AARCH

Adirondack Architectural Heritage
NEWSLETTER

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PLACEMAKERS

How Everyday Objects Connect Us to Place

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Dear Members and Friends of AARCH,

Each year as I review the breadth of work produced by our dedicated staff throughout the year, I am reminded of the scope and depth of our involvement throughout the park and beyond. AARCH's impact on the Adirondack region continued to strengthen in the past year as Erin Tobin assumed her new leadership role as Executive Director. Erin, Christine, Nolan, and Samantha continue to wholeheartedly advance our mission of promoting public understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the Adirondacks.

We continue to expand our reach and support of vibrant preservation work in communities across our region. This year we will offer impactful preservation funds for the first time in our 33-year history with the Adirondack Rural Revitalization Program, funded through the National Park Service's Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program.

Thanks to the support of you, our members and friends, we are able to offer a broad range of tours and events throughout the region each year. In 2023, we look forward to expanding new opportunities like our hands-on preservation workshops and webinar series.

Also in the coming year, an AARCH group will go to Guatemala on our first international tour since 2019. There we will explore the UNESCO World Heritage city of Antigua, visit Mayan ruins and indigenous villages around Lake Atitlan, and learn about Guatemalan history and culture.

Santanoni continues to be a major focus of our work. A crucial grant through the New York State Environmental Protection Fund will fund our first full-time Camp Santanoni Historic Site Manager as well as critical fire protection at the Gate Lodge and Main Camp. Our continued partnership with NYS DEC and the Town of Newcomb enhances both our lively activities and strong stewardship of the camp. We look forward to welcoming this year's summer staff to Santanoni and exploring the site with new and old friends alike.

This winter we are launching our AARCH Circle of legacy giving. The generosity of long-time members who remembered AARCH in their estate has allowed us to grow our endowment fund for long-term sustainability. You will read more about our AARCH Circle, including how to join, in this winter newsletter. Thank you all for your continued support, interest, and belief in AARCH and our mission.

Kind Regards,

Dean

Dean Melville
Board President

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AARCH's work is supported, in part, by the generous support of the New York State Council on the Arts, Architecture + Design Program and Humanities New York.

Cover photo: Eldora, Kathleen, and Beulah LaPierre sorting wooden dishes at the Oval Wood Dish Company's factory in Tupper Lake c. 1920. Courtesy of The Adirondack Experience.

Placemakers: How Everyday Objects Connect Us to Place

Historic places connect us to stories in tangible ways that capture our imagination. Curiosity drives us to uncover the stories of our communities and the people who have shaped them, allowing us to better connect with each other and our shared heritage.

While places are often defined by buildings, monuments, or natural landmarks, commonplace objects can also embody the story of a place or community. These often overlooked placemakers come in all forms, from goods manufactured in a local factory to roadside signs and tools, all of which can provide valuable insight into a community's history and identity.

Like buildings, these everyday objects function as windows into the past, revealing a network of people, sites, and events that tell the story of a place. As we explore who designed and made an object, what values it has held over time, inscriptions it may have, or simply why it looks the way it does, we form a more nuanced understanding of a place. For instance, the cover image of this newsletter does not merely document the operation of the Oval Wood Dish Company's factory in Tupper Lake circa 1920, it also provides insight into the nature of disposable dishware at the time, the company's recruitment of female employees, and the critical role of lumber in the local economy.

In expanding our understanding of a place's history and identity, these unassuming placemakers shed light on people that conventional histories may ignore or have overlooked. AARCH is dedicated to telling the full spectrum of stories that have shaped our region's communities, from the contributions of community leaders and business owners to tradespeople and laborers. Everyday objects can help us explore these stories and better understand the dynamics between people and place.

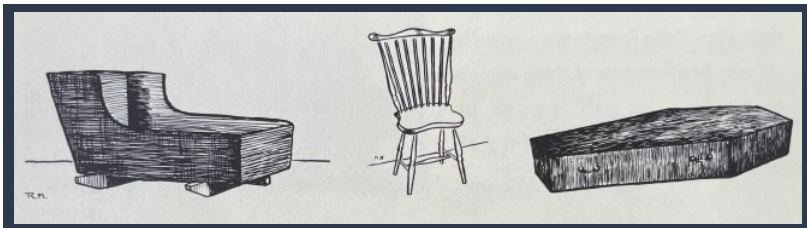
In the following pages, we explore different layers of Adirondack history through a fishing lure, a china cabinet, a hand-carved sign, and even a piece of graffiti. What began as separate personal connections to these objects has become a series of stories that reveal just how interconnected our sprawling, 13-county region is. We invite you to take a fresh look at the objects you encounter every day and ask yourself what stories they might hold.

