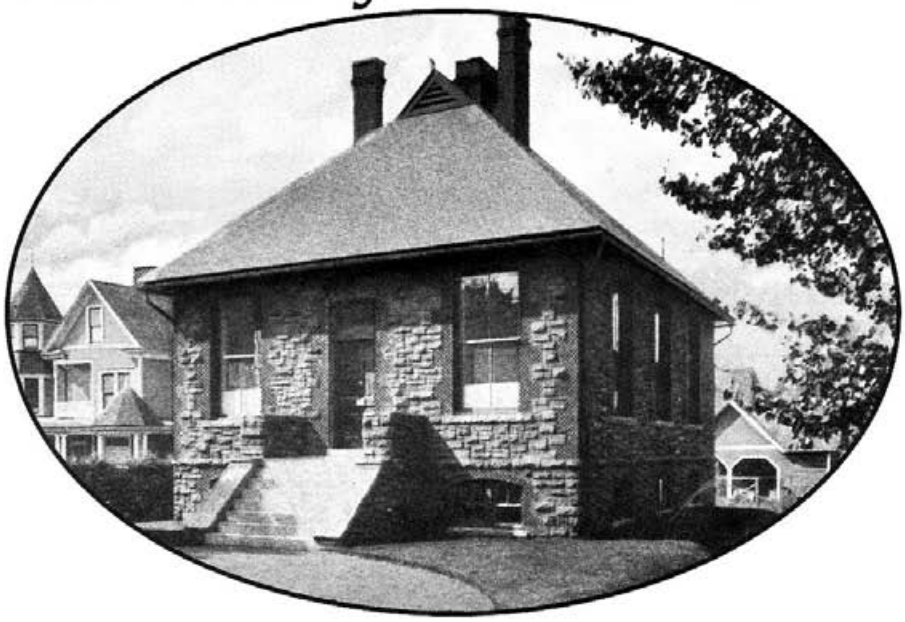
Volume 1, Number 1
May 1992

Newsletter

ADIRONDACK
ARCHITECTURAL
HERITAGE

Fate of Trudeau's Saranac Laboratory Uncertain



Trudeau's original Saranac Laboratory, 1894. J. Lawrence Aspinwall, Architect.
Postcard, private collection.

Dr. Edward Livingston Trudeau's Saranac Laboratory (1894) was the first laboratory for the scientific study of tuberculosis built in the United States. The centerpiece of Saranac Lake's new Church Street Historic District, the laboratory is now largely vacant, in need of roof and masonry repairs and of an appropriate new use. Paul Smith's College, which has owned the building for 27 years, occupies only one classroom, a 1928 addition. Accessibility poses a severe constraint because of the complicated split-level structure resulting from two successive additions.

Pulmonary tuberculosis was the chief cause of death in the United States in the nineteenth century. In the 1870s and 1880s in the Adirondacks, camping for recreation was indistinguishable from camping as a treatment for tuberculosis, as W. H. H. Murray's 1869 *Adventures in the Wilderness; or Camp-Life in the Adirondacks* amply illustrates. Murray recommended resorting to the Adirondack mountains for the spectacular scenery, but he gave equal

continued on page 3

From the President

We hope you are pleased with this first issue of AARCH's Newsletter. You can help on future issues by sending Mary Hotaling any information you hear or read about news, events, resources or anything related to historic preservation in the Adirondacks.

AARCH has many plans for its second year. An expanded summer and fall program is described herein. New programs and projects will be announced in future issues. Another way we would like to grow is in membership, which is now approaching 400. Do you have *one neighbor or friend* with a lovely old home or camp in the Adirondacks, or who loves the history and character of the region? Please encourage them to join AARCH. That one good deed, by each member, could double our membership and greatly enhance AARCH's programs and impact.

The Department of Environmental Conservation's recent press release (see "The View from Albany") gives the latest news on Camp Santanoni. It demonstrates the State's new commitment to preserve the historic site, but it also indicates that a good deal of legal red tape is required before any significant restoration work begins. Public hearings are a part of the process. We will alert the AARCH membership when these are scheduled, so you can appear or submit your views in writing in support of Santanoni's preservation. At this point, no serious opposition is anticipated; but a strong show of support would still be helpful. DEC hopes all the legal procedures and planning can be done in time to begin serious preservation and restoration work and exhibit development at Santanoni in the spring of 1993.

Meanwhile AARCH and the Town of Newcomb again will sponsor an Intern at Santanoni this summer to interpret the site to the public and provide some additional security. We are seeking volunteers for single days or longer periods between June 26 and Labor Day to spend the day at Santanoni, assisting our Intern in these functions. If you would like to participate, please write or call me.

Our thanks to AARCH member and landscape architect Joann Barone, who completed a site plan of the Farm Complex at Santanoni to assist in the planning efforts.

We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting and/or one of our tours this summer or fall. That will be a good way to celebrate the Adirondack Park Centennial together.

Howie Kurschenbaum

The View FROM ALBANY

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation released the following statement on March 23:

Santanoni, a 19th-century Adirondack "Great Camp," will be preserved as an historic site closely associated with the wilderness under a plan discussed today by Environmental Conservation Commissioner Thomas C. Jorling at a meeting with local government officials, Adirondack and statewide historic preservation leaders, and environmental groups.

Following legal and planning measures now to be implemented by the State, the camp buildings will be preserved through the joint efforts of the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Town of Newcomb, the Preservation League of New York State, Adirondack Architectural Heritage and other government and private organizations.

Commissioner Jorling said: "It is appropriate in this centennial year of the Adirondack Park that this classic example of rustic camp architecture be preserved as an historic landmark for future generations. We will draft a management plan that both respects the character of the surrounding forest lands and provides the public with a better understanding of the rich cultural heritage and wilderness values of the region. We appreciate the efforts of the town and the historic preservation community to work in partnership with us on this important effort.

"This action is in accordance with Governor Cuomo's pledge last fall in Lake Placid to devise a plan for Santanoni that balances the need to protect the integrity of the forest preserve while recognizing the importance of maintaining important historic sites."

