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AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region

"Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead. -*Louisa May Alcott*

Welcome summer! All around the north country, in the fields, woods, gardens, and more, nature is erupting in an exuberance of sights, sounds, and smells. Summer brings with it Inspiring, creative energy, vitality, and joy. Perhaps, this year more than any, although many still are suffering loss, we emerge from the pandemic embracing summer with greater enthusiasm. The continuing good news around the COVID pandemic and the start of the AARCH season have us feeling more optimistic each day.

Juneteenth now recognized as a federal holiday has us hopeful that by honoring Black voices and Black experiences, we will continue to gain a deeper, more complete understanding of American history and continue to work towards greater equality.

We are encouraged that our advocacy efforts to help save Debar Pond Lodge and the Cornell Cooperative Extension building are rallying the public to act. The overwhelming response to our summer offerings has us eternally grateful to our members and our hosts and guides. AARCH members clearly share our enthusiasm and are excited to explore our region's rich and diverse history.

Notably, this season is also Steven Engelhart's last as AARCH's long-time leader and first Executive Director. We encourage everyone to join us in celebrating his numerous achievements in AARCH's 30th year as an organization. The camaraderie that AARCH offers is a great starting point for us all to consider the past, look to the future, and discover new places, conversations, and stories together.

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Above: "Almost an Angel" – finished on one side, rough on the other, but

- **The Engelhart Education Fund**

beautiful all the way around. Like most of us. by Steven Engelhart

ADVENTURE

2021 PROGRAMS and EVENTS

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Only two outings still have space, reserve your spot now!

Our special events: Celebrating Steven and Annual Benefit and the Annual Meeting and Awards have some available spaces.

Our first outing of the summer season will soon be here and we look forward to seeing our members . The robust response to our tour lottery was unprecedented. We hope that everyone was able to get on at one of their top picks. If you have not received your tour confirmation please contact Nolan Cool. We could not offer any of these outing without the generosity and kindness of our hosts and guides. We hope you will join us in saying thank you when you are out and about with us this year.

Limited Space Available:

SKETCHING ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURE WORKSHOP

Workshop!

September 1+8, 2021

GOING GREEN: BUILDING ADIRONDACK SUSTAINABILITY

NEW!

September 2, 2021

You can read more about this year's program offerings **HERE**.

AARCH SPECIAL EVENT

Celebrating the Distinguished Career of Steven Engelhart
BENEFIT FOR AARCH | Valcour Inn & Boathouse | Peru
August 14, 2021 3:30 - 6:30

Please join AARCH staff, board members, and special guests for an exceptional summer afternoon at the scenic Valcour Inn & Boathouse.

After 27 years of spirited, cherished, and defining leadership and success, AARCH's founding Executive Director **Steven Engelhart** will be retiring this fall. Join us for an afternoon celebration to honor Steven, AARCH's successes under his leadership, and his storied career as the most recognizable champion of historic preservation across the Adirondack region and beyond. Attendees will be able to thank Steven for all of his good work, and learn more about what lies ahead for himself and for AARCH. Relax and reflect on AARCH's 30 years of building a historic preservation movement and ethic across the Adirondacks with staff, board members, and fellow members and friends.

Our venue, the historic Valcour Inn & Boathouse, sits on the beautiful shoreline of Lake Champlain. The property was sold in 1897 to Pennsylvania Congressman Joseph C. Sibley, for whom workers built a large house and the boathouse for that still stands today. A fire destroyed the original house, but Sibley's daughter, Celia Sibley Wilson, rebuilt the house in 1926, which today serves as the inn. The property stayed in the hands of the family until 1951. Twelve years later in 1963, Plattsburgh State Teachers College Benevolent and Educational Association (now College Auxiliary Services—CAS) purchased the

building for use as a conference and retreat center. CAS still manages the site and hosts conferences, retreats and campus events for SUNY Plattsburgh as well as the general public.
The afternoon will include a signature cocktail made by the distillery **Murray's Fools Distilling Co**., makers of fine small batches of vodka, brandy, whisky, and aquavit. We will enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and friendly conversation and listen to the jazz and contemporary sounds of the **Wickmoore Jazz Trio**. We can't wait to see you there!

