



Samuel F.B. Morse

AGENDA



Motto/Logo (Nicole Greaney)

Thesis (Group)

Influences and Comparison to Leonardo DaVinci (Joe Fiore)

Biography (Traci Gottlieb)

Works (Nicole Greaney)

Slide Show of Works/Designs (Nicole Greaney)

Place (Kristen Alldredge)

Itinerary (Traci Gottlieb)

Lesson Plan (Kristen Alldredge)

Mock Web Site (Joe Fiore)

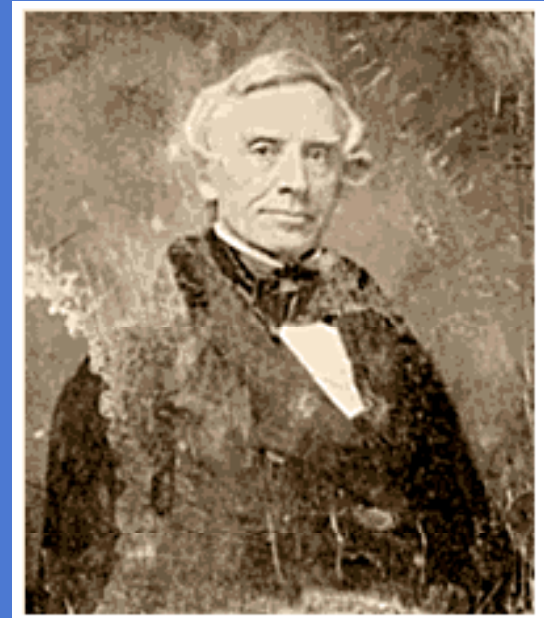
Web Page for Guidebook (Traci Gottlieb)

Conclusion (Group)

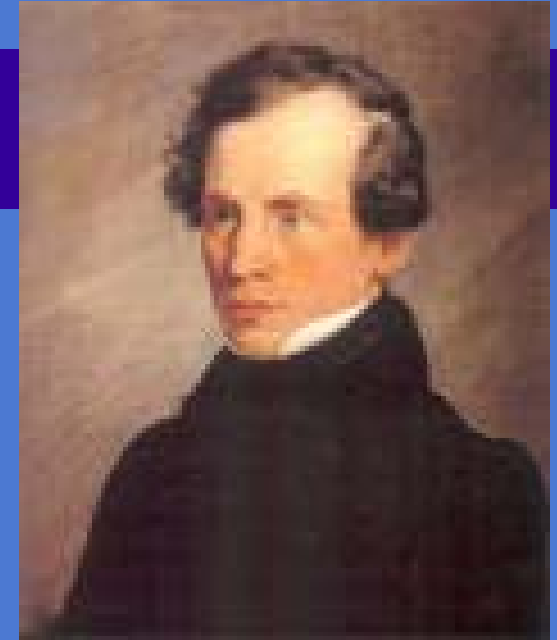


Thesis

Without Samuel Finley Breese Morse's expansive imagination, consequent creativity and perseverance developed through artistry, he would not have been capable of making his other contributions to the world, such as Locust Grove and the telegraph. Morse is the American Leonardo because he is an ideal Renaissance Man, with mastery in the dualisms of art and science.



Biography...

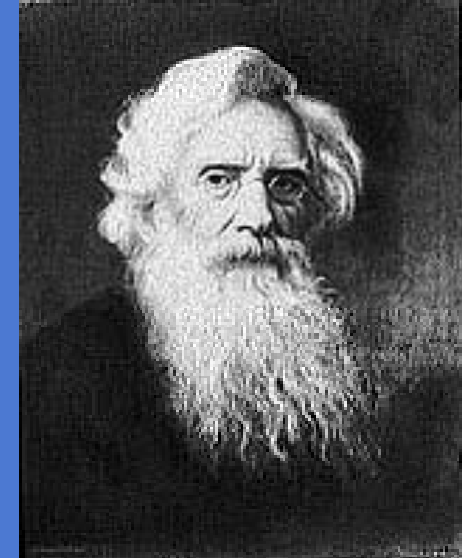


Self Portrait

- Why an artist?
 - as a boy, favorite activity was drawing
 - while attending Yale, drew pictures of classmates/sold them for spending money
- setbacks:
 - art still new in America, not much of a demand
 - impatient, expected instant riches
- acquired an enhanced sense of determination
 - eventually led to his success as an inventor

Biography...

