

Historian's Report, October 2023

*Displays:* The museum exhibit at Patrick Tavern, "A Noble Woman: the Art and Life of Caroline Parker Mountpleasant," closed with a reception and informal talks on Sept. 28. Attendance was strong throughout, thanks to open hours coinciding with the Tuesday market. Total visitations 49, very high for a one-month show. My thanks to AHS for providing the reception, and especially presenters Shirley Egan (showing Victorian-era Indian beadwork) and Rob LoMascolo (showing an original edition of Lewis Henry Morgan's 1850 monograph on Haudenosaunee material culture). Thanks also to Stephen Zabriskie for lending the AMC's hand-colored engraving of Nicholson Parker in the regalia made by Caroline. My contribution was a short talk on Arthur C. Parker's role in the dedication of the Lewis Henry Morgan memorial tablet in Macmillan Hall in 1919.

The new Patrick Tavern display, "Meet Benjamin Ledyard," opened for New York State's "Path Through History Weekend," Oct. 7-8 as part of the Aurora-Ledyard Museum Group. In addition, Patrick Tavern was part of the "Fall Crawl Through Time," a separate collaborative event including the Frontenac Museum, Opendore, and the Genoa Historical Society.

As part of Path Through History, an initiative of I Love NY, Patrick Tavern now has the State signs to use in participating in future Path Through History Weekends. This State-wide event put Patrick Tavern, along with its partner sites - the Aurora Masonic Center, Town of Ledyard Historian's Corner, The Press of Robert LoMascolo, and the Howland Farm Museum - on the map for future events. Thanks to AHS again for refreshments and docents, and to AHS President Tracy Leffingwell particularly for finding a "Benjamin Ledyard" (Sean Corbin of the Genoa Historical Society) to greet visitors.

Helped by a showcase of traditional arts by participating businesses of the Tuesday Market, attendance at Patrick Tavern was very high: 66 over the weekend. Thanks go to Farm Credit East for the grant providing honoraria to participating artists. This exhibit and its companion, "Despite Remonstrance" at the Ledyard Town Hall, will remain in place for the remainder of the year for visitors to enjoy.

*Research:* For the above display. Thanks to Shirley Egan of the Town of Ledyard for helpful questions and discussion, and Jaqueline Roshia, Interpretive Programs Assistant at the Lorenzo State Historic Site, for document and portrait facsimiles and the associated permissions, and the staff of the Hollis Library at Harvard for access to their Ledyard collection.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Historian, Village of Aurora