

A CONFERENCE

VICTORIAN PLEASURES: FOOD, FUN, AND GAMES



SPONSORED BY THE NORTHEAST VICTORIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

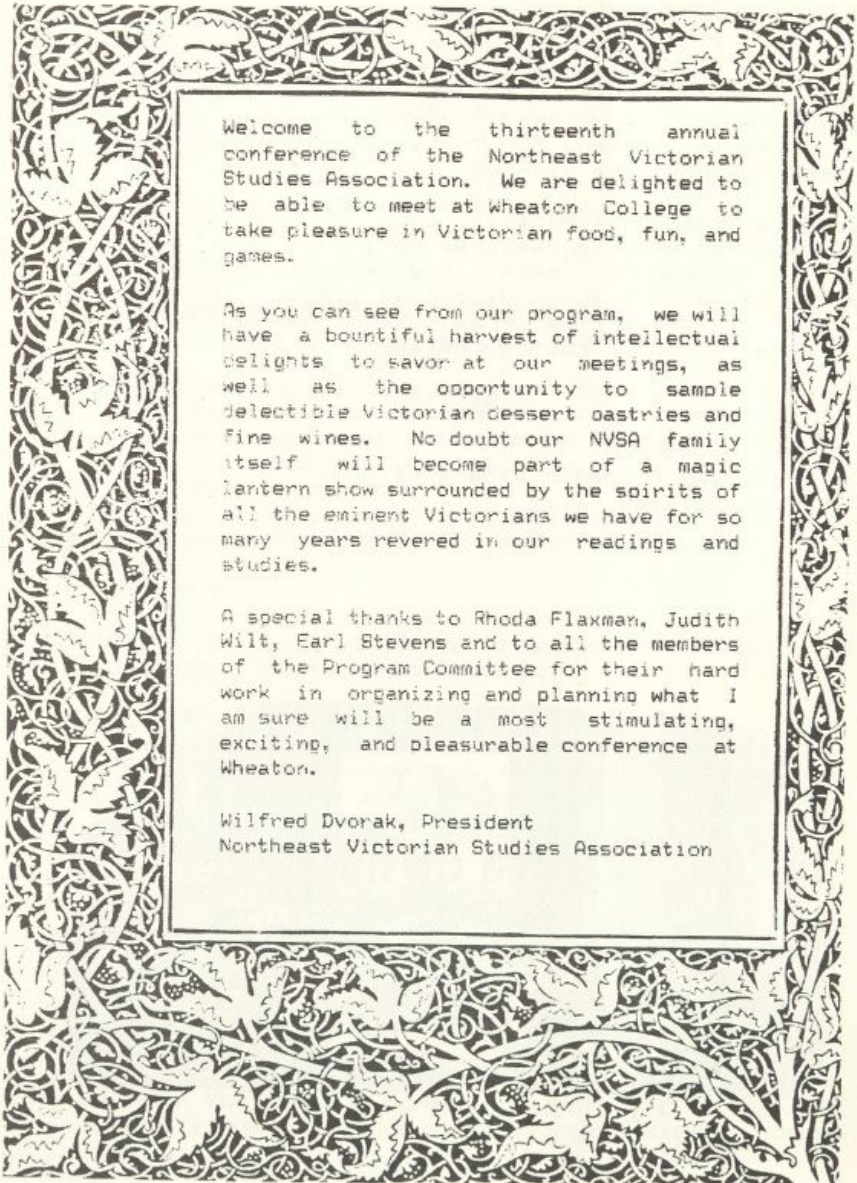
AND

WHEATON COLLEGE

MAY 1-3, 1987

WHEATON COLLEGE

NORTON, MA



Welcome to the thirteenth annual conference of the Northeast Victorian Studies Association. We are delighted to be able to meet at Wheaton College to take pleasure in Victorian food, fun, and games.

As you can see from our program, we will have a bountiful harvest of intellectual delights to savor at our meetings, as well as the opportunity to sample delectable Victorian dessert pastries and fine wines. No doubt our NVSA family itself will become part of a magic lantern show surrounded by the spirits of all the eminent Victorians we have for so many years revered in our readings and studies.

A special thanks to Rhoda Flaxman, Judith Wilt, Earl Stevens and to all the members of the Program Committee for their hard work in organizing and planning what I am sure will be a most stimulating, exciting, and pleasurable conference at Wheaton.

Wilfred Dvorak, President
Northeast Victorian Studies Association

On behalf of Wheaton College, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to participants in the thirteenth annual Northeast Victorian Studies Association Conference. I trust you will find our campus a hospitable setting for the imaginative and varied sessions you have planned.

