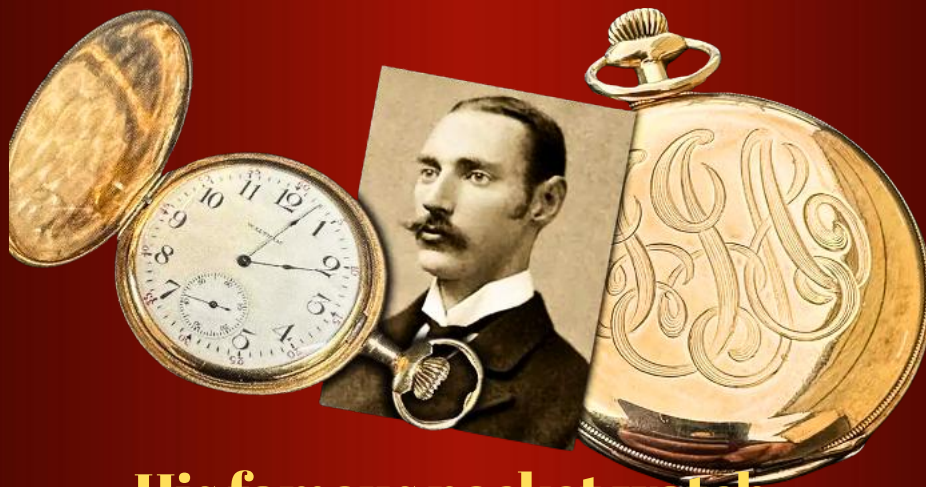


TUXEDO PARK MAGAZINE

Issue #131 www.tuxedoparkmagazine.com

Tuxedo Club's John Jacob Astor



**His famous pocket watch,
the Spedden family
& the Titanic**

The Titanic & Tuxedo Park

Tuxedo Park Magazine from Nanette Studios



Mr. Frederic Oakley Spedden lived at Wee Wah Lodge, Tuxedo Park, with his wife Daisy and son Douglas. The Speddens were wealthy and devoted their lives to their son, their travels and their hobbies. Mr. Spedden loved to sail. In late 1911 the Speddens sailed for Algiers on the Caronia. They were accompanied by two servants, Daisy's maid Helen, and Douglas's nanny Elizabeth Burns. In April 1912, at the end of their European holiday, the Speddens and their servants boarded the Titanic at Cherbourg for the return home to Tuxedo Park. Mr. and Mrs. Spedden Occupied cabin E-34, they were awakened by the collision with the iceberg.

They noticed that the ship was tilting, so they woke Douglas and the servants. They made their way to the starboard boat deck, where the women and children were loaded into lifeboat #3. After all the women and children had been loaded, Mr. Spedden, along with about 20 other men, were also allowed to board the lifeboat. At dawn, lifeboat #3 and the survivors were picked up by the Carpathia. The Speddens were remembered by their fellow survivors for many acts of kindness. Whilst returning to New York on the Carpathia, Frederic Spedden and some others formed a committee to honor the bravery of Captain Rostron and his crew. They would present the Captain with an inscribed silver cup and medals to each of the 320 crew members.

After the Titanic tragedy, the Speddens carried on much as before. They continued to divide their time between Tuxedo Park and Bar Harbor. Sadly, their only child Douglas, who survived the Titanic, was struck by a car in August, 1915 near Grindstone Neck, Winter Harbor, near the family's summer camp in Maine. It was one of the first recorded automobile accidents in the state. He died two days later from the concussion he sustained. He was only 9 years old.



Seeing Tuxedo Park For The first Time ...1886



We witnessed grand mansions with gargoyles lining the rooftops. Windows, that seemed to smile with their clean faces as they watched wooden mallets meeting polo balls on soft summer afternoons. On the broad, expansive lawns, turrets with feudal signature designs cascaded through the courtyards, where dozens of push mowers whirled through the leaves as they fell.

