



THE PRESERVATIONIST

MAY/JUNE 2022

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A Message from the President

Dear Landmarkers,

For a while there, I was wondering if summer was going to arrive at all. Thankfully, it has returned, and no one is happier about that than I! And I am very happy to report our Walks & Talks series is returning as well. I think it's safe to say we all were waiting patiently for its return! Hopefully, the Society can get back on track this summer with all of our events and fundraisers.

Speaking of those events, we had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Tea at the Miller-Conkling-Kernan Mansion. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out with those events. Landmarks is very fortunate to have the dedicated group of folks who make these events happen. It was good to see activity back at Rutger Park and it was great seeing all the new faces. We were pleased by how many attendees were new to Landmarks. Let's try and keep this trend going! Please share the list of happenings with anyone you know that might not know about us. We would like to get to know them!

We hope to restart the roof project on the #1 mansion this summer. We have talked to the contractor, and we are hopeful that he can continue the work there. Unfortunately, most of the same troubles that prevented any progress last summer are continuing this year. The lack of employees and materials is simply crippling. And the wet weather last year was an incredible set back. We will keep you posted on any potential progress.

Speaking of setbacks, the stone wall along Rutger St. was severely damaged back in April after a car was driven into it. An individual was driving up John St. at a very high rate of speed, failed to stop or turn at the light, crossed over Rutger and struck the curved end of the wall. The wall was severely damaged by the impact. The car came to rest halfway up the lawn and the driver tried to drive off, but the car was inoperable after the collision. The driver then fled the scene on foot. Luckily, the car was insured, and we recently received a check to cover the repairs. Well, we hope it covers it. Sadly, many of the stones and the top piece that is made of slate are broken. We will see what can be repaired and what might have to be replaced.

Hopefully, I will have good news to report in the next newsletter on the roof and the stone wall. But in the meantime, let's try and create some good news. Please join me this summer while we get back to our normal routine. And don't forget to bring some friends with you!

Steve Grant

President



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MAY/JUNE 2022



Table of Contents

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
INVEST IN THE FUTURE	2
NEWS FROM GREATER UTICA	2 - 3
MISSION STATEMENT	3
SPECIAL THANKS	3
A COMMUNITY DISGRACE	4 - 5
SCENIC & HISTORIC	5 - 7
PROGRAMS & EVENTS	7
SAVE THE DATE	8
WALKS & TALKS	8 - 11
SCARBOROUGH MANSION	12

MERCHANDISING

Our Merchandise Committee is at work with plans to increase our Landmarks Society shop. New ideas include mugs, glassware, t-shirts, and so much more are being considered.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AN EMAIL VERSION OF OUR NEWSLETTERS - CONTACT US AT 315-732-7376.



INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF PRESERVATION

Invest in your Landmarks Society!

For nearly 50 years, the Landmarks Society of Greater Utica has been the premiere organization in the region promoting and advocating the preservation, restoration, and adaptive reuse of historic buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. We also provide a number of programs and services that instruct, inform, and empower individuals and groups in their efforts to "preserve the past and protect the future."

There are many ways in which you can give back to the Landmarks Society to help ensure we are able to continue this valuable and vital work in our community.

Ways to Give

Outright Gifts:

This can be a check, money order, or credit donation, and it can be used as a charitable deduction on your taxes.

Wills:

The Landmarks Society can be named as a beneficiary in your will by designating a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate.

Life Insurance:

The Landmarks Society can be named as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy.

In Memory of Loved Ones:

You can honor the memory of a loved one by

making a donation to the Landmarks Society of Greater Utica in their name, and asking others to do the same in lieu of flowers.

All of the funding received by the Landmarks Society goes directly back into our programs and services, and the maintenance and restoration efforts of our Rutger Park properties.

Charitable Gift Annuity:

This is a very simple contract between you and the Community Foundation. Through this program you will receive a monthly income stream for life. At the end of your life, the Landmarks Society receives the remainder as a gift.

NEWS FROM AROUND GREATER UTICA

By Michael Bosak

David "R.C." Oster - Artist

Ink Illustrating of Historic Architecture

R.C. Oster has been a fixture around local art shows, craft fairs and the like for some time. His talent is only eclipsed by his warm, friendly, effervescent personality. He has been drawing incessantly for many, many years. Among his original inspirations were old, often wooden, sometimes abandoned roller coasters, hence the nick name "R.C." for roller coaster.

R.C. is inspired by many things architectural, primarily intricate, turn of the century cityscapes and large, old barns, in various conditions. He is noted for creating "fantasy cities" that combine buildings from various locations and eras, some of which are long-gone, into a unique and fascinating setting. R.C. is responsible for doing the birds-eye



DAVID OSTER DISPLAYING HIS LATEST WORK, A MAGNIFICENT AND ELABORATE 'FANTASY' PIECE OF AN IMAGINARY VIBRANT CITYSCAPE.

