



# ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack Sponsors Archives Exhibit At The Senate House Historic Site**

County Clerk Nina Postupack officially opened her annual Archives exhibit at the Senate House Historic Site September 11, 2007. The exhibit, titled “The Kingston Patent, from King James to Kingstowne: Records of the Trustees 1687-1816” features historic documents created during the administration of the “Corporation of the Freeholders and the Commonalty of the Towne of Kingston.”

The exhibit is a collaborative effort between the Senate House and the Ulster County Clerk’s Office and is presented in conjunction with events of the City of Kingston Heritage Commission, the reenactment of the burning of Kingston, and Archives Month in New York State. The digital facsimiles are displayed at the Loughran House, 296 Fair Street, Kingston New York until October 31<sup>st</sup> and open to the public during Senate House Historic Site’s regular hours.

Featured are selected Trustee Minutes, some specific to the burning of Kingston during the Revolutionary War and maps of the Corporation of Kingston. Also included is the Kingston Patent

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Confirmation, a certified copy of the 1687 patent endorsed by “our trusty and beloved” Governor George Clinton in 1793. Visitors will see excerpts about the town whipper, rum for laborers, enemies on the frontiers, and the square mile offered to the U.S. Congress just in case they wanted to make Kingston the nation’s capital.

The 1687 Kingston Patent was granted by Governor Thomas Dongan and provided a vast track of land for the use of the freeholders and inhabitants of the Town of Kingstowne. The land was held in trust and managed by trustees who made orders, wrote resolutions and cared for the poor. They also conveyed the real property known as the Kingston Commons. The patent was in effect until the new State of New York cast off the mantle of British colonialism and the corporation closed. The last meeting of the trustees was December 16, 1816.

County Clerk Nina Postupack is pleased to present this exhibit celebrating Archives Month in New York State – a month-long celebration in October. Archives Month is designed to draw attention to the archival materials held in public and private organizations throughout the State and to recognize the people and programs responsible for their maintenance. Archives provide access to irreplaceable primary documents, support society’s increasing demand for accountability, and protect the rights, property and identity of citizens. The Office of the County Clerk has been and continues to be a diligent steward of its archives.

For further information about the exhibit and other programs of the Ulster County Archives please call County Clerk Nina Postupack at 340-3040.