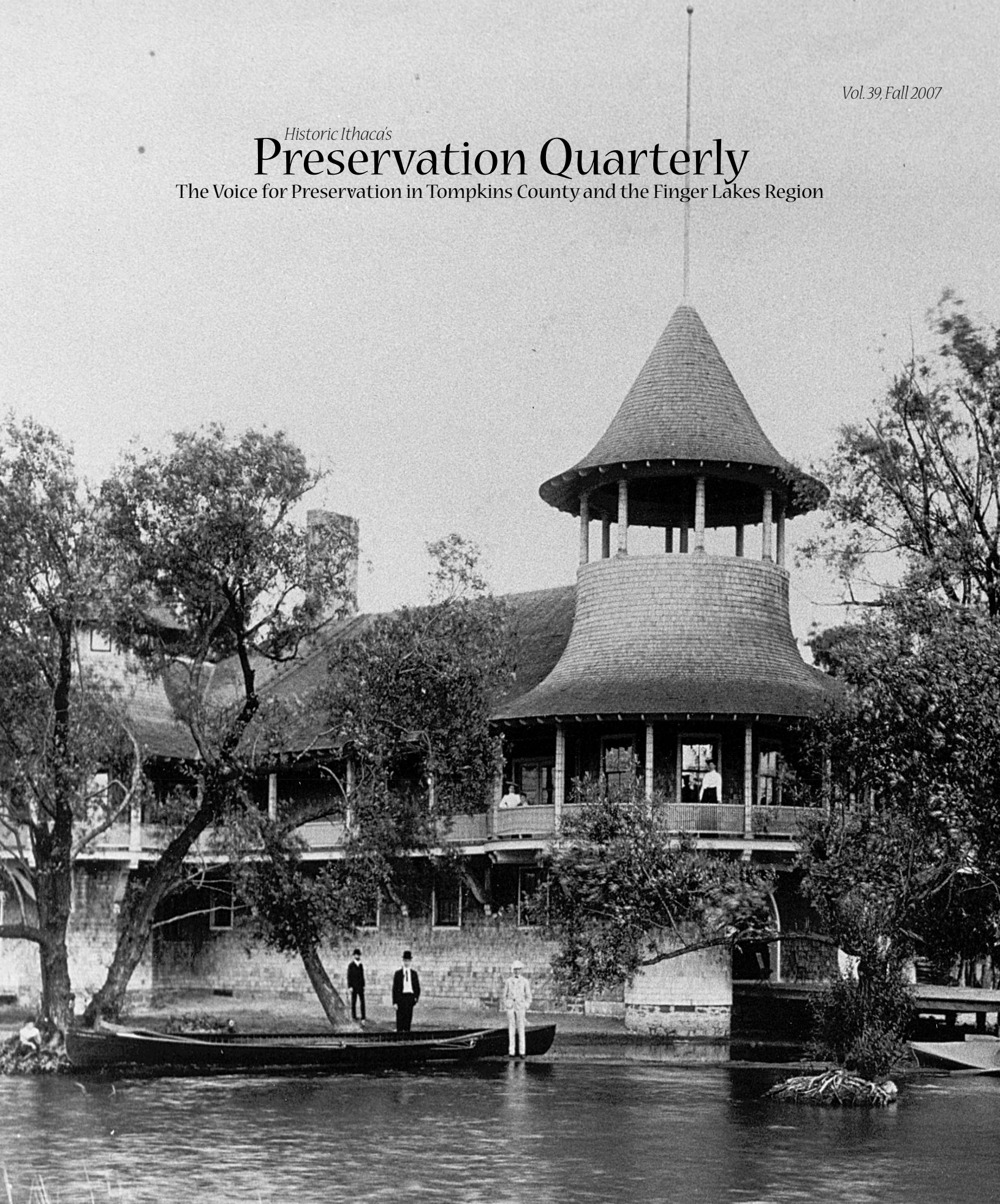


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*Historic Ithaca's*  
**Preservation Quarterly**  
The Voice for Preservation in Tompkins County and the Finger Lakes Region



