



COLUMBIA COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



12 February 2026

Roeliff Jansen Community Library
9091 Route 22
PO Box 669
Hillsdale, NY
12529

To the Board of Trustees and Director of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library:

Greetings from Kinderhook and the Columbia County Historical Society!

We are currently developing an exhibition of landscape paintings that specifically depict scenes of Columbia County, and your Library has several delightful pictures that would make a particularly strong impact if they could be included as loans. On behalf of the Society, I am writing to make a formal request for your consideration. I have included in this package:

- Exhibition Logistics and Concept Content
- A list of paintings from the CCHS collection that will be in the exhibition
- A wish list of paintings for loan from the Library
- The CCHS AAM (American Alliance of Museums) General Facility Report
- Loan Contract for review

This exhibition is being organized to open in early June 2026 and run through the end of December 2026 in the Main Gallery at our museum building in Kinderhook. One of my goals as CCHS Curator is to involve and feature the many towns, villages and locales of the county in our exhibitions and programming. The Society has a wealth of resources for all county residents, and it is my objective to make our collections as accessible (and exciting) as possible. To that end, I am looking to partner with other county institutions to highlight our shared history and engage with residents who may be less familiar with towns and landscapes outside and away from their own.

CCHS MUSEUM & LIBRARY, c. 1915

Luykas Van Alen House c.1737 • James Vanderpoel House c.1819 • Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse c.1850
5 Albany Avenue, PO Box 311, Kinderhook, NY 12106 518-758-9265 www.cchsnny.org

I am particularly excited at the prospect of bringing together the Library's John Bunyan Bristol paintings with our c. 1860 *Catskill Views* by him, as well as the Cuyler Williams *Hillsdale Views* in comparison to the two CCHS paintings of *Mount Merino* by Henry Ary (with whom Bristol studied). Enthusiasts of the Hudson River School of painting are familiar with the names Thomas Cole and Frederick Church, but the beauty of Columbia County inspired our lesser-known local artists as well, and their efforts merit recognition.

All costs associated with the exhibition, including transportation of Library artworks to the museum and their return once the show has closed, along with their insurance, will be covered by CCHS. If there are any details I can elaborate upon, or if you have further questions while you deliberate the possibility of my loan request, I would be more than happy to address them to your satisfaction.

I hope you will agree with this exhibition loan; the wonderful collection of Roeliff Jansen Community Library landscape paintings, which depict such verdant, open fields, and the peaceful surroundings of the Hillsdale area are truly a delight to behold and admire.

With my thanks in advance for your consideration, and with kind regards,



Dr. Taryn Marie Zarrillo
Curator
Columbia County Historical Society
Kinderhook, NY

● **EXHIBITION CONCEPT & LOGISTICS** ●

- Working Title: *Oh Columbia! 19th Century Landscape Paintings of Columbia County from the Collections of the Roeliff Jansen Library, Hillsdale and the Columbia County Historical Society*
- Exhibition Dates: June 2026 – January 2027: most likely Exhibition opening mid-June and running through the end of December. Gallery will close the week following New Year’s for packing and transportation of Loan return. Move dates are flexible.
- Exhibition Location: Main Gallery, Museum Building, Columbia County Historical Society Kinderhook NY
- Concept: The American landscape in the 19th century was diverse, seemingly boundless and freely accessible. That appeal accelerated the visual interest in the Hudson River Valley from around the time of Thomas Cole’s arrival in the area in 1825 until his death mid-century in 1848. By that time, dozens of artists had followed his path throughout the Hudson Valley and Berkshire area to record dramatic vistas and forested details. The majority of these proponents of the Picturesque and Hudson River School were typically transient; coming to admire the landscape, staying for a time to produce canvases and sketches and then depart. But what of those artists who were county-born? This exhibition focuses on the local artists of the Hudson River School who painted their own native surroundings. In some instances, they studied with more famous painters like Church or Cole (both transplants) before striking out on their own, and often they left Columbia County to establish themselves elsewhere, only to return later in life to the place they knew best and continue to paint. This exhibition brings together works produced in Columbia County by 19th century artists born in the county—some professional, others amateur—and explores the idea of “place” in the artistic collective consciousness as towns grew, the railroads expanded and landscape and identity became more closely intertwined.
- Art Transportation: Packing and transportation provided by Func Art Design, Inc, Kinderhook NY. Full service transport and installation. Func Art Design Inc. has more than 20 years experience handling the fine art needs of top-tier museums, galleries and private collectors. See funcartdesign.com

Oh Columbia!
19th Century Landscape Paintings of Columbia County
from the Collections of the
Roeliff Jansen Library, Hillsdale
and the
Columbia County Historical Society
(--WORKING TITLE--)

June 2026 – January 2027
Main Gallery, Museum Building
Columbia County Historical Society

When over all the waking earth
Flows Spring's green, surging tide,
Our hearts turn back, in wistful dream
To that fair countryside

Her rolling hills and gracious fields
Are blest from Heaven above.
Columbia! Columbia!
The County that we love!

