Volume 14, Issue 6, June 2022

AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region

"Architecture is the very mirror of life. You only have to cast your eyes on buildings to feel the presence of the past, the spirit of a place; they are the reflection of society." – I. M. Pei

There is always a bit of excitement when we flip the calendar from May to June. June marks the official beginning of summer, and what's not to love about that? The days are longer, the nights are warmer, the flowers are bursting, and people seem happier, and the first of many AARCH summer programs get started!

We started with a bang with an extraordinary Preserving Historic Plaster Workshop led by renowned master plasterer Richard Barrow. The two-day workshop guided participants through the ins and outs of traditional lime plastering techniques from "knocking up," scratch coat, brown coat, and finish coat. A big thank you to Richard Barrow of Global Heritage Group, Lancaster Lime Works, The Graves Mansion, and all the participants that made for a lively and engaging workshop.

Our second tour of the season took us to an overlooked corner of Clinton County, Schuyler Falls. Despite the rather soggy conditions, our intrepid AARCH members spent the day exploring Schuyler Falls' industrial and agricultural roots. It was great to gather with so many AARCH friends after a long winter. The summer has just begun and we are looking forward to exploring the region with you over the next several months.

Have you heard our exciting news!? AARCH has received news that we were awarded a Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant from the National Park Service. The $750,000 grant will fund capital rehabilitation grants for historic main streets and agricultural buildings in and around the hamlets and villages of the Adirondack region.

The Adirondack Rural Revitalization Program will help drive investment in our North Country communities, assisting small business owners and nonprofits while encouraging rehabilitation in our historic community cores. Read the full press release here, we will have more information available on this program this fall.

Our advocacy work at Debar Pond Lodge and the Cornell Cooperative Extension building continues. You can read more about our efforts and how you can help below.

We look forward to seeing all of you as we explore the rich and diverse history within the Adirondacks and beyond. As

Applying the scratch coat at AARCH's Preserving Historic Plaster Workshop at the Graves Mansion in Au Sable Forks (above)

Scenes from inside the historic Turner Grist Mill (above) and the Lobdell-Waite Farmstead (below) in the Town of

always, thank you for your support of our work!

In this Edition:

- **Summer Celebration!**
- **2022 Programs**
- **Meet the Santanoni Summer Staff**
- **Cornell Cooperative Extension Building**
- **Debar Pond Lodge Update**
- **Preservation Awards**
- **AARCH Gratitude**

Schuyler Falls.

SUPPORT

2022 Summer Celebration at Northbrook Lodge

Honoring Howard Kirschenbaum

Saturday, August 13, 2022
3:00 – 6:00 PM | Paul Smiths

Purchase Your Tickets HERE
Join the Host or Honorary Committee or become a Corporate Sponsor HERE

Please join AARCH staff, board members, and special guests for an exceptional summer afternoon at the scenic Northbrook Lodge on Osgood Pond.

ADVENTURE

After a tremendous response to our **summer tours** this season, we still have room on some of the outings listed below. Please join us!

VALCOUR ISLAND & LIGHTHOUSE July 7

OPEN STUDIO & HISTORIC MILL WITH JOHN VAN ALSTINE & CAROLINE RAMERSDORFER July 9

ARCHITECTURAL SKETCHING WORKSHOP July 22-23

STONE HOUSES OPEN HOUSE July 23

THE WOMEN OF SANTANONI August 8

DRAWN TO NATURE AT SANTANONI September 24

ADVOCACY – ESSEX COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE

AARCH continues to support advocacy efforts to prevent demolition of the historic Agricultural Center/Cornell Cooperative Extension Building (CCE building) in Westport. With a possible $1 million in federal funds in the federal budget for the project, the building's fate continues to hang in the balance as the County waivers between rehabilitation or demolition and new construction. The federal funds are available for either one.

A **2022 cost update** by Randy Crawford

of **Crawford & Stearns, Architects and Preservation Planners**, estimates that the building can be fully renovated for no more than the cost of new construction and most probably less. Less than ½ mile away from the CCE building, the newly renovated **Westport Town Hall (an AARCH award winner)** is a testament to successful & cost-effective rehabilitation, meeting the current needs of the occupants, building and energy code requirements, and restoring historic elements of the building.

With demolition still looming as a possibility, the ***Friends of the Essex Fairgrounds***, engaged the services of attorney Will Cook of *Cultural Heritage Partners*, a law, policy, and strategy firm, to write a letter to the Essex County Board of Supervisors advising them of their responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which would apply even if the County sought to segment the project by not using federal funds for demolition.

The **Friends of the Essex Fairgrounds website** contains a library of reports on the building, including the **2022 Crawford & Stearns cost update** and the **informational letter** provided by attorney Will Cook.

AARCH continues to support the Friends of the Essex Fairgrounds and we all hope that the Board of Supervisors will support the opportunity to create a County model for the imaginative and economic reuse of an existing structure. If you would like to support these efforts financially, AARCH is serving as a fiscal sponsor for the Friends and has provided an online donation page.

