

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
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FALL CURATOR'S FABULOUS FINDS LECTURE

KATONAH, N.Y. (September 1, 2010) – *Curator's Fabulous Finds*, a series of artifact talks at John Jay Homestead, will continue on Sunday, October 3 at 2:00 p.m., and will be repeated on Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. This fall's lecture will examine and discuss artwork made by the Jays from the Homestead's historic collection. The cost of admission will be \$10.00 per person; members of the Friends of John Jay Homestead may attend at no charge.

As early as the 18th century, members of the Jay family enjoyed drawing and painting pictures, an interest that expanded to include sculpture in the 20th century. Works by three of John Jay's children will be examined close up: a watercolor of a flower painted by Peter Augustus Jay in 1790 when he was fourteen, a landscape painted by Maria Jay in 1799, and a pencil drawing of a ferret drawn by Nancy Jay in 1825. The next generation of the family will be represented by Peter Augustus's daughter Elizabeth, who is believed to be the artist who created a beautiful album of exquisitely rendered landscapes, drawn around Westchester County in the early to mid-19th century. During the 20th century, John Jay's great-great-granddaughter, Eleanor Jay Iselin, painted in oils, and a work of hers imitating an 18th-century still life will be viewed. Finally, Mrs. Iselin's daughter, the well-known equestrian artist Eleanor Iselin Wade, will be discussed as participants view a number of her artworks in her studio at the Homestead.

Space at the talk is limited, and reservations are strongly suggested. To reserve seats, call John Jay Homestead at (914) 232-5651, extension 105.

John Jay was a President of the Continental Congress, the second U.S. Secretary for Foreign Affairs, the first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, and the second Governor of New York State. He retired to Bedford in 1801 to live the life of a gentleman farmer. His home is now a beautiful sixty-two acre historic site that includes lovely walks, several gardens, farm buildings, and a richly-decorated main residence restored to the 1820s, the last decade of Jay's life.

John Jay Homestead State Historic Site is located at 400 Route 22, Katonah, N.Y. John Jay Homestead is regularly open for guided tours Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The site is one of six historic sites and 15 parks administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation – Taconic Region. For additional information about New York State Parks, please visit www.nysparks.com.

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