It is appropriate that your program begins in Wheaton's recently restored Mary Lyon Hall, a locale well suited to both intellectual inquiry and entertainment along Victorian lines. I hope you will also have time to enjoy our newest facility, the Balfour-Hood Campus Center.

Greetings!

Hannah Goldberg
Provost and Academic Vice President
Wheaton College



VICTORIAN PLEASURES: FOOD, FUN, AND GAMES

Friday, May 1

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION, refreshments - May Room, Mary Lyon

3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENTS: PROPER AND IMPROPER - Wolley Room, Mary Lyon
Moderator: Rhoda Flaxman, Wheaton College

- "Transformations and Transvestism: A Study of Pantomime and Its Implications," Coral Lansbury, Rutgers University
- "The Drama of Silence: Charades and Tableaux Vivants in Victorian Literature and Life," Judith Kennedy, Kutztown University
- "The Uses of Romanticism: The Byronic Gesture and Victorian Tourism," James Michael Buzard, Columbia University

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

DINNER - on your own: a list of area restaurants will be provided in the registration packet

8:00 - 10:00 p.m.

VICTORIAN EVENING - Wolley Room, Mary Lyon. Will Lee, Mary Davis, and Virginia Walker are reconstructing the spirit of Victorian literary evenings. Dessert, wine tasting, and reading aloud.

Saturday, May 2

8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION, continental breakfast - Science Center Lobby

9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

"WHEATON VICTORIANA" - Library. An exhibition of Victorian books, clothing and memorabilia from Wheaton's special collections.

Food
and
language
Food

All about Displacement

(displacement)

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

around
commentary - a lecture

EATING THEIR WORDS - Science Center Auditorium
Moderator: Judith Wilt, Boston College

sexually
displaced
as well

③ "Ingestion as Domination," U. C. Knoepfelmacher, Princeton University

② "'Doen Sesame': Food, Words, and Nourishment in Ruskin's 'Of Kings' Treasures,'" Zelda Boyd, California State University at Hayward

② "The Play of Pleasure: Body/Play/Festivity in Browning," Owen Schur, Yale University

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Women are feeders
not eaters

LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING - Faculty Dining Room

2:00 - 3:45 p.m.

THE GREAT GAME: PLAY, EMPIRE, AND THE BRITISH GENTLEMAN -
Science Center Auditorium
Moderator: Herbert Sussman, Northeastern University

"Empire as Field of Play: Disraeli, Burton, and Kipling," Daniel Bivona, Lesley College

"Honor and 'Eights Week': Oxonian Sports and the Gentleman Undergraduate," Alison F. McGill, Indiana University

"Arthur Conan Doyle: The Game of War," Jacqueline A. Jaffe, New York University

3:45 - 4:00 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK - Science Center Lobby

4:15 - 6:00 p.m.

WORK/PLAY, AND GENDER - Science Center Auditorium
Moderator: Flavia Alaya, Ramapo College

"Ruskin and Mimic Engineering," C. Stephen Kinlay, Haverford College

② "The Organization of Play in Adam Bede," Louise Yelin, SUNY at Purchase

① "Lucy's Fate and Lucy's Fete: Woman's Work and Woman's Play in Villette," Andrew Harrington, Boston University

PLAY & CLASS
WORK ADULT
PLAY CHILD?

John
Meyer
Mather
CLASS

Work
&
PLAY
is it
there
deciding

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

CASH BAR - Emerson Dining Hall

7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

BANQUET - Emerson Dining Hall. Entertainment: Authentic Victorian Magic Lantern Show, with audience participation, Terry Borton, Glastonbury, Conn.

Sunday, May 3

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - May Room, Mary Lyon

9:15 - 11:15 a.m.

LOW LIFE - Holman Room, Mary Lyon
Moderator: Jonathan Rose, Drew University

Question: What
is the fascination
with
drugs?

"The Opium Den in Fantasy and Reality," Terry M. Parsinnen, Temple University - *doublet*

"Victorian Bookmakers and Their Customers," David C. Iskowitz, Macalester College - *Control - 9 AM BLING - last*

"For Whom the Bell Told: The Decline of British Prize Fighting in the Victorian Era," W. Russel Gray, Delaware County Community College - *new play -> game -> sport*

11:15 - 11:30 a.m.

