

De Nieuw Nederlansche Mercurius



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Upcoming Events

Through January 20, 2002. “Art and Life: Dutch Interiors in the Age of Rembrandt.” Extensive Dutch trade in the 17th century led to the rise of the first middle class. More people were able to afford private homes and enjoy filling them. This exhibit features 50 paintings and 70-odd artifacts commonly found in homes of the period, from foot stoves and colanders to brandy bowls and cabinets. An exhibit at the Newark Museum, 49 Washington Street, Newark (in the arts district), 973-597-6550. For further details go to: www.newarkmuseum.org.

October 7 through January 6, 2002. “Goltzius and the Third Dimension.” Hendrick Goltzius, the most esteemed Dutch printmaker of the late sixteenth century, elevated the medium of engraving to the level of the fine arts with a series of colossal prints of extraordinary virtuosity. This exhibition explores the influence of the sculptures of Willem Danielsz van Tetrode on Goltzius’ engravings and woodcuts and includes interactive computer screens to aid visitors in their explorations. At the Clark Art Institute, 225 South

Street, Williamstown, MA 0167, (413) 458-2303. For further details go to: www.clarkart.edu.

Through January 13, 2002. “Aelbert Cuyp” (Dutch painter, 1620-1691). At the National Gallery of Art, Fourth Street at Constitution



Cattle Watering by Aelbert Cuyp
Szépművészeti Múzeum, Budapest

Avenue SW, Washington. From February 13 to May 12 the exhibit will be at the National Gallery at London, and from June 7 to September 1 at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. For further details go to: www.nga.gov.

September 21, 2002. Save the date for the next Rensselaerswijck Seminar, which returns to Albany for a program celebrating the 350th anniversary of the founding of Beverwijck. The Seminar and dinner will be held at the Albany Institute of

History and Art in conjunction with the opening of the “Matters of Taste” exhibit. Stay tuned for more details in next issue.

Websites

One of the best ways to acquire some sense of life in past centuries is to visit an open air museum. In America Williamsburg and Sturbridge Village offer the visitor an experience which will conjure up a feeling for life in the 18th century. Until Albany develops a living museum on the waterfront representing Fort Orange/Beverwijck, we have to rely on European facilities to provide us with appropriate cultural contexts for life in 17th-century northern Europe. The following websites will direct you to a variety of open air museums worth a visit in 2002:

www.openluchtmuseum.nl/ The open air museum for Dutch vernacular architecture in Arnhem;
www.bokrijk.be/museum.html/ The Belgian counterpart to the museum in Arnhem;
www3.museumsdorf.de/mdclp/ Germany’s answer to Sturbridge Village;
www.elders.nl/attract/orvelte.htm/ A living museum in the province of Drenthe, Netherlands.

News

For the first time ever the Rensselaerswijck Seminar was held in New York City in conjunction with the Holland Society of New York and the South Street Seaport Museum [SSSM]. The first two days took place at the New York Genealogical Society followed by a morning session and walking tour at the SSSM. The conference uptown drew a total of 185 people while the SSSM attracted a sellout audience of 90 people. The success of the conference exceeded our expectations given the clouds cast over the city by the events of September 11th. As a bonus the SSSM focused its *Seaport Magazine* on New Amsterdam. Unfortunately the magazine was in production at the time of the September 11th events which greatly disrupted work at the SSSM. As a result sidebar information was eventually published without the authors' approval in order to make the issues available for the conference. Please excuse any failings as a result of this; however, let us praise the SSSM for producing a quality publication under the most difficult of circumstances.

On November 9th the Office of Academic Affairs of the University at Albany invited 52 people to a planning session to consider Albany Heritage Year in recognition of the 350th anniversary of the establishment of the West India Company's village of Beverwijck. UA has taken the initiative to coordinate the development of programs and activities. Plans for the 2002 celebration can be followed at:

www.albany.edu/mumford/heritage/

News from the FNN

The annual meeting of the Friends will held on January 26, 2002 at the **Historic Elmendorf Inn** of Red Hook, NY. Our featured speaker will be Adriana van Zwieten, winner of the 2001 Hendricks Award. Lunch will be \$18 per person. Up to 45 people can be accommodated for lunch. Please make your reservations early.

Books

Unearthing Gotham: The Archaeology of New York City by Diana Dizerega Wall and Anne-Marie E. Cantwell. Under the teeming metropolis that is present-day New York City lie the buried remains of long-lost worlds. The remnants of nineteenth-century New York reveal much about its inhabitants and neighborhoods, from fashionable Washington Square to the notorious Five Points. Underneath there are traces of the Dutch and English colonists who arrived in the area in the seventeenth century, as well as of the Africans they enslaved. And beneath all these layers is the land that Native Americans occupied for hundreds of generations from their first arrival eleven thousand years ago. Now two distinguished archaeologists draw on the results of more than a century of excavations to relate the interconnected stories of these different peoples who shared and shaped the land that makes up the modern city.

