

FROM CITY OF AUBURN-PHONE#315-255-4115

87.11.1998 13:31

P. 2

**VISIT OF THE FIRST LADY
TO
M'CLINTOCK HOUSE
WATERLOO, NEW YORK
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1998**

EVENT: Tour of the M'Clintock House
Girl Scout Millennium Patch announcement

DATE: Wednesday, July 15, 1998

TIME: 6:00 P.M. - 6:45 P.M.

LOCATION: M'Clintock House
16 East Williams Street
Waterloo, New York

ATTENDEES: The First Lady
Mr. Robert Stanton, Dir., Natl. Park Service
Marie Rust, Northeast Regional Director
Josie Fernandez, Supt., Women's Rights National Historical Park
Elinor Johnstone Ferdon, National President Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

PRESS: OPEN

REMARKS: Brief Remarks / Presentations

SCENARIO:

*CM Beach at MSN.COM.
203 245 7071*

The First Lady will arrive Waterloo Village via motorcade and proceed to the M'Clintock House. The First Lady is greeted by Mr. Robert Stanton, Director of National Park Service, Marie Rust, Northeast Regional Director, National Park Service, Josie Fernandez, Superintendent, Women's Rights National Historical Park, Mayor Rudolph Bertino, Village of Waterloo. The First Lady will be escorted by Josie Fernandez on a brief tour of the M'Clintock House, which will include the room where the Declaration of Sentiments was written. After the tour the First Lady proceeds outside and onto the stage for the Girl Scout Patch Announcement. Josie Fernandez gives welcoming remarks and introduces a representative from the National Park Service to give a brief history of the Restoration. Elinor Johnston Ferdon (for Done), National President, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. is introduced and will announce the establishment of the new Girl Scout Patch, as well as why it was created. (Unveiling of Rendering by local Jr. Girl Scout Troop #825) Carrie Logan, Senior Girl Scout of Seneca Falls, NY will introduce the First Lady. The First Lady gives remarks. Closing remarks by Josie Fernandez.

Draft 1.

never
was on
never
imagine the
future



05:03:49 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Laura E. Schiller/WHO/EOP, Christine N. Macy/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: M'Clintock Update

Program:

Park Superintendent Welcomes everyone.
Expert TBD talks about importance/historical significance of the house
Girl Scout National President Eleanor J. Ferdon announces Girl Scout Patch
Patch blowup is unveiled by 2 Girl-scouts
Girl Scout TBD introduces Mrs. Clinton
Mrs. Clinton delivers remarks (5 minutes)

Event coordinators have been reminded of their responsibilities vis-a-vis acknowledgments.

-Michael

(Historical anecdotes about the house are on their way.)

Cheryl is an
big city -
woman who
commits to
+ provide
develop the
come up w/
a plan

Thank you
for not
team it
down

guitars
and blues
E. End in
endances
unimpaired +
reserves
new 10
bands

value it
never

Sarah Howe
announcing
150th of Public Library
in 2000

Access
Voluntarism
Baton de
never
not to
lower
but adhere
in to
need
need
need

Let's / Public
The story of Paul
Carter in NY w/
Foreword
- need to train
(w/old cup) Thank

M'Clintock House

- 2 days before the Women's Rights Convention of 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others gathered in the home rented by Mary Ann M'Clintock and her husband to write speeches and other documents for the Convention. They ended up writing the "Declaration of Sentiments."

- However, the women found it very difficult to write the Declaration. In fact, Elizabeth Cady Stanton compared "the first attempt to frame a resolution" to being "asked to construct a steam engine."

- Like the other women, the M'Clintocks were abolitionists (they were Quakers as well). They boycotted any products made with slave labor, which included anything made with tobacco, sugar, or cotton. In addition, they ran a drugstore which sold fortune cookies that contained antislavery messages.

The M'Clintock Family

- The M'Clintocks, like many other Quakers in the area, were committed abolitionists. Several famous abolitionists stayed at their house in Seneca Falls including: William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, and Abbey Kelly Foster (an early female antislavery lecturer).

- Mary Ann M'Clintock and her daughter Elizabeth played a substantial role in organizing the Seneca Falls conference. Both wrote letters to many women, and hence are in part responsible for the large turnout. Moreover, they participated in the conference, signed the Declaration of Sentiments, and took important notes at the conference.

- Elizabeth M'Clintock stands out in the 1850 census because she listed an occupation for herself (as a clerk in the family drugstore). In general, in the mid 19th century, even if a woman worked outside the home, this was not listed on the census. However, Elizabeth M'Clintock made sure her job as a clerk was listed. (Historian says she can imagine Elizabeth insisting that the census taker list her occupation and give her credit for the work she did).

