



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

## Seward Helps Historic Hyde Hall Face The Future

JAMES L. SEWARD September 6, 2013

| ISSUE: **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ARTS AND CULTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM, HISTORICAL PRESERVATION, STATE PARKS**



**COOPERSTOWN, 09/06/13** – State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today announced that a \$250,000 legislative grant he secured will assist with restoration and preservation at Hyde Hall in Cooperstown.

**“Hyde Hall is a historically significant site, and a major component of our local tourism sector,”** said Senator Seward. **“This legislative grant will result in upgrades that will make Hyde Hall an even greater draw, and will mean immediate jobs for local craftsmen and construction professionals.”**

The legislative grant obtained by Senator Seward, included in a 2012 senate resolution, is being used to assist in the restoration and preservation of Tin Top – the earliest surviving gate house in New York State (circa 1820-1821), which will become the new Hyde Hall Visitor Center. Additionally, major restoration work will take place at the mansion itself. All of the work will be performed by local companies.

Hyde Hall Chairman of the Board Gilbert Vincent said, “This grant completes the major restoration project that has been in progress for many years. It is particularly fitting that the high quality craftsmanship of the original builders will be preserved and continued by our local craftsmen.”

Executive Director of Hyde Hall Jonathan Maney said, “Senator Seward has worked to create new opportunities for our remarkable community of builders and restorers. Hyde Hall is a landmark that testifies to our visitors about what made and continues to make New York the Empire State.”

**“Hyde Hall is a living, breathing piece of Otsego County’s rich history. This project will enhance the site and ensure that George Clarke’s story will continue to be told for generations to come,”** Seward concluded.

Built by George Clarke in the early 1800s, **Hyde Hall** is considered the finest example of a neoclassical country mansion. It is listed as a National Historic Landmark and state historic site and is being restored and operated by Hyde Hall, Inc. in cooperative lease agreement with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.