

Tuesday, April 22, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: June Bisantz Evans, Associate Prof. of Art
860-423-4443 juneevans@aol.com
Donna Baron, Curator Webb-Deane-Stevens-Museum 860-529-0612
Brenda Sullivan, 860-465-5115 sullivanb@easternct.edu

**Eastern Connecticut State University's Senior Design Students
Re-create Historic Wallpaper for the
Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum in Wethersfield**

Willimantic- As their senior project in Graphic Design, Eastern Connecticut State University's (ECSU) students are collaborating with the curatorial staff of the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum in Wethersfield to digitally re-create historic wallpaper.

The museum staff will install the wallpaper in early May, in preparation for the opening of the Wadsworth Atheneum's exhibition "Wallace Nutting and the Invention of Old America" in early June.

The Design Group students worked in teams to identify vendors, communicate with the museum's staff, create the wallpaper and document the project in a web site (<http://dl.ecsu.ctstateu.edu/gdclub>), which has full information on the project, the process and the students themselves.

--More--

ECSU Design Students p.2

The only remaining documentation of the wallpaper in the southwest parlor in its original condition is in the form of two, hand-colored photographs taken by Wallace

Nutting, former owner of the Webb House, and the man who gathered the Wadsworth Atheneum's famous collection of early American furniture.

Nutting (1861-1941), a Harvard-educated Congregational minister, switched careers in 1904, and by the 1920s, his hand-tinted photographs of Colonial revivalist domestic scenes could be found throughout the homes of middle class America.

Students created the new wallpaper digitally using scans of two Nutting photographs as their guide. The students began by making a scale drawing of the original wallpaper, which they digitized and hand-colored in the computer. The image was then sized to fit the exact specifications of the southwest parlor, and sent to a company specializing in the production of digitally-created wallpaper.

The website, along with illustrations and photographs documenting the project, will be exhibited at the Akus Gallery at ECSU from May 8th to 18th, as part of the Annual ECSU Student Art Exhibition. The exhibition will be open from 4pm to 7pm on Thursday, May 8th. [Please note: most students won't be available after May 11th.]

--More--

ECSU Design Students p.3

Project website: <http://dl.ecsu.ctstateu.edu/gdclub> (don't type www)

Downloadable images: <http://dl.ecsu.ctstateu.edu/gdclub/pressrelease.html>

Information on the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum: www.webb-deane-stevens.org

Eastern Connecticut State University Design Group 2003:

Students involved in the Webb-Deane-Stevens Wallpaper project:

Chris Abbate, Long Island NY
Kelly Alves, Putnam, CT
Brock Arsenault, Putnam, CT
Margaux Barlow, Wethersfield, CT
Jennifer Chobot, Middletown, CT
Jennifer Collins, Syosset, NY
Gregg Davis, Willimantic, CT
Jared Ford, Old Lyme, CT
Christopher Kerr, Willimantic, CT
Paula Kittle, Chaplin, CT
Erin Kozloski, Oxford, Ct
Joshua Perry, Willimantic, CT
Stephanie Roe, Columbia, CT
Jennifer Trubisz, Rocky Hill, CT
Alison Wasik, Willimantic, CT

###

Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the

Connecticut State University System