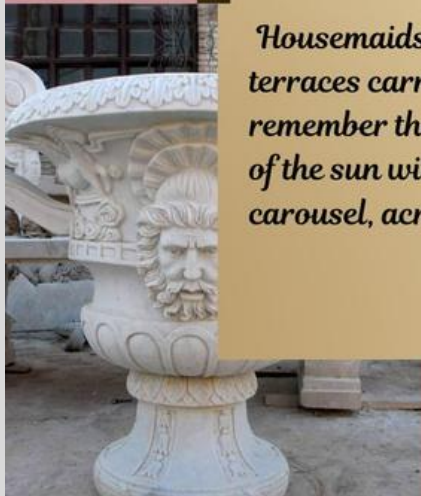
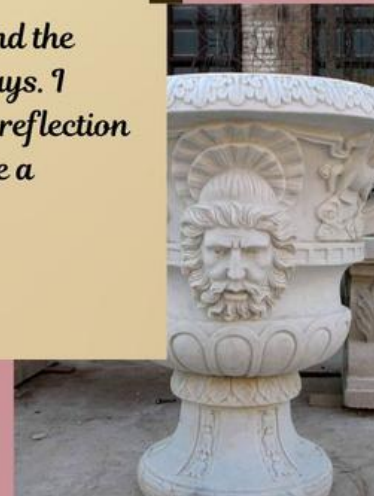
The forest seemed to hug the countryside that was dimpled with magnificent shade trees and enormous pines that seemed to reach up and touch the pristine blue sky. With almost soundless steps, our ponies crossed a moss-lined path, and the expanse of woods opened to the large estate where I lived. The wide lawn introduced a perfect manicure to the stately mansion. Flowerbeds blossomed with colorful arms, and buds moved to the rhythm of the silent breeze, like ribbons gracefully amusing their audience.

The atmosphere had a childlike euphoria about it. Lace and family linen draped over clotheslines in the walled drying yards, concealed out of sight. The scent of lavender laundry, drifted beyond the walls and mingled with the fragrant wisteria violet flowers that clung to the red Harvard style bricks.

Housemaids with starched-white aprons bustled around the terraces carrying sparkling crystal glasses on silver trays. I remember the silver being so polished that it caught the reflection of the sun with a blinding veil, pushing the reflection like a carousel, across the lawn.

From Issue #99

*From Diaries, Memories, & Social Clippings
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From Tuxedo Park Magazine *Published by Nanette Studios*

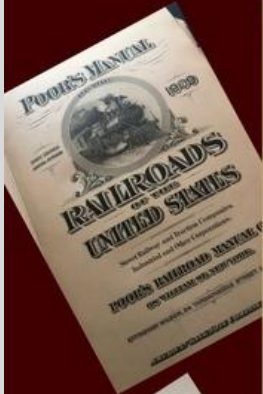
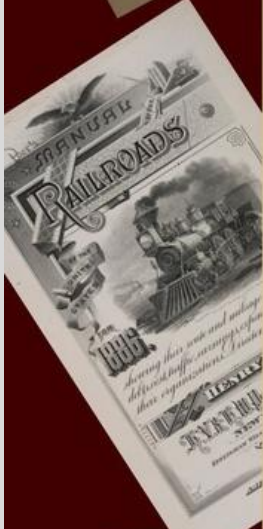
Henry Poor was a successful Wall Street speculator and senior partner in the banking house of H.W. Poor & Co. He also originated Poor's Manual of Securities in 1894, which became a valuable resource for investors.

Woodland, one of the grandest mansions in Tuxedo Park, where walled gardens were magesteriously laid out encompassing acres, was where Henry Poor, founder of the S&P 500 called home.

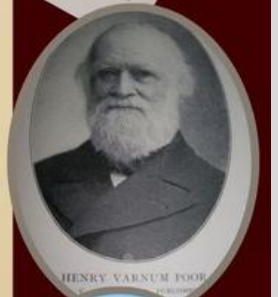
The work of Henry Poor, publisher of the American Railroad Journal, and Poor's Manuel of Securities, caused dramatic changes in the relationship between companies and journalists. Henry Poor was one of the first true journalists who focused on forcing companies to provide accurate information about their financial performance to investors and readers. Poor's activities in publishing the "Manual of the Railroads of the United States", helped set the standard for journalists writing about business.

