

# Boston: Birthplace of American Art

A review in pictures of ART 4100—Allbritton Field Study, 11-15 October 2006

**Carrie Johnson**  
H. H. Richardson's Romanesque

**Mandi Marshall**  
Fitzhugh Lane in Gloucester

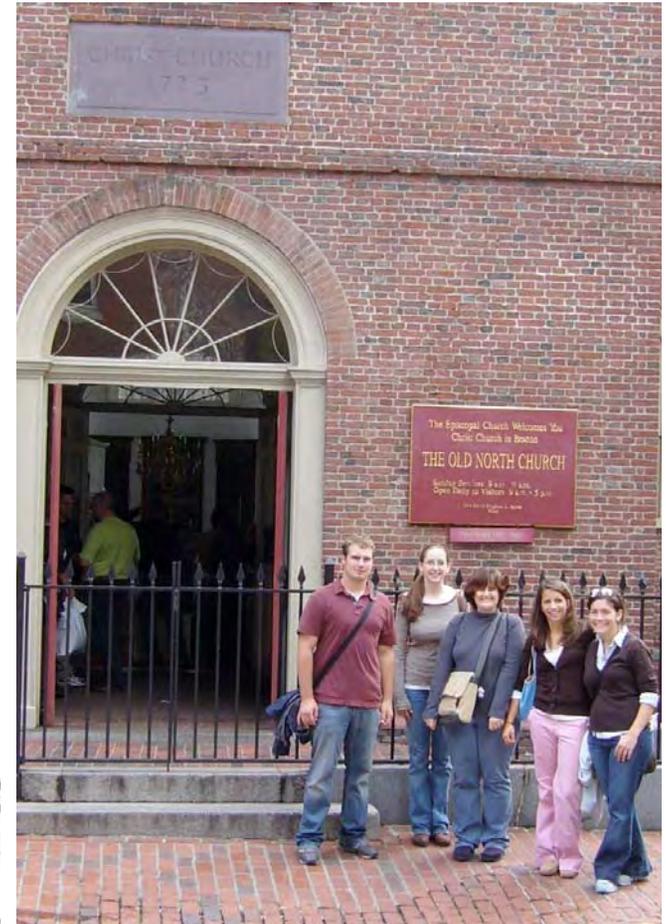
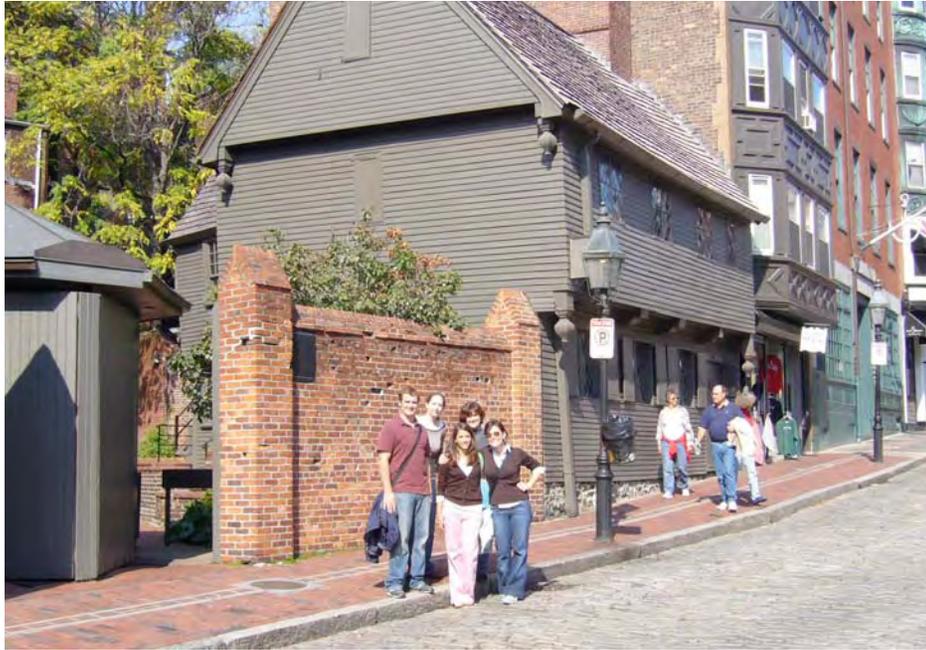
**Meredith Massar**  
Childe Hassam in Boston

**Payton Davis**  
Albert Pinkham Ryder's Process



Boston  
Cambridge  
Concord &  
Lexington  
Topsfield  
Woburn  
Ipswich  
Gloucester  
Essex  
Salem