ART SHOW OPENING - NEW WORKS BY R.C. OSTER AT BE LIFE ART MAGIC GALLERY, 1707 ORISKANY BLVD., (THE NEW FITNESS MILL BUILDING) ON JANUARY 14TH, 2022

view of Rutger Park that shows #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7 all intact that was commissioned by Past President Michael Rizzo and appears on The Preservationist masthead.

The intricacy and attention to detail in R.C.'s work is stunning, and his talents are awe-inspiring. He has been a great friend of Landmarks, and we wish him much success for many, many years to come.

The R.C.'s mantra and mission statement:

“The older buildings that our forefathers have left us are a wonderful inheritance. Created from long-lasting materials such as hard woods and stone, and lovingly assembled by the hands of men, now deceased, these landmarks – whether rural or urban in nature – are proud reminders of where we as a society have been. By their scale, and in the way they interact with one another, these buildings helped bind our communities together. And not only are they historically significant, but they are aesthetically important as well, for they are unique and artistic in design; hardly any two are exactly alike.

Our older buildings feature a level of detail and craftsmanship so fine that they deserve not only a second glance but a third, fourth, and fifth, as well. It is this attention to detail that initially drew me to them, and that in turn has led to the level of detail found in my drawings.

My eyes are never bored by these wonderful landmarks, and I hope that through the intricacies of my illustrations, I can bring further awareness into the eyes of others as well. I am truly fond of these buildings, and believe in what they stand for. I hope they remain among us for years to come, -- and the

first step toward keeping them is noticing them for the unique and adroit works of art – which they are.”

David “R.C.” Oster



**RC OSTER
EXHIBIT,
JANUARY 14,
2022 AT ANGELA
DECARLIS'
BE-LIFE ART
MAGIC GALLERY,
1707 ORISKANY
BLVD., UTICA**



DAVID WITH SOME OF HIS REMARKABLE WORK.

***“Don’t it always seem to go
that you don’t know what you got til it’s gone
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.”***

*Big Yellow Taxi
--- Joni Mitchell*

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Landmarks Society is to actively promote the preservation and restoration of historically and architecturally significant buildings and sites in the Utica area. Through projects, community education, advocacy, marketing and planned activities, the Society engages its members, partners and the community in preserving the past and protecting the future.

The Landmarks Society was chartered by the State of New York in October 1974 as a nonprofit, educational corporation. The purposes for which the Landmarks Society was created include the following: 1) To protect, enhance, perpetuate and preserve buildings, landmarks and other districts of historic, architectural and cultural significance; and 2) To acquire by purchase, gift, device, or otherwise, the title to, or the custody and control of sites, buildings and areas of historical and cultural significance.”

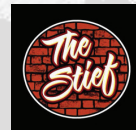
SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS!

Paul & Elaine Hage
Natalie Peters
Mary E. Fenocchi
Nick & Carol Carparelli
Leslie & Dr. Richard Raney
Nicholas K. & Suzanne P. Burns

Janice Okey
John Rienzo
Nicole Sheehan
Danielle Searles
Michael Caleo
Robert & Mary Schepisi

Richard & Martha Widdicombe
Adele Reilly
Deborah Pokinski
Carolyn Hunter
Robert & Barbara Conklin
David & Holly Chanatry

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!



A COMMUNITY DISGRACE

By Oneida County Historian Joe Bottini

A library-full of history was lost when, during a moment of insanity, someone thought it would be a good idea to build a bridge from the corner of Wurz Ave and Genesee Street to Oriskany Street.

It is said that the reason was to bring traffic from the thruway and the North Country right into downtown - another scheme to rejuvenate downtown Utica.

IT DIDN'T WORK! Another failure that taxpayers suffered to financially support, only to see the city further decimated. The result of intended progress became another chapter in a long story of failures that were supposed to help Utica's business district rebound.

All of Bagg Square was devastated, including a pleasant northern entrance to the city. A moment of sanity would make one feel some sense of responsibility to an area that is the "cradle of Utica" - and the location of events that have significant attachment to the Indian culture, the early European pioneers and the American Revolutionary War. Old Fort Schuyler - the fort - was a major place of protection for a portion of the Great Pass that traversed this region. Old Fort Schuyler - the community - was the incubator for a future city - Utica.

This one neighborhood housed the following nationally and/or internationally significant places: headquarters (1850) of the American Express Company, home of the innovative newspaper that led to the modern newspaper industry, an international (world-leading) fishing tackle company, location of a leading clothing manufacturing company that contributed to Utica becoming the world's leader in that industry, home of a shoe manufacturer/distributor that made Utica a world leader in the shoe industry, location of the hotel of a nationally renowned land developer, home of twice governor of New York State and a candidate for president of the United States, one of the last of the old-time saloon-restaurant that provided the first public lecture hall/ballroom in Utica, location of the Samuel Morris experiment lab and subsequent development of the first public telegraph company (1845) - and the list goes on to include many locally prominent places of business as well as examples of fine 19th and 20th century architecture - all destroyed.