The Journal did not merely recite statistics of fees and wages to transport goods across certain railroad lines, instead, it functioned more like a traditional newspaper of the time period, with articles and reports about the industry. It also provided a healthy amount of engineering and technical information of those operating railroads.

While Poor spent much time in the first few years of the publication advocating for the industry, he did so with a solid economic knowledge that explained the advantages of the railroad. He also paid particular attention to attracting investors of railroad stocks and bonds to the publication.



HENRY VARNUM POOR

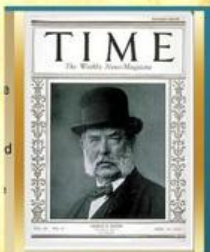


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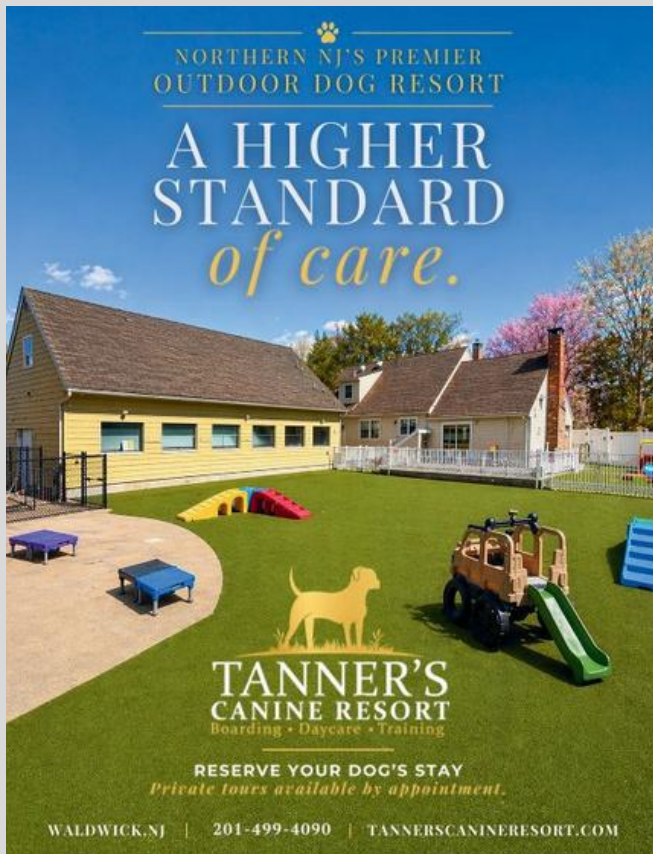
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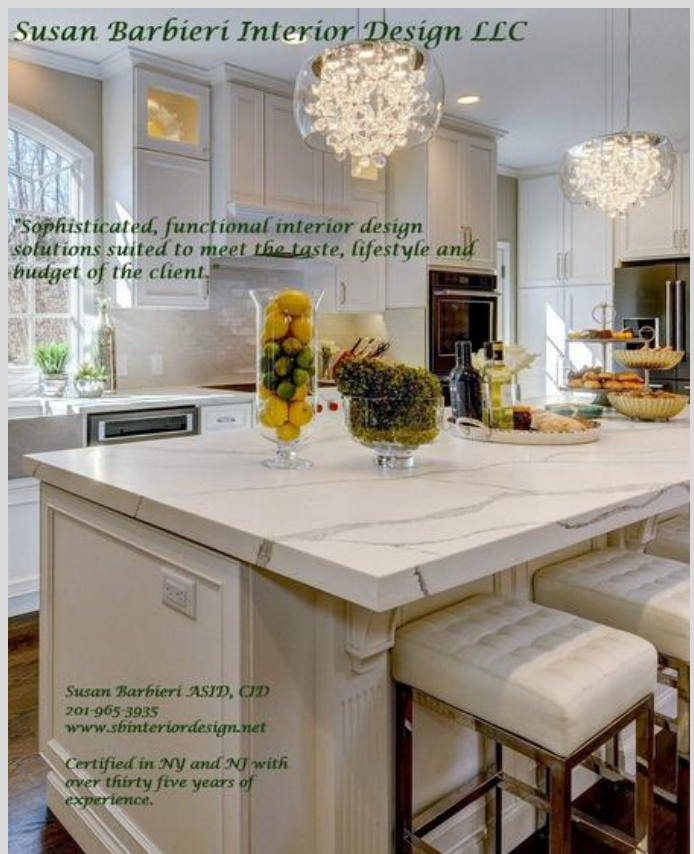
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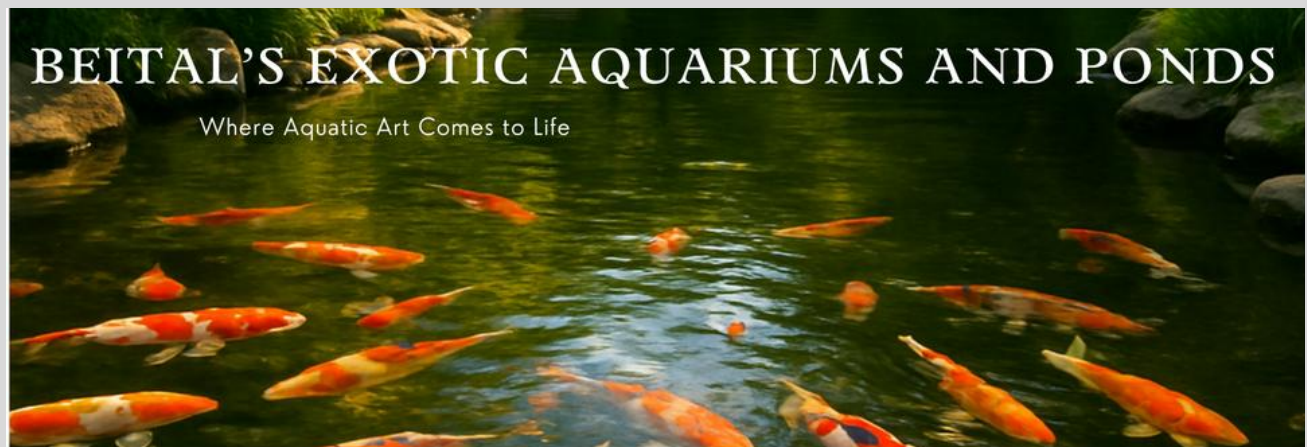