Jorling said the Department of Environmental Conservation shortly will seek public comment on a draft unit management plan for the 12,550-acre parcel in Newcomb, Essex County. DEC also will request that the Adirondack Park Agency reclassify a portion of the parcel from wild forest to historic area under the terms of the State Land Master Plan for the Adirondacks. The draft plan will serve as a basis for the environmental assessment under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Saranac Laboratory, *Continued from page 1*

importance to the value of their climate as a cure for tuberculosis. Though others had commented on the health benefits of the Adirondack air, Murray's widely read guidebook gave specific advice about routes, wardrobe and camp gear, advice taken literally by many of his readers. In 1884, the ancient idea of travel for health began to be supplanted by a more scientific approach when Dr. Trudeau opened the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium just outside of Saranac Lake.

Trudeau, generally acknowledged as the founder of the sanatorium movement in America, was a pioneer bacteriologist who made significant, early and sustained contributions to scientific study of tuberculosis. He had been one of the very first in the medical profession in the United States to replicate and to accept the German doctor Robert Koch's 1882 experiments on the origins of tuberculosis. After verifying Koch's work, learning the nascent science of bacteriology while he did so, Trudeau made a series of original studies of the tubercle bacillus, adding significantly to the body of knowledge about the disease and strengthening the new scientific approach.

Mary B. Hotaling

Saranac Laboratory (R) with 1928 and 1935 additions (L).

In 1894, Trudeau founded the Saranac Laboratory for the Study of Tuberculosis to replace the previous laboratory in his home, which was destroyed by fire. The new building was designed by J. Lawrence Aspinwall, Trudeau's cousin and a partner in James Renwick's New York architecture firm, who also planned a replacement house for the Trudeaus on the site of the one that had burned. Perhaps in reaction to the dark, ill-smelling quarters in New York where Trudeau had learned to use the microscope, and with special awareness of the value of fresh air, he and Aspinwall planned the Saranac Laboratory with particular attention to light, ventilation and disinfection.

The original laboratory, the northern half of the present building, was built between May and November of 1894 by Branch and Callanan, the Saranac Lake builders, at a cost of $20,000, fully equipped. Dr. Trudeau provided the land, which was part of his house lot on Church Street. This was convenient for both Trudeau and his colleague Dr. E. R. Baldwin, who lived at 6 Church Street. The name "Saranac Laboratory" was a compromise between the donor George Cooper and Trudeau, who each wanted to name it after the other.

When Dr. Trudeau died in 1915, the Saranac Laboratory became a part of the renamed Trudeau Sanatorium, which used it to house the annual Trudeau School of Tuberculosis, the sine qua non of in-service training for physicians treating lung disease. In 1928 the one-story John Black Memorial Library was added to the south side of the building, and in 1935 its second story was completed. In addition to Trudeau and Baldwin, many other noted physicians, including Allen K. Krause and Phoebus A. Levene, worked at the Saranac Laboratory, producing 399 papers by November 1958.

Fresh air, rest, and surgery were major developments in arresting pulmonary tuberculosis until drugs were found which effected a true cure. Once these drugs became generally available after World War II, Trudeau Sanatorium closed, and tuberculosis was temporarily forgotten. In 1964, the Saranac Laboratory was succeeded by the new Trudeau Institute, one of the top independent laboratories in the United States. Today drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis are re-emerging as threats to public health, associated with AIDS, homelessness, and the prison system.

In 1987, the college built a Residence Hall next door which was designed to reflect the architecture of the laboratory, and vacated the areas in the laboratory which it had used for housing students. In 1988, a structural study of the Saranac Laboratory was undertaken by Crawford & Stearns under the co-sponsorship of Historic Saranac Lake and Paul Smith's College, with funds from the Preservation Services Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This spring, an application for the last round of Environmental Quality Bond Act funds was submitted.

Though Paul Smith's College lacks both a viable use for the Saranac Laboratory and the funds needed to repair and adapt it, the college is willing to consider alternative proposals. Ironically, the building may be seeing the end of its useful life just as its hopeful message is most needed, as tuberculosis again threatens public health.

Preservation Technology
with Carl Stearns, A.I.A.

QUESTION: How can cedar shingle roofs be preserved for longest life? How should they be replaced?

THE MATERIAL: Wooden shingle roofs are known for their longevity, and are surpassed only by natural slate or adequately vented metal roof coverings. The shingles facing south eventually become curled and weathered due to direct sunlight alternated with soaking rains and snows. Those facing north tend to stay wet longer and are apt to support a carpet of moss and/or lichens. The shade of overhanging branches, accumulation of needles, leaves and twigs, and lack of ventilation for drying beneath the shingles all foster the retention of moisture in the roof system and lead to deterioration of the wood and anchoring nails. Shingles are generally Western red cedar, sometimes white cedar, or pine. The roofs which last the longest have a combination of durable wood grain and provision for air circulation from underneath. Ideally, cedar shingles should be nailed, two hot-dipped galvanized nails per shingle, to spaced sheathing, or "strapping" as the interrupted roof deck is called in the Adirondacks. The shingles are manufactured in three sizes: "Five X" (16" long), "Perfections" (18") and "Royals" (24") and in different quality grades depending upon clearness, consistency and quality of wood grain. Some are "resawn and rebutted" so as to be square for use on sidewalls. Roof shingles are tolerant of some variation, and a narrow space should be left between adjacent shingles.

MAINTENANCE: The care of a wooden shingle roof has four relatively simple components. First, spark arresters made out of hardware cloth screens should be fitted to wood-burning chimneys. Second, the weather surfaces should be swept clean annually. Third, a saturating coat of transparent preservative oil or stain should be applied every few years to feed the wood and resist the start of fungal growths. Fourth, roof voids, attics and eaves should be vented and equipped with screens. Maintenance of vent systems is important to the need of wooden shingles to dry out from beneath as well as from above. Where attic and roof voids are accessible, wooden rafters and sheathing can be fireproofed using docile liquid applications.