Along the Freedom Trail: *Paul Revere House (1680)*



*Old North Church (1723)*



*Copp's Hill Burying Ground (1659)*



“Ryder seminar” in American Art department of Museum of Fine Arts: Payton Davis examined *Golden Hour, Fishing Party* (Fitzhugh Lane), *Constance*, and everyone found interesting information in museum object files





American galleries of the MFA Boston:  
A partial view of the Colonial collection: Copley's portraits, Paul Revere's silver





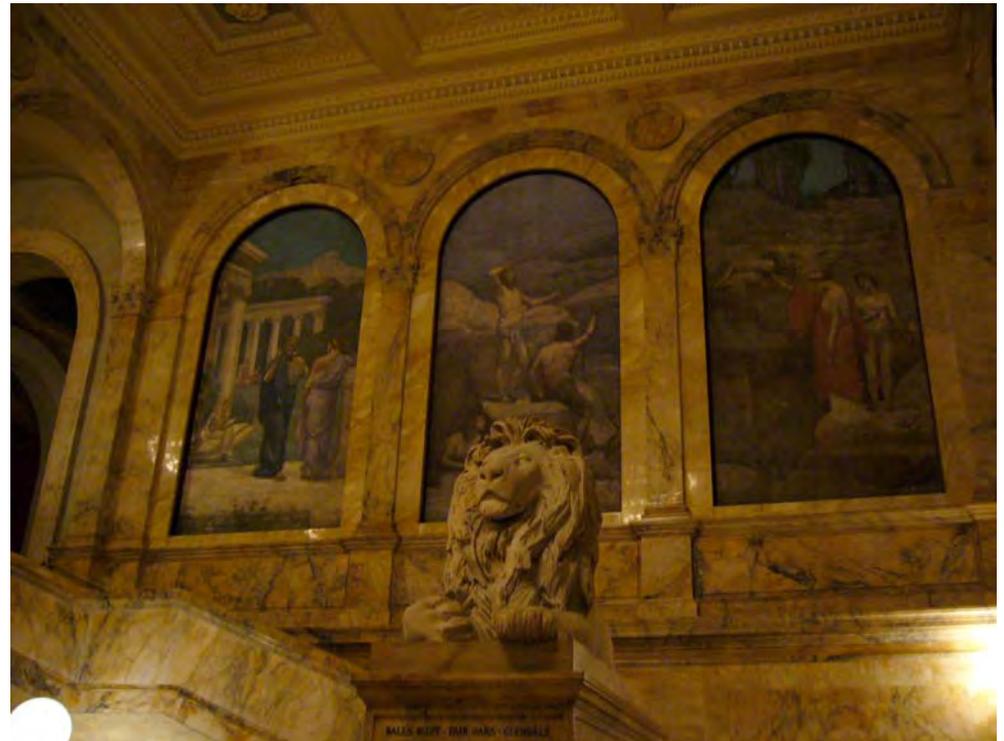
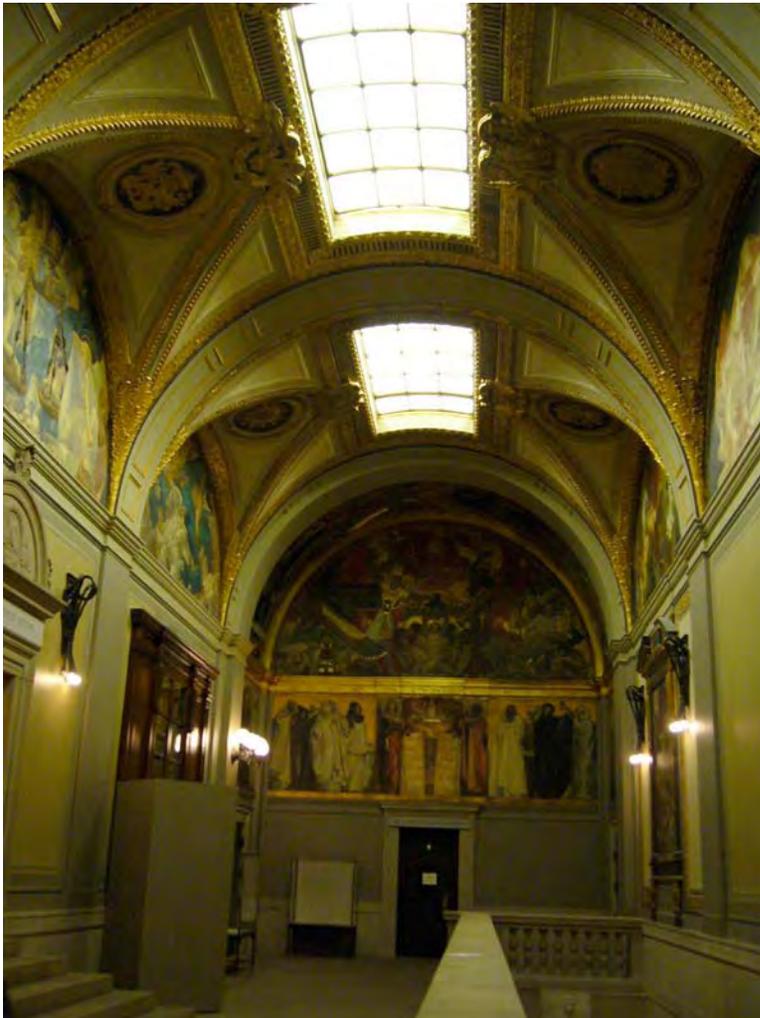
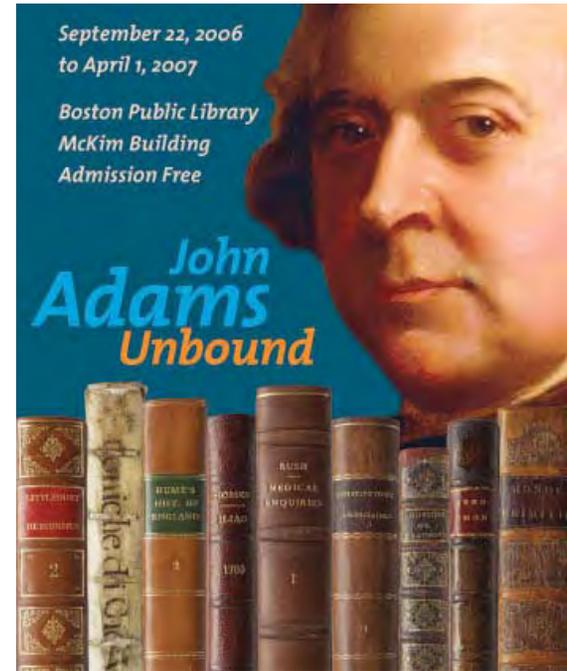
Meredith Massar studied Childe Hassam's paintings of Boston and sought worksites and motifs around the city (*Charles River and Beacon Hill*, 1892)



