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Newsletter

ADIRONDACK
ARCHITECTURAL
HERITAGE

Barns: Artifacts of an Agrarian Past

Ground-level stable-barn with projecting hood for hay track, decorative twin cupolas, attached milk house, and concrete stave silo. Town of Essex. Photo courtesy Essex Community Heritage Organization (ECHO).

Historians of cultural heritage and geography view landscapes as artifacts, physical remains shaped by human interaction. In the Adirondack Park, our rich agrarian past is still visible through the material remains of our farms, many of them testaments to a bygone era of homesteading. In the more remote regions of the Park, these remains are sparse indicating less concentrated areas of settlement, or are often subtle due to abandonment, and subsequent reclamation by nature.

Studies of early settlement patterns in the Adirondacks reveal heavy migration from New England and southern New York State into the Lake Champlain Valley and the Lake George region following the American Revolution. Bringing their knowledge of building traditions with them, many settlers with roots in England, left an indelible mark upon the landscape as they continued to move westward through upstate New York. This migration, from about 1800 to 1840, and its cultural influence, is materially revealed through the remains of these traditions in the English threshing barn.

A typical early English barn had a hand-hewn, heavy-timber frame, was three-bays wide, measured thirty by forty feet, and had vertical sheathing. The threshing barn served as the core structure of the subsistence farmstead. Usually located on a level site, with no basement, the barn's hinged wagon doors opened onto the central bay, the barn's threshing floor. The two outer bays served as stables and storage for

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From the President

In December, AARCH board and staff gathered at the Adirondack League Club for a day-and-a-half retreat of what has become an annual activity: setting aside the business aspects of AARCH to focus on mission, programs, and projects. Leading up to the retreat, we reorganized AARCH's committees to enable greater board involvement in the workings of the organization. The December retreat was turned over to the new committee chairs to allow their committees an opportunity to brainstorm and to bounce ideas off the entire board and staff. We are hopeful that the capacity of our hardworking staff can now be significantly augmented by these "working" committees. This will enable us to do more, to meet challenges and opportunities as they arise, and to be an even more effective organization.

AARCH's vision for preserving and protecting the architecture, historic places, and communities of the region encompasses more and more as we come to more fully realize the breadth and significance of our built environment. The houses and neighborhoods of ordinary workers are, in many cases, just as interesting and compelling as the Great Camps and estates of the rich and famous. The types of historic structures that capture our attention are many, including everything from factories to mining structures to bridges to prisons and sanatoria. This year we celebrated the barn and our agricultural heritage by hosting the annual conference of the New York State Barn Coalition. The importance of these structures has also been recognized by New York State through its laudable decision to establish a program to support barn repair and this is an important milestone. All aspects of our built environment are a reflection of the cultural and economic history of a place, and key to its identity and uniqueness. We are very fortunate in the Adirondacks to live in a place that has not yet been transformed by the "geography of nowhere". If "not yet" is to be replaced by "never", AARCH's role will be more critical than ever in the future.

Bill Johnston

AARCH Welcomes New Board Members

AARCH is pleased to welcome three new people to its board of directors.

Mary Hotaling is already well known to most of our members. She was a founding board member of AARCH, our first Program Director, and for many years the Editor of our very fine *Newsletter*. She is currently the Executive Director of Historic Saranac Lake.

Janet Null is the principal of Argus Architecture and Preservation in Troy. Her preservation work in the region includes: the Iron Center in Port Henry, Camp Sagamore, and a facade restoration program in Plattsburgh. She and her family have a second home on Goodnow Flow in Newcomb

Neil Seymour is the director of the Franklin County Department of Tourism and brings to AARCH a terrific understanding of how preservation, tourism, and economic revitalization are integrally linked.