**The Cascadilla Boathouse, circa 1900. Full story, page 13**

Preservation Quarterly; Summer 2007  
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***Front cover: From the archives of the History Center in Tompkins County  
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## A Message from the Chief Executive Officer

### Crisis and Opportunity

Historic Ithaca is enjoying its 40th birthday in 2007! And believe me, it is very tempting to sit back and bask in the glory of all that Historic Ithaca has accomplished in its 40-year history, from saving the Clinton House to managing the State Theatre. And yet as I peruse the 40 years' worth of Preservation Quarterly newsletters in Historic Ithaca's library, I am struck by how difficult the preservation struggle has been in the past and humbled by the efforts of my predecessors in the executive director's seat.

Notable moments of crisis and opportunity seem to have occurred in roughly ten-year intervals throughout the organization's history. After purchasing the Clinton House in 1972, Historic Ithaca struggled with the renovations and bill payments to contractors for five years before completing the last of the renovations (but not the last of the bill payments) in 1977.

With the Clinton House fully rented, Historic Ithaca continued to wrestle with the burden of managing and maintaining the property. By the mid-1980s, facing a seemingly ever-growing list of capital improvement needs at the Clinton House, Historic Ithaca hired the Architectural Conservation Trust (ACT) for Massachusetts to conduct a feasibility study that considered whether the Clinton House should be sold.

"The building needs fresh and aggressive action," wrote William V. Anderson, the author of the 1985 study, "and I sense that Historic Ithaca has been with the building a long time and is somewhat worn out with it." In light of the ACT report, Historic Ithaca made many necessary and difficult financial and operational adjustments over the next year or two to more efficiently manage the Clinton House. With the crisis averted, Historic Ithaca's continued ownership of the Clinton House was once again assured by 1987.

Ten years later, Historic Ithaca faced a new challenge in protecting the State Theatre. Condemned and destined for demolition, the State was the last of 17 theaters that had operated here throughout Ithaca's history. Executive Director Ed Franquemont captured the sense of both crisis and opportunity in the summer 1997 issue of Preservation Quarterly:

*We now are faced with the challenge of the State Theatre, an opportunity every bit as great as The Clinton House. We need our older members to remind us that however difficult challenges may seem today, nothing could ever be harder than confronting the expansive urban renewal growth that thirty years ago seemed to feed on the bricks and mortar of the past. Somehow, Historic Ithaca met those challenges, and with a rededication to the vision, energy, and ingenuity that is our heritage as an organization, we can do it again.*

And once more, this organization rose to the preservation challenge. Historic Ithaca purchased the State Theatre in 1997, and we have owned and operated it ever since, which hasn't been easy.

But then again, nothing worthwhile ever is.

History seems to repeat itself. After ten years of watching us own and operate the State, some Ithacans today might once again observe that "Historic Ithaca has been with the building a long time and is somewhat worn out with it." Make no mistake about it, running the theater has drained Historic Ithaca of money, energy, and resources—just as the Clinton House did 20 years ago.

Others may worry about "mission creep" and argue that Historic Ithaca should get out of the theater business and back into the business of saving buildings.

The fact of the matter is that running the theater is saving the theater.

I encourage you to take a walk down West State Street to see the newly refurbished "STATE" sign blade that was carefully lifted into place on May 18, 2007. Right now, workers are sanding the metal marquee, and employees of the Cayuga Sign

## Preservation Quarterly

Company are re-fabricating and restoring the elaborate neon signage. Within the next month or so, the glorious red, green, and yellow lights will be ready to shine again, and we plan also to paint and refresh the entire exterior façade over the next year. I see this restoration as a Historic Ithaca success story. Once again we are on our way to restoring one of the historic gems of downtown Ithaca.