Displacement in Amazing Marriage

BREAK - Holman Room, Mary Lyon

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SUMMATION - Holman Room, Mary Lyon
Anne Humpherys, Lehman College, CUNY
Gerhard Joseph, Lehman College, CUNY

Class
Anarchy

NVSA: A CAPSULE HISTORY

The Northeast Victorian Studies Association traces its origins to a group of scholars from Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and the Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts, who in the late 1960's established the Five - College Victorian Seminar to promote interdisciplinary Victorian studies. In April 1971, the group sponsored a conference on England in the 1870's: A Decade of Conflict, which included panels on science and religion, on the role of women, and on culture and aesthetic values. Among the participants were Victorianists well known to NVSA members: John Bicknell moderated a panel on theologians and scientific thinkers; Maurianne Adams, Dorothy Helly, Coral Lansbury, and Robert Preyer spoke and presented papers; and Michael Wolff summarized and edited. Witnessing events were future NVSA members who found themselves enlightened and enlivened by the multi-disciplinary approach and congenial atmosphere of the sessions.

Other conferences sponsored by the Five Colleges followed: a mini-conference on Victorian Poverty (1972) and a full session on William Morris (1973). At a meeting on The Victorian Family (1975), hosted by Assumption College, NVSA was formally organized, adopting as its primary task the sponsorship of a yearly conference. Maurianne Adams became the first president and Robert Keane, the first secretary-treasurer. In 1977 NVSA members approved a constitution and started its own Victorian Studies Bulletin.

Over the next several years conferences alternated between host colleges in the northern section of our area (Boston College, University of Rhode Island, University of Hartford, Rhode Island College, Yale/Albertus Magnus) and in the southern section (Hofstra, Penn. Drew), covering such topics as War and Violence, the 1880's, Victorians and the World Abroad, Victorian Mythologies, Money, Loss and Failure, and The Victorian Frame of Mind on its 27th anniversary.

Last year NVSA panels pursued "Victorian Work and Workers" their mines and sweatshops, studios and factories. This year the counter-topic (or co-topic, isn't it?) "Victorian Pleasures: Food, Fun, and Games" takes center stage, fittingly enough at pastoral Wheaton College, judged one of Massachusetts' most beautifully designed campuses in a recent Boston Globe article. Pleasures high and low, urban-frenetic and bucolic, literary, culinary and pugilistic (among others) are up for analysis, generating the work the members of NVSA find the most fun of all - talking to each other.

Judith Wilt, Vice President
Northeast Victorian Studies Association



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to those who have worked to make this conference possible:

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Judith Wilt
Vice President
Earl Stevens
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Rhoda Flaxman, Chair
Will Lee
Doretha Van Slyke

Funds for printing this program were provided by Hannah Goldberg, Provost and Academic Vice President, Wheaton College.

Special thanks to Doretha Van Slyke for designing and producing this year's program.



~ Reading Pleasures: ~
NVSA at Home and on Tour



Northeast Victorian Studies Association
Annual Conference:
"Victorian Pleasures"



May 1, 1987

Preface – Virginia Walker

» Pleasures of Language

Description of the Maypole tavern from Dickens' *Barnaby Rudge*
Coral Lansbury

From "The Mock Turtle's Story," *Alice in Wonderland*,
Chapter 9
Mary Davis

From W.S. Gilbert's *Bab Ballads*
James Ellis

Dickens' Flora Finching from *Little Dorrit*, Book I, Chapter 24
Winifred Hughes

» Love, Loss and Marriage

Aurora's declaration of love and Romney's reply from
Elizabeth Barrett Browning's *Aurora Leigh*, Book IX
Virginia Walker

"The Householder," the epilogue to Robert Browning's
Fifine at the Fair
George H. Ford

Eliot's praise of second love from *Adam Bede*,
Chapters 50 & 51
Will Lee



» Pleasures of Travel

From Mrs. Trollope's *The Barnabys in America*
Helen Heinemann

"The Alps in Winter" from Leslie Stephen's
The Playground of Europe
Hartley S. Spatt

"Claude to Eustace" from Clough's *Amours de Voyage*, Canto I
John W. Bicknell

» Celebrations

"Ullathorne Sports" from Trollope's *Barchester Towers*
Catherine Hoyser

Christmas dinner from Dickens' *Great Expectations*
John S. Batts

» Pleasures of Art

Kingsley's "Poetry and Poets" from *Alton Locke*
Allyson McGill

Tennyson's "The Poet"
Earl Stevens

Christina Rossetti's "In an Artist's Studio"
Rhoda Flaxman

Songs and dialogue from Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience*, Act I
Jonathan Rose and Marilyn Button

Envoy – Mary Davis

Credits

NVSA Program Subcommittee:

Mary Davis

Will Lee

Virginia Walker

Sweets and Cheeses prepared by the Wheaton College kitchen under the supervision of Rhoda Flaxman and Will Dvorak

"Victorian" sweets and savories prepared by Mary Davis, Will and Barbara Lee, Earl and Twila Stevens, and Virginia Walker

Victorian wines – hock, port, claret, and Madeira – provided by Richard Elia, editor of the Quarterly Review of Wines



Slides provided by Helen Heineman

Program designed by Barbara Lee