

STUDY TOUR: BOSTON AND THE NUTSHELL STUDIES Monday November 12 – Saturday November 17, 2018



This study tour will explore the Boston of architect Henry Hobson Richardson. Focusing on his most significant commissions, and selected works of his contemporaries, participants will gain a greater insight into Richardson's design aesthetic, and understand why he quickly rose to become the most significant American architect in the late 19th century.

The tour will also include a rare opportunity see Frances Glessner Lee's Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death which will be on public display at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston from October 2018 through January 2019. This may well be the last time the Nutshells are publicly shown, due to their fragile condition.

The itinerary for the tour is shown below. More detailed study tour notes will be provided in advance of the tour.

Monday November 12

Travel day. Participants will gather at the Courtyard Boston Copley Square, the tour hotel, and head out for a group dinner.

Tuesday November 13

The day will begin with a walk-by of the Richardsonian Romanesque First Spiritual Temple, before heading over to Copley Square for a tour of the Boston Public Library (McKim, Mead and White, 1888 with addition by Philip Johnson, 1972). We will then head across the street to the Venetian-Gothic Old South Church for a tour and lunch. After lunch, we will take a docent led tour of H. H. Richardson's iconic Trinity Church. The afternoon will conclude with a walk-by of Richardson's Trinity Church rectory. Dinner on your own.

Wednesday November 14

We start the day with a tour of the Gibson House, an extraordinarily well preserved 1860 brick rowhouse. Tom High, author of backbayhouses.org, will lead us on a three-block walking tour of the Back Bay concluding with Richardson's Crowninshield House. Following lunch, we will head to the Museum of Fine Arts to explore the Nutshell Studies exhibit, as well as participating in two private curator-led tours including the Bressler American Arts and Crafts Gallery. Following a group dinner and an early evening lecture by Bill Tyre on the life of Frances Glessner Lee, participants can continue to tour the Museum on their own until it closes at 10:00pm.

Thursday November 15

We will board a bus and begin the day with a tour of the Shepley Bulfinch architectural office (successor to Richardson), including an extraordinary archive with materials about Glessner House. We will then proceed to Richardson's Brattle Square/First Baptist Church for a rare opportunity to tour the interior of his "other" Boston church. The group then heads to Waltham for a tour of

Stonehurst (the Robert Treat Paine House), the only other Richardson-designed house open to the public. Travelling to the campus of Harvard, we will take a walking tour of Harvard Yard, going past Richardson's Austin and Sever Halls, Ware and Van Brunt's Memorial Hall, and Hastings Hall, where George Glessner resided from 1891 to 1894. Dinner on your own.

Friday November 16

The group will travel by bus to North Easton for a tour of four of Richardson's most significant buildings – Ames Gate Lodge, the Ames Free Library, Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, and the Old Colony Railroad Station. We will also tour Unity Church, featuring two La Farge windows and an Ames memorial panel by Richardson. After lunch, we will take the bus to Brookline for a tour of Fairsted, Frederick Law Olmsted's home and studio, a National Historic Site. We will then drive past Richardson's Brookline home before heading to Milton for a tour of the 1878 Eustis Estate, "a marvel of the Aesthetic Movement," and a drive-by of the former c. 1800 home of the Glessner's granddaughter, Martha Lee Batchelder. Our final group dinner will conclude the day.

Saturday November 17

Our final day includes a visit to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum for a docent-led tour of its extraordinary and eclectic art collection and a visit to its sumptuous Venetian-inspired courtyard. Following lunch, we will travel to Logan International Airport for flights back to Chicago.

Pricing

\$1,695.00 per person \$800.00 single supplement

Price includes a \$100.00 tax-deductible donation to Glessner House

Travel

Participants are responsible for their own air travel to and from Boston. Note that the tour begins with dinner on Monday November 12th, which is Veterans Day; please plan accordingly. Return flights from Boston's Logan International Airport to Chicago should not be scheduled earlier than 4:00pm on Saturday November 17th.

Hotel

The Courtyard Boston Copley Square is located at 88 Exeter Street. If you plan to arrive earlier than Monday, we can coordinate the additional night's stay at the group tour rate.

Transportation

Each participant will receive an MBTA transit pass, good for three days of unlimited travel on Boston's public transportation system. Private coach will be provided for remote locations.

Meals

The tour includes five lunches (Tuesday through Saturday), and three dinners (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). Other meals are on your own; breakfast can be purchased at the hotel.

Register Now!

To register please fill out the form found here: <u>Boston Registration Form</u>. You will be asked to submit a deposit of \$250 to save your spot on the trip.