

YHS Awarded Suffolk County Cultural Tourism Grant

The Yaphank Historical Society recently received a Cultural Tourism grant from the **Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning** in the amount of **\$7,500**. Use of these funds from this grant must be used for events that are of a county-wide interest. Initial plans are to produce a video featuring the Robert & Isabella Hawkins House, hiring a professional videographer to create a short film. A professional actress will be hired to portray Isabella Hawkins and the script will feature a tour of the interior of the Hawkins House, as well as references by "Isabella" to 19-century Yaphank neighbors and newsworthy events at the time of the tour. The Society also plans on hosting several other events open to the general public, e.g., musical concerts in the Swezey Park, and tours of the adjacent historic Swezey-Avey House. Additional information about the Yaphank Historic District will be available to those expressing an interest in the area.