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TUXEDO PARK'S OPERA WAR 1880'S

From Tuxedo Park Magazine

Publisher-Nanette Studios www.tuxedoparkmagazine.com

Tuxedo Park during the Gilded Age was very active in the opera scene in New York City. The opera houses became a prominent social event, especially for the wealthy elite.

The fact that the Tuxedo Jacket originated in Tuxedo Park and was later worn in the dress circle of the Metropolitan Opera House, further illustrates the connection between this exclusive community and the world of opera.

Tuxedo Park at that time, attracted affluent members of society, most of whom were also prominent figures in New York's opera world. Initially, the prestigious opera house in New York was the Academy of Music. However, box seating at the Academy was limited and tightly held by the "old money" families, leading to frustration among the newly wealthy, who wanted access to this crucial social sphere. As a result, families such as the Vanderbilts, Morgans, and Goulds, who were active in Tuxedo Park society, funded the construction of the Metropolitan Opera House. This act represented a significant shift in New York society, where the "new money" established their own prominent cultural institution, effectively challenging the "old money" establishment at the Academy of Music. It's clear that the individuals who comprised Tuxedo Park society were deeply involved in the opera world of the era, notably in the "Opera Wars" which led to the creation of the Metropolitan Opera.

The opera was where residents from Tuxedo Park were seen in their finest gowns, furs, jewelry, and yes, their Tuxedos. It was where their children were courted, and society became morphed into a carousel that moved gracefully within the correct circles of power.

