AARCH MATTERS

Your Preservation News for the Adirondack Region

Volume 15, Issue 9, September 2023

"Happiness is letting go of what you think your life is supposed to look like and celebrating it for everything that it is."

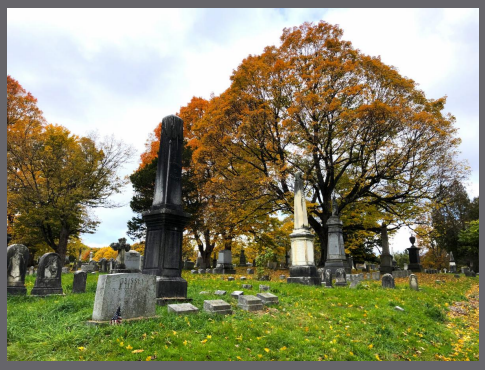
~ Mandy Hale

Here at AARCH, this year has been a lesson in navigating the joys of our successes and sadness of our losses. We have much to celebrate so far this year, but we have also had to say goodbye to some dear members of our community who have supported our work for decades. These friends and champions of historic preservation in the Adirondacks include Mary Hotaling, who passed away on September 1.

Mary was a co-founder of AARCH and our first staff-person as well as a co-founder of **Historic Saranac Lake**. Mary remained involved with AARCH for 33 years as a board member, program leader, member, and friend, contributing so much to historic preservation in the Adirondacks and documenting the region's history. You can read more about Mary's legacy below.

While honoring Mary's legacy, we celebrate preservation success throughout our region, along with another season of tours. Next week we are honoring our **2023 Preservation Award winners** at **The Hitching Post** in Lake Luzerne. We are also wrapping up another lively season of programs, which has taken us on 25 adventures throughout the region thus far, with nine more to go! We still have space on a few tours if you'd like to **join us this fall** - read on for more info. Lastly, this month marks the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Champlain Canal, which we visited on a tour in

*We recently said goodbye to **Mary Hotaling**, one of our dear friends and founding members. All are welcome to attend a celebration of Mary's life at **Historic Saranac Lake on September 23**.*



*Join us on September 27 to explore the connections between the Adirondacks and Albany on our **Finding the Adirondacks in***

July!

In this Edition:

- **In Memory of Mary Hotaling**
- **Adventure with AARCH**
- **TAG Grants**
- **Champlain Canal Anniversary**
- **Preservation in Pop Culture**

Albany tour *and* ***Albany Institute of History & Art Reception****. Contact us at info@aarch.org or 518-834-9328 ext. 6 to register!*

IN MEMORY OF MARY HOTALING

AARCH owes a great deal to Mary Hotaling and is sorry to share the news of her passing on September 1. Mary was a co-founder of AARCH and our first staff-member, serving as program coordinator and then newsletter editor from 1992 to 2000. Mary served for years on AARCH's board and advisory council.

Mary made profound contributions to historic preservation and architectural history in Saranac Lake and throughout the Adirondacks. An expert on Adirondack architect William Coulter, she led our Rustic Camps of William Coulter outing for many years, most recently in 2019 (pictured above).

A celebration of Mary's life will take place on **Saturday, September 23rd** at **Historic Saranac Lake**, which is accepting contributions in her memory. For more information, visit **Historic Saranac Lake's website**.

Mary will be deeply missed and we will continue to honor her memory and legacy through dedication to historic preservation across the region. You can read her obituary **here**.

ADVENTURE WITH AARCH

In the past month, we've explored the Great Camps of William Coulter and William West Durant, hiked Valcour Island, sketched downtown Saranac Lake (*photo at right*), and visited some of Tupper Lake's most iconic sites.

There's still time to join us for tours this fall! The available programs listed below will explore the longstanding ties between the Adirondacks and Albany as well as the crucial role that industry has played in shaping the Adirondack region. You can always check **our website** to see our full slate of programs.

As of September 15, these programs still have space:

- September 27 - **Finding the Adirondacks in Albany**
- September 27 - **Albany Institute of History & Art Reception**
- September 29 - **Tahawus and Upper Works Village Trek**

AUTUMN AT SANTANONI

Autumn is also a great time to visit Santanoni! Check out **Great Camp Santanoni's website** for information on visiting during the fall, including reserving spots on the horse-drawn wagon into the Main Camp and renting bicycles.

We have three more special programs at Santanoni this year which offer fresh perspectives on our decades of work there:

- September 21 - **Mindfulness at Santanoni**
- September 23 - **West Cottage and Farm Complex**
- October 3 - **Preserving Camp Santanoni**

*Contact **info@aarch.org** to register for the September 21 or October 3 programs.*
*Contact **santanoni@aarch.org** to register for the September 23 tour.*

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Technical Assistance Grants are available to eligible nonprofits and municipalities in New York State through a program by the **Preservation League of New York State** and **New York State Council on the Arts**. The TAG Program provides support for planning studies or analyses of New York State's historic resources that serve an arts and/or cultural function.

You can find grant guidelines and a pre-application **on the League's website** .

Pre-Application deadline: Monday, October 9
Grant application deadline: Friday, October 20 ***(Full applications will be sent after eligibility is verified)***

FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT WORKSHOP

September 21 | 5:00pm - 7:00 pm
Silas Wright House (St. Lawrence Historical Association)

Join the Preservation League for a workshop at the **St. Lawrence Historical Association**, co-sponsored by AARCH, to learn how to apply for a Technical Assistance Grant. See inspiring success stories of previous TAG projects in the North Country and from around the state. **Learn more and pre-register here**.

Silas Wright House, photo courtesy of St. Lawrence Historical Association.

200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAMPLAIN CANAL

Did you know that New York's canal system has been in continuous operation since 1825, longer than any other constructed transportation system on the North American continent? The **Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor** runs along the southern and eastern borders of the Adirondack region, including the Champlain Canal from Waterford to Whitehall.

This month marks the 200th anniversary of the Champlain Canal's opening! This 60-mile waterway connects the south end of Lake Champlain to the Hudson River and was constructed simultaneously with the Erie Canal, beginning in 1818 and officially opening September 7, 1823.

We explored the northern terminus of the Champlain Canal in Whitehall (formerly Skenesborough) on **one of our tours in July**. On that outing, we visited the 1917 canal terminal building that today houses the Skenesborough Museum and paddled on the canal through Lock C-12 into the Poultney River.

PRESERVATION IN POP CULTURE

Thursday, October 19
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

REGISTER HERE

Join our friends at the Preservation League of New York State for a discussion on Preservation in Pop Culture. This Preservation Roundtable will examine some recent pop culture moments when preservation took center stage and ask questions such as: How can preservationists be part of the conversation when the general public takes notice? And how can we shift the conversation to make the field at large more widely understood and more welcoming?

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