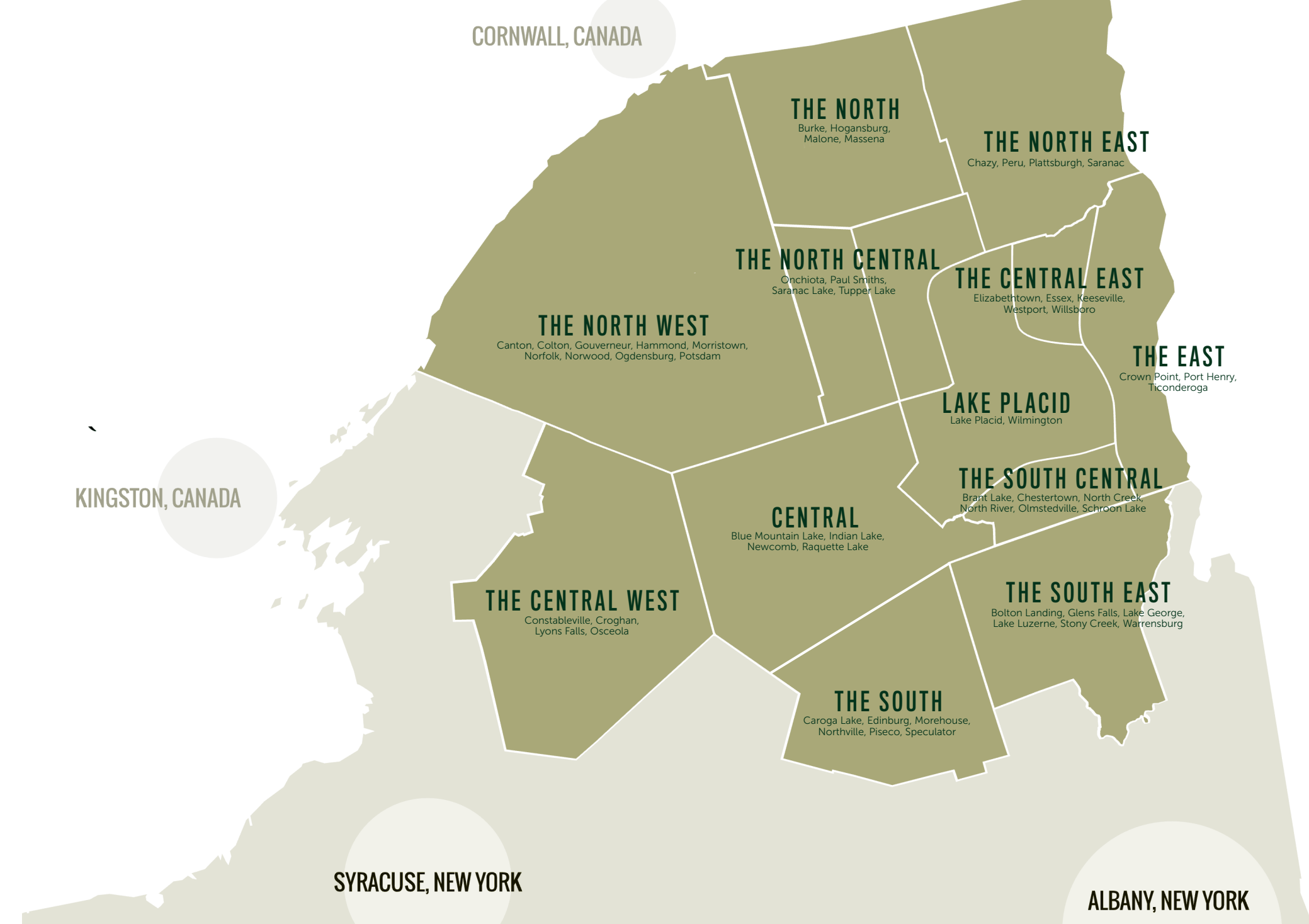


VISIT

  
**ADIRONDACKS**

NEW YORK, USA



# A Guide to Adirondack Historic Sites.

The history of the Adirondacks is as diverse as its geography. A battleground through three pivotal wars, the turf of loggers and miners, the vacation destination of Gilded Age tycoons, and home to two Winter Olympic Games – the depth and breadth of the region’s heritage is only matched by its glorious scenery. You’ll find historic forts and award-winning museums, historic homes and Great Camps, mysteries and even a few sunken shipwrecks. The following pages offer up the past, providing context on the Adirondacks that you won’t find anywhere else.



A sepia-toned photograph of three women standing in a wooded area. The woman on the left wears a light-colored, long-sleeved dress with a wide collar and a matching hat, holding a long rifle. The woman in the center wears a dark, long-sleeved dress with a high collar and a matching hat, holding a small object. The woman on the right wears a light-colored, long-sleeved dress with a high collar and a matching hat, holding a long rifle. The background is filled with dense foliage and trees.

# THE NORTH WEST

Canton, Colton, Gouverneur, Hammond, Morristown, Norfolk, Norwood, Ogdensburg, Potsdam



1600

Around 1600, five Iroquois tribes band together to form the Iroquois Confederacy: the Mohawks, Oneidas, Cayugas, Onondagas, and Senecas. In 1722, the Tuscaroras are added.

1609

Samuel de Champlain arrives in the Champlain Valley. Henry Hudson sails up the Hudson River in the Half Moon. The shooting of three Mohawks by Samuel de Champlain's armed Frenchmen and their Algonquin allies set the stage for alliances that come into play during the French and Indian War

1642

Father Isaac Jogues, a Jesuit missionary, is the first white man to see Lake George. He returns to the lake in 1646 and names it Lac Saint Sacrement, a name it holds for the next 100 years.

