



# *Matthewis Persen House*

## **Museum & Cultural Heritage Center**

**74 John Street, Kingston, NY**

**Keeping Ulster County's History Alive!**



# **2019**

## **Season Schedule & Special Events**

*Presented by the  
Ulster County Clerk's Office*

# *Special Thanks*

*The Ulster County Clerk's Office would like to offer our appreciation of the 2019 Persen House Guest Hosts. Their continued dedication, knowledge and generosity of time is what makes the Persen House a true Cultural Heritage Gateway.*

***1st Ulster Militia***

***Art Society of Kingston***

***Catskill Interpretive Center***

***City of Kingston Parks & Recreation***

***D&H Canal Historical Society & Museum***

***Don & Hella Beale***

***Don Terpening***

***Ellenville Public Library & Museum***

***Friends of Historic Kingston***

***Jessica Gaddis & Exhibition Artists***

***Kingston Land Trust***

***Plattekill Historical Preservation Society***

***Red Feather Drummers, A.N.A.***

***Save Native Sites***

***Society for Creative Anachronism***

***Shire of Nordenhal***

***Stephen Blauweiss***

***Ulster County Historian Geoff Miller***

***Ulster County Historical Society***

***Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild***

***Woodstock School of Art***



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## About the House

The Matthewis Persen House is one of Ulster County's oldest, most significant buildings. Named after its longest residing owner, Matthewis Persen (1739-1819), the House is located within Kingston's Stockade National Historic District. Its earliest portions date from c. 1661 and it is one of four landmark buildings on each corner of John and Crown Streets. Each house at this intersection pre-dates the Revolutionary War.

The Persen House has been the home of doctors, tailors, innkeepers, druggists, grocers, and Ulster County government. It was burned at least twice, saw wars and revolution, and survived to tell its tale. To walk through this remarkable building, is to walk through Ulster County's rich local history!

Restoration of the Persen house began in 1999. During the restoration, the historic significance of the structure was uncovered. The house has been left unfinished to highlight the architectural significance of the different phases.

The Persen House functions as Ulster County's Heritage Gateway. Cultural Heritage Groups from throughout the county Guest Host at the House and share their treasure troves of history & culture with visitors. We look forward to a fun and educational season!



### Hours of Operation

#### May 25 – August 31:

Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm  
& Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

#### September 7 – November 23:

Saturdays Only 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
or by Appointment



Take a self-guided tour or join one of our knowledgeable Museum Docents for a personal tour. The Persen House can also accommodate large groups and school field trips. Please contact (845) 340-3415 or [countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us) to schedule a special group tour!

# New York State Path Through History Weekends

Discover the People and Places that Shaped American History  
June 15 - 16 and October 12 - 14, 2019!



The Matthewis Persen House Museum is pleased to participate in the 2019 New York State **PATH THROUGH HISTORY** Weekend events. Path Through History Weekends are a showcase of New York State's rich and fascinating history and will feature hundreds of events happening at historic and cultural destinations throughout the state. Look for the Path Through History logo in this schedule for related events.

This year, I LOVE NEW YORK is hosting a giveaway with **PATH THROUGH HISTORY** stickers, which will be distributed at participating sites throughout the weekend. To enter, visitors should post pictures wearing their stickers to social media with the hashtag **#PTHWeekend** and the event location.

For more information, please visit [paththroughhistory.iloveny.com](http://paththroughhistory.iloveny.com) and plan your path!

## October is Archives Month in New York State



The New York State Archives declares October "Archives Month in New York State". Archives Month is an observance of the importance of archival and historical records in our lives and to our history.

Most often in the exhibits curated by the Ulster County Clerk's Office, high quality reproductions of archival documents are on display to preserve the original records by not exposing them to the harmful effects of light and the fluctuation in temperature and humidity not to mention the security risk of exhibiting the original documents.

However, there is no denying the thrill and exhilaration of seeing and experiencing an original document. Therefore, the County Clerk is pleased to announce a new initiative, "**Original Document Day**". In service to the citizens of Ulster County, the County Clerk will exhibit one volume each of the original Dutch Court Records (c. 1665) and the corresponding English translations (c. 1899) showing the auction of Gysbert Van Imbroch's estate. View these records on Saturday, October 5 at the Matthewis Persen House from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. For more information, see page 6. Please join us for this exciting event!