Happy Searching!

Erin, Christine, Nolan, and Samantha

Old glassware and china are often unearthed in the midst of yardwork and other excavations. Christine found this distinctive Orange Crush bottle at her house in Jay. Mass-produced objects like this convey a lot about the relationship between geography and economy throughout history. For instance, bottles like this one, which is stamped "Port Henry, NY" on the bottom, were likely distributed throughout the Adirondacks in the 1920s when this ad was printed.

Quilts are often tied to place through their patterns and fabric. For example, this quilt uses three popular patchwork blocks: the Log Cabin, Bear Paw, and Flying Geese patterns. The Log Cabin was commonly used by Americans traveling west in the 19th century as a symbol of home, warmth, and security. The red center square represents the hearth and the narrow strips of fabric surrounding it emulates log construction. In addition, many Log Cabin patterns are divided into light and dark halves to mimic the sun's movement across the sky. The Bear Paw (four "bear paws" forming a square) and Flying Geese (rows of triangles) may have been used by freedom seekers on the underground railroad to find the safest routes north to Canada. Each pattern embodies a unique connection to place.



This advertisement from R. Prescott & Son furniture company, which operated mills on the banks of the Ausable River in Keeseville, perfectly captures some of the everyday objects that accompany us through different stages of life. Pieces of furniture not only support us literally, but can also become heirlooms that help tell the story of a family.

Hook-To-Spoon: The Harry Ruser Fishing Lure

By Christine Bush

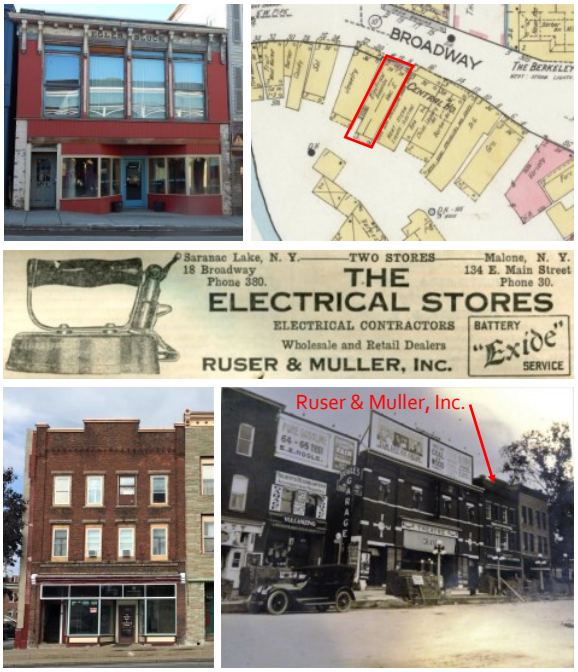
Imagine the excitement of an eight-year-old boy in love with all things fishing saving his pennies and riding his bicycle to the corner hardware store to purchase tackle for a fishing adventure. From the dizzying array of choices, two hooks at two cents a piece and a sinker for a penny were selected, spawning my husband's lifelong fascination with fishing tackle.

It is easy to get *hooked* on studying and collecting antique fishing tackle, which comes in all shapes, sizes, and materials, and can be simple or ornate. Each piece has its own story.

Finding fishing rods, reels, lures, and other accessories made in the Adirondacks always piques my interest, so when my husband came home with his most recent find - a metal lure stamped "Harry Ruser, Coreys, NY" - I knew there was a story to discover. While I did not learn much about Harry's lure-making, I had no idea I would find links between AARCH's work, fishing, and the spread of electricity throughout the Adirondacks.

AARCH is familiar with the hamlet of Coreys through hosting our Indigenous Landscapes of the North Country and A Tale of Two Carrys tours. The hamlet has a rich history deeply tied to the Indian Carry. Located 12 miles southwest of Saranac Lake, one mile south of New York Route 3, near the Stony Creek Ponds, the area has always attracted fishing and outdoor enthusiasts from around the country. Throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, hotels and camps sprung up around the region. While the early hotels no longer exist, many early camps and cabins still dot the shoreline, including the 1910 camp that Harry Ruser owned.