Camp Santanoni cross-country ski tour offered

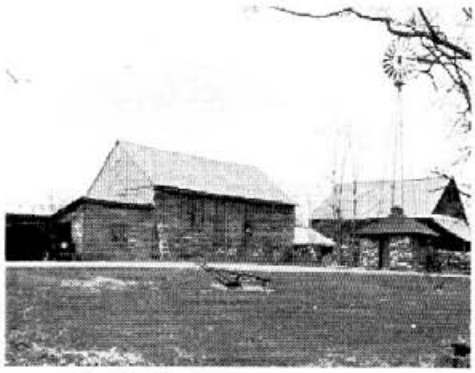
On **Saturday, February 2nd**, AARCH will sponsor a cross-country ski tour of Camp Santanoni. The tour will be led by John Friauf, a longtime AARCH board member and licensed NYS guide, and Steven Engelhart, AARCH's executive director. The outing is a ten mile round trip on the preserve's gently sloping carriage road. At the Farm Complex and Main Camp, participants will see the restoration work underway and view some of the camp's interiors. Ski conditions are usually excellent but the trip will not be held if there is not enough snow. Meet at 10 A.M. at the Santanoni parking area off Route 28N in Newcomb. Outing fee is $15 ($10 for AARCH members). Advance registration is required by calling AARCH at (518) 834-9328.

State of the Arts
NYSCA

This publication and much of AARCH's good work is made possible, in part, with funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State agency.

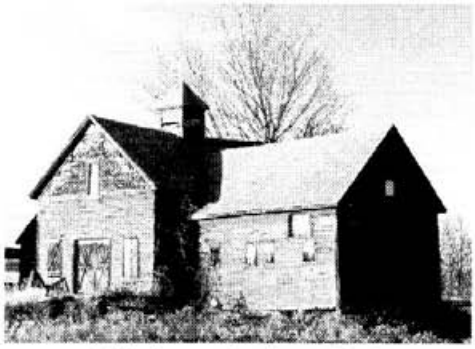
Barns: Artifacts of an Agrarian Past *continued from page 1*

English threshing barn, on an abandoned road. Town of Hadley. Photo by Paula Dennis.



Modified English barn and bank barn. Town of Willsboro. Photo by Steven Engelhart.

Former poultry farm, mansard roof variant. Town of Lewis. Photo by Paula Dennis.



Gable-front carriage barn with ell. Town of Westport. Photo by Paula Dennis.

hay and grain. Earliest frame examples are scribe ruled, where each tenon was cut to fit a specific mortise within the frame with scribe marks in Roman numerals evident at the framing junctions. This joinery technique is traceable to medieval Europe, and required a highly skilled master builder, who possessed an intimate knowledge of wood and the mathematical ability to engineer from uneven stock. Beginning in the early 1800s, later examples, more commonly surviving in the Adirondacks, used a technique of assemblage known as the square rule. Employing predetermined dimensions, this method used a more uniform sized timber and sawn stock. A series of bents, consisting of vertical posts, horizontal girts, and diagonal bracing (see "Barn Anatomy Basics" on page 4) were constructed on the ground then dropped into the sill as they were raised into place. Adjustments for true fit were made at the junction of the sill and or the plate once the bents were up.

Many colloquial variants emerge within these types, creating pockets of American vernacular style throughout the settlement regions. Local builders would modify traditional English design and material application to fit their needs. Some would borrow influences from a more traditional Scottish method of construction and use a queen-post truss in the roof framing. This method used two principal purlins running the full length of the barn and often a dropped girt. With the purlin carrying the major load, rafter stock sometimes appears as unpeeled softwood poles. The use of ridge beams varied, ranging from refined pentagonal configurations to no ridge beam at all.

As the farmstead grew, the increased need to house more livestock, store manure and produce required changes to the traditional structure. Sheds were added, additional bays were connected to the original, entrances were reconfigured, frames were lifted or moved to an embankment. Lifting the frame in this manner allowed the construction of the bank barn, with basement below for stables or storage.

Studies in efficiency were introduced, pioneered by the Shakers in the form of their early round barns. This influence continued as scientific agriculture developed affecting the shape of silos as well as barns. Articles in northeast farm journals testify to the ongoing debate over these preferences.

Technological advancements like the hay track, running the entire length of the interior ridge, with its attached mechanical claw could lift large quantities of hay to the lofts above. Early barns were adapted to accommodate this mechanism, requiring removal of their collar ties. Large hay doors appear in the gable end of these modified structures. Changes in roof framing began to occur in the middle of the 19th-century, allowing additional space for this more time-saving device. This is most prevalent in the gambrel roofed form, so often labeled as the traditional barn shape. Roof extensions or hoods for the hay track are often seen on later examples of this type.