1650

A huge demand for beaver hats drives the fur trade. By the mid-1600s thousands of skins are being traded and shipped from Montreal and Albany.

## Canton

### Silas Wright Museum

New York State Governor Silas Wright settled in Canton in 1819. He served in the Senate and House of Representatives and was influential enough to have his portrait appear on the \$50 bill back when the gold standard prevailed. He beat Millard Fillmore to win the governorship, but couldn't be persuaded to run for president. The period rooms in his Greek revival home feature original furnishings; changing exhibits include materials from private collections.

### Historic Canton Walking Tour

The tour covers 50 sites in approximately two miles of walking. One of the first places you'll see is the Canton Village Park Historic District which includes 21 buildings. The tour begins at the Canton Free Library on Park Street where additional touring information can be found. The picturesque campus of St. Lawrence University is in the heart of Canton. Established in 1856 as a theological school for Universalist Church ministers, the University became a general liberal arts college in 1859. It has been coeducational longer than any college in New York State. Richardson Hall and Herring-Cole Hall are on the National Register.

### Traditional Arts in Upstate New York

TAUNY celebrates the customs and creativity of everyday life in Northern New York. Its goal is to document and preserve the rich living heritage of

customs and folk arts. The gallery and arts store carries fine creations of area folk artists, including: sweet grass baskets made by Mohawk artists, Old Order Amish quilts, wood carvings, decoys, books and recordings detailing the folklore of the region. Cultural events are hosted by TAUNY throughout the year.

## Colton

### Colton Self-Guided Walking Tour

Take a self-guided tour of Main Street, Symond Square and Riverside Drive, including the cobblestone 1913 Hepburn Library; the Episcopal Church constructed with Potsdam sandstone circa 1883; and the Colton Historical Museum, built as the church rectory in 1889. All are clustered on the beautiful Raquette River. The Stone Valley Hiking Trails follow the river and lead past the remains of mills and tanneries that operated in the 1800s.

### Sunday Rock

Sunday Rock, a glacial erratic, was used by Indians and early settlers as a landmark when traveling into the mountains. In the early days of settlement it marked the boundary of organized law enforcement. There was none, south of the Rock. The rock also became a dividing line, separating the woods from the world. When people passed by the rock, they felt they had arrived at a place where life was freer and easier, leaving the cares of everyday life behind. Read about the legend of Sunday Rock on the adjacent marker.



1734

The French begin construction on Fort St. Frédéric at Crown Point on Lake Champlain. A young Sir William Johnson, age 19, arrives in the Mohawk Valley to develop his uncle's holdings. He becomes rich off the fur trade, befriendng the Iroquois and Mohawks.

1755-1762

The French and Indian War. France and England fight for control of the fur trade and the strategic territory along the Lake Champlain-Lake George corridor. The Abenaki, Hurons and Algonquins side with the French; the Iroquois Confederacy sides with the English. In 1755, the French are defeated in the Battle of Lake George. (see page 36) The French begin construction on the strategically placed Fort Carillon (Ticonderoga) as a defense against English advances from Lake George and Lake Champlain.

1756

The English erect a massive log-and-earth stockade named Fort William Henry on Lake George

1757

A huge force of 12,000 French regulars and Indian allies lead by General Mont calm finally succeed in taking Fort William Henry

## Gouverneur

### Gouverneur Historical Museum

Discover local history in this 1880s parsonage with rooms full of period furniture and artifacts, a medical collection, an old-fashioned kitchen, and displays about local talc mining and marble cutting.

## Hammond

### Hammond Historical Museum

The large collection of local buildings handcrafted in the early 1900s by Rob T. Elethorpe—including replicas of two churches, a barn and farm-house—is one of the unique features of this local history museum. Displays include service uniforms, Victorian clothing, old medical, farm, and house-hold implements, historic photographs and documents, and an elegant Victorian-style room which contains a pump organ and large piano.

### Singer Castle

Singer Castle, originally known as The Towers, was built for the Frederic Bourne family between 1901 and 1905. It is located in the St Lawrence River on Dark Island, off the coast of Chippewa Bay. Many of the original furnishings are still in place. The castle has four-stories, 28 rooms, a four-

story clock tower, heated squash court, labyrinth of secret passageways, two boat houses, and a nature trail. Bourne was the CEO of Singer Sewing Machine Company in New York City and had the castle built as a "hunting retreat." Bourne and his contemporary George Boldt (who also owned a castle on the St. Lawrence) would race their boats between the two grand structures.

## Norfolk & Norwood

### Norfolk Historical Museum

Artifacts from Norfolk area, a military exhibit, genealogical information.

### Susan C. Lyman Historical Museum

Browse through the local history displays in a historic home filled with an interesting array of objects; military artifacts, old maps, a vintage kitchen, folk art, Victorian furniture and clocks, railroad lanterns, folk art and a Remington pen-and-ink sketch. View an exhibit dedicated to the famous Norwood Brass Fireman's Band. The band has been playing for decades and was featured at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Changing exhibits.