- became prominently known as an artist in the 1820s and 1830s
 - foundation of the National Academy of Design
 - offered a position as a professor of painting/sculpture at NYU
- an idea caught Morse's imagination
 - struggled with invention; *never gave up*
- **SUCCESS**
 - purchase of Locust Grove
- remembered as an inventor, not an artist..



Self Portrait

Influences...

- Landscape Paintings
- Portraits
- Inventions

- Natural Talent
- Hudson River School of Art
- European Styles

Thomas Cole



Samuel Morse



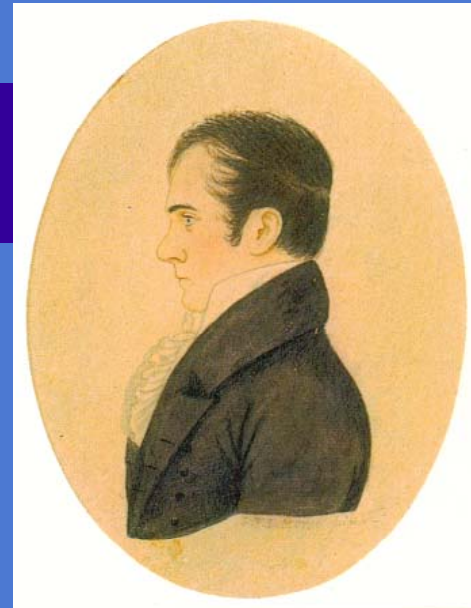


The American Da Vinci...

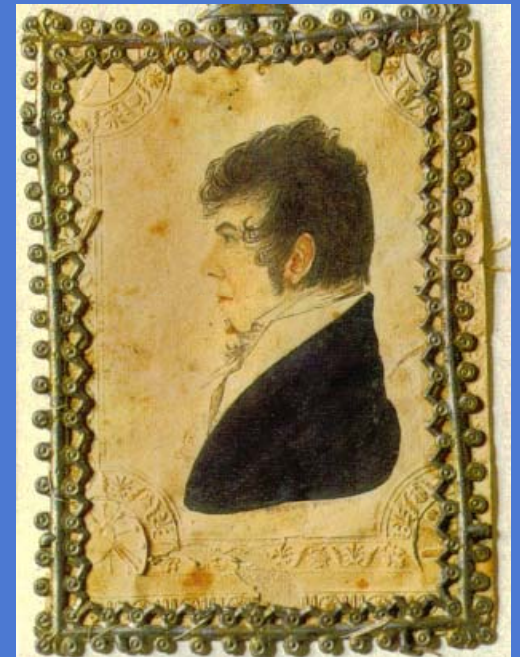
- Morse as a Renaissance Man
- Mastery of the “duality of science and art”
- Inner genius of the painter/inventor
- Further Comparisons

His Works...

- Art vs. Invention
- Painting at Yale
- Caricatures led to Portraits
- Portraits:
 - Gideon Tomlinson: Classical
 - John Bartlett: Romanticism
- Attention to detail



1808.



1809.

His Works...

Main Gallery

of the Louvre

- John Scarlett Davis, 1831.



Gallery of the Louvre

- Samuel F. B. Morse, 1833.



His Works...

Italian Landscape

-Washington Allston, 1814.



Ostego Lake from Apple Hill

- Samuel F.B. Morse, 1829.



His Works...