Balloon framing came into vogue in the second half of the 19th-century, cutting costs in overall construction. Uniform mass production and increased transport of sawn stock via canals and the railroad brought

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Barns: Artifacts of an Agrarian Past *continued from page 3*

The English Barn

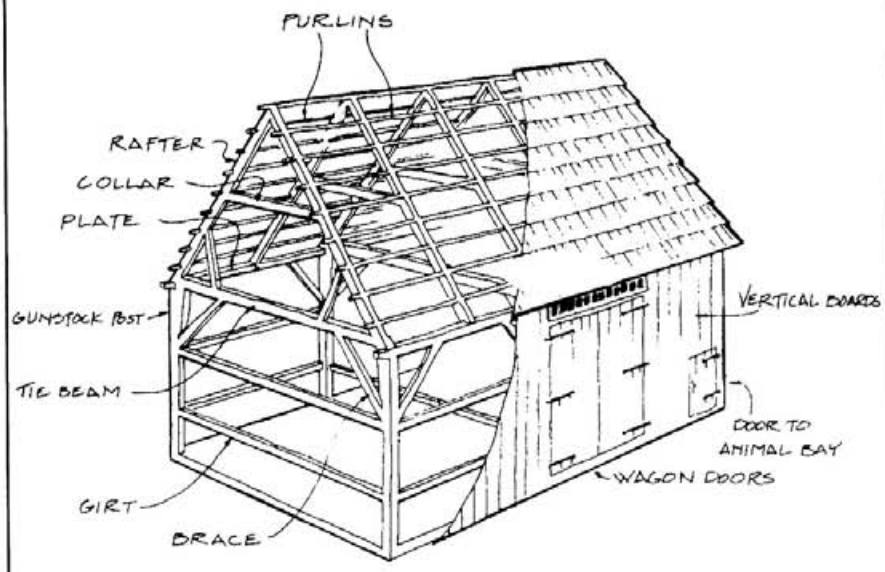

Illustration by Jack A. Sobon, courtesy Berkshire House Publications
from *Old Barns in the New World: Reconstructing History*
by Richard W. Babcock and Lauren R. Stevens, 1996.

BARN ANATOMY BASICS

BENT: a framing section in a timber frame structure consisting of vertical posts, horizontal tie beams or girts, and diagonal braces.
BRACE: a diagonal member joined at an angle to the vertical and horizontal members to stiffen the frame and prevent wracking.
COLLAR: a horizontal member joining two rafters above the top plate.
GIRT: major horizontal structural member tying two posts together.
GUNSTOCKPOST: a major vertical structural member flared or wider at the top, crafted from inverted tree stock, which supports the horizontal members.
MORTISE AND TENON: an ancient technique of wood joinery comprised of a mortise, a rectangular cavity, cut in a member to receive the tenon, a projection fashioned at the end of an opposing member. In timber framing these joints are then secured with treenails.
PLATE: a major horizontal framing member at the top of the wall plane, joining the series of bents below and roof rafters above.
POST: a major vertical structural member.
PURLIN: a roof framing member running parallel with the ridge and supporting rafters and sheathing.
RAFTER: a roof framing member running from the ridge to the wall plane, creating the diagonal slope of the roof.
RIDGEBEAM OR POLE: a horizontal structural member at the apex of the roof that connects the rafters.
RIDGE: the apex or peak of the roof
SHEATHING a covering encasing the skeletal framing members of a structure.
SILL: a major horizontal framing member, resting on footings or a foundation.
THRESHING FLOOR: the floor of a barn used for flailing grain to separate the seed from the chaff.
TIEBEAM OR CROSS GIRT: a horizontal member at the base of the rafters, above the plate, forming the bottom of a truss. When placed below the plate it is referred to as a dropped girt.
TREENAIL OR TRUNNEL: a wooden spike or tapered peg fashioned to bind and secure two framing members.
WAGON DOORS: a pair of hinged doors, wide enough to accommodate a wagon, that opening onto the threshing floor.

product to the consumer on demand. The requirement for skilled joiners decreased, as sawn 2 x 4s and 2 x 6s, replaced posts and girts. Numerous publications were produced on barns, as in domestic architecture, with endless designs and construction techniques. The local carpenter could use these patented plans and pattern books as guides.