- The women were close friends of Elizabeth Cady Stanton

- People told Mary Ann's husband, Thomas M'Clintock, who ran a drugstore, that he would lose business if he didn't cease his antislavery work. He essentially said "I have to do what I have to do" and continued his antislavery efforts. By the time he leaves Seneca Falls in 1856, townspeople had come to respect his antislavery ideas.

- M'Clintocks likely involved in underground railroad. 1850 census lists two black girls living in M'Clintock house (likely members of fugitive slave families who had already made it to Canada). Shows link between Af-Am and Women's struggle for equality.

- M'Clintocks friends with Amy Post and other antislavery advocates in Rochester; raised money for the cause by selling various goods (sent by people all over for the cause); help drew Frederick Douglass to Rochester b/c by providing financial support and a generally supportive community.

Info related to Ganondagan

- The area Quakers and other reformers were active in Iroquois efforts to retain their land, sending petitions to Congress, organizing meetings, publicizing the cause, and helping Seneca women write a petition to President John Tyler (1841 or 42).

- Ganondagan not a site during this period; Seneca were on ten different reservations and Ganon was not one of them.

- Just before Lucretia Mott came to Seneca Falls she visited Seneca Indians, the Auburn prison (Quakers today still hold weekly meeting with prisoners at Auburn prison).

Info related to Seward and Tubman

- Seward's law partner was David Wright who was husband of Martha Wright who was Lucretia Mott's sister.

- Also note above mention of M'Clintocks' likely involvement in underground railroad.

The M'Clintock House announcement of the Girl Scout patch may be the only announcement but the point would be that protecting sites for future generations is not just a matter of money but of muscle and that the patch will help direct the effort of girls towards all kinds of sites like this one around the country. The event coordinator on site is checking out whether there's a local council or troop that wants to adopt this site. The 75 cadettes (middle school age) who will definitely be there are from all around the country and have gotten there through special effort to help with the 150th anniversary celebration.

M'CLINTOCK HOUSE/WOMEN'S RIGHTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

12 Williams St, Waterloo, NY

Description

The M'Clintock House is a brick house with a restored exterior and interior in the midst of restoration. Other sites in the park include the house where Elizabeth Cady Stanton lived from 1847 to 1862, and the remains of Wesleyan Methodist Church.

Historical Significance

The M'Clintock House is where the *Declaration of Sentiments* were finalized, three days before the Women's Rights Convention in 1848 and held in the Wesleyan Chapel, marking an important first step toward legal, political, and educational rights for women in America. Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mary Ann M'Clintock, Martha Wright and Jane Hunt drafted the Declaration. As the women sat in M'Clintock's parlor pouring over different examples of speeches, reports, and resolutions for inspiration, Stanton recalled that they "all seemed too tame and pacific for the inauguration of a rebellion such as the world have never before seen....After much delay, one member of the circle took up the *Declaration of Independence* and read it aloud with much spirit and emphasis, and it was at once decided to adopt the historic document, with some slight changes such as substituting 'all men' for 'King George.' In its final form, the *Declaration of Sentiments* closely followed the structure of the *Declaration of Independence*, including a list of 18 grievances women had with American society. Just two days later, on July, 18 the Women's Rights Convention was opened with the reading of the Declaration by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

Preservation needs

Women's Rights National Historical Park and the National Park Foundation are currently working to restore the M'Clintock House. Once restored, this building will be a prominent feature of the park and will be an important component of its tours. The house is in the midst of restoration with the interior gutted no functioning utility systems. Plans and specifications are nearly completed to restore the interior, rehabilitate the grounds, reconstruct the missing kitchen wing, provide historic exhibits and furnishings, including the original table on which the Declaration was drafted. The house is currently not open to the public.

The Stanton House is open to the public and the extant portion is fully restored. However, two missing wings have yet to be reconstructed. Stanton Foundation donated the house.

Wesleyan Chapel has been restored as much as remains of it which are the two side walls and roof. It will need more protection in the future.

Visitor facilities are inadequate, and, in addition, represent modern intrusions on the cultural landscape. There is a proposal to construct a new Visitors Center at a nearby site along the Cayuga-Seneca Canal. Visitors would board a canal boat in downtown Seneca Falls and ride the approximately 1/2 mile through the Historic District to the site.