## Season-Long Exhibits

**May 25—November 23**

### ***Gysbert's Inventory: A Reflection of 1665 Dutch Life***

The legacy of the Dutch settlers of Wiltwyck lives on at the Matthewis Persen House. The house sits on Kingston's historic "four corners" and was originally owned by Gysbert Van Imbroch. An inventory listing Gysbert's possessions at the time of his death in 1665 is brought to life through illustrations of clothing, kitchen items, and other articles used in 17th century daily life. The inventory also depicts items Gysbert used in his profession as a barber-surgeon as well as his book collection, one of the largest book collections in the New World. Step back in time with *Gysbert's Inventory*. This exhibit was made possible through a grant awarded to the Ulster County Clerk's Office from the New York State Archives.



**May 25—November 23**

### ***Gysbert's Auction: The Auction of Gysbert Van Imbroch's Inventory***



A companion to *Gysbert's Inventory*, the Ulster County Clerk's Office presents this exhibit which explores the public auction of the inventory created after Gysbert Van Imbroch's passing in 1665. Learn about the value of items to the residents of Wiltwyck. Were books worth more than clothing? Did kitchenware sell for more than livestock? Answer these questions and more while viewing *Gysbert's Auction*.

**May 25—November 23**

### ***A Fingerprint on History: Kingston Students Keep in "Touch" with Local History***

The Matthewis Persen House gives educators the opportunity to merge a lesson with an in-person experience. The Kingston City School District (KCSD) 4th grade students in 2017 did just that. After a lesson on the Persen House and the historic "Four Corners" provided by Instructional Coach Michael Circe, the KCSD 4th grade gifted the County Clerk's Office with their wonderful exhibit "A Fingerprint on History." Students from all 7 elementary schools created "stone" houses made from their fingerprints. The County Clerk's Office now proudly displays this exhibit each year at the Persen House.



**May 25—November 23**

### ***Pieces of the Past: Ceramic Artifacts from the Archaeological Dig***



This exhibit, presented by the Ulster County Clerk's Office, features some of the many ceramic artifacts found in the 2001 Archaeological Excavation at the Persen House. Explore the many types of ceramics found in the archaeological dig, including tin-glazed earthenware, stoneware, redware, porcelain and more. Learn about which types of ceramics were functional and which were ornamental. Step back in time and discover more about Kingston's first European settlers.

**May 25—November 23**

### ***A History of the Delaware & Hudson Canal***

The D&H Canal Historical Society is please to present a display containing photographs, documents, post cards and other items relating to the history of the Delaware & Hudson Canal. Learn about the canal's creation, operation and importance as an engine of economic development in and around Ulster County.



## Short Term Exhibits

July 13—August 30

### **“Lost Hamlets of the Rondout Reservoir” Exhibit**



Ellenville Public Library & Museum is proud to present “Lost Hamlets of the Rondout Reservoir,” recipient of the Greater Hudson Heritage Network Award for Excellence. Between 1936 and 1952, a massive engineering project took place in order to provide New York City and surrounding localities with additional drinking water. The purpose of this exhibit is to raise public awareness concerning the impact that the Rondout Reservoir had on the displaced communities of the Lackawack Valley. It is hoped that it will provide an appreciation for the pure water we may otherwise take for granted. The exhibit draws from extensive primary source documentation contained in the collections of Ellenville Public Library & Museum.

The exhibit presented at the Persen House is a sampling of the complete exhibit available online at [hrvh.org](http://hrvh.org). The online exhibit was created by Sandy Marsh, Digital Archivist for EPL&M, utilizing the wealth of primary source materials held in the library’s collections.

July 27—September 7

### **“The House” A Group Exhibition Curated by Jessica Gaddis**

Step into a unique world where art meets history. Inspired by “Gysbert’s Inventory” this exhibit features objects created by multiple artists and in varied medium. It’s goal is to showcase the things in our lives that tell us about our past and how we can understand who we are today by what people have left behind. All the artists included make work that is very object oriented in some way and their pieces will be displayed throughout the house. The show aims to compress histories by juxtaposing these contemporary works in the old space and generate something new and exciting. Opening reception July 27 from 1:00-3:00pm.



October 26—November 23

### **“Culture of the Middle Ages” Exhibit**



The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) Shire of Nordenhal invites you to learn about the life and culture of pre-17th century Europe. Enjoy a sampling of items in an exhibit from the SCA collections and explore the cultural differences between the people of 1500’s Europe and those of the 1600’s colonists who once lived at the Persen House.