Favored architectural styles also influenced barn design. Widely accepted, the gable-front Greek Revival style is seen in farm structures as principal entrances moved to the gable end. The later picturesque movement shows itself on the farmstead through decorative application. From elaborate shingling to brackets and decorative cupolas, farmers displayed their wealth, as did urban dwellers, through ornament and expanse. This trend continued as architects designed carriage barns to mirror the Victorian home.

What ever form the barn displays, an affinity for the structure remains. The barn still stands as a symbol of American agricultural heritage from coast to coast. Within this architectural epic, clues to our ethnic roots, to American cultural identity and to technological development continue to be revealed.

Early examples with strong English influence still survive throughout the Adirondack Park. Many of these have been preserved through obsolescence. Though some of these beloved structures may have outlived their original function, their language continues to enlighten us as their presence upon the landscape of America provides a grounding comfort rooted in the pride of a growing nation *(See also Resources on back page).*

PAULA DENNIS

Dr. Marrus, as many of us knew him, with paddle and binoculars, ready for an adventure. Photo by Jim DeGolyer.

Dr. Richard Marrus (1947–2001)

It is with deep sadness that we report the death of Dr. Richard Marrus in 2001. Dr. Marrus was the owner of Hemlock Ledge on Tupper Lake, was a great aficionado of Adirondack architecture, a highly regarded collector of rustic furniture, and a great friend to AARCH. He was an exemplary steward of his camp and arranged for its protection through a preservation easement in 1995, held by AARCH. As were his wishes, Hemlock Ledge will be run by the Hemlock Ledge Foundation and opened periodically to the public, through special AARCH tours and other means. He will be sorely missed.

AARCH's Fifth Annual Raffle a Huge Success

On October 15th, the winning tickets were drawn for the fifth annual AARCH Raffle, *Win These Magnificent Adirondack Getaways and Goodies*. The winners and their prizes were:

Eleanor Edwards, Rensselaer
A week at a lakeside cabin at Camp Uncas
Margaret & David Ruether, New York
A spring weekend at White Pine Camp
Ben Strader, Blue Mountain Lake
A weekend at Greystone Mansion in Essex
Jennifer Sparks, North Tonawanda
A weekend at Silver Bay on Lake George
Arthur Marston, Black River
A spring weekend at Morningside Cottages in Minerva
John Ofsonka, Jessup, Maryland
A Gilded Age Tour of Raquette Lake
Ann Maltby, Syracuse
Adirondack Museum Family Membership
Richard Cook, Mahopac
Dinner for two at The Veranda in Lake Placid
Linda Joss-Dyke, Atco, New Jersey
"Picnic and Paddle" at The Wawbeek
Marguerite Heald, Valatie
A season's pass for two for all AARCH tours

The raffle was a great success. It raised more than $7,000 for AARCH and drew additional attention to our important work. Many thanks to those who donated prizes, including: **the Silver Bay Association, Frank LaBar of Morningside Cottages, the Adirondack Museum, the Lussi Family at The Veranda, Camp Sagamore, Raquette Lake Navigation Company, Nancy and Norman Howard at The Wawbeek, David Hislop, and Howie Kirschenbaum.**

About Adirondack Architectural Heritage

Adirondack Architectural Heritage is the non-profit, historic preservation organization for the Adirondack Park with an educational mission to promote better public understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the region's architecture and communities. We fulfill this mission by sponsoring tours and workshops, giving public slide presentations, offering technical assistance, and supporting local governments, organizations, and individuals in their preservation efforts. AARCH is a membership organization with nearly 1000 members. Members receive a biannual *Newsletter,* get discounts on AARCH sponsored events and publications, and may attend our annual meeting.

Join AARCH!

I want to help preserve the Adirondack Park's historical and architectural legacy. Enclosed is my tax-deductible membership contribution.

___ *$25 Individual*
___ *$35 Family*
___ *$50 Supporting*
___ *$100 Sponsor*
___ *$250 Patron*
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TELEPHONE

Please make checks payable to "Adirondack Architectural Heritage" and mail to: AARCH, Civic Center, Suite 37, 1790 Main Street, Keeseville, NY 12944

AARCH *Awards*

Sixth Annual Awards Presented at The Hedges on Blue Mountain Lake

The restoration of Wellscroft Lodge in Upper Jay by Linda and Randolf Stanley was one of six projects recognized by AARCH through its Awards Program.

