Chris Bell's Costco Report

Indeed, a lot of everything, "under one roof"

Summer 2003

PREFACE

To begin, this report is lengthy, wordy, and highly casual. I am afraid I do not know any better, at least not yet. However unwieldy, the intent is to be directly useful in a written fashion on as many fronts as I can possibly offer. That means from suggested projects to suggested attire. Nuts to suits (bathing). But in being such a vast compendium, it summarizes what was invaluable to me, both from a professional and a personal standpoint. It takes the perspective that the summer at Santanoni can be both a changing professional and personal experience, and in being both, it will make the summer something literally unforgettable. As AARCH Director Steven Engelhart stated, at least to this effect, as we first toured the Main Camp, "I would love to trade shoes with you and spend a summer on this lake." Indeed the opportunity for preservation and recreation to come so near to each other is rare. Crawford & Stearns, in conjunction with some earlier reports by others, has provided a very well scripted and studied preservation program for the entire camp. So in many ways the projects are ready and waiting. It is, however, the experience and the challenges of accomplishing them, and the recommendations for future efforts, that I found would be valuable to future summer interns. In this way, this was written for AARCH's benefit, in particular as memoir for the summer of 2003 to inform and instruct the interns for 2004 and beyond, and for Dorothea, who was my confidant and fellow pioneer in preservation as we sorted out all the challenges and joys of living at the Camp and in Newcomb, both lovely and humor-filled experiences. Though not intended for any other audience, it reflects well upon the town of Newcomb, DEC and Michael Frenette and his partner in crime, Jonus. And at least in part, if not in whole, should be made directly available to the future summer interns, as I know from experience that with the greatness that this summer internship has to offer, any and all preparedness will only better the time spent at Santanoni for AARCH, the Camp itself, and most assuredly, for the interns. In this way some of the text was written as if speaking directly to them. Thank you AARCH for your patience, this report was a while in the making, though pause and distance have been good. And thank you AARCH, too, for making this summer possible for me, the memories and experiences are irreplaceable.

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Main Camp Intern Tours

If there was a connection made with the Main Camp this summer, it was not simply those times alone on the front porch watching the light disappear behind the mountains, or through activities of preservation, bringing it back to wellness, but in the eyes of the beholden, who had come to the Temple.

The role the Main Camp intern plays as a tour guide on a practical note, is about as central a role as he/she plays during the summer. For you devote most of your initial period reviewing the "Engel Reader," or pages and pages of Theses, Nominations, UMPs (Unit Management Plans), or getting everyone in the town of Newcomb and their take on the history; stories about which they had first or second hand knowledge. The next phase of your time is then spent working that massive amount of both anecdotal and factual information into a condensed story. The AARCH initiation, with Howie and Steven, did much to set the stage for approach, but it takes hours to refine a story that does not dramatize too much, yet has the right amount of "excitement" to keep a leg-wearied audience who may either be thinking intently about, or focused on digesting, their lunch.

Following that phase, you have the actual delivery. I recall the Main Camp intern of 2002 discussing his relative comfort with the material, but a lack-luster delivery for an AARCH tour (a special, paid tour under the aegis of AARCH) early in the summer. Indeed, the same challenge exists. Working within a time frame, keeping the content factual but peppered with substantiated anecdotes, as the audience can range from relatively "green" history enthusiasts to died-in-the-wool historians/preservationists/ architects, wielding several degrees in their knapsack.

So in review, you spend probably the first half of the summer getting to a place of comfort with the tour, and then the second half you refine the tour, its details, cutting and pasting, finding the best place to start and end, depending on the time, the group, and their interest. Literally there were about seven or eight different formats I took based on the audience and their timing. This was no "please meet your docent in the parlor and

she will walk you through our historic home" with a standard tour playbook. The level of commitment and often quality of your audience kept you from doing such. I felt this was some sort of perpetual Chautauqua, except instead of pulling up in their fuel-efficient cars to the meeting ground to hear the lectures, they hiked in five miles, so there was an elevated sense of value to the tour and place. Indeed, with both an eager and intelligent audience, you frequently had the pleasure of flexing your muscles, asking probing questions about the dichotomy of this mansion in the rough, the subtler and fascinating Japanese notions regionally adapted, and so forth. This is not to say that the "less intelligible" crowd was less fun, in fact, they were often happy and able to crawl this way and that, go look at the Boathouse, or the Bathhouse, or indulge questions that some more experience crowds may not have asked, but were equally open-ended in nature ("why did they connect all these roofs?" was one question I got a lot).

Best of all, however, were the hoards of small people. Camping groups, big and small, and families were coming here and there by early July, and by late July through September, every day. It peaked in early-mid August. Constantly, mother, father (both or one or the other), and two, three kids. In every case, the kids wanted to run all over, and the parents were just happy to have them entertained for a while. Many times I would offer a tour and they would say, "well, if it is short." An hour later into the tour, I was trying to cut it off so I could get some lunch. What I found is that if given a voice, a view, a sense of experiencing the camp from their perspective, both now and 100 years ago, the kids (and the grown-ups) found themselves imagining. And wondering. It was a trick of famed archaeologist James Deetz or vernacular architectures scholar Thomas Hubka do in writing, in that they take you back, and let you imagine what a day in the life of the Pruyn family. Additionally, each room of the Main Camp has a story, or a game, or something that can easily engage a smaller person as much as an older person, so the challenge of finding that middle ground with a mixed age tour, in time, became a matter of making it fun for the kids without talking down to them. And the adults, either glad to have their kids engaged in history, or interested themselves, encouraged the tour to go on. And so it was in this way, when I had a group thinking hard about the intentions of the plan, as a metaphor and as it functioned, or staring and studying the log ends, or a pattern

of dots on the wall (former dartboard). The Main Camp, no longer a place of residence, was like the tree in Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*, where despite its inability to serve in one capacity, as a story-teller of its history, its purpose was far from used up.

Main Camp Intern Projects – Summer 03

Work Completed:

- Weekly sweeping of the Porch. As a haven for hiking boot dirt, Michael's construction debris (while not intentional, it is hardly preventable), leaves/needles/etc, the porch is forever in need of a sweep. This is important for the obvious reason of having a presentable place for visitors, but functionally, as the 2002 Gate Lodge intern noted, the grinding of sandy soil on the boards fairly readily advances the aging of the porch boards, particular in high use areas, where there is much dirt, and much tromping. On a daily basis hundred of feet walk up and across the porch, either in passing, or as Michael, his associate and the Main Camp intern do, pretty much all day.

- Sweeping and Mopping the Interior. The Main Camp has a significant amount of floor space, just try mopping it once every month. Similar to the previous stated notion, the dirt coalesced as much inside as outside, either getting walked or blown in through the open doors. The quarter-sawn oak floors also deserve a higher level of attention, thus the Pine-Sol application attempted to provide a degree of rehydration and protection, not to mention an uplifting smell to combat the distinct, or not-so-distant, scent of bat guano.

- Organization. Playing to one of my passions, there were two areas of the Main Camp that benefited from order. As will be noted with the Gate Lodge, having a disheveled storage area leads to an inability to know what we have, both historically related and supply-related. In particular, if we know what we have, we know what we could lose and thereby need to better safeguard.

In addition, the tours, save the upstairs and downstairs of the Kitchen Wing, go everywhere. And when you want to show the full range of spaces, lesser and greater, which incidentally aids in the appeal for contributions (I had more than a few, when they saw the back kitchen, say "this is going to take a lot of money" and ultimately joined the Friends or went back to buy 'something'). So there were two areas that I discretely organized:

- The Back Pantry (southern adjoining room to the main cook space in the Kitchen Wing) – A holding ground for anything and everything, this space had little rhyme or reason. It just had a lot of shelving and seemed like a house parts and house cleaner dumping ground. After carefully setting out everything in the kitchen over an evening and early morning, I swept out and cleaned the floors and shelving. Next I reviewed the material artifacts, any and all legitimate garbage was removed, and anything that was remotely or potentially of historic value was kept. I reshelved and organized in a fashion of putting like kind objects together. Screens with screens, doors with doors, etc. and all the working materials (cleaners, tools, nails, etc.) were organized to be used and readily available. No more purchasing of a third and fourth bottle of Windex, or eighth or ninth putty scrappers. For the balance of the summer, I use this room both to show as a pantry, since the floor area was completely clear of clutter and thus more inviting, but also I used artifacts to show the visitors different aspects of the house. Doors, for instances. We have an amazing variety of weights, types, etc. Kids, I found, really enjoyed a sort of weighing (literally by picking them up gently), or evaluating their differences in form or function. Again, as with the Gate Lodge storage area, a full and thorough inventory needs to be taken so we have a sense of what is there, what should be safe-guarded, what can be used in interpretation, and future preservation (i.e. Crawford & Stearns Comprehensive Plan, where ideally we would reuse original materials where possible).

- The second area that needed attention I address more fully below, but I will quickly touch on here: Charybdis [for a quick contemporary (1916) definition: "Scylla: A rock on the Italian coast opposite the Whirlpool Charybdis off the Sicilian coast. The ancients personified both as female monsters. – ***between Scylla and Charybdis***. Between two dangers, either of which is difficult to avoid without encountering the other." – Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 1916, pg. 762]. Serving as a logical, close-by home for Michael's materials and gear, and as a kitchen, I think rightfully Michael made use of the space like it was his own shop, and thus was not interested in losing gear or food to people or animals. So it was thereby closed off, fairly unkempt, and not intended for tours. But once I had the entire Camp to myself, and without the same need for the space, I cleared the floor of leftover wood and filed it in the wood storage area under the Kitchen, organized the Boat House windows, and generally assembled the space so it could be walked through, kept clean, and remain functional. The result was the ability to show the final room in the Main Camp, often a mystery by being closed off. In particular, the oddity of the outside door into a wall, the possible division of the room, the muslin on the wall, a different yet elegant fireplace design and type, and generally tell the tale of *Scylla and Charybdis*, as the Classical Mythology; as the natural wonder off the Italian Coast; and the expression, which we believe is how the two cabins got their name.

■ Roof Sweeping. Four times over the summer I used Michael's scaffolding and got up on the roof. Given that the roof is possibly the Main Camp's costliest and unquestionably most important asset with respect to keeping the Main Camp building water-tight and protected – carefully and regularly cleaning it to keep the ubiquitous debris build-up is important for getting the full usefulness out of the asphalt shingles. The first cleaning last summer revealed that the roof probably had not been swept in a couple summers, if at all. Admittedly, while I would advise tying a safety harness to the chimney bases so to minimize the danger in

sweeping the chimney, I happen to have rock climbing shoes and a highly developed balance (plus a fearless nature), so while I was extremely cautious, I did not follow my own advice. Still, in the future a cleaning at the start and end of the summer would serve to minimize the organic build-up that we likely all know well on our own roofs to be the cause of asphalt breakdown and lead to premature problems with an otherwise functional roof. I suspect the best idea is to utilize a rock climbing harness and rope. While the slope is modest at best, safety should be first.

■ Window Painting. This was one of the many activities which we as interns, in conjunction with Michael and the DEC, utilized the Landmark Volunteers for their able assistance. In hindsight, we would have done this differently, however. While we accomplished the task of getting the right paint onto window frames, managing a group of that size to do a proper historic window project is simply impossible. I recently participated in a window workshop in Oregon for training the DEC equivalent, and as I learned, there are a number of important steps that maybe even a seasoned DEC employee might not recognize, as we found to be the case with seasoned “restorers” from Oregon Parks & Rec. I am hoping to copy the large but extremely well-written manual that was part of the program, and send it to AARCH. The hope is that those interns willing to take on this necessary project can practice those proper techniques and ideas initially, but also as Rick apparently did with some success, help students organizations (be it Landmark or SCA) assist in a trained fashion. This way the techniques are rooted in good practices, and readily available for reference.

■ Regrading. One of the challenges confronting the future restoration of Santanoni will be replacing many of the rotting log sills. Particularly on the northern end of the Main Camp, where the grade meets the foundation directly, the ground soil had enveloped most of the sills on the east and northern sides of north guest cabins and Charybdis. As a result, the log sills are decaying, and the

lack of positive drainage compounded the problem, namely in that it brought water *to* the foundation instead of away from it.

My effort was focused in and around the eastern wall of these two cabins, creating positive drainage where I could, and sifting the soil for nails and, in one case a stone mason's chisel saved for future interpretation, and then depositing the soil in the low swale behind the kitchen wing. The inevitable rub of preservation, wherein your attempt to save one aspect leads to the potential undoing of another (i.e. archaeological evidence) is frustrating. To what extent should you leave a site undisturbed, and to what extent do you need to resolve a glaring and immediate preservation need? In conclusion, I graded relatively minimally, retained all the soil, and felt that the crushing weight of log-bearing walls on a sill would ultimately pose more of a threat to the future of Santanoni that the relocation of some surface soil. Yet as seemingly innocent a task as it was, it was not without its ethical dilemma.

■ Water Viewscape/Pathway Clearing. One on-going yet again seemingly ethically charged project was the removal of dead branches (less difficult to justify) and the brush clearing of the pathway to the water from the central porch axis. While in part directed by the Town of Newcomb in light of the August wedding, I was asked to "strengthen the view" to the water from porch stairs. While for every person who thinks that restoring the waterview is a logical and appropriate act, they is likely an equal and opposite view against it. Perhaps it could be termed the gravitational force of Forever Wild.

Yet I think there is less debate about maintaining current pathways within the historic area that do not create waves one way or the other. In clearing this viewscape, most of which will likely grow back next year, it provided a direct, albeit temporary, link to the water that had a noticeable effect on people: they went to the water. In previous post-tour picnics, either the family ate on the steps, or on the picnic benches, or after some direction, at "Sandy Point" beyond the Artist Studio. Though after the wedding, I cannot remember a day when the foot of those stairs to the water did not have a sandwich laden smiling middle-aged

couple with their kids. It also was a show stopper on the tour, as the view framed by the Dutch door, and the porch, looking through from the fireplace through the upper half of an open Dutch door was magnificent.

■ Palisade Restoration. A final comment on some of the major projects completed this summer, as I realize this is will not be an exhaustive list, but could be exhaustive in length, was working with Frenette senior (Jim) to fill in the gaps left by snow and time in the perimeter palisade. Between using fallen palisades, to making our own, with Michael's chainsaw, nails and some makeshift shims, we managed to return the palisade march along the southeastern façade near to the Porte Cochere. With one of us under the building setting the palisade (my job), and one of us hammering it in following the technique learned from the extant palisades. While aesthetically pleasing, the report Gate Lodge intern Rob gave in 2002 about the status of the floor degradation centered on the water damage the poor flashing permitted, but was inconclusive about the effects of potential snow under the foundation. In this way, maintaining a barrier for both snow and debris build-up under the foundation will permit both the floor joists and subflooring to remaining free from direct freezing and thawing, and furthermore protect the Main Camp footprint, likely a rich future archaeological site that could provide some insight into the original construction.

Work Recommended:

■ Serious floor preservation. As noted in Rob's 2002 analysis, as well as by both amateur and expert visitors on the subject of wood flooring, the condition and quality of the wood floors at the Main Camp is unbelievably good. Given time and abuse, the quarter-sawn oak flooring, in places, looks like it was set yesterday. Yet it is subject to continued deterioration with increased tourism, and due to poor flashing, water damage via the stone chimneys. While a redoing the chimney flashing is not an intern-level of work, yet the simple practice of Pine Soling the floor is terrific but nothing more than a cleaner and a freshener. Not

unlike the current practice for the interior wood doors that was made known to us by 2001-2 Main Camp Intern, using a wood preservative or some appropriate equivalent that could protect and "hydrate" (using appropriate wood oils) the floors would offer a more substantive result. As per the usual, the intern could utilize the web and possibly come prepared with the methods and material as recommended, as there is some good literature on wood floor preservation, in conjunction with Rob's report.

- Comprehensive work list. In reference to other projects, I would advocate that the Main Camp Summer intern review the latest Crawford & Stearns report, either that of the recent Getty-sponsored report, or an update from the June 2002 report which I worked from. This report (June 2002) covers the range of issues, and provides small and large projects that would be manageable by an intern, depending on their interest and the pressing needs of the Camp. Without Landmark or SCA to monitor or assist this summer (04), you will have the ability to take on a meaningful and long-term project with proper coordination and planning. Therefore before or immediately upon arrival, a review of the projects available to determine which project(s), the scope, the materials, and the goal in completion which is, as Michael Frenette essentially described to Carl Stearns, "work you cannot see."

Gate Lodge

Work Completed:

- Clean up – General. In conjunction with Dorothea and the Landmark students, the entire Gate Lodge got a scrub down. This includes the bathroom under the stairs, the furniture (taken outside, cleaned, pillows beaten, etc.), the kitchen, the floors, and so forth. Dorothea and I often tackled small projects like the bathrooms, or the kitchen, or gave the whole building a clean sweep when we first arrived, but nothing quite this thorough. This was one of the clear advantages

to having a community service organization living and working at the Gate Lodge: free and regular cleaning in exchange for housing.