Styles we've studied in class...

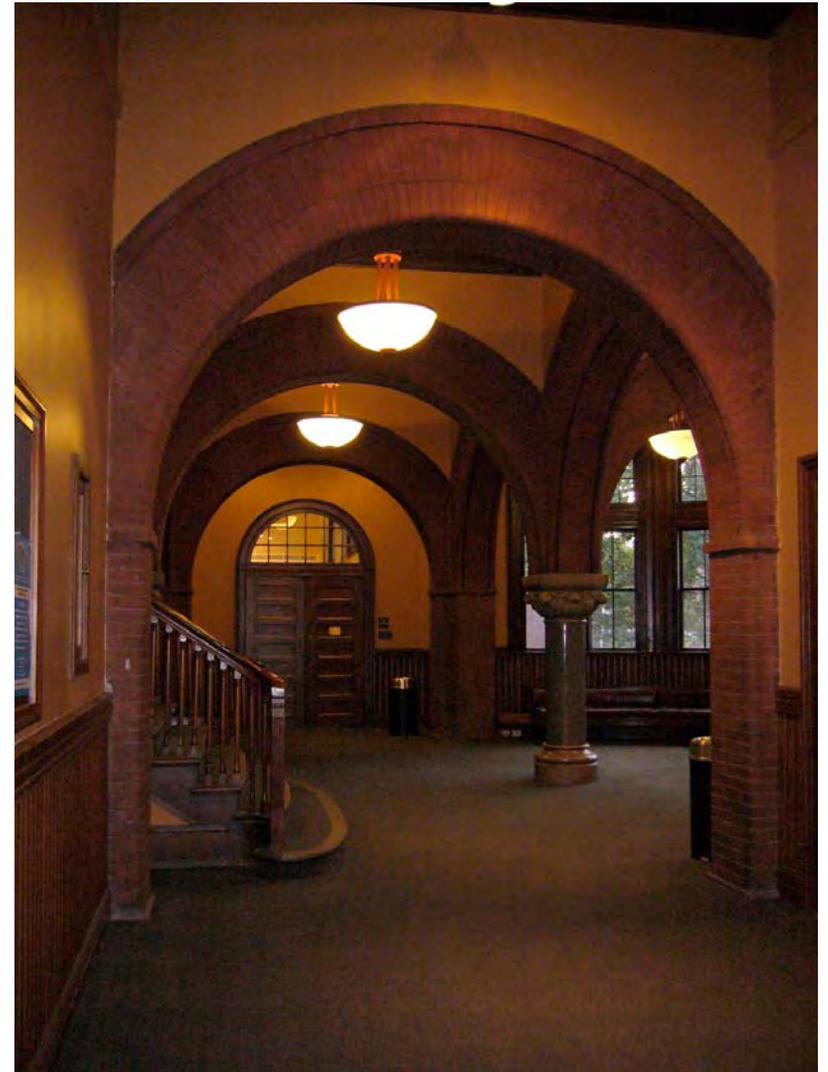


*Boston Public Library* (McKim, Meade & White, 1882):  
"John Adams Unbound"--  
an exhibition of Adams' 3800-volume library  
Murals by Sargent (1890ff.) and Puvis de Chavannes (1895)



H. H. Richardson at Harvard:  
Sever Hall (1880) and  
Austin Hall (1881-83)





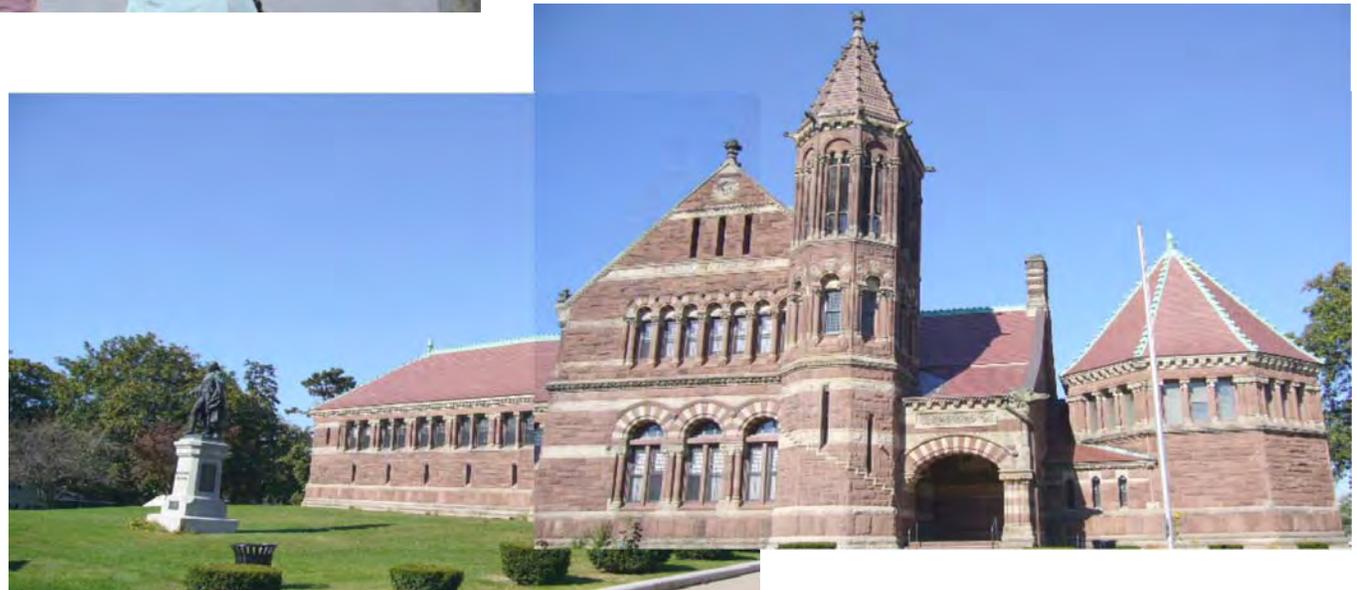
Austin Hall hallway

Harvard campus church in Richardsonian style



Carrie Johnson guides our looking at Richardson's masterpiece, *Trinity Church* (1872-77)