## Ogdensburg

### Frederic Remington Art Museum

Best known for his bronze sculptures and paintings of frontier life, the world-renowned artist Frederic Remington also produced a number of works depicting life in the North Country. He was born in 1861 in nearby Canton, and spent his youth in the Ogdensburg area before taking his first trip west to the Montana Territory in 1881. He was an outdoors man who was friends with the rich and famous of the day. Remington's oil and watercolor paintings, illustrations, and 17 bronze sculptures, as well as his tools, library, personal notes, and furnishings from his home are all located in David Parish's beautiful estate overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The museum also features regional and Adirondack paintings by other artists and changing exhibits by contemporary painters. Just across the street from the Remington Museum is a large waterfront park; historic markers describe events that took place in the area. Nearby is the United States Customs House which was active during the War of 1812 and the Civil War; it is the oldest Federal building still in active use. Across the Oswegatchie River is the former site of Fort La Presentation (Fort Oswegatchie) which was used in the French and Indian Wars and was still standing during the American Revolution. The present day harbor lighthouse on Lighthouse Point was refitted in 1870 and dates back to 1834.

## Potsdam

### Potsdam Public Museum

The Burnap Collection of English Ceramics contains over 200 pieces and there are Chinese textiles, fine Sheraton furniture, photographs, artifacts, and local history exhibits. Changing exhibits.

## Waddington

### Waddington Town Hall and Self-Guided Village Walking Tour

Former slave Isaac Johnson built the Town Hall in 1884. It features a 60-foot tower and still houses the village's jail. The self-guided walking tour includes homes, churches and commercial buildings from the late 19th and early 20th century. St. Paul's Episcopal Church (315-388-5970), circa 1818, was modeled after St. Paul's in New York; the tower was added in 1827. It is the oldest church building in St. Lawrence County and the oldest parish north of the Mohawk Valley.



The background image is a dark, green-tinted historical photograph. It depicts a wooded area with a large pile of logs or branches in the foreground. Several people, likely women in period clothing, are visible in the lower right corner, standing and looking towards the camera. The overall tone is somber and historical.

# THE NORTH

Burke, Hogansburg, Malone, Massena



1758

Rogers’ Rangers lose 140 of 200 men fighting against the French forces in the Battle on Snowshoes. At Fort Carillon, Montcalm’s small French force (outnumbered 4 to 1) repel a massive British attack, led by James Abercrombie.

1759

British take Fort William Henry, Fort Carillon and the French Fort at Crown Point. British General Amherst arrives at the remains of Fort William Henry with an army of 11,000. Montcalm’s French forces withdraw and the British begin work on Fort Georgenear the formersite of Fort William Henry. Amherst then leads a powerful assault on Fort Carillon; the French withdraw after blowing up the powder magazine. The British rebuild the fort and rename it Fort Ticonderoga. (see page 31) After repeated attacks by the British, the French destroy their fort at Crown Point and retreat to Montreal. British troops take over the strategic location, building the largest British stronghold ever created in the colonies: His Majesty’s Fort at Crown Point.

1765

The Stamp Act marks the beginning of the colonial protests. William Gilliland buys a huge tract of land on Lake Champlain’s western shore, naming Willsboro after himself and Elizabethtown after his wife.

1773

A chimney fire close to stored ammunition blows up most of the British fort at Crown Point; little is rebuilt.

## Burke

### Almanzo Wilder Homestead

Almanzo Wilder, who later married author Laura Ingalls famous for her Little House Book series, spent his childhood on this homestead. The story line for Farmer Boy, the second in the series, was based on Wilder’s memories of life on the farm in 1866 as a nine-year-old boy. The Greek Revival house, circa 1840, has been restored and furnished in a historically accurate manner. A large barn has been completely rebuilt and site restoration continues.

## Hogansburg

### Akwesasne Cultural Center

Akwesasne is a Mohawk community that predates the formation of the United States and Canada. The museum exhibits portray the continuing culture of the Akwesasne Mohawk people. Over 3,000 artifacts dating from pre-European contact to the present are displayed—traditional Mohawk-style head-dresses, cradle boards, carved revelation canes, silver work, photographs of reservation life and exhibits about Mohawk games such as lacrosse. The largest collection is the Mohawk sweet grass and black ash splint basketry exhibit.

## Malone

### Franklin County House of History

Malone has many beautiful old homes that stand as a testament to its history as a center of commerce and transportation. The historical society’s collection is housed in an Italianate mansion with high ceilings, ornate wood-work, formal staircase and marble fireplaces. Rooms are decorated to demonstrate spinning, weaving, broom making, pioneer life, a parlor, library, dining room, schoolroom, kitchen and pantry, and general store. A collection of heavy Empire-style furniture belonged to Malone native William A. Wheeler.

### Malone’s Architectural Heritage Tours

The self-guided walking and driving tours of Malone include a number of historic churches and many fine homes featuring Greek Revival and Victorian-style architecture. The beautifully restored homes include many Queen Anne-style homes, “The Queen of the May” at 100 Elm Street was featured on the cover of the 1992 book, America’s Painted Ladies.

## Massena

### Massena Museum

Massena first sprang to life as a spa town; up to 50 hotels flourished as health seeking tourists came to soak in local mineral rich waters. Industrial growth followed. The local history collection includes early photographs, Civil War artifacts, folk art, farm and ice cutting tools, period furnishings, antique toys and school items. The Massena Aluminum Historical Association’s display at the Massena Museum illustrates the importance of aluminum to the community. The display features hundreds of items, publications and photos that chronicle Massena’s aluminum history. The Pittsburgh Reduction Company, later called the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA), began producing the so-called “miracle metal” in Massena in 1902, following construction of the Massena Power Canal. Since that time, aluminum production has been at the very heart of the community and the entire region.

