



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Communications@cchsny.org

Columbia County Historical Society Launches 'Drive Through History' to Expand Access to Local Heritage

(COLUMBIA COUNTY, NY) August 3, 2020

As museums and cultural organizations around the world adapt to unprecedented circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic, Columbia County Historical Society is pleased to announce the launch of ***Drive Through History* road trips**, which aim to encourage discovery of local heritage beyond the museum walls. These self-guided drives will immerse participants in fascinating stories and historical sites around the County.

“Beginning with traces and reminders left by our first Americans—native Mahican people, early Dutch settlers, and finally other Europeans—we invite you to tour Columbia County’s historic places and structures at your own pace with our *Drive Through History* road trips,” said CCHS Executive Director Lori Yarotsky.

Drive Through History launches today with two road trip itineraries: **Legends & Folklore** and **Sacred Spaces**—the first in a multi-part series that explores historic places of worship and cemeteries throughout the County. The road trips are designed to be completed in one day, however visitors can also spread their trip across multiple days. Itineraries are available on the CCHS [Drive Through History hub](#) as downloadable PDFs which visitors can access on their mobile device or print from their home computer. More itineraries will be released throughout the summer and fall, and are set to cover topics including farms and agriculture, politics, and industry in Columbia County.

In addition to *Drive Through History*, CCHS will continue to expand online access to local history on its website, www.cchsny.org with virtual tours of its historic properties, including the 1737 *Luykas Van Alen House*, c.1850 *Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse* and c.1820 *James Vanderpoel 'House of History'*. Current and forthcoming exhibitions and lectures will also be made available online. Through these free, digital initiatives, CCHS hopes to bring Columbia County’s rich history within easy reach for members, local residents, and new visitors alike.

“By visiting authentic and meaningful places and stories, we can better understand our County, and our nation,” Yarotsky said.

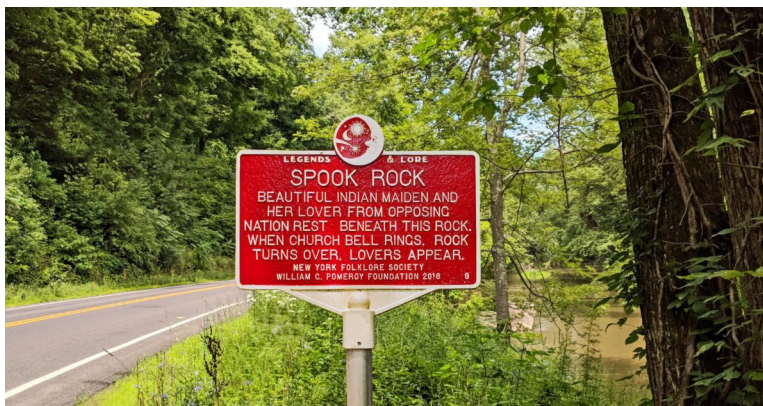
For further information, please contact :
Carrie Rodgers, Communications@cchsny.org

MORE INFO:
www.cchsny.org/drive-through-history.html

###



Famous Prize Fight historical marker in Boston Corners, a stop on the Drive Through History "Legends & Folklore" Road Trip.



Spook Rock historical marker in Greenport, a stop on the Drive Through History "Legends & Folklore" Road Trip.



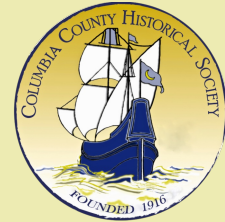
Gallatin Reformed Church, a stop on the Drive Through History "Sacred Spaces" Road Trip.



*Copake United Methodist Church, a stop on the Drive Through History
"Sacred Spaces" Road Trip.*

ABOUT CCHS

Founded in 1916, the Columbia County Historical Society Museum & Library collects, preserves, interprets, and presents the history, heritage, and culture of Columbia County, New York, and serves residents of all eighteen towns and the City of Hudson. A vital community resource, CCHS collections include important and unique paintings, textiles, furniture and decorative arts, archives, maps and genealogical materials, and four distinct historic properties relating to Columbia County's heritage. In recent years, CCHS has sustained a range of programs: the award-winning magazine *Columbia County History & Heritage*, recurring lecture series; annual *Day of History'* field trips for County fourth-graders; and exhibitions in the museum galleries. CCHS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization chartered by the New York State Department of Education.



www.cchsny.org

CONNECT WITH US