Each year, we recognize exemplary preservation and stewardship work throughout the region through our awards program. This year, at a special awards luncheon on October 13th at The Hedges on Blue Mountain Lake, AARCH honored a range of preservation activities in the region. These awards reflect the diversity of the region's important architecture and the variety of ways that preservation takes place here and elsewhere.

Linda and Randolf Stanley

For the restoration of Wellscroft in Upper Jay

Wellscroft was built in 1903 for Jean and Wallis Craig Smith of Saginaw, Michigan, as a summer home and at a cost of $500,000. It was among the largest country estates built in Essex County and included the 15,000 square-foot main house, caretaker's house, children's playhouse, firehouse, powerhouse, carriage house, and its own water supply, fire protection system and power plant, gardens and landscaping, and private roads and trails.

The Smiths enjoyed their Tudor Revival estate for nearly three decades. After it was sold in 1943, it went through several changes in ownership and was used both as a private home and as a public resort. Over the past two decades, the fate of Wellscroft became very uncertain. Twice it was abandoned in the 1990s, it was extensively vandalized, and appeared on AARCH's "Endangered Properties List" for several years.

Wellscroft's new owners, Linda and Randy Stanley, obtained the property after a bank foreclosure. Despite warnings from friends and family not to take on the project, they forged ahead, carried by a vision of what Wellscroft could become. Over a two-year period they put in a tremendous amount of time and money into Wellscroft's restoration and they are quick to credit their general contractor, Steve Kirkpatrick, for his fine and sensitive work. Wellscroft will become an inn as well as their residence. They are to be commended for taking on such a large, difficult project, for maintaining high standards for its restoration, and for bringing an important and endangered property back to life.

Paul and Mark Van Slyke

For the restoration of the Big Moose Station

Railroads were the lifeblood of the Adirondacks during the late 19th-and early 20th-centuries. The New York Central Railroad's Adirondack Division served the western Adirondacks on its 118-mile route between Utica and Lake Placid in the 1890s. The Big Moose Station was one of the first built along this line. By the 1920s, the peak decade of rail service in the area, ten passenger trains a day served the hamlet and its hotels were regularly supplied with the freshest of food. The original station burned in the 1920s and was replaced by the present building shortly thereafter. Passenger service ended in 1966.

The first new use for the building was as a diner. After a succession of owners, the building was bought by brothers Paul and Mark Van Slyke in 1996. They expanded the dining room, converted the warehouse space into the kitchen and bar, made major utilities improvements, insulated the building, all the while keeping or respecting the original interior and exterior features of the station. The Big Moose Station Restaurant is now a successful business in an important historic building. Situated as it is along the Adirondack railroad corridor, and with its reputation for great food and atmosphere, we're sure it will be with us for many years.

Warrensburgh Beautification, Inc.

For more than fifteen years of work to preserve, beautify, and revitalize Warrensburg.

Warrensburgh Beautification Inc. (WBI) was incorporated in 1985 as a non-profit organization with a mission to preserve, revitalize, and beautify the Town of Warrensburg. There are many aspects to WBI's work, but this award honors its work to preserve historic buildings in the hamlet and to promote greater public appreciation of the hamlet's historic architecture.

It began in March of 1990, when WBI convinced the Town Board not to sell, for likely demolition, the historic circa 1873 Miles Thomas House. Then, in 1993, the Architectural Heritage Committee of WBI was formed. It's first project, through its consultant Jessica Roemischer, was an Intensive Level Survey of the hamlet. This resulted in a 400-page compendium of text, maps, and photographic documentation, completed in 1996.

Then WBI sponsored the next step, the completion of the Multiple Property State and National Register Listing of Historic and Architectural Resources in the Hamlet of Warrensburg, New York. After nearly eight years of effort, the Warrensburg Historic District was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in May 2001. It includes 222 properties and is the largest such district in the Adirondack region.

Coinciding with this survey and nomination work, WBI published their *Architectural Heritage Tour* of *Warrensburgh, NY* in September 1994. The sum total of their efforts is a better community. There is now a much greater appreciation of the historic architecture of the community, more of a willingness to save and preserve other historic properties, and more of a recognition that Warrensburg's economic future is tied to its historic resources.