### St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project Visitors Center at Hawkins Point

The heart of the St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project is the Robert Moses-Robert H. Saunders Power Dam which first generated power in 1958. It is one of North America’s largest—and most economical—power producers. The entire project encompasses over 37 miles of the St. Lawrence River Valley and includes two control dams and three huge locks used by ocean-going cargo ships and tankers. The visitors center at Hawkins Point features state-of-the-art exhibits on energy, electricity and the area’s history. Learn how the power dam and the St. Lawrence Seaway were built, in what was one of the largest construction projects of its type in the world. From the Dwight D. Eisenhower Lock Viewing Deck and Interpretive Center you can watch huge tankers and ships being lifted or lowered 42 feet in the lock chamber.





# THE NORTHEAST

Chazy, Lyon Mountain, Peru, Plattsburgh, Saranac



## 1775-1781

The American Revolution The first shots are fired at Lexington and Concord in April 1775. Three weeks later, Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys capture Fort Ticonderoga from the British.

In December 1775, Henry Knox's "Noble Train of Artillery"—a train of 42 sleds hauled by oxen—leaves Fort Ticonderoga with a load of 59 cannons weighing almost 60 tons. It takes two months to cover the 300 miles to Dorchester Heights near Boston. George Washington uses the cannons to drive the British out of Boston.

## 1776

Battle of Valcour. Benedict Arnold engaged the British fleet at Valcour Island in early October, taking heavy losses in three days of fighting.

## 1777

British take back the Fort at Crown Point and retain control until the end of the American Revolution. Burgoyne reclaims Fort Ticonderoga for the British by setting cannons on top of nearby Mt. Defiance. Americans defeat Burgoyne and his British troops at the Battle of Saratoga.

## 1778

Adsit Log Cabin on Willsboro Point is built.



## Chazy

### Alice T. Miner Museum

Alice T. Miner began collecting in 1911; the custom-designed stone mansion opened as a museum in 1924. The colonial collection fills three floors with period furniture, china, glass-ware, porcelain, portraits, artwork, early military pieces, a collection of samplers and textiles, dolls and objects of Americana.

### Heart's Delight Farm

The Heart's Delight Farm Heritage Exhibit is a permanent tribute to William and Alice Miner and the beautiful farm they developed in Chazy. The building of Heart's Delight Farm began in 1903 and grew from one farmhouse and a couple of barns into a model farm of more than 300 buildings on 15,000 acres. The farm utilized a scientific approach to agriculture on a vast scale, embracing hydroelectric power and technological advances to run an enterprise that employed 800 workers in its heyday. Though his passion was Heart's Delight Farm, here you'll see railroad gear and inventions patented by William Miner and what allowed him his fortune. Marvel at the large diorama depicting the buildings, animals and topography of Heart's Delight Farm around 1910 and wonder at the scale model of the 46 room Heart's Delight Cottage. Beautifully restored photographs of life and work at Heart's Delight cover the walls of the three rooms that house the Exhibit in the Farm's old Storehouse. The exhibit uses audio-

visuals, historical artifacts, and scale models to tell the story of Heart's Delight Farm. In addition, the Wayside Heritage Walk takes visitors along a beautifully landscaped path through the original stone gate entrance of the farm to the former site of Heart's Delight Cottage. Along the way, historic photographs depict Heart's Delight Farm as it was in its prime.

## Lyon Mountain

### Lyon Mountain Mining & Railroad Museum

Explore permanent exhibits featuring the history of the Lyon Mountain Iron Mines and the Chateaugay Branch of the D&H railroad. A new exhibit will feature the history of families who immigrated to Lyon Mountain Village prior to the 1940s. Stories and photographs depicting their lives in a small mining town will be on display.

## Peru | Plattsburgh

### Babbie Rural & Farm Learning Museum

Babbie Museum depicts rural and farm life in the Champlain Valley and Adirondacks prior to the 1950s in an entertaining environment with live demonstrations. 2020 marks the 10 year anniversary of the Babbie Rural and Farm Learning Museum opening its doors!

### Valcour Island Lighthouse

The waters off Valcour Island were the site of a pivotal naval battle during the Revolutionary War. In October of 1776, a hastily assembled group lead by General Benedict Arnold engaged the British fleet at Valcour. Hiding their ships behind the island, the Americans staged a surprise attack on the British ships as they sailed down the lake. Although all the American ships were lost, they managed to delay the British advance for another season—precious time used by the Americans to muster an army to meet the British at Saratoga in the summer of 1777. Trails wind around the state-owned island and interpretive signage describes the events that unfolded here in 1776. The historic 1874 lighthouse, is on Register of Historic Places.

### Battle of Plattsburgh Interpretive Center

Learn about the Battle of Plattsburgh through displays, a detailed scale model representation, a replica model of the American flagship Saratoga, era military dress and prints portraying the Battle. Historic murals in the lobby of the City Hall also depict the important military victory.

### Clinton County Historical Museum

Closed holidays. Accept appointments Appropriately enough, the historic home now occupied by the museum was also used by the British during the Battle of Plattsburgh in 1814. The exhibits cover 300 years of the area's history including 54 pieces of rare Redford glass, a legacy of the once



1781

The British surrender at Yorktown.

1792

Speculator Alexander Macomb buys four-million acres from the State of New York—half of it within the Adirondack Park—for around eight cents an acre. Macomb lands in debtors’ prison within six months of the great purchase, he then transfers most of his land to his principal backers in the deal, William Constable and Daniel McCormick. They immediately begin subdividing and reselling the land.

1797

Federal-style  
Kent-Delord  
House built in  
Plattsburgh.

famous glass works on the Saranac River that drew craftsmen from as far away as Scotland and England. A diorama of the battles of Valcour (1776) and Plattsburgh (1814) explains Lake Champlain’s strategic importance in these two pivotal battles. Special exhibits. Library.

