

# The Bayou Bend Carpets: A Look at American Collecting and Museum Practice in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Lecture by Walter B. Denny  
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at the MFA Houston  
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A late 16<sup>th</sup>-century Persian Carpet























#### Technical Data:

Pile: 2-ply wool, 10 colors + undyed white  
3-4-ply undyed cotton

Warp: 4-ply undyed cotton, two levels

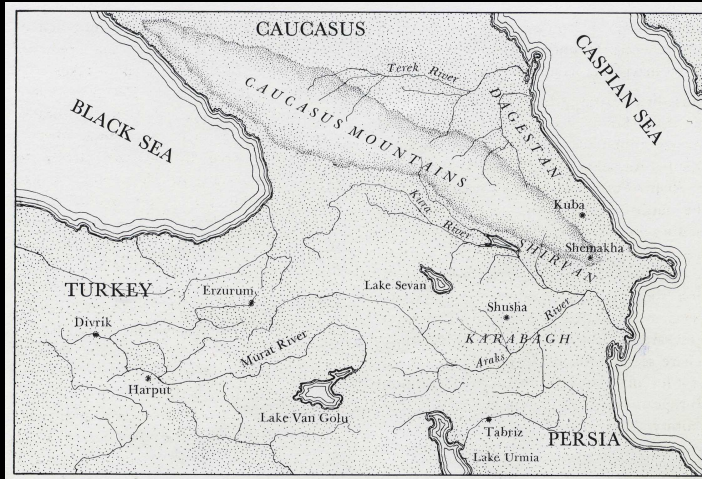
Weft: single-ply undyed cotton, shot 2// + 2//,  
one pair straight, one pair sinuous

Knot: asymmetrical open left  
36-38 V x 45-47 H per decimeter









## An 18th-century Transcaucasian Dragon Carpet













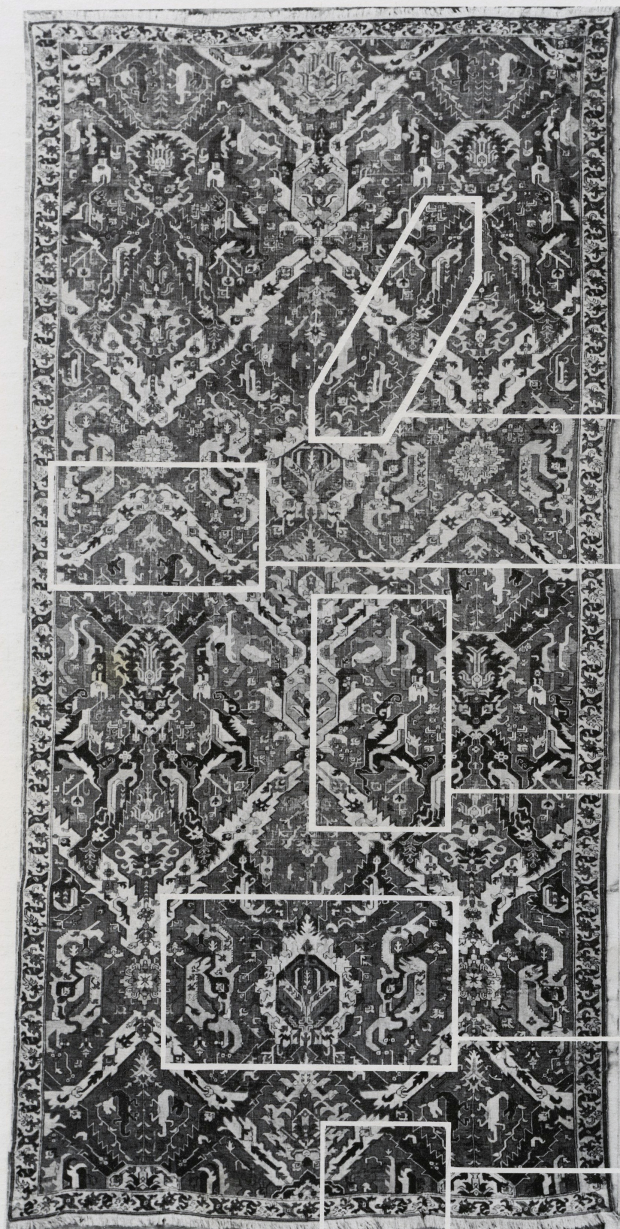


Fig. 5 Dragon rug with f drop repeat design. T Burrell Collection. Glasg Museum and Art Gall 9/38.