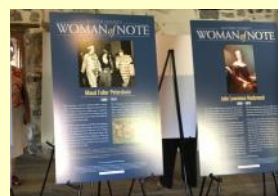
D&H Canal Museum  
2016 Exhibit



Kingston Schools  
2017 Exhibit



Plattekill Historical  
Society 2014 Exhibit



Women of Note  
2016 Exhibit



Red Feather Drummers  
2013 Exhibit

## Special Events

**Saturday, May 25, 10:30 am**

### ***Four Corners Historic Marker Unveiling***

The Ulster County Clerk's Office is pleased to announce the installation and unveiling of an Historic Marker at Kingston's "Four Corners" at the intersection of Crown & John Streets. Each of the stone houses at this intersection pre-date the Revolutionary War. This historic marker was made possible through a grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation awarded to the Ulster County Clerk's Office. Please join the Ulster County Clerk's Office and the 1st Ulster Militia at the Matthewis Persen House at 10:30 am for the unveiling ceremony.

**Saturday, May 25, 11:00 am-2:30 pm**

### ***Step Into History: A Scavenger Hunt in Uptown Kingston***

Everyone is invited to explore the local area and participate in a fun, family-friendly Scavenger Hunt that takes you to five different historic sites in uptown Kingston's Historic Stockade District: Senate House State Historic Site, Volunteer Firemen's Hall and Museum of Kingston, Old Dutch Church, Fred J. Johnston House and the Friends of Historic Kingston Gallery, and the Matthewis Persen House Museum & Cultural Heritage Center. Pick up your Scavenger Hunt Guide at any one of these locations. Follow the clues in the guide and write down your answers. Good luck and have fun!

**Tuesday, July 2—Saturday, July 6**

### ***Colonial Game Days presented by the Ulster County Clerk's Office***

Visitors to the Persen House are invited to try their hand at many entertaining and historic games including Game of Graces, Jacob's Ladder, Hoop Rolling and Whirligigs just to name a few. Step behind our "Colonial Kids" portraits to see what you might have looked like in colonial dress. Bring your family and see how different or perhaps similar games and toys were in the 18th century as compared to those of today!

**Saturday, October 5, 10:30 am-1:30 pm**

### ***Ulster County Clerk's Office presents "Original Document Day"***

In celebration of Archives Month in New York State, the County Clerk is pleased to announce a new initiative, "Original Document Day". The County Clerk will exhibit original documents at the Matthewis Persen House for one day only.

The documents making their way out of the cool, climate controlled and secure archival vault to the Persen House are some of the oldest records in the Ulster County Clerk's Archives. In September of 1665, the first resident of the Persen House, a barber-surgeon named Gysbert Van Imbroch, ordered an inventory be taken of all his belongings upon his death. Within two weeks of Van Imbroch's passing, a public auction was held to sell his property. The exhibit *Gysbert's Auction* will be on display season-long as a companion piece to the permanent exhibit *Gysbert's Inventory*, but for this one day the original Dutch and English translations of the auction will be displayed for public viewing at the very location where the items were once located over 350 years ago.



# Guest Host Presentations & Events in May—June

Open Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm & Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**May 25, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

## **1st Ulster Militia with Special Guests from the British Brigade**

For a glimpse of 18th century life at the time of the American Revolution, join the 1st Ulster Militia for a day in the life of a militiaman. The original 1st Regiment, Ulster County Militia was composed of citizen soldiers from the area now within the boundaries of Kingston, Saugerties and Woodstock. Members promote the education of the public as to military and social life in the colonial and Revolutionary War eras through demonstrations of everyday crafts and skills and the typical life of the militiaman. So join the 1st Ulster Militia, with special guests Don & Hella Beale from the British Brigade, as they bring history alive! Firearms demonstrations will be done throughout the day.

**June 1, 10:00 am—3:00 pm**

## **Kingston Parks & Recreation**

Join Lisa Bruck from the City of Kingston's Parks & Recreation Department. Lisa will have an information table with Parks & Recreation Schedules of all Special Events and Programs. Lisa will talk about the Programs currently offered and assist with questions visitors may have about the Stockade and Kingston history.

**June 8, 11:00 am—3:00 pm**

## **Plattekill Historical Preservation Society**

Plattekill is home to 19 known burial grounds, most are long since abandoned and overgrown. View maps and information on these 18th & 19th century rural cemeteries.