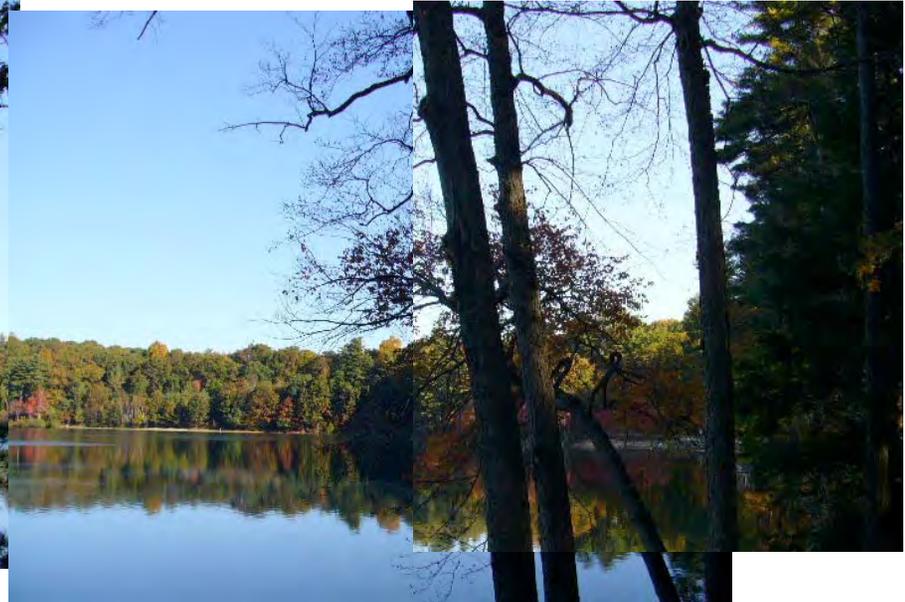
Richardson, *Winn Library*, Woburn (1879)



## CONCORD & LEXINGTON



## Thoreau's Walden Pond



The Manse (Emerson's grandfather's house) and the path to the Concord Bridge





Daniel Chester French, *Concord Minuteman*, 1889

### Concord Hymn

by Ralph Waldo Emerson

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled;  
Here once the embattled farmers stood;  
And fired the shot heard round the world.

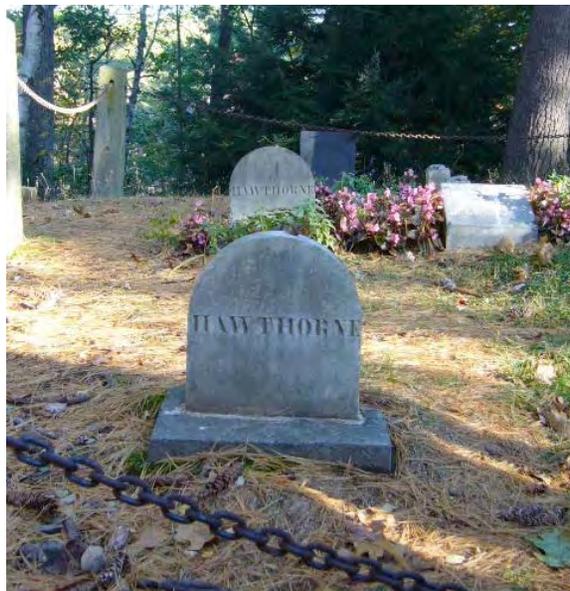
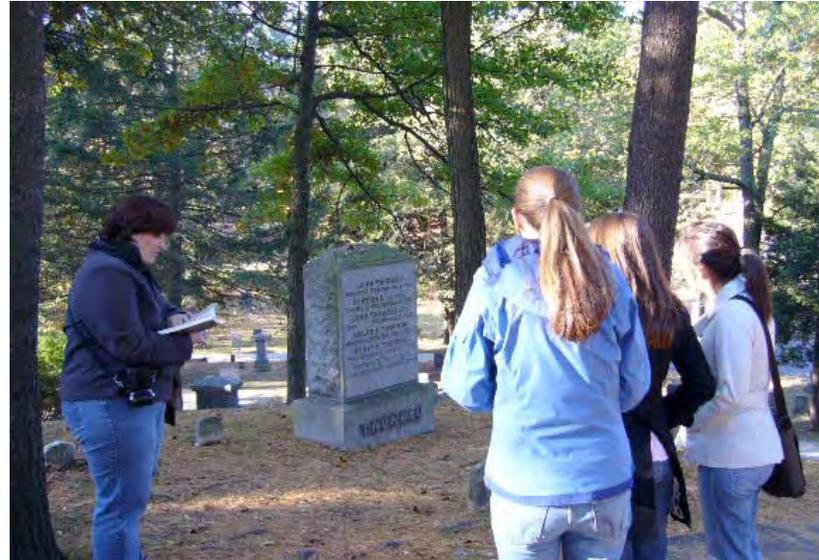
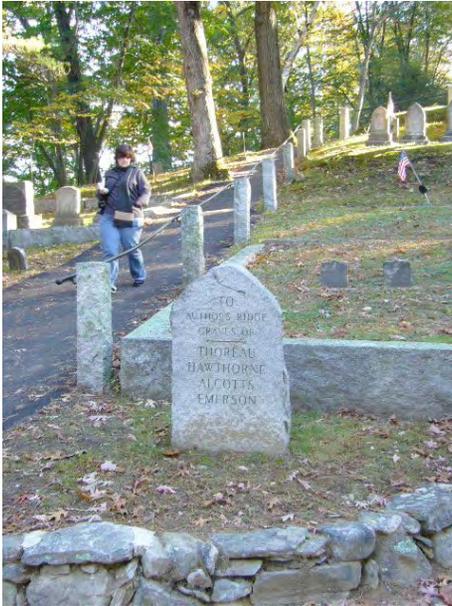
The foe long since in silence slept;  
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps,  
And Time the ruined bridge has swept  
Down the dark stream that seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,  
We place with joy a votive stone,  
That memory may their deeds redeem,  
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Thou who made those heroes dare  
To die, and leave their children free, --  
Bid Time and Nature gently spare  
The shaft we raised to them and Thee.