■ Clean up - Storage. As will be discussed in review of the *Landmark* program, the Gate Lodge storage area on the other side of the Arch received a thorough cleaning and reorganization. Long overdue, this area was a veritable dumping grounds. Cleaning the floor, redistribution the heavy loads more effectively (the upstairs was piled high with boat engines, tires, and other awkward and heavy material). However clean it was at the end of summer '03, it likely fall to the users themselves (DEC) for its future state of disaster or order. Here again, it is in a state of orderliness thanks to a coordinated, supervised, and substantial effort by *Landmark* and the age-old notion that "many hands make light work."

■ Clean up – Basement. In addition to the storage area, both the outdoor closet adjacent to the Arch, and the basement to a lesser degree, were sorted through and given a modest degree of organization (the outside closet was cleaned out, but the basement, which was improved, still has some work ahead of it, and in some cases, work that is probably neither appropriate for young girls, or interns (i.e. large objects, some unsafe work areas and potentially hazardous waste – animal defecation, paints/oils, etc.). Though future interpretation may well look at the bowels of the building to understand its workings, and the basement at the Gate Lodge will certain yield some interpretive gems, it is a long way off, including standing water and dark, damp and unventilated space. Between the Youth CC showers, the large cracks in the foundation, and the dark long storage closet that is still a mystery, beyond the old boiler, it could use some attention if only to see that nothing of historical value gets lost to water damage. We put up all the screens and windows and doors on risers to prevent this from occurring to the historic stock we handled.

■ Clean up - Boathouse. One of the highlights for the *Landmark* students was the clearing of the visual and physical pathway to the Gate Lodge boathouse. This not only was a seemingly insurmountable task, but also a highly visible one from the Gate Lodge porch, where we spent our dinners and nightly downtime, as well as morning meetings, thereby frequently appreciating the effect that this clearing had. The clearing also gave rise to the visibility of the boathouse, which again, in seeking to make use of all the boats inside it, we utilized *Landmark* to clean and organize and ultimately properly stabilize the boathouse. The result was having a workable boathouse, storing the boats and lifejackets, and having it serve as an asset to the *Landmark* experience as a recreational and functional activity.

Work Recommended:

■ Roof work (Gate Lodge and Boat House). In the case of the Boathouse, however, the roof was clearly leaking, something we knew by cleaning it, replacing the floorboards as they were originally, and regularly using the boats so we could witness where the leaks were coming in. The roof, of course, does not hide the fact that it needs to be replaced. It is a tired, composite shingle roof that with the assistance of scaffolding, could be replaced by either an ambitious intern, or a well-instructed SCA company. As was the case with the Pump House, an evaluation on whether the roof was cedar or asphalt originally would aid in not over restoring, and this may well be possible by using the early photographs. It is likely that the current roofing is a replacement, so reading the nail marks in what may or may not be original sheathing could be problematic.

The Gate house is also due for some roof work, certainly with the sheet flashing which is curling up in a fashion that made some tourists, after the tour, remark “how wonderfully Japanese that Gate Lodge is.” Again, it might require more than a ladder to appropriately fix that flashing, yet the need is self-evident.

■ Jean's Plan [the firm that handled the Farm/Gate Lodge evaluation]. As noted earlier with respect to the Main Camp, the projects spelled out in the Gate Lodge Preservation Plan are, in some cases, easily within the realm of a Gate Lodge intern's time, scope and ability (though I am sure Dorothea spoke to this more directly and accurately). In keeping with my suggestion further down in the report pertaining to the utilization of volunteers, thus freeing up the Gate Lodge intern for working on the Lodge, this could be even more so the case than previous summers. And without *Landmark* for '04, while a loss for some of these previously mentioned "big" projects, as we had found with the Main Camp windows, these more exacting "preservation" projects are often best in one set of hands than many.

■ Painting (Gate Lodge and Boat House). Both of these buildings could receive a new coat of paint. And I would advocate for a return to the original red (as shown under the Archway). Country redwood, or whatever the mix may be called. At some place near ground level, however, it is worth holding on to the Texaco Red to interpret the Melvin story. In fact we found a can of this famed "Chinese" or "Texaco" red, which we saved for interpretive purposes. The painting project, frankly, requires proper sanding prior to application, which I suspect is beyond the equipment capacity of the summer interns (ventilators, painting equipment, scaffolding, etc.), let alone their highest and best use. But waiting to hire a professional preservationist painter, though obviously ideal, could set the buildings back beyond repair. And while the ubiquitous College Pro Painters may be unavailable, having these two buildings painted, as the wood in both cases is exposed, should be a relative priority, expenditure-wise. Possibly there is a firm that would donate some work through the promotional payback of painting a National Historic Landmark. Whatever the tack, this is a clear and obvious necessity.

■ Boathouse door fix. A final, seemingly minor matter is the Boathouse door. Yet the reason I raise it is for two reasons. First of all, it is the only door

that I consider to be in bad repair that *also* gets used a lot. As with some of the doors in the Gate Lodge, that they close or open is not required, i.e. upstairs you often have to put a shoe in front of a room door to conduct a quick change before it opens, seldom an issue unless you are a young teenage girl and there is a bearded intern walking by, something I did not notice at first but by the shrieks when I walked by to the bathroom when someone apparently changing, indicated this was the case. In any event, the Boathouse door gets a great deal of use as the canoes are a great salve to a long day on a given evening for the Gate Lodge and Main Camp intern to imbibe in the still, clear waters of Harris Lake and the magic of an Adirondack sunset, while debriefing the day. So there is a high use factor that will only perpetuate the hinge problems the door currently faces, especially since, unlike the upstairs doors in the Gate Lodge, the closure and locking of the Boat house is imperative given the high traffic of boaters putting in or taking out at that location. The lifejackets, oars and boats could easily "walk off" with a less-than-ethical weekend Harris Lake camper (or townsperson, who knows).

Secondly, and again in the preservation frame of mind, the Boathouse door hardware may well be one of the last remaining wrought iron elements that may have originated from the razed Blacksmith shop. Given the unique size and nature of the door, and the relatively amateur nature of the hardware, this is not inconceivable (that neither were stock/catalog ordered). Therefore, its preservation, i.e. wire-brushing and recoating of the hardware, and then getting it rehung so it can function again, would serve both future interpretation and present use.

Artist Studio

Work Completed:

- Clean up and organization. Without fail, it is the Artist Studio, after a full tour of the Main Camp that elicited the most excitement for the visitors. I am not sure whether it is the scale and intimacy, the tangible material furnishings (albeit

almost entirely modern) or the site and viewscape, however it was a highlight on virtually every tour. And again, like the Boy's Cabin, Charybdis, it was generally off-limits during the first three-quarters of the summer. Rightfully so, again, with Michael and Jonus's food (which began there and then moved up to the Boy's Cabin), and their personal belongings, there again is the inherent rub between making it available, and keeping your belongings and privacy. However, when I moved in at the beginning of August, I had the luxury of being on-site all day and all night, so I knew in both cases I could close the doors, keep watch, but also make both the Boy's Cabin and the Artist Studio available on my tours.

In the case of the Artist Studio, I pulled everything out of the space, cleaned the floor, walls and furniture, and then, as appropriate, returned that which either functioned for the living quarters or could be used for interpretive purposes, back in, and that which was garbage or firewood, threw away or stored in a covered fashion outside the cabin. Through this reorganization and cleaning, I was able to open the space up, store my stuff in nearly impossible-to-open drawers which practically safeguarded them by that fact alone, and otherwise created a space which now was principally featured on the tour, instead of acting as a quick side note. In particular there is much to the Artist Studio that reveals the past, namely evidence of paint on the walls from Edward's painting days, or a pulley for controlling the blinds over the windows; to interesting architectural details, including the tie rods, the "hewn" beams, and the tatami mats; to seeing clearly the places where Carl Stearns has marked with tape to decipher the original paint and materials of the interior. Frankly, it was my favorite part of the tour, since I got to confess the challenge of *having* to live here, as well as contained everyone's attention, as they were partially engrossed by the immediacy of the water, something the Main Camp porch view lacks, and lastly treat it as a closing feature to point out the still visible lifeways of the building in its context, and its future preservation.

■ Exterior cleaning. In addition to a relatively humble yet magnificent interior, the exterior archway, double-roof, stone foundation, and rock beneath the

chimney, preempting FLW and Falling Water, are all wonderful expressions of regionally responsive architecture, and carry through the creativity and character added by Delano & Aldrich at all three sites (Gate Lodge/Farm/Main Camp). In order to preserve the building, beyond removing the huge pile-up of wood and debris inside next to the fireplace, I cleared the pile-up of debris on the cedar roof, which again is young (’96?) yet and with the intent to last a while prior to replacement, needs to be keep free of organic build up. Also along the sill adjoining the door and the chimney, the sill log is decaying, which likely will need to be replaced in some fashion (likely by replacement in the whole), so I did some grading to both lower the soil abutting the sill logs and create positive drainage (water flows away from building).

Work Recommended:

■ Fireplace evaluation. One terrific asset for those residing at the Artist Studio is the fireplace. While it does provide a somewhat smoky interior despite your best efforts otherwise, it also keeps out the mosquitoes, offers an option for limited trash disposal and gives a wonderful dénouement for the evening. Yet in the best interest of the Cabin, both its preservation and its 90+ year-old chimney, a cleaning of the chimney, with a potential evaluation as part of it, could at least head-off any future disasters. Perhaps it is in good stead, and functions relatively as well as it did when it was built, in which case the relatively short money in keeping it clean, both for its health and as an asset for the next ____ summers that it will be lived in, would be well spent.

■ Limit wear and tear. Overall, I would suggest that the Artist Studio be used as it has been used, as a place of residence for the builder/intern, but that should be the extent of it. I would advocate that furniture be moved as little as possible (particularly the beds and dresser, which like to scrap the floor), and only the wood necessary be kept inside. As with all of the buildings in the general clean-up that occurred last summer, we need to treat the insides of these buildings

like we would our own houses, not like our garages. Ultimately every scratch or rotting board will create more work down the road, even if the Main Camp remains an open and informal tour site. Simple idea, but often takes effort in practice.

■ Windows. The windows of the Artist Studio also figure as a singular component of Santanoni. Clearly the gigantic, round-arched window is the principal window in the building. It, however, has several broken panes and is in need of being repaired. Similarly, there is a broken pane on one of the two "Shoji-Screen" like windows which face southwest. While it is the pane that is perpetually broken for the "winter residents," as the site continues to improve there may be less of this and it may be able to be repaired with a lasting effect. In all cases, the windows are in need of paint. If a small scale project were sought by an intern with an interest in painting, and had a tent so s/he could reside outside of the Artist Studio while the paint's VOCs settled, this would be a great, project. The use of the tall ladder under the Kitchen wing could suffice, most likely for the exterior handling (in lieu of less than likely "available" scaffolding).

■ Carl Stearns and Michael Frenette. As with every project, Carl's commentary on the Artist Studio should serve as a guide for these and other projects. Equally important, however, is Michael Frenette's commentary, unwritten but likely offered if asked, since unlike anyone else, he has a day-to-day sense of buildings and the site and the challenges of preservation in the Adirondacks.

Bath House

Work Completed:

■ Assessed. In my effort to restore or at least protect the bathhouse, I found myself sadly unable to give it enough time or energy. In large part due to a

limited time frame, the time I did have was devoted to preparing the way for jacking the bathhouse up and resetting it on its footings, and then repairing the roof and sheathing so to put a roof on it. In hindsight, had this been my sole focus from day 1, I think the summer would have been sufficient to accomplish this task. However, I did not effectively get to address it in full until August, at which point starting and failing to finish a project seemed to outweigh seeing how far I could get with the time remaining.

Work Recommended:

- Plan. As to handling the bathhouse next summer, or whenever possible, I would strongly encourage making this a principal goal for the summer intern, not only in theory, but also in practice (without *Landmark* or even much SCA attention this year, it should be possible). If willing, I also think the intern should do some preliminary thinking prior to arriving at Santanoni about best practices, and a general list of necessary tools. Then after measuring the building and seeing what wood is needed, as suggested by Michael, generate a list as early as possible of dimensions of wood needed to give ample lead time to DEC or whomever, and then as I have done (but have now deleted, as best I can tell), photo document and measure in a HABS fashion the building prior to conducting any work.
- Realistic Action. With this, I would also encourage a reasonable scope that may not include replacing (yet) the chicken-wire glass windows (according the Stearns & Crawford report, based on material evidence), or otherwise do more than properly stabilize the building. If time permits, and perhaps given the skills of the intern and availability of equipment or manpower (i.e. DEC), work could obviously continue to include, beyond roofing, skylights head plates and floor joists and sill plates, former interior seating, pegs in the walls, and replaced flooring and even the swinging doors. It is unclear whether this would want to work again as a changing place, but ideally, and possibly on a trial basis, it could.

■ In addition to Carl Stearn's input on its restoration, further research about the Bathhouse would assist with filling out this aspect of its interpretation. While it is not an exact corollary, the Japanese predilection for bathing and bathhouses (*furoba*) as part of their daily ritual is interesting, in the spirit of interpreting Santanoni in the context of Pruyn and his Japanese-infused ideas. Granted, the Japanese are typically utilizing natural hot springs for their "rotenburo" or "onsen" – outdoor baths, and the bathhouse (*furoba*) was a place for the *furo* (bathtub), it would be interesting to learn if the bathhouse was present at other camps on lakes, or relatively unique to Santanoni.

The Pump House

Work Completed:

■ Regrading. Alongside the eastern edge of the Pump House, as would happen at a building set in a slope, a great deal of debris had built up against the building. One of my summer tasks was to clear out this debris and make the building available again for residing. Hauling the debris uphill and away from the building was obviously important, limiting to debris to newly fallen pine needles, leaves, etc., not a recurrence of the old.

■ Cleaned, filed away material. On the inside, the building was debris-filled and also contained a number of miscellaneous pump parts. Deciphering the Pump House material was aided by a Cornell University plumber, who volunteered to research the pump, as well as see if any similar era generators (as in the one that may well have existed in the Pump House and the Gen House) become available at Cornell for future interpretation (he is a regular Santanoni visitor, so he said in his next trip next summer if he had any, he would bring them with him and leave with the interns). I also had him walk all the pipes with me, so we could sort out what pipe likely did what activity, and then viewed the circular gray-water 'tanks' behind the Lamp House. For future interpretation, a

recorded (audio, or ideally video) tour with someone of such skill would obviously aid in what is a fairly complex plumbing sequence. Together we took to the kitchen pantry storage any and all loose items related to the Pump House.

■ Preserve with wood siding. One project I did get mostly done with but was unable to finish was preparing some bark siding for placement on the Pump House. Presently residing in the Kitchen Pantry stored in a fashion so to allow the siding to dry and be kept flat, is a large sheet of bark siding, ready to be resided on the Pump House.

Work Recommended:

■ Apply siding. One of the first projects of a minor scope for the Main Camp intern would be to prepare and install the siding on the Pump House. Certainly by Summer ’04, the siding will be ready, and with a close examination of the current bark siding, installation should be possible in fashion and that closely resembles the earlier siding. In order to get the siding on all the walls, it may be necessary to find more bark (Michael provided me with this sheet) to soak (2 days), and flatten and dry (2 weeks). Howie Kirschenbaum, as I understand, undertook the same for his Adirondack Camp, so again with some preliminary reading and upon touring the Camp with him, consultation about his experience and recommendation would prove invaluable.

■ Evaluate impact due to water. One aspect of the Pump House that is hard to determine is the weathering that occurs on the waterside. Both on a functional and historical level. Was that side always sided differently, presently with an asphalt green shingle? Newcomb Lake, believe it or not, often gets whitecaps, so how is the building faring underneath the shingles? What measures should be used in the restoration to consider this? As one approaches the residing, some investigation of the waterside siding is warranted.

- As with every building and project, reference to the evaluation prepared by Crawford & Stearns may yield some better understanding of this issue as well as related matters. While I could have stated a *caveat* of always referring to Crawford & Stearns beforehand, I think it is worth repeating. Though one resource that is unwritten but frankly is equally valuable and worth repeating, is that of Michael Frenette. His time and experience both with the site and the practice, not to mention the Adirondacks, puts him in a unique place to provide some practical advice in view of the more broad preservation principles, which sometimes are too inexact or not contextual enough to help determine the right course of action. In particular, this is where Michael is invaluable.

Generator House

Work Completed:

- Significant tree trimming around the house, including several branches in contact with the structure that were creating debris built up on composite roof.

- Stabilizing and setting proper warning around the former exhaust pipe, which is dangling precariously from the ceiling. With the generator, it remains one of the few interpretive pieces left, a thorough recording of its location and current alignment should be made so it can be both removed and saved for future reinstallation. It is currently, however, unsafe.

- Two complete cleanings, removing plaster debris (not anything potential important for interpretive purposes, i.e. nails, nuts & bolts, etc.). One at the beginning of the summer and one at the end.

- Removal of all the debris on the roof, which was entirely swept.

Work Recommended:

- Study of the roof to understand whether the cedar roof was, as is recommended in the Comprehensive plan, original.

- The shingle wall cladding has a notable alternating pattern at the corners, wherein opposite walls have the "overhanging" shingle (there is no corner board). As with all Secretary of the Interior Practices, replacement in kind material and in kind style should be followed as closely as possible.

- Insuring a cooperative site plan with the DEC, which consider past, current and future placement of the restroom facilities so the current arrangement of the handicapped bathroom room, which closely skirts the Generator House, does not occur.

