*Volume 12, Issue 09| October 2020*

# AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region.

*Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time." – Ruth Bader Ginsburg*
As we wrap up our challenging yet enriching summer tour season, AARCH remains grateful to our members, and friends who have joined us on this year's outings and supported our work in other ways.

This fall we are seeing that our planning and preparation for several big projects is finally paying off. We are taking the first big steps to create a public waterfront park in Keeseville, adjacent to our Stone Mill, by demolishing the 1954 "Red Mill" on the site. This should be completed by late October. Over the winter, Elan Planning, Design, and Landscape Architecture will prepare the final plans for the park and work should commence and be completed in 2021. Once the park is completed, it will be turned over to our partner, the Town of Ausable, to manage and maintain. As a preservation organization, we are sad to see this part of industrial history being lost, but the building had collapsed and safety concerns took precedence. This building's removal was one of the last significant steps required before moving forward with the much anticipated Keeseville Park.

At Camp Santanoni, we have recently hired Crawford & Stearns, Architects to prepare the restoration and rehabilitation plans for a $640,000 project to put a new roof on the Main Lodge and to do foundation, log repair and masonry work. This project is funded by the *Save America's Treasures* program of the National Park Service, New York State, and the Town of Newcomb and should also be completed 2021.

With our new video equipment, our Program and Educational Director, Nolan Cool, has produced an excellent piece on the **Historic Bridges of Keeseville** you do not want to miss. As we continue to support preservation efforts across the region, both large and small, we want to thank all of you for your kindness and generosity. We could not do our important work without your support

***In this Edition:***

- **Steven Engelhart Announces Retirement**
- **Closing out the Summer Tour Season**
- **Save Historic Keeseville Bridges**
- **Books!**

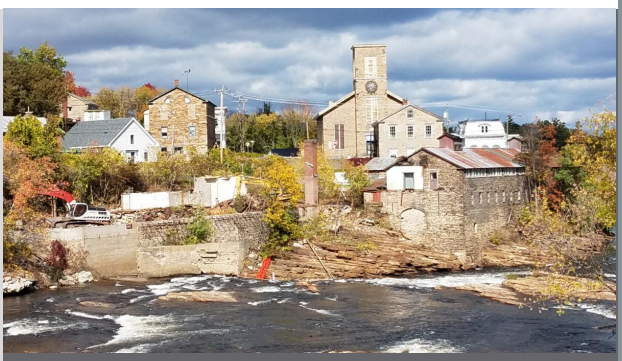

Image: The Red Mill during demolition.

Image: The Red Mill during demolition.

A sincere THANK YOU from Steven and AARCH!

## A MESSAGE FROM STEVEN

*I have had the great pleasure of being AARCH's executive director since 1994 and the past 26 years have been incredibly rich and rewarding. I am one of those truly lucky people who am genuinely excited to get up every morning and go to work because I get to work with our marvelous staff, I have the joy of working with great people all over this beautiful region, and every day is filled with some combination of adventure, discovery, connection, and accomplishment.*

*Now, at 67, with great pride in all that we have done together and with a full and happy heart, I am announcing that I will fully retire by the end of 2021. This is a great time to hand over the reins to a new executive director as AARCH continues to be a vital, effective, and healthy organization, our staff is second to none, our plate is full, and there's lots of exciting challenges and opportunities ahead. The search for a new director will begin in January with the expectation of their starting on or about September 1, 2021. I will work with the new director and our board to make this transition just as smooth as possible.*

*Over the next ten months you will be hearing more from me as I reflect on my time at AARCH, on our good work, and on what may lay ahead for AARCH and the region. There will also be lots of opportunities to say "thank you" to all of you but let me start today by saying how deeply grateful I am to the thousands of people, hundreds of organizations and municipalities, and myriad of experiences that have made my work life so rich and the accomplishments of AARCH so many.*

Steven

In June 1994 AARCH welcomed our first Executive Director, Steven Engelhart. Read the full announcement **here.**

Volume 3, Number 1
June 1994

Newsletter

*From the President*

**MEET OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!**

I couldn't be happier in introducing you to AARCH's first executive director — Steven Engelhart.

Steve's selection was the result of an extensive, five-month, national search, which included job announcements sent to every historic preservation graduate program in the country and an advertisement in the National Trust for Historic Preservation's *Preservation News*. By the May 1 deadline, we had received about 40 applications, many of them from highly qualified candidates, with advanced degrees, publications and/or years of experience in the field.

