

CONSTITUTION

Adopted April 10, 1885

ARTICLE I Name

This organization shall be called THE HOLLAND SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.

ARTICLE II Object

The object of the Society shall be:

First. To collect and preserve information respecting the early history and settlement of New Netherland by the Dutch, and to discover, collect and preserve all still existing documents, etc., relating to their genealogy and history.

Second. To perpetuate the memory and foster and promote the principles and virtues of the Dutch ancestors of its members.

Third. To gather by degrees a library for the use of the Society, composed of all obtainable books, monographs, pamphlets, manuscripts, etc. relating to the Dutch in America.

Fourth. To cause to be prepared and read before the Society papers, essays, etc. on questions in the history or genealogy of the Dutch in America.

Fifth. To cause to be prepared and published when the requisite materials have been discovered and procured, collections for a memorial history of the Dutch in America, wherein shall be particularly set forth the past belonging to that element in the growth and development of American character, institutions and progress.

Sixth. To contribute to the support of religious, literary, educational, moral, philanthropic and artistic endeavors consistent with the objects of the Society.

ARTICLE III Members

Section 1. No one shall be eligible for membership unless at the time of election he be at least eighteen years of age, of respectable standing in society, of good moral character, and the descendant in the direct male line of: (a) a Dutchman who was a native or resident of New York or the American Colonies (now a part of the United States) prior to or during the year 1675; this shall include those of other former nationalities who found in Holland a refuge or a home and whose descendants in the male line came to this country as Dutch settlers speaking Dutch as their native tongue; this shall also include descendants in the male line of Dutch settlers who were born within the limits of Dutch settlements, and the descendants in the male line of persons who possessed the right of Dutch citizenship within Dutch settlements in North America prior to or during the year 1675, or (b) a Dutchman, one of whose descendants became a member of this society prior to June 16, 1886 or (c) a Dutchman who was called to this country as a Dutch speaking Domine during the Colonial Period.

Section 2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, persons who would be eligible for membership in the Society except that they are under eighteen years of age may be admitted to the Society as junior members upon payment of such sum as may be

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required by resolution of the Board of Trustees. Such members shall have no vote until they are 18 years of age nor shall they attend meetings.

Section 3. Certain members of the Society would not now be eligible for membership under Section 1 above. Nevertheless, persons elected to membership in the Society prior to April 6, 1972 who would not qualify for membership under Section 1 above, as well as persons who were admitted to membership in the Society as Life members although they were under eighteen years of age and are on April 6, 1972 under such age, are hereby confirmed as members of the Society. Members under eighteen years of age shall have no vote until they attain such age. Descendants of members (who are not members on April 6, 1972) shall be required to qualify for membership under the provisions of Section 1 above.

ARTICLE IV Officers, Trustees and Committees

Section 1. A President of the Society shall be chosen at each annual meeting and shall hold office until his successor is elected, and may not be elected more than four times in succession. The President and the Trustees shall constitute the Board of Trustees (the Board). He shall have all rights of a Trustee, including the right to vote, shall preside at meetings of the Board, the members, and the Executive Committee, and shall have other duties as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section 2. There shall be chosen a number of Trustees in accordance with the By-Laws. Should a person who is a Trustee be elected President, his election shall create a vacancy on the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. The Board may enact By-Laws, rules and regulations, appoint committees, and appoint such other officers as it sees fit, for such terms and with such powers as it determines and as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section 4. The power and duties of the Officers, Trustees and Committees shall be as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section 5. Nothing contained in this Article IV shall diminish the rights of the Members to enact By-Laws.

ARTICLE V Amendments to the Constitution

To amend the constitution, an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at a general or special meeting shall be requisite, but no amendment shall be made except upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, or upon the written request of at least fifteen members of the Society. No such amendment shall be put to a vote unless the Secretary of the Society shall have received the full written text of the amendment not less than thirty days prior to the meeting at which it is intended to be acted upon and the Secretary shall have sent such full written text to all Members at least fifteen days before such meeting. Votes may be cast in person or by proxy.