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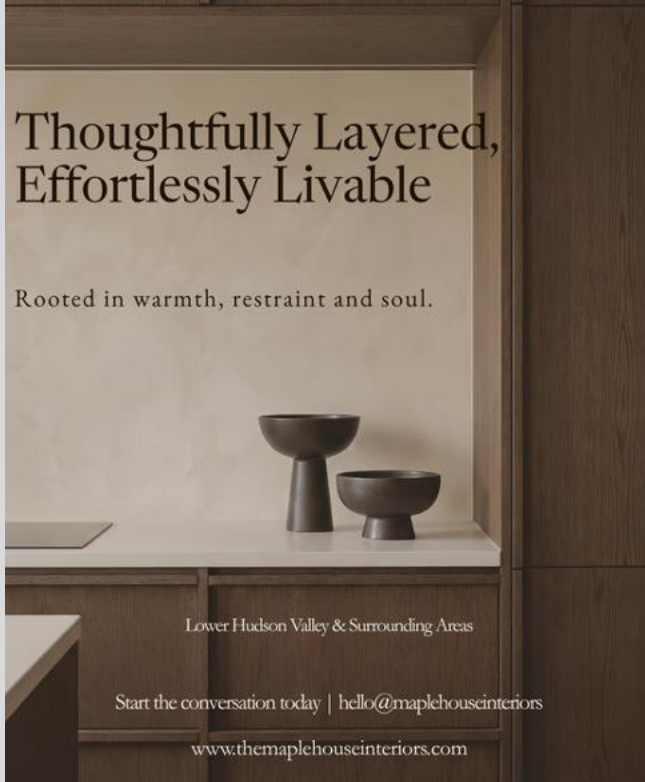


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A New Chapter of Innovation Begins at Saddle River Day School

Saddle River Day School celebrated a transformative moment in its history on August 27th with the ribbon cutting of the new Dr. Kristen Walsh Hall of Science and Entrepreneurship—a state-of-the-art facility designed to inspire students to think boldly, pursue their passions, and turn ideas into action.

More than 150 esteemed guests—including Saddle River Mayor Albert J. Kurpis and other state and town officials, members of the SRDS Board of Trustees, parents, administrators, faculty, and Head of School Jalaj Desai—gathered on campus to celebrate the opening of the extraordinary new facility.

The ceremony began with the moment everyone had been waiting for: Dr. Kristen Walsh officially cut the ribbon, marking the opening of the building that bears her name. A current SRDS parent, Dr. Walsh and her family played a pivotal role in making the vision for the new center a reality through their extraordinary support of the school.

The celebration continued with the presentation of a ceremonial key to Dr. Walsh by her husband, Dr. Francis Walsh, symbolizing both the significance of the occasion and the family's lasting contribution to the SRDS community. Remarks throughout the ceremony reflected the sense of pride and gratitude surrounding the project. Board of Trustees President Wes Powell, Saddle River Mayor Albert Kurpis, and Head of School Jalaj Desai each shared their appreciation for the many individuals whose vision, generosity, and dedication brought the project to life.

The building itself tells that story. Designed to bring together science, entrepreneurship, technology, creativity, and collaboration, the Dr. Kristen Walsh Hall of Science and Entrepreneurship provides students with opportunities to learn in ways that extend well beyond the traditional classroom. Among its highlights is a state-of-the-art business center equipped with Bloomberg Financial Terminals, where students can explore business concepts, develop entrepreneurial thinking, and engage with real-world financial data, ideas, and challenges. The facility also features fully equipped science laboratories and modern learning spaces designed to support hands-on exploration, inquiry, and problem-solving. The beautifully appointed Bryan S. Hekemian '83 Admissions Center and dedicated spaces for robotics, innovation, and flexible collaboration further expand the possibilities, giving students room to experiment, build, problem-solve, and work together.

Continued next page



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Following the formal ceremony, guests had the opportunity to tour the building and experience its spaces firsthand. For many donors, the tour held particular significance. They were able to see the classrooms and laboratories they helped make possible and witness how their generosity had been translated into tangible spaces where students will learn, experiment, collaborate, and create. The striking granite donor wall was also unveiled, which recognizes those whose generosity helped bring the project to fruition. In an unexpected surprise, Head of School Jalaj Desai was honored on the wall for his visionary leadership and commitment to making the facility a reality, with the support and partnership of the Board of Trustees and the supporters of the school. The recognition reflected an important truth about the project: while a building may be made of brick, steel, glass, and stone, its true foundation is vision—and the people willing to believe in that vision.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Desai looked ahead to what the new Walsh Hall will make possible for generations of students, describing a place where they will “discover, create, venture, and launch.” Bringing that vision to life, he shared SRDS’s new official partnership with Columbia University’s research department, giving students the opportunity to work on real research alongside Columbia professors and potentially earn internships at one of the world’s great research institutions. The partnership exemplifies the hall’s purpose: connecting students to ideas, innovation, and real-world opportunities that extend far beyond the classroom. More than a building, Walsh Hall is a launchpad for what students can imagine, explore, and achieve.