## Concord Cemetery: Authors' Ridge



*"The Maine Woods - Ktaddn"*  
by Henry D. Thoreau

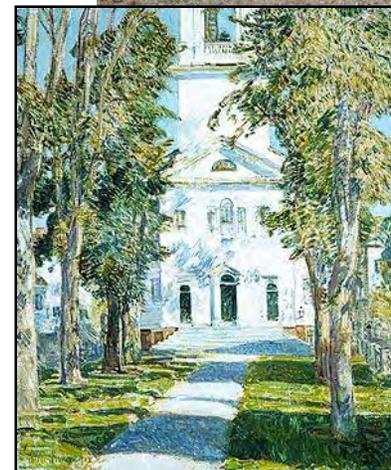
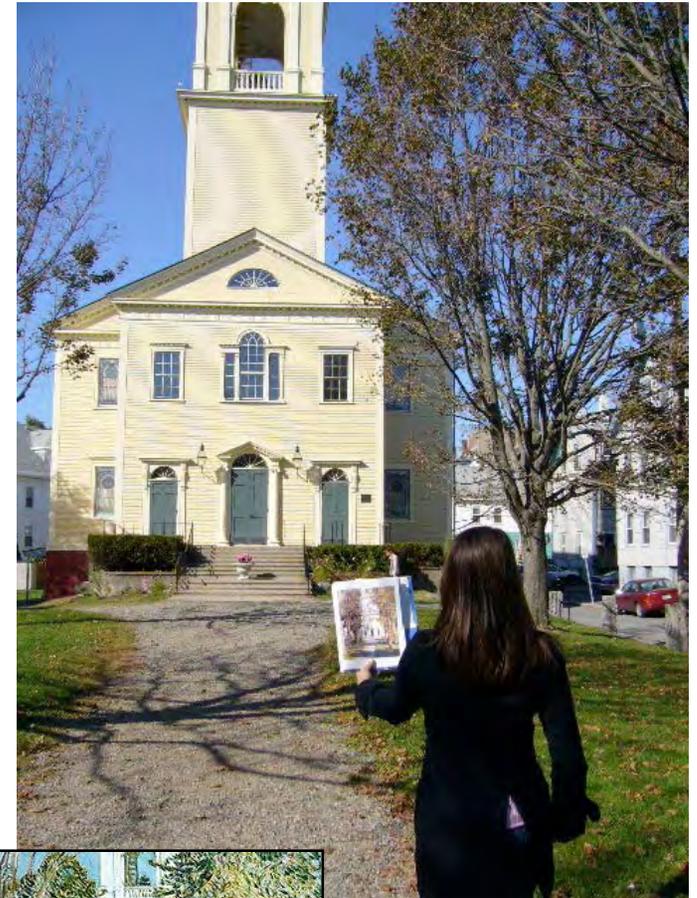
"Who shall describe the inexpressible tenderness and immortal life of the grim forest, where Nature, though it be mid-winter, is ever in her spring, where the moss-grown and decaying trees are not old, but seem to enjoy a perpetual youth; and blissful, innocent Nature, like a serene infant, is too happy to make a noise, except by a few tinkling, lispings birds and trickling rills?

What a place to live, what a place to die and be buried in! There certainly men would live forever, and laugh at death and the grave. There they could have no such thoughts as are associated with the village graveyard,—that make a grave out of one of those moist evergreen hummocks!  
Die and be buried who will,  
I mean to live here still;  
My nature grows ever more young  
The primitive pines among."