And while most Ithacans' enjoyment of Historic Ithaca's other downtown landmark, the Clinton House, is limited to viewing the outside of the building, visitors to the State Theatre have the opportunity to enjoy both the outside and the inside of this historic treasure. The more people we get into the theater, the more people we can educate about the history of the building and its potential for restoration. Every person who buys a ticket to a State Theatre show is helping us save the building

So as we celebrate the success of the restored marquee this fall, we will continue our tireless efforts to run a successful theater. Without Historic Ithaca's role in booking the acts, selling the tickets, and filling the seats, the theater would have closed, possibly for good, years ago. And although previous management studies have consistently recommended turning the operations of the theater over to a separate, not-for-profit group dedicated to the performing arts, no such group has yet materialized.

This year, theater director Dan Smalls has put together another terrific program of events for the 2007 - 2008 program season. From Arlo Guthrie to Dan Zanes, the performers scheduled for the upcoming season are sure to satisfy a wide variety of visitors to the theater.

So please join us as we celebrate not only Historic Ithaca's 40th anniversary as a preservation organization, but also our 10th anniversary of purchasing and saving the State Theatre. Come and enjoy a show, and help us as we continue to restore the theater to its original grandeur!

Jim Tantillo  
Chief Executive Officer



**Historic Ithaca would like to thank the following donors who have supported the State Theater over the past year:**

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*donor list continued*

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The Village of Dryden is offering this house for sale and removal to the highest bidder.

This 1850 Greek Revival home, which is over 1500 square feet, was purchased by the Town recently as part of their plan to expand town facilities to the north. Dryden town officials would rather see this historic home removed and renovated rather than demolished. To the rear of the property is a small wooden barn, which the town will be keeping and preserving as a historic site. Historic Ithaca is looking forward to helping the Town of Dryden with the ongoing rehabilitation of the barn.

For more information on how to submit a bid, please contact Henry Slater, the town's zoning officer at 607-844-9120, or Dryden Town Hall, 65 E. Main Street, Dryden NY 13053.

## The City Cemetery: Ithaca's Hidden Treasure

The Ithaca City Cemetery encompasses 16 acres of terraced and sloping land bounded by University Avenue, Cornell Avenue, Stewart Avenue, and the Cascadilla Park neighborhood. This beautiful and historic landscape is valuable to the Ithaca community as an historic resource and as a space for recreation. It is owned by the City of Ithaca and is maintained by the Parks and Forestry Division of the Department of Public Works. Currently, Historic Ithaca is working with the City, Cornell's Preservation program, and several community groups, to establish a Friends group and begin a series of conservation workshops.



### History and Development

The City Cemetery was unofficially established as an early village burying ground with the interment of Rachel Allen in 1790 or 1791 on a wooded hillside overlooking the small settlement that would become the Village of Ithaca.

In the 1830s the Rural Cemetery movement began to spread across the United States, a movement that reflected the changing cultural attitudes about death and funereal practices. Rural cemeteries were intended as landscaped public parks where people could find refuge from crowded cities and engage in healthful forms of recreation while appreciating the natural beauty of the site. These cemeteries were elaborately landscaped with a variety of trees, shrubs, and flowers.

In 1844, the City Cemetery was again enlarged, and later that year the first burial lots were sold. The grounds were landscaped, roads and paths were established, and the village burying ground was transformed into a modest version of the huge rural cemeteries that had been established in major cities. The cemetery was unofficially named Mount Repose.

In 1872, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ithaca voted to name the cemetery Silvan Hill. At that time the cemetery reflected the "lawn cemetery" design, with fewer trees being planted in favor of grassy, open spaces. When Ithaca was incorporated in 1888, the burying ground was finally named the City Cemetery.

Ithaca's City Cemetery differs from other city parks in that it contains thousands of historical documents in the form of grave markers and memorials. It is also an example of three distinct types of historic landscapes: the village burying ground (still in existence in the southwest area of the cemetery), the rural cemetery, and the lawn cemetery. Though burial lots are no longer for sale, the cemetery is still active, with about one interment per year.



### Current Conditions

The City Cemetery is in a state of disrepair following decades of neglect. Working with a limited budget, the city has been unable to perform conservation and maintenance aside from mowing the grass. Vandalism, including spray-painted graffiti and the intentional toppling of markers, is a major problem. A shocking recent discovery was the use of grave markers to build ramps for bike jumping. Other problems include soil erosion and the deterioration of the vaults and older grave markers.