Main Camp Intern Projects – Additional Recommendations

Corduroy Road

Over the course of this term (Fall '03), I have been studying the early roads of the Northwest. Namely plank roads (which made their rise and ruin in New York state, oddly enough), puncheon trails, McAdam roads, and other early road forms, including the *Corduroy* road. These roads, once ubiquitous, have all but disappeared in the Northwest, and elsewhere. In some cases they have been covered over, forming the foundational basis for a "newer" dirt road. Yet those cases are rare, as most of the time the principal roads that had *Corduroy* eventually were replaced with concrete or asphalt.

In the case of the 4.9 mile "Carriage Road" leading from the Gate Lodge to the Main Camp, evidence of the *Corduroy* road is not difficult to find. In the case of the rare example in Forks, Washington, it was indicative of the timber economy, the dense forest canopy which lead to swampy road conditions, and a ready need. It would seem all of

these conditions existed at Santanoni, and with the so-called "Pacific Road" of 1894 in Forks, we are putting it on the National Register. While Santanoni already enjoys NHL status, the *Corduroy* carriage road might be added to the "Interpretation Plan" to include a discussion of it from the viewpoint of its construction (by Ned Pruyn); purported cost at $100,000 and what that included; the time during the Pruyn's ownership wherein the road served for the public to browse through; its ultimate control by Pruyn. Interpretation could diagrammatically illustrate the road construction (there are a number of contemporary texts on "Road Construction" from that era that no doubt have graphics which could be utilized). It could also serve to better understand the principal roads which were all *Corduroy* in that region, from North Creek to Newcomb, and certainly beyond.

Historic Archaeology

One of the challenges Santanoni faces in light of its limited budget and personnel are those elements not under a roof, and therefore slowly rusting or rotting back to a more "natural" state. Specifically, there are three former buildings at the Main Camp which constitute this progression: the Ice House, the Wood Shop and the Boat House I. Less principally, there are the septic tanks and trash dump out beyond the Lamp House, remains of a Maple Sugar Shack en route to the Main Camp, as well as a small lodge off the spur road that runs along Duck Hole, heading east. In my attempt to find ruins of the Boathouse and Lean-to on Moose Pond with historic contour maps were, however, unsuccessful. Yet of immediate concern and principal interest are the first three mentioned "ruins."

One of the difficulties, particularly acute with a publicly open site, is finding the balance between awaiting proper historic archaeology, and collecting those artifacts for a safe, covered place. For instance there is an early 20th century toilet, which might not be packed out soon, but like the famous Heron that stood watch for so many years on the mantle which was last seen in March '03, the toilet could be subject to inexplicable vandalism, or damage through freezing/thawing, and as with any 'historic heap,' slowly but surely get picked over until there is little left for interpretation!

If the current comprehensive plan could allot for some degree of historic archaeology, namely where the surface finds are readily available like the workshop site, the "other" story, that of the farmer hands and the other servants, could eventually be told as clearly as that of the Pruyn family. As the interpretive plan suggests, and our tours attempted to reflect, the Main Camp as a stand alone lacks the complete picture without the Generator House, the Pump House, the Ice House, the Boathouse, the Work Shop, the Lamp House and so forth. These lesser service buildings help with the appreciation of the complex, beyond the centerpiece. No question this is preaching to the choir, but I feel reinforcement of the idea never hurts.

Landmark Review

This past summer, from roughly July 6th to July 20th, Landmark, an exemplary service program out of the Berkshires which recruits high-achievement high school students to work on close to a hundred different sites in want of care, stayed at Santanoni. In the following, I will summarize the benefits and challenges Landmark provided Santanoni and its staff, and propose some ideas for the future.

Pros. Landmark provided us this year with a stunningly successful leader and set of students (all female), possibly a rare occurrence to have both, but in some ways the two worked in bringing out the best in each other. Given this top-notch set of volunteers, we essentially accomplished every task we interns and DEC could provide. The laundry list of projects completed is long, and likely accounted for in the Intern journals. However, to write in *favor* of Landmarks presence, I will talk about three major accomplishments. The first was providing an strong and committed force which tackled projects that a) would have taken DEC and the interns a summer to accomplish and b) accomplished tasks that neither DEC nor the interns would even try to accomplish in a summer. The benefit was immediate and terrific. The cleared trail around Newcomb Lake made it exceedingly more passable, and clear, and staved off clearing for another season. Working in two teams of seven for two days did much to make this trail clear, and as it

should be, a welcome diversion for those hikers who come out to the Main Camp and want to spend a night and do a day hike around the lake, stopping at the lean-tos for lunch, or a swim, and enjoying one of largest lakes in New York State (so it was reported in the property sale advertisement pre-Melvin). This was a task that DEC would have approached in the gross form, that is only the major trees down, or similar obstacles, not such careful trail maintenance that requires many hands and many hours. Similarly, as previously mentioned, Landmark assisted in clearing the area between the Gate Lodge and the Boathouse, on Harris Lake. Again, a low priority for DEC and even the interns, but the result was increased use by the locals of the area, constant compliments from locals or regulars for the balance of the summer, and a restoration of an original viewscape, long since abandoned. A second major accomplishment was the cleaning of the Storage area under the Gate Lodge. Under the close watch and direction of the Interns, the inside of this heavily loaded and junk-filled building was emptied, and its contents sorted through, with the help of DEC, pitched that which was junk saved by a previous DEC employee who had a knack for saving everything and anything (as he told me due to his Depression-era upbringing). What happened through this was a discovery of some original working drawings of the Gate Lodge from 1904, by Delano & Aldrich, rare principally in type (a working, full scale drawing is not readily available as they are often not valued for insurance and record-keeping like the office set), and in the creation, knowing that this ultimately famous firm was given the Gate Lodge commission early in their career. There was also a leg and a leaf of the former Dining Hall table, rediscovered. Additionally, accounting can be done (and should be done, regrettably not completed by end of summer 2003) for the other articles found that are original to the Gate Lodge or Main Camp. However with the organized Gate Lodge storage, accounting CAN be done, so nothing walks without knowing it walked, and if properly safe-guarded, the fire-dogs for the Main Camp, original wood blinds for the Gate Lodge, etc. can be utilized for future interpretation. Meanwhile, the access to equipment and tools has been made easy and organization of such has been made clear, so to instill a regular routine of tool placement so the Storage area could remain orderly. The third major positive contribution made by the Landmark program was the use of the Gate Lodge. In using the Lodge, they regularly cleaned and cared for it. Areas that would otherwise have

remained moth-balled were used, cleaned and for the minimal amount of wear and tear, the building received a "spiritual uplift." In being use, it was serving the purpose its many rooms, both bedrooms and dining and living rooms, were intended to serve and frankly, while seemingly contrary to purist preservation, the Gate Lodge felt like a home again.

Cons. While Landmark gave immeasurably to the welfare of the Camp, and through regular trips to Scoops, to the welfare of at least some of the community, it did have some downsides. For one, the Interns and to a limited extent DEC, had to plan, organize and basically participate in every Landmark project. This is not to say Landmark was not capable to work alone, but given the setting, for instance hiking in the woods, or the type of work like organizing and cleaning the Gate Lodge Storage, to leave them alone with a detailed set of instructions may have done more damage than good. The trail work required at least one adult with each group for safety, for between getting lost or injured, these woods are famous. Similarly, it required many hands and eyes to keep the cleaning organized, and also provide proper care for those items which are valuable, and those which were not. While eager to work, there is no question that Landmark benefits the Camp *most* when accompanied by DEC and/or the Interns.

My recommendation in light of this *Con* is to consider using the next year to implement, as will be mentioned below, the Volunteer/Teen training *in lieu* of Landmark, thus getting a method of covering the Gate Lodge and the Main Camp, so that should Landmark be available in 2005, it could be carried out as it was in 2003 yet with the benefit of coverage for tours and information at the Main Camp and the Gate Lodge.

The second *Con* is future work projects for Landmark. What would Landmark do in the future? Have we run out of "unskilled" labor? We certainly ran out of jobs last summer for them by the end of their stay. Are the inmates possible candidates to clear trails, meadows, etc. instead? It seems valid to ask these questions, particularly when you also consider a related *Con*, that of the time and energy expended by the interns and DEC, before, during, and to a limited extent, after Landmark was in residence preparing,

planning, prepping, etc. all the work projects. As interns, we generally felt that almost from our arrival in June until the end of July, we were focused on Landmark more than on the task at hand (conservation, interpretation, etc.). So with the great amount of prep work, *and* the apparent lack of projects, one might assume Landmark is not a worthwhile venture for Santanoni. However I think there is a possible balance to strike, since Santanoni is far from being completely self-sufficient with DEC, the interns, its modest income stream.

As one of three historic sites within the Park, and easily the most extensive building complex to maintain of the three, Santanoni is always going to require a higher level of treatment to keep its surroundings from encroaching on it. The Park focuses most of its staff and resources currently on keeping camping sites up and running, like the neighboring DEC camp on Harris Lake, as it is both an income-generating resource and one of the most readily available and used resources in Newcomb. And for the Camp, it is putting bodies on the restoration (mostly with AARCH/grant money) like the roofs at the Farm, or the chimney or foundation work there too, but beyond that, little else. As a result, Camp Santanoni, until policy changes, will need to supplement the state-provided resources which will provide limited, as funding is available, work on the buildiings, and outhouse maintenance and to a lesser extent mowing and trail maintenance. Therefore programs like Landmark, and SCA, and others, despite their higher level of "service" by the interns and DEC, can bridge this gap between staffing shortages and the problems deferring non-building maintenance could cause at Santanoni.

To provide a *Pro*, then, there are multiple unskilled projects still left at Santanoni. The challenge ultimately last summer, however, was that a) the interns were feeling straddled between their interpretive duties and Landmark and b) were somewhat the blind leading the blind and ultimately ran out of ideas, and DEC while extremely gracious with time and personnel, could not always be counted on should some priority order come down from HQ. In my view, with the development of a volunteer program to establish consistent coverage of the Main Camp and Gate Lodge during the Landmark period, and

an organized set-up for projects requiring a longer-term planning period than a few weeks, the Landmark program (and others) could be a great asset to Santanoni.

Many projects from this year, in my year, could be done again next year. Clearing the clearing in front of the Gate Lodge, I presume, will need to be done year-in, year-out. Trail clearing around Newcomb Lake will continually occupy three full days. Some unskilled building project could be considered each summer, like building a small shelter for the "medicinal" spring, rebuilding the bridge at the far end of Newcomb Lake, repainting/staining the shingle siding on the Harris Lake boathouse, or the Generator House. Painting, clearing and cleaning and organizing at select buildings at the Farm. Cleaning up and packing out trash at the campsites, or giving the lean-tos a new coat of stain. Clearing the trail to Moose Pond, cleaning and packing out trash at the campsites there. Building a lean-to there. Santanoni, upon reflection, really has a massive array of projects, big and small, which no doubt overwhelm the modest DEC staff stationed there. With adequate planning, it seems, and a willing set of interns, Landmark could greatly expedite the restoration and general improvement of Camp Santanoni.

The final *Con* is harder to prepare for, and that is: do the Interns benefit by having Landmark? We know Santanoni will, but is the time apart from interpretation and conservation make the summer all that more brisk and less focused on what the interns are supposedly hired to do? This is hard to answer. Each intern comes with his or her own expectations and skill-level. In some years, like Landmark leaders, you might find willing proponents of getting students participating in "preservation" on this "community-level" wherein modest building projects and large-scale "nature management" helps us sense how to motivate and educate a different form of preservation. Keeping trees off buildings, soil off sills, and recording building inventories play a direct role in building preservation, and some interns might view this as being many-fold more effective in two weeks than they might be in a summer, both with tasks accomplished as well as educating a host of impressionable minds. Indirectly, making the site more accessible (i.e. trail-clearing), or restoring historic viewscapes,

provides another way in which we can make historic sites more attractive, more approachable for visitors.

Yet it is safe to say many interns are most interested in conducting building conservation, and doing interpretive work based on their study of the Camp, likely due to their background in historic preservation, history (local and U.S.) and architectural history. Two weeks, plus a week in sincere planning would be 3 out of 12 or 13, about a quarter of their summer, with another 2 for their cumulative days off, leaves about half the summer for building work and interpretative work (tours), where the former might get a fraction of the time during the day often given over to Interpretive work, especially during August, meaning very little time in the end for building conservation at all, one of the exciting aspects (lures, really) of the job. So there is no easy answer to this quandary. A starting place would be to evaluate the goals of the Internship as seen by the Town and AARCH, with the benefit of Santanoni held as the centerpiece. I am sure you could attract both kinds of volunteers, depending on the direction you wanted to take the summer work, and with the use of volunteers and planning, taking on Landmark would not mean being exclusive of building conservation and interpretation, but in order to "have both" there is a great deal more planning necessary, and possibly earlier acceptance of the interns, and a pushing back of the Landmark program to the last two weeks in July and giving over a week to planning alone for their arrival. In short, I am glad to see that Landmark was not invited back next year. I think summer 2004 could be used to accomplish much in the way interns have worked previous to Landmark, but also make a sincere effort, as I will discuss next, on studying and eventually setting up a volunteer/summer program to provide an additional seasonal staff so that programs like Landmark could return, to the benefit of the Camp and the interns.

Volunteer – Recommendations

As will be discussed under **Time Schedule** in the *Days On* section, I am advocating that the future interns, in conjunction with AARCH, establish a job description, clearly defined, for local volunteers to assist with the operation of Santanoni. With a "vast"

(relative to Newcomb's overall population) retired population, coupled with the number of locals who have ties to Santanoni, the chance to enable a select number of capable volunteers at the Gate Lodge would be comparatively easy. I think it would be advantageous for both the interns, who could both be given the opportunity to focus on the farm interpretation and/or conservation work, as well as schedule a few more days off during the duration of their time at the Camp, allowing them to see more of the surroundings, often related sites to Santanoni (other Great Camps, North Creek Train station, etc.). The current arrangement leaves little room for a strictly "functional" day of laundry, catching up on the phone/email with family/friends, etc. when coming in from the Main Camp.

In addition, is has been locally suggested and would be worth considering, closely tied to AARCH's educational mission, to bring in high school area teens with an interest in history and are seeking a local summer job (typically in Newcomb that means life-guarding and/or running summer camp, though caddying may be coming soon). For while the elderly could work at the Gate Lodge due to its easy proximity, the younger teen could bike into the Main Camp and learn the Main Camp tour well enough that on select days of the week s/he could eventually provide the tours for the day. Now it seems like we are "training ourselves out of a job" in doing such, but I think it is just the opposite. By creating a wider working base, we can accomplish a lot *more* work with minimal cost. That is, there are an infinite number of jobs that can be done presently at the Main Camp, for starters. Windows could fill summers. But as we learned with Landmark, it takes an experienced hand and detailed concern to strip paint, reputty and properly restore the window, then assemble it back into position. Michael Frenette, meanwhile, is handling the bigger picture projects, i.e. the Boathouse, and likely will approach other major structural issues with the Main Camp in summers to come. The interns will hopefully continue to be mid-way-to-completion Historic Preservation program students, who can give tours half their week and give full days working on the building the other half, as opposed to fitting the building projects in between off-days and other free time. And while working on the building is clearly of interest to the intern, there are limits to how far one can go before even the most passionate preservationist will

want to spend time at the Main Camp/Gate Lodge vs. Adirondack sight-seeing, or simply relaxing.

Town-Pruyn Relations

One key component that served the 2003 interns well was mingling with the natives. That included everything from town zoning meetings, to day-off appearances at *My Favorite Store* or the Lion's Club Picnic, or the Visitor Center Thursday lectures and so forth. Santanoni, despite being a former bastion of outside wealth, is a place the people of Newcomb (generally) take pride in, as many worked or were involved in some fashion with the Camp, and generally feel it is important to the town's history, and future. One of the chief proponents of this thought is George Cannon, a charismatic and politically savvy Town Supervisor, who is an amazing success story as someone who grew up in Tahawus, the former mining town, and has worked his way up to this leading role. He has served in an incredibly dutiful fashion as well as the majority of the Supervisor's before him have. As for the interns, your interaction with him will be limited, but nonetheless, important that you establish a communication with him and the town hall, as they are both your strongest advocate locally and your financial supporter.

The other important refuge to befriend is, as stated, the Visitor Center. I think there is much more that could be capitalized with them, largely because the relationship can be so complementary. To this end, a trail will eventually link the Center and the trail to the Main Camp, which I feel will increase tourism, though depending on the trail length, it might be a limited set, and depending on where the trail connects, it might just mean more Gate Lodge and Farm visitors.

However, while "nature" in focus since there are relatively few historic sites within the park, this could be another way to publicize Santanoni. Much like our museum-quality displays, we could reach a wider audience and possibly draw more people to the Camp with a stronger "sell" at the Visitor Center, since it is viewed as the jumping off point for those coming to explore the Adirondacks.

Revenue Generation

With the generosity of the Town of Newcomb, Santanoni continues to plod away towards a restored and preserved state. However it seems like the task is only going to get more complex with interpretative efforts, and with an on-site supervisor/archivist in the near-to-distant future as part of the proposed interpretative plan by Howard Kirschenbaum. In light of this direction, I thought I would quickly add my ideas to the methods of fund-raising.