Harry Ruser was the son of Louisiana native Lucinda Rickert and Ludwig Ruser, who immigrated to the United States in 1874 to serve as the attorney for the German Consulate in NYC. The Rusers had four children, a daughter and three sons, including Harry. We don't know when or why Harry and his brother Louis moved to Saranac Lake, but by 1904, they operated a well-established electrical business, Ruser & Muller, Inc. By 1914, they had stores in Malone and Saranac Lake and were awarded prestigious contracts for Tupper Lake's Litchfield Castle, Malone's Flanagan Hotel, and Lake Kushaqua's Stony Wold Sanitorium, to name a few. Newspaper accounts tell of Ruser's skill as an electrician and the success of the company. While electricity was still relatively novel in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the attention given to it in newspapers indicates the high esteem and value placed on tradespeople during this time.



Top Left : Saranac Lake location of Ruser & Muller at 11 Broadway. Top Right: 1916 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing 18 Broadway (circled in red). Middle: 1917 Mountain Home Telephone Directory listing. Bottom Left: Malone location of Ruser & Muller at 473 E. Main St. Bottom Right: Malone store c. 1920s.

Ruser & Muller operated out of the Egler Block building in Saranac Lake, which still stands on Broadway, and a store in Malone, which ran out of the 473 East Main Street. Both of these buildings and several others related to Ruser & Muller are in National Register districts written by AARCH. As the automobile became popular, Harry branched out to sell batteries and motors and ultimately owned car dealerships and auto garages in Malone and Saranac Lake.

In our National Register district work, we focus on patterns in history and influential individuals associated with the development of that community. Rarely do we have an opportunity to explore the history of everyday individuals and their impact on the community. Harry's life and career highlights the multi-layered stories that run through AARCH's work, deepening our understanding of the region's history, people, and places.

Harry Ruser's lure provides a window into not only his life and accomplishments, but also the development of metal lures. The lure is called a "Hook-To-Spoon" based on the 1854 patent by J.T. Buel of Whitehall, NY, one of the earliest patented fishing lures in the United States. Harry was a skilled electrician, entrepreneur, businessman, and avid outdoorsman, and an ardent collector of hunting and fishing-related paraphernalia. I think he would be delighted to know his lure resides in my husband's Adirondack fishing lure collection.

Tupper Anglers Land 19-lb. Lake Trout In Upper Saranac

Milton Lyons and Don Duane, Tupper Lake anglers, exhibited the largest lake trout landed in this sector of the Adirondacks Saturday — a 36-inch specimen which tipped the beam just two ounces under 19 pounds.

They hooked the big trout while trolling in Upper Saranac Lake Saturday morning. Lyons made the catch on a Harry Ruser spoon —a lure turned out at nearby Coreys and successfully used on the lake. It took about 35 minutes to bring the laker to gaff.

Tupper Lake Free Press, 7/21/38

Cabinet of Curiosity

By Samantha Johnson

What began with a spark of curiosity uncovered both the story of a devastating fire that swept through the village of Tupper Lake in 1899 and the community's resilience in its aftermath.

My mother recently found an antique china cabinet in Plattsburgh with a label indicating that it came from a store in Tupper Lake. Our family has been in Tupper Lake for six generations and it happened to be just what she was looking for so she bought it. Curious about the cabinet's origins, I researched the company to find out when they were active and how old the cabinet might be.

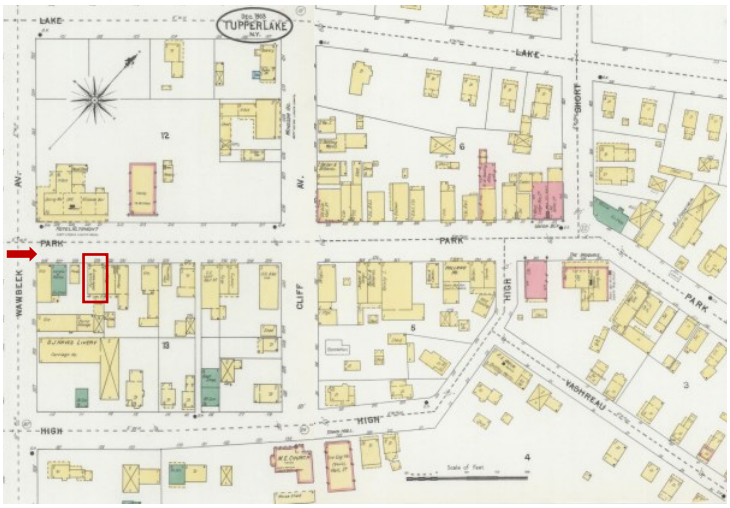
The tag on the back of the cabinet indicated that it was sold by G.W. Drew & Son in Tupper Lake. By searching for the company in historic newspapers, I learned that they were part of the rebuilding efforts after a fire destroyed most of the village in 1899. Originally from Norwood, New York, Ernest and Olive Drew arrived in Tupper Lake shortly after the fire, where Ernest opened a branch of his family's furniture and undertaking business, which already had stores in Norwood and Malone. Their Tupper Lake store operated from late 1899 until 1920, and at some point in those 21 years, they sold the cabinet that my mother discovered over a century later.

