



PRESERVATION LONG ISLAND

Incorporated as The Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities

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Preservation Long Island to Publish Historic Decorative Arts Book

Elias Pelletreau: Long Island Silversmith and Entrepreneur, 1726–1810

Cold Spring Harbor, NY— Preservation Long Island is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of its latest book, *Elias Pelletreau: Long Island Silversmith and Entrepreneur, 1726–1810*

Targeted for release in early December 2018, this work represents a return to Preservation Long Island’s roots in the study of historic decorative arts which began in earnest with the 1976 publication of *Long Island is My Nation: The Decorative Arts and Craftsman, 1640-1830* by the Long Island decorative arts specialist, Dean Failey. Pelletreau was Failey’s first and last subject of intensive study before his death in 2015. In completing Failey’s last project, this book honors his contribution to field.

Elias Pelletreau (1726-1810) lived and worked in his hometown of Southampton. A Long Island contemporary of Paul Revere, he was one of very few early American rural silversmiths to run a successful business that produced complex silver forms. His clientele came from among the most influential Long Island families of the time and included the Tallmades, the Gardiners, the Floyds, and the Jones and many others.

In addition to featuring over fifty works by Pelletreau and his contemporaries, the lavishly illustrated new book catalogues the nearly 170 artifacts; silver, paintings, and furniture from the Long Island Museum’s *Elias Pelletreau* Exhibition that will illuminate the life and times of one of this region’s most significant early American artisans. The book will serve as the printed companion to the exhibition and symposium.

The Elias Pelletreau Exhibition will be on view at the Long Island Museum from September 21, 2018-December 30, 2018. <https://longislandmuseum.org/exhibition/elias-pelletreau/>

The Elias Pelletreau Symposium will take place at the Long Island Museum on October 27, 2018 from 9am-4pm. The symposium will feature scholars who will examine Pelletreau's fine craftsmanship and his role in the complex trade and social issues of the time.

With the publication of *Elias Pelletreau: Long Island Silversmith and Entrepreneur, 1726–1810*, Preservation Long Island is very excited to present, under one comprehensive cover, the life and work of a very important Long Island craftsman.

We are most grateful to *The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation* who helped make the publication of this book possible. In addition, funding for research and development of the book was made possible by the generous support of The Decorative Arts Trust and The Gerry Charitable Trust.

About Preservation Long Island

Preservation Long Island is a not-for-profit organization that works with Long Islanders to raise awareness, appreciation, and support for the protection of our shared past through advocacy, education, and the stewardship of historic sites and collections.

<http://preservationlongisland.org/>

Preservation Long Island maintains and interprets historic sites and collections that embody various aspects of Long Island's history including:

Joseph Lloyd Manor, Lloyd Harbor <http://preservationlongisland.org/joseph-lloyd-manor/>

Custom House, Sag Harbor <http://preservationlongisland.org/custom-house/>

Sherwood-Jayne Farm, Setauket

<http://preservationlongisland.org/sherwood-jayne-farm/>

Old Methodist Church and Exhibition Gallery

<http://preservationlongisland.org/methodist-church/>

[About the Long Island Museum](#)

Located at 1200 Route 25A in Stony Brook, the Long Island Museum is a Smithsonian Affiliate dedicated to enhancing the lives of adults and children with an understanding of Long Island's rich history and diverse cultures.

<https://longislandmuseum.org/>

Contact: Andrea Hart at 631.692.4664x108; ahart@preservationlongisland.org

Lauren Brincat at 631.692.4664x102; lbrincat@preservationlongisland.org

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