The Wanakena Footbridge Committee

For their work to preserve the Wanakena Footbridge

The marvelous footbridge in Wanakena was built in 1902 over the Oswegatchie River by the Rich Lumber Company to provide easy access for its employees to their mills. The bridge is constructed of wood and steel cables and has a span of 130 feet with an overall span of 261 feet. It may be the oldest public wooden footbridge in continuous use in New York State.

Bridges are among the most difficult historic structures to preserve, but thanks to the work of **Carol Cassidy, Polly Hamele, Kathy Nevil and Rene Reed**, a new level of public support and appreciation now exists for the Wanakena Footbridge. Their work began in the 1980s, when they convinced the Town of Fine to make much needed repairs to the deteriorating bridge. More recently they had the bridge placed on the National Register and, in the process, generated 200 letters of support, an unprecedented show of enthusiasm, especially for a bridge!

Now, at the beginning of the 21st century, the future of the bridge is much more secure. Its historic and engineering significance has been recognized, the Town of Fine is periodically maintaining it, and the community cherishes it more than ever.

James Bevilacqua

For the restoration of the façade of the Post Office Pharmacy, Saranac Lake

The Post Office Pharmacy building was built circa 1875 and is one of the oldest buildings in the village. It is a simple wood-framed, mansard-roofed building, which originally had an open porch facing Main Street. In the 1920s, the façade of building was substantially altered, in order to give it a more modern look. The mansard roof was covered over and the open porch was closed in. In 1948, the business and building were bought by Carl Bevilacqua. Carl ran the business until his recent death and the business in now run by his son Jim.

Between 1999 and 2000, Jim undertook a major restoration of the facade. Using information gleaned from historical photographs, the mansard roof was uncovered and restored and the front porch was reconstructed in a manner suitable for this late 19th-century building. The Post Office Pharmacy is a shining example of how restored commercial buildings can be vital and contributing components of successful downtowns.

Laura Jean Schwartau and Family

For their long stewardship of Northbrook Lodge, Paul Smiths

Northbrook Lodge was built in 1918 for Wilfrid McDougald, a surgeon and member of Canada's Parliament. The camp was constructed by Ben Muncil, a prolific and creative builder from Paul Smiths. Muncil built many of the finest camps in the St. Regis lakes region, including, Camp Topridge and White Pine Camp. He also built the Brighton Town Hall and the Catholic churches in Gabriels and Bloomingdale.

Northbrook Lodge, on Osgood Pond, includes an extended main lodge, boathouse, several cabins, and a wonderful private beach. It was acquired by Bill Schwartau in 1952 and was soon opened to the public. For nearly fifty years, the Schwartau family has cared for this place with incredible affection and sensitivity. Laura Jean now manages Northbrook Lodge and carries on the family tradition. Few public places are so cherished by their guests and visitors and few places are so loved and well taken care of by their owners.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage Awards annually recognize exemplary historic preservation work throughout the region. We welcome nominations from members and the general public. Nominations are due each year by March 15th.