The opening of the Dr. Kristen Walsh Hall of Science and Entrepreneurship represents more than the completion of a major campus project. It represents Saddle River Day School’s investment in the future of its students and its commitment to providing them with the spaces, resources, and experiences needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

As the ribbon fell and the doors opened, the building’s next chapter began—not with the ceremony, but with the students who will fill its classrooms, laboratories, collaborative spaces, and innovation centers with ideas.

The building is ready. Now it is time for our students to discover, create, venture, and launch.



Tuxedo Park's Adele Colgate: Her mother, a countess her father, the world's business prince



From Tuxedo Park Magazine

Adele Smith Colgate was the daughter of Cora Elizabeth Smith, Countess of Stafford, and Samuel James Colgate, heir to the Colgate fortune.

Adele Colgate resided in Tuxedo Park and was direct heir to the Colgate-Palmolive fortune. She owned hundreds of Currier and Ives prints which she later donated to the Smithsonian and The Metropolitan Museum. The Colgate Collection's Currier and Ives early black and white images, hand-colored prints, and later chromolithographs (printed in color) represent the technical development of 19th-century lithography through the work of this important American publisher. Adele maintained a lifelong interest in dogs, prints, and bridge, in that order. A breeder of show dogs, Adele Colgate also specialized in prints of sporting and western subjects. Her home in Tuxedo Park was comfortable, fire proof, and with walls 18 inches thick. She loved living in Tuxedo Park, where it is said, there were numerous bridge games with her neighbors.

Her father, Samuel Colgate was the son of William Colgate. When William Colgate died in 1857, Samuel took over the business reorganizing it as Colgate & Company. In 1872, Samuel introduced Cashmere Bouquet, the world's first milled perfumed toilet soap.

Then in 1873, Colgate introduced its first Colgate toothpaste, an aromatic toothpaste sold in jars. In 1896, the company sold its first toothpaste in a collapsible tube (which had recently been invented by dentist Washington Sheffield), named Colgate Ribbon dental cream. Also in 1896, Colgate hired Martin Ittner, and under his direction founded one of the first applied research labs. The factory he built in Jersey City developed into one of the largest establishments of its kind in the world, and remained part of Colgate-Palmolive.

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The World of Louis Tiffany in **TUXEDO PARK**



Although Louis Tiffany had a 600 acre estate known as Laurelton Hall on Long Island, he was a frequent visitor and guest in Tuxedo Park. He had many friends whose mansions he furnished with his famous "Tiffany stained glass". St. Mary's-In-Tuxedo Park, was adorned with his precious works of art. At one time, almost every mansion you walked into, in Tuxedo Park, showed off Louis Tiffany's work. Grand entrance ways boasted some of his most exquisite works.

He was an American artist and designer who worked in the decorative arts and is best known for his work in stained glass. At the beginning of his career, Tiffany used cheap jelly jars and bottles because they had the mineral impurities that finer glass lacked.

Tuxedo Park families such as the Costers, the Breese's, Charles Hyde, and George Preston, had Tiffany windows dedicated to their loved ones in St. Mary's Church in Tuxedo Park. Whether his stained glass was dedicated for beauty, worship, or in memory of a loved one, Louis Tiffany gilded Tuxedo Park with his talent, and his devoted friendship.

From Tuxedo Park Magazine-Published By Nanette Studios
www.tuxedoparkmagazine.com



Wrought iron gates glided apart exposing a winding driveway. Our car entered through the grand stone pillars past sprawling lawns and polo fields. Orderly stonewalls directed us toward the manor house where a full staff awaited our arrival.