As is the nature of historic research, I could not simply stop there. I was curious about the story of "the big fire," as it was known locally, and how it reshaped Tupper Lake. There are several historical accounts of the widespread devastation chronicled in regional newspapers, including *The Malone Palladium*, *The Franklin Gazette*, *The Adirondack News*, and even *The New York Times*. The fire broke out in the early hours of July 30, 1899 in a shed behind the King & Page store on the corner of Water and Cliff Streets then rapidly spread through the village's commercial and residential core, razing 169 buildings and leaving a flat, smoldering, wasteland in its wake. Unfortunately, the community had not yet established a fire department and thus had few means with which to save their predominantly wooden structures. Of the six hotels, two opera houses, twelve saloons, two churches, and numerous stores and residences that comprised the village, only two hotels, one opera house, and one church survived the fire. The damages amounted to about $200,000 (about $7 million today), only half of which was insured.

Top: Photograph taken by E.N. Crane immediately after the fire, looking north from the corner of Park Street and Wawbeek Ave (see red arrow on map below). Photo courtesy of Goff-Nelson Memorial Library via New York Heritage Digital Collections.

Middle: The china cabinet in my parents' Schuyler Falls home today, over a century after it left the G.W. Drew & Son store in Tupper Lake.

Bottom: Downtown Tupper Lake four years after the fire in 1903 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. The new fire station is visible in the bottom center at 208 High Street. G.W. Drew & Son may have been located at 229 Park Street (circled in red).



Rather than accept defeat, however, the residents of Tupper Lake immediately began to rebuild. In a few short years, they made tremendous progress building new homes, businesses, and community centers – and finally a fire department! In my research, I also discovered that my great-grandfather was a volunteer for the fire department a few decades later.

This story of resilience exemplifies the experience of many early Adirondack communities, which struggled to establish their remote settlements in the face of environmental, economic, or social upheaval. In each case, they had to decide whether to abandon their efforts or band together and build a stronger community. We see that spirit reflected in Adirondack communities today, as they build on the resilience of their forebears and continue to adapt to the changing world.

Fun Fact: *The Tupper Lake National Bank, which was built in 1915, was furnished in part by G.W. Drew & Son and wired by Ruser & Muller (see Christine's piece opposite)!*

Amasa from the Block

By Nolan Cool

Graffiti can be found scrawled across buildings, train cars, old industrial facilities in every corner of the world. These messages that are written, drawn, etched, or scratched across the surfaces of public places carry layers of meaning. Graffiti offers us a tangible representation of change over time, often on both personal and societal levels.

When the sun hits the east wall of Keeseville's Ausable Valley Grange in just the right way, the word "Amasa" appears in faint 19th-century cursive script on one of the reddish-brown Potsdam Sandstone blocks that form this and many other historic buildings in the village. I noticed this by chance on a sunny day years ago when returning from an AARCH staff lunch. Being avid preservationists and curious historians, we of course had to know the meaning of this very public message. I started by asking what anyone would – who is Amasa?

The still-active Ausable Valley Grange No. 973 opened in 1903, but the building began its life in 1856 as the shipping office for the Ausable Horse Nail Company. Over time, meetings, lectures, speeches, and other communal events defined the Grange's use, but the only record of an "Amasa" at the site comes its time as a horse nail shipping office. In fact, Amasa Macomber, a member of a prominent 19th -century Keeseville family, worked many jobs before his employment at the Ausable Horse Nail Company between 1870 and his death in 1893. Prior to that, he scarcely shows up in the written record, appearing in state records selling "moulding sand" to New York State for use at Dannemora's Clinton State Prison in the early 1850s and even exploring work in northwest Pennsylvania's oil industry with his brother, J. Nelson Macomber, soon after.