**June 15, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

## **Society for Creative Anachronism presents Life in the Middle Ages**

### ***A New York State Path Through History Weekend Event***

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) is an educational organization dedicated to reproducing and exploring the very best aspects of pre-17th century cultures. Join members of the SCA's Shire of Nordenhal for family-friendly activities and discussion on period clothing, calligraphy, armored combat, fencing, archery, dancing and other countless activities of interest. Catapult model firing, inkle-loom weaving, sword and shield combat and diverse arts will be demonstrated throughout the day.



**June 22, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## **Don Terpening, Revolutionary War Medical Re-enactor**

Professor Emeritus of Biology, Don Terpening will present various medicines, implements, and techniques that were used by physicians during the Revolutionary War, as well as discuss the role that doctors played and their social standing during this period.

## Guest Host Presentations & Events in June — July

Open Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm & Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**June 29, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

### **Kingston Land Trust**

Meet & greet members from Kingston Land Trust who will have information about their on-going efforts to secure the Pine Street African Burial Ground site. More than 125 years ago, this burial ground was portioned off for private ownership. Its existence has not since been officially acknowledged despite robust historic documentation.

**July 6, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

### **Colonial Game Day Presented by the Ulster County Clerk's Office**

Visitors to the Persen House are invited to try their hand at many entertaining and historic games including Game of Graces, Jacob's Ladder, Hoop Rolling and Whirligigs just to name a few. Step behind our "Colonial Kids" portraits to see what you might have looked like in colonial dress. Bring your family and see how different or perhaps similar games and toys were in the 18th century as compared to those of today!

**July 13, 10:00 am—1:00 pm**

### **Ellenville Public Library and Museum presents "Lost Hamlets of the Rondout Reservoir"**

Meet Sandy Marsh, award winning curator of the digital exhibit "Lost Hamlets of the Rondout Reservoir," as she discusses the inspiration behind this poignant exhibit. Samples from the online gallery will be on display, telling the story of the people and places that once occupied this region. See page 5 for exhibit details.

**July 20, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

### **D&H Canal Historical Society and Museum**

Join historian Bill Merchant to learn about the D&H Canal and its contributions to Ulster County's transportation and commercial growth in the late 19th century. The D&H Canal Historical Society maintains a Canal Museum and Five Locks Walk trail to preserve canal-era artifacts, and document the canal's creation, operation, and importance as an engine of economic development in the region and beyond. Presentation at 12:00.

**July 27, 1:00—3:00 pm Opening Reception**

### **"The House" A Group Exhibition Curated by Jessica Gaddis**

Step into a unique world where art meets history. Inspired by "Gysbert's Inventory" this exhibit features objects created by multiple artists in varied medium. Its goal is to showcase the things in our lives that tell us about our past and how we can understand who we are today by what people have left behind. All the artists included make work that is very object oriented in some way and their pieces will be displayed throughout the house. The show aims to compress histories by juxtaposing these contemporary works in the old space and generate something new and exciting.

# Guest Host Presentations & Events in August

Open Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm & Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**August 3, 11:00 am—1:00 pm**

## **Catskill Interpretive Center presents “The Catskills Art Club”**

The Catskill Center’s “Catskills Art Club” is a fun, informal way to make art and seek inspiration from all of the wonderful places in our region. The Art Club is open to all ages and all ability levels. Come draw, paint, or sculpt what you observe using your favorite supplies or the ones they provide!

**August 10, 10:00 am—1:00 pm**

## **Woodstock School of Art**

Join the Woodstock School of Art for a costumed figure drawing demonstration with instructor Les Castellanos. Mr. Castellanos is a traditional painter, and an art educator in the Hudson Valley. He has served as a guest instructor at The School for the Visual Arts and was also part of an arts program for children at P.S. 22 funded in part by the New York Academy of Figurative Art. This is sure to be a fun and educational event!

**August 17, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## **Don Terpening, Revolutionary War Medical Re-enactor**

Professor Emeritus of Biology, Don Terpening will present various medicines, implements, and techniques that were used by physicians during the Revolutionary War, as well as discuss the role that doctors played and their social standing during this period.