When Summer glory spreads abroad
In tender, perfumed bloom,
Her breeze-swept farms and shaded streets
Call all her children home.

When Autumn splendor blazes forth
In harvest's living gold,
Then do we hear her calling us
To share it as of old

When Winter snows enfold the world,
In royal ermine dressed
With regal grace she calls our hearts
And folds them to her breast.

Her rolling hills and gracious fields
Are blest from Heaven above.
Columbia! Columbia!
The County that we love!

--Columbia County Song, c. 1900

• **Exhibition Paintings List from the CC Historical Society Collection** •

*Oh Columbia! 19th Century Landscape Paintings of Columbia County
from the Collections of the Roeliff Jansen Library, Hillsdale
and the Columbia County Historical Society*

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1973.66, Claverack Church, J. Thorp Flaherty, 1888

1977.64, Landscape, George A. McKinstry, c. 1875

1990.2.1, Kinderhook Lake, Louis Meyzante, 1917

1990.2.2, Kinderhook Lake from Route 203, Louis Meyzante, 1917

1975.5, View of the Hudson River, Arthur Parten, 1878

2014, South of Hudson, Arthur Parten, 1860

1940.15, Landscape with Cows, Calvin Van Deusen, 1899

1973.058, Spook Rock Claverack, Robert Fulton Ludlow, 1891

1938.56, Mount Merino, Style of Henry Ary, c. 1845-1859

1938.57, Mount Merino, Style of Henry Ary, c. 1845-1859

1960.17, Catskill Views, John Bunyan Bristol, c. 1860s

1973.69, Morning, George A. McKinstry, 1893

1933.17, The Lukas Van Alen House, Robert Fulton Ludlow, 1900

1984.69, Landscape with Church, Hendrik Kruseman van Elton, c. 1870

2014, Hudson Academy, Grau Philip, 1890s

1963.7, Along the Railroad Tracks at Shields Farm, Ghent, E Edith Case, 1895

● **Exhibition Loan Request List from the Roeliff Jansen Library Collection** ●

*Oh Columbia! 19th Century Landscape Paintings of Columbia County
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1. View of Hillsdale Valley and the Taconic Range, Cuyler Williams, 1892
2. Looking Toward Hillsdale, Cuyler Williams, c. 1870-1880
3. Landscape View Westward to Hillsdale, Unidentified Artist, c.1860-1880
4. An Evening View Up the Hudson, John Bunyan Bristol, 1874
5. Cows Along a Stream, John Bunyan Bristol, c, 1860-1870
6. Bash Bish Falls, Unidentified Artist, c. 1890
7. At the Top of Bash Bish Falls, Unidentified Artist, c. 1880-1890
8. Along the Roe-Jan Kill, Unidentified Artist, c. 1880-1890
9. Lake Scene, Unidentified Artist, c. 1880

INCOMING LOAN AGREEMENT

Purpose of loan: Exhibit X Study: _____ Other (Specify): _____

Title of Exhibit: *Oh Columbia! 19th Century Landscape Paintings of Columbia County from the Collections of the Roeliff Jansen Library, Hillsdale and the Columbia County Historical Society*

Dates of Loan: May 2026 - January 2027 (specific dates to be agreed)

Lender: Roeliff Jansen Community Library Telephone: 518-325-4101

Address: 9091 Route 22, PO Box 669, Hillsdale, NY 12529

Credit Line: _____ INITIAL _____

Description of Object(s): 9 (Nine) Landscape Paintings, oil on canvas or board, dating from the mid to late 19th century. See attached Roeliff Jansen Library Paintings list for titles and artists

Insurance Value: \$ _____ INITIAL _____

Photography: Do you give permission for the loaned objects to be photographed? _____

Insurance Coverage: CCHS Insurance through Assured Partners/Gallagher Company

The signatures below indicate the conditions of this loan as stated on the reverse of this form are accepted.