City of Dreams by Beverly Swerling is a novel set on Manhattan, which follows an English family of

physicians and surgeons through six generations from 17th-century Nieuw Amsterdam to New York City during the Revolution. Although the brother and sister medical team of Sally and Lucas Turner make a name for themselves tending to Stuyvesant's family, their lives take a negative turn with the appearance of the "inept" Dutch physician Jacob Van Der Vries (Why do novelists have such a problem with Dutch names?) In several reviews in Amazon.com the 591 pages novel is described as "ambitious," "intricately plotted and utterly absorbing." If you wish to find out for yourself, Amazon is discounting the book 30%. Remember to enter Amazon through our website. Just click the link <Book Store> and then AMAZON.COM. All purchases made this way--whether books or tools--earn the FNN a small royalty.

Amsterdam, Nieuw-Amsterdam, New York: Samenhangen en verbanden by drs. W. Visscher. In this new book a number of special aspects about the history of Amsterdam, Nieuw Amsterdam (Holland), and New York are compared and the writer tries to make a link between the three places. The central theme of the book is the establishment of a Dutch peat village in the north-eastern part of the Netherlands (Drenthe) in the nineteenth century and the connection with Nieuw Amsterdam (USA). Why was the Dutch village called Nieuw Amsterdam and developed as a peat colony? Why was a painter like Vincent van Gogh interested in this area? What's the link between this colony and Am-

sterdam and New York? Who were the people that invested money in this Dutch peat area and also invested money in land development in western New York? (Holland Land Company, N.Y). Both projects, first in the USA (1790-) and in the Netherlands had a major purpose: a canal! If you want to read about these projects and the people behind them, you might find some answers in this book. It has an English and German summary.

Radical Enlightenment: Philosophy and the making of modernity, 1650-1750 by Jonathan I. Israel. 810pp. Oxford University Press. £30. 0 19 820608 9. The Times Literary Supplement for November 9, 2001 accompanies its lead book review by Anthony Grafton with the headline: "Where it all began: Spinoza and the Dutch roots of the Enlightenment."

Call for papers

"The Conference on New York State History" at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, June 7-8, 2002. Individual paper abstracts, panel proposals, workshops, and other program suggestions are now invited for the 2002 conference to be hosted by Skidmore College. Presentations may consider any aspect of the history of New York over the past 400 years. Diverse theoretical perspectives and innovative methodological approaches are welcomed. All proposals must be received by January 31, 2002. A proposal should be a one-page description of each presentation—rather than the entire paper manuscript. A proposal must include paper and/or session titles, names,

phone numbers, and email addresses of all participants. Special scheduling and equipment requests also should accompany the proposal. All program participants are required to register for the conference. Send proposals to Field Horne, Conference on New York State History, Box 215, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. 12866-0215, 518-587-4962, or email to <conference@nyhistory.net>.

"The American Association for Netherlandic Studies" is pleased to announce the eleventh *Interdisciplinary Conference on Netherlandic Studies* (ICNS) to be held June 6-9, 2002, at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI, USA. The organizers have chosen to emphasize the multicultural aspects of the Netherlands and Belgium under the title: "The Low Countries: Crossroads of Cultures." Proposals for papers in literature, language, history, art history, culture, social sciences and related disciplines must be postmarked not later than December 15, 2001. Please include your email address. Papers must be based on original, unpublished research and presentations should be no longer than 20-25 minutes, allowing for discussion. Selected papers will be published in the series *Publications of the American Association for Netherlandic Studies* (PAANS). Please send a one-page abstract, including your email address, to:

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Dutch & Flemish Studies Ann Arbor: www.lsa.umich.edu/german/ds.html/.

"New York and the Amsterdam Connection" at the Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg, Nederland. On February 2, 1653 the citizens of New Amsterdam received a municipal charter. Though it had been a settlement under Dutch West India Company rule for almost thirty years, this charter allowed the town to set up a Dutch-type city government with a *schout*, burgomasters, and *schepenen*. From that day on it may be counted as a city. The multifaceted relation between Amsterdam, New Amsterdam and New York is the primary focus of an international conference in February 2003, organized by the Roosevelt Study Center and hosted by the Amsterdam Municipal Archives. Those interested in submitting a proposal (one page) for a presentation (20-30 minutes) accompanied by a CV are invited to write before May 1, 2002, to:

Dr. Hans Krabbendam, Roosevelt Study Center, PO Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands tel. (0) 118-631590, fax (0) 118-631593, email: jl.krabbendam@zeeland.nl

Website: www.roosevelt.nl

For more details on the above, click on the link "Call for papers" at our website <www.nnp.org>.

