



## Southold Historical Society

PRESS RELEASE

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Southold, NY

New Exhibits at Southold Historical Museum

Southold Historical Museum is proud to announce that it has reopened for the 2021 season with an array of new exhibits to explore.

Beginning at the Maple Lane Complex at 55200 Main Road, Southold, in the Ann Currie-Bell house, "The Roaring 20s, A Decade of Change" is this summer's seasonal exhibit. The exhibit explores local living 100 years ago, including the temperance movement, rum-running and speakeasies as well as lifestyle changes. People, disillusioned with conservative traditions and by the horrors of the past war, drove fast cars, wore fashionable clothes and cosmetics, partied, danced the Charleston, drank alcohol despite Prohibition, and added many slang terms to the language. Individualism and Consumerism developed at this time.

Also on display throughout the Ann Currie-Bell house are a few quilts that highlight the extensive textile collection of the museum. In addition to a quilt that was sewn during the Civil War era, there is a quilt to support the temperance movement as well as one by skilled milliner, Frank Davis Smith of Peconic. Smith was born on March 21, 1862, in Peconic, New York, to Joshua (1824 -1887) and Lucinda Terry (1829-1925). He married Minnie Esther Terry on August 2, 1900, in Southold, NY. Frank owned a millinery shop in Peconic. This quilt, made from silk and velvet scraps of his hat fabrics, was hand pieced by him shortly before his death at age 80.

The reinterpretation of the permanent "Enslavement in Southold" exhibit is located in the Thomas Moore/Samuel Landon house. The note-worthy exhibit examines the institution of slavery in Southold and identifies five people who are documented as being enslaved by the Landon Family in the mid to late 1700s. The reinterpretation involved integrating the narrative of the enslaved people within the daily lives of the family. Additionally, the entry way to the house is now being used as the exhibit space, so that the remaining house is set up for historic house tours.

The former buttery which accompanied this house has been converted to a "Colonial Wash House." Visitors can imagine how laundry would have been done during the late 1700s. Sorry, no rinse and spin cycle!

The Colonial Herb Garden has been updated to include interactive labels to identify and explore the various herbs. By scanning the QR codes with a smartphone, visitors can learn about the various uses of the herb throughout history.

The Reichert Family Barn has new interpretive labels that offer names and uses of various artifacts that are on exhibit throughout the barn. The extensive sleigh collection, which is

exhibited on the upper bays are now easier to identify, as well as the carriages that are on display throughout the barn and annex.

The new outdoor interpretive signs, funded by a grant through Suffolk County Parks, help visitors learn more about the numerous buildings as they walk the Maple Lane Complex. These signs offer some basic information about the historic buildings, including some historic photographs.

Lastly, the Nautical Museum at Horton Point Lighthouse has a new seasonal exhibit entitled “Dead Man’s Cove, Shipwrecks off Horton Point Lighthouse.” This exhibit, curated by volunteer Ben Gonzalez with assistance from Amy Folk, museum collections manager, explores the history of the waters at Horton Point that necessitated a lighthouse. The sand bars and large boulders have led to a number of shipwrecks over the years.

The Maple Lane Complex is open Saturday and Sundays from 1-4pm through September 12 and the Nautical Museum at Horton Point Lighthouse is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11:30am-4pm. There is a suggested admission of \$5 per adult and \$10 per family which includes admission to both locations. Parking is available at Horton Point Lighthouse for a fee through the Southold Park District. Street parking is with a Southold Town Permit only. The Lighthouse Tower is temporarily closed.

For more information about this exhibition or about other museum programs, please call 631.765.5500 or email [info@southoldhistorical.org](mailto:info@southoldhistorical.org).



The Roaring Twenties exhibit.



Enslavement in Southold exhibit.