REPLACEMENT: Although the material cost for this type of roof covering has doubled in recent years, the long-term performance makes it an economically sound alternative, particularly if appearance of the roof is crucial to the character of the property. In buildings with fireplaces and/or wood-burning stoves, shingles should be treated for fire retardancy. They should be installed on spaced sheathing or "strapping," with the resulting horizontal roof voids vented to the exterior. If the strapping is applied directly to a closed tongue and groove sloping ceiling, the venting should occur at the raking (gable) eaves where the fascia trim can conceal insect screen vents. Ridges can be "Boston" type, made of shingles alternately lapped over each other or fashioned from cedar ridge boards. Chimney and valley flashings should be lead coated copper or terne metal (tin and lead coated) sheet metal. Bare sheet copper should not be used as acid run off from the cedar will discolor and etch the flashings.

Members are invited to submit preservation technology questions for Carl Stearns to consider in future issues of the newsletter.

A Point of Agreement

Conservation Easements Threatened

A controversy upon which Adirondack groups on all sides can agree has surfaced in the towns of Clifton, Colton and Piercefield in St. Lawrence County. To oversimplify, the dispute concerns disagreements between local assessors and the NYS Division of Equalization and Assessment concerning how much tax the state should pay on properties it acquires which had previously been encumbered by conservation easements. The towns and counties want the state to pay the full amount of taxes it would pay on property not encumbered by conservation easements. E & A wants to pay the reduced amount the previous owner paid. Consequently, the state has withheld taxes, including $60,000 to the Tupper Lake Central School District.

This interpretation by E & A very seriously threatens the political viability of all easements, because of the possible tax consequences to municipalities. Local governments, most especially in jurisdictions where state-owned land is a significant portion of the total tax base, must be able to depend upon the timely arrival of revenue. This affects historic preservation interests because similar easements may also be used to protect the historic qualities of property, although they have not been used often, if at all, in the Adirondacks for this purpose.

On April 9, Deputy Commissioner Robert Bendick of DEC stated that legislation to correct this interpretation by E & A has been drafted, but not yet introduced. Both local governments and environmental organizations appear to support this concept.

AARCH urges the attention of all interested persons to this issue as it develops.

An Overview

Architects and Builders of the Adirondacks

By Mary B. Hotaling

The word "architectural" in AARCH's name implies the participation of professional architects, though professional design work is only a part of the historic built environment of the Adirondacks. Certainly, substantial studies of aspects of Adirondack architecture have been published, notably those on "Great Camps" and "cure cottages." But they have been undertaken in isolation. The closest we have to an overall, comprehensive view is the on-going, state-wide survey of historic resources which is an important activity of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The state survey is still incomplete; since it has not been published, its availability is limited. To date, no comprehensive list of architects who have worked in the Adirondacks has been assembled. This article will serve as a first draft. Additional information from readers on other architects or master builders not mentioned here would be very welcome.

What is uniquely "Adirondack" is usually defined as the resort architecture of the central Adirondacks - the high peaks and lake country - rather than of the edges, which reflect the more urban areas just outside the Blue Line and the changing boundaries of the Adirondack Park since its inception.

Today's Adirondack Park began to be settled by Europeans in the 1700s, from the edges in. Land was cleared, and houses built by homesteaders, many from New England, who built in the styles with which they were familiar. The higher elevations of the central area proved less rewarding to both farmers and industrialists because of the short growing season, difficult access, and distance from markets. Resources which proved to have long-term economic viability were those which were unique to the region, and which could not be exported: pure air, lakes and mountains, game, and isolation. The first involvement of professional architects in Adirondack projects is associated with the uniquely site-specific qualities of these resources, with the rarity or difficulty of access which gave them their value, or enhanced it.

The period from 1865 to 1885 was a time of vigorous economic expansion in America. Great fortunes were being amassed. Although the American Institute of Architects had been formed in 1857, no formal training was available in America until the Massachusetts Institute of Technology offered classes in architectural drafting, design, and structural methods in 1868. Before this time, these studies were only obtainable abroad, notably at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Apprenticeship, as in the other professions, was the way most architects learned their trade. The remarkably rich and diverse architecture of the Adirondacks benefitted from the contributions of those both with and without formal training in the building arts.

Artistic camps on a small scale began to be developed on Lake Placid as early as 1870, in Keene Valley by the mid-1870s, and on the St. Regis Lakes near Paul Smith's Hotel in 1877. Varying by location, all these summer residences owed something of their building type to the indigenous architecture of the regions in which they were built. On the lakes, the first camps were day camps established by hotel patrons. They developed by adding separate tents or tent platforms, and these old style camps evolved into clusters of many separate permanent buildings.

At about the same time, William West Durant (1851-1934) set out to interest investors in his family's lands in the Raquette Lake area, and one of the ways he accomplished this was by building for himself an artistic home in the wilderness which others might wish to emulate. His first camp was Pine Knot, which he took over in 1878 and sold in 1895. Seventeen years in development, Pine Knot evolved from a few rough buildings to an artistic complex with facilities for his family, as well as for entertaining the millionaires with whom his family socialized and who were his potential clients. His later camps, based on the prototype of Pine Knot, were built much more quickly. Craig Gilborn suggests that, in designing Uncas, Durant may have been assisted by a professional architect, perhaps Grosvenor Atterbury (1869-1956) or John Beavor Webb (1849-1927), a naval architect. He may have been in contact with W. L. Coulter, of the firm of James Renwick in New York, but Coulter did not relocate to the Adirondacks until about June of 1896. Another possibility is R. Newton Brezee (d. 1929) of Saratoga Springs. Durant was essentially a property owner of artistic inclination,

As a new, regional organization advocating historic preservation, Adirondack Architectural Heritage has set out to protect a legacy yet to be defined. The extent of our interests will develop and be refined over time. One parameter is clear, however: the passage of time is implicit in historic preservation. Our working definition observes the 50-year limit used by the National Register of Historic Places. This article will begin to shape another aspect of that definition.

having only himself to please, who served as his own clerk of the works. "Untrained architecturally, he was a dilettante designer in the tradition of gentlemen who improved their estates," writes Paul Malo, Professor of Architecture at Syracuse University. Nevertheless, he deserves credit for developing the idea of the "Great Camp, as a work of art and a way of life." He introduced winter vacations amid the snow and ice to a select few friends some years before the Lake Placid Club, which popularized the idea, first enticed its members to attempt it in 1904-05.