Despite these obstacles, there is potential for the City Cemetery to be returned to its former glory. Groups such as the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War as well as individual citizens have been caring for portions of the cemetery for years. There is a concern for the state of the cemetery in the Ithaca community and among city employees, and there are ample opportunities for education and volunteer work.

*Interns Sara Johnson and Kristen Olson spent a great deal of time this summer studying the conditions of the Cemetery and have written a report of the current conditions with our recommendations, which was presented to the Parks Commission on July 16. A copy of this report can be obtained from Historic Ithaca.*

## The State of the State Today:

### Our New Box Office!

Theatergoers will be in for a treat this season when they enter our new box office. The space at 105 W. State Street, owned by Historic Ithaca, has been converted into a new state-of-the-art ticket office. After a significant fire in September 2006, our organization decided to move its theater sales operations over to that location. The work, supervised by V. Romanoff and Assoc., included creating rear office space, installing modern computers and lighting, the constructing of a beautiful solid mahogany sales counter, and the salvaging of many original building components – not to mention repairing significant damage from smoke, fire and water. We are proud to offer our patrons this new and much improved ticket office and look forward to greeting you all there!



*Craig Cristopher and Les Freeman of Cayuga Sign scraping old paint from the marquee.*



*Sheryl Fishel and Dan Smalls working at the new Box Office retail counter on opening day.*



*The Box Office storefront, with some of our historic artifacts.*



*The marquee, seen here scraped down to bare metal, is actually made of Galvaneal, a steel alloy, which is considered by many to be a step up from galvanizing.*

### Facade Improvements Continue...

The newly rehabilitated blade sign at the State Theater has surely been noticed by most Ithacans by now. After being removed and worked on for the winter of '06-'07, the blade was reinstalled on May 18. Now, Historic Ithaca is turning its eye to the marquee, thanks to grants from Tompkins County Area Development, New York Main Street Alliance, a private foundation and a private donor.

During July 2007 all of the neon on the marquee was removed to an off-site location for repairs. The next step will be scraping the remaining paint, restoring the metal work, and giving the marquee a fresh coat of paint to match the vivid, historic colors that have already been applied to the blade. Finally, the stucco under the marquee and around the main entrance doors will be restored and painted. The historic theater is always a work in progress, and we are thrilled that we'll soon have a more glamorous, vibrant façade to match the entertainment on the inside!



## The Unusual Tale of the Benjamin Johnson House

Imagine the excitement of moving into your new home. It has high ceilings, large windows, and elegant Doric columns on the façade. It's all yours . . . and it's almost 200 years old. This image will soon be reality for one local family once Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services (INHS) finishes rehabilitating the Benjamin Johnson House at 515 West Clinton Street.

INHS is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving Ithaca's neighborhoods and creating affordable housing. In their "House Recycling" program, INHS purchases and renovates deteriorated properties in the City of Ithaca, then sells them at market value to homebuyers. In thirty years, INHS has renovated over 100 buildings, often consulting with Historic Ithaca in order to preserve the historic features of the buildings. INHS construction manager Greg Yetsko contacted HI recently to inquire about the age of the Johnson house. He knew the house had been moved from its original location in 1912 and suspected that it could be one of the oldest buildings in the city. HI interns Sara Johnson and Kristen Olson searched deeds, newspaper articles, city directories, and period histories to uncover the house's story.

### "A Perfect Man", a Vaudeville Theatre, and a Weekend Spent in the Street

Born in New Hampshire in 1784, Benjamin Johnson arrived in Ithaca and established his own law office. Johnson purchased land in what is now the downtown area in 1816. According to the *History of Tioga, Chemung, Tompkins, and Schuyler Counties* written in 1879, "the house erected by him on Seneca Street . . . was nearing completion" at the time of his marriage in 1817

Ben Johnson was widely respected as a lawyer and as a prominent citizen, and he served as Village President in 1825. He was also an early advocate for the abolition of slavery and helped escaped slaves find their way to freedom. According to a newspaper article titled "Ben Johnson, Lawyer and Philanthropist" in the collection of the History Center, "he died at his home in this city on March 19, 1848, at the age of 63 years, so much respected by his associates that it is said one of his partners afterwards characterized him as 'a perfect man.'"