## Kent-Delord House Museum

The Federal-style Kent-DeLord House, built in 1797, is one of Plattsburgh’s oldest structures and was home to the DeLord family from 1810 to 1913. During the War of 1812 British officers commandeered the house just prior to the Battle of Plattsburgh. The collection spans three generations and includes original family belongings such as 18th and 19th century furnishings and portraits by renowned artists. The grounds include Federal and Victorian-style gardens and a restored carriage barn. Opposite the DeLord House is a waterfront park, picnic area and the Champlain Monument which pays tribute to Samuel de Champlain—French navigator, discover and colonizer (1567-1635).

## Historic Plattsburgh Air Force Base

Take a self-guided walking tour of the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, in active use from 1815 to 1995, viewing its many historic structures and the picturesque grounds. A paved recreation trail along the lake shore features interpretive signage.

## Historic Plattsburgh Walking Tour

Early settlement and the development of industry and commerce started along the waterfront where the Saranac River enters Lake Champlain. The walking tour covers this historic district, passing several museums, monuments, parks, and many buildings and homes which are listed on the National Register

## Saranac

### Independence Cemetery

The Independence Cemetery contains a large monument erected in 1888 to honor the Civil War Soldiers of Saranac. Five men from the 16th NY aided in capturing John Wilkes Booth (pictured above in a vintage photo). Each of the four sides of the monument identifies a major Civil War Battle and the battles that the soldiers participated in are listed. 419 men served, the soldiers who died are listed by name and how they succumbed—12 died in prison, 40 died from disease, 19 were killed in battle





A dark, sepia-toned photograph of a street scene. In the background, a tall clock tower with a circular clock face is visible. The street is lined with buildings and trees. In the foreground, a person is walking away from the camera on the sidewalk, and another person is standing near a railing on the right. The overall atmosphere is historical and quiet.

# THE NORTH CENTRAL

Onchiota, Paul Smiths, Saranac Lake, Tupper Lake



1809

Ironworks founded in North Elba (Lake Placid) by William McIntyre; the mine fails in 1815.

1810

The huge Benson ore bed at Star Lake is discovered by accident when U.S. Army engineers survey a road between Ogdensburg and Albany. More than 200 iron mines and forges operate in the Adirondacks during the 1800s. Only two were successful: Mineville and Star Lake.

1812-1814

War of 1812. The war confirms America's independence from Britain. In September 1814, American Naval Commander Thomas MacDonough defeats the British at the Battle of Plattsburgh.

1815

Graphite mining begins near Ticonderoga.



## Onchiota

### Six Nations Indian Museum

A unique museum packed with more than 3,000 artifacts with an emphasis on the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy—Mohawks, Oneidas, Senecas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Tuscaroras. The fine historic pieces include baskets, bead work, quill work, tools, weapons, drums, story belts, cradle boards, pottery, clothing and more.

## Paul Smiths

### White Pine Camp

White Pine Camp, a classic Adirondack Great Camp, served as the 1926 summer White House for President Calvin Coolidge. Each building in the Great Camp complex is architecturally and functionally unique—there are sleeping cabins, a formal dining hall, boathouses, tea houses, and even a game room with two bowling alleys—all built for luxurious “roughing it.”

## Saranac Lake

### Charles Dickert Memorial Wildlife Museum

Museum featuring over 100 pieces created by master taxidermist Charles Dickert. Blue herons, bobcats, raccoons, white-tail deer, plus many other native species. The library also houses an extensive Adirondack Collection and archives as well as genealogy resources.

### Historic Saranac Lake Walking Tour

Saranac Lake is best known for its “Cure Cottages,” which were created in the 1880s, when the area became a major tuberculosis treatment center. Patients took the fresh-air cure for tuberculosis on the enclosed porches of area homes, winter and summer. Several large sanatorium complexes were built in and around Saranac Lake, many are still standing today although their use has changed. The self-guided Village Walking Tour features 24 buildings and The Guide to Short Walks describes three loops that tour parts of the village.

### Robert Louis Stevenson Cottage

The renowned author of Treasure Island and The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde stayed in this cottage during the winter of 1887-88, hoping to recover from tuberculosis. Despite his disease, he continued to smoke about four packs of cigarettes a day. During his stay, he wrote The Master of Ballentrae: A Winter's Tale, which was published in 1889, and several essays for Scribner's magazine. This site, established in 1915, contains the world's first and largest collection of Robert Louis Stevenson memorabilia.



1816

The Year of No Summer. The 1815 eruption of Tambora in the Indian Ocean—the greatest volcanic explosion in ten thousand years—causes unusually cool global weather conditions including snow and frosts in the Adirondacks during July and August.

1826

The McIntyre ore bed sat Sanford Lake are ‘discovered’ by David Henderson. Henderson was lead to the site by an enterprising Indian, south from Lake Placid through Indian Pass to Lake Sanford. The Indian was given one dollar and a plug of tobacco for the trouble

1836

Governor William L. Marcy choses some of the country’s top scientists to work on the state wide Natural History Survey; Ebenezer Emmons is selected as chief geologist. Until this time it was commonly thought that the tallest summits were in the Catskills. Emmons and several others, guided by legendary guide John Cheney, make the first recorded ascent of Mt. Marcy in 1837. It is Emmons who first proposes the name for the mountains, “The Adirondack Group.”

1846

Most of the land in North Elba (near Lake Placid), plus thousands of acres elsewhere in the state, belong to prominent New York abolitionist Gerrit Smith who inherited the land from his father. Smith gives 40-acre plots around the state to fugitive slaves and other African Americans.