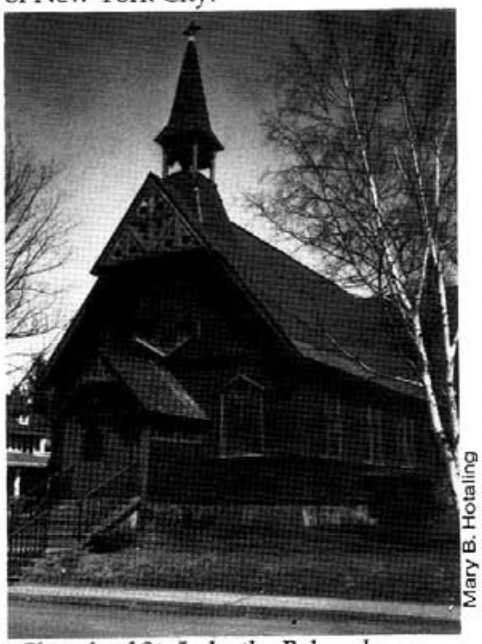
William West Durant is the most prominent of the master builders of the Adirondacks, though the grouping is diverse and this list probably far from complete. Others include the firm of Branch and Callanan of Saranac Lake, Benjamin Muncil near Paul Smiths, and Earl Covey in the Big Moose Lake area.

Benjamin Muncil (1867-1930) was not an architect either, but the master builder of the St. Regis Lakes area. Born in poverty in Vermontville, he was put out to work from an early age, and never learned to read. After a stint as a logger, he became a guide, and in his spare time, picked up the trade of carpentry. As his skill developed, and his four children were born, he aspired to become a contractor. This he accomplished by taking correspondence courses in blueprint reading and later in architectural drawing, read to him by family members. Muncil was responsible for Camp Topridge, White Pine Camp, and the Roman Catholic Church of the Angel Gabriel near Paul Smiths; the Brighton Town Hall; and the Mount Mercy Convent at Sanatorium Gabriels. Ben Muncil's unique contribution to the Adirondack idiom was the development of a large-scale, rustic version of clapboard he called "brainstorm" siding.

Earl Covey (1876-1952) was a master builder of rustic camps in the area of Big Moose Lake. As a boy, he helped his father build a lodge called Camp Crag on Big Moose. Married at 19, Earl and his wife spent two years in Washington, D.C., where he "worked for the railroad, supplying ties." The family returned to Camp Crag in 1897, and soon Earl built his own inn at Twitchell Lake. In the early twenties, Covey and his second wife built Covewood, and spent the next fifteen years running it and building "numerous homes and camps in the Big Moose area," until retiring to Florida in 1938.

Earl Covey was known for the rusticity of his log camps, but his special talent was masonry, especially stone fireplaces. The stone chapel at Big Moose Lake is considered his crowning achievement.

Professional architecture made its Adirondack debut when Dr. E. L. Trudeau, visiting Paul Smith's Hotel for his health, supervised the construction of a log chapel aptly named St. John's in-the-Wilderness in 1876. An Episcopal mission, it was paid for by the subscriptions of hotel visitors and designed by the first professional architect known to have built anywhere in the region: George Hathorne of New York City.



Mary B. Hotaling

Church of St. Luke the Beloved Physician (1879), Saranac Lake. R.M. Upjohn, Architect.

Hathorne exemplifies the first of two categories of architects who have worked in the Adirondacks: those whose Adirondack work was a small, little-known, and often uncharacteristic part of their output. At least sixteen individuals or firms of this kind are known, a number of whom were members of clubs with Adirondack land holdings. Among these are: R. M. Upjohn, St. Luke the Beloved Physician (1879), Saranac Lake, and Church of the Redeemer (1882) in Bloomingdale; the landscape firm of Frederick Law Olmsted; J. Lawrence Aspinwall, partner of James Renwick, who aided his cousin E. L. Trudeau in many building projects in the Saranac Lake area; Isaac G. Perry, formerly of Keeseville, an architect of the State Capitol, who designed Sanatorium Gabriels; Thomas Gates of the firm of George B. Post, who, while a patient at the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium, designed Schiff Cottage there; Robert H. Robertson, a member of the Tahawus Club who designed Camps Ne-Ha-Sa-Ne and Santanoni; Delano and Aldrich, who designed the gatehouse at Santanoni; John Russell Pope, commissioned for the barn complex and chapel at Kamp Kill Kare; Donn Barber, architect of Litchfield Castle; McKim, Mead and White (especially the ubiquitous Stanford White, whose club memberships were numerous, and who is often cited, even now, as the designer of Adirondack camps built long after his death); William G. Massarene and Addison Mizner, who worked successively on White Pine Camp; and Harry Leslie Walker and Beverly S. King, General Hospital of Saranac Lake.

William S. Wicks and Augustus D. Shepard, who set the successive styles of the Adirondack League Club in the western Adirondacks, are a special case. Their camp work was perhaps a small part of their output, but it was hardly little-known, because each published a book which widely disseminated rustic style: Wicks, *Log Cabins: How to Build and Furnish Them* (1888), and Shepard, *Camps in the Woods* (1931).

The second, much smaller, category is that of resident professional architects who opened offices within the Blue Line. Nine are known to date: W. L. Coulter, his partner Max H. Westhoff, and their successor William G. Distin; William Scopes, his partner Maurice Feustmann, and their associ-

ates Paul F. Jacquet and George Schrader (all above of Saranac Lake); Floyd Brewster of Lake Placid; and Isaac Perry of Keeseville. Coulter, Westhoff, Scopes & Feustmann first came to the region as tuberculosis patients, while Distin, Brewster and Perry were residents who became professional architects. Westhoff, Scopes & Feustmann, Jacquet, and Perry all later made names for themselves with work done outside the area. The construction firm of Branch and Callanan originated in Keeseville. In December of 1899, the Essex County Republican reported that they "have lately invested in a large new sawmill at Saranac Lake . . . to saw their own lumber," the start of what would become a very lucrative and long-lived business, still active today. Their investment enabled them to control more of the building process and to increase profits; they also offered in-house architectural design, providing needed employment for a number of young designers. By about 1901, they could advertise that:

We have the facilities for building a cottage in two weeks as we have more than five hundred men in our employ.