The house remained a prominent fixture on Seneca Street throughout a series of owners in the 19th century. By 1911, the residential character of the block was disappearing as houses were replaced by commercial buildings. The property at 120 East Seneca Street was sold to the Star Theatre Company, and it was around this time that the house was moved approximately one half mile to its present location. The house was reportedly pulled by a team of horses along greased planks and was left sitting in the middle of the street for several days when the movers went home at the end of their workweek.

Thus the house began its new life as a rental property at 515 West Clinton Street. Beginning in 1913, the house and a rear unit were occupied by various tenants including a teamster, a chauffeur, a meat cutter, and a waitress, among others. The house continued to be used primarily as a rental property until 1969, when it sat vacant for three years. In 1972 it was once again owner-occupied. In 2006, it was acquired by Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services.

*Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Service is currently rehabilitating the Johnson house. Lead removal is required by law according to Greg Yetsko which has necessitated the removal of much interior and exterior wood. However, Mr. Yetsko intends to strip the woodwork of lead paint when possible and retain or reproduce the historic wood trim features. The house's old wood clapboard siding is currently covered with aluminum siding, which will be removed, and new wood clapboard will be installed, to restore the house's historic appearance.*

## What Stories Does Your House Have to Tell?

So you live in an old house - but how old? Who lived there before you? Your house may have a story to tell, and with some basic research tools and a few spare hours, you can uncover its history.

### Step 1: Find the Most Recent Deed of Sale

The first step in researching a house's history and its past inhabitants is to look up the most recent deed of sale, which is done by entering the street name and number into the search fields of the document software at the Tompkins County Clerk's office. Deeds from about the 1970s to the present are searchable and can be viewed on the computer screen.

### Work Backwards

Each deed will usually give information about the previous sale. For example, it will describe the bounds of the property, then say, "being the same property conveyed to John Smith by Frank Smith on 24 August 1921 and recorded on page 213 of book 198." Each deed has a "Book" (sometimes called "Liber") number and a "Page" number. By using these numbers you can look up deeds that are not searchable on the computer. In the example given, you would find book 198 on the shelf and look up page 213, then keep working backwards, deed by deed. In this way, you will assemble a "chain of title" tracking all of the house's previous owners.

### Read Closely for Clues

Although deeds seem to contain a great deal of legal jargon and excess verbiage, you can gather interesting and important facts from reading deeds closely. For example, when a property is sold by the heirs of a deceased owner, the deed will often give the date of death. Family relationships are often noted in such deeds. If you're lucky, the deed will mention something extra or unusual about the property. For example, recent research on an early nineteenth-century barn yielded a deed that listed farm equipment included in the sale - valuable clues to what types of farm activities took place at that time.

In addition, sometimes an owner sells a portion of his/her property but retains a parcel for him/herself or heirs. Only through careful reading of the deed will you be able to use these details to assemble an accurate history.

### Take Notes

It will be useful to create a spreadsheet or table with spaces to fill in deed information. The information headings should include: Grantor (seller), Grantee (buyer), Date, Book number, and Page number. You may want to leave extra space for notes on other facts gleaned from the deeds.

### City Directories

Armed with your new knowledge about the previous owners of your property, you can turn your search to the Ithaca City Directories, which go back to the late 1800s. These directories are available at the Tompkins County Public Library, the Tompkins County History Center, or Historic Ithaca. These directories are extremely useful because they not only give the names of persons (including renters) living at a particular address, but also their occupations. The reverse directory, sometimes printed on pink pages at the back of each book, allows you to look up your property by street number in order to find the names of people living there. If the names in the directories match the owners, you can assume your house was owner-occupied. However, if there are names that don't match the owners, your house was a rental. Even when the house is owner-occupied, these directories are essential in revealing the names of other family members living there.