**August 24, 10:00 am—3:00 pm**

## **Uptown Kingston: Looking Back, Moving Forward Exhibition by Stephen Blauweiss**

This project focuses on Uptown Kingston's diverse architecture from the 1600s to the present. The exhibition discuss the evolution of materials used, from stone to brick and wood, and feature historic postcards, maps, restored photos, video footage, and artifacts. Each topic is accompanied by explanatory historical, cultural and architectural details covering the following categories: Stone Buildings, Churches, Entertainment, Hotels, Shopping, and Public Buildings. Exhibit panels will be displayed throughout the house.

**August 31, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

## **Historic Tools and Implement Exhibit by Ulster County Historical Society**

The goals of the Ulster County Historical Society (UCHS) are to act as curator and collector of significant Hudson Valley artifacts, documents and cultural items, and to educate the community on the very important role the Hudson Valley and particularly Ulster County has played in the formation of our great nation. Join UCHS board member Bill Merchant for a display of tools and building implements from the UCHS artifacts collections.

# Guest Host Presentations & Events in September

Open Saturdays Only 10:00 am to 2:00 pm or by Appointment

**September 7, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## Art Society of Kingston

Arts Society of Kingston (ASK) is a member-supported arts organization serving as an umbrella for all disciplines of arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley. ASK features two gallery shows every month in addition to music, theater, dance, stand-up comedy and workshops. In September, our members' visual arts exhibition is titled "What Are Your Roots?" and the opening reception is Saturday, Sept 7 from 5-8pm. Join members from ASK at the Persen House today for information and a preview of this new exhibit.

Stop by our multi-use arts space at 97 Broadway in Kingston. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 1:00-6:00 pm. Or visit us online at [askforarts.org](http://askforarts.org).

**September 14, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## Association of Native Americans ~ Red Feather Singers & Drummers

On display will be some Native American artifacts from Barbara Fox Eyes who will explain their significance. She and her sister, Susan Singing Rain, will assist children in making beaded friendship bracelets and coloring Native symbols. Grandmother Judith Laughing Owl will teach Native American drumming on a drop-in basis.

**September 21, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## Friends of Historic Kingston

Please join volunteers from the Friends of Historic Kingston as they share their vast knowledge regarding Uptown, the Stockade National Historic District, and Downtown, the Rondout National Historic District, and the Fred J. Johnston House. A special video presentation of *History of Early Dutch in Kingston* by Nancy Chando will be played throughout the day.

**September 28, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## Don Terpening, Revolutionary War Medical Re-enactor

Professor Emeritus of Biology, Don Terpening will present various medicines, implements, and techniques that were used by physicians during the Revolutionary War, as well as discuss the role that doctors played and their social standing during this period.



# Guest Host Presentations & Events in October

Open Saturdays Only 10:00 am to 2:00 pm or by Appointment

**October 5, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## **Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild**

Henry T. Ford, Board Member, Guild Historian and Woodstock resident will present the important history of the Byrdcliffe Artists Colony and the American Arts and Crafts movement which evolved from the colony. The Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild provides a vibrant center for excellence in the arts and crafts in a beautiful and unique rural community while preserving the historic and natural environment of one of the earliest utopian art colonies in America. It offers an inspiring combination of residency, educational, exhibition, and performance programs that encourage creative collaboration among artists, students, arts professionals, and the public.

**October 12, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## **Save Native Sites presents a Celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day A New York State Path Through History Weekend Event**

When the first Europeans arrived in Ulster County, in the 1600's, they found indigenous people called the Munsee living here. These Native Americans had occupied this area for hundreds of years, sustaining themselves by hunting, gathering, fishing and farming. By the late 1700's most of these people were gone, driven west and north to Canada by the incoming Europeans. Save Native Sites enhances our understanding of the culture and history of these and other indigenous people through a variety of programs and lectures open to the public and free of charge.



**October 19, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## **“Peg Leg Bates” a Presentation by Ulster County Historian Geoff Miller**

Clayton “Peg Leg” Bates was the first black resort owner in Ulster County in the Catskill Mountains, the famous Borscht Belt of Jewish resorts, hotels, and bungalow colonies. A world renowned dancer and entertainer, he and his wife Alice owned and operated the Peg Leg Bates Country Club in Kerhonkson. Join Geoff Miller for a talk on this unique, historical figure who played an important role in the history of Ulster County.

