Volume 14, Issue 4, April 2022

AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region

"The beautiful spring came, and when nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also."

~ Harriet Ann Jacobs

Spring has arrived! It's time for nature's revival, the freezing winter is over (we hope), and there is a spirit of new life in all the plants and trees around us. There is a spirit of Spring here at AARCH, and we are excited to share some of the new things happening here and around the region. Look for our summer newsletter, arriving soon, with over fifteen new tours and workshops offerings!

We want to wish a very Happy Easter or Passover to everyone who celebrates.

In this Edition:

- **NYS Budget: Camp Santanoni Historic Area**
- **Historic Homeowner Tax Credit Webinar**
- **Preservation Trades Workshops**
- **AARCH 2022 Raffle**
- **Preservation Awards**
- **New Book Announcement**
- **Historic Preservation Business Registry**

We are so happy to announce that last month AARCH finalized the sale of the AARCH office building and stone mill on Ausable Street. The new owners, Brian and Beth Stevens, were born and raised in Upstate New York. Beth grew up in Keeseville and graduated from our local AuSable Valley High School. Brian and Beth Stevens look forward reengaging with Keeseville and the surrounding community through restoration of the stone mill. Their experience, passion, and creativity are perfectly suited to the project! In the meantime, AARCH will remain here in our current offices through a lease agreement with the Stevens.

PRESERVE – NYS BUDGET & CAMP SANTANONI

AARCH was so happy to see such strong support for our region's historic, cultural, and environmental resources, as well as important support for workforce development and the Adirondack Diversity Initiative, in this year's **NYS budget**. We are extremely grateful for specific support to AARCH in the Environmental Protection Fund for our work at the Camp Santanoni Historic Area. We look forward to working with our colleagues and partners in the state to continue preservation and stewardship of this beautiful National Historic Landmark. Thank you to Governor Hochul, the NYS Assembly and NYS Senate leadership, including Assemblymember Steve Englebright and Senator Todd Kaminsky, and our North County legislators, in particular Assemblymember Billy Jones and Senator Dan Stec.

LEARN – HISTORIC HOMEOWNERS TAX CREDIT WORKSHOP

Warrensburgh Beautification, Inc. and the **Warrensburgh Historical Society** will be partnering with AARCH to present an Historic Homeowners State Tax Credit Workshop on April 28 at 7 p.m. via Zoom in the Community Room at **Richards Library**. People can also view from their own devices. The program is being offered by the State Office of Historic Preservation to help those who own properties listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places make repairs on their homes.

Register in advance for this webinar HERE.

LEARN – PRESERVATION TRADES WORKSHOPS

Join us for a series of deeply informative and exciting hands-on workshops happening this summer and fall, led by world-renowned artisans and skilled craftspeople from the Adirondack region and beyond. These workshops have limited space, so register today! Simply give us a call at 518-834-9328 or **email us**.

*These project have been funded in part by a grant from the John E. Streb Fund for the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**.*

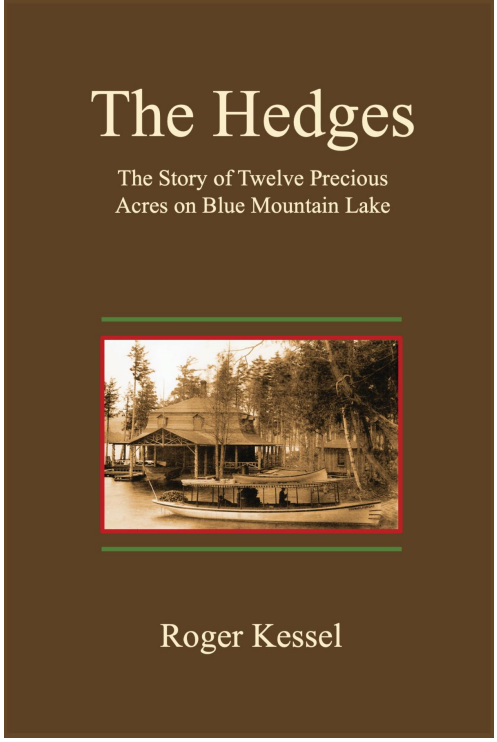
TO REGISTER AND LEARN MORE, CLICK HERE

READ

The Hedges: From NRHP Application To History Book

With the publication this past year of*The Hedges: The Story of Twelve Precious Acres on Blue Mountain Lake* we were reminded how each of our efforts to preserve old structures and tell their stories has a compounding effect. The author Roger Kessel told us he was inspired to write a book about this small, rustic resort in the great camp tradition after reading the National Register of Historic Places Nomination prepared in 2007 by Steven Engelhart (AARCH's former executive director). This had followed a conversation with Pat Benton (currently an AARCH Advisory Council member) who was then the owner about what the "old girl" meant to her. His

initial view that a book needed to be written was confirmed by the passionate commitment of a group of about 60 families and individuals to keep The Hedges open to the public and prevent a reversion back to private use when Pat retired.