W. L. Coulter (1865-1907) arrived in June of 1896 to take charge of the Adirondack work of his New York firm, Renwick, Aspinwall and Renwick, but certainly for the benefit of his own health as well. At that time the firm was supervising Branch and Callanan's construction of two of the most prominent buildings at Trudeau's Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium. In 1897-98 Coulter joined the New York City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, apparently hoping that he could return to his city life and practice. Perhaps convinced by a series of substantial commissions in the fast-developing region of the Saranac Lakes that a practice here could support his family, he built a house and a business block, the first brick office building in the village, for his practice.

In 1901, William G. Distin (1884-1970) graduated in the first class at the Saranac Lake High School and worked with Coulter for the next six years on "large Adirondack camps and lodges...in design, detailing and supervision." The same year Alfred G. Vanderbilt called on Coulter to design an Amusement Hall for Camp Sagamore, which he had just purchased from William West Durant. At Sagamore, Coulter certainly saw the rustic design ideas of Durant.

In 1902, Coulter took a partner, Max Harold Westhoff (1870-1954), also a tuberculosis patient, and formed the firm of Coulter & Westhoff. Westhoff was from the New York office of Eidlitz and McKenzie, noted for their work on the New York State Capitol in Albany. Coulter had assembled a talented and reliable team which could handle the most exacting of commissions and which would carry on his design reputation in their own hands past the middle of the twentieth century. Coulter & Westhoff's camp work was artistic, sophisticated and prolific; the firm worked extensively on Upper Saranac Lake and Lake Placid, incorporating eclectic sources and rustic details.

By the time Coulter died in 1907 at the age of 42, his office had handled at least 99 projects, almost all in the Adirondacks. Max Westhoff carried on as Coulter & Westhoff for about twelve years (a notable design of this period is Camp Carolina on Lake Placid), until Bill Distin, who had left for the School of Architecture at Columbia University, returned and took over the practice in the late teens. Westhoff moved to Springfield, Massachusetts, where he established a substantial practice, returning to the Adirondacks to design two of the most prominent buildings in the village of Ticonderoga, the Hancock House and the Community Building. Distin inherited Coulter's mantle of "Adirondack architect," working so long and prolifically that he eclipsed the public's memory of his firm's founders. He took Arthur Wareham as partner, and worked until his death in 1970. Wareham added Ronald H. De Lair to the shingle, so that the firm of Wareham De Lair practicing today in Saranac Lake is the direct descendant of "W. L. Coulter,Architect" of 1897.

William H. Scopes and Maurice M. Feustmann, architects, were the second major firm which formed the built environment of Saranac Lake and perhaps the more important to the village proper, because of the urban nature of their practice and the number of prominent buildings which they designed. Scopes came to Saranac Lake to cure; while a patient at the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium in 1896, he became interested in architecture and took a correspondence course in the subject. Maurice M. Feustmann also came to Saranac Lake when his health "became undermined," going on to the southwest to continue the cure.

Feustmann was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and studied at the Royal Polytechnic Institute in Munich, Germany, and the Ecole de Beaux-Arts in Paris. He returned to Philadelphia, where he worked for Cope and Stewardson, known for their work at Bryn Mawr College, the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton University. In 1903, Scopes, who had been practicing alone, invited Feustmann to return. The new firm of Scopes & Feustmann won its first competition, for the design of the Reception Hospital. Their names became inseparable, and it is difficult to distinguish the contributions of the individual partners.

The work of Scopes & Feustmann is generally in an urban idiom, creating the "Little City in the Adirondacks" with their liberal use of Colonial Revival style and the academic Italian Renaissance and Beaux-Arts influences Maurice Feustmann most probably introduced. Their projects were largely sanatoria and civic buildings, including the Harrietstown Town Hall and the Hotel Saranac.

In an article on the "Evolution of Sanatorium Construction," the authors look back from the vantage point of 1935 on the gradual changes made in housing patients since 1884. They recognized that their design of Reception Hospital, a single building on the "cottage plan," had been influenced by the work undertaken at the Trudeau Sanatorium, and sug-

gested that the plan of Reception Hospital had served as a model for many other such institutions they designed in this country and Canada.

Swiss-born Paul F. Jacquet (1889-1951), while a student looking for summer work, heard that there was a lot of building going on in Saranac Lake. He soon met and later married Marie Callanan of the prominent building construction family. Associated with Scopes & Feustmann, Jacquet worked on the big projects they built at the height of their success. In 1929 he became an architect for the State of New York, in charge of sanatoria, mental hospitals, and prisons. In private practice from 1936, he joined the U.S. Public Buildings Administration assigned to the State Department in 1939, designing U.S. government buildings abroad until his retirement in 1950.

Coulter & Westhoff concentrated principally on fine houses in the villages and private camps, after the initial sanatorium work with which William Coulter began his practice in Saranac Lake. Although they show stylistic evidence of their designers' architectural training, the buildings by Coulter and his successors more truly express a sense of the Adirondack region than does the work of Scopes & Feustmann, who were more closely related to national trends of their times in architecture.

The specific contributions of architects and builders to "Adirondack style" can be defined by their impact on the region's built environment. Some merely passed through, leaving only a building or two. A few others built only one or two projects, but these were of major local architectural impact. Others built so many projects that the body of their work defines the style of the area even today.

Obituary

Tony Garvan Dies

AARCH board member Dr. Anthony N.B. Garvan, 74, died of heart failure on January 10, at his home in Springhouse, Pennsylvania.

