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The Thompson House (c.1709) Roof Restoration
WMHO announces grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation

Stony Brook, NY – The Ward Melville Heritage Organization (WMHO) has been awarded a matching grant of \$30,625.00 from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation to support the roof restoration of the Thompson House (c.1709) in Setauket, New York. The Thompson House (c.1709) was home to five generations of Thompsons. American Patriot, Farmer and Physician, Doctor Samuel Thompson was a prestigious member of the Setauket community, who treated many local residents. Members of George Washington’s Culper Spy Ring are listed in his “Cash Receipt Book,” c.1787, as his patients. Further research strongly indicates he was probably a member of George Washington’s Culper Spy Ring. Today the five-room saltbox farmhouse is one of the largest historic houses in the Town of Brookhaven and it is listed on the *New York State and National Register of Historic Places*.

The roof restoration will help the WMHO continue to foster an appreciation of the rich history of the Three Village Area. Kathryn M. Curran, Executive Director of the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation said, “The rich history of Dr. Thompson’s role as a local farmer, American Revolutionary patriot and community doctor is especially timely today. His home and belongings remain timely educational resources”. Gloria Rocchio, President of WMHO says, “This grant will enable the building to be structurally sound and ready for the many new programs we have in mind.”

The Thompson House (c.1709) is more than just a building it is an important part of history. The WMHO offers a number of education programs at the Thompson House (c.1709) such as “*Medicine: Past, Present and Future*” where students are given the opportunity to discover medicine from the 18th through the 21st Century through the instruction of medical students from Stony Brook Medicine. This program is offered on-site and through distance learning technology. Events such as *The Courageous Women of the Revolutionary War Trolley Tours* and *Culper Spy Day* have been held at the house. Through the completion of the roof restoration the WMHO hopes to continue serving as many people as possible from the legendary location year-round.

For more information about the WMHO, its mission and programs, please visit www.wmho.org or contact 631-751-2244.

To learn more about the Gardiner Foundation, please visit www.rdlgfoundation.org.

Founded in 1939, the WMHO is a privately funded not-for-profit corporation that protects and preserves historic and environmentally sensitive properties deeded to it by Ward Melville. By enhancing and interpreting its properties, it creates educational and cultural experiences that integrate ecology, history, art, theater, music, dance and technology. The Ward Melville Heritage Organization provides educational and cultural programs throughout the year for children ages three through adult and works with both public and private schools that include a range of socio-economic statuses and underserved communities. WMHO presents over 70 multidisciplinary performances of music theatre, drama, dance, art and music year-round. More than 18,000 people attend these performances as well as many exhibitions, lectures and children’s programs throughout the year. These include both free and paid admissions.