

New Amsterdam Yesterday & Today

New Amsterdam History Center
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Berg

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Dear NAHC Patrons, Donors, and Friends,

NAHC's 2023 public programming opened in January with a fascinating program centered around the Little Ice Age in the Dutch North Atlantic. Environmental historian Dagomar DeGroot and historical geographer Chelsea Teale explored how weather, climate, and societal responses to these factors impacted life in the Dutch North Atlantic from Europe to Eastern North America and how relevant this is to today's climate change concerns.

The Little Ice Age Program was the first in a series of seven NAHC programs and events planned for 2023. On Tuesday, March 28, NAHC presented ["Debating the Role of Women in the Dutch Golden Age"](#) with the New-York Historical Society's Center for Women's History. This program, moderated by Valerie Paley, Founding Director of the Center for Women's History, featured Deborah Hamer, Director of the New Netherland Institute, and Susanah Shaw Romney, Associate Professor of History at New York University. The trio explored the social role of women in New Netherland, Brazil, and elsewhere.

On Tuesday, May 16, fine arts dealer, Christopher Bishop will present a talk on a long-lost [Jan Lievens portrait](#). For this event we have partnered with the Netherland Club of New

York. Tuesday,

June 6, will take NAHC donors and contributors to northern Central Park where author Sara Cedar Miller will conduct a guided tour of [*Central Park's Dutch Haarlem*](#).

On June 13, Professor Frans R. E. Blom will speak on the [*Vrooman Letters*](#), 17th century correspondence that reveal everyday life in New Netherland. This engaging program is sponsored by NAHC donor Sandra Lazo, at Columbia University's Deutsches Haus.

On October 11, NAHC will present the [*Camerata Trajectina*](#) in a concert narrated by Professor Jaap Jacobs at the Morgan Library. *Camerata* is a unique Dutch early music ensemble that explores the rich music heritage of the Low Countries, dating from the Middle Ages into the early 1600s.

NAHC's scheduled seventh program of 2023 is a November discussion featuring Dennis Maika and two other historians concerning the Dutch Atlantic slave trade, with particular emphasis on New Amsterdam. Details to follow.

In addition to these informative and entertaining programs, NAHC has recently made substantial progress with its important [*Mapping Early New York*](#) project, including the addition of a 1670 map of neighboring New England. This project is led by NAHC Trustee and Project Manager, Toya Dubin.

Finally, we want to thank you once again for your [*continuing support*](#) through your annual contributions and gifts. This support that enables us to provide a diverse array of programs, talks, and newsletters. If you are not yet a contributor, please consider becoming one a this year.

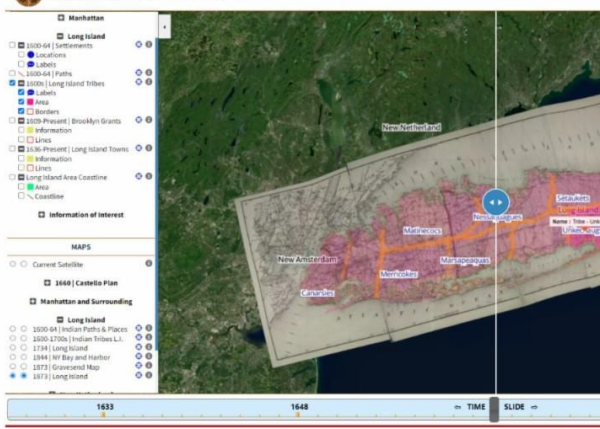
On behalf of the entire NAHC Board of Trustees, thank you for your continuing support.

Michael Cavanaugh, President
Esme E. Berg, Executive Director



What's New at NAHC

Mapping Early New York and Long Island - Update



Over the past year, the *Mapping Early New York* project has expanded to include maps of Long Island, Brooklyn, and Queens that give us a greater understanding of the Native American Ancestral Lands, and the Dutch and English Colonial settlements. Maps that cover New Netherland and New England have also been added, along with a World View. Our thanks go out to Toya Dubin for all of her wonderful work on this project.

Many thanks to our sponsors for making all of this possible

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation - The Society of the First Families of New York - The Society of the Daughters of Holland Dames

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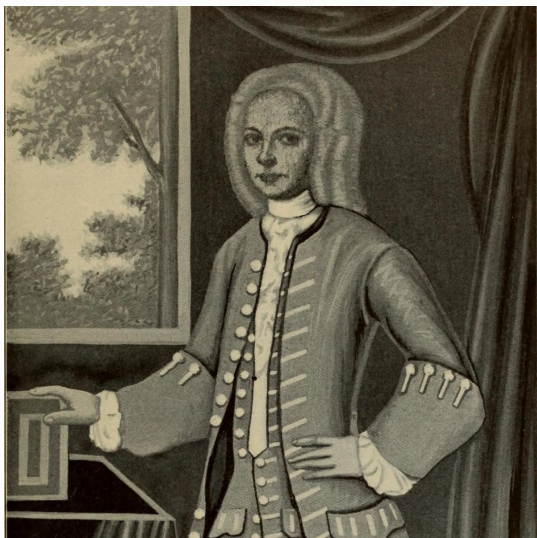
Little Ice Age - More Thoughts from Dagomar Degroot and Chelsea Teale



On January 24, 2023, NAHC presented Dr. Chelsea Teale in conversation with Dr. Dagomar Degroot for a fascinating discussion on *The Little Ice Age* in the Dutch North Atlantic. With more than 750 people registered for the program, many audience questions had to be left on the table. Our speakers were kind enough to come back with answers to a few more queries.