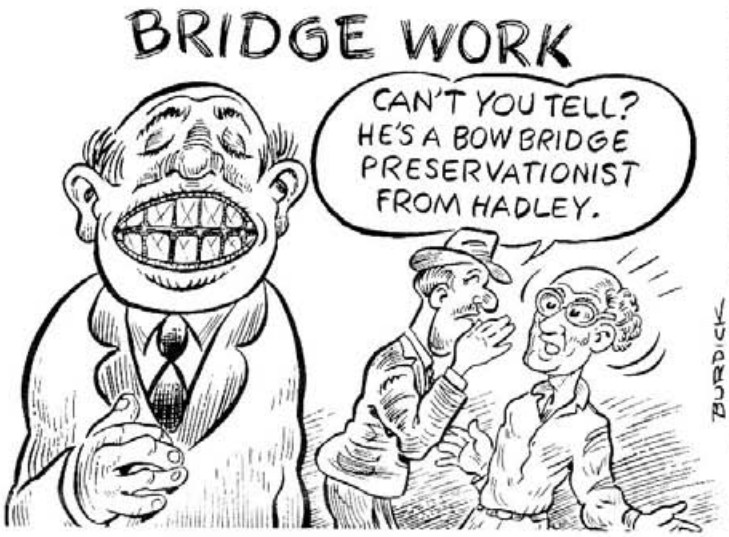
News & Notes

BOLTON: The New York State Council on the Arts, Arts-in-Education Program recently awarded a grant to AARCH to develop and implement an "arts-in-education" program at the Bolton Central School in 2002. AARCH and BCS staff will use the architecture of the community to teach third and fourth graders about community history, change design, and culture.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY: A partnership of public, private, and non-profit organizations in New York, Vermont, and Quebec has recently initiated *Lakes to Locks Passage: The Great Northern Journey*. This project seeks to promote tourism, community development, and balanced management of the region's natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources in region between Chambly, Quebec, and Waterford, NY. For more information, call Janet Kennedy at ANCA (518) 597-9660.

CROWN POINT: The Champlain Valley Heritage Network is pleased to announce the publication of *Relishing Our Resources* by Virginia Westbrook. This 64-page, fully-illustrated book explores the natural, cultural, and recreational features of eight Essex County towns in the Champlain Valley. Copies may be purchased through AARCH or by calling (518) 597-3983.

HADLEY: In November, Saratoga County submitted an application to the federal TEA-21 Transportation Enhancements Program for funding for the rehabilitation of the historic Bow Bridge over the Sacandaga River. The application was prepared by AARCH and reflects the County's new commitment to the bridge's preservation.



This political cartoon , by Stan Burdick, caught the spirit of the debate about the Bow Bridge in Hadley. It appeared in 2001 in the *Glens Falls Post-Star*.

KEESEVILLE: The restoration of the 1843 Stone Arch Bridge, the oldest in the Adirondack region, was completed this summer. The $350,000 project included repointing the bridge's stonework and installing a new roadway, sidewalks, and railings.

LAKE PLACID: In 1925, Ben Muncil, the prolific builder of camps such as Topridge and White Pine Camp, traveled to Southhold, Long Island to build a huge log house for the Williams family. Several years ago we reported that The Log Cabin was for sale, for disassembly. The building has been bought, moved and reassembled on the Peninsula Road in Lake Placid.

LYON MOUNTAIN: The *Friends of Lyon Mountain* continue to make progress with their plans to restore the Lyon Mountain railroad depot and to create a local history museum there. The *Friends* has nearly 250 members, has raised nearly $100,000, and has installed a new roof, made foundation repairs, and removed later alterations to the building. They are also in the process of placing the building on the National Register. For more information, call Jim Humiston at (518) 497-6685.

NEWCOMB: In October, AARCH was notified that it had been awarded a $50,000 grant from the Getty Grant Program for developing a conservation plan and other architectural planning work at Camp Santanoni. This funding will make it possible for NYSDEC, AARCH, and the other Santanoni partners to undertake this much needed work. A new color guide to the camp was also published this summer.

OLD FORGE: An effort is underway to relocate and restore the historic Hemmer Cottage. This rustic, European-inspired cottage was built in 1931 by Bernard Hemmer, a well-known local artist. The *Hemmer Cottage Preservation Team* was organized in 2001 to find a new home and use for the cottage. For more information, call (315) 369-3353.

News & Notes

continued

Adirondack and Catskill Fire Towers are now on the National Register of Historic Places

In October, ten fire observation towers in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks were officially placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The multiple property nomination, *Fire Towers of the New York State Forest Preserve*, was prepared by Wes Haynes for AARCH in 1999. The nomination was funded through a grant to AARCH from the *Preserve New York* Grant Program. Others fire towers will be added to this nomination in the future. The towers in the Adirondacks include:

- Azure Mountain
- Blue Mountain
- Hadley Mountain
- Kane Mountain
- Mt. Arab
- Poke-O-Moonshine Mountain
- Snowy Mountain

The towers in the Catskills include:

- Balsam Lake Mountain
- Red Hill Mountain
- Tremper Mountain

POKE-O-MOONSHINE: In 2001, the *Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine* published a new interpretive trail guide to the mountain. The guide was funded in part by a grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Copies are available from AARCH.

PORT HENRY: The 1872 Episcopal Church has a new owner and a much brighter future. Kristen Bronander of Heron Properties recently purchased the endangered Gothic Revival Church from the Town of Moriah. Kris has done other exemplary restoration projects in the area, including the Woodruff House in Elizabethtown.