- a. The "coat of arm palmette with dragon "st porters."
- b. The flaming lion abo the chilin.
- c. The pheasant above t duck.
- d. A pair of sawns.
- e. The back of a flami lion.

C

D

B

A

E











Technical Information:

Pile: 2-ply wool, 7 colors + undyed white

Warp: 2-ply mixed colors undyed wool (White, light brown, dark brown), alternate

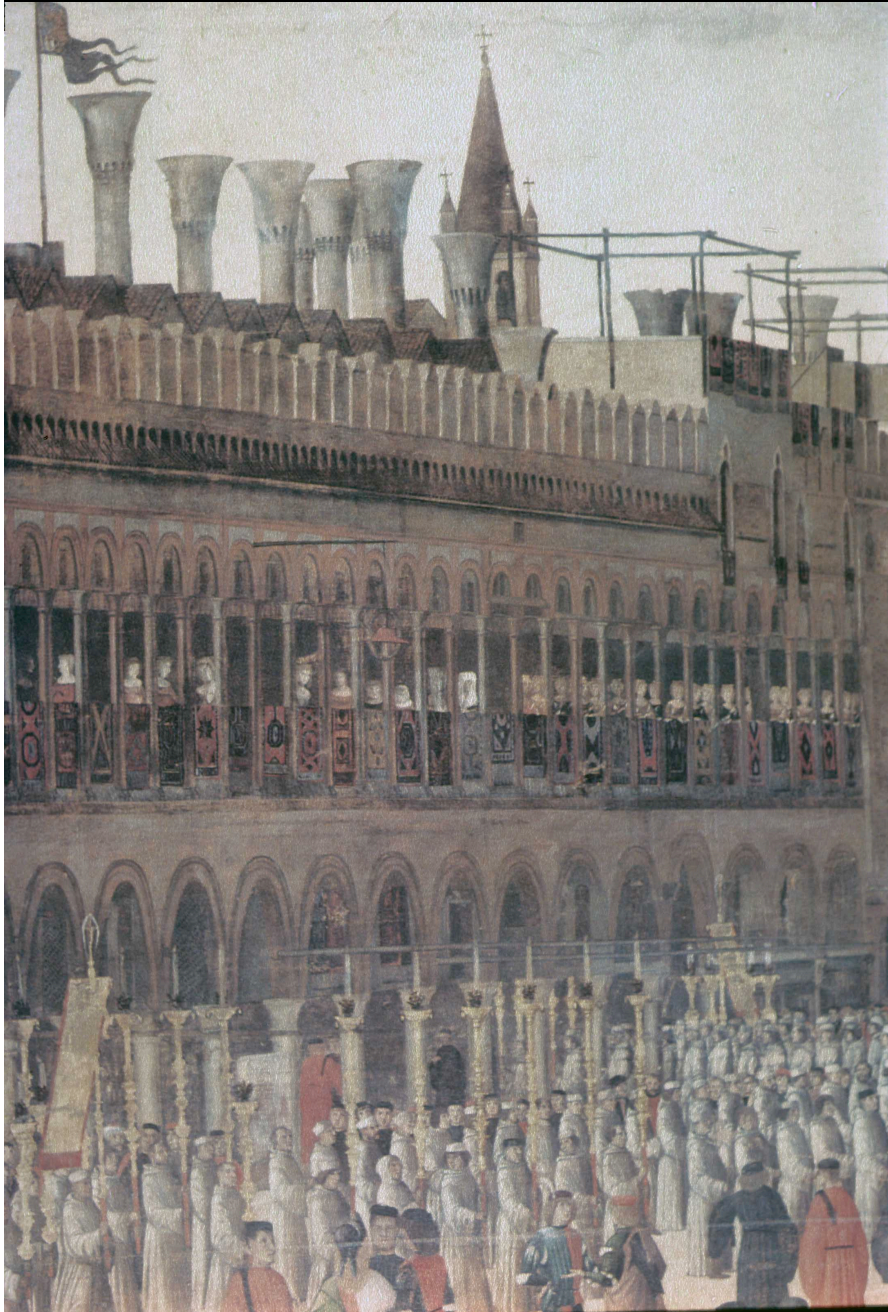
warps moderately depressed

Weft: 2-ply red wool, shot once each direction, one sinuous, one straight

Symmetrical knot: 31-33 V x 29-30H per decimeter



# The Eastern Carpet in the Western World

























## Early Evidence for Carpets in North America









American Artistic Traditions and the American House Museum:  
the Search for Authenticity in the Rediscovered Past





Historic Deerfield, MA





# Tryon Palace, New Bern, NC















Computer Mouse Rug "Indienne"

Symmetrical patterns and multiple borders distinguish rugs from the Oushak region of northwest Turkey. Popular in Europe from the 1500s onward, some undoubtedly made their way to the Virginia colony. This design is inspired by an 18th-century carpet in the [Colonial Williamsburg Foundation](#) collections. © 2009 The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation



## Extravagance in the Gilded Age



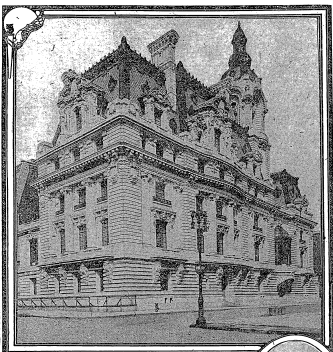


# The Clark Mansion, New York

## NEW YORK'S MOST EXPENSIVE PRIVATE MANSION

For the first time a Detailed Description is Given of Senator Clark's Fifth Avenue Palace, a Residence Remarkable Among American Homes.