## GLOUCESTER & CAPE ANN



Mandi Marshall studied Fitzhugh Lane's work in the Cape Ann Historical Museum and led us to worksites and motifs around Cape Ann



Meredith found another of Childe Hassam's motifs on the hill  
(*Church at Gloucester, 1919*)



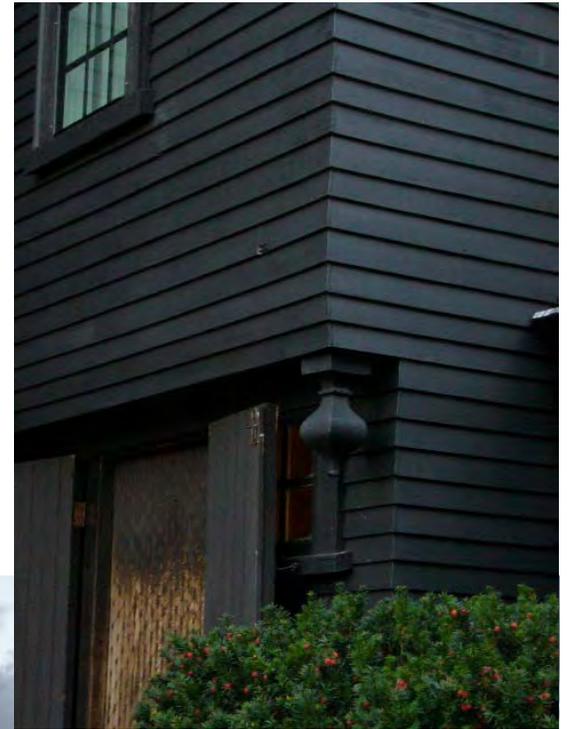
Mandi helped us learn to recognize Lane's Ten Pound Island in Gloucester Bay; later, we saw it from Fitzhugh Lane's granite house near the Gloucester waterfront



Splendid rocks of Cape Ann  
and a nearby beach



SALEM: *House of Seven Gables* (1668) and historic neighbors



## *Old Ironsides*

by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.  
(1830)

Ay, tear her tattered ensign down!  
Long has it waved on high,  
And many an eye has danced to see  
That banner in the sky;  
Beneath it rung the battle shout,  
And burst the cannon's roar;  
The meteor of the ocean air  
Shall sweep the clouds no more.

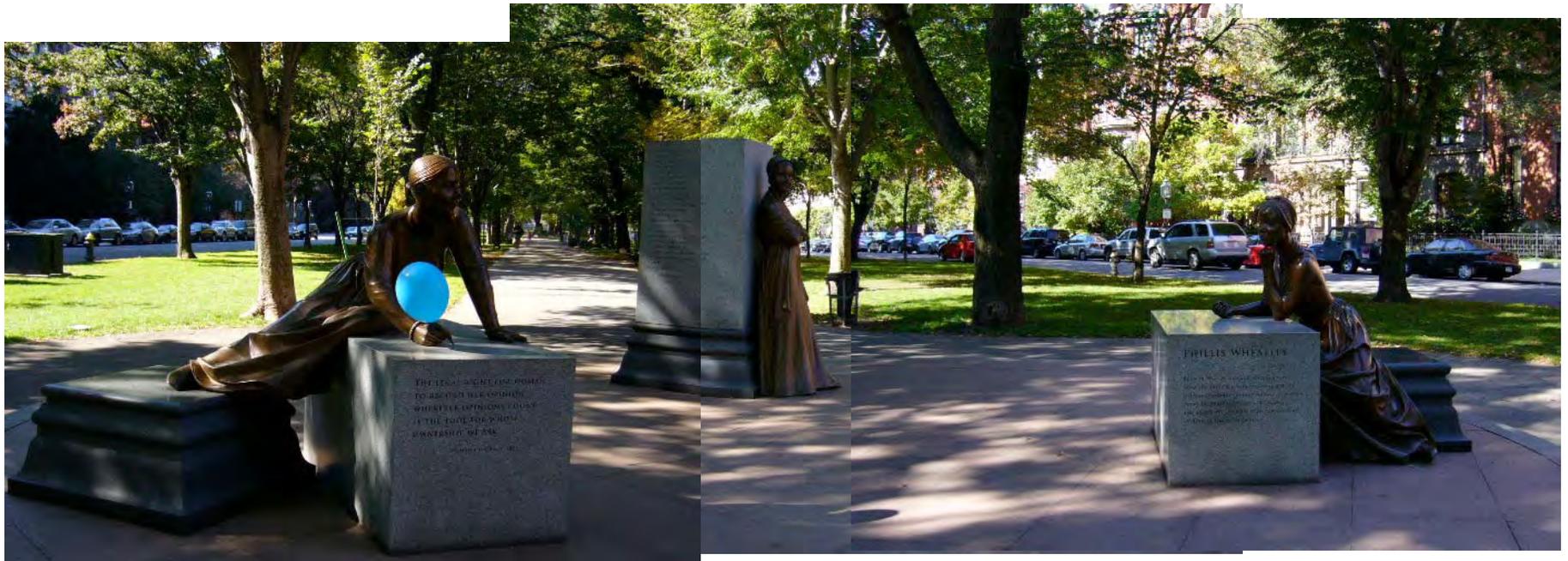
Her deck, once red with heroes' blood,  
Where knelt the vanquished foe,  
When winds were hurrying o'er the flood,  
And waves were white below,  
No more shall feel the victor's tread,  
Or know the conquered knee;  
The harpies of the shore shall pluck  
The eagle of the sea!

