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General Association Document to be on display at Hall of Governors

By: Web Staff

ONONDAGA COUNTY, N.Y. -- A document that played a key role in the political revolution in New York State is now headed to the state Capitol.

The Onondaga Historical Association has agreed to loan out the General Association Document, a list of signatures that provides a virtual inventory of New York's leaders during the Revolutionary War.

In 1775, the act of signing or not signing the document put those in leadership positions firmly on one side or another of the escalating political crisis against Great Britain.

The document was thought to be lost in a fire at the Capitol Building in 1911, but it somehow wound up in a private collection and was eventually donated to the Onondaga Historical Association.

On Wednesday, Governor Cuomo will unveil it as the centerpiece for a new exhibit at the Hall of Governors, a distinction that OHA leaders are glad to see it receive.

"This is right outside of his office, so he's someone who really honors the great history of the state, so I think that's wonderful that he recognizes the importance of a document like this," said OHA Executive Director Gregg Tripoli.

The General Association Document will be returned to the Historical Association in March, but the plan is to eventually hand it back over to the New York State Archives in an official ceremony.

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