*Chapel of the Virgin at
Subiaco, 1830.*

- Suggestion of “fairer creation”
- “Spirit and Splendor”



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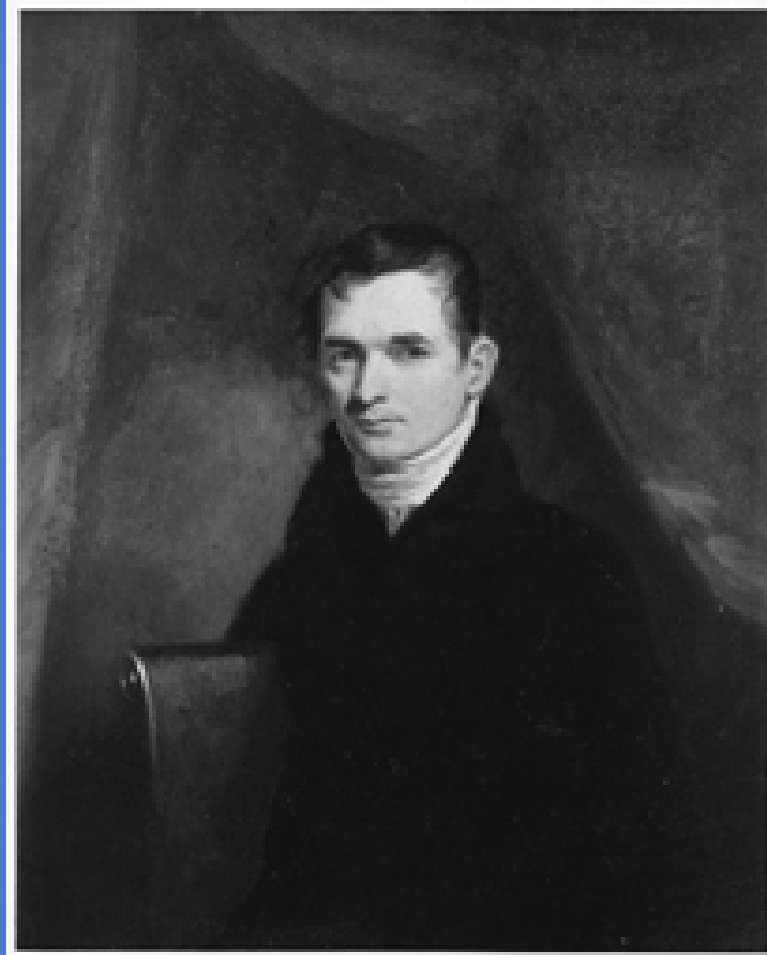
Samuel F. B. Morse

*Slide Show of
Important Paintings
and Designs....*

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Nathan Parker



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Mr. and Mrs. Eliphalet Terry



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Jacob Morton



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House of Representatives



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Gallery of the Louvre



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The Goldfish Bowl



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The Muse



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Ostego Lake from Apple Hill



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Chapel of the Virgin at Subiaco