"Tony" Garvan was born at his family's Kamp Kill Kare, near Raquette Lake in 1917. Summers at Kill Kare were an important part of his life for the next 65 years. After the camp was sold in 1983, he and his wife Beatrice then spent part of their summers at Camp Uncas and North Point near and on Raquette Lake. Last year, they purchased and renovated the 1874 Blanchard camp on Green Point. Commissioning a major renovation of a camp reachable only by boat was an unlikely project for a man in his seventies, but Tony's love of Raquette Lake and the Adirondacks was abiding. Nor was restoring an historic building unfamiliar territory for Tony Garvan, who had a long and distinguished career in the fields of history and historic preservation.

Dr. Garvan was educated at Yale University, receiving his bachelor and master of arts degrees and his Ph.D. between 1939 and 1948. He served in the Office of Strategic Services from 1943-44 and in the Navy from 1944-46. He began teaching American History at Bard College in 1946. In 1951, as an assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania, he was a leader in the field of American studies. While at the university, from 1957-60 he also served as head curator of civil history at the Smithsonian Institution. He became a full professor in 1960 and retired as Professor Emeritus in 1987. From 1986 until his death, he served as president of the Library Company of Philadelphia, which Benjamin Franklin founded in 1731.

Garvan was also a leader in the field of historic preservation, serving for a number of years on the Advisory Board of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and chairman of the board of the Preservation League of New York State. In the past two years, he served on the board of Adirondack Architectural Heritage, working to preserve the historic buildings and sites of the Adirondack Park. Board President Howard Kirschenbaum, who attended the memorial service in Pennsylvania, where some 350 people honored Dr. Garvan, said, "Tony was an inspiration to so many of us. He will be sorely missed."

Tony Garvan's indomitable spirit and good humor will be remembered by all who knew him. Bea Garvan said recently, "I've had 23 years of rollicking good fun with him." Mrs. Garvan intends to return to their camp on Raquette Lake this summer.

Dr. Garvan is also survived by his son, five daughters, four stepdaughters and 19 grandchildren.

News & Notes

Mary B. Hotaling

Route 12 bridge over the Bouquet River, Town of Essex.

BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE: Craig Gilborn is leaving his position as director of the Adirondack Museum this summer. In his two decades of leadership, the Adirondack Museum has greatly expanded its facilities, program and national reputation. Gilborn has also published two impeccable histories on regional subjects, *Durant: the Fortunes and Woodland Camps of a Family in the Adirondacks* (1981) and *Adirondack Furniture and the Rustic Tradition* (1987), and served as a founding board member and treasurer of AARCH.

DUANE: The Duane Methodist Episcopal Church on State Route 99 in Franklin County was listed on the NYS Register of Historic Places and was nominated to the National Register in June, 1991.

EAGLE BAY: The Adirondack Railway Preservation Society has been formed to preserve the railroad right-of-way, bed and trackage from Remsen to Lake Placid. Its ambitious plans include completing the nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places, and overseeing the railroad's rehabilitation and operation. Howard Kirschenbaum represents AARCH on the Citizens Advisory Committee advising NYS's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Department of Transportation (DOT) on the future of the railroad corridor.

ESSEX: After a lengthy review and hearing process, the Adirondack Park Agency approved a permit for Essex County to replace the bridge built in 1932 on Route 12 over the Boquet River in the Town of Essex. The Boquet Bridge Association, an informal advocacy group, opposed the replacement as unnecessary, charging also that it will block views and access to a local swimming hole, increase traffic, and destroy the scale and rural character of the present crossing.

KEESEVILLE: *Crossing the River: Historic Bridges of the AuSable River,* a book by Steven Engelhart, has just been published. Steve conducted a tour of the bridges for AARCH last summer. Copies may be obtained for $6, including postage, from the Friends of Keeseville, 1 A Mill Street, Keeseville, NY 12944.

LAKE PLACID: Possibilities for the former Lake Placid Club property have suffered one blow after another this winter. Development plans have been in limbo since 1989, when the Lake Placid Resort Partnership's application to the Adirondack Park Agency was judged incomplete. On November 5, 1991, one of the oldest club buildings, Theanoguen Lodge, was destroyed in a fire of undetermined origin. In April, the Lake Placid-North Elba Historic Preservation Commission issued a certificate of appropriateness for demolition of the remains of Theanoguen, once the summer home of Bishop Henry Codman Potter of New York.

On May 21, as a result of foreclosure upon the Lake Placid Resort Partnership by United States Fidelity & Guaranty, the entire property was auctioned to transfer clear title to USF&G, which will offer it for sale.

LAKE PLEASANT: The Hamilton County Courthouse Complex was slated for consideration by the State Review Board for nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places at its meeting in December 1991.

LONG LAKE: Forty-six historic markers have been placed on buildings erected before 1900 and identified by Town Historian Frances Seaman, including the 1833 Joel and Sarah Plumley house, the first house built in the town. The signs were made by inmates in the sign shop at Camp Gabriels and partially supported by funds from the New York State Council on the Arts' Decentralization Program.

NEW YORK: Celebrating the Centennial of the Adirondack Park, the exhibition, "Forever Wild: The Adirondack Experience," brings together works of art, historic photographs, furniture and other varied artifacts which recall the history of the region. The catalog of the exhibition contains articles by Craig Gilborn, the late Anthony N. B. Garvan, Robert L. McGrath, Paul Malo and Paul Jamieson. The exhibition may be seen at the New-York Historical Society, Central Park West, New York City, from May 8 through July 15. The forty-page catalogue ($9, including shipping) is well worth ordering from the Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY 10536, 914 232-9555.

NORTH CREEK: The North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association has been formed to preserve the station where Theodore Roosevelt, who had been vacationing in the Adirondacks, learned that he had become President of the United States. Address inquiries to: PO Box 11, North Creek, NY 12953.

OLD FORGE: From May 11-July 5, "Adirondack Railroad, End of the Line," an exhibition of photographs by Stefan Addison of the railroad and the people who once worked along the line, can be seen at the Art Center/ Old Forge, 315 369-6411.