RAQUETTE LAKE: Camp Sagamore was awarded a prestigious $350,000 grant this summer from the *Save America's Treasures* Program. The funds will make possible the largest improvement project undertaken there to date.

ST. REGIS FALLS: In the fall, *Azure Mountain Friends* was organized to restore the fire tower on Azure Mountain and to do trail improvement and educational work. The *Friends* will operate under AARCH's auspices. For more information, call Carolyn Kaczka at (315) 265-4806.

SARANAC LAKE: The restoration of the Bartok Cottage took a giant leap forward as a result of a major donation to the project from composer Bela Bartok's son, Peter, this year.

UPPER JAY: Thanks in large part to a major grant from the Federal Emergency Management Authority (FEMA), an addition has been built onto the Wells Memorial Library. It adds space for the stacks and storage and provides handicapped access. The architect was Argus Architecture & Preservation in Troy.

WELLS: The 1902 Teachout Bridge over Griffin Gorge in the Town of Wells will be replaced, but the historic bridge will soon have a new home. The 92' bridge will be disassembled and reconstructed in Lake Pleasant to carry a bicycle and pedestrian path.

The Lamp/Ash House at Camp Santanoni was restored by Michael Frenette this summer.

We welcome news items about architecture, historic preservation, local history, and related subjects for *News & Notes*. Please let us know what's going on in your area.

Errata

We apologize for incorrectly identifying the volume and number of the last two issues of the *Newsletter*. The "A Milestone Year at Camp Santanoni" issue should be Volume 9, No. 2 and the "Tours, Workshops, and Special Events" issue should be Volume 10, No.1.

Resources

Historic Barn Preservation Assistance Available

The $2 million New York State Barns Restoration and Preservation Program provides grants of up to $25,000 to restore historic barns and other agricultural buildings. Eligible structures must be in need of substantial repair, at least 50 years old, and constructed to house livestock, equipment, or agricultural products. A contribution of ten to fifty percent of the project cost, based on income, must be provided by the applicant. For an application or more information, contact the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation at (518) 237-8643 or www.nysparks.state.ny.us/grants.

Asgaard Farm Barn by Rockwell Kent. Illustration from It's Me O'Lord, 1955 (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.)

Owners of Rockwell Kent's Asgaard Farm Receive New York State Barn Restoration Grant

Rhonda and David Brunner, owners of the AuSable Forks farm that was the home and studio of artist Rockwell Kent, were awarded a $25,000 grant from the New York State Barns Restoration and Preservation Program. The grant will be used to restore the roof of the farm's barn, which appears in many of Kent's drawings and paintings. Theirs is the only project funded in the Adirondack Park.

The New York State Historic Barns Tax Credit is a state income tax credit of twenty-five percent of expenses for the rehabilitation of historic barns. Projects cannot materially alter the barn's historic appearance, the barns must have built prior to 1936, have been originally used for agricultural related purposes, and meet the tax definition of income producing. Contact the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation at (518) 237-8643 and/or the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Tax Payer Assistance Bureau at (518) 457-7429, www.tax.state.ny.us or your tax advisor for more information.

More Information on Historic Barns

***BARN AGAIN!* National Trust for Historic Preservation**, 910 16th St., Suite 1100, Denver CO 80202 (303) 623-1504, www.barnagain.org; www.nthp.org

The Barn Journal, www.museum.cl.msu.edu/barn/resource/resource.html

Dutch Barn Preservation Society, P.O. Box 76, Altamont, NY 12009

National Park Service, *Preservation Briefs*, www.cr.nps.gov/linkpubs.html

New York State Barn Coalition, c/o Preservation League of New York State, 44 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206-3002, (518) 462-5658, www.crp.cornell.edu/projects/nysbc; www.preservenys.org

Taking Care of Your Old Barn, www.uvm.edu/~vhnet/hpres/publ/barnb/bbtit.html

Traditional Timberframer Research and Advisory Group, Timber Framer's Guild of North America, Box 60, Becket, MA 01223, (888) 453-0879, www.tfguild.org

Adirondack Architectural Heritage

CIVIC CENTER, SUITE 37
1790 MAIN STREET
KEESEVILLE, NY 12944
518-834-9328
518-834-9225 (FAX)
aarch1@aol.com

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