- The Santanoni Shop. It would seem to me that on this score, as well as that of public relations, the Gate Lodge intern and the Main Camp intern could benefit by the bringing in of volunteers to work in the Gate Lodge store to help sell the merchandise, not leaving gaps (i.e. Landmark last summer) in the summer where it is unmanned or during the regular business day (i.e. for farm tours). Partly in company with the Gate Lodge intern, who could give the modest tour, and then provide interpretive opportunities at the Farm, this would free the Gate Lodge intern to both focus on the tourist/visitor, but also provide a tag-team on the merchandise.

  Furthermore, if sales of the t-shirt, hat, cards and book could occur in the local stores, both in Newcomb and in Long Lake, the overall volume and exposure would increase, and I think considering the importance the Landmark has on general sales and interest in the area, most businesses would be willing to sell with a modest, if any, consignment fee. With a Gate Lodge intern freed up to do a little more public relations and tours, they could monthly attend to checkin up on stock (via phone) and resupplying where necessary. A happy outcome would be the store stocking the merchandise for the off-season, to provide for sales when the Santanoni shop is closed.

- Fund Raising. One simple way I think the Camp could raise money in relatively large chunks in addition to "Friends" and the "Shop" is to invite/ask area artists to come sketch, paint, sculpt, or whatever they choose within Santanoni and sell their Santanoni-related work in the gift shop, or possibly in Long Lake, working out a partnership where an agreed upon percentage goes toward the on-going work. I know in my few days at Gate Lodge many inquired about the art work on the walls, and I think if we let the artists create work that would give them a ready audience, be relatively minimal effort for the Intern, save the handling of the sale. In the end, it would ultimately enliven the Shop or again, if sold in Hoss' or other stores that attract clientele with deep pockets, it would benefit all.

Public Relations

Between the brochures "everywhere," including all major tourist stops and state board locations, it would seem this is as "covered" as possible. My only consideration beyond this might be to investigate the "affinity" groups like ADK, or fishing clubs, which could provide a somewhat modest sized group that might (as with fishers) utilize the campsites, possibly the Doug's services getting the equipment in, and often groups like these frequent the Gate Lodge shop for "mementos."

This section is written as a way to rethink what worked and what might be changed about the major aspects of the summer from an organizational standpoint. Dorothea and I discussed these elements over the course of the summer, and so this is a summary of some of those discussions, though obviously through my own eyes.

Pre-Arrival

Communication and Materials. Clearly evident by the way Dorothea and I, as two examples, learned about Santanoni, the range and places the position is posted is definitely warranted and reaching the right audiences. The application is simple, and if

that allows for good pre-screening to the phone call, then I see no reason to make it any more formal in nature. As for "truth in advertising" I will quickly review each of the sections listed for the Main Camp role with comments, if any!

Interpretation Very accurate, especially as "number one" since tour duty was a core part of the Main Camp summer, visitation numbers about right (~3000), and keeping such records were central to that activity.

Conservation Work with Contractor and Volunteer I would alter to "Assist contractor and oversee contractor…" and it was very much "as time allows" since often it was on weekends, or as one had windows of time. While Michael is probably aware this is not our primary duty, there is some degree of challenge in making it clear your role was to be on hand for visitors first, owing to the difficulty for most of *his* day was given over to *your* duty to the visitation. So a better way to structure this in hindsight would be setting up potential projects early or beforehand with Michael and Steven, that would be essentially independent of what he is working on, since it will be carried out on a separate time schedule, and then using his skill and knowledge to work through questions or check-in on various phases in the project.

Misc. Activities/<u>Promotion</u> Indeed, promotion of AARCH is central, no matter where you are or what you are doing. When you meander over to Long Lake for your day off to hit the Library booksale, or the town-wide garage sale, or just have a leisurely morning and the locally inhabited, highly original diner or ice cream stand, take some brochures with you and leave some at Hoss's or at their local Chamber, or elsewhere. The Gate Lodge intern will likely have covered many of these bases, but in this really small environment that is the Hamlets of the Adirondacks, working for Santanoni is fairly well revered. Dorothea and I often sported out Santanoni t-shirts (now I realize in hindsight we were both nerdy and over-the-top on occasion), but it was somewhat of an identifier, setting one apart from the masses of tourists, and raising interest among many people

who would, like a good book they have been meaning to read, would comment on how they really need to "get over there." In many cases, finally, they did.

Provide info re: Santanoni and Surroundings In particular I would stress the clear information about the trails around Newcomb lake, their condition, their distance, where the lean-tos are and the condition of the trail at the far end, where the bridge is out and the markings are scarce. You will also be expected to know each and every campsite around the Main Camp (i.e "Are they on the water? What are the outhouses like? How big are the set-up areas?") and generally the size and nature of the lean-tos. This may sound like a lot, but in order to answer a good number of your daily questions, taking a day to walk around the lake, review a map for distances (in accordance with the posted signs), check out and make notes to yourself on the campsites, and this background will serve you well over the course of the summer. Beyond that, some area knowledge will be important. Likewise knowing the lake, the kinds of fish (generally) you can catch in it, what the water temperature roughly is, etc. Some of this will come with time, but despite not being officially paid by DEC for this role, you are the surrogate park ranger.

Another very important part of your summer is to both know and enjoy your surroundings. They are intimately connected naturally, if not historically, to the Camp. One neighboring site that we (Dorothea and I) found fascinating was the early 19th c. ironworks, not far from Santanoni. They have a fairly direct responsibility for Santanoni being in Newcomb (which you will no doubt read about). You should also be able to name the peaks off the porch, especially Santanoni. A very good guide to the peaks seen from Newcomb is at the town picnic area (there is a glass cut-out that if you are standing in the right place helps you name each mountain peak visible). One way to learn about the neighboring sites (natural or historical) is to read through the brochures at the Gate Lodge, so you know of Pine Knot, and other great camps, as well as the major nearby trailheads. Another is to utilize the locals, who know the area, and can likely give

you lesser-known information about the trails, peaks, etc. Finally, an early visit with a staff member at the Newcomb Visitor Center will acclimate you to their offerings, as well as give you a good, broad sense of the activities beyond Santanoni. You salary comes in part from the Town of Newcomb, so serving their needs as a local tourism buff is a nice way to help their tourism promotion and indirectly, tax revenue (via local B&Bs, stores, "restaurants," etc.).

Notification Date April 15th and the posting date for the internship was not entirely "too late" for the bulk of the internships, in fact it was after the first wave, and therefore caught a lot of attention by being later in the season so people might have already learned whether or not they would be part of another program. It was "late," however, in the sense that most internships get resolved a month or so before the application is due. I personally think it is good to have a later time to capture those still in limbo, or that were too immersed in school in the early part of the year to work on internship applications.

Phone Interview I think this is again a great part of the interview, since it works to make real, as Steven did, the position and location as being kind of primitive and remote. As I recall him saying, this is a "glorified summer camping" experience. In truth, it really is. However to the benefit of the less camping inclined, I think in the recent past the Main Camp intern has taken advantage of the short (relative, if an avid biker) distance between the Main Camp and the Gate Lodge and also the camaraderie between the interns, and the cultural night-time happenings in Newcomb, so as to not be entirely cut off from the surroundings. So while important that the isolation be stressed, I think interns who are comfortable bikers will be able to balance the comforts of the Gate Lodge with the camping nature of the Main Camp. This was made particularly acute given the often tight quarters at the Main Camp with Michael and his crew (of one), versus the relative grandeur of six plus rooms at the Gate Lodge and access to the area businesses as a way to keep sane over three months. In fact, as long as Michael works with an associate,

there is virtually no way that, save tenting it, that all three could stay inside the Artist Studio.

Reading Material The text Santanoni: From Japanese Temple to Life at an Adirondack Great Camp, sent prior to arrival, was paramount to getting a sense of the Camp. It became your central source for facts and figures, and your tour, and served for pictures that were not in the tour book, and finally as an intellectual memento (vs. some physical ones, t-shirt, hat, name badges, etc.) from the summer. I would keep this practice as long as possible. The contract and other correspondence I have on file were both necessary and pleasant communication.

Arrival

The arrival was easy, as I was greeted by my fellow intern, and outside the black flies, it was fairly smooth and easy. My only suggestion would be that the Main Camp intern should *expect* to spend the first week in the Gate Lodge as s/he gets oriented to the site, surroundings, etc. I came in thinking I was headed to the Main Camp and suffered some dismay on thinking a) I could not get my stuff in and b) where was I to stay? So assurance that the Gate Lodge, both for practical orientation purposes, and initial and likely semi-permanent settlement (on days off or nights when you come in from the Camp to attend a lecture, etc.), it makes sense to situate the Main Camper at the Gate Lodge from the get-go, and let them filter their equipment out with the help of Michael, DEC and the Wagons rides.

Orientation

The two-day orientation, Monday and Tuesday, were both very helpful in introducing the players, some of whom you will see again, some you may not, and especially understand the broader context of the Park system, the layers of bureaucracy, and its original intent as a national model for conservation and sustainability. The Camp Santanoni book (that of the thin, 8.5 X 11, spiral bound orientation variety), is quite useful, although I would

welcome the opportunity to make edits to it electronically so it might fill in some gaps (I am sure Dorothea, for instance, would gladly fill in the "IF YOU'RE STAYING AT THE GATE LODGE, YOU CAN EXPECT:" which has a blank after it. My lists below, for instance, could be summarized and possibly included. I frankly feel that some of that orientation, namely the packing list, etc. should be included in the **Pre-Arrival** section. I think as interns, Dorothea and I were not unusual in our thirsting for information prior to arriving. Not to discount the wonderful …*to Japanese Temple* text, but I think there could be more information pertaining to our time, routine, and needs. I think the *Orientation* can restate them, but to give the intern an adequate sense of their lives over the summer will inform their decisions from clothing to tools to potential visitations by family, over the summer. I think every intern has included nuggets which could be included, and there is always more to discover, but I feel it would streamline that learning curve, and make the productivity better and help expectations be in line with reality. This could be a project for the next year's Gate Lodge person to undertake, and one that many of us former interns could assist with for the betterment of the internship itself.

T-shirt, hat and badge. I really like the three-part combo that sets the interns apart from the tourists and others. Classy badge, equally classy and quality hat, and the t-shirt are really lovely in design and material. As an aside, I would keep up the practice of selling t-shirts though stocking mostly Ms and Ls, and staying within the natural color range (brown/gray/green…maybe even a country redwood color!) and the recurring suggestion of bringing back the old t-shirt with the bookplate and in that wonderful green and other earth-tone colors. Having the t-shirt is a nice perk, and helps us sell the bookstore from the Main Camp, and also a wonderful interpretive opportunity with the bird and plan overlaid on one another. I might suggest not worrying about making a special "staff" shirt, as nice and specialized as it was, but perhaps giving the staff two different "Santanoni" t-shirts instead, since one is often in the wash!

Time Schedule

Days On and Hours. The schedule for the Main Camp intern, and for the Gate Lodge intern, is seemingly without much luff. For the Main Camp intern, the day is fairly controlled, however. I found working from 9 to 11 on the building, sweeping, carrying out a conservation project, or reviewing my tour for the day, to be a nice window. Then from 11 to 5, the tourists generally parade through, some interested in what you have to say, others just there for lunch and a walk around. I set tour times, usually before lunch, after lunch and one in the afternoon. This allowed Dorothea to coach people, and coach she did, on getting out to the Camp to catch the tour. Often they arrived panting, making sure they didn't miss the tour. Assured, I let them settle, catch their breath, enjoy the surroundings, and begin the tour when they were ready.

Yet *setting tour hours* is a very important part of the Main Camp intern. This allows both you and those there to know when they can expect you to guide them, when they will ask questions, and when they can walk around on their own and enjoy lunch and the setting. But between 11-5, I was 100% tour business. 11 AM tour, 12 PM lunch, which I chose to do with the visitors (unless I was *really* feeling anti-social), 1 PM tour, which usually was the biggest, and then often another at 3 PM (which would pick up stragglers, and usually go to 5 PM).

Frequently the tours, while tight in nature, will take much more time than a simple walk about. Between questions, and your constantly expanding vocabulary and knowledge of the place, it becomes harder to skip over important details, or not show them some fascinating construction detail. Simultaneously, as you begin to shorten your "Doug Legg" story to the nutty, factual details with some lore mixed in, the other sections grow the more you learn (like construction details, history, etc.). Often they miss (or it is not offered) the Farm tour, so you will be obliged by duty as a good historian to include that element of the Santanoni story into the Main Camp tour. In addition, you often have some local authority, someone who searched for Doug Legg, or whose father or mother worked on the farm or Main Camp, and so at the tour's end, you spend another half-hour

with them collecting important oral history for the tour. This is how 11-5 can be packed with tour activity. Moreover, the Wagons have a pretty consistent arrival and departure time, so with an hour and a half, you need to let the tourists get off the wagon, use the facilities, eat some lunch, wander a bit, and get a tour and leave in that period of time. Needless to say it is a lot in a little. But meeting the wagon, confirming the departure time with Doug (or Ken, the wagon drivers), and calculating 15 minutes for bathroom settling, 25 for food eating, you probably have roughly 45 minutes to give them background and walk them around. So count on being prepared for this on any given day from early July to the end of August. Have your potentially abbreviated Wagon Tour ready.

After 5 PM, you are pretty much hungry and tired of talking, so dinner is usually next. And this 9-5 would be 7.5 hours if you left out a half-hour for lunch, times six days puts you five hours over the typical 40, but frankly, some days you might start at 9:30 or end at 4:30, so the week often is a wash at 40. And time keeping is not you focus, as the setting, the purpose and the place will make time seem difficult to track or unimportant, at times, to your mission.

Days Off One element that I think is important to consider is the single day off plan currently in place. While weekends are often the busiest time, and with two people manning a fairly extensive operation, it would be unrealistic under these conditions to consider two days off a week for each intern, this does need some rethinking, like three days off over two weeks (versus one person week). As hinted at previously, one way I think this could be accomplished is by involving more area volunteers, considering the average population in Newcomb is north of 70, there are a number of elderly who often make up the bulk of the operations in town (multiple social club events, filling in big voids at the Visitor Center, running *My Favorite Store*, etc.). There are also many with vast knowledge of Santanoni. It is our (and I say this because I think Dorothea likely echoes this in her summer report) feeling that it is time to organize and establish a cadre of elderly who could help operate, in our case, the Gate Lodge bookshop, and similarly making use of possible outstanding area teens who could bike in and be stationed for the

day at the Main Camp, to give tours and provide information as per the Main Camp Intern duties. This would give the interns possibly two days back-to-back to explore and take advantage of their location. With a job term that begins June 13 and ends September 1, there is little room on either side to do much exploring. With Santanoni as a home base, it would be a handsome reward if the interns could explore while residing in a centrally located place. An obvious benefit is that as the interns spread themselves around the Adirondacks, they would likely spread the good word about Santanoni, if not directly (assuming not all with don the shirt, or even want to carry brochures), in interacting with hikers, stores, etc., as I think every intern to date has seen Santanoni as a source of pride both in workplace and in the area culture. They also would get smarter about the other related influences or comparative camps, facilitating a better interpretation.

Having locals participate and learn more about the camp will have the ripple effect of getting the community more involved in the operation of the camp, young and old, it will likely be an additional positive promotion and further town support upon which the existence of the interns and support for Michael and his associate hinge.

Departure

At the summer's end, there is a bittersweet departure, much like the close of a camping trip, or an extended holiday. At once you want to head home "tell the world" about what a great summer you had, but you also are loathe to leave such a rare and idyllic lifestyle, likely one of the few times *in your life* you will have such a blissful arrangement. As for closure on a written level, I think the interns, like Dorothea and I have been delayed in doing, should be given a feedback form which might follow this format loosely, and have them fill out the particulars over the course of the summer and have it mailed by October 1.

Similarly, I would set up with the intern at the summer's start, that each will take on a central project(s), possibly in coordination with their Graduate program if relevant, and

set out to read all the current lit. that is available on the building or topic (i.e. Conservation Reports, the National Landmark nomination or Interpretive ideas by Howard Kirschenbaum, etc) and then document the subject and then take action or prescribe action accordingly, with associated photographs, measured drawings, etc. I would have benefited, in hindsight, from even this modest level of structure, giving some tangible products to work towards over the summer, and something of use and in coordination with, the current projects and direction AARCH and Friends of Camp Santanoni have, via consultants, laid out.

Closing Ceremonies. I like how Steven came out, saw that all was ready to be bundled up and closed out for the summer, and gave us all a chance to reflect on the summer. It provided a sense of closure with all that was done, and that which is left to be done. There is always less time that you imagine, despite being isolated, independent and having nearly 3 months. Days pass quickly, in particular when a chunk is devoted to something like Landmark. The 2002 Gate Lodge intern authored a checklist, many in fact, which should be made available for the interns each year, and amended as necessary, which help with a task list for closing up.

Informally we interns did our own "good-bye" with a dinner at the Newcomb House for reflection of fond memories (including Newcomb and its establishments and characters). However, as internship evolves year-to-year based on the changes (i.e. losing a wagon driver, the hour/day-off structure, projects to be completed, changes in DEC presence/policy, or new discoveries, both in camp and outside it, etc.), creating some review template that could help fill in these realities based on experience could lead to nutty reviews (instead of 50 page ones ☺), be given to the incoming interns, and keep the internship accurate with the changes at the Camp.

