

February 3 Saratoga County History Center News and Events

**SCHC**  
Saratoga County History Center  
@ Brookside Museum



**Saratoga County History Center**

*Sharing History to Promote Community*

*February 3, 2022*



Thank you to our volunteers! On a cold Sunday afternoon, three volunteers arranged records for the Ballston Spa Rotary Club in the cozy library at the Brookside Museum. Volunteer with us <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/volunteer/>

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## Letter from the History Center's President



Dear History Center members,

The past year has been gratifying—for all of us. Support, measured by our membership, has climbed dramatically to 328, a 240% increase from two years ago. We reopened the museum in June with four exhibits that filled the ground floor and a remarkable garden exhibit. Experts Next Door and programs planned by the Roundtable provided much interest.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes, we are putting the collection in order. Our greatest assets are our rich manuscript and photograph collections. A team works weekly on the photographs to render them more readily accessible, and several teams are organizing the manuscripts, which provide endless resources for studying our county's history.

2022 will certainly accomplish much more. Extraordinarily generous end-of-year giving raised enough to “Preserve the Porch” and to replace many of the 70-year-old, leaky storm windows; this restoration work and more will take place starting in the spring.

Our “World of Stewart’s” exhibit will remain through December. Joining it are the Black History exhibit, opening February 5; a look at the history of the potato chip; and a historic photograph exhibit to be developed by Skidmore students.

You are represented by a hard-working board of eighteen trustees, all of whom bring distinct skills and roll up their sleeves to keep the museum in full operation. But we need your support to make “Brookside” a true center of historical research and interpretation. Thank you for standing behind us in this period of rebuilding.

FIELD HORNE  
President



## Saratoga County Historical Community Upcoming Events

**February 6** – Ongoing “Black Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950.” An exhibit at the Brookside Museum Gallery that explores the diverse lives of African-Americans in Saratoga County from the colonial period to the mid-twentieth century. It is a panorama of the struggles and hardships, but also stories of their persistence and success. Displays will feature little-known events, as well as objects and memorabilia that bring to life the men and women who were often the heart and soul of Saratoga society. Saturdays and Sundays Noon – 4 pm

**February 8** - 7pm "Troy in the Civil War" lecture presented by Michael Barrett at the Van Schaick Island Country Club (201 Continental Ave, Cohoes) Admission: \$6 non members \$5 members  
This is part of the Winter Lecture Series at the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center.  
For more information, contact: [info@waterfordmuseum.com](mailto:info@waterfordmuseum.com). (Dinner is available for separate purchase during the program [not included in the price of admission] by Max 410 at the Van Schaick Island Country Club.)

**February 18** - 1pm "In Memoriam: Casualties of the Battles of Saratoga." Heritage Hunters will present a Zoom program led by Eric Schnitzer, Interpretive Ranger and Military Historian, with the Saratoga National Historical Park in Stillwater. Eric will discuss his research in identifying the American casualties, using a variety of methods including genealogy. The Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82014504701?pwd=QnRkTWx6YjA3UEZQNGxGLzFDYlZKUT09>  
For info call 518-885-9309.

**February 19** - 2pm "The Lattimore Circle" by Julie O'Connor and Lorie Wies, both retired librarians with a deep interest in local Black History. This Saratoga County History Roundtable presentation focuses on the saga of the Lattimore family over several generations in which they were key figures in the establishment of a viable and thriving Black community in Albany and became important links with the anti-slavery and abolition movements. During this time, they continued their influence after moving to the Town of Moreau and Saratoga Springs during the mid-19th century. The presentation will be held in the Long Room at the Brookside Museum to coincide with the "Black Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950" exhibition. Free tickets are available at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/38740-the-lattimore-circle>

**February 19** - 2pm "Valor: The Medal of Honor" presented by Edward Lengel, chief historian of Medal of Honor Museum. FREE Attendance limited to 40. The New York State Military Museum is located at 61 Lake Ave. Saratoga Springs.

**February 26** - 2pm "No Greater Calamity for the Country" on the early days of the Civil War and mobilization of the N.Y. State Militia to halt rebellion. Attendance limited to 40. The New York State Military Museum is located at 61 Lake Ave. Saratoga Springs.

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**Help SCHC Thrive - Become a Member Today!**

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Interested in becoming a member of the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside? Click [here](#) to find out about all of our membership opportunities. SCHC is a great place to learn, take part in community events, and meet some of your neighbors through our county's deep history. [Become a member today!](#)"

Membership



# Saratoga County Compass

The online publication of SCHC's Saratoga County Compass has a big story on what Jane McCrea can tell us about the American Revolution today. This article was written by Blake Grindon, a graduate student of Princeton University.

“In the middle of the nineteenth-century, prominent journalist Benson Lossing reflected on Jane McCrea: “The sad story of the unfortunate girl is so interwoven in our history that it has become a component part.” Just over a hundred and fifty years later, Lossing’s claim may seem a little far-fetched.” For more information, go to <https://brooksidemuseum.org/the-compass/>

If you are interested in Jane McCrea and the research of Blake Grindon, you may enjoy watching one of our recent Experts Next Door #17: Jane McCrea: A Revolutionary Martyr and an Early American Family Story with Blake Grindon - <https://youtu.be/N3qaJbs3IYw>

The compass showcases the latest discoveries from public history scholars, professional academics and experts from a wide variety of fields. Whether it’s cutting-edge historical research, musings from a classroom teacher, photo essays, student contributions, or observations by professional pundits, we are pleased to showcase and celebrate scholarly endeavors. The editor of Saratoga County Compass is Dr. Michael Landis, trustee and Public Programs Manager at the Saratoga County History Center. Submissions should be sent to Dr. Landis at [mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:mlandis@brooksidemuseum.org).