As we were led into tea by the butler, our hosts greeted us. In the sunroom, starched white curtains billowed; catching the afternoon breeze in their skirts as lemonade was served with shaved ice and sprigs of mint in crystal, on silver. Gardeners could be seen pushing lawn cutters to ready the grounds for that evening's party.

Maids pushed carts heaped high with cakes, puddings, meats and champagne through the open French doors and out onto the veranda. The bottles were placed on blocks of ice fresh from the icehouse, and molded forms became apparent as the fading sun caught the sparkle of crystal, pushing a last pink blush into the pure white curtains. The evening was fresh and new.

A feeling of excitement stirred as the tingling coolness caressed summer dresses, and the candles' soft glow, embraced by stars and music, reached long into the night and faded only as dawn pushed it aside to make way for a new day.

Tuxedo Park Magazine



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For The Love Of Pearls



One summer day in 1917, a woman by the name of Mae Caldwell Plant strolled into Cartier's jewelry shop in Manhattan and fell in love with a double strand of pearls that was in the shop window. Because of the rarity of natural pearls, they had become the symbol of the well-to-do socialites along Millionaires Row in Manhattan, and Ms. Maisie, as she was known, just had to have these pearls.

Pierre Cartier put a price of one million dollars on the necklace, which was not even outrageous for the time. Apparently, back in the early 1900's, cultured pearls were extremely valuable and even more rare than diamonds, because each pearl had to be carefully harvested by divers.

This particular necklace happened to have 128 perfect pearls, and it had taken years to find enough pearls to create the necklace.

Maisie Plant, was the new wife of Morton F. Plant, American businessman and son of steamship and railroad tycoon, Henry B. Plant. His family had a place in Tuxedo Park and a mansion in Manhattan, although, he wanted very strongly to unload his current mansion and move to "Millionaire's Mile" further uptown.

When Maisie Plant fell in love with the natural pearl necklace, Pierre Cartier sensed an opportunity, knowing that Mr. Plant was unhappy where he was living. Pierre, proposed the deal of a lifetime: He offered to trade the double-strand necklace of the rare pearls —and \$100—for Morton and Maisy's current home in Manhattan. Morton Plant unloaded his first mansion by trading it to Cartier for a necklace his wife desired, then moved uptown in a more luxurious mansion on the city's new, Millionaires' Mile and also kept his home in Tuxedo Park.



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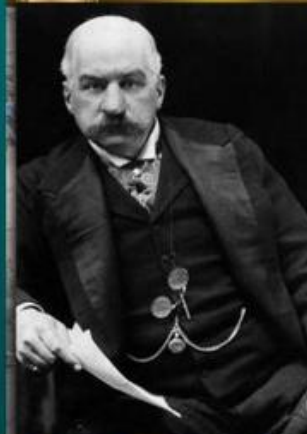
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**J.P. Morgan-realigned the
U.S. railroad industry &
became one of the first club
members in Tuxedo Park**





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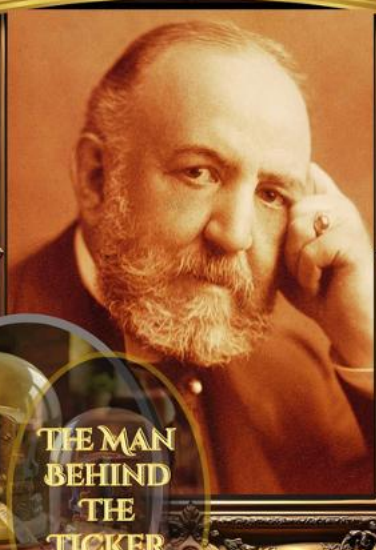
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THE MAN BEHIND THE TICKET TAPE

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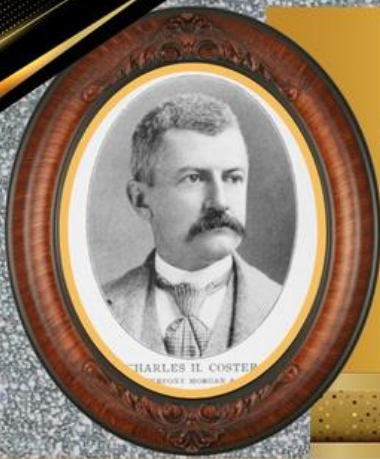