Individual tickets are $150 per person. Young Preservationist tickets are $40 (ages 30 and under). Price includes delicious hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, refreshments, an opportunity to thank Steven, and the chance to mingle and chat with fellow members and friends.

Proceeds from this exciting event will benefit AARCH's preservation, education, and advocacy efforts in towns and communities throughout the Adirondack region.

STAFF NEWS

Meet the 2021 Camp Santanoni Summer Staff

We are delighted to welcome three excellent summer staff people to Camp Santanoni. They will interpret the site to visitors, undertake small conservation projects, and further our work there in a number of other ways. They are:

Anna Forsman is a student at Rutgers University Honors College with a double major in Environmental Policy, Institutions, and Behavior (EPIB) and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) and with a minor in Architectural Studies. Says Anna: "*I am deeply interested in the history of the Adirondacks and environmental and architectural preservation efforts, as my family has profound connections to the region. The history of the Great Adirondack Camps is particularly fascinating to me as I am very passionate about studying elements of landscape architecture, specifically buildings and spaces designed to integrate aspects of human life with non-human elements of nature.*"

Stephen Malenowski just graduated from Ithaca College with a major in Business Administration, minor in History and Business Analytics. Says Stevie: "*This past winter, I got the chance to cross country ski back to Camp Santanoni and was immediately enthralled with the place. One immediately gets the impression that there's so many stories to tell of the camp and the preserve just dying to be told, and so much to help preserve and save for future generations.*"

Sofia Biegeleisen is a recent graduate of The College of Wooster with a BA in History and Spanish. Her history project, "More Than Memory: Living History and Slavery in American Memory," was a three-semester-long research project focusing on living history interpretations of slavery.

Above Image from Left to right: Stephen Malenowski, Sofia Biegeleisen, Anna Forsman

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PRESERVE

Cornell Cooperative Extension Building

Westport's National Register of Historic Places-listed Cornell Cooperative Extension Building faces an Essex County-led demolition plan that destroys a distinguished building and replaces it with an undistinguished new, $1.8 million building. Together with the newly formed FRIENDS OF THE ESSEX FAIRGROUNDS, local friends and preservationists, farmers, and other stakeholders, Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) vigorously opposes

the destruction of this storied piece of Westport's
heritage, and one of the more important and defining structures that make up the Essex County Fairgrounds.

Learn more and how you can help save this important building **HERE**.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2021 Preservation Awards Nominations

The AARCH Annual Awards Program recognizes exemplary historic preservation work throughout the Adirondack region.

For over 20 years, our annual awards program has recognized sensitive restoration, rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of historic structures that are consistent with our mission of long-term stewardship. The awards honor the organizations, businesses, and individuals who, through these projects, make the Adirondacks a better place to live, work, and visit.

Please send nominations to our Preservation Services Director Christine Bush at **christine@aarch.org** so that we may continue to support and highlight historic preservation projects, both large and small, that are happening throughout the Adirondack region.

For applications and additional information, please visit:
www.aarch.org/preserve

The 2021 AARCH Preservation Awards will be held **Saturday, September 18** at **Hotel Saranac**

Projects of any size are eligible for consideration

Deadline for submissions:

June 31, 2021

SUPPORT

Please join the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Board of Directors in honoring Steven Engelhart's 30 years with AARCH and 27 years as its executive director by making a contribution to the **Engelhart Education Fund**. Proceeds from this fund will be used to further AARCH's educational work in a variety of ways, including to develop new programs, fund new publications, bring more educational content online, and reach and educate new audiences. The fund will ensure that AARCH's programming will continue to be innovative and far-ranging far into the future. The AARCH Board of Directors has established a goal of raising $200,000 from AARCH's members and friends over the coming year.

You may mail in a contribution or **DONATE ONLINE**. THANK YOU for honoring Steven and ensuring the continuation of our remarkable educational programming with your support!

ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

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

HNY

The mission of Humanities New York is to strengthen civil society and the bonds of community, using the humanities to foster engaged

THANK YOU

Humanities New York
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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.

inquiry and dialogue around social and cultural concerns.

With this vital funding, we are able to expand our virtual programming and create a more robust, accessible digital presence for our organization.

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Council on the Arts

This publication was made possible, in part, through the generous support of the New York State Council on the Arts, Architecture + Design Program

A world of AARCH exists online. Join us there.

Visit our Website