



*Explore our colorful past*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Country Homes in the Gilded Age: Greenwich's Great Estates: 1880-1930, Lecture by Davidde Strackbein at Greenwich Historical Society**

*Cos Cob, CT, April 7, 2014*--From 1880 to 1930 Greenwich made the transition from a small farming community to the preferred retreat of New York's legendary tycoons. "Boss" William Tweed, William Rockefeller, Henry O. Havemeyer and E. C. "Commodore" Benedict were just a few of the storied businessmen who created grand country homes in Greenwich. Families whose names we still readily recognize arrived on the well-tailored coattails of these icons followed by small armies of retainers, gardeners, masons and maintenance crews. Pleasure yachting and "gentleman's" farming became favored pastimes, and new recreational, philanthropic and social events were established.

Davidde Strackbein is a historian and current chairman of the board of the Greenwich Historical Society. Her lecture, accompanied by images of interior and exterior views, gardens, family portraits and more, will focus on the extraordinary estates built in Greenwich during this era. She will explore the lavish lifestyle that came to be associated with these properties and how their builders forever changed the face of Greenwich. Strackbein's lecture is being held in conjunction with the exhibition at the Greenwich Historical Society, *Enjoying the Country Life: Greenwich's Great Estates*, which will run through August 31, 2014.

Wednesday, May 7, 2014, 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Greenwich Historical Society, Vanderbilt Education Center

39 Strickland Road. Cos Cob, CT 06807

Members: \$10; nonmembers \$15

For reservations, visit [www.greenwichhistory.org](http://www.greenwichhistory.org) or call 203-869-6899, Ext. 10.



The yacht *Dohema* docked in front of Rocklyn, estate of Edwin Binney, circa 1916



Dining Room at Innis Arden, estate of J. Kennedy Tod



Post card of Conyers Manor, estate of E.C. Converse

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