## Saranac Laboratory Museum

Built in 1894, The Saranac Laboratory was the first in the U.S. for the research of tuberculosis. Now a museum presenting the history of Saranac Lake, it is open year-round.

### Historic Walking Tours

Provided regularly each Wednesday, May through early October. Tours include: historic downtown, Little Red and the Trudeau Stature, the private Cure Cottage Museum, and the grounds of the former Trudeau Sanatorium property. Tours are also provided by request of the historic Bartok Cabin, where the great composer, Béla Bartók, spent the last summer of his life.

### Cure Porch on Wheels

A variety of talks, tours, and other programs year-round and on their mobile exhibit space, the Cure Porch on Wheels. See their website: [historicsaranaclake.org](http://historicsaranaclake.org) for a list of upcoming events.

## Saranac Lake Union Depot

Saranac Lake’s Union Depot was built in 1904by the Delaware and Hudson Railroad, consolidating the passenger operations of the Chateaugay Railroad from the east, and the New York Central Railroad from the west. Some 18 to 20 scheduled passenger trains per day arrived during its busiest years, 1912 to 1940.

## Tupper Lake

### Historic Beth Joseph Synagogue and Gallery

Russian Jewish immigrants, Beth Joseph was the first synagogue built in the Adirondacks and from 1910 to 1924 it served 36 families. The synagogue has been restored and now offers both services and a museum

### The Wild Center

See the natural world in fascinating new ways at this new \$25 million Museum. Unusual features include a living brook flowing around the Museum’s Hall of the Adirondacks, indoor pond connected to a living marsh outside, indoor water-fall, towering glacial ice wall, wide-screen theater, and indoor trail leading from an Adirondack Lean-to to a replica of a High Peak summit. Museum’s 31-acre campus includes boardwalks on a wild and scenic river. Living exhibits contain river otters, birds, amphibians and fish. High definition state-of-the-art technologies let visitors explore the Adirondack environment with extraordinary depth and richness.





A vintage, sepia-toned photograph of a steamship, likely a tugboat or ferry, on a calm body of water. The ship has a prominent black smokestack and is surrounded by a white wake. In the background, a large, snow-capped mountain rises against a pale sky. The shoreline on the right is covered in dense evergreen trees. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

# LAKE PLACID

Lake Placid, Wilmington



**1849**

Businessman-abolitionist John Brown, bankrupt once more,moves to North Elba after striking a deal with Gerrit Smith to help with the homesteading effort. Following the 1836 Natural History Survey, numerous articles and books about the Adirondacks are published. Between 1857 and 1877, many hunting and fishing tales appear in print.

**1850**

Lumber. New York surpasses Maine and becomes the biggest lumber state in the union. There are 7,000 mills in the state,with over 2,000 in the Adirondacks alone.

**1858**

Ralph Waldo Emerson and others recreate at the Philosopher's Camp on Follensby Pond.

**1859**

Paul Smith opens his hotel on the shore of Lower St. Regis Lake.



## Lake Placid

### 1932/1980 Winter Olympic Museum

Capture the excitement of the 1932 and 1980 Olympic Winter Games in the official Olympic museum which features video clips, uniforms, equipment, medals, flags, a bobsled simulator, athlete profiles and photographs, and other memorabilia. Lake Placid is one of only three towns in the world to host two Olympic Winter Games. Included in the admission fee is a tour of the Olympic Center with its four indoor ice rinks, including the 1980 Arena where the U.S. Hockey Team won the gold medal. Visit other area 1980 Olympic sites where world-class athletes compete and train year-round.

### John Brown Farm State Historic Site

In 1849, John Brown moved to the North Country to help freeborn blacks who wanted to homestead but the rugged Adirondack farming conditions and harsh weather made this all but impossible. Their settlement, known as "Timbucto," did not survive. He later spent several years pursuing his anti-slavery campaign, visiting his family only intermittently. Brown was captured on October 18, 1859 and hung on December 2,1859 after his assault on the U.S. Arsenal at the Harper's Ferry. Tour the last home and burial site of the famed abolitionist. The simple 1855 house is furnished with period belongings some original to the Brown family. Self-guided tours of the Farm Trail. On-site interpreter. Nature trails.

### Lake Placid Tour Boat Cruises

Kate Smith (who popularized "God Bless America") summered on Lake Placid at Camp Sunshine. See her retreat and other deluxe "summering" sites on this cruise aboard Lady of the Lake, built in 1929, or the Doris, built in 1950,classic enclosed wooden vessels. Narration includes some local mysteries, some historical fact and natural history.

### Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society Museum

The 1903 Lake Placid train station now serves as a local history museum featuring memorabilia from the 1932 Olympic Winter Games and the Lake Placid Club, early sporting equipment, historic photographs, the diaries of famed-hermit Noah John Rondeau, farm implements and ice harvesting tools, and mementos of famous summer residents such as Victor Herbert (pictured here with his family) and Kate Smith.



# Wilmington

Wilmington is the home of Whiteface Mountain, New York's fifth highest peak at 4,867 feet, and a premier ski area. With the greatest vertical drop east of the Rockies, it is a popular ski destination and winter. Hikers summit year-round, and mountain biking is available in the summer and fall. Visitors can take a gondola to the summit of Little Whiteface, or drive up the Whiteface Veterans' Memorial Highway, a toll road that was constructed in the early 1900s and opened by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936 as a tribute to fallen soldiers. The elevator, Castle and Summit House opened three years later. Wilmington is also the home of Santa's Workshop at the North Pole, considered to be one of the first theme parks in the United States. Since 1949, this Christmas theme park has been delighting all ages with a trip to the North Pole. The park was designed by Arto Monaco, who also helped design Disneyland in California. In 1953, Monaco opened the

# 1931

Construction begins on the  
Whiteface Mountain Veterans' Memorial  
Highway.