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The Birthplace of Patroon Kiliaen van Rensselaer To Be Museum



From recent Past President of NAHC Tom Visée comes news that the birthplace of New Netherland Patroon Kiliaen van Rensselaer (1586-1643) in Hasselt, Overijssel, will be converted into a museum. At 16, he left to live with an uncle in Amsterdam, a jeweler. In Golden Age Amsterdam, Van Rensselaer quickly became wealthy in the diamond trade.

With his wealth, he was one of the major moneylenders and also an administrator of the Dutch West India Company, which, in addition to New Netherland, focused on trade and shipping to West Africa and North and Latin America.

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Tulips on Park Avenue



Ina Seldon shows us that Manhattan is never more Dutch than in April. That's when the multi-billions of Dutch daffodils and countless tulips bloom in almost every available pot, box, median and mall.

Every year, the *Fund for Park Avenue* plants 66,000 tulips from 56th to 86th Streets.

Since 2015, the New York Botanical Garden has added more than 750,000 bulbs to Daffodil Hill. We can expect 10,000 more in 2024. The Narcissus Dutch Master Trumpet is the NYBG's daff of choice.

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Debating the Role of Women in the Dutch Golden Age

On March 28th, NAHC with the New York Historical Society presented *Debating the Role of Women in the Dutch Golden Age*.

Moderated by Valerie Paley, Founding Director of the Center for Women's History at the Society, it featured Deborah Hamer, Director of the New Netherland Institute, and Susanah Shaw Romney, Associate Professor of History at New York University, and explored the social role of women in New Netherland, Brazil, and elsewhere.

Events at a Glance

Long-Lost Work by Jan Lievens Discovered A Talk by Christopher Bishop

In 2020, a 17th century portrait of Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertszoon Tromp by the Dutch Golden Age master Jan Lievens was found hung above the mantel of a home in a small Massachusetts town. Neither the owner nor a local dealer had any idea who the artist or sitter was until fine arts dealer

Christopher Bishop spotted it in an auction house catalog.

[Register Here](#)



Tuesday, May 16th - 7pm
Salmagundi Club
47 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY

Central Park's Dutch Haarlam

Join author Sara Cedar Miller for a guided walk of the northern end of Central Park, the earliest uptown settlement of the Dutch era. On this 1.5-hour walking tour, historian Sara Cedar Miller, author of *Before Central Park*, will explain why this unique topography attracted the first European family.

This is a special event for NAHC Donors and Patrons and is limited to 30 people.

[Register Here](#)



June 6th - 6:00 pm
Charles A. Dana Center Park Fifth
Avenue & 110th Street
A contribution of \$25 is requested

The Prize Papers - *The Vroom Letters*

Dr. Frans Blom will talk on the [so-called Prize Papers, a trove of 40,000 commercial and private Dutch letters](#) that never reached their addressees. They were intercepted at sea and brought as intelligence information to England during the wars with the Netherlands. Later they were stored in the British National Archives and forgotten for centuries, until rediscovered in the late 20th century by Dutch historians. Thanks to Board Member, Wijnie DeGroot for arranging this program.

[Find Out More Here](#)



June 13
Columbia University
Deutsches Haus
420 W 116 Street

Slave Trade in New Netherland

In mid-November, NAHC will host Dr. Dennis Maika who will be joined by two other colleagues to offer a program on the slave trade in New Netherland. Further details will be

Dutch American Story #2 on NAHC

Mayken's World

by Nicole Maskiell

On December 28, 1662, a woman named Mayken van Angola pursued freedom in New Amsterdam. She was not alone. With two other women - Susanna and Lucretia - she petitioned the colonial government for their freedom from slavery. It was granted with the caveat that they must clean the Director General Petrus Stuyvesant's house once a week as the condition of the freedom.

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In Case You Missed...

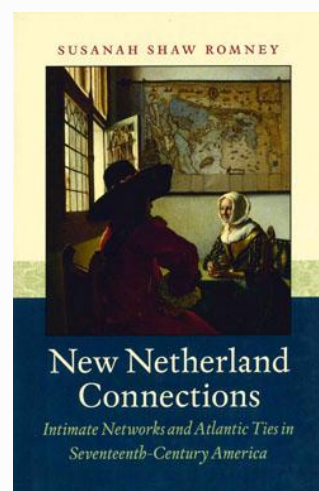
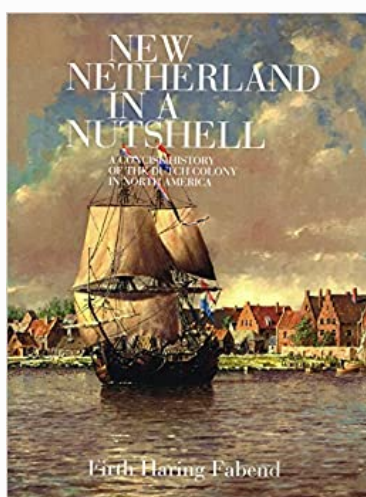
All prior Newsletters can be found and reviewed at your leisure [on our website](#).

[Spring Walk with Susan Fenimore Cooper](#)

[Meet Lisbeth Vrooman, Speaking from 17th-Century Albany](#)

[Dutch American Stories: The Patron Saint of New York](#)

On Our Reading List



We want to thank you once again for your annual contributions and gifts. Your continuing support enables us to offer you this newsletter and a broad array of online and in-person programs. If you are not yet a contributor, please consider becoming one this year.

If you would like to help promote and spread the history of the early New York, [please click here](#).

To be a sponsor, email us at: events@newamsterdamhistorycenter.org.



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