Main Camp Intern Packing/Living/Food List

This is a in-depth review of the suggestions to the list provided by the Camp Santanoni "Summer Staff Information Sheet" for the Main Camp. For the camper among us, most of this may sound logical. However if you are a preservationist who likes the idea of camping, and 'roughing it,' but has some uncertainty about how to go about that, this list is intended to head off some mistakes one might make, transitioning from the comfort of your home to the woods of the 'Dacks.

General Advice.

- Your first matter is to figure out how you are going to live with Michael Frenette, the builder, who in 2004, will be there for most of the summer working on the Boat House, thus will be there likely before you arrive and may stay well on through to the end of the summer. During what days will you stay there (all week or just weekends?), how you are going to share the space at the Main Camp (both live in the Artist Studio? Commute out from the Gate Lodge? Pitch a tent? Or is he going to pitch a tent?). Establishing a level of sanity for you and he will be imperative for a good summer relationship and your own peace of mind. As a camper, there is no greater worry than not knowing where you are going to sleep that evening. Same is true here. I would be sure to square that up day one, when your level of innocence is high and by doing this early on, you can focus on more important matters like learning the history of Santanoni, assisting in the restoration, etc. I would encourage talking with Steven about the potential arrangement and then with previous summer interns to get a sense of how you might best approach this.

Biking

■ Mountain bike is necessary but shocks are not. The road is rough, but a basic mountain bike will do. However the bike must be more than 10 speeds, it must have knobby tires at some level, and you should plan on biking a few weeks before you come to get in decent shape. You should also have a bike rack on it, for panniers or just strapping stuff on it. Biking in and out is a great time to clear your head.

■ Bike lights. For the front light, ideally one that can be charged at the house, or uses recyclable batteries since the cost of batteries/access is high/rare. Also brightness is goodness. In these woods, you have no such "ambient" city light. So when it is dark, it is dark! Nite Rider is a great brand and you often can find the basic but incredibly worthwhile "Trail Rat" model on Ebay for something in the upper 70s (2003 prices). It is the best light for the money, and for $20-$30 more than the basic light, it will serve you well for a long time in all sorts of conditions. It can work for walking around camp, too. Very powerful. You will also want a little blinking back light. This will let cars know and others behind you, esp. when you are biking beyond Santanoni (if you are car-less).

■ Bike Helmet. Stating the obvious, but given the nature of the biking along that trail, a must have. Make sure you wear it snug. A loose helmet is almost like no helmet at all.

■ Reflective vest/jacket. A good idea if you are biking or walking anywhere at night, often people driving around the Gate Lodge and sometimes illegally to the Main Camp or Farm, so be safe. I ran at night with such a vest, along the main drag of Newcomb.

■ Pannier (or backpack OK). Helps when you are carrying heavier loads in and out, in particular food and binders, or stuff for a few days/week. Michael

often will offer to take some goods in when he goes, or you can stick some small bags, if there is space, on the Wagon, but it is nice to have your own carrier in and out which you can count on at any given time or day.

■ Repair kit. You don't necessarily need to fix the flat on the spot, but you should have a basic grip on fixing a flat tire. With limited free time, you can't count on taking your bike in for service on a given day. In that a repair kit I would suggest the following:

- Chain grease (heavily dirty trails constantly on your chain, and ultimately wear on your bike, but if you keep the chain greased and wash the bike down once every other week, you should be fine).
- Two or three extra tubes. Keep one with you always.
- A patch kit (sandpaper, 3-4 patches, rubber cement). Know how to use it. A bike mechanic could probably give you a $5 lesson if you are clueless. Plan on fixing a flat at some point (between the road and the weight you will be carrying, you will either pinch a tube or get a flat…it is a good skill to have besides).
- Three tire levers. These are the things you jamb into your tire to get it off the wheel. Again, might be worth getting a bike friend to show you the process and practicing it once or twice, but if you know this already, great!
- Bike pump. Doesn't have to fit on your bike frame, but can go into your bag. Will obviously aid in pumping your tire up. In 2003, the Interns left a blue, foot pump at the Camp (likely in the storage across the Store/Office). Keeping your tires firm is important to avoiding flats and while your ride will be bumpy, it will be less work.

Sleeping

■ Sleeping Bag. Good idea for either Main Camp or Gate Lodge living. While the Gate Lodge and the Main Camp have blankets, you need about seventeen to stay warm. Plus a sleeping back packs up and can be strapped to the bike for use in either place. Make sure it is rated to 30 degrees is at a minimum. Know that it will get dirty, especially at the Main Camp. Count on it smelling like smoke, especially if you use the fireplace at the Artist Studio.

■ Pillow. There are some mildly pleasant ones that will serve fine if you forget to bring your own. But if you want comfort and do not want to bring the family down pillow, honestly, TJMaxx has a great pillow selection that are south of 8 dollars. There are pillowcases there at the Camp, but you might bring a set of case/sack and use the Camp version on nights when yours are getting washed.

■ Linens. The inventory is fairly extensive at the Camp, especially for the occasional guest/relative, or if you don't bring back your sleeping bag, you can work with the supplies at the Gate Lodge. This would include a full set of everything. However, plan on washing the set upon arrival with your co-intern, so as to have a clean set at the Main Camp and similarly several versions at the Gate Lodge for your use, etc. If you have a spare sleeping bag, you might bring it just in case you have a visitor since the blankets on a later summer night might not cut it – there is nothing worse than being cold at night (in my mind).

■ Bedtime Reading. While your daytime reading will likely be filled with Santanoni literature, if you have time, the nighttime is a perfect time to imbibe in your setting. I would advise consulting with Dorothea, the Gate Lodge intern of 2003 for some quality Adirondack texts. Otherwise, you can call the

bookstore in Long Lake, Hoss', which is the definitive Adirondack store in the region (http://www.hossscountrycorner.com/ - 1.800.952.HOSS). It has developed a serious reputation, and their "Author's Night" at the summer's end will put you in touch with all the area Adirondack authors, likely some who will have authored some of the books you will read, making it twice as nice.

■ Headlamp. I would consider some arrangement wherein you can read at the Main Camp without holding a flashlight, or even using a bike light. You should be able to focus on reading. A headlamp will serve you well with respect to the nighttime reading (as well as late evening dish washing, teeth brushing or outhouse mission).

■ Matches. Fill an empty camera case, and put that in a Ziploc, and you will be covered for lighting the stove, the fireplace and your candles/lantern.

■ Candles/Lantern. There are a few candles and lanterns at the Gate Lodge and Main Camp, though their year-to-year consistency (as whether you will find them next year) is somewhat in question. I find candle light, or even one of those "hurricane lanterns," provides a nice light, and can be aromatic. I would consider either, to provide some light at the dinner table, with the lantern and some indoor lamp oil. In both cases you obviously want to take extreme caution when using them, and never leave either alone, at any time. Forest fires, after a week of dryness (common), are highly probable.

■ Slippers. While in the Artist studio or even the Gate Lodge, you will inevitably want to walk around. In either place, barefoot is generally fine, especially if you clean the floors somewhat regularly, but still, warmth and unknown entities make the reality of some warmish slippers a good idea. Furthermore, you might consider some wool socks just to sleep in, especially if you are bad circulation kind of person.

■ PJs. Count on the nights being cool – 40s, sometimes even high 30s. Neither the Gate Lodge nor the Main Camp is heated, so wear something that you can wear outside (mostly at the Main Camp) for midnight bathroom runs, etc. Long underwear and some form of polypro top, if not on, nearby, make the most sense.

Personal Needs

■ Towels. At the Main Camp, your swim is your shower. Though you may bring a solar shower, the lake is pretty warm and suitable for bathing with biodegradable soap. So a mid-size towel big enough to dry you but not so big that it would take weeks to dry is a good idea. The small camp towel is something I used with success, but the chill after a swim often craves some form of body covering beyond an 8.5 X 11 size chamois.

■ Toilet Paper. Nothing quite beats it, though some leaves come close. While at the Main Camp, however, you are required to use the Outhouses. While not primitive entirely, they are a departure from modern plumbing. TP of your own will obviously create whatever barriers you may care to make between yourself and the outhouse, both physically and mentally. Plan on one pack of eight rolls, to left at the Gate Lodge and brought out over the course of the summer. They go quick, especially when they become your Kleenex and spill cleaner-upper, etc.

■ Toiletries. Tooth brush, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, shampoo, soap, contact cleaner, etc, etc. In each case, you can buy supplies from the local stores, but they are costly and the purchase will be infrequent. Better to have an extra bottle of lens cleaner or soap bars from Costco, and have them sit in a closet at the Gate Lodge awaiting use than to have to potential drive 27 miles *each way* to get a bar of soap. Again, local stores are around, but have

funky hours and paying $3.90 for a bar of soap can lead to all sorts of violence.

■ Bug Repellant. In June, you will experience the black flies in a fashion I had only read about in Adirondack folklore. For the first few weeks in June to about "July 4th" according to the locals, they are everywhere. What they do, someone kindly relayed to me, is seek protein, ultimately your blood, by putting their mouths, which operate like a circular grinder, and cut into your skin, and get some of life's elixir. There is only one way to avoid them: Don't go outside. Actually, by giving tours at the Main Camp, the breeze off the lake generally keeps them off the porch and the area. An option if you plan on being in this ambience for future summers is to purchase a mesh top, sold at Hoss's, or elsewhere, for roughly $10. Most locals wear them, so you are *more* local in using it than less. Finally, the least expensive route is to don repellant. Now there is one brand that actually worked well, involving Eucalyptus leaf and it comes in a greenish tube. It also had minimal side effects on your future childbearing (found it, it is by REPEL, called Lemon Eucalyptus. $5.99). You can also wait until you get there, see how bad it is, and then ask what the locals, at the local store, are wearing (if anything).

■ Clothes Washing. While the washboard is not a bad idea, the Main Camp intern should consider that he/she will do their washing at the Gate Lodge, where there is a washer and dryer. Again, the Pannier(s) comes in handy for the occasional clothing run. So bring detergent, bleach (should you be a bleach user), and some logical bag (mesh or what-have-you) to stash the dirty/clean clothing en route to and from the washer/dryer. All your cleaning stuff is safe to leave at the Gate Lodge, so count on that being Washing Central.

■ Batteries (and other forms of "juice"). As previously mentioned, you will want to have a bike light that will have rechargeable batteries, often because

the canopy cover along the road in and out of the Main Camp, even mid-day, when cloudy, can be pretty dark. And especially if you plan on going out in the evening to catch a movie, or a lecture, or get a head start on your day off, your bike light will be used early and often. But for a headlamp or other flashlight, or propane (which you will want to be sure the tanks for the stoves are full, depending on how you arrange the cooking situation) or kerosene (for your lantern), you will want to come prepared with spare "juice." You can always charge/leave spare batteries at the Gate Lodge. But there is no power at the Main Camp, at least not any more. I considered rigging up a solar pack to juice up at the Main Camp, but given the short and easy trek to the Gate Lodge and the inconsistency in solar activity, I would not suggest the effort, though fun in theory (including a $120 flex cell, $50 car or motorcycle battery, and the appropriate switching gear to convert the juice, another $50).

Clothing

This handling of the packing list is by no means exhaustive. Clothing is generally very personal. Still, here are some guidelines which may help with your packing assembly line.

"Warm Clothes." Taken out of the Santanoni intern guidebook, I think you will obviously do well to bring "warm clothes." At the same time, you would do well to bring "summer clothes" and "rain clothes" and "hiking clothes," so I will elaborate on "warm clothes" so you get a sense of the range of what to expect.

Work Clothes. For the Main Camp intern, you will want to have clothes that layer. Moreover, you will need essentially two different types of "work clothes." The first type is a true, construction-style work clothing, and the second is a resort-like tour guide get-up. In both cases, still, you will want to be able to add or shed layers with the variations in daily temperatures. In the former case working on the building, or digging dirt, etc., I had work boots, work pants (jeans

or some heavy equivalent), a less than sentimental t-shirt with a heavier duty work-shirt (like a light flannel) and possible an old fleece vest, plus work gloves and sometimes clear work glasses (if I was working a saw or digging vigorously) and a hat to keep the sun off my face/neck. Should the temp go up, I would shed down to the t-shirt, or often as my own temp rose, I would adjust accordingly. This worked for my hours (9-11) working before the "tour" time. From 11-5, I would shift into khaki shorts, sandals and the "Santanoni" t-shirt, or a Newcomb t-shirt, with my "Santanoni" hat and nametag, and basically be "Chris the Tour Guide" for the next while. Obviously a much more comfortable set of clothing. I would add a light jacket, should it be breezy and cool. But generally, this was the resort attire. I would come with these two options as your general, daily wear.

Other Clothes. Beyond the PJs, already mentioned, you will obvious want to have clothing for the following: swimming, hiking, running (if that is your thing), a nice-ish (meaning clean and presentable, need not be fancy or your will stand out like the summer folks from NYC) outfit to go out to dinner in Long Lake or elsewhere, once in a while. Consider rain as a common threat and reality, so rain pants and jacket will provide cover biking, hiking, or just around Main Camp. Shoes for all of the above are wise (hiking boots & work boots (might be the same), running shoes, sandals (Teva variety best, this is not flip-flop country – though Gate Lodge intern might go with flip-flops for to/from shower trips), and comfortable walking shoes (for the resort guide role and going to town, etc.).

Socks and underwear for a week and a half would be wise, thus giving yourself plenty of slack for when you manage to get laundry done, and flex in your frequency in rotating them. You will likely inherit a number of t-shirts with the Town and Santanoni, but know that when around camp, it could also tie you in with some camper, so you might choose wisely (favorite sporting team, alma mater, etc.). Count on a few rips or spills to do in one or two, so don't bring your favorites. In the evening the temps dip enough that "warm clothes" is a good idea. Fleece or equivalent jackets, warm comfortable pants, and other types of

layering options, including a hat and gloves, so you can really keep your body warm and happy as much as possible, especially in the morning and at night.

My Favorite Store. Should you fail to bring any of the above, or even if you do bring all of the above, at the Methodist Church in town there was a store so named, "My Favorite Store" which had a range of goodies. Not clear if this was a regular summer occurrence or a one-time thing. The other option which may or may not still be in business is just past Scoops, the ice cream place you will have personally kept in business. This vintage general store, the details of which I will leave to your own discovery since they are legendary, has clothing options. However most date from the late 1940s, literally. But some of the finest Woolrich shirts ever made are still for sale, some cases at the price originally offered in 1952!

Work Equipment

One caveat to the list that might be worth spelling out for sake of clarity for all parties is the working aspect, that is, the physical working (i.e. Conservation projects). Michael Frenette has a fairly extensive set of tools, and often is happy to lend them to the Main Camp Intern for certain projects, but it also seemed to Michael that the Intern might have their own set, or at least that was what he initially thought last summer (perhaps previous interns brought their own tools, not known). In any event, since the bulk of the work you might do as a conservator, is measurement and basic carpentry, you might consider a simplified tool kit so you can carry out your business without the reliance on Michael's tools or that of the Camp. That would include:

- *Digital or film Camera (besides summer shots, having a record of your work, before, during and after, will be useful for both illustrating your work in your final report and future understanding of changes at Santanoni.*
- *Portable Computer (while there is a computer at the Gate Lodge, and it will serve you fine if you make relatively regular trips back to the Gate Lodge, if*

you plan to be out for long stretches, you might consider having a way to record your work and writing a record of your summer regularly, and while battery life is obviously the governor, if you can get 4 hours of writing in at a time when your information is fresh, it will serve you well to not use those days off based at the Gate Lodge writing your information down, plus fill some of those long, lightless evenings at the Main Camp.

- *Tool belt (not required, but makes carrying your tools around much easier)*
- *Hammer (general purpose type)*
- *Screw drivers (flathead and Phillips, for window and door repair mostly, i.e. tightening up a window or door hinge, a loose part, etc.)*
- *Pad and pencil (for sketching field notes, or dimensions, or grocery list)*
- *Small Level (nothing is level, but I use it for measured drawings)*
- *Chalk Line (doubles as a plumb bomb, in combination with level and measuring tape, serve to accurate record a building).*
- *Measuring Tape (10'-25' will serve most if not all purposes)*
- *Utility knife or Swiss Army-style knife*
-

That should cover the basics, you can add to that as you see fit. Most of that will fit in a regular work belt, that I see in the Pawn shops for 10-15 dollars, and are not much more than that new. It became part of my "outfit" when I put on the physical work clothes, and prepared for a day of general fix-up, or measuring. Other equipment you will use but is on site include:

<u>Metal rakes</u> (helping rake out soil)
<u>Square and pointed shovels</u> (positive grading around log sills, for instance)
<u>Mattock</u> (breaking up ground around the log sills)
<u>Weed whackers</u> of all varieties (for bringing down encroaching weed life)
<u>Bow saws</u> (for branches encroaching as well, though you may want to confirm with DEC should you think the work is going to be substantial, since they like to control what gets cut, any and everywhere, but principally so you don't get "caught in the

act." Just talking with Clive, the local DEC rep, will likely be sufficient for small work around the Main Camp).

In addition, the DEC has a station near the Gate Lodge, 100 yards away, so paint supplies and other tools are available and if you promise to return them or your firstborn, you can usually borrow them. Seriously you will want to instill trust across this line, so in all workings with the ever-friendly local DEC, work to keep that relationship in good order as they are your local allies in conservation and often good company.

