

## A BRIEF HISTORY...

The Whitney mansion is an impressive home on Woodward Avenue in Midtown Detroit. The structure, completed in 1894, was designed for lumber baron David Whitney, Jr. and described by one newspaper account in 1894 as "the most elaborate and substantial residence in this part of the country." Created in the Romanesque style by respected Detroit architect Gordon W. Lloyd, the structure is built of South Dakota Jasper, a rare variety of pink granite which gives the outside of the House a striking rose hue. The exterior features a multi gabled roof and arched windows that add drama to the already luxurious facade. The 21,000 square foot home originally had 52 rooms, 10 bathrooms, 218 windows, 20 fireplaces, a secret vault in the original dining room and an elevator. Construction took four years at a cost of \$400,000.00.

David Whitney, Jr. was born in 1830 in Watertown, Massachusetts. In 1857, at the age of 27, he came to Detroit to take charge of the Western operations of two eastern seaboard lumber concerns. He was primarily responsible for purchasing timberlands and for the shipment of lumber. In the 1870's both firms were dissolved and Whitney began to invest in Michigan, Wisconsin and Oregon timberlands. He rapidly became the largest lumber baron in the Midwest.

Whitney died in 1900, but the family continued to live in the House until the 1920's. At that time it became headquarters of the Wayne County Medical Society. The Medical Society later sold the house, and the 6,000-square-foot carriage house behind it, to the Visiting Nurses Association. Businessman Richard Kughn purchased the property in 1980. He was a man with a vision and on December 12th, 1986, the Whitney mansion became The Whitney, "An American restaurant in an American palace." Mr. Kughn was an ardent supporter of the City of Detroit, and in 2007 he sold this amazing property to another believer in the strength of the City, Bud Liebler. Mr. Liebler is a former Chrysler executive who is on a path to refresh and revitalize the property and keep it functioning as a treasured Detroit icon. It is an exciting adventure that he hopes will be shared -- and enjoyed -- by many for years to come.

## A TRADITION BEGINS...

Afternoon Tea is a tradition that began in 1840 by the Seventh Duchess of Bedford. Due to a long period between the meals, the Duchess experienced a sinking feeling that afflicted her between 3 and 4 o'clock. One afternoon she requested a tray of tea, bread, butter, and cake to be brought to her room.

Gradually, she became accustomed to this habit and invited her friends to partake in her daily ritual.

Within a short period of time, this affair, known as Afternoon Tea, became an elaborate social event.

## TRADITIONAL AFTERNOON TEA

### CELEBRATE THE GOOD LIFE

*Begin with a Mimosa or Champagne Toast*

### DUET OF SCONES

*Accompanied by Marmalade and Chantilly Cream*

### STRAWBERRIES & DOUBLE CREAM

### TEA SANDWICHES

*Cucumber & Cream Cheese*

*Mozzarella & prosciutto rose, crispy basil*

*Classic egg salad, Boston bibb lettuce*

*Smoked salmon on pumpernickel*

### HOT CANAPES

*Shrimp & gruyere cheese puff*

*Chicken & cherry wonton cup*

### DESSERT

*Miniature Pastries Designed by our Pastry Chef*

**\$49/per person**

*Due to the nature of this event, we cannot accommodate menu/dietary restrictions or substitutions.*