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**THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM OPENS ORIGINAL LIBRARIAN'S OFFICE
IN THE HISTORIC MCKIM BUILDING FOR THE FIRST TIME ON JUNE 15**

All three original rooms in national historic landmark now open to the public

New York, NY, June 7, 2007—On June 15, The Morgan Library & Museum opens to public view for the first time, the original Librarian's Office in the Morgan's historic McKim building. One of a suite of three rooms in the splendid 1906 Italianate building designed by Charles F. McKim (1847–1909) for the institution's founder Pierpont Morgan (1837–1913), the room is located at the north end of the entrance rotunda that separates Morgan's library from his study.



Photography by John Calabrese.

The Librarian's Office is the smallest of the McKim rooms and was the office of Belle da Costa Greene (1879–1950), Morgan's personal librarian, a leading figure in the international art world, and the first director of the Morgan. The room continued to serve as the office for successive Morgan directors until the 1980s. Today, the director's office is located in the Morgan House, the 1850s brownstone at the corner of Madison Avenue and 37th Street.

In addition to a number of original furnishings, the Librarian's Office contains, among other objects, a bronze candelabrum by Antoine-Louis Barye (1796–1875), *Candelabrum with Figures of Juno, Minerva, and Venus*, and a bronze sculpture of John Ruskin by Gutzon Borglum (1867–1941). The bronze bust over the mantle, formerly thought to be of Petrarch, has recently been identified as Boccaccio, and was made after a marble bust by Giovanni Francesco Rustici (1474–1554). The ceiling paintings are by James Wall Finn (1866–1913).

A 1910 photograph of Greene, who is the subject of a recently published first biography, is also on display. In 1905, as the construction of his library neared completion, Pierpont Morgan hired her to manage his growing collection of rare books and manuscripts. She would also play an increasingly important role in building the institution's collections after Morgan's death.

THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM

A complex of buildings in the heart of New York City, The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today it is a museum, independent research library, musical venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. Nearly a century after its founding, the Morgan maintains a unique position in the cultural life of New York City and is considered one of its greatest treasures. With the 2006 reopening of its newly renovated campus, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano, the Morgan reaffirmed its role as an important repository for the history, art, and literature of Western civilization from 4000 B.C. to the twenty-first century.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Morgan Library & Museum

225 Madison Avenue, at 36th Street, New York, NY 10016-3405

212.685.0008

www.themorgan.org

HOURS

Tuesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; extended Friday hours, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Monday, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

ADMISSION

\$12 for adults; \$8 for students, seniors (65 and over) and children (under 16); free to Members and children 12 and under accompanied by an adult. Admission is free on Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission to the McKim rooms is without charge during the following times: Tuesday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 4 to 6 p.m. Admission is not required to visit the Morgan Shop.