OLD FORGE/THENDARA: On April 15, The Utica and Mohawk Valley Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society received a permit from NYS Department of Transportation to operate a short-line historical railroad this summer in celebration of the Adirondack Park Centennial. The four-mile ride will operate between Thendara Station and Minnehaha. The Society has been busily refurbishing the railroad station as a railroad museum and gift shop. Volunteer workers are desperately needed to help get the station ready for summer operation. Tax deductible donations are also welcome. Contact Mark Kavouksorian at the NRHS, 1701 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501, 315 733-6911.

RAQUETTE LAKE: A new tour boat operation on Raquette Lake offers lunch and dinner cruises on their large, well-appointed vessel. Captains Dean Pohl and George Fuge offer an accurate and informative narrative on the history of the region and the various camps and Great Camps along the lake shore. The two-hour tour includes a gourmet meal. Contact The Raquette Lake Navigation Company (315 354-5532) for reservations for the summer and fall cruises.

RAQUETTE LAKE: Sagamore Institute has completed the stabilization of its c. 1898 large horse barn, with the assistance of a $27,500 State Environmental Quality Bond Act matching grant. The barn was the most seriously deteriorated building in the Sagamore caretaking complex, saved by a state constitutional amendment in 1983. Under the supervision of architect Janet Null, the stabilization included a new, standing seam

Mark Peckham

metal roof, replacement of rotted sills and studs, new beams to support the second story, and repairs of deteriorated windows and doors. The barn may be viewed on Sagamore's historic tours, daily at 10 and 1:30 in the summer and weekends in the fall. Sagamore Institute (315 354-4303) also offers tours of other Great Camps throughout the year.

ROUTE 3: Route 3 between Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake will be under construction this summer. Allow extra travel time.

SARANAC LAKE: The Church Street Historic District and a number of cure cottages were listed on the NYS Register of Historic Places and nominated to the National Register in March, through the long-term efforts of Historic Saranac Lake. (See "Saranac Laboratory," page 1.)

SCHROON LAKE: The inactive 1918 fire tower on Pharoah Mountain collapsed about April 20 due to a recent act of vandalism. Previous damage done to the tower in the fall had been repaired by the Department of Environmental Conservation, while awaiting results of a review considering the historic significance of fire towers in the Adirondack Park. The State Land Master Plan required that this tower be removed by March 31, 1987. One such tower has been relocated to the Adirondack Center Museum in Elizabethtown, and another can be seen at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake.

SPECULATOR: On July 14 at 8 p.m., AARCH President Howard Kirschenbaum will speak on "Camp Santanoni: Saving the Adirondacks' Architectural Heritage." This talk at Lake Pleasant Central School is sponsored by Adirondack Discovery, 518 891-1990.

TICONDEROGA: Fort Ticonderoga has relocated its research library to the newly-renovated Thompson-Pell Research Center. Its 8500-volume collection of military materials is available by appointment only, at 518 585-2821.

TUPPER LAKE: Historic Beth Joseph Synagogue, built in 1905 and recently restored, will be open daily from 11-3 for tours from June 28 until September 7. The lower-level Gallery hosts photography and art shows. Sabbath services will be held Friday evenings at 7, beginning July 3. 518 359-9594.

WESTPORT: The Adirondack Park Agency has set a public hearing on Wednesday, May 27, at 9:30 a.m. at the Town Hall for the 50-site recreational vehicle campground proposed for Barber Point on Lake Champlain. Opponents argue that this development would adversely affect three neighboring resources: the Barber Point Lighthouse (1873), "Kenjockety," a 1910 camp, and the Barber Bicentennial Farm and Homestead.

WILLSBORO POINT: The Samuel Adsit cabin, built in 1778, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places by the private owners who have maintained it for years. Its early date makes it one of the oldest extant buildings in the Adirondack Park, a rare survivor from the era of settlement.

Organizations

Many museums and historical societies throughout the Adirondack Park have an interest in historic preservation. This listing includes only those not-for-profit organizations which offer programs or services in the Adirondacks specifically related to historic preservation. Please let us know about any we have inadvertently omitted.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage, (AARCH), PO Box 159, Raquette Lake, NY 13436-0159. President: Howard Kirschenbaum. 315 354-5832.

The Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812. Director: Craig Gilborn. 518 352-7311.

Adirondack Railway Preservation Society, Big Moose Road #29A1, Eagle Bay, NY 13331. Secretary: Sally Ann Smith. 315 357-3411.

Beth Joseph Historical Preservation Society, Inc., 359 Park Street, Tupper Lake, NY 12986. President: Janet Chapman. 518 359-9594.

Essex Community Heritage Organization (ECHO), Essex, NY 12936. Executive Director: Robert Hammerslag. 518 963-7088.

Fort Ticonderoga, P.O. Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. Director: Nicholas Westbrook. 518 585-2821.

Friends of Keeseville, 1 A Mill Street, Keeseville, NY 12944. Director of Housing and Preservation: Steven Engelhart. 518 834-9606.

Historic Saranac Lake, North Elba Town House, 153 River Street, PO Box 1030, Saranac Lake, NY 12983. President: Gail Bullock. 518 891-0971.