Food/Eating/Kitchen Supplies

Like any camping experience, food is always a motivator, the sole subject of your thoughts as the eating hour approaches, and should be treated as seriously as proper preservation practices. A quick primer on what to bring, what to expect, and what to no expect.

- Cooking Spaces. As noted before, if you are sharing facilities with Michael, you may be sharing a stove, counter space, storage space, etc. This is not a matter to fret over. Michael has set up an impromptu kitchen in the Boy's Cabin. There is also a stove and a sink (that does not work but is good counter space) in the Artist Studio. Last year (2003) we had just one tank of gas to fire up the stove, so we used Michael's in the Boy's Cabin, but one possible solution would be to get a second tank and use the Boy's Cabin as a second cooking space, away from the "public" should you want that occasional privacy.

- Mice. You will want to bring a few Rubbermaid Bins (which you can have someone bring out to the Main Camp for you). The mice are an issue both at the Gate Lodge and the Main Camp. They will poop anywhere the smell food. It is their habitual practice. Especially if you are peanut butter lover,

remove every last trace that PB touched the spoon, plate, etc., otherwise, you will find little “thank you” offerings.

■ Dishes. At the Main Camp, there are a handful of dishes, many of which belong to Michael, so they should not be counted on as being available all the time. You should assess how many people are living at the Main Camp, and whether there are plates enough. If not, you can easily transport them from the Gate Lodge, so you need not bring your own. This applies to forks, spoons, etc. A good cutting knife is worth bringing, however, as nothing is as nice as a good serrated knife for most cutting needs. The other utensil that will come in handy if you like pasta, is one of those camping strainers (REI and other places have them, they fold up nice and small, but allow you to drive water from a pot with ease). They look like a half-moon and are now plastic. They lip onto a pot and make draining pasta easy without a big colander.

■ Dishwashing Stuff. There should be provided at the Gate Lodge dish-washing soap and sponges, but I would get a bottle of Dr. Broner’s soap at a Camping store since you will be washing with lake water (or boiled water or rain water, depending on how worried you are about “catching something”…I never did, but for some reason I still go to the bathroom six times a…I am jesting). This stuff is great, and it can be used in a pinch for brushing teeth or hairwashing, and one medium-sized bottle, used relatively sparingly, will go the summer and more. I would also advise a cleaning sponge (while there should be some at the Gate Lodge, having one or two in your pack would take out that hassle should you find otherwise).

■ Dishwashing Procedure. As per NOLS and other leading outdoor organizations, you are supposed to drink the dishwashing water – sorry, I am joking again. Seriously, there are two major methods that I would espouse in washing at the Main Camp (Gate Lodge has running water). The first is to

retrieve from the lake two buckets of water and take them to some inland location (idea being that the soil can filter the soap/food/etc. before it hits the lake). Find some nice, regular place. Ideally you would rotate this location, but I grant that you might more ten feet here and there within that spot, and that will be heading in the right direction (diffusing the waste water concentration). Food waste should be buried (or you could also "pack it out" in a 5-gallon compost-like container with the Wagon to take out to the Gate Lodge and eventually to the dump. *Rarely,* I think twice, did I have anything to leftover anyway.

As to cleaning, I would advise having one bucket for soapy water and the other bucket for rinsing. The challenge, of course, is the drying. I tended to have a third bin where I would put the wet, washed dishes, and then carry them to the plate dryer Michael had and let them air dry. Obviously should you choose separate cooking quarters, I would consider having a drying towel and just dry and put away. Less chance for the mice to enjoy the *remains of the day.*

■ Cooler. Michael Frenette will have a cooler with him, but I would suggest bringing a medium-sized one of your own. This works for eggs, milk, cheese veggies, etc. for a *limited* time. I found a week was pushing it. But it certainly was better than not having perishables at all. It will likely be easiest to send in and out with the Wagons, since it is nearly impossible to get this on your bike rack.

■ Water. In order to have your basic need, water, you need to work a little for it. This, however, is a good thing. The "Pump House" which sits below the porch right on the water once pumped water up from a gravity fed line that ran across the lake, from a constantly flowing "medicinal" spring (I'll let you read about that lore). There is a big Powerade Water cooler at the Main Camp which you can transport to and from camp and spring by boat. Finding the

spring is something you should do from the start. The easiest way to do that is to get in a canoe and hug the shore (have Howie or DEC or Steven point you in the general direction – finding it is one of the great joys of the summer). It is right by the water, so once you are close, you cannot miss it. I opted for a smaller, Canadian, "Reliance" container. They are reasonably priced, light-weight and highly durable. Two 5 galloon tanks should set you up. They can be filled easily at the source, and then serve a few weeks or more. Getting water on a foggy or clear morning, in the row boat, is an experience that will indelibly remain with you always. Never has fetching water been more joyful. At the end of the season, you should stop at the little neck with the three large white pines, just before the spring, which will have some of the best little blueberries you have ever eaten.

Fun.

■ Canoe. While the list indicates you might bring one, don't. There is one at the Main Camp, and a paddle and a life jacket, so you have instantaneous lake travels without having to lift a finger. Not only that, but there is a row boat with oars and oar locks, so you can have a little more capacity, and my favored method to bring water back to the camp from the spring.

■ Hiking. You would be remiss if you did not take advantage of the "High Peaks" around which you are situated. In fact, but 8 miles or so from the Gate Lodge is the entrance to the Mt. Marcy ascent, or access to Cold River, or Wall Face, I think it is called, and a number of spectacular day hikes. So plan on getting a good hiking map at Hoss's or beforehand elsewhere, and take at least one day out of your summer to hike the Adirondacks. One other fraction of a day you should climb the very climbable and nearby Goodnow Mtn which is but a half-mile towards Long Lake, where you will also be able to climb the Fire Tower, providing a great view of the area and at the nearby cabin learn more about the history and relevance of this fire spotting/relay

station. The hike also has a natural and historical self-guided tour, which is equally fascinating.

One final "hike" that Dorothea, the Gate Lodge intern, used to unwind the day was at the nearby Visitor Center. With a series of trails that wind through beautiful and breath-taking wilderness overlooking Rich Lake, it was a perfect place for a walk or run, and often a nice preamble to the Thursday night lecture [given by local historians/naturalists].

■ Rich Lake Beach. Just beyond the Visitor center is a locally known spot to swim, or just relax. It is literally gives Newcomb a Caribbean-looking beach.

■ Swimming. As the Main Camp intern, I find Newcomb Lake about as nice a lake as any. I would swim each morning to or beyond the Island, and have a refreshing stop back at the spring for water break en route back. My only caution is this: there is practically no one out on the lake, so you are swimming very much at your own risk. That said, the most dangerous aspect is the near the shore, there are occasionally trees that have fallen into the lake that have branches which reach up like underwater spears towards the surface. On more than one occasion I found myself almost speared. So be careful, swim in the center of the lake, and perhaps swim when you know there is someone that will be at the Main Camp (like Michael). If you start in front of the camp and swim in the middle of the lake, you will be fine. The water was in the high 60s low 70s and quite delightful (though I was told that was unseasonably high, in 2003).

■ Watercolor. I find that if you are even moderately inclined to draw, you might consider bringing a simple watercolor set. I took mine, and sketched in pencil first, then colored in scenes in and around the Camp. The architecture of reds and browns, and the Adirondacks, with greens of trees and blues of

water and sky, and orange needles on the ground, all make for a wonderful pastiche for a postcard or memory. It is also fun to practice when "no one" is watching.

■ Studying Santanoni. You will never tire of Santanoni. Though simple in form and material, and in some ways repetitive, there is much to explore and see with the context of the site, and the building material and construction itself. I found a new feature or detail daily, as much by my own discovery as that of the touree, or "old-timers" who would tell some story about their involvement with Douglas Legg and what trail they think he went down, or the old hunting shack over by this lake, or that pond. The lore and local passion for Santanoni is grand, so you will never be short of missions or discoveries.

■ Reading on the front porch. But above all else, take time to take it in. I found that the flurry of the summer made the days pass like weeks, weeks like months, and when my sister arrived to pick me up, I had to sit us down, on the porch, and watch the sun set. It was a divine experience, and one that I certainly witnessed at dinner before, but had always been thinking about the next thing. To sit and read, and lazily let the day tuck itself back in is to rekindle some of the leisure that the Pruyn's afforded with their cast of many who assembled beds, food and made their stay seemingly effortless. For a few moments, give yourself the same luxury, rare it is in our lives, and a rare treat for the Main Camp intern to enjoy.

Summer at Santanoni: An Adirondack Great Camp

Newcomb, New York

Internship with Adirondack Architectural Heritage

By: Susan Arena

September 17, 2007

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Camp Santanoni: An Adirondack Great Camp

Introduction

Camp Santanoni, an Adirondack Great Camp located in Newcomb, New York, was the location of my graduate internship from June 7-September 2, 2007. Internship responsibilities included interpretation of the camp's history and buildings to visitors and assisting with the ongoing restoration. The camp was built on a 12,900 acre preserve as a summer home for the family of Robert and Anna Pruyn of Albany. The complex, constructed between 1892 and 1905 came to include a 1600 square foot Main Lodge, a 200 acre gentleman's farm and an impressive Gate Lodge complex, in addition to several outbuildings. Added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1987 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 2000, it is currently owned by the State of New York. Camp Santanoni is managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation in association with the Town of Newcomb and Adirondack Architectural Heritage.

Private Ownership

The second half of the 19th century as well as the beginning of the 20th century saw a trend amongst America's wealthy, upper class families to build expansive summer estates so that

they might escape the oppression of the city. Albany banker and businessman, Robert Pruyn, was an affluent member of society who also was in search of the restorative powers of the great outdoors. He and his wife, Anna, sought the wilderness of the Adirondack Park in upstate New York for their private refuge. They began acquiring land in 1890 for what would become the 12,900 acre Santanoni Preserve located in the small town of Newcomb.

Eventually encompassing more than 40 buildings, Santanoni boasts the work of some of the most prominent architects of the time. Robert H. Robertson contributed to the design of the 16,000 square foot Main Lodge, which consisted of six separate buildings joined by a common roof system. The Lodge displays several Japanese influenced features, born from Robert's time spent in Japan while his father was Ambassador there in the 1860's. This is exemplified in the interconnected roof that, when seen from above, resembles the shape of a bird in flight. Another detail utilized in the design was the *irimoya* roof, which is an open gable projecting from a shed or hip roof, intended to allow additional light under the wide overhanging eaves of the porch.

Front porch with *irimoya* roof

Porches of main room and guest cabins

The Farm Complex can be attributed to Edward Burnett, the leading agricultural designer of the time. Finally, the Gate Lodge and possibly the Artist's Studio are credited to Delano and Aldrich, and Albany architecture firm. A complex of this stature required extensive staff, possibly close to

50; some year round to manage the farm, some seasonal, assisting the family while they were in residence during the summer.

Santanoni came to be a place that the Pruyns and their four children valued for a number of reasons. Robert was able to have his gentleman's farm, which he proudly showed off to visitors. Anna, being a very private person, was able to escape into the woods where she entertained small groups of guests. Most of the family enjoyed fishing, boating, hiking and spending time outdoors in general, taking advantage Newcomb Lake, Moose pond and the thousands of acres all contained in the preserve. They encouraged their guests to do the same, always leading by example. When weather was inclement, the 5,000 square feet of porch provided a shelter where outdoor revelry could continue. Though a "camp", the Pruyns and their guests enjoyed every luxury, even running water. Their meals were prepared, clothes laundered, baths drawn, so that at the end of the day they were experiencing the illusion of "roughing it."

Irimoya roof on southern wing

Kitchen block with staff quarters upstairs

After Robert and Anna passed away in the 1930's, their three remaining children continued to frequent the camp with their children. By this time the farm and most of the servant's buildings were no longer in use and many were in disrepair. In 1953 the Pruyns sold the property to the Melvin family of Syracuse, New York. The Melvins resided on a much more

restrained scale than the Pruyns had, spending time performing upkeep on the remaining structures in addition to enjoying their wilderness retreat. Family tragedy struck in 1971 when Melvin grandson, Douglas Legg, went missing on the Preserve. Despite a month long manhunt, with hundreds of searchers, the child was never found. The family had no desire to remain at Santanoni, precipitating a rapid sale to the State of New York.

The New York State Forest Preserve

When the state acquired the property in 1972, there was no plan in place for the future use of Santononi. All state owned land within the Adirondack and Catskill Parks is considered part of the Forest Preserve, and under Article XIV of the New York State Constitution, which states "The lands of the state, now owned or hereafter acquired, constituting the forest preserve as now fixed by law, shall be forever kept as wild forest lands. They shall not be leased, sold or exchanged, or be taken by any corporation, public or private, nor shall the timber thereon be sold, removed or destroyed"[1] that land is to remain forever wild. This land is managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and enjoys "the highest degree of protection of wild lands in any state.[2] What all this meant for Santanoni is that, unless used for educational or administrative purposes, the continued presence of the camp within the Preserve was illegal.

The next 20 years marked an important period in the history of Santanoni as it sat in a state of deferred maintenance; it was also open to the public for the first time. The five mile trek through the forest became a popular route for hikers, bikers and cross-country skiers intrigued by this massive, vacant lodge. The term "Great Camp" was believed to have been coined in the early 1980's during an increased awareness of the importance of the style of architecture and the people associated with these expansive wilderness retreats. Growing interest and support of the

[1] Wikipedia. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_Preserve_(New_York) Accessed August 31, 2007
[2] Wikipedia. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_Preserve_(New_York) Accessed August 31, 2007

camp was not enough to save it from demolition; nor was the 1983 passing of the Hinchey Bill which permitted the state to maintain historic structures within state parks. Unfortunately, this was still in opposition to Article XIV and the DEC was uncooperative at best in trying to find a solution that would provide for the preservation of Sanatnoni. Therefore the camp continued to sit vacant and most likely would have been lost had it not been for the establishment of the non-profit organization Adirondack Architectural Heritage.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH)

Formed in 1990, Adirondack Architectural Heritage's mission is "to promote better public understanding, appreciation and stewardship of the Adirondack's unique and diverse architectural heritage."[3] Their focus is historic preservation in the Adirondack State Park, accomplished in a variety of ways, including, hosting conferences and educational programs, leading historic tours and provide technical support to homeowners.

At the time of their establishment, AARCH's main goal was to Save Santanoni. Instead of attempting to work through further negotiations that had previously produced no viable solution, AARCH decided to only work with Santanoni's supporters. They planned to form a strong network of individuals and organizations who were in favor of seeing Santanoni preserved. AARCH, in cooperation with the Town of Newcomb, developed an outline for how Santanoni should be used and operated, and agreed to assist with implementation. In the summer of 1991, AARCH hired the first Santanoni intern to act as an interpreter. During this time representatives from state and local government, and various preservation groups visited the camp, then sat down together to re-analyze the situation. The compromise that was reached allowed for the camp to be preserved as an educational exhibit, but t could not be actively used.

[3] Adirondack Architectural Heritage. http://www.aarch.org/about/about.html Accessed September 13, 2007

Since that time, AARCH has employed at least one intern every year to live on site and help interpret Santanoni to the visiting public. The ongoing restoration has included a new roof, replacement of many elements on the porches, and general upkeep such as painting and staining. Many of the other buildings from the three complexes remain and are also being restored. Most recently the Gate Lodge and another cottage nearby received full exterior restorations through a grant from Save America's Treasures, and the boathouse at Main Camp was almost completely rebuilt, courtesy of the Environmental Protection Fund. Next on the list is the kitchen block of the Main Camp, which will require extensive structural attention, to be funded by New York State. Unfortunately, there have been setbacks, such as the loss of the barn to fire in 2004, plus there is the continuous search for financial support.

The Pruyn's created Santanoni as a retreat from the city, and showed a true appreciation for its architecture and the wilderness that surrounded it. Today, it is still an escape for thousands of people every year who make their first visit out of curiosity, but continue to return out of admiration for a place that conjures feelings of both awe and peace.

Welcome to Camp

My fellow interns for the summer were Dana Miller, an undergraduate student from Colorado State University, and Annie Latta, who had just completed her Master's degree in Historic Preservation at the University of Kentucky. Upon arrival Dana and I spent several days cleaning the Gate Lodge so that it was livable. Since the building had been vacant for the past nine months it was quite a sight; dirt and mildew covered most surfaces and it appeared that the only occupants had been mice. In addition, the Gate Lodge, was the one structure that had been utilized at all since the state's purchase. The result of this was several layers of paint covering all of the wood trim, the final coat being an offensive combination of colors. The hardwood floors in

more than half of the building had been covered in rubber tile, which, aside from being unattractive to begin with, was worn and discolored in many rooms.

The Gate Lodge

Initial cleaning generally consisted of sweeping, mopping, dusting and scrubbing mildew off the woodwork using Comet. Annie arrived a week later and continued to assist with the cleaning. During these weeks before Main Camp was opened to the public, we explored the preserve and the surrounding area, familiarizing ourselves with the region and the history of Santanoni. This involved a thorough reading of *Santanoni: From Japanese Temple to Life at an Adirondack Great Camp* by Howard Kirshenbaum, Paul Malo and Rob Engel. This is the only comprehensive publication pertaining solely to Santanoni. We also spent time meeting with Steven Englehart, Director of AARCH, Tom Martin, DEC Regional Forester, and Chuck VanDrei, the State Historic Preservation Officer for the DEC. Our onsite DEC contact was Clive Friend, year round caretaker of Santanoni. All of these people were useful resources in matters relating to the camp's history and the Adirondack Preserve.

