Volume 14, Issue 2, February 2022

AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region

"If you're always trying to be normal you will never know how amazing you can be."
-Maya Angelou

SWEET FEBRUARY NEWS

February is Black History Month and New York Parks and Historic Sites offer many opportunities to explore the invaluable contributions Black groups and individuals have made—and continue to make—to our state. To learn more, visit **HERE**.

We hope you have been out enjoying the snow and the milder temperatures this week. On February 8, AARCH hosted its first webinar, **Poke-O-Moonshine, and Adirondack Fire Towers**, featuring Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine Coordinator David Thomas-Train. It was a great start to the exciting online series we're offering this winter. There is still time to register for our upcoming webinars - find out more on how to register below.

Keep a lookout for our winter newsletter arriving in your mailboxes next week. We think you will enjoy learning more about Adirondack Fire Towers and the people who work to preserve them as vital parts of our region's history.

As always, our deepest gratitude to all our supporters near and far. We can't express our gratitude enough for all your support in 2021! 2022 indeed looks bright.

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*The Waddington Town Hall (1884), built by Isaac Johnson, an entrepreneurial African American stone mason and formerly-enslaved man who made the North Country his home. Read more about his life **HERE**.*

Cadbury has created the perfect winter activity for families - to build a Cadbury house made of chocolate! Challenge your family to create and decorate each of the Cadbury houses.

PRESERVE - DEBAR POND LODGE UPDATE

Great news for the future of Debar Pond Lodge is pouring in from outlets! Thank you to Senator Dan Stec and Assemblyman D. Billy Jonesfor their sponsorship and support of the Debar Pond Land Exchange Amendment that will help preserve the historic 1939 camp.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) enthusiastically supports Assembly Bill 7535A (Jones) and Senate Bill 7868 (Stec), which amends Article 14 of the New York State Constitution to convey land to Debar Pond Institute in order to facilitate the preservation of the historic Debar Pond Lodge. For over 15 years, AARCH has advocated for the preservation and public use of Debar Pond Lodge and put the property on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004.

For more information please visitHERE.

LEARN - NEW AARCH WEBINARS

AARCH is excited to announce that we will host**TWO upcoming webinars**exploring a variety of topics and themes. All these programs are **FREE** and open to the public, and will feature a presentation followed by a Q&A period with attendees via Zoom. Pre-registration for each program is required.

If you would like to explore a topic with us, speak on a related subject, or share your suggestions, please contact AARCH by email or by phone at the number below.

Although these programs are offered free to the public, AARCH asks attendees toconsider a small donation. Your generosity helps ensure programs like this can keep happening throughout the year.

On **Tuesday, February 15** we will host filmmaker **Paul Miller** for a discussion on his new documentary film *Searching for*

On **Thursday, March 3**, Queensborough Community College Assistant Professor of History and North Country native **Clarence Jefferson Hall** will discuss the subject matter of his recent

Timbuctoo. The film documents the story of the Adirondack settlement of Timbuctoo, which emerged from an 1846 land giveaway to nearly 3,000 African American families so that they could have have the right to vote in New York State. The settlement encompassed land in Essex and Franklin Counties and its deep and powerful story remains hidden beneath the soil of the Adirondack landscape. This webinar features a trailer for the film, a short 20 minute presentation, and a Q&A with Paul.

To **REGISTER**, click HERE.

book, *A Prison in the Woods: Environment and Incarceration in New York's North Country*, which explores the intersection of prisons and the environmental conservation movement in the Adirondacks.

From the mid-19th century to the present, New York State and federal corrections planners have adapted existing Adirondack infrastructure into sites of incarceration in places like Gabriels and Ray Brook, while other sites like Dannemora's Clinton Correctional Facility boast rich and significant architectural legacies. Dr. Hall will deliver a presentation on the role of architecture and reuse in the intersecting histories of Adirondack prisons. His presentation will be followed by a Q&A.