Oh, better that her shattered bulk  
Should sink beneath the wave;  
Her thunders shook the mighty deep,  
And there should be her grave;  
Nail to the mast her holy flag,  
Set every threadbare sail,  
And give her to the god of storms,  
The lightning and the gale!



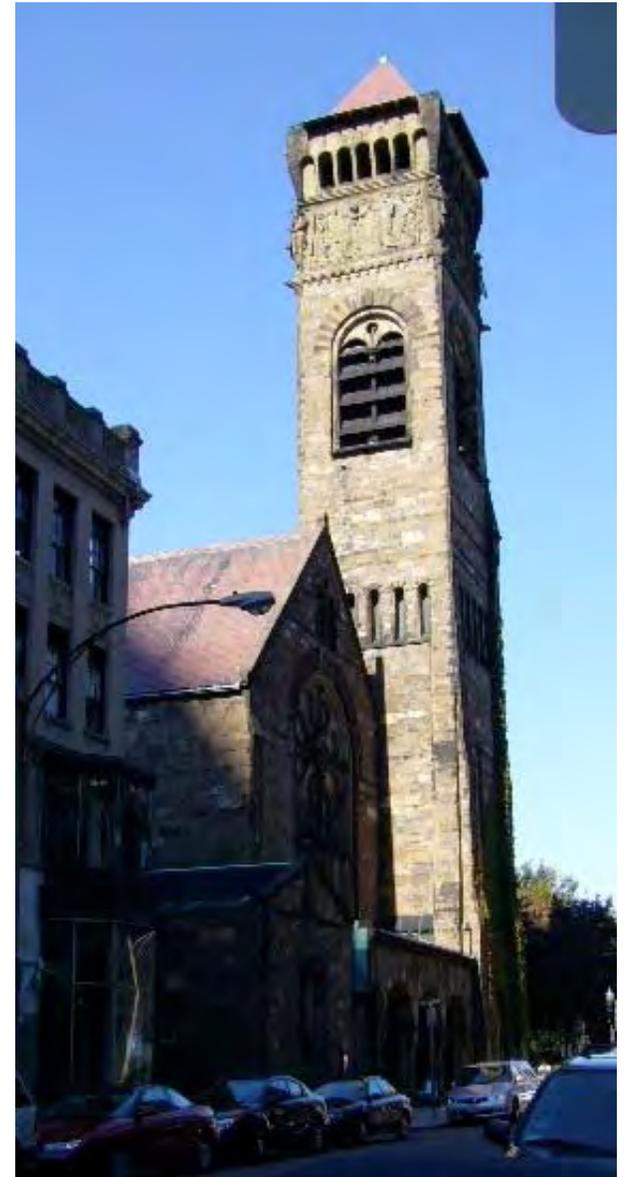
## A final morning of Boston sights

- The *Mapparium* (1934) at the Christian Science Library
- Mother Church of Christ Science, 1894+1906
- *Women's Memorial* in Commonwealth Avenue Mall (Meredith Bergmann, 2003)  
Figures of three notable women:  
Abigail Adams, Lucy Stone, Phillis Wheatley





Acorn Street (Beacon Hill) as depicted by Hassam (1919)



Richardson, *Brattle Square Church*, 1871

Some KP favorites:



pendil on Parson Capen House, 1690, Topsfield



Salt marshes near our Saturday lunch spot, Farnham's in Essex--a favorite motif of Martin Johnson Heade (below, c. 1865)