Summer Tasks

The weekend of July 1 we began a rotating schedule with one of us at Main camp every day and one person at the Gate Lodge. While at the Main Camp our top priority was to conduct tours and make ourselves available to answer questions. Assisting visitors was also the responsibility of whoever was posted at the Gate Lodge. This duty took a variety of forms, from answering one or two questions, to updating past visitors on the restoration progress, to leading full tours that generally lasted upwards of an hour. It was this aspect of the job that I found most rewarding; being able to lead people through the wonders of the camp and its history for the first time. What surprised me most was how many people were not here for the first time, but had visited once, twice, or many times before. They continued to return, because they loved the land, the buildings, the stories and the feelings that they evoked.

I have heard there are people who believe that the camp should have been demolished, that the wilderness should be left as just that. Fortunately, the only criticism I encountered was of the nature that there should be better protection of the property. Many visitors had a difficult time understanding what the state would allow the buildings to fall into such disuse.

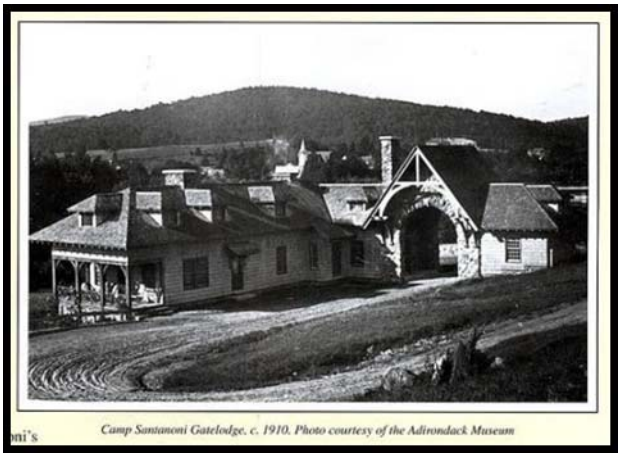
Our other responsibility was to contribute to the ongoing restoration effort. Despite continuous work over the past 13 years, there are still many tasks to be completed. This summer we focused on prepping and painting the rear porch of the Gate Lodge, re-glazing windows and staining logs at the Main Camp. Those tasks will be outlined in the following paragraphs.

Painting Rear Porch

An open porch on the east end of the Gate Lodge was enclosed at some point with jalousie windows and the original railings and brackets were removed. Last year's interns took on the task of removing the windows and tearing up the rubber tile and plywood that covered the

floor, leaving us with an open porch that was in need of painting. We began by thoroughly scraping and sanding all surfaces using a variety of pain scrapers, putty knives and 100 grit sandpaper. Since there was a strong possibility of the presence of lead paint, we took the proper precautions by wearing safety goggles and dust masks. We also swept up and disposed of as much of the dust as possible so that it wouldn't infiltrate the ground water.

Using historic photographs, railings and brackets were reproduced to replace the ones that had been removed when the jalousie windows were installed. Based on paint samples taken from the porch, colors were mixed to be historically accurate. All surfaces were then painted.



Historic photo of porch, c. 1910

Prepped and ready for new railings

New railings and brackets

Completed project

Staining

Since the main lodge is of log construction, it is very vulnerable to weather, causing checking and rot, especially in the wood located closer to the ground. Many of the palisades, which are the vertical posts lining the underside of the porches, have lost their stain, leaving bare wood. Also several elements of the porches including railings, posts and a set of stairs across from the porte cochere have been replaced during the ongoing restoration. These two areas were re-stained this summer using stain mixed based on a sample of the existing color.

Southern porch showing steps, new and old railings and posts, and old palisades ready to be stained.

Northern porch showing old railings and posts in foreground, with new railings, posts and rafters in background.

Re-glazing and Painting

One of the ongoing projects at main camp is the re-glazing and painting of all windows. Our focus this summer was on the windows in the guest cabin just north of the main room. Twelve sashes were removed and labeled to match their frames to ensure that all windows would be reassembled correctly. On each sash the loose paint was scraped off and dry, cracked glazing compound was chipped away. If the putty was in good condition it was not removed. Cracked or broken panes were removed and replaced with new glass. If the glazing points were missing, they were replaced as well before new glazing compound was applied. I found that using a two

inch putty knife was the easiest way to adhere the putty, which was allowed to dry and then finished with latex paint, ensuring to seal the glass by painting onto the panes.

This photo shows one of the windows after being scraped,
and the old putty and glass removed.

Personal Project: Rubber Floor Tile Removal

In addition to standard maintenance at the main camp and gate lodge, I took on the task of tearing up the floor in the visitor's room of the Gate Lodge, a space approximately 10x10, to reveal the original 2 inch wide hardwood boards. The wood has been covered in a layer of mastic, then 12 inch square rubber tile. My goal was to remove the tile using a putty knife and hammer, then scrape off the mastic and glue, and if time allowed, sand and refinish the wood.

Materials

1 1/2 inch putty knife

3 inch putty knife

Hammer

Distilled white vinegar

Procedure

Using a 2 inch putty knife like a chisel, I hammered it underneath the tile to pull it up. This left behind the mastic and glue, unless I was lucky enough to pull up the paper with the tile. Some of the mastic could be chipped off relatively easily using the putty knife, but most of the glue remained on the floor. Though not my original intention, I ended up using only natural solvents, testing a variety of methods before settling on white vinegar to remove the glue.

Upon a suggestion from Steven, the first portion of the floor was removed using tomatoes, crushed and spread on the remaining mastic. If left long enough, the surface did soften and was easier to remove, though it did not work in areas where there was a significant amount of paper remaining. Using the theory that it is the acid in the tomatoes that helps dissolve the glue, I began experimenting with other natural products that were on hand, such as fresh limes and lemon juice. The limes did not produce enough liquid to saturate the paper and was therefore ineffective. The lemon juice worked well in areas where there was only a small amount of paper remaining. Fortunately, while testing the lemon juice, a woman stopped in and mentioned that she had used white vinegar for a similar floor and received good results, which is what brought me to the process I used on the rest of the floor.

First corner revealed using tomatoes

Halfway through showing vinegar pooled on exposed mastic

The vinegar was poured liberally over the area I intended to work on and allowed to soak, the longer the better. Since it is a liquid, it was able to saturate the paper so that in areas where there was very little mastic, the vinegar softened it to the point that it could be scraped of easily. In other areas where the mastic did not come up with the tile, it required at least 2 applications. The first was allowed to set and then I was able to peal up the top layer of paper using the 3 inch putty knife, which was thinner and ideal for tearing. I would then continue rewetting areas, allowing them to soak, then removing what I could. I generally worked on two or three sections at once, so that one area could set while I scraped another.

Finished floor ready for sanding

Cast iron register

Results

The results were rewarding, though labor intensive. The floors were in very good condition, with most of the gouges caused by me when I didn't realize how deep I was with the putty knife. I cleaned the floor with water and vinegar. In the future, it would be ideal to see this room, along with the other hardwood in the building, sanded and refinished.

Concerns

We do not have a record of when the tile was installed, but based on appearance and general history of the building, we judged it to be at least 20 years old. The concern was that mastic and

tile being installed until the early 1980's contained asbestos, which could be a potential health hazard. Fortunately there was very little fibrous material to become airborne. The mastic was kept wet by the vinegar and the room was kept well ventilated, hopefully reducing any risk. One issue I did discover though was that working with large quantities of vinegar for extended periods caused a serious case of heartburn. Also, there were two large cast iron registers in the room from an old heating system. Although these are no longer in use, they are still connected to the pipes in the basement. Removal was not an option due to the excessive weight of the units, plus permission had not been gained for this process. The result was that areas of the floor were inaccessible and therefore left incomplete.

Personal Project 2: Smokey the Bear

Considering that the Town of Newcomb's population is only around 500, they manage to host two very popular events that draw impressive crowds. The Chicken BBQ if the first, held on fourth of July weekend, the second is the Town Parade and Steak Roast, hosted by the Newcomb Volunteer Fire Department. This year I had the pleasure to taking part in the parade. DEC Ranger John Chambers inquired as to whether any of the interns would be interested in helping them out by being Smokey the Bear for the parade. I obliged, thinking it would be good story if nothing else. Suited up, I walked the half mile route handing out candy along the way. Fortunately, Smokey isn't supposed to talk, so all I had to do was wave and shuffle along. I am most grateful that it was not a warm day, because as it was, the suit was like a sauna; I enjoyed myself none the less.

Haven't even started and it's already hot

It's really me in there

Summary

Spending the summer in the Adirondacks, a place that holds many special memories for me, at the site of such a remarkable example of architecture, I couldn't help but enjoy myself. Santanoni is in a unique situation in that it is state owned and managed, but operated by a variety of forces. The partnership between the DEC, Newcomb and AARCH allows for resources to be drawn from all three places. However, it also causes some confusion when outlining the role of the intern. Since, we did not have an official on-site boss, but were hired by AARCH, we generally contacted Steven with questions and concerns. We also relied on him to supply us with materials necessary for completing assignments. On the other hand, Clive was our go-to man on a day to day basis. As a life-long resident who has made a career of working for the state, he was able to answer questions about the history of the camp, work that has been completed and rules relating to state ownership. I believe that a clearer definition of who we are to report to on various matters would have been helpful.

Other than that, this internship provided an invaluable opportunity to work at a National Historic Landmark. I was able to build on my previous experience with the public by giving tours of the camp or simply talking with them. It was an aspect of advocacy I found very

rewarding, though sometimes a challenge. I was also able to gain understanding of how a site such as Santanoni comes to be and how it operates as a public destination. Working with the public to educate them about preservation is certainly an avenue I would like to further explore. The other portion of my time was spent with hands on projects, which I found rewarding, though less beneficial as I do not intend to enter that branch of the field. Overall, I feel confident that this internship made a positive contribution to my ongoing education in the study of preservation.

Special Thanks

First I would like to thank Steven Englehart for hiring me to take part in this internship. My summer at Santanoni has been a memorable, learning experience. I would also like to thank Clive Friend for always being willing to help us out with whatever our current project might be and of course for letting me hitch a ride into Main Camp when the occasion presented itself. Finally, a thanks to my little friends, the chipmunks, who ensured that I always had someone to join me for lunch.

Santanoni 2005

a report by Stefanie Noble

This report is written, I hope, to be used in tandem with Chris Bell's "Costco" document in order to give future interns a better idea of what to expect upon arrival, as well as a summary of this past season's events. As the sole intern this year, I feel as though I got a better idea than most about some of the ups and downs of negotiating a summer at Santanoni and I hope that my input will help to evolve the role of the intern in the future as the Preserve continues to define itself as a historic site and recreation area.

Thank you to Steven Engelhart, of course, for offering me the position and answering questions all summer, as well as Paula and Bonnie for their support and kindness. Clive Friend was an indispensable resource and his wife, Karen, made fantastic fudge. Thank you to George Canon and the Town of Newcomb for continuing to support the work and interns at the camp! Doug and Ken provided rides on occasion and became colleagues in helping to fill in information for guests on the ride into camp. Carl Stearns and Janet Null offered amazing insight into the architectural side of preservation. Finally, Michael Frenette and his crew (Laura, Eric, and Shawn) were the people I saw most frequently during my time at Santanoni. Without them, I wouldn't have been able to do the work I was able to complete and would not have been able to witness their amazing craftsmanship.

Thank you again to everyone!

Overall, I feel that my experience was a good and productive one, both for myself and the Preserve. A lot of physical work was accomplished (although I do feel as though I could have done much, much more with a second intern available) and I believe I have some ideas that will help in the future for site interpretation and fundraising. Finally, I hope I can provide some guidance in easing new interns into that which is the Santanoni Experience so that they can delve into work more quickly in the few short months they will be spending at the Preserve.

Work Completed

General Maintenance

Sweeping took place daily at the Main Camp. The porches and Great Hall received the most attention in the mornings so as to present a well-kept view to visitors upon arrival. Throughout the day, as time permitted, the other cabins were swept and the windows were also brushed off to cut down on spider webs.

At the beginning of the season, attention was given to the bird droppings on the porch area out in front of the Great Hall. Although the larger "chunks" and stains were removed, the evidence still remains and more work needs to be done on the overhanging beams. Assuming that at least two interns will be back in the future, this is something that should be tackled early on, possibly with Clive's help in providing ladders or some sort of scaffolding. As was discussed during the summer, it may be worthwhile to investigate a deterrent, such as Nixalite, to prevent future messes from occurring in this area, where visitors are most likely to congregate.

The other guests at the Camp included the bats that have taken up residence in the roof near the Pruyn cabin. The guano is easily swept, but some staining of the porch has

occurred underneath this area. The cabin across from the Pruyn cabin has a distinct guano smell, which was noted by many visitors as being unpleasant.

The floors of the cabins were mopped and treated with Murphy's Oil Soap monthly. As has been mentioned by previous interns, this simple act has huge rewards in terms of visitor appreciation. The scent helps to indicate that care is being taken and one of the main things that was noted by visitors was the excellent condition of the floors, especially in the Great Hall.

The visitor materials (Camp Santanoni pamphlets, photo album, rough copy of book, guestbook) were also set out daily on a picnic table near the front of the porch. When not on the table, the items were left on the bench in the Great Hall, allowing visitors access at all hours and especially on days when I was off. Respect was given to all of the materials by visitors (minus a few "prank" entries in the guestbook). I would recommend buying a new binder for the photo album soon as it could use a slightly larger home. One with a transparent cover overlay would be perfect so that a more professional-looking and informative (I wrote "Photos" on the cover of the current album because it seemed somewhat anonymous) cover can be created and inserted. Similarly, created a more weatherproof version of the Santanoni book would be advised and could be as simple as again, purchasing a binder, removing the covers and slipping them in the overlays and then punching holes in the body of the book to insert in the binder. People enjoyed being able to read in-depth about the camp while on the porch (especially those camping out), but unless it was kept open to the title page, some were not sure what the book was. I also had one situation where I was sitting at the table with the materials around me and a group of visitors was hesitant to use the materials as they thought I was using them for research.

Essentially, the materials do not currently present a cohesive package to the visitor at this point in time. Even if they are made readily available, a lack of "Visitor's Center"-type signage (which I do NOT recommend!) around somewhat mundane-looking binders and a clipboard means that many visitors do not notice them. I think the simple act of dressing these items up a bit will work wonders, while not infringing on the informal nature of visitation at the Camp.

Boat House and Main Camp Windows

The main conservation project I worked on this summer was re-glazing the Boat House windows and repainting the Main Camp windows. One set of windows was completed for the Boat House, with broken panes replaced, damaged glazing removed and, fully repainted. The entire front (west-facing) side of the Main Camp (minus the Pruyn cabin) had window sash repainted, with the help of both the Hamilton College students and fellow students in Cornell's Preservation Studies Student Organization.

I ran into a few snags while working on the Boat House windows, primarily in that I was only able to finish one for the entire summer. It took a bit longer than planned to begin the project due to the differing schedules of myself and the building crew and I took the "perfectionist" route, spending more time removing glazing than was probably necessary, especially since I did not have the luxury of a heat gun to soften difficult sections. Also, as my primary task each day was to provide tours and information to visitors, I was often interrupted, drawing the project out further. I have no doubt though that, with more than one intern available, the same level of care can be applied to the project and could conceivably be completed by the end of the 2006 season.

One of the many projects undertaken by the Hamilton College group (which I will delve into more fully in a moment) was the repainting of the windows on the west face of the Main Camp. Needing to provide some of the students with a task, Michael Frenette suggested that, instead of waiting until the windows can be re-glazed, a coat of paint would provide a quick facelift to the camp and would help to protect the windows until they can be fully attended to. We removed all of the windows from their casing and began to clean them off, removing dust and other build-up as well as the more damaged portions of the glazing. I then applied two coats of paint to each frame. In places where glazing is missing, the paint will act as a barrier in the future to keep the wood from sucking the moisture out of newly applied putty, and where it is damaged, it provides a seal from the weather, protecting the windows for a few more winters.

Hamilton College Projects

A group of Hamilton College students visited Santanoni from August 18 - 20 as part of their freshmen orientation. I worked with their group leaders, Noelle Short and Grant Zubritsky, to provide conservation projects for the students and make their stay at Santanoni pleasant. The students were eager to work and completed a wide range of tasks, including a number of EPF projects and the window work mentioned previously. The gazebo was repainted (albeit in the Country Redwood color rather than the correct Safety Red) and partially re-screened, weeds around the Main Camp were cut back, and the Pump House was re-sided with bark and had its trim repainted. Some of the students also worked with Michael Frenette, helping to remove bark from logs and lend some extra hands to the Boat House team.

The group stayed at the Gate Lodge for the first night and then camped out at the Main Camp. There were very few issues with their visit and I would definitely recommend they return in the future. Working more closely with Clive to plan projects is advised, especially if some of the students could do some work at the Farm Complex or Gate Lodge.

