



# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: May 13, 2024**

## **GIDEON PUTNAM BURYING GROUND HISTORIC MARKER RESTORED**

SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY – Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Vice Chair, Matt Veitch (Saratoga Springs) was joined by the Saratoga Springs Historian, Saratoga Preservation Foundation, Saratoga Springs DPW, Saratoga Springs History Museum, and TR Signs to unveil the restored Gideon Putnam Burying Ground Historic Marker.

Supervisor Veitch secured funding in the County's 2023 budget to dedicate to various projects in Saratoga Springs. Veitch spearheaded an initiative to restore multiple historic markers and signs throughout the city. These include Gideon Putnam Burial Ground, Bryan Home (Olde Bryan Inn), NYS County Highway Superintendents Association Founding site, Walworth Estate (Pine Grove), The 'Gut' or the 'Valley commemoration of Jewish Contributions to the City, Solomon Northup Memorial, Dublin Neighborhood marker.

The Gideon Putnam Burying Ground is located on South Franklin Street in Saratoga Springs. Named for the founding father of Saratoga Springs, Gideon Putnam, the cemetery contains more than 150 graves of early and mid-19th century, mostly working-class residents of the city. In 1835, the Putnam's gave their family burial land to the village of Saratoga Springs to be used as a public burial plot. In 1812, Gideon Putnam became the first to be buried here.

Supervisor Matt Veitch said, "Historical markers tell the stories of Saratoga Springs' rich and varied history. Through this historic marker restoration project, we are promoting our city's historical sites for our residents and visitors and ensuring that these stories are preserved for future generations. I thank my colleagues on the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors for supporting funding for projects in Saratoga Springs."

Michele Funiciello of the Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation said, "The Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation thanks County Supervisor Matt Veitch for his efforts to refurbish the signs throughout the city that share our community's history. "

Saratoga Springs City Historian Mary Ann Fitzgerald said, "I would like to thank Supervisor Matt Veitch for securing the funding for restoration of historical markers and all those who support this initiative. Earlier efforts by Gene Corsale decades ago helped to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining and marking our historic spaces. This project assures that our historic landscape will be recognized and honored for generations to come."

Restoration of historical markers is an important part of the County's historic preservation efforts. Historical markers benefit communities and the entire county by educating the public, fostering historic tourism, and sparking further interest in local history.

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