



John Isaac Brokaw CLOCK

Circa 1812

The Society's early 19th-century cherry tall case clock was made by John Isaac Brokaw, part of a distinguished New Jersey clockmaking family. We are fortunate to have a clock bearing his name on the dial through the bequest of Edith Brokaw.

His grandfather, Aaron Miller, was a respected Elizabethtown clockmaker advertised in 1747 as producing Dutch-style clocks and precision instruments. He produced a clock to hang in the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabethtown in 1759.

His father, Isaac Brokaw, apprenticed under Miller, inherited his tools, and operated a successful clockmaking business in New Jersey. During the Revolutionary era, he is believed to have supported the Patriot cause.

His brother, Aaron Brokaw, continued the family trade, producing finely crafted clocks influenced by English design. Aaron served in the War of 1812.

Together, these generations reflect a legacy of skilled craftsmanship, innovation, and deep roots in New Jersey's colonial and early American history.

To learn more about this clock-making dynasty and cabinet makers who partnered with them, continue reading!