



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 31, 2023

Preservation Long Island Celebrates Its 75th Anniversary with Special Events and Programs from June through December 2023

Diamond Anniversary Benefit Party, New Exhibition and Redesigned Historic House Tours at Preservation Long Island Properties Across Long Island

Founded as a not-for-profit in 1948, Preservation Long Island's work concentrates on preserving and celebrating Long Island's diverse cultural and architectural heritage through advocacy, education, and stewardship of historic sites and collections.



Cold Spring Harbor, NY (May, 31, 2023) — Preservation Long Island is delighted to announce its 75th year in operation as the only regional not-for-profit organization dedicated to historic preservation on

geographic Long Island. From events and exhibitions to preservation advocacy and on-site student education, their wide-ranging programs connect Long Islanders to the region's diverse and distinctive past.

To help celebrate this 75th Anniversary milestone, special events are planned including a Diamond Anniversary Benefit Party on June 23rd, a new exhibition, and redesigned house tours and special programs at Preservation Long Island's historic properties across Long Island.

Originally founded in 1948 as the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, the organization adopted Preservation Long Island as a new name in 2017 to communicate more plainly its commitment to advancing the importance of preserving all facets of the region's history through advocacy, education, and stewardship of historic sites and collections.

"Our professional staff provide public programs and direct advisory support to Long Islanders, helping to promote community-driven approaches to public history and preservation throughout the region," said **Alexandra Wolfe, Preservation Long Island Executive Director**. "We were founded on the idea that to really appreciate a place is to understand that the things in it – the built, the natural, and the cultural environments – all together embody a shared history that adds color and meaning to everyday life."

Preservation Long Island's approach to historic preservation on Long Island is comprehensive and includes:

- Interpreting three Preservation Long Island owned historic sites in Suffolk County.
- Providing [free advisory services](#) in communities across Long Island for individuals and groups engaged in local preservation efforts. Advocacy work includes the [Endangered Historic Places Program](#) and [Preservation Awards](#).
- Maintaining exceptional examples of regional material culture. Preservation Long Island's [collections](#) of over 8,000 objects and archival materials is considered one of the most significant regional assemblages of decorative arts and objects in New York State. Hundreds of images from the collection are now available to browse online.
- Developing [exhibitions](#) that explore Long Island's remarkable material and cultural past at their headquarters [Gallery](#) in Cold Spring Harbor.

- Presenting [innovative educational programs](#) about local history and the built environment at Preservation Long Island owned historic properties as well as on-site programs for school groups.
- Publishing scholarly works and books. Preservation Long Island's ground-breaking [publications](#) on Long Island history and decorative arts remain the go-to sources for studying Long Island's heritage.

"We are excited about our enhanced slate of programming that celebrates our organization's founding and Long Island's rich and unique history," said **Elizabeth Abrams, Preservation Long Island's Assistant Director of Operations and Programs**. "With both in-person events and an array of complementary virtual programming and digital resources, our public programs are accessible to Long Islanders and visitors who want to know more about Long Island's remarkable heritage."

Preservation Long Island 75th Anniversary Celebration Events and Programs

Diamond Anniversary Benefit Cocktail Party

The Farm House at Meadow Spring

Friday, June 23, 2023, 6pm-8pm

*Featuring a performance by musicians from Stony Brook's the **Jazz Loft**.*

The party venue is a private residence in the 100-acre residential enclave of *Meadow Spring*, an early subdivision located in Glen Cove, Long Island that was developed circa 1903 by financier, A. Clarkson Runyon Jr. The house, built in 1917, was architect, Mott B. Schmidt's first Long Island commission: a Jacobean-inspired country house set against a lush garden that retains some elements of an original 1919 Olmsted Brothers design. Today, the building's interior is a blend of the old and new – elegantly outfitted for a 21st century family while preserving Schmidt's classical architectural details.

Proceeds from the event support a wide range of Preservation Long Island programming including historic preservation advocacy services, public education programs and exhibitions as well as stewardship of their historic properties and collections.

For party details and tickets visit: <https://preservationlongisland.org/benefit-2023/>

New Exhibition: *Blanket Statements: Long Island's Early Weaving Industry*

Now through—October 8, 2023

Preservation Long Island Exhibition Gallery, 161 Main Street, Cold Spring Harbor, NY

Featuring art and objects from the collections of Preservation Long Island, the Huntington Historical Society, and the Whaling Museum & Education Center, *Blanket Statements* explores Long Island's early textile industry and the broader historical events that shaped its growth during the first half of the nineteenth century.