Except for the miracle performed by the Landmarks Society of Greater Utica (1974) that saved Union Station, the exceptional "marble palace" railroad station, most of the others are GONE!

It is inconceivable that our local government leaders would not understand the importance of preserving the cradle of Utica. How does one justify the desecration of the location of Utica's birth? How do today's leaders justify ignoring this simple commemorative park dedicated to the memory of a once robust neighborhood? Where is their sense of community pride, respect for the past and honor for the legacy of one of Utica's most prominent families?

During a recent evaluation of Utica's parks, Bagg Commemorative Park was left off the list. When I inquired as to the reason why this slight was unceremoniously perpetrated, the answer given was astounding - "We are just doing the major parks" was uttered without any sense of shame.

It appears that the size of a park is the determinate factor of a park's importance - to some people. At least, that is the indication given by folks in authority. This experience spoke loudly and clearly, unwittingly exposing an ignorance that should prohibit anyone from being worthy of making decisions for our city.

Bagg Commemorative Park is not just a little, non-important piece of real estate buried under a monstrosity bridge, left to be mourned by those of us who understand and respect local history. IT IS THE LEGACY OF A MAGNANIMOUS BENEFACTOR OF ANOTHER ERA!

It all began with the erecting of a blacksmith shop/Inn hotel on the NE corner of Main and John Street. Moses Bagg Sr. began as a blacksmith and found many folks, in their migration west, needed a place to stay on their stopover to get supplies and a horse re-shod. Early on he realized there was more of an entrepreneurial opportunity in providing a place of rest for people rather than a blacksmith shop for horse care.

From a modest "shack" (1795) to a modest wooden building, Bagg's Hotel and Tavern became a landmark with the brick edifice later erected by his son, Moses Bagg Jr. in 1815. This hostelry went through many proprietors and cycles of boom and normalcy until 1869 when Thomas R. Proctor purchased the business. After a period of growth, he tired of the proprietorship and leased it to D. M. Johnson. Upon Thomas Proctor's death in 1920, his widow Maria Williams Proctor inherited the ownership deed.

By 1932, Utica had many more-modern hotels - Utica Hotel, Hotel Martin (later Hamilton) and others. Maria made the decision to raze the old, tired and well-worn building that stood so proudly on that corner for many years.

She then had a memorial building constructed on the SE corner of the property. Maria intended the building to become a mini-museum and repository for the valuable historic records from the glory days of the hotel's existence. This intended purpose was never fully realized.

The visitors register read like a "Who's Who" of national and international luminaries of the 19th and early 20th century.

Bagg's Hotel played host to folks such as: Thomas Moor, Irish Poet; Arron Burr, Vice President of the USA; Washington Irving, writer-author; Henry Clay, statesman -presidential candidate; Louis Kossuth, Hungarian Prince; Charles Dickens, writer; Chester A. Arthur, President; Grover Cleveland, governor-President; Miss Marian Anderson, entertainer; Carrie Nation, Women's Temperance

Movement, many other U.S. Presidents, and dignitaries - domestic and foreign.

Upon the destruction of the hotel, Maria had a park created (Bagg Commemorative Park) and a memorial building erected (Proctor Memorial Building) in memory of her husband. The total Bagg Commemorative Park project cost Maria Proctor approximately \$60,000 - a huge sum in 1933. By today's currency value, it is a little over one million dollars. I take it upon myself to apologize to Maria Proctor for denigrating her legacy.

Surrounding the perimeter of that park was a beautiful stone wall. It has been left, by benign neglect, to deteriorate into an eyesore. No sign exists to indicate the name or importance of this small, but historically prestigious urban park - a place of respite.

The memorial building received some needed repairs during the summers of 2014-15. Jerry Loomis designed the new electrical system and supervised the work - being there every day.

Joe Kelly said it best; "That building needs a permanent purpose in order to have it continually maintained." It has had many short-term occupants over the years.

Some of the uses of the memorial were: headquarters of the Oneida Chapter of The Daughters of the American Revolution - including their extensive genealogy resources; a medical clinic, Military Police headquarters during World War II, and local boy scout troops meeting place among others.

In most recent years, the tenet was the Elfun Society

and their Christmas on Main Street displays. COVID-19 and more-than-normal vandalism have forced Elfun members: Jerry Loomis, Dave Reichert, Tony Mirachi, and John Stephenson to announce the discontinuing of their herculean efforts with this Christmas project. They housed the decorations in the memorial building and often spent hours refurbishing the Christmas displays. The gorgeous stone wall that marks the circumference of the old hotel building is slowly losing its majestic presence.

It has been said, the manner in which a people maintain that which they inherit is an indicator of the caliber of their character.