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The Morse Family



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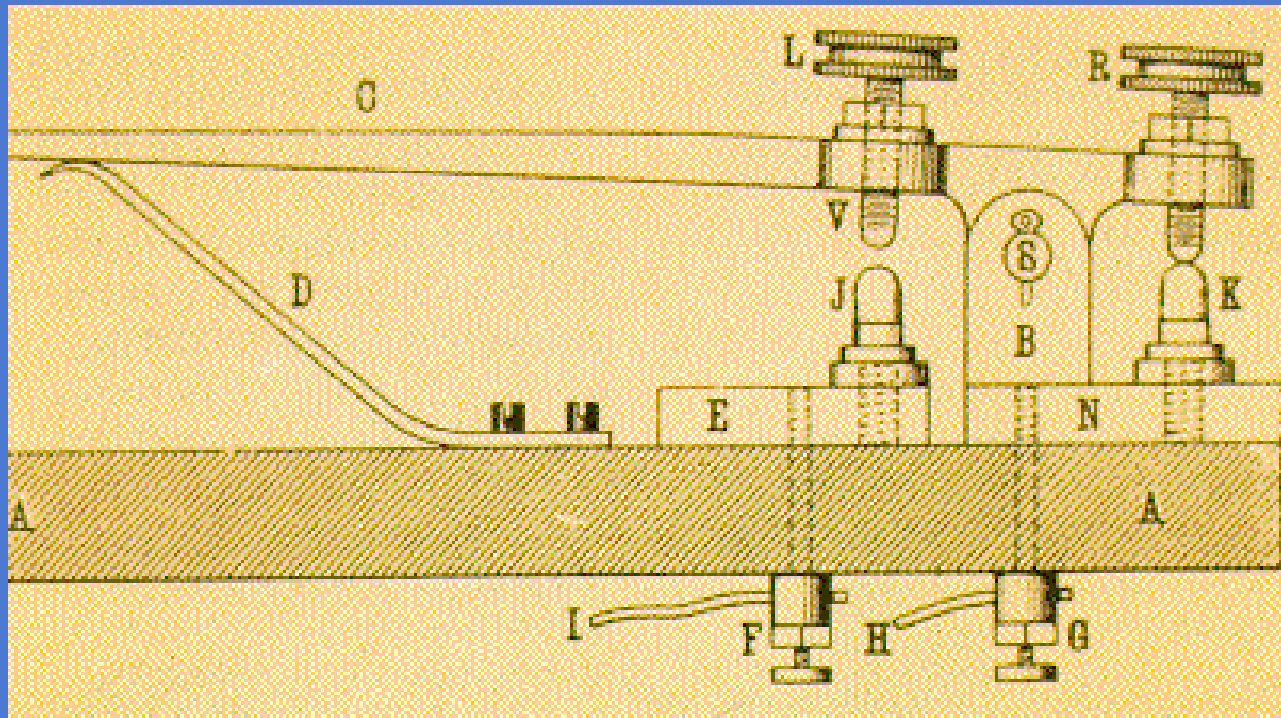
Lucretia Morse & her Children



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Telegraph



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Place...

Locust Grove



Home of Samuel Morse
Poughkeepsie, NY



Locust Grove - Poughkeepsie

Place...



Samuel F.B. Morse's Home

ARCHITECTURE

- Purchased in 1847, and revised
 - Architect Alexander Jackson Davis
 - Tuscan style villa
- Completed many drafts until perfection
- Additions:
 - Tuscan tower
 - Two wings
 - Porte-cochère
 - Billiards room



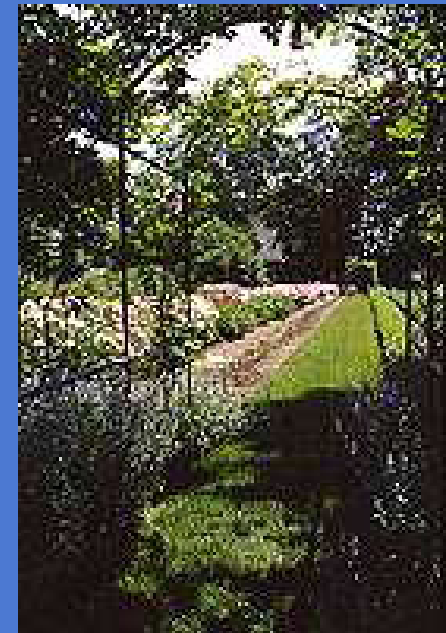


Place...



LANDSCAPE

- Reflect Morse's knowledge of painting and landscape
- Romantic 19th century influence on landscape garden design
- Main Perennial Garden
- Extensive vegetable garden
- Victorian style gardens and urns
- Geometric masterpiece





Place...



THE COLLECTION

- American furniture, European paintings, and American and European ceramics
- Morse family silver and porcelain
- Fine arts collection
- Morse Exhibition Room
- **Museum**
 - Painting
 - Sculptures
 - Sketchings





Lesson plan...

- Pre trip

- Cut and paste, and coloring of a timeline of Morse's life and works
 - Birth date, painting of the Louvre, teaching at NYU, painting of the House of Commons, Invention of the telegraph, designing and remodeling Locust Grove, and death.
 - Discuss why students put them in that order, and reveal the proper order they should go in.
 - Stress that he was a painter before he designed the telegraph. Talk about the influence of the Hudson River Valley School of Painters on his career.

