

Friends of Camp Santanoni Newsletter

*Santanoni Gate Lodge
P.O. Box 113
Newcomb, NY 12852
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Spring 2002



*Late in the fall of 2001, the Department of Environmental Conservation crew resumed work at the Santanoni farm. A new red cedar shingle roof was installed on the Creamery and the deteriorated wing on the Main Barn was stabilized and reroofed. Clive Friend is shown here working on the Creamery.
Photo by Sherman LaLonde.*



Progress and Accomplishments of 2001

In 2001, considerable progress was made on many fronts at Camp Santanoni. Conservation work continued at the Main Camp and farm and a grant from the prestigious Getty Grant Program was awarded to fund important conservation planning work in 2002. We also hosted our first large group of volunteers, a new map/guide was published, and several thousand people visited the camp under the guidance of our seasonal interpretive staff.

Preservation Work

Michael Frenette from Tupper Lake continued his restoration work at the Main Camp complex. The focus of his work in 2001 was the restoration of the Lamp House roof. This involved replacing deteriorated rafters and eave components, resurfacing the roof with new red cedar shingles, and stabilizing the interior plaster finish. The building was used for the storage of kerosene for lights and, later, for fuel for the generator. This work was funded by the Town of Newcomb and the *Friends of Camp Santanoni*.

A crew from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), under the supervision of Sherman LaLonde, resumed work at the farm last fall. By the end of the year, they had put a new red cedar shingle roof on the Creamery, stabilized the very deteriorated wing of the barn, and installed a new cedar shingle roof on that wing. This work was funded through a grant from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund with matching funds provided by DEC, the Town of Newcomb, and the *Friends*. The DEC expects to complete the farm stabilization work, funded through this grant, in 2002.

Getty Grant for Project Planning

Late in 2001, Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the prestigious Getty Grant Program. This grant will be matched by funds from DEC, the Town of Newcomb, and the *Friends* and will be used to undertake important project planning work at Santanoni. The work will be done by Argus Architecture & Preservation in Troy and Crawford & Stearns, Architects from Syracuse. Argus will do the planning work at the farm and Gate Lodge and Crawford & Stearns will do the work at the Main Camp. Their work will be guided by an advisory team made up of interested and involved persons from DEC, AARCH, the *Friends*, other state agencies, and the general public. The planning work will produce an overall Conservation Plan for the site, measured drawings, schematic design work, and project budgeting for the work outlined in the *Camp Santanoni Historic Area Unit Management Plan*.



Michael Frenette at work on the roof of the Ash or Lamp House at the Santanoni Main Camp complex. Photo by Paula Dennis.



Two "Landmark Volunteers" help to clean up around the Santanoni farm buildings during the summer of 2001. Photo courtesy of Landmark Volunteers.

Volunteers

We hosted our first large group of volunteers at Santanoni in 2001 through the Landmark Volunteers program, a national non-profit summer service organization, which places responsible and motivated high school students at historic sites, natural preserves, and other special places to undertake practical and meaningful projects. Between July 7th and July 20th, fourteen high school age students worked on various projects, including clearing brush, replacing broken glass, painting, and some general cleaning. They lived at the Gate Lodge and were supervised by our summer staff and by DEC.

The *Friends* also organized and supervised another group of volunteers in July. They did a lot of mowing and brush clearing at the farm, which helped to open up the landscape around some of the farm buildings.

New Map/Guide

The *Friends* published a new three color map/guide in 2001, which features a site map, historical and contemporary photographs, historical and architectural information about Santanoni, and guidelines for responsible use of the site. If you'd like to receive a copy of the new guide, just let us know.

Big Plans for 2002

Work will continue at Santanoni on many fronts this year. Now that there is a clear plan for preserving and interpreting Camp Santanoni, New York State and its partners can undertake more substantial conservation and interpretive work there. Planned for this year are:

Building Conservation and Protection

Important stabilization and restoration work at Camp Santanoni will continue this summer and fall. Thanks to a commitment from New York State of about \$120,000, several urgent building conservation and protection projects will be undertaken this year. These will include installing fire detection and protection equipment in a few locations and replacing the deteriorated roofs on at least one building. The work will be done by private contractors. Thanks to continued funding from the Town of Newcomb, Tupper Lake builder Michael Frenette will spend part of another summer continuing to restore the deteriorated porches at the Main Lodge. More than half of the lodge's porches have now been rebuilt. Improvements and alterations will also be made in several areas of the camp in order to provide better access for the disabled.

