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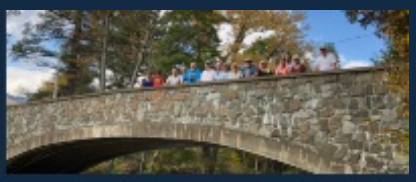


AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region.

"You don't stumble upon your heritage. It's there, just waiting to be explored and shared."
Robbie Robertson

In anticipation of Executive Director Steven Engelhart's retirement in 2021, the search for his successor is now underway. For more information and a link to the full position posting please see below.

The hard work of developing and organizing another series of exciting educational programs is well under way. Although this season will again be smaller than usual, we think you'll be delighted by what we have to offer. Look for the full schedule of events in our April newsletter.

Thank you to all of you who have written letters in support of our efforts to save Debar Pond Lodge. While we have a long process ahead we are optimistic that we will be able to save this historic great camp.

In this Edition:

- **The search for the new Executive Director**
- **2020 State Preservation Awards**
- **Reflections on 30 years**

*Waddington Town Hall built 1884 by stone mason **Isaac Johnson**. As we celebrate Black History Month we invite you to learn more about Johnson's storied life and work.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH

The Board of Directors of Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) has formally launched a nationwide search for a new Executive Director who will lead AARCH into the future.

In making the announcement, Board Chair Dean Melville said that "as Steven hands the reins to a new successor, he can look with pride at AARCH's many accomplishments during his tenure. Today, AARCH has 1,500 members who hail from 38 states and 4 countries in addition to the Adirondack region, a Board of Directors with wide-ranging professional backgrounds and skills and a passion for the work of the organization, and four full-time professional staff."

In recent years, AARCH has conducted over 150 educational programs for a broad audience, secured a $370,000 Save America's Treasures grant to further its restoration of Great Camp Santanoni, transformed an industrial site in Keeseville into a historic site for public use, listed properties on the National Register, provided technical assistance to historic property owners, advocated for the preservation of significant threatened architectural resources, and supported other organizations in their preservation initiatives.

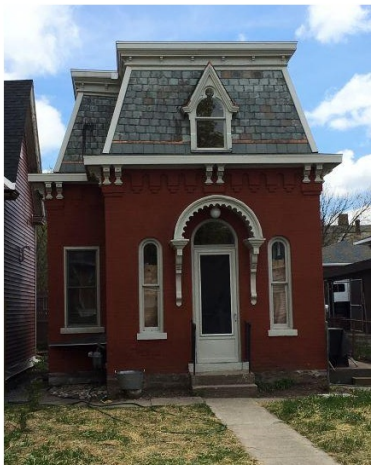
This is an incredible opportunity for someone to lead what National Trust President Stephanie Meeks called "one of the most effective rural preservation organizations in the nation." Over the past 30 years AARCH has developed an effective and far-ranging program of public education, advocacy, technical assistance, and historic site management that serves hundreds of communities in New York State's Adirondack region.

The position profile, which includes information about AARCH, its current strategic priorities, a description of the position, and the qualifications of applicants, is available HERE.

NEWS

Governor Cuomo Announces 2020 New York State Historic Preservation Awards

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that eleven projects preserving state history, ranging from an eighteenth-century Dutch barn rehabilitation to an artist installation memorializing black lives at John Brown Farm State Historic Site, have received 2020



State Historic Preservation Awards. Created in 1980, the State Historic Preservation Awards are awarded by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation each year to honor excellence in the protection and revitalization of historic and cultural resources. The Governor also signed legislation in 2013 to bolster state use of rehabilitation tax credits, which have spurred billions of dollars in completed investments of historic commercial properties and tens of millions in owner-occupied historic homes.

AARCH was delighted to see one of our 2019 Preservation Award winners Darren and Lisa Tracy recognized with an Excellence in Historic Building Rehabilitation award for their rehabilitation of the Dr. Ferguson's House in Glens Falls. The rehabilitation project of the 1870 National Register-listed building used Federal & State Historic Tax Credits.

AARCH was also recognized with an Excellence in Historic Preservation Organizational Achievement.
For a complete list of awardees and photos please visit the link HERE.

*Images: Before and after of the Dr. Ferguson House - You can follow the blog of the project **HERE.***

ADVENTURE

Reflections on 30 Years

In our winter newsletter coming out soon, the feature article "A 30 Year Tapestry of Places, People, and Stories," Steven Engelhart highlights some of the special places that have touched his life and distinguished career with AARCH. Steven will be sharing more memories in the upcoming months.

Long time member and friend of AARCH John Eldridge shared the following reminiscences:

As a member of AARCH I've known Steven for 30 years. In many ways he has been the guiding light. Because of Steven I have seen and learned much.

Two stories come to mind, I'll be brief:

We are planning a major celebratory event on **Saturday, August 14**at the Valcour Inn & Boathouse. We hope you will join the many people who have worked with Steven over several decades to celebrate his time at AARCH.

Later in the spring, we will also launch a fundraising drive to create the **Engelhart Education Fund**, a fund dedicated to advancing and sustaining our educational programming across the region.

Last month we asked you to share your stories, ask Steven your questions, which we will share here on AARCH Matters. We would love to hear your stories.

You can send your stories and questions t *info@aarch.org*.

Image: AARCH Touring the Great Camps on Upper St. Regis - Courtesy John Eldridge

1) The trip to see the lighthouse on Valcour Island was on a boat where we, the passengers, were below deck. It was noisy and smelly from the exhaust but we didn't care. We knew Steven would take care of us.

2) Touring the Great Camps on Upper St. Regis & Spitfire Lakes we were in two war canoes lashed together.....Quite the adventure!

ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

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

THANK YOU

Humanities New York
150 Broadway Suite 1700
New York, NY 10038
212-233-1131

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.

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.

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A world of AARCH exists online. Join us there.

Visit our Website