



SAMUEL HARRISON SOCIETY

PITTSFIELD MASSACHUSETTS

“NO WARMER FRIENDS HAVE I HAD ANYWHERE THAN IN PITTSFIELD”



March 22, 2006

This is the 15th anniversary of the placement of the Samuel Harrison House on the National Registry of Historic Places.

PRESERVATION WORKS!

SAMUEL HARRISON HOUSE

THIS PROPERTY, WHICH IS LISTED IN THE STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, HAS RECEIVED A MATCHING GRANT FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS PRESERVATION PROJECTS FUNDS THROUGH THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN CHAIRMAN.

RESTORATION OF THE SAMUEL HARRISON HOUSE IS BEING SUPPORTED IN PART BY A SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES GRANT ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND BY THE PITTSFIELD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

JAMES M. RUBERTO, MAYOR

THE SAMUEL HARRISON SOCIETY, INC.

JOHN A. JAMES, ARCHITECT
AGRICOLA CORPORATION,
HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSULTANT

April 15, 1818

On this day 203 years ago, the Rev. Samuel Harrison was born into slavery. In Samuel Harrison's autobiography " Rev. Samuel Harrison: His Life Story as Told by Himself (1899)", he writes the following with regard to his first few years;

My birth place , however, was Philadelphia, where I was born April 15, 1818. It was probably when I was some three years old that my mother took me to New York where she lived with one of the families who owned my father and mother and myself. My father and mother were slaves, born in Savannah, Georgia, and, at the time of my birth, my mother being in Philadelphia, she was her mistress's waiting maid. Her master's name was John Bolton. Some time after my birth my mother returned to Savannah and at this time, I think, emancipation papers were put into her hand. And I think it was probable that all their slaves were emancipated. I heard my mother say that all were given their choice to remain in this country or emigrate to Africa. My mother returned north and so did the Bolton family. My mother lived with them in New York.

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