Resources

The village of Seneca Falls and Seneca County secured a \$500,000 grant from HUD through the Erie Canal Corridor Initiative to assist in constructing a visitors contact station. The

Village of Seneca Falls has been designated to receive a \$5 million grant from the New York State Thruway Authority for developing boater recreational facilities along the canal. This grant must be matched at a level of \$1.2 million each from other government sources and the private sector. Fundraising is being done by the Women's Rights National Parks Fund at the National Park Foundation to complete the renovations on both houses and for the new visitors center. Park funds paid for Wesleyan Chapel.

Contact

Josie Fernandez, Superintendent, Women's Rights National Historical Park, 315-568-2991 x 30

Mary Ellen Snyder, Chief of Interpretation, 315-568-2991, x17

Internet access: www.nps.gov/wori/celeb98.htm

Women's Rights National Historical Park
National Park Service
National Park Foundation

Background

Women's Rights National Historic Park, located in Seneca Falls, NY, consists of the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel where the First U.S. Women's Rights Convention was held, the home of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and the M'Clintock House, site of the writing of the Declaration of Sentiments.

The National Park Foundation is seeking contributions to support the restoration at the M'Clintock House, other historic buildings and new interpretive exhibits at the site including the following (in priority order):

* **M'Clintock House** – The National Park Service will restore the interior of the house, reconstruct an original wing, and provide historic exhibits and furnishings, including the original table on which the Declaration of Sentiments was originally drafted.

Total Budget: \$1,000,000
Approximate budget breakout:
Restoration/Reconstruction: \$700,000
Exhibits: \$300,000

Stanton House – The home of Elizabeth Cady Stanton has been restored. However the house is missing two original wings where Stanton entertained notable thinkers, politicians and reformers of the day, and raised her children. In order to give visitors an accurate picture of Stanton's life, the National Park Service will reconstruct the missing wings, restore the landscape to its original 1848 condition, and obtain historic furnishings for several rooms of the house.

Total Budget: \$1,000,000
Approximate budget breakout:
Restoration: \$700,000
Landscaping: \$300,000

Suffrage Print Shop – This unique site provides hands-on printing workshops and education programs for more than 5,000 school children and 30,000 park visitors. Students of all ages learn how to print posters, placard and broadsides using a turn of the century print press. The site seeks a trained printer to lead school groups and visitors through an actual demonstration of the historic print press, as well as materials needed to conduct demonstrations.

Total Budget: \$30,000 per year

Wesleyan Methodist Chapel – The site where the convention was held in July 1848, needs interpretive improvements with six new wayside interpretive exhibits:

Total Budget: \$25,000

07/10/98 FRI 13:55 FAX 202 456 6244
07/10/98 FRI 12:54 FAX 202 785 3538

OFC OF THE FIRST LADY
NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

003
003

Future Stanton Contact Station - In partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and New York State's Erie Canal Corridor Initiative, the Park Service will develop a community recreation and visitor-use area. Park visitors and area residents will enjoy boat-docking facilities, canal-side walkways, a picnic site, and an outdoor education amphitheater. (Please note, this is a \$2 million project, the Park has already received a \$500,000 grant from HUD).

Total Budget: \$1.5 million

Places Where Women Made History

M'Clintock House

11 Although the Women's Rights Convention of 1848 is usually associated with Seneca Falls, it is important to remember that crucial events important to the story also occurred in nearby Waterloo. On July 16, three days after Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mary Ann M'Clintock, Martha Wright and Jane Hunt met at Hunt's Waterloo, NY house and originated the idea of a women's rights convention, the same women met here, in Mary Ann M'Clintock's House, to write the now famous "Declaration of Sentiments." Even with speeches, topics of debate to organize, and a myriad of details to discuss, Elizabeth Cady Stanton wrote years later that the most difficult task proved to be the writing of the convention's "declaration." As the women sat in M'Clintock's parlor pouring over different examples of speeches, reports, and resolutions for inspiration, Stanton recalled that they "all seemed too tame and pacific for the inauguration of a rebellion such as the world have never before seen. . . . After much delay, one member of the circle took up the Declaration of 1776, and read it aloud with much spirit and emphasis, and it was at once decided to adopt the historic document, with some slight changes such as substituting 'all men' for 'King George.' In its final form, the *Declaration of Sentiments* closely followed the structure of Thomas Jefferson's 1776 *Declaration of Independence*, including a list of 18 grievances women had with American society. Just two days later on July 18, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Elizabeth Cady Stanton officially began the Women's Rights Convention of 1848 (and the American women's rights movement) with the reading of the document composed in Mary Ann M'Clintock's front parlor, the Declaration of Sentiments. Today, this small two-story brick house with two chimney's at either end -- a residence similar to thousands of others built in the 19th century -- occupies a prominent place in American history, and is part of the Women's Rights National Historical Park.