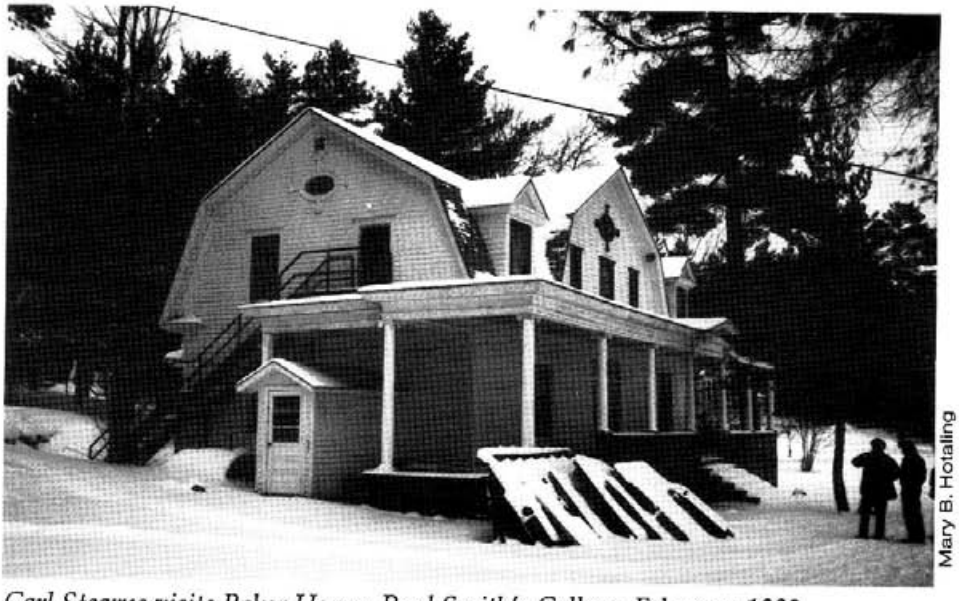
Lake Placid-North Elba Historic Preservation Commission, 301 Main Street, Lake Placid, NY 12946. Chairman: Sigmund Giambruno. 518 523-9516.

North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association, Village Square, PO Box 11, North Creek, NY 12853. Chairperson: Rosemary Pelkey. 518 251-3330.

Preservation League of NYS, 307 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY 12210. President: Clark Strickland. 518 462-5658.

PRIDE of Ticonderoga, 126A Champlain Ave., Ticonderoga, NY 12883. Executive Director: Sue Rathbun. 518 585-6366.

Sagamore Institute, Raquette Lake, NY 13436. Executive Director: Beverly Bridger. 315 354-5311.



Mary B. Hotaling

Carl Stearns visits Baker House, Paul Smith's College, February 1992.

AARCH Events

Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the variable weather conditions of the Adirondacks. Bring your own lunch and beverages unless otherwise noted. Our tours, led by knowledgeable guides, are meant to be enjoyable learning experiences, as well as to raise funds to support our activities. Your pre-registration helps us to make appropriate arrangements.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 **Historic Ticonderoga, Village and Fort.** The tour meets at 10 a.m. and features a special tour of Fort Ticonderoga, one of this country's earliest historic restorations. Lunch may be purchased. Fee $20 ($15 for AARCH members). To register, send the full fee to co-sponsor PRIDE of Ticonderoga, 126A Champlain Ave., Ticonderoga, NY 12883. 518 585-6366.

SATURDAY, JULY 11 **Camp Santanoni**. A walking tour guided by Rob Engel, last summer's interpreter at the camp. The round-trip walk is about 9.4 miles on a gently sloping dirt road. Meet at 10 a.m. at the parking lot at Camp Santanoni, off Route 28N in the hamlet of Newcomb, and return about 4 p.m. Fee $10 ($5 for AARCH members). A limited number of seats are available in a horse-drawn wagon, for an additional fee, *by advance reservation only*. Call for rates, 518 582-3211, 9-2 weekdays. Reservations may be made by sending the full fee to co-sponsor Newcomb Historical Society, Newcomb, NY 12852.

SATURDAY, JULY 18 **AARCH Annual Meeting** at the Silver Bay Association, on Route 9N, 5 miles east and 13 miles north of Exit 24 from the Adirondack Northway, Route 87. A tour of Silver Bay, which includes one of the largest old hotels in the Adirondacks, begins at 10:30 a.m. A brown bag lunch on the grounds will precede the 1 p.m. meeting. Bring your bathing suit! 518 354-5832, or 891-2748, 9-5 weekdays only, please. Free to members; guests $5.

SATURDAY, JULY 25 **Centennial Village of Saranac Lake.** This walking and driving tour visits the original Trudeau Sanatorium and village historic districts, guided by Mary Hotaling and the board of Historic Saranac Lake, beginning at 10 a.m. and ending about 2:30 p.m. Lunch may be purchased. Fee, $15 ($10 for AARCH members). Please reserve by sending the full fee to co-sponsor Historic Saranac Lake, PO Box 1030, Saranac Lake, NY 12983. 518 891-0971, 9-1 weekdays.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 **Adirondack Railroad.** Explore the Adirondack Division of the New York Central Railroad with local railroad history experts Michael Kudish & Chris Brescia. Meet at Saranac Lake's Union Depot (past Stewart's, on Depot Street) at 10 a.m. Lunch may be purchased. Fee $10 ($5 for AARCH members). Co-sponsor: Historic Saranac Lake, 518 891-0971, 9-1 weekdays.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29 **Paul Smith's Hotel and Historic Churches,** an illustrated talk and tour with local historian Neil Surprenant, followed by a tour of the hamlet's historic churches with Mary Hotaling. Co-sponsor: Paul Smith's College. Meet at the College Library at 10 a.m. Fee, $10 ($5 for AARCH members). 518 891-2748, 9-5 weekdays only.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19 **Camp Santanoni,** guided by AARCH President Howard Kirschenbaum. (See July 11 tour, above.)

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26 **Historic Tupper Lake,** with Carl Stearns, architect and AARCH board member. Description to be announced. Fee, $10 ($5 for AARCH members). 518 354-5832, or 891-2748, 9-5 weekdays only.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage
BOX 159
RAQUETTE LAKE, NY 13436
315-354-5832

BOARD OF DIRECTORS *

George Canon
Town of Newcomb

Steven Engelhart
Friends of Keeseville

Robert Hammerslag
Essex Community Heritage Organization

William Johnston
Essex County Planning Office

Howard Kirschenbaum
Raquette Lake

Paul Malo
Architect

Barbara Parnass
Historic Saranac Lake

Sue Rathbun
PRIDE of Ticonderoga

Barry Silverstein
Adirondack Life

Carl Stearns
Architect

Michael Wilson
Sagamore Institute

*affiliation for purposes of identification only

Mary B. Hotaling
Program Coordinator

AARCH Newsletter
c/o Mary Hotaling,
76 Park Avenue,
Saranac Lake, NY 12983
518-891-2748

Our appreciation to the New York State Council on the Arts for the funding which made this newsletter possible.