From the lofty goal of a mini-museum to being used as a "storage shed" and "repair shop" for Christmas displays is indicative of the lack of respect for the legacy of one of the most prolific benefactors in Utica's history - Maria Williams Proctor. However, it is now uncertain what the future will be for this lonely park. The unkindest cut of all is the lack of respect for one of Utica's most historic locations. I say, all the august leaders of our community ought to feel a tinge of shame and remorse for their ignorance of benign neglect.

This Bagg Commemorative Park and Proctor Memorial Building have been on life- support for many years. With the withdrawal of the Christmas display commitment by the Elfun Society, the patient's well-being is in grave danger. It has now been taken off life-support and is waiting to die of neglect; unless a Florence Nightingale comes to rescue this important patient.

Scenic & Historic

SPOTLIGHT ON A LANDMARK - by Michael Lehman, AIA

Charles Butler Rogers Mansion, c.1894

1100(161) Park Avenue at Summit Place, Utica, New York



About the Owner and Family

Charles Butler Rogers (1865-1937)- CBR- Owner/son of Publius Virgilius Rogers (PVR)

- *President of the First National Bank and Trust Co. of Utica (1895-1927) succeeding his father PVR. The 16-story building built during his tenure is now home to Adirondack Bank.*
- *Board of Managers- Utica State Hospital for the Insane succeeding his father PVR*
- *Member of Fort Schuyler Club and its president from 1926-1928*

Publius Virgilius Rogers (1824-1895)- PVR father of Charles Butler Rogers (CBR)

- *Hamilton College graduate 1846, College trustee (1868-1895) & College treasurer (1880-1895)*



- *President of the Bank of Utica, later the First National Bank of Utica (1876-1895)*
- *One of founders of the Fort Schuyler Club and its president from 1888-1895*
- *Board of Directors of Utica Water Works Co., Mohawk Valley Cotton Company Mills, Utica Steam Cotton Mills, Utica Willowvale Bleaching Company, and the Utica Gas Light Company*
- *Trustee Utica Art Association*
- *Trustee the Home for the Homeless*
- *Trustee of the Dutch Reformed Church*
- *Board of Managers- Utica State Hospital for the Insane 1881-1895, President of Board 1885.*
- *Member University Club of New York*

TIMELINE

1824 Publius Virgilius Rogers (PVR) is born in Jefferson County, NY the eldest child of Ralph Rogers, M.D. and Sarah Corse.

1846 PVR graduates from Hamilton College

1853 After studying law and several other upstate NY banking positions, PVR becomes Cashier of the Bank of Utica

1861 PVR marries Elizabeth Jannette Butler (1834-1903), daughter of Chauncey Sage Butler of Sauquoit, NY. His brothers-in-law are Charles A. Butler (later of #2 Rutger Park) and John Milton Butler.

1865 Charles Butler Rogers (CBR) is born in Utica

Bank of Utica becomes 1st National Bank of Utica.

1868 PVR accompanies Senator Roscoe Conkling on his first trip to the Rocky Mountains, along with other notables including Supreme Court Justice Ward Hunt, Professor Louis Agassiz, and Alfred C. Cox, US Judge- Northern District NY. They traveled by train to Kansas- the terminus of the railroad- stopping in route to visit General Grant at Galena. From Fort Harker, Kansas the party rode on horseback, with a US cavalry escort to guard against Indian attack, camping every night on the plains until they reached Colorado.

1876 PVR elected president of the Bank of Utica (estb.1812), later the 1st National Bank and Trust of Utica

1893 PVR and CBR both listed as residing at 291 Genesee Street

1894 CBR marries Susan Brayton of Utica. She dies in 1898. He then marries Eugenie Doumaux Forgy who passes away in 1929. They have two sons and two daughters between 1903 and 1910.

CBR listed in Utica City Directory as residing at 161 (1100) Park Avenue

1895 PVR passes away at 291 Genesee Street home and is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Utica, NY - plot 34A; lot 2288. CBR becomes president of the 1st National Bank of Utica.

1896 Family of PVR presents to the St. Luke's Hospital a well-equipped surgery to be known as the Rogers Memorial Operating Room.

1903-10 CBR children are born

1927 CBR retires as 1st National Bank president

1937 CBR passes away in Clinton, NY at the age of 72. He is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, Utica, NY- plot 34; lot 2288



CHARLES A. BUTLER-LEFT, P.V. ROGERS-3RD FROM LEFT, JOHN MILTON BUTLER 4TH FROM LEFT.

Conclusion

Formerly the Cornhill Fish and Game Club, the building is now owned by the *Carol L. Crooms Cultural Center*. They plan to renovate it into a neighborhood cultural activities center with the help of NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) funding from the City of Utica. The project would create two multi-purpose/event spaces for outdoor activities. LSGU shared the historical photo of the mansion with their consultant NYC architect at one of the DRI public open house/events. He showed interest in incorporating some of the original elements into the building renovation. Although the west side of Park Avenue and some of the east side of Park Avenue are included in the Utica Scenic and Historic Preservation District for some inexplicable reason this site is not. LSGU wishes them well and hopes they will be a responsible steward of this piece of Utica's rich and proud history.