We can only speculate that Amasa Macomber left this mark. Regardless, the etching bearing his name on the Grange building not only represents his marking the site but also offers a window to reflect more broadly on the meaning behind graffiti of this nature. It bears a breadth of connections through examining what little we know about Amasa Macomber and his family, life, labor, and personal networks, as well as his relationship with place. Through exploring the roots of this lone signature, we can learn so much about Amasa's world, including his various occupations as a grocer, barkeep, farmer, and bookkeeper. Through his business connection with Clinton State Prison, we can explore the economic underpinnings of early Adirondack prisons. Through his work at the horse nail company, we can explore the role of workers in the far-reaching impacts of the Adirondack iron industry. Lastly, through his son Julio's marriage to Virginia Watson, granddaughter of prominent Albany and Port Kent agriculturalist, canal enthusiast, promoter, and banker, Elkanah Watson, we can explore how each of these themes affected the region, state, and nation.

A historic image of the Ausable Horse Nails shipping building (top) and a modern day photo of the same building, now the Ausable Valley Grange Hall, courtesy of Richard Longstreth (below).

Graffiti that we may pass by every day carries endless stories, meaning, and wonder for us to discover and explore. Although graffiti may fade in time, it offers yet another means of accessing the past and attaining a better understanding of history in our communities.

The "Bad Boy Lodge"

By Erin Tobin

I have had the privilege of staying at Point-O-Rocks, Rick and Maria Russell's Port Douglass camp, during the week while working in the AARCH office. The care with which the Russells steward the property is evident the moment one pulls up to the house, and the history of the site and its buildings shines through even as those structures have grown and evolved.

Rick Russell's great-grandfather, William Cowlbeck, came to Keeseville from Kent, England in the 1880s to work in the Ausable Horse Nail Factory (whose office building AARCH currently occupies) in order to save enough money to bring his wife, Elizabeth, and young son, Syd, to New York. Once William met his goal, the young family settled in Glens Falls, where William and Elizabeth had three more children, Marian, Isabel ("Bud"), and Donald.

Fast forward 130 years later to 2013, when Rick and Maria Russell found an old, beat-up board with the words "Bad Boy Lodge" scratched into it while renovating an old icehouse turned guest cabin at Point-O-Rocks. Curious about the origin, Rick Russell reached out to his adult nephews, who spent time in the guest cabin as kids. It was indeed Rick's nephews, Justin and Eric, who carved the "Bad Boy Lodge" sign over 30 years ago when staying there during the summer.

The evolution of the Bad Boy Lodge tells the story of a family connected to the Keeseville/Port Douglass community over generations. Syd Cowlbeck, a salesman living in Glens Falls who frequently traveled north along Route 9, bought the Point-O-Rocks land on Lake Champlain in 1923. Syd knew that his late father, William, had worked at the horse nail factory in Keeseville, and Syd himself may have spent time there after coming over from England as a young boy. Syd enjoyed picnicking and camping with friends and family on the Point-O-Rocks site.

Top: The Bad Boy Lodge sign that Justin and Eric carved over 30 years ago, photo courtesy of Rick Russell.
Bottom: The Bad Boy Lodge as it stands today, photo courtesy of Maria Russell.

During the 1930s, the Cowlbecks built the site's main cottage, primarily for use as a rental. The youngest Cowlbeck sibling, Donald, used the cottage the most and eventually purchased it in the 1950s. Donald was a doctor in Trenton with friends in Keeseville and spent a lot of time at Point-O-Rocks, often visited by his favorite nephew and great-nephew, Rick Russell and his father, Richard.

Donald's wife, Florence, loved to entertain while they were up at Point-O-Rocks, and in the 1960s, Donald - not a night owl and looking for a project - decided to build his own cabin as a retreat for when his wife entertained. Donald and his good friend, Earl Way of Keeseville, moved an icehouse from the property's south side to behind the main cottage, turning it into a getaway for Donald, "His Suite." Donald and Earl did the work of transforming the icehouse, even building the fireplace out of locally-quarried garnet stone. Donald added a back bedroom and bathroom to the icehouse, also extending the main sitting room on the building's south side. The porch was converted into a second bedroom and enclosed.