Self-Guided Tours: Thursdays to Sundays from 11AM to 4PM

Curator-Led Tour: Saturday, July 8, 2023 at 11AM (pre-registration and tickets required)

Private Group Tours for Preservation Long Island members can be arranged during the run of the exhibition through our Development Office.

To learn more about the exhibition and register for the Curator tours visit:

<https://preservationlongisland.org/blanket-statements/>

Historic House Tours

After a two-year hiatus and the enlistment of a new interpretive team of Museum Educators, along with a cadre of trained volunteers, all three Preservation Long Island owned historic properties in Suffolk County will be open for the season beginning in June with redesigned tours offered through October 2023. Each site preserves extraordinary examples of early American architecture and design.

Tours are free for Preservation Long Island Members and \$5-\$10 for general admission tickets.

[Joseph Lloyd Manor](#) (1766–67) in Lloyd Harbor. A multi-year initiative, the *Jupiter Hammon Project*, is transforming how Preservation Long Island engages visitors with the entangled stories of the Lloyd family and the individuals they enslaved for more than a century at this site, once the center of the Manor of Queens Village (Lloyd Neck today), among them, Jupiter Hammon (1711–before 1806) one of our nation's first published Black American writers.

[Sherwood-Jayne Farm](#) (ca. 1730) in Setauket. The house contains period furnishings and features original late eighteenth-century hand-painted floral wall frescoes. Located in a bucolic setting, the house maintains its agrarian context with hayfields, meadows, woodlot, orchard, and pasture.

[Custom House](#) (ca. 1790) in Sag Harbor. Henry Packer Dering, Sag Harbor's first United States custom master, acquired the property in the early 1790s. The activities of Dering, his wife, and nine children are vividly portrayed in room settings and interpretive exhibits.

For opening hours at each property and to reserve tours through their online scheduling system visit:

<https://preservationlongisland.org/tours/>

In addition to tours, upcoming **special programming** at Preservation Long Island's historic properties will be announced throughout the year including:

Summer 2023:

- Wine tastings and pop up exhibitions at Custom House in Sag Harbor
- Curator-led talks at Preservation Long Island's Exhibition Gallery in Cold Spring Harbor

Fall and Winter 2023:

- Jupiter Hammon Birthday Celebration, Poetry readings and Guided Tours at Joseph Lloyd Manor in Lloyd Harbor
- Culper Spy Day and fall outdoor activities at Sherwood-Jayne Farm in Setauket
- Book sale and signing featuring authors of Long Island themed publications and Holiday Pop Up Shop at Preservation Long Island's Exhibition Gallery in Cold Spring Harbor

Registration and ticketing links to all programs, events and tours are accessible on Preservation Long Island's website:

<https://preservationlongisland.org/category/upcomingevents/>

<https://preservationlongisland.org/tours/>

To learn more about the history of Preservation Long Island and to download a free eBook about the founding of the non-profit visit: <https://preservationlongisland.org/ourstory/>

For more information about Preservation Long Island's programs and services visit:

<https://preservationlongisland.org/>

Support

Preservation Long Island programming is generously supported by members, trustees, individual donors, private grants and sponsorships as well as by public funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

About Preservation Long Island

Preservation Long Island is a not-for-profit organization that works with Long Islanders to raise awareness, appreciation, and support for the protection of our shared past through advocacy, education, and the stewardship of historic sites and collections.

<http://preservationlongisland.org>

Preservation Long Island maintains and interprets historic sites and collections that embody various aspects of Long Island's history including:

Joseph Lloyd Manor, Lloyd Harbor <http://preservationlongisland.org/joseph-lloyd-manor/>

Custom House, Sag Harbor <http://preservationlongisland.org/custom-house/>

Sherwood-Jayne Farm, Setauket <http://preservationlongisland.org/sherwood-jayne-farm/>

Old Methodist Church and Exhibition Gallery <http://preservationlongisland.org/methodist-church/>

About the Jazz Loft

With the mission of Jazz preservation, education, and performance, the Jazz Loft has quickly become the premier destination for all things Jazz. Presenting a full performance calendar of local, national and international artists in a period 1940s performance space.

<https://www.thejazzloft.org/>

Contact:

Andrea Hart, Public Affairs Director, Preservation Long Island

ahart@preservationlongisland.org 631.692.4664x108

Elizabeth Abrams, Assistant Director for Operations & Programs
eabrams@preservationlongisland.org 631-692-4664 Ext. 104

Additional images available.

#

#

#