**October 26, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## **Society for Creative Anachronism—Shire of Nordenhal**

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) is an educational organization which studies the Middle Ages by recreating the pastimes and crafts of the period. Join members of the SCA's Shire of Nordenhal for demonstrations and discussion on period clothing, calligraphy, armored combat, fencing, archery, dancing and other countless activities of interest. Catapult model firing, inkle-loom weaving, sword and shield combat and diverse arts will be demonstrated throughout the day.

# Guest Host Presentations & Events in November

Open Saturdays Only 10:00 am to 2:00 pm or by Appointment

**November 9, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## 1st Ulster Militia

Winter in colonial New York was notoriously harsh and unforgiving. Join the 1st Ulster Militia as they recreate an 18th century colonial encampment at the Persen House, complete with demonstrations of fire-starting, knitting, sewing, open fire cooking, and more!

The original 1st Regiment, Ulster County Militia was composed of citizen soldiers from the area now within the boundaries of Kingston, Saugerties and Woodstock. Members promote the education of the public as to military and social life in the colonial and Revolutionary War eras through demonstrations of everyday crafts and skills and the typical life of the militiaman.

**November 23, 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

## Closing Day

# School Field Trips & Group Tours

The Persen House gives educators the opportunity to merge a lesson with an in-person experience for students. The Ulster County Clerk's Office offers a document-based curriculum titled "Wiltwyck: A Look at Life in a Dutch 17th Century Ulster County Town" to all educators in conjunction with their visits. Each year the Persen House welcomes hundreds of students from elementary, intermediate, junior-high, college, continuing education, and homeschool classes, as well as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other groups. Educators have used the Persen House as a part of their local history, cultural heritage, community engagement and art lessons.



The Persen House also welcomes groups on guided tours. Many tourists come to the Hudson Valley for the history, art, hiking, beautiful fall foliage and more. Let your tour company know to include the Persen House on your itinerary!

Tours can be tailored to your group's interests or curriculum. Topics we have covered in the past include colonial life, architecture, archaeology, local history, Dutch heritage, and the Revolutionary War.

**Please contact (845) 340-3415 or [countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us) to schedule a special group tour!**

# Kingston Stockade National Historic District

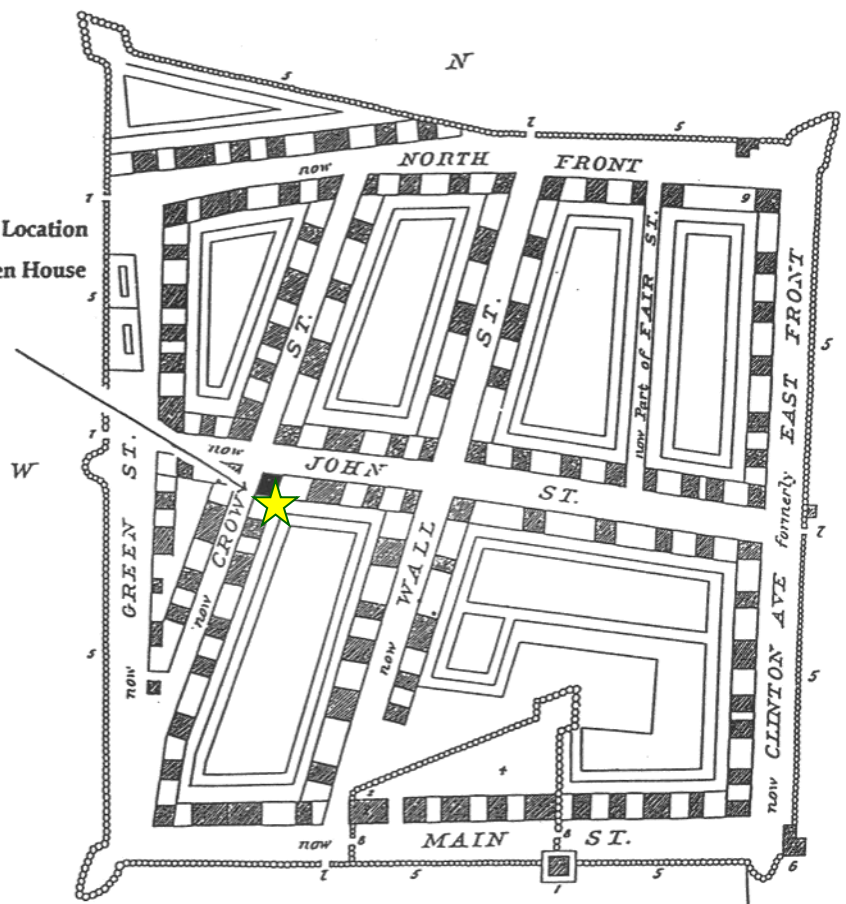
The **Kingston Stockade National Historic District** is an eight-block area in the western section of Kingston, New York, commonly referred to as **Uptown Kingston**. It is the original site of the mid-17th century Dutch settlement of Wiltwyck, which was later renamed Kingston when it passed to English control.