2022- CAROL L. CROOMS CULTURAL CENTER/
FORMER CORNHILL FISH AND GAME CLUB

SOURCES: Clarke, T. Wood. Utica for a century and a half. The Widtman Press, Utica, New York. 1952. • Conkling, Alfred R. The Life and Letters of Roscoe Conkling: Orator, Statesman, and Advocate. Charles L. Webster & Company, New York, New York. 1889. • Find a Grave.com • Wager, Daniel. Our County & its People, Part II: Biography. The Boston History Company, Boston, Massachusetts. 1896. • Walsh, John J. Vignettes of Old Utica. Utica Public Library, Utica, New York. 1982.

Programs & Events

June 18, 2022 – Mansion Tours

#1 and #3 Rutger Park | 11:00 am
Last tour will start @ 3:00 pm. Ice cream social after tour.
Tickets: \$12.00 for adults \$5.00 for each child or \$25.00 for a family of 4.

July 9, 2022 – Mansion Tours

#1 and #3 Rutger Park | 11:00 am
Last tour will start @ 3:00 pm. Ice cream social after tour.
Tickets: \$12.00 for adults \$5.00 for each child or \$25.00 for a family of 4.

August 18, 2022 – Wine BINGO

3 Rutger Park | 7:00 pm
\$10.00 donation. Must bring one bottle of wine for each bingo card you want. Limit 5 sheets per person.

September 11, 2022 – Harvest Tea

#3 Rutger Park | One tea only at 12:00 pm | \$25.00 per person or a table of eight \$180.00

Mail check to: Joan Dorn
1509 Redwood Ave
Utica, New York 13502

Any questions call 315 732-7376. Please leave a message. With your phone number. Someone will return your call. Hope to see you there.

Future Tentative:

October 13, 14, 15, 2022 – Halloween Haunted Tour

November 17, 2022 – Annual Dinner

December 2, 2022 – Bus Trip to Florissante

December 10, 2022 – Holiday House Tour



Congratulations
to the Spring
Time Victorian
Tea Golden Egg
Winner

Linda Cady



Thank you to all who volunteered, donated. And or attended the Adult Easter Egg Hunt and the Victorian Tea.

The Landmarks Society of Greater Utica is looking for a volunteer to manage our website.

If you are interested, please contact us at: 315.732.7376 or at uticalandmarks@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

Note: These dates are tentative at this point

**Annual Banquet, Meeting &
Awards Ceremony**

Thursday, November 17th, 2022

**Motor Coach Tour –
Christmas at Florissante**

Friday, December 2nd, 2022

Holiday House Tour

Saturday, December 10th, 2022

2022 MONDAY NIGHT WALKS AND TALKS

All tours start at 6:00 p.m. Rain or Shine. Wear Walking Shoes. Bring a Friend!

JUNE 6TH: BAGG SQUARE WEST

**UTICA COFFEE ROASTERS / A & P MASTER
IMAGES / PJ GREEN, INC.**

Guided by: Michael Bosak, Howard Potter, and Rick Green

Meet at: In front of A&P Master Images, 205 Water Street, Utica

Park at: On-street parking

JUNE 13TH: RIDGEWOOD, ONE OF UTICA'S OLMSTED GARDEN NEIGHBORHOODS, 1913 - 1929

Guided by: Michael Lehman, AIA, and Virginia Kelly

Meet and Park at: H.R. Jones School Parking Lot

JUNE 20TH: UTICA ZOO (U.Z.)

Guided by: Andria Heath, Executive Director

Meet at: The Front Entrance

Park at: Main Parking Lot

JUNE 27TH: WATERVILLE TRIANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Guided by Franklin Berry

Meet at: The Waterville Historical Society, 220 East Main Street, Waterville

Park at: On-street parking

JULY 4TH: NO PROGRAM

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

JULY 11TH: A TOUR OF SYLVAN BEACH

Guided by: Patrick Goodenow, Dan Cifonelli

Meet at: Village parking lot adjacent Yesterday's Royal.

Park at: *Village lot near Yesterday's Royal (parking passes available at meeting location)

JULY 18TH: THE HILLS DRIVE, NOB HILL, TILDEN REALTY COMPANY

Guided by: Virginia Kelly and Michael Lehman, AIA

Park/Meet at: Russett Bush Lane and The Hills Drive

JULY 25TH: A TOUR OF VARICK STREET

Guided by: Mike Bosak, Margaret Rienzo, Chip O'Donnell, Michelle Klosek, and others

Meet at: So Sweet Candy Shoppe, 531 Varick Street, corner of Columbia St.