### Further Research

You may be satisfied with your findings thus far, or you may want to pursue other avenues of research. One area to explore is the chronological development of the house if it has had additions or alterations. You may also want to find out more about your house's previous owners or inhabitants, the house's style of architecture, or the history of your neighborhood. History books, newspaper articles, internet searches, and previous owners themselves are all useful sources for more information on your house and its unique story. Remember, the staff at both Historic Ithaca and the History Center can help you investigate further, that's what we're here for!

## Hard at Work: Our Interns from Cornell's Historic Preservation Program

Sara Johnson and Kristen Olson have been interning for Historic Ithaca this summer and have made tremendous contributions to our organization. They have helped numerous individuals and organizations research their historic properties, they've reorganized our extensive library, but their largest achievement perhaps has been the study of the Ithaca City Cemetery. Kristen and Sara have taken this document to the city's Parks Commission and have organized a volunteer work event for the Preservation Studies Student Organization at Cornell.



Sara Johnson is a first-year graduate student in the Historic Preservation Planning program at Cornell University. After receiving a B.S. in Urban Studies from Cornell in 2001, she stayed in Ithaca, working as a waiter and film tour coordinator. As a Central New York native, Sara is interested in exploring the region's economic and community development potential through historic preservation efforts. Other interests include 19th and 20th century industrial and vernacular architecture, arts and preservation collaborations, and heritage tourism.

Kristen Olson grew up in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Colby College in 2003 with a Studio Art major and an Anthropology minor. Her interest in historic structures was sparked during a post-graduate stint living in Norfolk, Virginia's historic Ghent neighborhood. She looks forward to earning her Master of Arts in Historic Preservation Planning from Cornell in 2008 and settling down somewhere in the northeast. Her interests include the history of state and national parks and the Appalachian Trail.

## Significant Elements: Salvaging in Slaterville

There are several ways to promote the historic preservation paradigm. The most obvious is, of course, to preserve, restore or rehabilitate a historic structure or landscape. Preservation can include anything from ongoing maintenance to a full-scale rehabilitation. But what can we do when the historic resource is slated for demolition? That's where architectural salvage comes in. On May 23rd, Significant Elements staff Diane Cohen, Billy Cote, Mitch Marano, and intern Niko Stahl, worked at 2694 Slaterville Rd, in Slaterville Springs, and salvaged what they could from the century-old home prior to its demolition. This included the original oak flooring and some hardware. It was hot, hard work, but worth it. Hardwood flooring is a profitable item for Significant Elements, and it keeps thousands of linear feet of lumber out of the landfill.



*Above: Diane Cohen removing cast iron hinges from doors.*

*Below: Billy Cote salvaging solid oak flooring.*



## **Ten Years of the “Ithaca Bill”: New York’s Historic Property Tax Exemption**

Owners of historic properties often face a dilemma when choosing to tackle preservation work on their buildings. The problem is generally economic-- appropriately restoring a building can be expensive, and a likely result of the restoration is an increase in the assessed value of the property. The final impact for the owner is often higher property taxes. But there are ways to help balance the personal costs with the public good of preserving a historic building.

In the City of Ithaca there is a solution for the owners of qualifying historic buildings. This October marks the tenth anniversary of the “Ithaca Bill,” the NYS law allowing municipalities to enact local historic property tax regulations. Starting in 1993, Lynn Cunningham of Historic Ithaca worked with local state representatives and the Preservation League of NYS to encourage the passage of the New York State Historic Property Tax Exemption. Cunningham, then the preservation director of Historic Ithaca, initiated this process after realizing that New York State, unlike many other states, did not offer tax incentives for preservation.

Like most tax incentives, this Historic Property Exemption comes with qualifying regulations. In Ithaca, the property must be located in one of the local historic districts and meet other requirements. But for those property owners willing to work with the Ithaca Landmarks Preservation Commission and planning department, the exemption pays off when it is time to do major preservation work.