Paint Analysis of Farm Complex

Samples were taken of the trim on various buildings at the Farm Complex in order to provide the DEC with appropriate colors for a future re-painting. An informational sheet detailing this process is appended at the end of this report.

Recommendations

Conservation

Rot is one of the main issues at the Main Camp at this stage. Wood near the ground in areas such as underneath the porte-cochère and around the back of the Great Hall block are the most noticeable areas to the public. The wood of the floors around the fireplaces in each of the rooms needs to be attended to in the very near future before the rising damp damage spreads further. Even a light sweeping creates a large amount of debris. The possibility of installing a damp-proof shielding material should be investigated.

Another issue that is continuing to grow is the disintegration of the stone in the fireplaces. Large amounts of "sand" were swept up during the summer. This is not currently causing any structural issues, but should continue to be monitored.

The condition of the fabric on the walls in the rooms over the Great Hall should be attended to. Although properly conserving the coverings will require more effort, it may be possible to simply tack them back lightly to discourage any pulling by visitors.

The birch back in the Great Hall needs to be conserved in the very near future. This is one of the features of the camp that continually amazes visitors for a number of reasons. They often can't believe that it is still original material, that they were able to find trees of the proper circumference, and that it is not in worse condition after 20 years of neglect. I believe now is the time to act on conserving this material as it is still wholly salvageable, with only a few missing portions. The job, due to materials needed, may not be appropriate for a summer intern, though, especially because of the need to erect scaffolding within the Great Hall, which would adversely affect the experience of visitors.

Future Interpretation

There are two areas that I feel will require more attention in terms of interpretation in the future: the Kitchen wing and the area around Duck Hole where the caretaking building complex once stood.

Obviously, the stabilization of the Kitchen wing is of primary importance. A decision should be made regarding the safety of allowing tours into the Kitchen before this stabilization takes place. With the cribbing in place, is the main floor safe to walk on. Certainly the upstairs is off-limits, but the inability to see the inside of such a large building was a disappointment to many visitors. A firm policy should be figured out, especially since later tours with AARCH and other groups (specifically, the group led by Richard Longstreth) did enter the Kitchen. A solution might be to allow the Kitchen wing to remain open while the intern is on duty giving tours, but then to make sure it is locked in the evenings, so the chance for "unsupervised" tours is lessened.

The need for more complex interpretation of the Kitchen wing is something that can be considered both now and when the stabilization has been completed. I feel as though the nature of the kitchen area in terms of changes in types of food preparation, appliances used, and the presence of staff vs. later Pruyn family vs. Melvin family over the years calls for a more in-depth approach than may be necessary for the other rooms of the Main Camp. This may be accomplished by actually reintroducing appliances and furniture to the wing or relying on photos and signage. The second option may be more desirable as it will not result in any irreparable changes to the fabric of the building and will allow the interpretation to be more fluid in nature, showing the changes over the years (for example, from the use of the coolers out on the balcony to refrigerators and from the kitchen being inhabited mainly

by staff to the disappearance of staff by the time of the Melvins). The approach may even be as simple a creating a separate photo album subset of kitchen-area related photos, just to highlight the importance of the wing.

It is also the important presence of the staff in running the Santanoni Preserve that makes the former caretaking complex near Duck Hole important to future interpretation. I made a point of mentioning the buildings that were once there to visitors and showing the photos in the book. Many people asked about staff quarters or, when it was mentioned, suddenly became aware of the huge amount of work that went into running such a place when they realized there were at least four other buildings that were used regularly. An ambitious long-term plan might include the construction of "ghost structures" at the site; wood or wire frames of the buildings where they once stood (similar to Ben Franklin's house site in Philadelphia). The frame structures could blend in with the trees, yet still indicate previous usage. A more short-term (and "Forever Wild" friendly) solution would be the placement of signage with photos at the various locations of the buildings. This is a solution that should probably be implemented at the Farm Complex as well in the interim until a decision is made on the barn reconstruction.

Staffing

Although it is certainly possible for one intern to have a successful season at Santanoni, it is not ideal. Apart from being able to complete less work over the summer, the chance to learn from someone who may have different skills and interests in such a unique setting is important. I believe the ideal number of interns would be three, with a possible fourth person manning the visitor's center, for reasons I will now outline.

Santanoni would preferably have three interns from a preservation, history, or museum studies-type background. One would interpret the Gate Lodge and Farm Complex, one would interpret the Main Camp, and one would work exclusively on conservation projects. The three would then rotate tasks at regular intervals (weekly? monthly? every few days?), allowing each to master the various aspects of the Preserve. This would keep some of the monotony of repeating the tour three times a day from setting in and allow for more focused conservation work. Depending on where work is being done, the touring intern could help the conservation intern during downtime as well, providing that always helpful extra set of hands. The presence of three interns would also take some pressure off each one for scheduling days off or being able to pick up slack if someone needs a "sick day" (or gets bitten by the neighbor's dog during a trip home!).

The visitor's center would best be manned by either an intern in the tourism field or by volunteers or local townspeople. Although this portion of the management of Santanoni is important to understand as a preservationist (how do historic structures maintain public interest/revenue/etc.?), I imagine that most preservation students come to Santanoni in search of more conservation work and historic interpretation, rather than running a gift shop and answering the phone.

For Future Interns

I intend this section to be advice for both AARCH, in making the intern's job easier, and for the intern directly to get a better idea of what to expect when living at the Gate Lodge. Chris Bell's report does a good job of outlining the expectations of any intern who would live out at the Main Camp, but the Gate Lodge situation, while more luxurious, was not explained in as much detail. This will probably best take shape in the form of a list of various bullet points:

- **Orientation.** For my first few weeks at Santanoni, I must admit that I felt a bit overwhelmed and unsure of what to do with myself. I think that this would have been lessened to a large degree with another intern around, but making sure that the "orientation" activities (meeting with DEC/Town officials, outlining expectations for the summer, etc.) happen as soon as possible after the interns arrive is key to ensuring a productive summer.
- **Keys**. I think the practice of leaving the keys under the mats at the Gate Lodge should be discontinued. Those that require keys should have copies made for them, to be returned to AARCH or Clive at the end of the season.
- **Phone and Internet.** The presence of DSL made it much easier to do research, to continue school work (no such thing as summer break in grad school!), and to keep in touch with family. I definitely recommend that it continue to be turned on each summer. One thing that I found helpful though, was bringing my Airport Express wireless hub so that I wasn't tied to the desk downstairs with my laptop. Depending on the computer-geekiness of future interns, this might be a consideration. Certainly, if one uses Skype or

other internet telephony, being able to cloister yourself in your room to whisper sweet nothings to your significant other might be appreciated by fellow interns. I used my Powerbook, but, again, depending on the situation of future interns, AARCH may want to put a new computer in. I turned it on once and then ran away screaming because of the slowness and likely presence of millions of viruses.

- **Phone Part II.** This bit of advice was originally attached to the end of an email to Steven regarding the raccoon attack of August 2005:

  > "Anyway, one thing that came to light during all of this that you may want to look at for next year is the fact that the phone only has local service. This ended up not being a real emergency, but, in the event there was one, the emergency Ray Brook number that I was given is a long distance call and requires the phone card, which takes some time to wade through the process of placing a call. So, maybe next year, long distance service could be implemented (which would also be helpful in returning calls from possible visitors) to make emergency calling easier with the caveat that interns SHOULD use calling cards for personal calls to keep the cost down."

- **Printer.** A printer needs to be put back in the Gate Lodge. There were a number of points where I needed to make signs, and although I think I have fairly decent lettering skills, a printer would have helped. Having the printer would also help in allowing the next interns to accomplish some of the improvements to the Main Lodge visitor materials that I mentioned earlier.

- **Maintenance Checklists.** I used the maintenance checklists in the report of one of the previous interns. It would be helpful to have copies made of those and given to the interns at the beginning of the summer.
- **Kitchen Supplies.** If the future interns are in any way gourmets, they should probably bring along any favorite tools (although the pizza peel may intrigue them). I found that, although there were more than enough forks/spoons/butter knives, the kitchen lacked a good sharp paring knife and chef's knife, among other things. Possibly, AARCH could purchase a new knife set to add to the kitchen. That was the one thing I found to be a bit annoying at times in that I was mangling some of my food with the paring knife. I added measuring cups and spoons to the inventory and another cereal bowl, along with a few extra non-perishables at the end of the summer.
- **Internet Merchandise.** I played around to a small extent with a site called Cafepress.com to create some different Santanoni-related merchandise, including a tote bag, mug, and bumper sticker. I would be happy to volunteer my time to AARCH to get this up and running more fully to offer an alternative method to on-site selling. AARCH may want to explore this in a different manner as well, but I would strongly consider it, especially if there is no one available to man the Visitor's Center again in the future.

A Little More About What to Expect as a Santanoni Intern

Chris Bell's 2003 report does an excellent job of beginning to describe the Santanoni experience to incoming interns, but does tend to focus a lot on the specific issues of living at the Main Camp. I hope to add just a little insight for those who will be living at the Gate Lodge and "commuting" in daily.

Packing Ideas: *Clothing and Bedding*

I brought way too many clothes with me, especially in terms of t-shirts and shorts. As it ended up, I was alternating between about three pairs of long pants and virtually ignoring my shorts (long pants cut down on bugbites and the amount of grit one finds all over themselves biking in and out and ward off chill from the breeze that constantly comes in off of Newcomb Lake even on the hottest days). I wore the two "Camp Santanoni" green polo shirts on weekends and rotated the bookplate t-shirts and one of the DEC t-shirts during the week. Having the washer and dryer available meant that I didn't have to worry about not having clean "branded" items. One item of clothing I found oddly helpful was a bright red, hooded jacket that I often wore at the Main Camp. My name tag helped, but I think the visibility of the jacket helped to confirm my role as a guide a bit more.

Never underestimate the chilliness of the Adirondacks! This was one of the hottest summers I've recalled, but it is very rarely hot at the Main Camp due to the aforementioned breeze. Layered clothing is a good idea because you may be working up a sweat biking in and/or doing work around Camp and then sitting and talking with people for awhile under the shade of the porches. Also, the first floor of the Gate Lodge is always refreshingly cool. Upstairs will tend to get more muggy and warm if it is hot out, so layering your linens will be helpful too. I had a regular set of sheets and then used my sleeping bag as a comforter if necessary. The sheets were washed at the end of the summer and are available

for future use. I also left my mosquito netting over the bed in the second to last room down the hall. Although there aren't swarms of them inside, they do tend to congregate over prone, sleeping skin bags at night. The netting is a simple solution and my sleeping happiness increased tenfold and scratching decreased tenfold after I put it up.

Bike Accouterments

I think it's important to note here that even lumps like me managed to bike in and out of the Main Camp every day. Although overweight three-pack-a-day smokers even seemed to be able to outpace me, the ride is definitely do-able. If I were to do things over, I would probably have chosen to upgrade my hybrid bike (that I really hadn't ridden in about 10 years) for an actual mountain bike featuring nice fat tires and a lighter weight. But really, it didn't stop me.

I had a pack on the back rack of my bike with two panniers on the sides. As the daughter of an Eagle Scout and a registered nurse, I like to Be Prepared. The mid-section of the pack had an insulated area. In the mornings I would pack my lunch and an ice pack and along with a non-wilty, non-limp lunch, I had a cold drink waiting for me at all times. It's important to have plenty of water available. For me, I found that my regular travel mug and a larger Snapple container that I re-used all summer was enough for the day. I hit the travel mug quite frequently too as my throat tends to get froggy when I speak in my "tour" voice for too long. If you are a thirstier person, you may want to have more water available.

The panniers contained such things as a small first-aid kit, bike tools, work gloves. flashlight, packable rain jacket, bug spray, pens, random tools and a few other things I'm sure I've forgotten. I definitely recommend either a pack like this or a backpack. You

will certainly be toting a few things in and out of the Main Camp throughout the summer, such as brochures to replenish the supply at the very least.

Laundry and Bathing

Thanks to myself and past interns, future interns probably don't need to bring detergent or fabric softener to the Gate Lodge unless you have some particular brand loyalty. There is quite a bit available along with bleach and spot remover. One note about the dryer: That duct tape is there for a reason, but it doesn't get the job done. I moved the cans in front of the door to keep it from flying open while tumbling my clothes. I recommend this course of action to all future interns.

There should be a fine variety of hair cleansing products in the bathroom as well. A bottle of Dr. Bronner's greeted me upon arrival, so if you are a crunchy granola type, there is a huge bottle waiting for you. If you have fussy giant thick hair that doesn't cooperate even when you are only putting it in a ponytail all summer, the Garnier Fructis shampoo and conditioner that I accidentally left behind may be more appealing. A decent supply of toilet paper should also be in the bathroom closet.

Your New Mice Friends

No matter how much you hide away your food, you will encounter mice at the Gate Lodge. I kept my food (that which wasn't in the fridge) in a large plastic tub in the kitchen. The mice didn't get to it, but that doesn't stop them from exploring and leaving tiny brown gifts all over the place. You just need to learn to accept them as your new little wild pets, do your best to not leave any food scraps out anywhere, and get used to sweeping

and, if you don't secure the trash bin lid TIGHTLY, releasing them back out into the wild after they have fallen in the trash.

Newcomb, NY and You

If you aren't familiar with the Adirondacks, the town of Newcomb may come as a bit of a shock to you. As a native Upstater, I was well aware of the sort of "hidden" nature of Newcomb. There is no gas station, no supermarket, no discotheque, no hipster coffee shop, no sushi. What you will find in Newcomb is a town with no real business center, instead, it is stretched for a few miles down 28N. You can get ice cream and snacky-type food at Scoops and pick up yours and Santanoni's mail right next door. You will thrill at Bissell's store, but do not plan on doing all of your shopping there. Most of your grocery shopping will probably be done at the North Creek Tops (and you will find a shopper's club key tag in the desk drawer), with an occasional run to the Long Lake Stewart's or their small grocery. There is also a diner/general store just a short ways down the road from the Camp entrance as well as the Newcomb House across the street from the entrance if you are in need of libations.

So, I think I am making the point that there is very little in Newcomb. That, of course, is why spending the summer in Newcomb is so special. You will have managed to hide yourself away in a tucked-away little town and then go even further back into the woods, to a place that, while it has the story of a blockbuster movie, is still a secret to many. I hope that these few pages are helpful to everyone who comes after me, but I also hope that you are able to discover Santanoni in your own way and find your own hidden surprises.

Stefanie Noble, Ithaca, NY - November 1, 2005

PAINT ANALYSIS at the Santanoni Preserve Farm Complex

Prepared for **Adirondack Architectural Heritage** by intern **Stefanie Noble**, **Summer 2005**

The paint analysis procedure took place both at Camp Santanoni in Newcomb, NY and at the Baker Lab on Cornell University's campus in Ithaca, NY over the course of a week. The preceding steps were followed:

1. Samples were removed from the painted portions of the Creamery, Old Farmhouse and New Farmhouse. The samples were taken from various portions of the buildings by cutting a small square with a blade and then lifting the paint chip away, being sure to include some of the substrate with the chip.

2. Paint samples were then placed in individually labeled envelopes, indicating the building and location the sample was taken from (i.e. "Creamery: Window Trim").

3. The paint samples are then suspended in resin. The best molds are small ice trays with approximately half-inch cubes. The trays are sprayed with mold release in a well-ventilated area. The trays are filled half way with resin and allowed to harden overnight. The paint chip is then placed in, near an edge, and the rest of the resin is poured over to create a resin cube. This is allowed to harden for 24 hours.

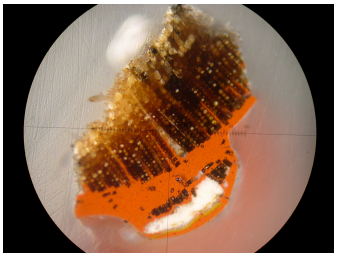
4. The resin cubes are popped out of the trays and then, using a Dremel tool, the cube is cut to reveal a cross-section of the paint layers. The nearer the paint chip is to an edge of the cube, the less one has to cut.

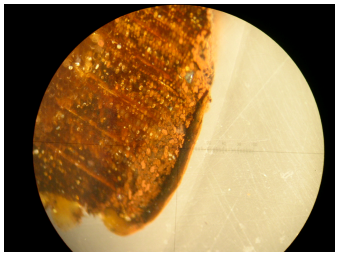
5. Using a succession of wetted sandpapers, the cut edge of the cube is polished until the surface has a glass-like smooth finish. A drop of refracting index liquid will make the surface appear transparent to aid in viewing under the microscope.

6. The sample is then viewed under a microscope, lit with a fiber-optic lamp, rather than the microscope's own bulb. This protects the paint from heating and produces a more natural daytime-like light.

7. The layers of paint are then matched with color samples from a Munsell Color Standard Book. The Munsell colors can then be used to correspond with, in this case, Benjamin Moore paint colors. The results of this paint analysis were:

Red Trim	Brown Trim
Munsell color 7.5 R 3/6	**Munsell color 7.5 YR 4/4**
Benjamin Moore "Country Redwood"	**Benjamin Moore "Charleston Brown"**



The top photo shows a sample with only the Safety Red paint visible. The white portion emphasizes the importance of taking a number of samples as all manner of anomalies can appear.

The bottom photo shows a sample of the brown-hued paint.