Park at: On-street parking

AUGUST 1ST: UTICA PUBLIC LIBRARY (U.P.L.)

Guided by: Chris Sagaas, Director

Meet at: The UPL parking lot on Park Avenue

Park at: The UPL parking lot and on-street parking

AUGUST 8TH: ORISKANY FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Guided by: Limestone Ridge Historical Society

Meet at: Historical Society Building, 233 Main Street, Oriskany Falls

Park at: On-street parking

AUGUST 15TH: THE STONE BARN AT BEARDSLEE FARM AND THE BEARDSLEE, CASTLE, LITTLE FALLS (TOWN OF MANHEIM)

Guided by: Colleen Chlus and Jennifer Leskovar

Meet and Park at: The Stone Barn parking lot, 124 Snells Bush Road, Little Falls (Manheim)

AUGUST 22ND: THE LIBRARY AIR BNB / THE LIGHTBOX EVENT CENTER (852 BLEECKER ST.) / SANTA ROSALIA CHAPEL (701 JAY ST., CORNER OF MOHAWK ST.)

Guided by: Michael Gould, Art Lyubezhanin and Jim Delitto

Meet at: The Library Air BnB, corner of Lansing St. and Kossuth Avenue across from Ventura's

Park at: On-street parking

AUGUST 29TH: THE 171 EVENTS CENTER, 171 GENESEE ST.

Guided by: Tammy McIntyre

Meet at: in front of 171 Genesee Street, Utica

Park: On-street parking

Walks and Talks will be partnered with the new UMN for the Arts



BAGG SQUARE WEST: UTICA COFFEE ROASTERS / A & P MASTER IMAGES / PJ GREEN, INC.

Monday, June 6, 2022, 6pm

Utica Coffee Roasters recently increased its footprint in Bagg Square West when it purchased the former Erie-Lackawanna Freighthouse on Water Street. Not only did they save this unique and historic structure, but they have made significant strides to expand their operations well into the future.

A&P Master Images has been a wildly successful business as the result of the hard work and remarkable vision of Howard and Amanda Potter. They converted a former maintenance facility into their headquarters, and are on the verge of a major expansion effort. Come join us to get the latest scoop!

PJ Green, Inc. Is a multi-faceted printing and advertising company located in the former Murray Warehouse on Whitesboro Street in Utica. Before it was purchased by Green in 1988, it housed such businesses as Canada Dry, Alling and Cory, Remington Arms, and Vogel Van Lines (primarily focused on the Griffiss AFB servicemen). The building is called the Venus of Malta building; find out why on this tour!

RIDGEWOOD, ONE OF UTICA'S OLMSTED GARDEN NEIGHBORHOODS, 1913 - 1929 - Where City and Country Meet

Monday, June 13, 2022, 6pm

Step back in time to 1926 when the H.R. Jones Co. acquired the Benton Farm "Maple Hill", recently annexed to the City of Utica from the Town of New Hartford. With the help of noted American landscape architects the Olmsted Brothers, this real estate company designed the largest and most ambitious residential development of their firm's career.

On a ridge 100 feet above Genesee Street and adjoining the Sauquoit Creek, 440 building lots, 3 parks, and a school were laid out on 150 acres overlooking the beautiful Sauquoit Valley. Learn how the changing culture and economy of the time influenced housing types and the evolution of the neighborhood we see today.

Come join us - (as LSGU partners with our affiliate Olmsted City of Utica in highlighting this uniquely Utica enclave during **Olmsted 200**, a nationwide celebration of the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth).

Early June is the perfect time to explore all this delightful Olmsted garden neighborhood has to offer!

UTICA ZOO (U.Z.)

Monday, June 20, 2022, 6pm

"Someone told me it's all happening at the Zoo." -- Simon and Garfunkel

Utica is one of the smallest cities that has a zoo, and what a spectacular one it is! There have been many changes that have occurred there, so if you haven't seen the zoo recently, you haven't seen the zoo! Among the most significant changes are the Dyson Energy Center and the revamped parking area. Executive Director Andria Heath and her crew will guide us through one of Utica's and Oneida County's best kept secrets!

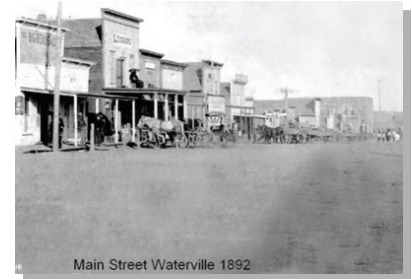
A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF THE WATERVILLE TRIANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT -- Hops, Horse Thieves and Historic Homes!

Monday, June 27, 2022, 6pm

The village itself is small, but the homes and the history are big in Waterville! It's a quaint Mohawk Valley village today, with a population of less than 2000. But at the turn of the 19th century, Waterville was internationally known as the "Hops Capital of the World" for revolutionizing the farming of hops. The economic prosperity enjoyed by Waterville



NOW...