When Donald passed away in 1978, he left Point-O-Rocks to Rick and his father, knowing their love for the camp and feeling strongly that it should remain in the family. In the following years, Rick's parents, Richard and Holly, spent summers at Point-O-Rocks, hosting their grandchildren. During these summers, Justin and Eric camped out in the guest house turned "Bad Boy Lodge" to escape their younger sisters. They recall it as their own fort, not dissimilar to how their great-great-uncle Donald spent time there.

Today, 100 years after Syd Cowlbeck bought the land for Point-O-Rocks, the "Bad Boy Lodge" sign hangs over the door to Rick and Maria Russell's guest cottage, which has evolved over the last 90 years from an icehouse, to Donald Cowlbeck's getaway in the 1960s, to the Russell grandsons' private fort in the 1980s & 90s, and now to a private guest house for artists visiting for the Keeseville Arts Festival each year and other guests, including me! Rick and Maria's many grand-nieces have now created a "Bad Girl's Lodge" sign, which replaces the "Bad Boy Lodge" sign when they visit.

Painting of the "Bad Boy Lodge" by Jackie Clark, a Manhattan-based artist who stayed there during the 2021 and 2022 Keeseville Arts Festivals.

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Over 50 organizations, municipalities, businesses, and foundations show their enthusiasm for AARCH's mission through contributions that support our work throughout the region. We especially value our business partners' sponsorship of our summer celebration, raffle, and other special events. Please help us thank them by supporting them with your business. Contact Samantha (samantha@aarch.org) about the benefits of a business membership or with any errors or omissions to this list.

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In Honor of Erin Tobin
Betsy Wilson

2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

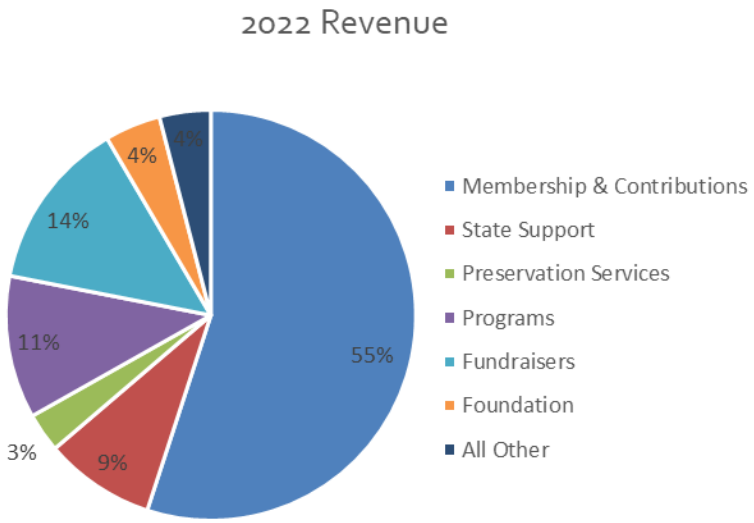
Thanks to the enduring support of our members and friends, the New York State Council on the Arts, Humanities NY, and private foundation support, AARCH has been able to continue its preservation work throughout the region. The following is our brief 2022 (Operating) Financial Report.

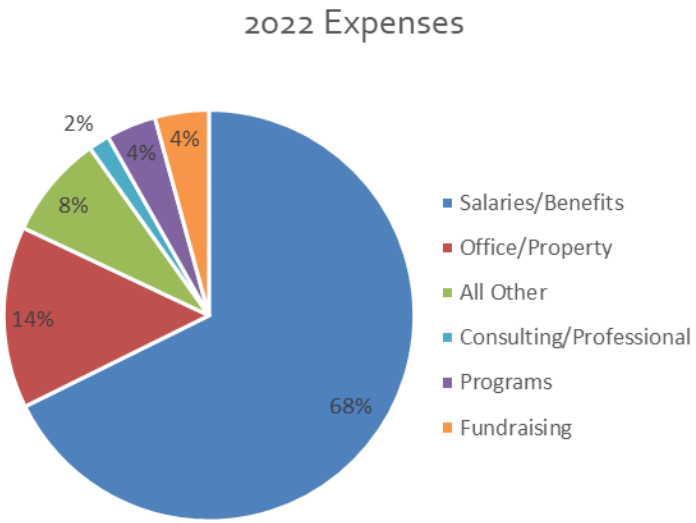
Revenue

Membership & Contributions	$226,924
State Support	36,000
Preservation Services	12,704
Programs	46,372
Fundraisers	55,524
Foundation	18,200
All Other	16,647
	$412,371