Totidem Verbis

The lives of most New Netherlanders and Native Americans were so inextricably bound in the 17th century that a study of New Netherland cannot ignore relations with the Native Americans in the Hudson, Delaware, and Connecticut valleys. For this reason it was welcome news to hear that the National Parks Service was considering publications on Native American Heritage in the Hudson and Delaware valleys. Following is an abbreviated version of the proposal:

Few subjects spark wider public interest among visitors to National Park Service (NPS) units, affiliated areas, and other federal, state, or local parks and preserves in the Hudson and Delaware valleys than the Native American heritage of the region. Questions about the identities, cultures, and histories of the local area's first people are constantly posed to staffers serving in NPS park units such as the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Saratoga National Historical Park, in the Walkill River and Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuges and other federally managed lands, in State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, in state-owned lands such as New York's Catskill and Bear Mountain State Parks and New Jersey's Stoke State Forest and Worthington State Park, in the many natural and cultural parks and properties managed by local governments and organizations, and by the stewards of National Historic Landmarks, of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and of places formally recognized for their historical and cultural significance by state and local governments.

No single succinct, up-to-date, accurate, and accessibly written information source on the subject, however, is currently available to cultural resource managers, educators, museum specialists, ethnographers, archeologists, historical landscape architects, interpretive staff, park rangers, and other personnel responding to these questions. Such sources as exist are too often hard to find or understand, long out of date, or no longer in print. And none specifically focus upon unique place names, historical figures, and significant events that help visitors more fully understand and appreciate archaeological sites, cultural landscapes, and traditional cultural properties preserved in and near parks and other public lands.

The proposed Native American Heritage Booklet project will remedy this deficiency by providing forty-page booklets describing the histories and cultures of the original inhabitants of the following four parts of the Hudson-Delaware region:

- (1) Greater New York (NPS park units and affiliated areas include Castle Clinton NM, Edison NHS, Federal Hall N MEM, Gateway NRA, General Grant N MEM, Great Falls HD, Hamilton Grange N MEM, Morristown NHP, Saint Paul's Church NHS, Statue of Liberty NM, and Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace NHS);
- (2) Long Island (NPS park units and affiliated areas include Gateway NRA, Sagamore Hill NHS, and Fire Island NS);
- (3) Hudson Valley (NPS park units and affiliated areas include Eleanor Roosevelt NHS, Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt NHS, Hudson River Valley NHA, Martin Van Buren NHS, Saratoga NHP, and Vanderbilt Mansion NHS); and
- (4) Upper Delaware River (NPS park units and affiliated areas include Delaware and Lehigh NHC, Delaware Water Gap NRA, Middle Delaware NSR, and Upper Delaware SRR).

Each booklet will contain:

- (1) A brief survey of 12,000 years of prehistory focusing upon significant archaeological, cultural landscape, and traditional cultural resources in and near parks and other public lands.
- (2) A detailed history of relations between Native-, European-, and African-Americans from initial contact during the 1600s to 2001 focusing upon significant events reflected in place names, local histories, and archaeological, cultural landscape, and traditional cultural resources in and near parks and other public lands.
- (3) A map depicting key sites and events.
- (4) Black and white illustrations of significant people, places, events, build-

ings, structures, and objects.

- (5) An annotated bibliography of from 5-10 widely accessible key print and electronic information sources.

Each booklet will be written to specifically fulfill needs for library reference material, classroom and instructional information, National Historic Preservation Act and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) compliance, museum exhibits such as those planned for installation at Statue of Liberty National Monument, park interpretive programs, and public education outreach initiatives like the NPS Parks as Classrooms program and the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Traveling Trunks project bringing artifacts and information to local schools and civic groups.

All text will be written by Robert S. Grumet, Ph.D., an archeologist on the staff of the Stewardship and Partnerships Team, Philadelphia Support Office, Northeast Region, National Park Service. Dr. Grumet is a veteran of 12 years service in the NPS, and author of *Native American Place Names in New York City* (Museum of the City of New York, 1981), *Historic Contact in the Northeast* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1995), and other studies based on more than 30 years of research on the Native American heritage of the Hudson and Upper Delaware River valleys.

The contents of each booklet will be posted on the NPS Philadelphia Support Office Internet Website and made available in print form for distribution to NPS park units, affiliated areas, and other federal, state, and local parks, preserves, and preservation organizations.