



COLLAPSE OF THE PLASTER CEILING IN THE LIBRARY OF BOSCobel'S HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM

The incident caused major damage to the room, its contents, and adjacent spaces.



A side-by-side view of The Library before and after the collapse. Courtesy of Boscobel House & Gardens.

GARRISON, NY (April 22, 2024) – Boscobel House and Gardens is saddened to announce that the plaster ceiling in its historic Library room collapsed, without warning, in the early evening of Tuesday April 16, 2024. Thankfully no one was harmed or in the building at the time, but the incident caused major damage to the room, its contents, and to adjacent rooms.

Since Tuesday evening, Boscobel has been working diligently alongside a team of engineers, art conservators, and the municipal Buildings Department to assess the building and collection, and determine the exact cause of the collapse.

"This is a devastating loss. We are all in shock," report Boscobel Co-Chairs Alex Reese and Arnold Moss shared on behalf of the Board. "Boscobel has been in difficult straits before. We are confident that with the help of our community and supporters everywhere, we will bring back the beauty of this Hudson Valley icon."

"Thankfully we also have plenty to love and learn from throughout the gardens, grounds, and exhibitions in the Visitor Center," notes Boscobel's Executive Director





and Curator, Jennifer Carlquist. *"Boscobel has a glorious history of coming back from disaster. We are drawing inspiration from the community commitment that saved the house from total destruction in the 1950s."*

During this time, House visitation is suspended but the gardens, grounds, and Visitor Center remain fully open during public hours Fridays-Mondays. Boscobel foresees no disruption to the weekly farmers' market, outdoor programming, private events, or the annual Chamber Music Festival. They have made immediate pivots to offer alternative experiences to guests who have already booked house visits, and are in the process of expanding guided tours including the relaunch of their celebrated walking tour of the gardens, sharing more collection objects in the Visitor Center, and more.

Boscobel is working to determine an estimated timeline for restoration efforts to take place and will keep the public updated on important developments through their website and social media.

"There is no doubt that Boscobel is beloved, and it is going to be beautiful again," attested Nat Prentice, Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce. *"It's time to do what this community does best - pitch in and support it!"*

###

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY RECOVERY EFFORT

We are incredibly grateful for the swift response of our team, board, and museum peers, particularly the Smithsonian's Cultural Rescue Initiative and Greater Hudson Heritage Network, for providing critical advice and assistance. This is just a start and funds are needed immediately to help our team manage this initial recovery effort. Please visit our [Library Recovery Page](#) for updates and to find out more and how you can help.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

Ongoing:

- [Gardens and Grounds Admission](#): Friday - Monday | 9:00AM to Sunset
- [Cold Spring Farmers' Market](#): Every Saturday | 10:00AM - 1:00PM
- [Artist Pass](#): Every Other Thursday | 9:00AM to Sunset
 - (April 25, May 9 & 23, June 6 & 20, July 11 & 18, August 1, 15, 29, Sept. 12 & 26, Oct. 10 & 24, Nov. 7, 21)

Upcoming





- [This Man's a Spy](#): Sunday, May 5 | 2pm
 - *A musical retelling by Carla Lynne Hall and Jim Keyes of the treasonous plot between American General Benedict Arnold and British Major John Andre during the American Revolutionary War.*
- [Mother's Day Tea](#): Sunday, May 12 | 11:00AM - 1:00PM
 - *Hosted on our scenic, manicured grounds, Boscobel is offering a tea service, charcuterie grazing box, digital family portraits, live music, and a beautiful bouquet of tulips for each family who chooses to spend their Mother's Day at our historic home and gardens.*

About Boscobel House and Gardens

Located in the heart of the Hudson Valley, 60 miles north of New York City, Boscobel is one of America's most beautiful places, with iconic Hudson River views, 68 acres of stunning gardens and grounds, a woodland trail, and an important collection of early New York design in its Historic House Museum.

Boscobel offers gardens and grounds admission, tours of the grounds and house, and lively programs that explore history, design, and nature. Boscobel is a 501©3 nonprofit organization with a mission to engage diverse audiences in the Hudson Valley's ongoing, dynamic exchange between design, history, and nature.

boscobel.org

For all media inquiries, please contact: communications@boscobel.org