Expenses

Salaries/Benefits	279,364
Office/Property	59,072
All Other	33,610
Consulting/Professional	6,812
Programs	16,272
Fundraising	17,561
	$412,691





In 2023, we are excited to continue exploring places that excite us, challenge us, and deepen our relationship to community. Our first programs of the year will be two new webinars. The first on February 15 will feature a remarkable panel that will explore communities that formed within and around vacant Adirondack prisons. This webinar showcases a timely discussion of how appropriate interpretation and adaptive use can help to strengthen and restore communities while New York State and the affected communities consider new uses for these sites. On April 26, we will host a webinar highlighting the advocacy work behind the push to save Debar Pond Lodge. As always, stay tuned for updates on these programs in AARCH Matters, our website, and our social media.

Ahead of the hustle and bustle of another busy summer of AARCH tours and events, we will host several hands-on workshops exploring preservation trades and more! This June, we will hold our second workshop on repairing and using historic lime plaster at the iconic Graves Mansion in Au Sable Forks, led by master plasterer Richard Barrow. We're also thrilled to work again with Kurt Riegel of Riegel Restoration to expand our workshop exploring wood window repair, restoration, and maintenance, as well as local contractor Leisa Almekinder on our popular Power Tools for Women workshop.

Beyond these opportunities for some DIY education, we will explore birding and mindfulness through outings at Camp Santanoni, and of course, we'll explore the incredible breadth of architectural wonders and stories of the experiences, places, and people that contribute to the richness of the Adirondack region.

Thank you to all our 2022 Program Partners, Guides, and Hosts!

Adk Action
Leisa Almekinder & Friends
Susan Arena
Richard Barrow, Global Heritage Group LLC
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Wakonda Family Campground, Inc.
Kate Walton
Rick & Tamar Weerts
Whallonsburg Grange
Willie Wilcox
Ian Wilson, Turner Grist Mill
Wrisley Family, Adirondack Hay & Grains
Fran Yardley
Jason Yots, Preservation Studios

AARCH Circle Legacy Giving Program

This year under the leadership of Wester Miga, we are launching the *AARCH Circle* for our friends, members, and supporters who have named AARCH as a beneficiary in their estate plan. The *AARCH Circle* was established through legacy gifts made by longtime AARCH friends. Through their generosity we created a long-term reserve fund to ensure AARCH's sustainability into the future.

If you would like to remember AARCH in your estate, your attorney can help you design a plan that provides for your family and supports nonprofit organizations, like AARCH, whose work has enriched your life and the life of your community. Requests can be designated for our long-term reserve or for specific mission-related programs such as the Engelhart Education Fund and our work at Camp Santanoni.

You can include AARCH in your estate planning through multiple avenues including the:

- designation of a specific dollar amount to AARCH.
- designation of a percentage of your estate to AARCH.
- designation of specific items, or a percentage of specific items, in your estate to AARCH. This could include stocks, bonds, IRAs, or real estate.
- inclusion of AARCH in your charitable remainder or charitable lead trust.

We invite you to join the *AARCH Circle* and contribute to sustaining AARCH for the next 30 years and beyond. Please contact Erin Tobin at (518) 834-9328 or erin@aarch.org with any questions or to let us know that you've already made the decision to name AARCH as a beneficiary of your estate.

Current AARCH Circle Members (*italics indicate gifts already made*)

- *Callihan Family Trust (John & Wanda Callihan)*
- *Rhoda C. Curtiss Revocable Trust (Pidge Curtiss)*
- *Estate of Julia E. Damkoehler*
- *Estate of Harold Walter*
- Elizabeth Berberian
- Steven Engelhart
- David Hislop
- Howard Kirschenbaum
- Wester and Lorraine Miga

A 2019 AARCH tour group, including Elizabeth Berberian, at the Pioneer Health Resort in Saranac Lake.

"I am a longstanding member of AARCH who strongly believes in its mission to preserve and promote public understanding of the architectural heritage of the Adirondack Park. AARCH tours have been one of the delights of my summer schedule for over three decades. Through participation in these tours, I have been enthralled by the diversity of architectural treasures within the park.

