



### **Goshen Public Library & Historical Society Lends Historical Treasure**

The Local History Room of the Goshen Public Library & Historical Society holds many unique historical documents, gems, and artifacts, including a surveyor's minute compass made by accomplished Elizabeth, New Jersey clockmaker Aaron Miller in the mid-1700's. Miller is credited with inventing the "minute compass," a high precision compass that determined the bearing of an angle to a single minute greatly enhancing the accuracy of compasses.

This important historical compass is purported to have been used by local surveyor Thomas Moffat during the American Revolution and is an exceptionally rare example of 18<sup>th</sup> century technology and innovation.

The Aaron Miller minute compass will be on display as part of a unique exhibit entitled "Striking Beauty: New Jersey Tall Case Clocks, 1730-1830" at the Morven Museum and Garden in Princeton, New Jersey from April 21, 2023 to February 18, 2024. The exhibit features over fifty tall case clocks from both private and public collections.

A visit to the Morven Museum and Garden is a lovely day trip. Directions to the museum and other information about both in-person and virtual visits of the exhibit is available on the museum website at: <https://www.morven.org/about>.

Founded in 1894, the Local History Room works to preserve the history of Goshen and Orange County. Its historical collection of over 40,000 items includes among other things, manuscripts, letters, diaries, memoranda, surveys, deeds, military, obituary, and marriage records, and legal and business documents. In addition, the artifact collection includes rare maps, photographs, and other physical items.

This important community resource documents and preserves our community's history, inspires curiosity, and informs our understanding of our past and future. We invite you to stop in and explore!

The Local History Room is open Monday and Thursday from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by appointment for researchers and visitors. Contact the Goshen Public Library & Historical Society for more information and volunteer opportunities.