Mary Ann M'Clintock House
Photograph courtesy of the Women's Rights National Historical Park.

The Mary Ann M'Clintock House is part of the Women's Rights National Historical Park. Ranger guided tours are available. Call (315)-568-2991 or click [here](#) for more information.

[Home](#) | [List of Sites](#) | [Main Map](#) | [Seneca Falls & Waterloo Map](#) | [Next Site](#)

women

[historic preservation](#) [progressive era](#) [the arts](#) [professionals](#) [equal rights](#)

[Comments or Questions](#)

Last Modified: Monday, 30-Mar-98 15:42:58EST



**OSWEGO**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126

Economics Department

Tel: (315) 341-2175

Fax: (315) 341-5444

economic@oswego.edu

<http://www.oswego.edu/~economic/>

Fax Cover Letter

To:

*Laura Schiller
Hillary Rodham Clinton's Office*Fax Number: *202-456-6144*

From:

*Judy Wellman, Professor
History Dept.
State Univ. of New York
Oswego, N.Y. 13126*

Comments:

*Hi Laura! Here is the M'Clintock
material. It is to be published in a new
American National Biography. I may see
you on Wed., either at the Harriet Tubman
house or at the reception for descendants
of the signers in SH. Have a safe & wonderful
trip
There will be a total of 7 pages, including this cover page. If you do not
receive all pages, please call (315) 341-2175.*

M'Clintock, Mary Ann Wilson (20 February 1800-21 May 1884) and her husband, Thomas M'Clintock (28 March 1792-19 March 1876), were Quakers, abolitionists, and key organizers of the first Woman's Rights Conference at Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. Thomas was born in Brandywine Hundred, Delaware, the son of Thomas and Mary Allen. Mary Ann Wilson was the daughter of the daughter of John and Elizabeth Pyle. Thomas and Mary Ann were married at the Burlington, New Jersey, Friends Meeting house in 1820, and thereafter lived in Philadelphia, where Thomas had been working as a druggist since ca. 1814. They had five children: Elizabeth W. (1821-1896), Mary Ann Jr. (1822-1880), Sarah G. (b. 1824), Charles W. and Julia (b. 1831).

In the 1820s, Thomas was an active adherent of the Hicksite party in the religious controversy which split the Society of Friends. Hicksite leaders relied on Thomas' extensive knowledge of theology and the writings of the early Quakers to counter attacks by their Orthodox opponents. A modern study of the Hicksite-Orthodox separation characterized him as "The most resourceful and talented of all the Philadelphia reformers... his letters revealed an exact, thoughtful, and tolerant man of balance and insight, one satisfied to work behind the scenes. He was always careful about speaking the truth, holding that any exaggeration on the reformers' part would only serve their opponent's interests in the long run." (Ingle, p. 53). Although his name does not appear on the printed volumes, Thomas edited the first volume of Elias Hick's Sermons (1826) and most of the

eight volume set of George Fox's Works (1831). Thomas was acknowledge as a Friends minister about 1835.

In 1827, Thomas was a founder and first Secretary of the Free Produce Society of Pennsylvania, a largely Quaker organization promoting the use of goods made without slave labor. He would later become active in the Garrisonian wing of the anti-slavery movement, and was manager (1843-1848) and a Vice-President (1848-1857) of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

In 1837, the M'Clintocks moved to Waterloo, New York, where Thomas operated a drugstore. Both Thomas and Mary Ann Sr. took an active part in the Quaker meetings, and promoted various reforms, particularly temperance and anti-slavery. In Genesee Yearly Meeting, both Thomas and Mary Ann, Sr., served on the Indian concerns committee, the epistles committee, and committees to address Congress on slavery. Thomas was clerk of the Genesee Yearly Meeting Men's Meeting in 1840, 1841, and 1843. Mary Ann, Sr. served as assistant clerk of the Genesee Yearly Women's Meeting from 1839-1841. They also organized anti-slavery fairs, wrote and signed antislavery petitions, cared for African-American children in their home (perhaps as part of an underground railway network), endorsed utopian communities, maintained contact with such reformers as Lucretia Mott, William Lloyd Garrison, Amy and Isaac Post, and Frederick Douglass, and sold goods "free from the labor of slaves."