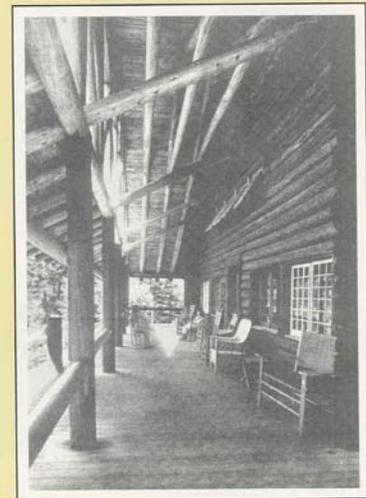
Through funding from New York State's Environmental Protection Fund, a DEC crew will continue preservation work at the farm. Still to complete in 2002 are the restoration of the barn wing and a new roof for the Gardener's Cottage. With this work nearly completed, DEC is likely to reapply in 2002 for another round of Environmental Protection Fund funding.

Road Improvement Work

Beginning in the spring, the Town of Newcomb will undertake and complete improvements to the Newcomb Lake Road, through a contract with DEC. This work will include replacing culverts, restoring drainage ditches, and applying gravel and other road bed materials, where needed.

Volunteer Projects

We will again host a group of **Landmark Volunteers** this year between July 7th and July 20th. They will do painting and staining, glass replacement and window reglazing, trail maintenance, and other small projects around the camp. We will also get help this year from a **Student Conservation Association** crew (Americorps), based near Tupper Lake. They will help with a variety of projects. We are hoping to be able to accommodate other volunteers this year, as well. If you'd like to volunteer to work there, call us about volunteer opportunities.



CAMP SANTANONI

*An Adirondack
Great Camp
in New York State's
Forest Preserve*

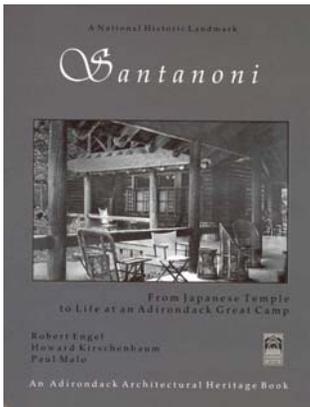
Newcomb, NY

*A new three color map/guide was
published in 2001 by the Friends.*

Planning and Interpretation

Through support from the Getty Grant Program, DEC, the Town of Newcomb, and the *Friends*, the architectural firms of Argus Architecture & Preservation and Crawford & Stearns, Architects will undertake a major conservation planning project at Santanoni. The planning work will be guided by an advisory team and will produce an overall Conservation Plan for the site, measured drawings, schematic design work, and project budgeting for the work outlined in the *2000 Camp Santanoni Unit Management Plan*. These plans will guide us through the next several years of work there.

This summer we will have two **summer staff people** at the camp. In addition to interpreting the camp to several thousand visitors, they will also develop some new interpretative materials, oversee volunteers, and undertake small restoration projects.



Have you bought our Santanoni book yet?

Soft cover copies of our book, *Santanoni: From Japanese Temple to Life at an Adirondack Great Camp* by Robert Engel, Howard Kirschenbaum, and Paul Malo are still available. Price is \$24.95 plus 7% NYS sales tax for New York residents plus \$5 shipping and handling.

Our 2002 Wish List

In order to make the Gate Lodge more comfortable and usable for our summer staff and volunteers, we're looking for the following donated items.

**A large kitchen table and (14) chairs
(6) Dressers**

Your 2002 donations will go toward:

- Matching Getty Grant Program funds for conservation planning work
- Current and future conservation projects

Friends of Camp Santanoni Advisory Board

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The *Friends of Camp Santanoni* is a partnership of non-profit organizations, the Town of Newcomb, the NYSDEC, and the thousands of people who love this special place and believe in its preservation and use for public education, recreation, and inspiration.

For more information about joining the *Friends* or about volunteer opportunities, write to P.O. Box 113, Newcomb, N.Y. 12852 or call either (518) 582-4572 or (518) 834-9328.