# THE CENTRAL EAST

Elizabethtown, Essex, Keeseville, Westport, Willsboro

FACING N.Y. STATE  
ARTHUR'S 3 MIN.  
CARLE FERRY WRIGHT



1864

Forges in the park consume over six million bushels of charcoal.

1869

Within months of being published, William H.H. Murray’s book “Adventures in the Wilderness; or Camp Life in the Adirondacks” releases a huge tide of visitors to the Adirondacks, also know as “Murray’s Rush.” A million logs a year float out of the mountains to the Big Boom in Glens Falls. Transcontinental Railroad completed. Dr. Thomas Durant, representing the Union Pacific, helps drive the golden spike.

1870

Ausable Chasm opens.

1871

Dr. Thomas Durant completes the Adirondack Railroad, a 60-mile line from Saratoga to North Creek.

## Elizabethtown

### Adirondack History Center Museum

Elizabethtown’s original central school provide sample space for a large collection of artifacts from over 200 years of Essex County history and culture. The exhibits cover early farming and frontier life, wilderness exploration and recreation, logging, mining, and transportation. Larger artifacts include a restored stagecoach, an Olympic bobsled, a canvas boat that converts into a tent, and a fire tower. Learn about Lake Champlain’s role in pivotal military battles and events—from the French and Indian War to the War of 1812—by watching a half-hour sound-and-light show displayed on a large 35-foot map of the Champlain Valley. The Brewster Library research center houses a collection of rare books, maps, newspapers, photographs, census records, company ledgers and other materials.

## Essex

### Essex Walking Tour

The entire village of Essex is on the National Register of Historic Places. Essex is full of well-preserved 19th century brick and stone homes, churches, inns and shops replete with carefully manicured lawns and gardens. The village has one of the finest and most intact collections of Federal and Greek Revival architecture in New York State. Founded in 1765, Essex saw substantial growth due to the success of local stone quarries, iron mines, tanneries, and two shipyards. The Walking Tour Map of Essex includes a history of the area and brief details on over 50 structures.

## Keeseville

### Ausable Chasm

Ausable Chasm, circa 1870, is one of the first natural attractions opened commercially in the United States. Its spectacular scenery continues to interest people of all ages. Geological history is played out in the 150-foot deep gorge—a walk along the rim and the inner canyon is enhanced with interpretive signage. An exciting two-mile tube or raft ride takes you through the lower canyon.

### Historic Bridges of the Ausable

Seventeen Ausable River bridges are listed on the National Register, the first such group listing in New York State. Crossing the River: Historic Bridges of the Ausable River is an excellent guide and map, for taking a self-guided tour. Several interesting bridges span the Ausable River in Keeseville. The oldest is a stone arch bridge built in 1843; the wrought-iron truss bridge dates to 1878. The most unusual bridge is a suspension bridge, known locally as the “swing bridge,” which is actually a footbridge for pedestrians. The 240-foot span was built in the 1880s by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company of East Berlin, Connecticut.





1872

Verplanck Colvin, age 25, is appointed superintendent of the Adirondack Survey. He completes a survey and map of the Adirondack wilderness. In September, he places a copper bolt into the summit of Mt. Marcy and then goes on to discover Lake Tear of the Clouds, the highest pond source of the Hudson River. Colvin was an early proponent of creating an Adirondack Park to protect the forests and was largely responsible for the creation of the Adirondack Forest Preserve. New York State owns 40,000 acres in the Adirondacks. Yellowstone National Park established.

1876

W. W. Durant starts work on Camp Pine Knot on Raquette Lake, creating the first structures ever built in the rustic Adirondack Great Camp-style of architecture.

1878

W. W. Durant, Dr. Thomas Durant's son, started the Blue Mountain and Raquette Lake Steamboat Line. The first of many vessels put into service was the Utowana. Mean while on Lower Saranac Lake, the steam boat Water Lily made her maiden voyage carrying Sousa's Band. Steamboats soon plied the waters of many Adirondack lakes and waterways. Steam boat service was abandoned around 1929-1930.

1882

The Prospect House on Blue Mountain opens for business

## Keeseville Walking Tour

The first dam at Anderson Falls on the Ausable River was built in 1808 to power a sawmill. Since that time, and throughout the 1800s, industry continued to take advantage of the Ausable's water power. Fine homes and churches were built by Keeseville's first families. Much of this history is still intact today and detailed in "A Thoroughly Wide Awake Little Village," a walking tour through a 145-structure historic district and three Historic American Engineer Bridges.

## Westport

### Lake Champlain Underwater Historic Preserves

The Champlain II, launched in 1868, was first used to ferry railroad cars from Burlington to Plattsburgh; in 1874 it was converted into a passenger vessel. The 244-foot steamer ran aground on the night of July 16, 1875 shortly after leaving Westport; all persons were safely disembarked onshore. The wreck lies close to the shore north of Westport in 15-35 feet of water. The shoreline is private. Many other historic wrecks can be found in Lake Champlain. Contact the NYS DEC or the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Basin Harbor, VT for information. Removing artifacts or damaging these resources is forbidden by law and deprives others of the opportunity to view and study them. Do not touch the remains, they are fragile. Please take nothing but photographs.