Thomas clearly rooted his anti-slavery commitment in his religious ideals. In his address to the "Association of Friends

for advocating the cause of the slave, and improving the condition of the Free People of Color" (1840) he noted that "religion, in our view, has been emphatically embodied, not in speculative theories, but in practical righteousness, in active virtues, in reverence to God, in benevolence to man-- the latter being the only sure test of the former." Although his neighbors in Waterloo warned Thomas M'Clintock that his reform activities were unpopular and would hurt his business, Thomas replied that "I must speak the truth, and abide the consequences." (Stebbins, 70-71)

Though the Society of Friends was opposed to slavery, it was divided on the appropriateness of its members participating in "worldly" reform movements. Some of the radical reformers among Friends rejected the authority of the meeting to discipline its members on what were seen as questions of individual conscience. In Genesee Yearly Meeting, a schism occurred at the annual meeting sessions at Farmington, New York, in June 1848. The M'Clintocks helped organize a new group which called itself the Yearly Meeting of Congregational Friends. Two documents, An Address to Friends of Genesee Yearly Meeting and the Basis of Religious Association, both probably written by Thomas, explained their beliefs. "The object of religious association," noted the Basis, may be defined in brief to be, the promotion of righteousness-- of practical-- goodness-- love to God and man-- on the part of every member composing the association and the world at large. They believed in the equality of all people,

including women and men, and that every person "stands in such contiguity to Omnipresent God as to have immediately revealed to him God's will concerning him. THIS IS THE FUNDAMENTAL FACT IN RELIGION..." (Brown, 113-114).

The Congregational Friends (renamed the Friends of Human Progress in 1854) met annually at the Junius Friends meeting house near Waterloo, NY, until at least 1871. The Friends of Human Progress corresponded with other Progressive Friends groups, notably the Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting of Progressive Friends which Thomas helped found in 1853. The Waterloo meeting attracted other reformers, Quaker and non-Quaker alike. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Aaron M. Powell and Samuel J. May participated actively in their annual meetings.

In July, 1848, Mary Ann M'Clintock, Lucretia Mott, Martha Coffin Wright, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton met at the house of Richard and Jane Hunt at Waterloo, and there drafted a call for a women's rights convention, to be held on July 19-20, 1848, at Seneca Falls. A few days later, the women met at the M'Clintock home to prepare a "Declaration of Sentiments." This document used the Declaration of Independence as a model, and declared that, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men and women are created equal." At the convention itself, Thomas, Mary Ann, Elizabeth and Mary Ann Jr. all listed their names in support of the Declaration of Sentiments, the largest nuclear family group to do so. Elizabeth Cady Stanton later recalled that Thomas

M'Clintock ("this noble man") "was among the first to append his name to the declaration of rights issued at Seneca Falls, and he did not withdraw it when the press began to ridicule the proceedings of the Convention." (Stanton, History, I:539). Mary Ann, Jr., was secretary to the convention; Thomas chaired the evening session on the second day; and both Elizabeth and Mary Ann, Jr., gave speeches and acted as ushers at the meeting. The M'Clintocks also helped organize the second Woman's Rights Convention, held in Rochester, August 2-3, 1848.

Following the convention, Elizabeth M'Clintock and Elizabeth Cady Stanton were "intimate friends for several years" (Stanton, Woman's Journal, 1896). Together they wrote newspaper articles to refute critiques of women's rights. Elizabeth M'Clintock, clerk in her father's drugstore, braved ridicule in 1849 in her attempt to find employment in the wholesale silk business in Philadelphia. Mary Ann Jr. married James Truman (1826-1914), a dentist, who was active with the Progressive Friends in Pennsylvania and at Waterloo, and in opening the dental profession to women.

In 1856, the M'Clintock family moved to Easton, Pennsylvania, and about 1860 returned to Philadelphia, where Thomas operated a drugstore until 1866. Both Thomas and Mary Ann Sr. died in Philadelphia.

The historical importance of Mary Ann and Thomas M'Clintock lies primarily in their role in organizing the first Woman's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls. The largest identifiable group

among those present at the convention were Quakers from the Junius Friends meeting, whose most visible leader was Thomas M'Clintock. The M'Clintocks were reformers and religious radicals. Before the 1840s, their activities had been primarily within the Society of Friends. In the 1840s, and particularly after the schism in Genesee Yearly Meeting in 1848, they came to reject those elements of Quakerism that they saw as sectarian. The involvement of the M'Clintock family in the Woman's Rights Convention and the Friends of Human Progress represented a redefinition of the radical elements of Quakerism into a more liberal, free thinking and activist mold.

-- Christopher Densmore and Judith Wellman