**T**HE Fifth Avenue Club has not yet been built, but the Clark mansion, which is now under construction, is a residence of a type that is not only remarkable in its architecture, but also in its location. It is situated on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 60th Street, a location that is not only one of the most desirable in the city, but also one of the most expensive. The mansion is a masterpiece of architecture, and its construction is a task of no small magnitude. It is a residence of a type that is not only remarkable in its architecture, but also in its location. It is situated on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 60th Street, a location that is not only one of the most desirable in the city, but also one of the most expensive. The mansion is a masterpiece of architecture, and its construction is a task of no small magnitude.

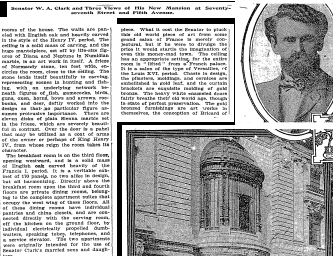


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## The World's Military Burdens Enormous Increase in Cost in Last Two Decades Used in Argument Against Militarism

**O**NE of the most serious of the world's problems is the enormous increase in the cost of maintaining a large military establishment. This increase has been the result of a number of factors, including the development of new weapons and the expansion of military forces. The cost of maintaining a large military establishment has increased enormously in the last two decades, and this increase has been a major factor in the development of militarism. The enormous increase in the cost of maintaining a large military establishment has been a major factor in the development of militarism. The enormous increase in the cost of maintaining a large military establishment has been a major factor in the development of militarism.