The book traces The Hedges' 141-year history starting in the golden years of Blue Mountain Lake when a Civil War hero and extraordinary businessman built a private camp on its shore. This book traces the camp's fascinating history and its conversion from private use by a socially elite family to a rustic resort open to the public. The remarkable story of the first innkeepers, the former caretakers of Great Camp Sagamore, is followed by those of subsequent owners facing their own unique challenges. In recounting their experiences and our changing perspectives on the Adirondack wilderness, the author explores why generations of guests have so deeply treasured The Hedges.

The book is all about place—the marriage of buildings, land, and lake—and the shared values guests and owners brought to The Hedges. Howie Kirschenbaum (founder of AARCH and current Board member) assisted in the effort to assure continued public access to this venerable resort. Here's his take on the book as expressed in a note to the author: "I want to thank you for an excellent history of The Hedges, which I just read with interest and pleasure. There's a good deal of information I had not known. I liked how you integrated The Hedges story into larger themes in Adirondack and cultural history, such as attitudes toward wilderness. I thought your own voice came through nicely, through your reflections on various events, your haiku poetry, and comfortable clear writing style. What a lovely, timely gift to The Hedges and wider Adirondack community on the occasion of The Hedge's 100th anniversary as a public accommodation."

Availability: Paperback edition at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and book and gift stores throughout the Adirondacks. Suggested Retail Price $17.95. Kindle edition at Amazon for $7.99.
Author Contact: 518-533-7449 | rkessel31@gmail.com

SUPPORT - 2022 AARCH Raffle

BUY YOUR TICKETS HERE!

Drawing: May 16, 2022

You could win one of the following fabulous prizes!

- **Two Nights Lodging for two at The Hedges**
- **Two Nights of Glamping at The Lake Harris Lodge.**
- **Private Guided Paddle and Lunch for six at Great Camp Sagamore.**
- **Dinner (or lunch, if preferred) for six at "No Vacancy,"** .
- **A Luncheon Cruise for Two on Raquette Lake** aboard the W.W. Durant followed by a **Guided Tour of Great Camp Sagamore.**
- **Two Spots on any 2022 AARCH Tour.**
- **A one-year subscription to *Adirondack Life* Magazine and gift basket**
- ***2 Prizes*** Each prize includes: **Two 18-Hole Rounds of Golf with cart at High Peaks Golf Course** in Newcomb.
- **$50 Gift Certificate to Raquette River Brewing in Tupper Lake.**
- **Cheese & Chocolate Bundle: $25 Gift Certificate to North Country Creamery** and **Gift Certificate to Adirondack Chocolates for a one-pound box of chocolates.**
- **Two Tickets to one of Great Camp Sagamore's 2-hour Walking Tours**

NEWS – AARCH AWARD NOMINATIONS

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

NEWS – HISTORIC PRESERVATION REGISTRY HONORS NYS BUSINESSES

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Launches New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has announced the launch of the New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry. First proposed by Assembly Member Daniel O'Donnell and State Senator Jose M. Serrano, the online registry

was established to honor and promote New York businesses that have been in operation for at least 50 years and have contributed to their communities' history. The first round of designations includes 100 businesses across the state.

The honorary program, which provides educational and promotional assistance to help ensure businesses in the state remain viable, will be coordinated through the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). An interactive storyboard map, which provides information about the location and history of each business, [can be found on the agency website](#).

Ward Lumber in Jay, NY was one of the first businesses added to the registry!

Photo courtesy of Sun Community News.

To all our members and supporters, THANK YOU!

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

ADIRONDACK ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

1745 Main Street, Keeseville, NY 12944 | info@aarch.org | 518.834.9328

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

ADIRONDACK FOUNDATION

THANK YOU

AARCH is deeply grateful for a recent grant from the Adirondack Foundation's Generous Acts Program. This grant will fund a series of workshops focusing on historic preservation as economic development. Stay tuned for more information on these programs later this year and thank you to the Adirondack Foundation!

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Council on the Arts

Our publications are 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