My decision to include AARCH in my estate planning, thereby becoming a Legacy member, recognizes and expresses my appreciation for the pivotal role this organization has played in carrying out its mission and enhancing my quality of life over many decades. Legacy membership also helps ensure the viability of this critical organization for generations to come."

Elizabeth Berberian, AARCH Circle Member

Please send us information about preservation projects and issues in your community. We do our best to keep track of what's happening in the region but need your eyes and ears to help us do so.

GRANT AWARDS

Oval Wood Dish Factory, a historic, shuttered wood products complex in Tupper Lake is slated for rehabilitation. Developers from the Lahinch Group are receiving a total of $4.45 million to redevelop the abandoned woodworking factory into a complex for affordable workforce housing, co-working space, and a new production facility for Raquette River Brewing.

Fort Ticonderoga Association, Inc. has received a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) for $4,000 from the Preservation League of New York State and New York State Council on the Arts to conduct a Lower Town Smith's Forge Condition Survey. "The $4,000 grant funding will support a building condition survey for the remains of a circa 1761 Smith's Forge used by soldiers at Ticonderoga" said Margaret Staudter, Fort Ticonderoga Director of Archaeology. Before the ruins can be safely stabilized, they must be carefully studied by professional preservation architects to analyze their current condition, establish any needed mitigation measures, and create guidelines for stabilization. This grant project further advances the museum's vital work in areas of archaeology, preservation, and stabilization across this significant historic landscape.

Regional Economic Development Council Initiative awards. Five projects and events in the Tri-Lakes collectively received more than $1.3 million in funding in the state's latest round of Regional Economic Development Council Initiative awards. Eagle Island, Inc. received $499,994 for renovations at Eagle Island on Upper Saranac Lake. This storied Great Camp is a National Historic Landmark and a youth camp, and the funding will support the continued preservation of its buildings and structures.

NEWS

State to Work with Residents, Community Leaders and Public Officials to Revitalize Ticonderoga's Downtown. Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the Town of Ticonderoga will receive $10 million in funding as the North Country winner of the sixth round of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. This initiative supports economies by transforming downtowns into vibrant neighborhoods. Located entirely within the Adirondack Park, the Town of Ticonderoga is poised to further enhance recent downtown investments and reactivate underutilized properties and public spaces to catalyze further pride and investment in its downtown corridor. Ticonderoga seeks to make investments in new tourist sites and amenities drawing on deep historical roots, public parks, historic façade restoration, expansion of main street businesses, affordable housing options and enhanced streetscape and gateway opportunities to attract businesses, tourists and residents to downtown.

2022 New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation's Historic Preservation Awards

Potsdam's Old Snell Hall is recognized for Excellence in Historic Building Rehabilitation for a highly visible reinvestment project in the heart of Potsdam that adopted a successful historic preservation model and breathed life into an underutilized community resource by transforming it into a new mixed-use space.

Photo: Christopher Lenney

Save the Date: April 13-15, 2023 | Auburn, New York

Presented by: Rochester Colonial Manufacturing

Join preservation colleagues and enthusiasts in the small Finger Lakes City of Auburn this April for the 2023 NY Statewide Preservation Conference! This year, hosts at the Landmark Society of Western New York are going Back to Basics, exploring foundational historic preservation programs and topics. This will still include the challenging and progressive preservation content that attendees know and love—with a focus on a few key topics: preservation in small upstate cities, the "Main Street model," preparing for New York State's upcoming anniversaries, and the intersection of preservation and affordable housing. Visit www.landmarksociety.org/conference/ to learn more.

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PRESERVING THE ARCHITECTURE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE ADIRONDACKS THROUGH EDUCATION, ACTION, AND ADVOCACY

PRESERVE

NOMINATE A PROJECT FOR A 2023 PRESERVATION AWARD!

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2023 AARCH Preservation Awards, which recognize exemplary preservation projects throughout the Adirondacks. The awards honor businesses, organizations, and individuals who, through their preservation and stewardship work, have made the Adirondacks a better place to live, work, and visit.

To submit a nomination, or for more information on the awards, visit our website at www.aarch.org or contact Preservation Services Director Christine Bush by email at christine@aarch.org or phone at (518) 834-9328.

SUPPORT

AARCH relies on the support of individuals, organizations, businesses, and communities throughout the Adirondacks to do its good work.

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