

Hill-Stead MUSEUM

35 Mountain Road / Farmington, CT 06032 / 860.677.4787 / www.hillstead.org

Fact Sheet

- Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington, Connecticut, boasts **renowned French Impressionist** masterpieces—four by **Monet**, three by **Degas**—and notable works by **Manet, Cassatt** and **Whistler**, among others. Assembled by Cleveland iron industrialist Alfred Atmore Pope (1842-1913), this amazing art collection remains on display *in situ*, the only surviving and intact Impressionist painting collection amassed by an American patron..
- The **1901 country home and farmstead**, characterized by 33,000 square feet, 36 rooms, white clapboard exterior with Mount Vernon veranda, is considered “perhaps the finest Colonial Revival house and museum in the United States.” Hill-Stead is the first project of **Theodate Pope Riddle** (1867-1946), sixth registered female architect in Connecticut, early proponent of historic preservation, social progressive and caretaker of the family art collection. Her final project was the nearby Avon Old Farms School Arts-and-Crafts-style campus. For Hill-Stead, she partnered with the New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White.
- The **collections** include 250 prints and photographs, 290 ceramics, 400 pieces of furniture, 3,300 books and 14,000 archival documents. The property features a 150-person capacity Arts and Crafts theater, stone garages, sunken garden designed by Beatrix Jones Farrand (American, 1871-1957), woodland trails, pond and dairy farm complex.

- The museum was **established in 1946** per Theodate Pope Riddle's Last Will and Testament, as a memorial to her parents and cultural resource for the public to be enjoyed in perpetuity.

- **Annual attendance** is approximately 32,000, with 10% of these individuals being school children from 52 educational systems across Connecticut. Over **670,000 adults and children** have engaged with Hill-Stead since 1946.

- Hill-Stead offers more than **100 public programs**—house and garden tours, gallery talks, lectures, symposia, connoisseurship and poetry writing workshops, teacher training, curriculum-based school activities, family festivals, nature studies and a plants-and-crafts fair. The **Sunken Garden Poetry Festival** seasonally attracts audiences of 3,000+ and reaches another 250,000 listeners via five CT public radio stations.

Milestones

- **1991** Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- **1995** Founding member of Connecticut Art Trail.
- **1999** Inducted into Connecticut Women's Heritage Trail.
- **2000-02** Over \$3 million in state, federal, corporate and foundation funding secured for facilities master planning, exterior restoration, HVAC design and installation, visitor access upgrades and marketing initiative.
- **2001** Designated an Official Project of Save America's Treasures.
- **2003** Accreditation awarded by American Association of Museums.
- **2004** Founding member of Connecticut's Historic Gardens, recipient of Excellence in Tourism Award.
- **2005** Institute of Museum and Library Services awards \$143,520 Museums for America Grant.
- **2006** Awarded \$250,000 HUD matching grant for \$1 million Security and Protection Master Plan.