Yet, in the end, the most qualified of all was "our own" Steve Engelhart, a founding director of Adirondack Architectural Heritage. Steve has a masters degree in historic preservation from the University of Vermont, and for the past seven years has been the Director of Housing and Historic Preservation Programs for Friends of the North Country in Keeseville. He is a board member of the

Steve Engelhart with son Sam

Preservation League of New York State; Chairman of the Keeseville Historic District Law Board of Appeals; author of a book on the historic bridges of the Ausable River, and a consultant in historic preservation. He is also a former board member and chairman of the Clinton County Planning Board; grant review panel member for the Architecture, Planning and Design Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, and a masonry contractor. In other words, Steve combines the

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## ADVENTURE

### 2020 Summer Tour Season Ends

Last week, we closed out what was a challenging, but exciting summer tour season with two fantastic outings to Valcour Island, and Tahawus and the Upper Works, with devoted members of the AARCH family!

Thank you to those of you who continue to support us through tough times. A special THANKS to all of our treasured friends and members who joined us on an outing or two this season, and trusted us to keep everyone safe while hosting the same quality experiences.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy fall, and keep an eye out for more AARCH news and content in the coming months.

*Above: AARCH explores Tahawus and Upper Works*
*Below: Pack Forest Lodge in Warrensburg*

## PRESERVE

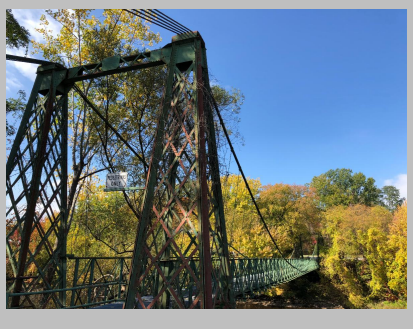
### Saving Keeseville's Historic Bridges

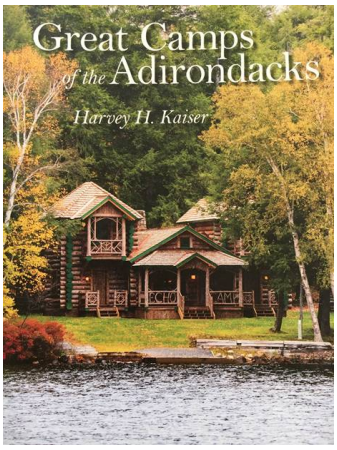
Efforts to preserve Keeseville's defining historic bridges have been in the news a lot lately thanks to **Save Keeseville's Historic Bridges** and the passionate folks from the village and beyond.

In the video on the right, AARCH's Executive Director Steven Engelhart details a bit about the unique history, stories, and importance of these local landmarks.

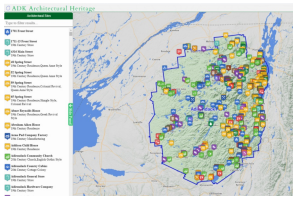
We hope to energize and support preservation efforts not just in Keeseville, but all across the Adirondack region.

*Image : 1888 Swing Bridge over the Ausable River (below).*






## SUPPORT



As the colder weather sets in what could be better than sitting down to enjoy a good book! Or take your book on the road to explore the places in *A Guide to Architecture in the Adirondacks.* Follow the book with the help of the Adirondack Atlas **here**.

Whether your interest is in Great Camps, Adirondack churches, or exploring the length and breadth of the region, there's a book for you. **CLICK HERE**.

Look for a very special offer in your mail to add, *Great Camps of the Adirondack* by Harvey Kaiser to your library. This revised edition is a must have.

With the holiday season around the corner don't forget books make wonderful gifts.

***ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE***

***Preserving the architecture and communities of the Adirondack region through education, advocacy, and action.***

*The mission of Humanities New York is to strengthen civil society and the bonds of community, using the humanities to foster engaged inquiry and dialogue around social and cultural concerns.*

## THANK YOU

Humanities New York
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We would like to sincerely thank Humanities New York for awarding AARCH a generous Emergency Relief Grant as part of the HNY CARES program. With this vital funding, we are able to expand our virtual programming and create a more robust, accessible digital presence for our organization.

A world of AARCH exists online. Join us there.

Visit our Website