



A tea party unlike that making news today was responsible for the founding of the Tatler Club. The tea, attended by forty-five women, was hosted on Feb. 13, 1925, by Gertrude W. Porter, wife of Augustus G. Porter IV and daughter of Gertrude Bent Wright, one of the founders of the historic 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club of Buffalo. Following faithfully in her mother's footsteps, her purpose was to form a women's benevolent society.

From 1931 to 1936, the Tatler Club rented the Porter Mansion—built 1874

**Category: Stewardship**

## *The Porter Mansion , Niagara Falls*

### **The Tatler Club**

to 1877 at 6 Fourth Street—from A. J. Porter. There the club thrived. But when the property was sold, the club moved to the Schoellkopf house on Jefferson Street. In 1957, Tatler members were thrilled to return “home” to the Porter Mansion following the Schoellkopf's sale to the city for a parking lot.

From then to the present, Tatler Club members have been dedicated to preserving both the real and personal property of this historic architectural treasure, which through their efforts was approved by the Niagara Preservation Commission in 2004 as a Niagara Falls landmark residence.

Members have conserved their Model L ebony Steinway grand piano; catalogued contents, antiques, and history; and safeguarded the monthly minutes of every board meeting since

the club's founding as a primary resource for documentation of local history.

Given its age and size, preserving the mansion has been no small task. But it is one that the membership has engaged with a commitment of energy, knowledge, time, and money.

They believe that by serving as stewards of the mansion, they are preserving an important part of regional history, and keeping alive the legacy of Peter Porter, founder/president and Honorary President for Life of the Niagara Frontier Historical Society and a foremost writer of Niagara history.

For their vigilance and dedication to their mission of Stewardship, Preservation Buffalo Niagara is pleased to honor The Tatler Club and its members.