Lender _____

Date _____

Borrower (CCHS)  _____

Date 12 Feb 2026

● **LOAN CONDITIONS** ●

Object Care and Protection:

1. The Columbia County Historical Society (CCHS) will exercise the same care with respect to loaned objects as it does in the safekeeping of its own property. Objects will be given care at all times to insure against loss, damage, or deterioration. Objects will be maintained in the CCHS Museum building under 24-hour physical and/or electronic security; under 24-hour monitored fire protection; and protected from extreme temperatures and humidity, excessive light, and from insects, vermin, dirt, or other environmental hazards.
2. Objects will be displayed inside limited access exhibit galleries dedicated solely to the exhibition. Objects will not be displayed in lobbies, hallways, foyers, commercial spaces, or multiple use spaces.
3. Objects will be unpacked, handled, installed, de-installed, and repacked only by experienced professional museum object handlers and will be secured from damage and theft by appropriate brackets, railings, display cases, or other responsible means.
4. CCHS will review and approve mounting, bracketing, exhibit case materials, and display designs for the objects before the objects are installed. Objects will be displayed using the methods and materials approved by CCHS for maximum safety.
5. No food or drink is allowed in exhibition spaces where Loaned objects are on display or in areas where objects are staged, processed, packed, unpacked, or stored.
6. A visual check of the exhibition space will be carried out daily. Any changes in the status or condition of the objects will be brought promptly to the attention of the Lender.
7. Evidence of damage at the time of receipt or while in the CCHS custody will be reported immediately to the Lender. No alterations, cleaning, restoration, or repair will be undertaken without the written authorization of the Lender.

Loan period:

8. Loaned objects shall remain in the possession of the Columbia County Historical Society for the time specified on the Loan Agreement but may be withdrawn from exhibit at any time by the Curator of the CCHS. Loaned objects will be returned only to the Lender/Lending Institution or to his, her or its duly authorized agent or representative.
9. If the legal ownership of the object(s) should change during the period of this loan, whether by reason of sale, gift, death, or otherwise, the new owner will be required to establish, prior to the return of the loaned object(s), her, his or its legal right to receive the object(s).

10. The CCHS will give two weeks' notice in writing if it desires to have any object taken back by the Lender, and CCHS will make all reasonable efforts to return the object(s) to the Lender.
11. If such efforts are unsuccessful for any reason, the right of CCHS to require the Lender to withdraw the object(s) shall accrue absolutely on the date of and by e-mailing a notice to the Lender for any of the following reasons: the loan is declined by CCHS, the loan period has terminated, or CCHS no longer desires the loan thereof. If the Lender does not accept return of the object(s) within ninety (90) days from the date of such notice, then CCHS shall have the absolute right to place the object(s) in storage, to charge regular storage fees and the cost of insurance therefore, and to have and enforce a lien for such fees and cost. If, after five years, the object(s) shall not have been reclaimed, then, and in consideration for its storage, insurance and safeguarding during such period, the object(s) shall be deemed an unrestricted gift to the Columbia County Historical Society.
12. Loaned object(s) may be removed from CCHS by the Lender or his, her, its authorized agent with two weeks' notice in writing to CCHS of that pending removal. Loans removed by the Lender any time prior to the agreed upon original end date of the loan period will incur all costs of return labor, materials, packing and transportation for those objects.

Insurance:

13. Unless the Lender expressly elects to maintain her, his or its own insurance coverage, CCHS will insure this loan under its fine arts policy for the amount specified by the Lender on the face of this loan agreement. If the declared value of any single object is over \$10,000, a written appraisal of said object will be required from the Lender before coverage can begin, subject to review with CCHS insurance provider.
14. If the Lender elects to maintain his, her or its own insurance, CCHS must be supplied with a Certificate of Insurance naming CCHS as an additional assured or waiving subrogation against CCHS. If the Lender fails to supply such a certificate, this loan agreement shall constitute a release of CCHS from any liability in connection with the loaned property. The CCHS can accept no responsibility for any error or deficiency in information furnished to the Lender's insurers or for lapses in coverage.
15. The Lender agrees that in the event of loss or damage, recovery, if any, shall be limited to such amount as may be paid by the insurer, hereby releasing the CCHS, its officers, agents, and employees from liability for any and all claims arising out of such loss or damage.
16. Objects shall be insured during the period of this loan for the value stated under an "all-risk", wall-to-wall policy subject only to the following standard exclusions: wear and tear, gradual deterioration, insects, vermin or inherent vice; repairing, restoration, or retouching process; hostile or warlike action, insurrection, rebellion, etc.; nuclear reaction, nuclear radiation, or radioactive contamination.

Photography:

17. Unless permission is specifically denied on the face of this loan agreement, the Lender agrees that the loaned object(s) may be photographed and reproduced for publicity purposes connected with this exhibit, for illustration in any catalog connected with this exhibit, for educational purposes, and/or for archival records. The Credit Line listed by Lender will accompany all such photographs and reproductions.

Costs:

18. The costs of transportation and packing will be borne by the CCHS unless other arrangements are agreed upon in advance in writing. The method of transportation must be agreed upon by both parties.
19. If the loaned object(s) are to be returned, at the Lender's request (without prior written agreement), to any address other than that from which they were collected, the CCHS may ask the Lender to pay any additional cost necessitated by such change.

This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with applicable Federal law and the laws of the State of New York.