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***SCHC needs your help (and we’re not asking for money)!***

In April, SCHC will start to develop a plan for the future of the organization and the museum, Brookside. To do so, SCHC requires your assistance.

In mid-February, you will receive an email asking you to complete an online survey about SCHC's programs and direction. You will need about five minutes to respond, and the answers will be anonymous.

Please help SCHC plan for the future!

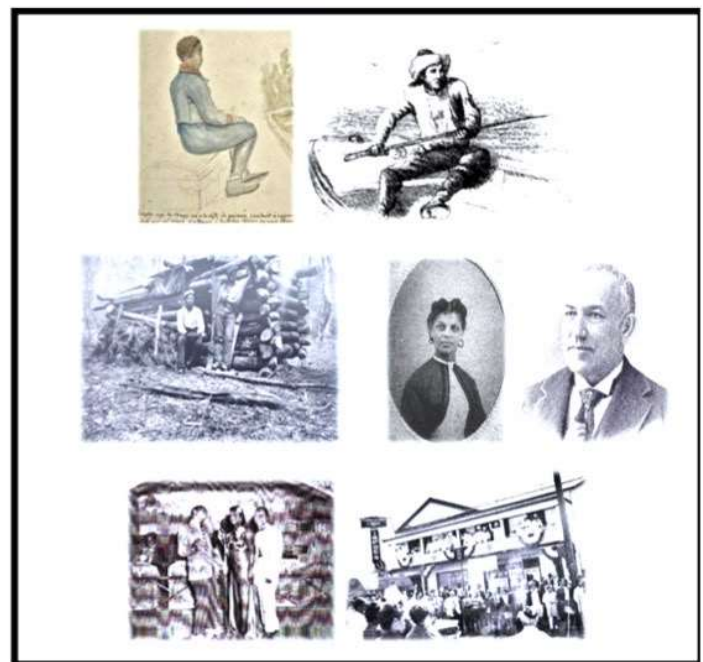


## BLACK EXPERIENCES IN SARATOGA COUNTY 1750 – 1950

Explore the diversity of the lives of African Americans in Saratoga County over 200 years from the colonial period to the mid-20th century. It is a panorama of the struggles and hardships they faced, but also of their persistence and success.



Brookside Museum Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4 pm starting February 6, 2022. The SCHC Brookside Museum is located on 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome.



# Saratoga County History In the News

Saratoga County History in the News presents brief extracts from articles published in mainstream media and, less frequently, blogs and alternative media. The excerpts come directly from the websites referred to in each source note. Quotation marks are not utilized.

*How the Potato Chip Took Over America* - a fussy magnate (a myth), a miffed chef and the curious roots in Saratoga Springs of the comfort food we hate to love is the focus of Brandon Tensley's [Smithsonian](#) magazine article. (The History of the Potato Chip is a new exhibit at the **SCHC Brookside Museum**, starting in the summer of 2022.)

**Saratoga County Historian Lauren Roberts** and NYS State Historian Devin Landers present [4 New York Minute in History](#) podcast focused on American patriot Thomas Paine, his influence on the American and French Revolutions – and just how and why his body went missing. Guests include Dr. Nora Slonimsky and Dr. Michael Crowder of the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies at Iona College.

A trio of local filmmakers challenges viewers to reconsider a historic figure whose name is synonymous with betrayal in their new film documentary "*Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed.*" [Saratogian](#)

Maureen Mahoney becomes Director of Development for the **National Museum of Racing** [Saratoga Today](#).

**Hudson Crossing Park** and the canal trails of Schuylerville are part of the New York park and historic sites that are featured as part of the new season of @TravelswithDarley in the “*New York’s Empire State Trail*” episode! View the video previews here <https://darley.link/pbs-new-season>.

The **Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor** has released seven new multi-day itineraries including the Saratoga County town of Waterford that make it easy to plan a trip along the New York State Canal System and Canalway Trail. <https://eriecanalway.org/explore/Plan-Visit/itineraries> will also host the FEBRUARY 15 Canalway Challenge. New Yorkers can take part in walking, running, hiking, snowshoeing or cross-country skiing for 15 miles during the month of February. Anyone who completes the February 15 challenge will earn a 15-Miler badge. Registration is free and open to people, teams and organizations. You can sign up at [canalwaychallenge.org](https://canalwaychallenge.org).

The **New York State Library** offers several public webinars in February and March – all programs are free, online and open to the public. <https://nyslibrary.libcal.com/calendar>

In case you missed it, [This Week in Saratoga County History - January 27](#) *Suicide in Town Hall* written by Greg Veitch

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Contribute to Saratoga County History Center News and Events. Submit events, stories, job changes, promotions or news about Saratoga County history to [sean@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto:sean@brooksidemuseum.org). SCHC News and Events is a collaborative effort. We count on the contributions of the historic

community of Saratoga County and others for the entire content of this page. Producer Sean Kelleher and Editor Donna Dardaris coordinate the creation of the email with the help of many contributors, including Anne Clothier, Andrew Collier, Isobel Connell, Cindy Corbett, Michael Landis, Jim Richmond, and Beth Silvestri.

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This message was sent by the Saratoga County History Center Board of Trustee which recognizes Native Peoples who are the original stewards of the lands on which we now live. We gratefully acknowledge the Native Peoples on whose ancestral homelands, we write from, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home in New York State today.

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The Brookside Museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4 pm. SCHC Brookside Museum lists all closings at <https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/>

The SCHC Brookside Museum is located on 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome.

The Saratoga County History Center is dedicated to the preservation and sharing of the diverse histories of Saratoga County. In addition to the Brookside Museum, the History Center offers a variety of innovative, exciting and educational programs online and in person throughout the county. Please visit the website ([www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.

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**Saratoga County History Center**

6 Charlton Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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