THEN...

..... thanks to their hops industry manifest in the grand Victorian-era homes and then state-of-the-art business district buildings that define its village-scape. Add some local legend around a family of infamous resident horse thieves who may haunt a swamp on the outskirts of town, and our Landmarks Society of Greater Utica Walk-and-Talk Tour of the Waterville Triangle Historic District should be a fun and fascinating summer night. Join us on June 27, when we will gather just before 6pm at the Waterville Historical Society, 220 East Main Street, Waterville, NY, courtesy of the great WHS team who are excited to welcome the LSGU to Waterville!

A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF HISTORIC SYLVAN BEACH

Monday, July 11, 2022, 6pm

Park: Park in Village lot on lakefront behind roller coaster, Yesterdays Royal, Canal View. Parking passes will be distributed there. (Look for Landmarks tour signs in parking lot)

Sylvan Beach began its life as a resort town, and it is still one. But do you really know the history of this western Oneida County village? Its history is far deeper and more fascinating than you may think! The well-preserved and maintained kiddie rides were originally located right on the beach. The Amusement Park remains a nostalgic delight for everyone. The carousel is among the oldest surviving in the country. Did you know that a major motion picture was filmed primarily at The Beach? Several of the restaurants have a rich and storied past, and some are in their third generation. Major developments have been changing the face and landscape of The Beach after numerous years of “not much going on” including The Lake House Casino and The Cove. Join us as we revisit The Beach and find out what we have been missing!

A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF THE HILLS DRIVE, NOB HILL, AND TILDEN REALTY COMPANY (EAST UTICA, OFF OF CULVER AVE. AND SHERMAN DRIVE)



Monday, July 18, 2022, 6pm

OLMSTED 200: Utica’s Olmsted Garden Neighborhoods

Step back in time to explore the results of the prosperity and booming real estate development of the Roaring 20s. The Tilden Realty Company acquired the farmland and woods adjacent to their Sherman Gardens subdivision (1923), which was located on and north of the Parkway, in 1925. Preeminent American landscape architects, the Olmsted Brothers, helped Utica developer Harry Roberts envision a neighborhood of Tudor and Norman Revival Style “manor houses” and English cottages. Designed by talented local architects, the structures featured a new amenity- attached two car garages. Surrounding the residences were landscaped grounds in which the

Olmsted Brothers also had a hand.

The subdivision overlooking Starch Factory Creek on a ridge 100 feet above the Parkway included 53 building lots with 3 walking paths and a pond. Lacking the street car access of other Olmsted garden neighborhoods, it was assumed that by the mid-1920s that all the well-to-do Nob Hill residents would have their own automobiles. Learn how the changing economy, culture, and technology of the times-through the Great Depression and beyond-influenced housing types and the evolution of the unique residential area we see today.

Come join us- as *LSGU partners with **OLMSTED 200**, a nation-wide celebration of the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted’s birth and our affiliate program **Olmsted City of Utica** in highlighting this special East Utica neighborhood.*

A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF HISTORIC VARICK STREET

Monday, July 25, 2022, 6pm

Varick Street continues to shine as the heart of Utica’s Brewery District! We begin our tour with Margaret at the So Sweet Candy Shoppe, hear about the latest developments from Anita at Adirondack Distilling Company, chat with Lila at Zeina’s, enjoy a bit of old-school tavern with Chip at O’Donnell’s, and then top it off and help celebrate 35 years at The Stief with Michelle Klosek!

A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF THE HISTORIC UTICA PUBLIC LIBRARY (U.P.L.)

Monday, August 1, 2022, 6pm

The origins of the library date back to 1825 when a private subscriptions library opened its doors at the Broad Street offices of Attorney Justus Rathbone. The current building dates back to 1904 and owes its existence to the generosity of the Proctor Family and others. The architect was Arthur C. Jackson who designed this iconic and monumental structure in a Classical Revival Second Empire motif. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on October 29, 1982. Director Chris Sagaas will give us a fascinating tour giving us history and a view to the future of our magnificent library!

A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF THE ORISKANY FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Monday, August 8, 2022, 6pm

The village of Oriskany Falls has a long and deep history inexorably tied to the vast geological formations that

exist there. This also made The Falls an important transportation hub for the canal and then the railroad. The Historic District has a collection of fabulous structures that includes the headquarters of the Limestone Ridge Historical Society, a former church. The tour ends at the historic Stone Church at the opposite end of the village that is slowly going through an Environmental Protection Fund grant-funded restoration. This is a gem of a tour that should not be missed!