Please don't forget to sign the PETITION and encourage others do so as well. We need to show our local supervisors that preserving the CCE Building not only makes the best fiscal and environmental sense but is also vital to preserving our shared heritage.

ADVOCACY – DEBAR POND LODGE UPDATE

The constitutional amendment bill that would have allowed for the transfer of Debar Pond Lodge to Debar Pond Institute passed in the NYS Assembly, after the NYS Senate adjourned. We are evaluating our next steps for advocacy and reintroduction of the bill in the 2023 legislative session and will share as soon as we can.

GREAT CAMP SANTANONI SUMMER STAFF

Welcome!

This summer, we're happy to welcome two new staff members to Santanoni: Kevin Jensen and Leigh Robertson.

Kevin is from Hobart, NY. After graduating from Hartwick College in 2020 with a degree in history, he began working at Hanford Mills Museum in East Meredith, NY, where he worked on a variety of interpretation and preservation projects. Annual family camping trips to the Adirondacks were always among the highlights of his summers growing up, so the opportunity to return to the region and work at Santanoni is a perfect fit. This summer Kevin is looking forward to exploring and preserving the historic structures at Santanoni while helping our visitors learn about their history.

Leigh is a history student at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Leigh writes, "Though I've never been to the Adirondacks before, I was drawn to Santanoni because of not only its history during the time of the Pruyns, but because of its complicated preservation history. It's a special privilege to be able to contribute to the preservation of a place that so many people cherish and have fought to keep. I'm also interested in landscapes of labor such as the Santanoni farm, where people live and work in the same space. This summer, I'm looking forward to giving tours and being a part of how people interact with history, as well as gaining some skills in hands-on conservation work. I'm also excited to learn about the Adirondacks and do some great hiking! Hope to see you folks out there soon."

Leigh and Kevin arrived on June 13 – look for them when you visit! Jennifer Betsworth is continuing to serve as the Santanoni Interpretive Coordinator and is excited to work with the staff and offer new programs this year. Thank you to the Town of Newcomb for financial support of these positions.

AARCH AWARD NOMINATIONS -DEADLINE JUNE 30, 2022

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

LEARN

Looking for fun, informative house and barn preservation videos? Join long time AARCH member, antiques dealer and passionate preservationist **Willie Wilcox** on his adventures. Willie has restored two early Federal Period Farmsteads to their original and authentic splendor. He now resides and conducts business in these two historically preserved farm houses in Essex, New York. Some YouTube videos of the fun times preserving them are posted on his **YouTube channel**. They are quite INTERESTING and entertaining so please check them out!!!

Senior Scholar Summer Semester 2022

Senior Scholar, the Plattsburgh-based series of seminars for retirees and other adults, is happy to announce this year's program of summer talks. All sessions will be on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM, perfectly timed for your second or third cup of coffee or tea, yet finished in time for lunch and your afternoon activities. All talks will be delivered via Zoom.

Cost for the **full series** is a modest $10.00. Even if you only "attend" a couple of the talks, we think it'll be a good value. Of course, we'd prefer you sign in every week. And if you've enjoyed these programs in the past, we hope you'll tell your family, neighbors, and friends about them.
Please send your checks, plus your phone number and a current e-mail address, to:

Senior Citizens Council of Clinton County
5139 North Catherine Street
Plattsburgh NY 12901

Questions? Call us at 518-563-6180, or e-mail **rachel@seniorcouncil.net**
Senior Scholar is a collaboration of Senior Citizens Council of Clinton County, Clinton County Office for the Aging, JCEO, and Chapel Hill Foundation.

SCHEDULE (All talks at 10:00 AM via Zoom)
July 14—Brad Edmondson, author, *A Wild Idea: How Environmental Movement Tamed the Adirondacks How the Adirondacks Almost Became a National Park*
July 21—Ryan Alexander, Associate Professor of History, SUNY Plattsburgh
Good Neighbor? The Consequences of a Century of U.S. Entanglements in Latin America
July 28—Dan Berggren, musician and composer
Adirondack Folk Music Traditions

August 4—Helen Nerska, Executive Director, Clinton County Historical Association
A History of Blacks in Clinton County
August 11—Dave Mason, Project Director, Mapping the Future of the Adirondack Park
Adirondack Futures-- A 10 Year Update
August 18—Erin Tobin, Executive Director, Adirondack Architectural Heritage
The Greenest Building is the One Already Built
August 25—Brian Mann, News Correspondent, National Public Radio
Perspectives from Two Assignments to the Ukraine

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.

THANK YOU

To This Important Business Member

Fire Sky Farm
Jenny Arena

1357 State Route 372
Greenwich, NY 12834
USA
(315) 491-2083
jenny.arena@gmail.com

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

Adirondack Architectural Heritage | 1745 Main Street, Keeseville, NY 12944

Unsubscribe info@aarch.org

Update Profile |Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent byinfo@aarch.orgpowered by

Try email marketing for free today!