The program provides limited tax relief by phasing in the increased property value and property taxes that result from preservation work. For five years, there is no increase in the property assessment. In the next five years, the increase in property value is phased in, adding 20% yearly. The property will be assessed at full value ten years after the completion of the project.

Thirty-two properties statewide currently benefit from this exemption; most are located in cities in Central and Western NY. There are six properties using the exemption in the City of Buffalo, five in the City of Kingston, four each in the cities of Auburn, Rochester, and Schenectady, three in the City of Saratoga Springs, two in both the City of Albany and the City of Ithaca, and one each in the towns of Brighton (Monroe County) and Yorktown (Westchester County). The numbers look small, but the historic fabric of each of those communities is now a bit stronger because of the exemption program.

There are two properties in Ithaca that have used the exemption, and both contribute to the character and vitality of the East Hill Historic District. The Henry William Miller Inn, located at the corner of Buffalo and Aurora Streets, anchors the western edge of the East Hill Historic District. The Crossroads Life Center, at the corner of Buffalo Street and Stewart Ave, occupies another busy corner in that historic district.

By creating an incentive for property owners to restore historic buildings, local governments are actively supporting preservation in their communities. If your municipality does not offer this incentive, encourage your community leaders to consider adopting the program. The exemption is a small public cost that generates a very visible public benefit.

*For details of the City of Ithaca Historic Property Exemption, refer to the Ithaca City Code, Chapter 300, Article IV, §300-21 through §300-25.*

*More information is available from the City of Ithaca Planning Department, the Tompkins County Department of Assessment, and Historic Ithaca.*

*Data obtained from the New York State Office of Real Property Services Municipal Profile: <http://www.orps.state.ny.us/>.*

## Historic Property Spotlight: The Cascadilla School Boathouse

One of Ithaca's architecturally and historically significant properties is hidden in the northwest corner of Stewart Park, at the mouth of Fall Creek. This dark brown wood-shingled structure is the Cascadilla School Boathouse, home to the rowers of Ithaca for the past 111 years. The property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991 because of its association with the history of the Cascadilla School, Cornell University, and the sport of rowing. The boathouse is also one of Ithaca's examples of Shingle Style architecture and also represents the collegiate boathouse style of the late nineteenth century. The City of Ithaca purchased the boathouse in 1923, following its acquisition of Renwick (now Stewart) Park in 1921. The Cascadilla Boat Club has rented the building from the city since 1982.



*Cascadilla Boathouse, 2007*

The boathouse was commissioned by the Cascadilla School in 1893 and reflected the growing interest in collegiate rowing in the United States. When the school was founded in 1870, rowing was growing in popularity as a sport and a spectator event at the college level. In 1893, as a preparatory school for future Cornell students and rowers, the Cascadilla School began one of the first rowing programs for high school students in the United States. The school shared the Cornell rowing facilities and coach until construction on the boathouse was complete in 1896.

The prominent Ithaca architecture firm of Vivian and Gibb was commissioned by the school to design a boathouse that would rival the grand boathouses of the Northeast. The architects traveled to New York, Boston, and Philadelphia to study the design of boathouses. Harvard's Weld Boathouse was the biggest influence on their designs for the Cascadilla building.

Vivian and Gibb adapted the Weld's wood-shingled hipped roof and second-story veranda, but streamlined the design of the veranda, wrapping it around the entire T-shaped building. A conical tower was located on each end of the north façade, extending above the covered, cantilevered veranda. The long part of the T was originally one large room with two boat bays opening onto the dock facing the creek. The positioning of the bay perpendicular to the water was part of traditional boathouse design for easy water access. The boat room's height was also determined by its use: the oars had to be stored vertically in the building. The top of the T held the locker room, club room, and log room. The second floor above the boat bays was an open assembly room with doors opening onto the veranda. This T-shaped design reflects traditional boathouse function combined with Shingle Style aesthetics. Vivian and Gibb's Cascadilla Boathouse also influenced the plans for the main pavilion complex that they later designed for Ithaca's Renwick Park.