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From **Tuxedo Park Magazine**

Tuxedo Park's Charles Henry Coster J. P. Morgan's Main Partner

The hardest working and best financier among J.P.Morgan's partners, was railroad reorganization expert Charles Henry Coster. Originally recruited by Morgan's father, Junius Spencer Morgan, who among many things had been a leading banker that channeled British savings into American railroads. Coster was once described by Morgan's biographer as, "a gentleman with a faultless memory for small and extremely important financial details." He was tireless as he carried his portfolios home in the evening and back to the office in the morning, then, from meeting to meeting for the many railroads of which he was the director. Having a mystic genius for figures, it was once said that Charles Coster possessed a mental solvent by which all the intricate and interwoven relations of railroads, obligations, bonds, underlying bonds and collateral trust mortgages, resolved themselves into original and perfectly distinct elements. He was a financial chemist and was said to take strange and unaccustomed quantities, and by means of his mental process, reduce them to perfect simplicity. J. P. Morgan and Charles Coster reinforced and supplemented each other.

The tremendous series of reorganizations perfected by Morgan in the traditional railroad reconstruction era between 1884 and 1885 would have been impossible without the aid of Mr. Coster. It was said that his magic powers of mind found their opportunity in preparing material for his partner's creations. It was said that all of Morgan's partners were rewarded with generous shares in profits and worked exceedingly hard, some dying quite young due to the hard work and stress.

Charles Henry Coster's ancestors arrived in New York around the time of the Revolution and quickly gained prominence in the shipping field. His grandfather was trained as a Doctor and later joined his brother (Charles Coster's great uncle) in the shipping firm. Both had large families and both had sons whose names held the name "Washington" within them. It was said that the first president stood godfather to one or perhaps both of them. Charles Henry Coster was a familiar figure on Wall Street whose methods were not those of fantasy; his reorganizations held their own buoyancy. He rode the railroads he was studying, watching roadbeds from the back platforms of trains. He worked hard and died young, making great strides in the world of wealth and the echoes of Wall Street. J.P. Morgan was a pallbearer at his funeral.

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WALL STREET, THE BEGINNING

Excerpt from Tuxedo Park Magazine- Publisher- Nanette Studios

There was a wall built in 1644 on the lower end of Manhattan by Dutch settlers to protect themselves against attacks from pirates, outlaws, and other dangers to them at the time. When the defensive wall was gone, the road alongside remained, and was called Wall Street. Prior to our financial center known as Wall Street, Boston was the financial center of America, as well as Philadelphia who founded their exchange around 1790. Bonds for projects of roads, canals, and bridges, as well as contracts for commodities, were bought and sold mostly by Boston dealers.

Belgium established their exchange in 1531 and Amsterdam soon followed.

In the early 1600's under the Amstel Bridge, shares of the East India Company were bought and sold. Money was raised there to finance the pilgrim's trip to America. The Pilgrims sailed to the "new country", where it was only a matter of time that America would organize formal stock and bond trading. In 1792 when organized, Wall Street was New York's center of commerce, it was only a few blocks long, not paved nor lined with cobblestones. There were warehouses for goods from all over the world. Wealthy businessmen, along with their ordinary trade, would sell lottery tickets, bonds and shares of stocks in new banks that were forming. Until 1792, a person wishing to buy or sell an investment would either advertise, or spread the word among associates and friends. Some of the first men on Wall Street were Leonard at 16 Wall Street, and Sutton at 20 Wall.

On a single day, 100 shares actually changed hands. The first organized stock exchange was created under a Buttonwood tree in Battery Park. John Sutton, Benjamin Jay, and about 22 other financial leaders signed an agreement of rules, regulations and fees. The organization was originally called The Stock Exchange Office, being a very exclusive organization, allowing only the elite of New York's financial community to join. The New York Stock and Exchange Board was formally organized in the early 1800's. The exchange rented a room at 40 Wall Street, and every morning the president, Anthony Stockholm, read the stocks to be traded. Due to the exchange being a private organization, new members were required to be voted in, and a candidate could be black-balled by three negative votes.

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