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# The Crane Mansion, Castle Hill, Ipswich, MA











Yerkes



# Rockefeller





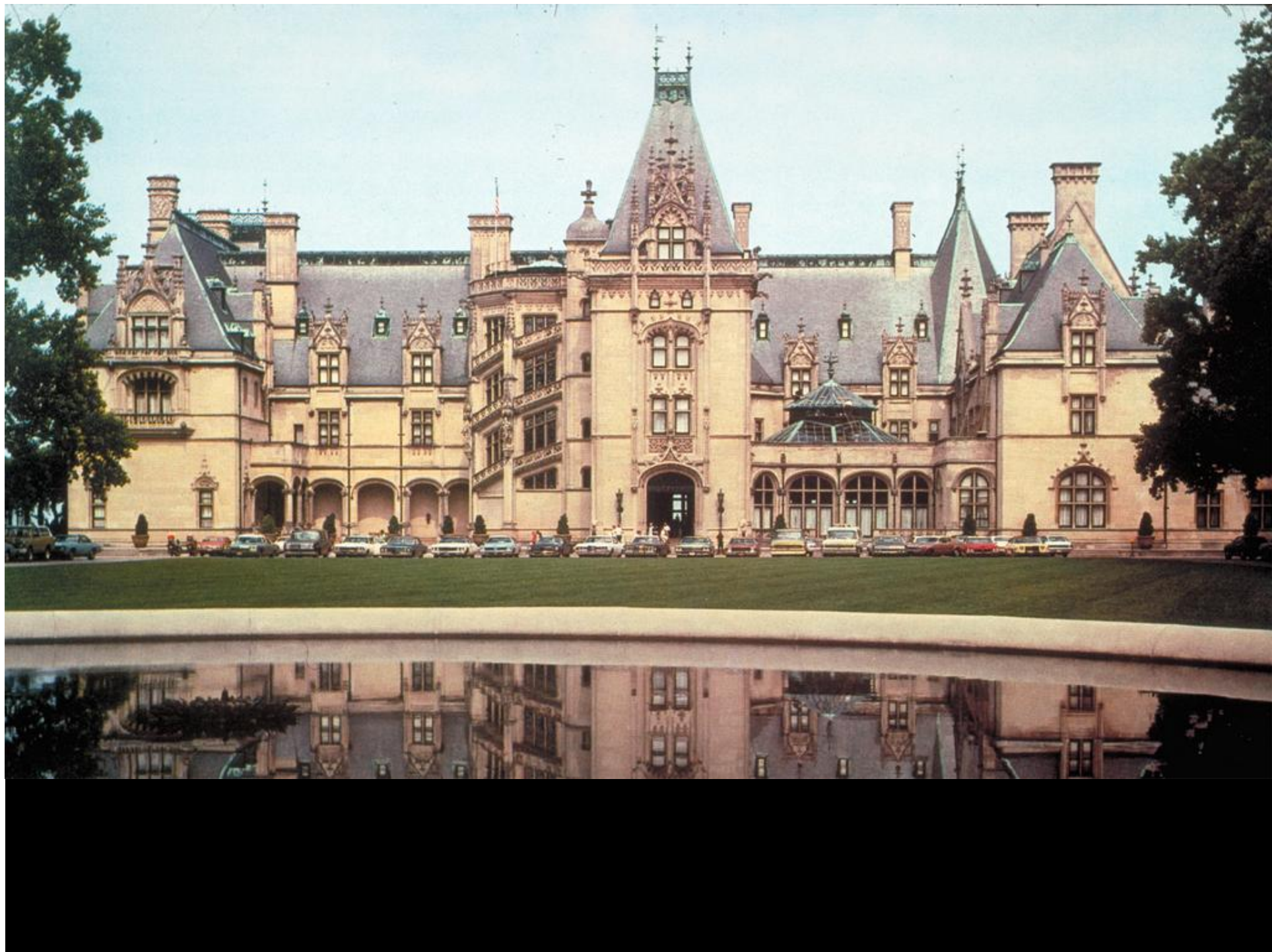
