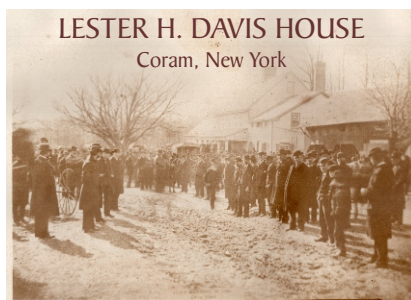


Davis Town Meeting House Society, Inc.

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DAGMAR VON BERNEWITZ, Treasurer
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MARYANNE VIGNEAUX, Volunteer



LESTER H. DAVIS HOUSE
Coram, New York

*"Where Votes Counted for Decades"
and they still do!*



The Davis Town Meeting House Society, Inc.
Welcomes You To The

Grand Opening Celebration

of the
Davis Town Meeting House

Saturday, April 13, 2024 ~ 11:00am
263 Middle Country Road | Coram, New York 11727

Featuring:
The 3rd NY Regiment 1775

Music by Buddy Merriam and Kathy DeVine

Brief History

About the **Lester H. Davis House:**

The house was built in the 1740s and was deeded to **Elijah Davis** (1727-1802) who kept a tavern-inn and was succeeded by his son Goldsmith Davis. **Goldsmith Davis** (1756-1825) was a Patriot Sympathizer during the American Revolution War. It is said that the British Troops hung Goldsmith Davis upside down in a well for refusing to divulge military information.

In 1790, the Brookhaven town leaders decided to move the site of government from Setauket to Coram to provide for a more central location. Around 1800, the tavern-inn of Goldsmith Davis was chosen as the town meeting site. It served this purpose until 1885. The mode of government was an annual Town Meeting at which elections were held and issues were voted on.

From 1812 to 1840, the Davis House served as a base for a horse artillery company for the State Militia, providing a mobile defense for Suffolk County and a meeting place for militia officers. The host of the inn at the time was **Captain Lester H. Davis** (1807-1886), the officer in charge for many years.

From the time the house was first occupied by Elijah Davis until its sale to the Town of Brookhaven in 1999, all of the owners, with a two-year exception, were direct male descendants of **Foulk Davis**, who came to Southampton, Long Island in 1642. **Lester H. Davis III** was the seventh and final patriarch of the Davis family to have owned the house. The house is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places and is designated as a Brookhaven Town Landmark.

*The **Davis Town Meeting House Society** was established in 2011 as a subcommittee of the Coram Civic Association. It became an independent NYS Non-For-Profit Corporation in 2013 and was granted IRS recognition as a 501(c) (3) charitable organization in 2014 thus providing tax deductibility status for our donors. An agreement was then entered into with the Town of Brookhaven recognizing the Society as the stewards for the Restoration and future conservancy of the **Lester H. Davis House.***

Welcome

Color Guard ~ Boy Scout Troop 560
Pledge of Allegiance
National Anthem
3rd NY Regiment 1775 Salute

Remarks & Presentations

Introduction of Special Guests and
Davis Family Descendants

Introduction of Elected Officials / Proclamations

Reception

Tours of the Davis Town Meeting House by Volunteers
of the Davis Town Meeting House Society

Walking Tours to the Davis Family Burying Ground

Refreshments

Suffolk County Farm Animals 12:00 to 2:00

Special Thanks To:

BROOKHAVEN TOWN PARKS COMMISSIONER EDDIE MORRIS
THE ROBERT DAVID LION GARDINER FOUNDATION OF NEW YORK
SUFFOLK COUNTY SHERIFF ERROL TOULON,
WORKFORCE VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM
CORAM FIRE DEPARTMENT AND VAN JOHNSON
BOY SCOUT TROOP 560
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