin**, University of North Carolina and Michigan State University: "The Salons of Wharton's Fiction: Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and Others"

Judith Saunders, Marist College: "Edith Wharton, Gertrude Stein, and France: The Meaning of Expatriation"

Kristin Olson Lauer, Fordam at Lincoln Center: "'Can France Survive this Defender?' Contemporary American Reaction to Edith Wharton's Expatriation"

Travel Writing: Room 3

Thomas C. Bailey, Western Michigan University: Chair

Mary Suzanne Schriber, Northern Illinois University: "Edith Wharton Navigates the Travel Book"

Maureen E. St. Laurent, Vanderbilt University: "Pathways to a Personal Aesthetic: Edith Wharton's Travels in Italy and France"

Shirley Foster, University of Sheffield: "Edith Wharton as Travel Writer"

Claudine Lesage: "Presentation of *The Cruise of the Vanadis*, an Unknown Manuscript by Edith Wharton"

Politics: Room 4

Conrad K. Harper, New York: Chair

Claire Goldfarb, Western Michigan University: "Reverberations: Edith Wharton and the Dreyfus Case"

Dale Bauer, University of Wisconsin: "Historicizing Safe Sex: Wharton and the Eugenics Craze"

Annie Pécastaings, Tufts University: "Edith Wharton's Ghost Stories: Political Statement and Private Sentiment"

1:00 - 3:00 Lunch

3:00 - 4:45 Large Group Session

Foreign Responses:

Alan Price, Pennsylvania State University, Hazleton: Chair and Session Organizer

Jean Méral, University of Toulouse: "Why Wharton Is Not Very Popular in France"

Keiko Beppu, Kobe College: "The Reception of Wharton in Japan"

Theresa Gómez-Reus, Universidad de Alicante and Princeton University: "Edith Wharton and Spain"

Beatrice Guidice and **Gaetano Prampolini**, Università di Firenze: "Edith Wharton in Italy"

3:00 - 5:00 Walking Tour: Literary Paris
Noël Riley Fitch, University of Southern California

5:00 - 7:00 Dinner
Meeting of EWS Executive Board

7:00 - 9:00 The American University of Paris
Large Group Session

Scott Marshall, Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation:
Screening of Tony Palmer's *The Children*

9:00 - 9:30 Discussion of Wharton and Film

9:30 - 11:30 Second Screening

9:00 - 10:45

Mona Bismarck Foundation
Small Group Sessions**Writing the War Years III: Room 1****Russell Goldfarb**, Western Michigan University, Chair**Barbara A. White**, University of New Hampshire: "Self-Portraits in Edith Wharton's War Fiction"**Lev Raphael**: "Justice to Edith Wharton's *The Marne*"**John J. Murphy**, Brigham Young University: "*The Marne* and *One of Ours*: Simplifying War for Character"**Old Order / New Order: Room 2****Bernard Benstock**, University of Miami: Chair**Penelope Vita-Finzi**, London University: "The Old Order: The European Ideal in the Work of Edith Wharton"**Carol Singley**, American University, Washington, D.C.: "Edith Wharton's Catholicism: Fulfillment or Concession?"**Kenneth Price**, Texas A&M University: "Engendering Modernism: The Case of Edith Wharton"**Katherine Joslin**, Western Michigan University: "'Fleeing the Sewer': George Sand, Edith Wharton, and Literary Innovation"**Italy: Room 3****Eleanor Dwight**, New York University: Chair**Gianfranca Balestra**, Catholic University of Milan: "Italian Foregrounds and Backgrounds: *The Valley of Decision*"**Brigitte Bailey**, University of New Hampshire: "Aesthetics and Ideology in *Italian Backgrounds*"**Alberta Fabris Grube**, University of Venice: "Italian Impressions by Edith Wharton"**Eleanor Dwight**, New York University: "Edith Wharton's Picture of Italy: Breaking with Earlier Literary Pilgrims"**Literary Debts: Room 4****Abbey Werlock**, St. Olaf College: Chair**Tamara S. Evans**, Queens College, CUNY: "The German Connection: Edith Wharton and Poetic Realism"**Maria Novella Mercuri**: "A Comparative Reading of Wharton's *The Valley of Decision* and Schiller's *Geisterseher*"**Jean Frantz Blackall**, Cornell University: "Imaginative Encounter: Edith Wharton and Emily Bronte"**Janet Goodwyn**, Roehampton Institute, "Traveller in the Land of Letters"