Vanderbilt











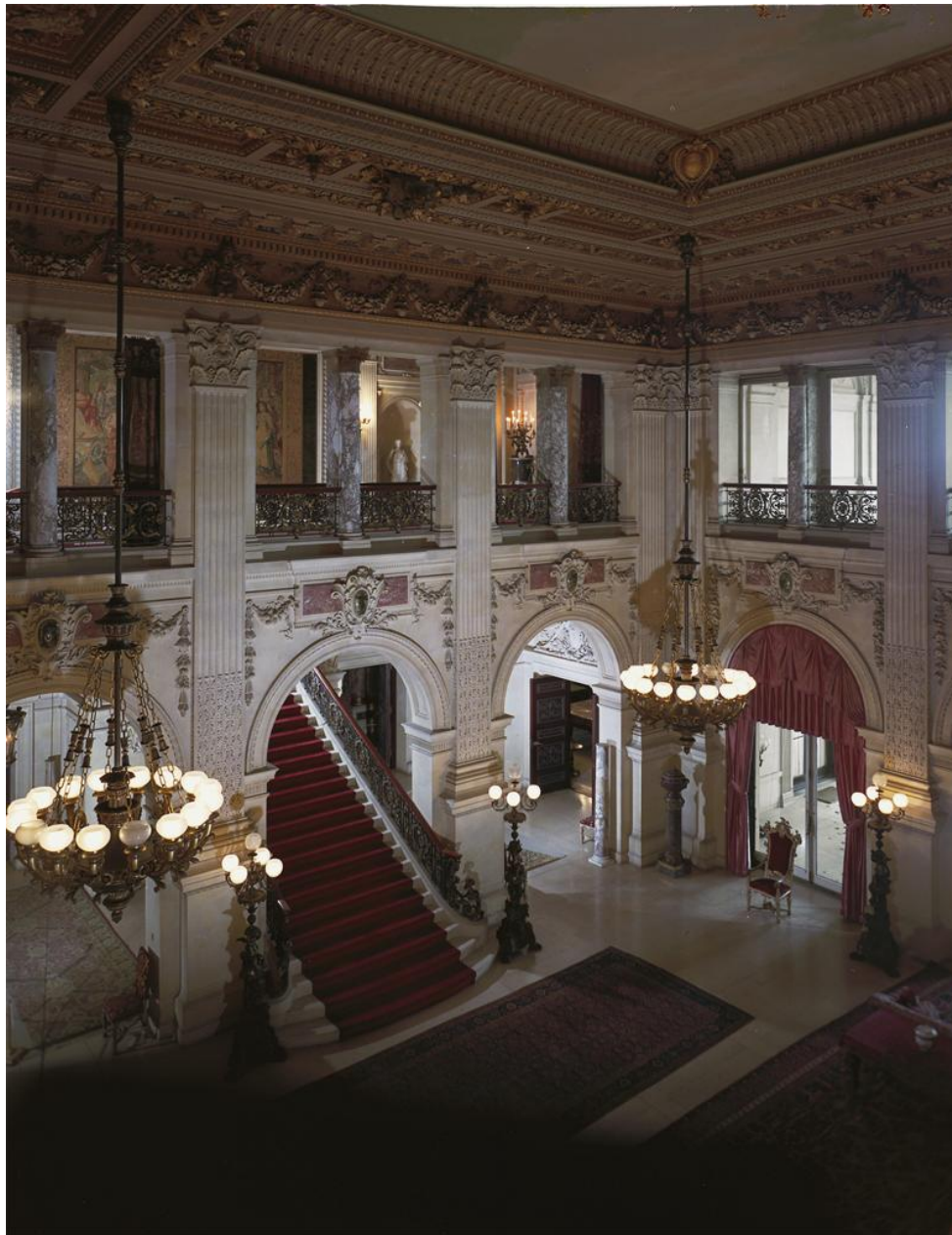














# Henry Clay Frick





# Robert Lehman





Horace Havemeyer  
Family







Widener Family