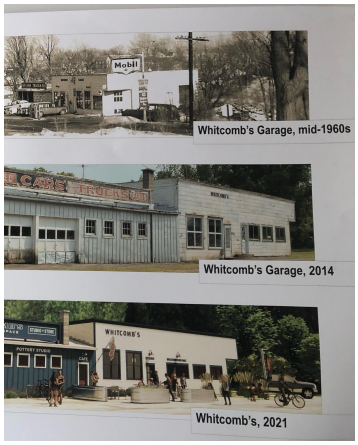
To **REGISTER**, click HERE.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

Our friends at the **Northern Forest Center** have several upcoming programs of interest. Learn more about their offerings HERE.

The **Downtown Revitalization Affinity Group** will be holding a discussion featuring The Whallonsburg Grange and Whitcomb's Garage on **Tuesday, February 15, 1 – 2:30**. Register today!

Downtown revitalization can take place at many different scales, and for our smallest communities, one or two buildings can have a tremendous impact. A mostly volunteer-led effort has helped transform the small hamlet of Whallonsburg through the revitalization of the Whallonsburg Grange and, more recently, the revival of Whitcomb's Garage into a space for multiple businesses. Several representatives of the project will speak about how these initiatives came to be and how they are helping to lift up the community.



National Trust for Historic Preservation
Preservation Leadership Forum

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation** is holding the following webinar: Historic Preservation Advocacy Requests in 2022 on **Thursday, February 24 at 3:00 p.m. ET.**

Join National Trust staff, policy experts, and historic preservation colleagues as they discuss historic preservation advocacy during the second half of the 117th Congress. Hear about efforts to fund and reauthorize the Historic Preservation Fund, strategies to enhance the Historic Tax Credit, key opportunities to protect cultural places, and tactics for effective federal engagement by preservation partners.

Common Ground
ALLIANCE
OF THE ADIRONDACKS

Join the **Common Ground Alliance** on **Friday, February 25 from 9:30-11:30 a.m**. as they update the community on progress since the Summer Forum and discuss the first-ever Community Blueprint for the Blue Line The Community Blueprint for the Blue Line identifies actions that can be implemented by municipalities and organizations at the community level within the Park. Registration for the two-hour event, which will be held on Zoom, is free and open to all.

GREENWICH FIRE

We were saddened by the news of Sunday's devastating fire in Greenwich which destroyed Clifford Oliver Photography. Clifford is such an important part of the Greenwich community and was one of our guides on last year's tour. If you would like to support his efforts to rebuild his studio, please donate **HERE**.

GREAT CAMP SANTANONI - SUMMER STAFF POSITIONS

Would you like to spend the summer working at a National Historic Landmark & Adirondack Great Camp? Do you enjoy the outdoors, long walks and bike rides into work, historic site interpretation, and materials conservation?

Applications are open for summer staff positions at Camp Santanoni and Santanoni Preserve. Details and application information can be found **HERE**.

NEWS

Our 2021 Preservation Award Winners (from left to right): Ted Comstock–Adirondack League Club, Ben Strader & Adam Bailey–Blue Mountain Center, Travis Proulx–Basselin House, Beryl & Bob Ierardi–Camp Paradiso Trovato

Photo courtesy of John Eldridge.

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, throughout the Adirondack region.

DEADLINE: June 30, 2022

To all our members and supporters, THANK YOU!

Photo of AARCH members and friends at a 2021 tour of Hitchins Pond.

ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

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

THANK YOU

To This Important Business or Organization Member

North Woods Engineering PLLC
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www.north-woods-engineering.com

We are most appreciative for **North Woods Engineering** for their continued support.

North Woods Engineering is based in Saranac Lake, and provides clients with general civil engineering services including water system, sanitary, structural, foundation, and transportation design, as well as planning, design review, environmental permitting, and construction inspection services. Their engineering staff is skilled in the design of new construction, renovations, and expansions. North Woods' extensive client base includes private individuals, local businesses, builders and contractors, and county/regional governmental agencies.

You can learn more about this important business supporter **HERE.**

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HNY

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.

A world of AARCH exists online. Join us there.

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