

OHA AT 150

The Draft Riots

The Onondaga Historical Association is celebrating its 150th anniversary. Here's what was going on in 1863:

When public officials attempted to carry out a draft in accordance with the Enrollment Act passed by Congress in March, citizens in New York City rioted in what became the largest civil insurrection in American history. Known as the Draft Riots, mobs destroyed draft offices, police stations, upper-class residences, and numerous other buildings. Four days after it began, the military finally succeeded in putting an end to the riots. At least 120 people were killed, more than 2,000 were wounded, and millions of dollars of damage was done.

— *Daniel Connors of the OHA*