10:45 - 11:15

Break

Aesthetics: Room 1**Joan Templeton**, Long Island University, Brookland: Chair**Carol Wershoven**, Palm Beach Junior College: "Edith Wharton's Discriminations: Eurotrash and European Treasures"**Constance J. Post**, Iowa State University: "'Bananas for Breakfast': European Expansiveness and the Subject of America in Edith Wharton"**Carole M. Shaffer-Koros**, Kean College of New Jersey: "Edith Wharton and the Gobelins Royal Tapestries"**Mary Chenoweth Stratton**, Pennsylvania State University: "Young Edith Wharton and Europe: 'Fed on Beauty'"**Wharton and Her Circle: Room 2****Carol Singley**, American University, Washington, D.C.: Chair**Susan Goodman**, California State University, Fresno: "Edith Wharton's Inner Circle"**Richard Kaye**, Princeton University: "The Valley of Indecision: Edith Wharton, Bachelorhood and the Homosexual Literary Community of Paris, 1911-1915"**Viola Hopkins Winner**: "The Paris Circles of Edith Wharton and Henry Adams"**Daniel Bratton**, University of Toronto: "Edith Wharton and Louis Bromfield: A Victorian and a Jeffersonian"**Susan Goodman**, California State University, Fresno: "Edith Wharton's Inner Circle"**Psychological Theory: Room 3****Gershen Kaufmann**, Michigan State University: Chair**Susan Elizabeth Sweeny**, College of the Holy Cross: "Edith Wharton's *Roman Fever*"**Jennie Kassinoff**, Princeton University: "'Some Incestuous Horror': Incest, Wharton and the Post-War Novel"**Judy Simons**, Sheffield City Polytechnic: "*L'Amé Close*: The Secret Love Journal of Edith Wharton"**Silences and Spaces: Room 4****Jenni Dyman**, Arapahoe Community College: Chair**Janet M. Eldred**, University of Kentucky: "Parisian Silences in 'Madame de Treymes'"**Dale Flynn**, University of California, Davis: "The Innermost Room: Articulated Spaces in Wharton's Short Fiction"**Isabelle Tschierschke**, Freie Universität Berlin: "Isn't that French? Cultural Linguistics in *The Age of Innocence*"

1:00 - 3:00

Lunch

3:00 - 5:00

Walking Tours: Literary Paris**Noël Riley Fitch and Annette Zilversmit**

5:00 - 6:00

Plaque Honoring Edith Wharton:

Ceremony in the Rue de Varenne

Association pour la Sauvegarde des Sites de la Création, La Mémoire des Lieux

President: **Roger Gouze**

The Edith Wharton Society

Editor, *Edith Wharton Review*: **Annette Zilversmit**

President: **Clare Colquitt**

Past Presidents: **Carol Singley, Alan Price, Katherine Joslin, Annette Zilversmit**

7:00 - 8:00

Reception

Edith Wharton in St. Brice

La Demeure de L'Escuyer:

34 Rue de Paris, St. Brice-sous-Forêt

The Louis XV country house was built by Nicolas-Vincent Dutrou, Escuyer de la Garderobbe du Roy, in 1730 in the village of St. Brice near the Pavillon Colombe, Edith Wharton's home for the last twenty years of her life. The manoir, run by Madame Guinat, is available for receptions.

Monday

July 1 1991

St.Brice-sous-forêt

9:00

Optional bus from Mona Bismarck to St.Brice

10:00 - 10:30

Jacques Fosse, Les Amis du Vieux St. Brice: Welcome
Joan Templeton, Long Island University, Brooklyn: Translation

10:30 - 11:30

Millicent Bell, Boston University: "Edith Wharton and France"

11:30 - 12:30

Cynthia Griffin Wolff, Massachusetts Institute of Technology: "Edith Wharton's Renegotiations of the 'Pièce a Thèse'"

12:30 - 2:00

Luncheon

2:00 - 3:00

Diane de Margarie and **Anne Rolland**: Dramatic reading in French of "Roman Fever"

3:00 - 4:00

Walking Tours

4:00

Optional bus back to Mona Bismarck

Art Direction: Tricia Hennessy

Design: Joel Servais, The Design Center, WMU