It is the only one of three original Dutch settlements in New York surrounded by stockades where the outline of the stockade is still evident due to the raised ground. Within the area are many historic buildings from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, including the Ulster County Courthouse, the Senate House where the state of New York was established in 1777, and the Old Dutch Church, a National Historic Landmark. Some survived the Burning of Kingston by British forces during the Revolutionary War. The intersection of Crown and John streets has Colonial-era Dutch stone houses on all four corners, all of which pre-date the Revolutionary War.

From its founding in the mid-17th century to the creation of the modern city of Kingston in 1872, the history of the Stockade District is the history of Kingston. Most of its older buildings were restored and rebuilt in the years after the 1777 burning of the village by the British, and its historic character has been made diverse as significant buildings were erected throughout the 19th century.

The final layout of the original Stockade is shown in the Miller Map (right), which can be found in Volume 13 of *Documents Relative to Colonial History of the State of New York*. The map was designed by an Anglican Priest named Miller in 1695. On his way back to England, Miller was captured by French Privateers, but managed to throw his notes overboard. After being paroled from the French, he returned to England and recreated the map from memory.

Approximate Location  
of Persen House



# *Matthewis Persen House*

## Museum & Cultural Heritage Center

### Hours of Operation

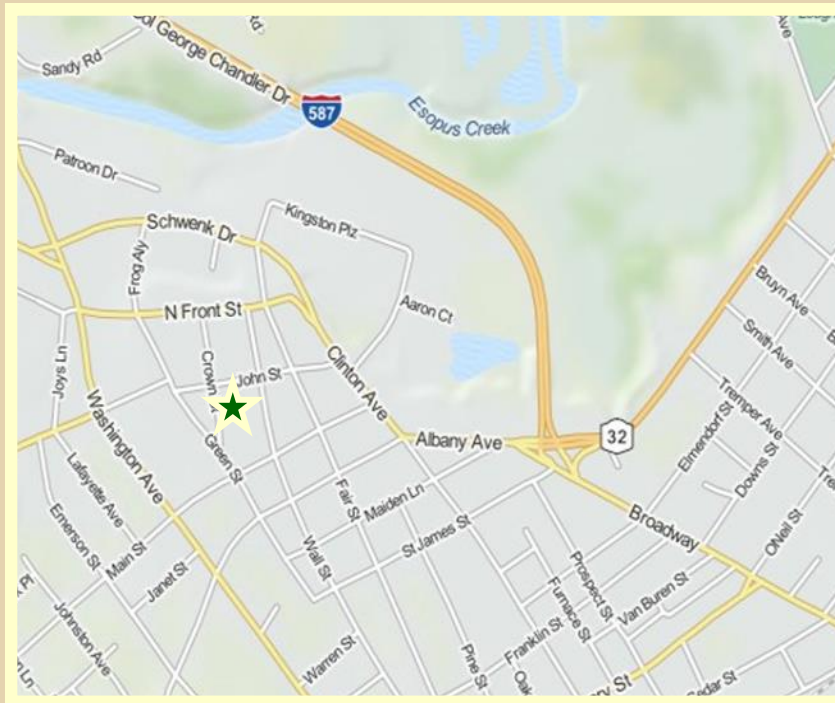
**May 25 – August 31:**

Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm & Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**September 7 – November 23:**

Saturdays Only 10:00 am to 2:00 pm or by Appointment

**74 John Street  
Kingston, New York 12401**



**Conveniently located minutes from the NYS Thruway on the corner of John & Crown Streets in uptown Kingston's Stockade National Historic District.**

**Parking:** Metered parking lots and on-street parking are available throughout uptown Kingston. The Ulster County Courthouse on Wall Street and the Ulster County Office Building on the corner of Main & Fair Streets both offer free weekend parking. There is also free parking at the Kingston Plaza every day, less than a half mile walk from the house.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact the Ulster County Clerk's Office at (845) 340-3415 or [countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us)