## Orientalism and American Carpet Collecting



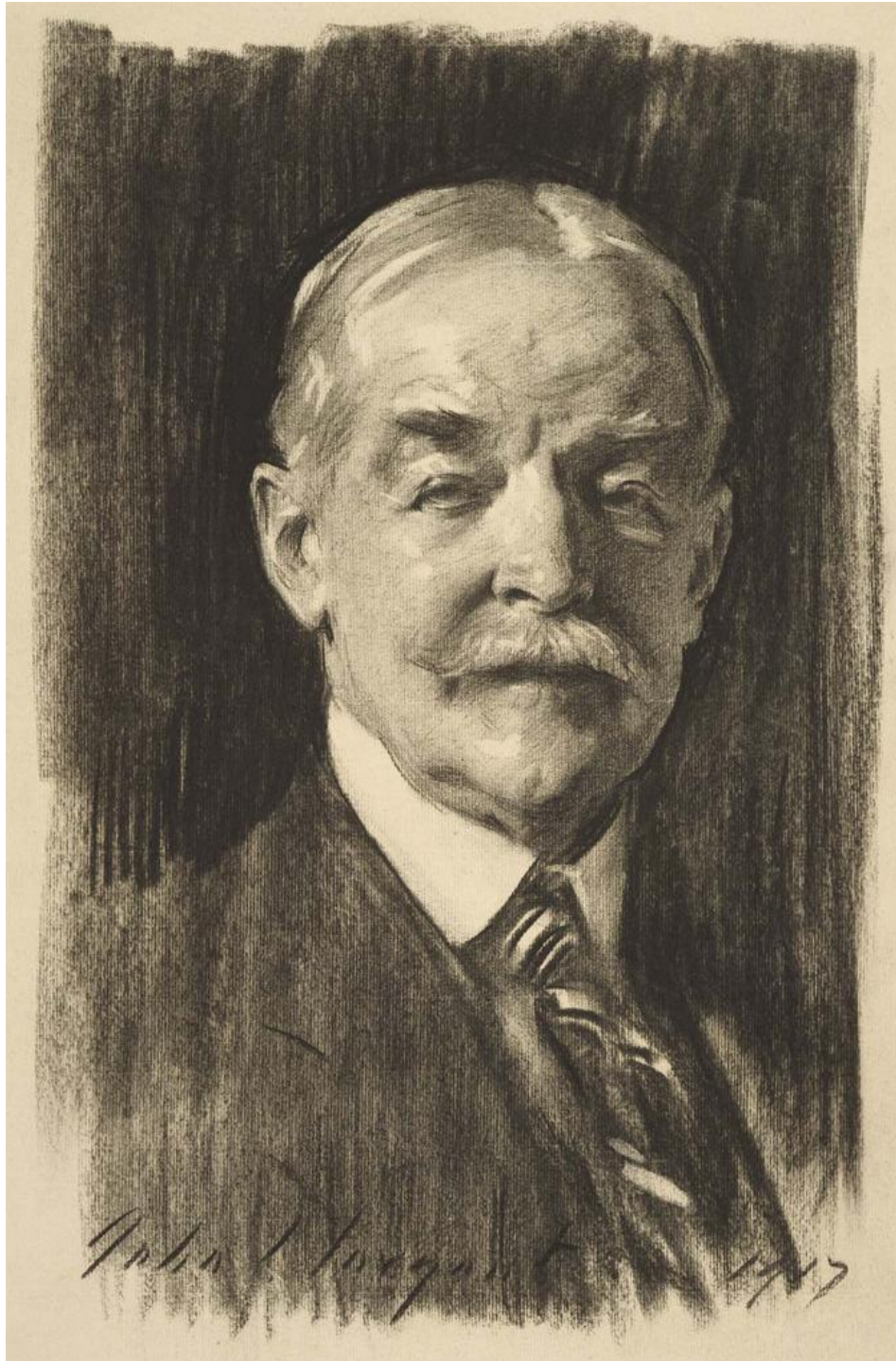




Frederick Church  
Mansion, "Olana"  
Hudson, New York

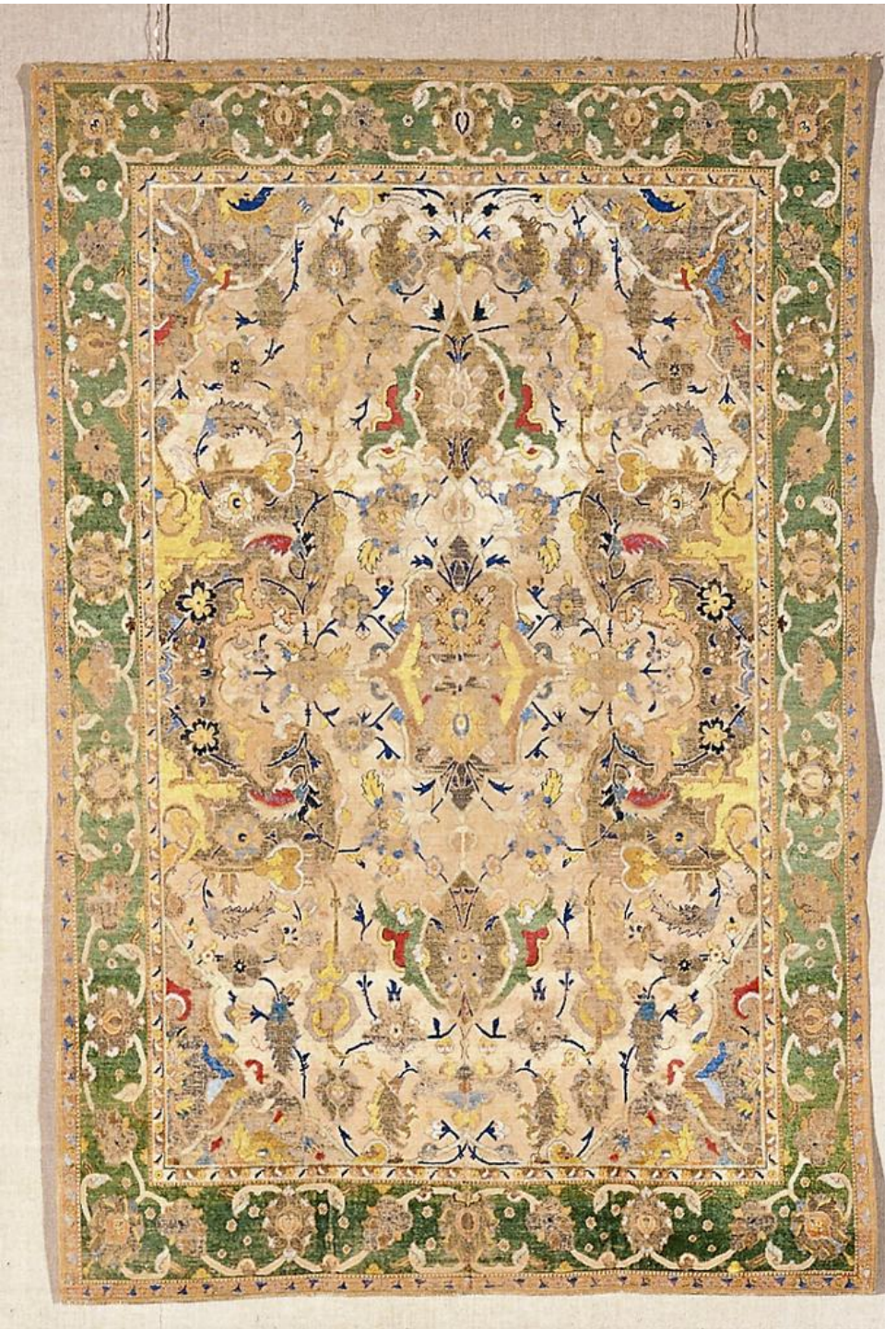






An educated taste:  
Denman Ross  
of  
Boston









George Hewitt Myers





## The Art Collectors: McMullan, Stuart, Ballard





and, of course, Miss Ima