- While at Locust Grove

- Painting

- Students sit in museum in the hall of Morse's paintings
- Replicate his works with watercolors
- Teacher explains his techniques and subjects
 - Landscapes and portraits

Lesson Plan continued...



- Painting Outside
 - Students use watercolors to replicate Morse's masterpiece
 - Geometric gardens, landscape, and architecture
 - Discuss the types of plants in the garden, the type of landscape (Tuscan Style) and inspiring view of the Hudson River
- Post Trip
 - Students share their paintings with the class
 - Share favorite part of the trip
 - Discuss what they learned about Morse
 - Particularly his artistic side

SamuelMorse.net

Links

[History](#)

[His Works](#)

[Morse Code](#)

[The Man vs. The Myth](#)

[Other Links](#)



Locust Grove: The Samuel Morse Historic Site

<http://www.morsehistoricsite.org>

2683 South Road

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

OPEN: May-November

HOURS: Daily

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

(Call for December hours)

Tel.: (845) 454-4500



Locust Grove

Historical Description:

Locust Grove, now a National Historic Landmark, was purchased by Samuel F. B. Morse in 1847. Through visiting this site is one able to become fully aware of Samuel F.B. Morse as the artist. He is widely renowned for his invention of the telegraph, but thanks to his estate, the home of his famous paintings, we are able to recognize him for his artistic genius as well. We see evidence of this in his extensive and elaborate gardens, reflecting his expertise in painting, that surround the focal point of his landscaping design, his transformation of the Montgomery Federal house. This estate is a crucial aspect of Morse, "the forgotten painter," and important to visit in truly capturing the essence of his artistic brilliance: Morse as the painter and the landscape as the canvas.

The Site:

Visitors to Locust Grove will be able to tour the stunning Italianate mansion, full of fine and decorative arts and historic technology; the Morse Gallery exhibits, which focus on the life Samuel Morse -- the artist and promoter of telegraph technology; 18 acres of landscaped grounds including five period vegetable gardens; as well as 100 acres of nature preserve with over 4 miles of nature trails.

Directions:

New York Thruway Exit 18, New Paltz. Take the ramp up to Route 299 and make a right, going east. At the end of 299 is a traffic light at the intersection on 299 and Rte 9W. Make a right and go south on 9W. After the third traffic light in the town of Highland, take the ramp (on right) for the Mid-Hudson Bridge. At the end of the bridge, just before one enters Poughkeepsie, is a ramp to Route 9. Take Route 9 South 2 miles. Locust Grove is on the west side of the road, at the Beechwood Drive intersection.

Itinerary...

Locust Grove



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The Samuel F. B. Morse Historic Site is located on Route 9 in Poughkeepsie, New York, about 2 miles south of the Mid Hudson Bridge.



Itinerary...

Other places to consider:

One of the latest honors paid to Samuel Morse was the erection of his statue in Central Park.

Located at the East 72nd Street entrance to Central Park, the entrance of Inventor's Gate.



Morse is buried with many relatives and their descendents in Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn.



Conclusion

This case study was significant for it allowed us to delve into aspects of Samuel Morse's life which have been overshadowed by his fame for the development of Morse code. Samuel Morse is comparative to the Hudson River Valley School of painters, and as a painter/inventor is also comparable to Leonardo Da Vinci. The artistic qualities such as creativity, patience and dedication attributed to other successes in his lifetime. He gave the world portraits and landscape paintings, highly revered today as masterpieces. Morse is considered a Renaissance man, because he was not only a successful painter but provided the world with the telegraph and the masterpiece of Locust Grove.

“As to my choice of a profession, I still think that I was made for a painter.”

- Samuel F. B. Morse

Bibliography

Alter, Judy. 2003. *Samuel F. B. Morse*. Canhassan, MN: The Child's World.

Kloss, William. 1988. *Samuel F.B. Morse*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc.

Mabee, Carleton. 2000. *The American Leonardo: A Life of Samuel F.B. Morse*. New York: Purple Mountain Press.