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# CCHS Announces New Permanent Outdoor Exhibition Free and Open to the Public

## (COLUMBIA COUNTY, NY) November 22, 2021

The Columbia County Historical Society announces a new permanent outdoor exhibit featuring eight narrative panels set along the treeline of its rural properties on 9-H: The c.1850 Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse and the 1737 Luykas Van Alen House located at 2589 NY-9H in the Town of Kinderhook.

https://www.cchsny.org/wayside.html

**'Early Heritage of Columbia County"** Outdoor Narrative Panel Exhibit

Location: 2589 NY-9H, Kinderhook, NY 12037 Opening November 22, 2021

"Treat yourselves to a 20 minute walk around the grounds of our rural properties to soak up a lot of history quickly." said Board President, Bob Peduzzi.

Opening now, just in time for Thanksgiving visitors, and located on CCHS' two contiguous rural properties located along Route 9H in Kinderhook, New York, the new exhibit is an accessible and educational 'wayside' narrative panel installation that will increase and reinforce awareness, knowledge, and preservation of our shared cultural heritage for our community and our visitors, including the broad, public audience of residents and visitors from both sides of the river.

"While the challenges of this pandemic era has changed how we approach our programming, we have found new ways to engage with our community and present the history and heritage of Columbia County," said Executive Director, Lori Yarotsky.

## The outdoor exhibit is free of charge and open Dawn to Dusk, 365 days a year

The prominent property at this location is an 18<sup>th</sup> century Dutch Colonial structure, the Luykas Van Alen House, a National Historic Landmark, comprising approximately 53 acres including the Van Alen family homestead.

Adjacent to the Dutch structure is the Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse, a circa 1850 one-room schoolhouse, named after author Washington Irving's fictional, Dutch character, a schoolteacher.

Also on the grounds is the trailhead to the <u>Dutch Farming Heritage Trail</u>, the 1.7 mile foot trail to Van Buren's home, Lindenwald.

### Stories portrayed on the eight panels include:

- · <u>Native Inhabitants</u>
- · Early Dutch Settlers
- Colonial Dutch Architecture
- Black Locust Trees
- Washington Irving
- <u>The Original Ichabod Crane</u>
- One-Room Schoolhouses
- Eleanor Roosevelt at Ichabod Crane

## Generous Funding for this permanent exhibit has been made possible by:

- Dutch Culture USA | Embassy of The Netherlands in New York
- Hudson River Bank & Trust Foundation
- Humanities New York
- County of Columbia
- Hudson River Valley Greenway

For further information, please contact : <u>Director@cchsny.org</u>

## MORE INFO: https://www.cchsny.org/wayside.html



'The Original Ichabod Crane' with the Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse in the background.

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Early Dutch Settlers in the Hudson Valley



Black Locust Trees Favored by the Dutch Settlers.



The Original Ichabod Crane

Please credit all photos:

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#### **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 fourthgraders; and exhibitions in the museum galleries. CCHS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization chartered by the New York State Department of Education.