A WALK AND TALK TOUR OF THE STONE BARN AT BEARDSLEE FARM and THE BEARDLEE CASTLE, LITTLE FALLS (TOWN OF MANHEIM)

Monday, August 15, 2022, 6pm

The Stone Barn at Beardslee Farm is a 19th century barn that has recently been repurposed into a stunning wedding and special events center. It was a hay barn on the family farm that Andy and Colleen Chlus and family cleaned out, renovated and furnished, transforming it into the area's newest event center. In fact, Andy and Colleen were the first to use it as they held their own wedding reception there last Labor Day weekend. The venue can accommodate up to 300 people.

The barn's foundation dates back to the 1800s when the Beardslee family built it. However, the upper portion was added in the 1970s. According to the family, it was the first barn to have electricity, and power for it is still generated via the Beardslee Dam at the adjacent Beardslee Reservoir.

Beardslee Castle was modeled after a real Irish Castle, circa 1860. It began life as a private residence,. But has been a restaurant and a bar for many, many years. It currently also features wedding receptions, other parties, and even murder mystery dinner theatre!

A TOUR OF THE LIBRARY AIR BNB / THE LIGHTBOX EVENT CENTER (852 BLEECKER ST.) / SANTA ROSALIA CHAPEL (701 JAY ST., CORNER OF MOHAWK ST.)

Monday, August 22, 2022, 6pm

This will be an eclectic tour of three East Utica gems that

you may or may not be familiar with.

Library Air BnB: The library in east Utica has been a number of different things since it ceased to be a library, but the most recent one is perhaps the most intriguing.

Lightbox Event Center: Among the area's newest event center, this building was formerly a furniture store (back in the day when furniture stores lined Bleecker Street),m and a Latin nightclub.

Santa Rosalia Chapel: This venerable chapel has been a mainstay on the corner of Mohawk and Jay Streets since the early 1950s. It has been a bumpy trip lately, but it is back now and stronger than ever.

A TOUR OF EVENTS@171, 171 GENESEE ST.

Monday, August 29, 2022, 6PM

Events@171 is a unique industrial chic banquet, wedding and event venue located in the heart of Downtown Utica. It is the urban answer to the barn wedding reception! It features exposed brick, refurbished 200-year old hardwood floors, original tin ceilings and industrial-style décor on several levels. Come and explore one of Utica's newest and most unique reception centers, right at Utica's "Busy Corner". Landmarks has long advocated for the reuse of Downtown buildings' "upper floors; so, HERE IT IS!

*Walks and Talks will be partnered with the new
UMN for the Arts*



SAVE THE DATE

September 11th, 2022

**Proctor-Olmsted Day
Presented by Olmsted City**

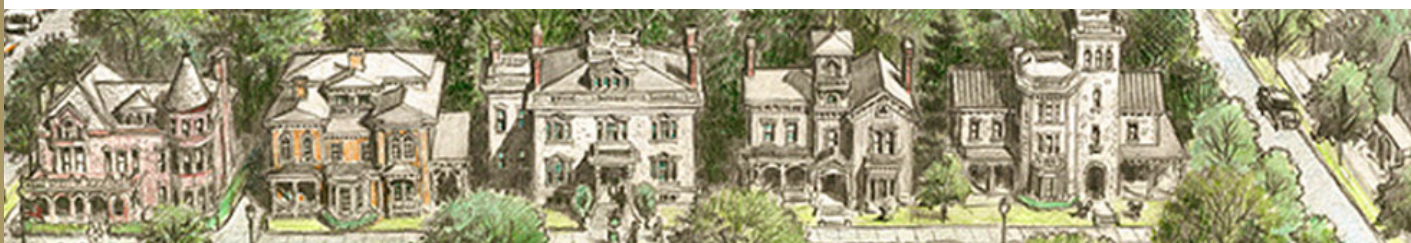
*Details to follow in
upcoming newsletters*

INTERESTED IN BEING MORE INVOLVED WITH LANDMARKS?

The Landmarks Society of Greater Utica is looking for "a few good people" to fill several vacancies on the Board of Trustees. We are meeting once a month on the second Wednesday.

If you are interested, please contact us at:
315.732.7376 or at uticalandmarks@gmail.com

Preserving the Past – Protecting the Future



THE PRESERVATIONIST



**The A.B. Scarborough Mansion,
circa 1897, Bonham, Texas**

*From the Dustin Van Fleet
Preservation Nation on Facebook:*

**A. B. Scarborough, President of
the First National Bank, built the
mansion as a private residence
in 1897. Established in 1908 by
Phillip Wise, Wise Funeral Home
has been operating out of the
mansion since 1935. Wise Funeral
Home: "The intricately carved
woodwork was milled in St. Louis
and shipped to Bonham by boat
and railway, then assembled on
the spot. The original light fixtures**

in the house also came from St. Louis. The parquet floor in the library is built of three types of wood-oak, mahogany, and maple, and each square is made of eight perfectly cut and fitted pieces. Other attractions of the building include four stained glass windows – one in the library, two in the old master suite, and one on the second landing of the main staircase. The home also has nine fireplaces, including a three-way fireplace opening into the foyer, library, and parlor."