While the boathouse has maintained its original function since its construction, many of the significant architectural details have deteriorated or been removed. In 1954, winds from Hurricane Hazel destroyed the large western tower, and the original wood-shingled roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles. Much of the veranda was removed by the 1960s. In addition to its role as a defining visual feature, the veranda and its support posts had provided structural stability for the building, and their loss has weakened the structure.



*Cascadilla Boathouse, circa 1900*

The deteriorating building was stabilized in 1997. Decades of exposure in a damp environment caused major structural problems. During the stabilization, the entire building was lifted 16 inches to place it above the 500-year flood level. New gutters, downspouts, and drainage systems were installed to help prevent further water damage. This stabilization project has allowed the continued use of the building by the boat club.

Leslie Chatterton, the City of Ithaca's Historic Preservation Planner, says that the city-owned boathouse evokes the grandeur of public facilities in the 19th century. One of the possibilities that she sees for the building's future is a combination of interpretive center/museum and recreational boating program on the first floor and an assembly hall that could be rented for events on the second floor. Preserving the building is also an important step towards wider appreciation of the cultural history of the lakefront. When fully restored, this historic building will once again be a grand public gathering place.

## Photo Contest!

Correctly identify this picture and win two tickets to see Arlo Guthrie!



*The fine print: The Arlo Guthrie concert is scheduled for Tuesday November 13th. The photo contest deadline is October 1, 2007. The winner will be selected, at random from all the correct answers we receive. The winner will be notified on October 8, and announced on the Historic Ithaca website. The tickets can either be held at the State Theater box office, or mailed to the winner. Submissions must be made in writing, and can either be sent to [jessica@historicitthaca.org](mailto:jessica@historicitthaca.org) or Historic Ithaca Photo Contest, 109 West State Street, Ithaca NY 14850. Questions can be directed to Jessica Evans, 273-6633x802. One submission per person, please.*

## Upcoming Events

*Mark your calendars... this fall is full of exciting preservation opportunities.*

### "Preservation for Homeowners: Learning How to Care for Your Old House"

When: Saturday October 13, noon to 3pm

Where: Borg-Warner Community Room, Tompkins Co. Public Library

Historic Ithaca is proud to announce its Fall Seminar, "Preservation for Homeowners". A three-part seminar focusing on the history and importance of Tompkins County residential architecture, attendees will learn about the real challenges of older homes, and preservation-friendly solutions. Come hear preservation architect John Bero and Cooperative Extension lecturer Mark Pierce explain how taking care of an older home can increase the energy efficiency of your home and add to its value.

This event is free and open to the public. If you have questions, or would like to volunteer please call Jessica Evans at 607-273-6633 x 802.

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### "Weatherizing and Repairing Older Windows"

When: Monday, October 15, 6:30 – 8:30

Where: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County

Energy loss through air leaks around your windows can be significant. By learning simple methods for repairing and weatherizing your older windows, you can save money on your energy bills and increase your comfort without the expense of replacement windows. At this event, you will learn:

- \* How to replace worn parting beads as a method to tighten up windows
- \* How to repair the sash cords on your double-hung window weights.
- \* How to re-glaze an older window.
- \* About energy efficient treatments you can add to your older windows.

This event is free and open to the public. Space is limited, so registration is required. Please call 272-2292 to register.

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### Frederick Douglass International Underground Railroad Conference

When: September 28 - 30 2007

Where: Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester NY

The Underground Railroad represents the best of humanity. As we bring to life one of America's most remarkable stories this conference represents an extraordinary opportunity to attain a better understanding of how the Underground Railroad has impacted who we are today. Hear from historians, researchers, archivists, curators, educators and other experts who will share their work and interpretation of the Underground Railroad legacy of freedom and create a unique venue for dialogue. See how relevant this heroic and triumphant struggle is to addressing current social and cultural issues. Illuminating the compelling stories, the courageous people, and historic places on the Underground Railroad.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.workforcediversitynetwork.com/iur.aspx>

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City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please help Historic Ithaca protect the architectural heritage of Tompkins County and the surrounding Finger  
Lakes region.

**Historic Ithaca Membership Form**