## Westport Walking Tour

Westport first gives the impression of a Victorian summer resort but you'll also see architecture from the 1700s and early 1800s. Beautifully situated on Lake Champlain, the village boasts 41 historically significant buildings, a jewel box library on the green and a number of bed and breakfast establishments in historic homes. The Westport Depot and the Westport Hotel were built in 1876 ushering in the arrival of the D&H Railroad and the tourist trade.

## Willsboro

### 1812 Homestead Farm/Museum

Experience everyday life on a working 1812 farmstead. Maple trees are tapped to collect maple syrup and children can visit a one-room schoolhouse and even help with candle making, cooking at an open hearth, pressing apple cider and spinning wool. Student and camp groups participate in hands-on educational programs, doing chores on the farm and learning trades done in the 1800s. In addition to the early cabin and schoolhouse, the complex includes a pioneer post-and-beam barn, heirloom gar-dens, pastures and resident farm animals.

## Adsit Log Cabin

The Adsit Log Cabin is reputed to be one of the oldest surviving log cabins in its original location in the United States. The carefully preserved and restored log cabin was built in the early 1790s by pioneer Samuel Adsit, a veteran of the American Revolution. The cabin contains a small collection of Adsit family artifacts and other furnishings.







# THE CENTRAL WEST

Constableville, Croghan, Lyons Falls, Osceola



1884

Dr E. L. Trudeau establishes his tuberculosis sanatorium in Saranac Lake, which becomes a major center for patient care and scientific research.

1885

New York State Forest Preserve created. George Eastman markets first box camera.

1887

Writer Robert Louis Stevenson spends the winter in Saranac Lake hoping to recover from tuberculosis. Railroad service comes to Saranac Lake from the north via the Chateaugay Railroad.

1890

W. W. Durant starts building Great Camp Uncas, which was ultimately purchased by J. Pierpont Morgan.

## Constableville

### Constable Hall

Constable Hall was built in 1819 and has been lived in by five generations of the Constables until 1947 when the estate was sold. The stone mansion, which is patterned after a family-owned estate in Ireland, preserves memories of an intriguing family and an outstanding collection of rare antiques. Guided tours.

## Croghan

### American Maple Museum

Learn about the history and evolution of the North American maple syrup industry. Exhibits feature early syrup-making techniques and equipment, containers and sugar molds, a sugar house replica, and a wide assortment of artifacts and equipment. Displays of logging tools and a replica of a lumber camp kitchen and office. American Maple Hall of Fame.

### The Mennonite Heritage Farm

Three generations of the Moser family, who first arrived here in the early 1800s from Alsace-Lorraine, France, have lived in this farmstead. An array of farm buildings feature displays of artifacts, farm machines and implements, and information about the life of early Amish-Mennonite settlers in the Croghan area (1830-1900). A Worship room is set up in the front room of

the farmhouse. Gift shop. Special Events: Zwanzigstein Fest, Apple Festival.

### Railway Historical Society of Northern New York

Railroad artifact collection located in the Lowville and Beaver River Depot in Croghan.

## Osceola

### Fiddlers Hall of Fame and Museum

The rousing art of fiddling is preserved at this unique museum which includes displays of fiddling artifacts, photographs and the Fiddlers Hall of Fame. The resource library houses fiddle tunes, dance formations, and recordings for future generations.







# CENTRAL

Blue Mountain Lake, Indian Lake, Newcomb, Raquette Lake



1892

The Adirondack Park is created. Dr. W. Seward Webb, who married Cornelius Vanderbilt's daughter, Lila, completes the first railroad to cross the heart of the Adirondack Park—the St. Lawrence and Adirondack Railway—running from Utica to Malone. The job is completed in only 18 months. A private railroad station provides access to Forest Lodge at Nehasane, his Great Camp on Lake Lila. Work begins on Great Camp Santanoni.

1894

The "Forever Wild" amendment is added to the New York State Constitution, guaranteeing that the lands of the Forest Preserve "shall be forever kept as wild forest lands." W. W. Durant begins building Sagamore, his last Great Camp. The Saranac Laboratory opens. It is the first laboratory in the nation built for the study of tuberculosis.

1900

Marion River Carry Railroad built.

1901

In September, a messenger is sent to find Vice President Theodore Roosevelt on Mt. Marcy. Upon arriving at the North Creek train station, Roosevelt is notified of President McKinley's death. (seepage 28)

## Blue Mountain Lake

### Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake

Formerly known as the Adirondack Museum, the Adirondack Experience is both gatekeeper and treasure trove for Adirondack history and lore. Exhibits explore the key historical events and developments that shaped the Adirondacks, as well as the ways of life that shaped its history. From breaking up a log jam to stepping onto a classic Adirondack Guide Boat, discover galleries filled with the region's fascinating history. Interactive exhibits make this an ideal attraction to bring kids. Go inside an Adirondack hunting camp, get a hands-on at the timber exhibit, and enjoy immersive exhibits.

### Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery

Scenic boat tour accompanied by historic narration on Blue Mountain Lake and the Eckford Chain of Lakes aboard two vintage 1916 wooden launches, the Neenykin and the Osprey. Accommodates 18 or fewer passengers.

## Indian Lake

### Indian Lake Museum

Sabael Benedict, a Penobscot Indian from Maine, was the first permanent settler to the area, arriving around 1762. His descendants continue to live in the area. The museum is housed in one of Indian Lake's earliest homes, built following the Civil War in 1865 by Allen Brooks. The collection paints a picture of early times in Indian Lake with arrowheads, farm tools, vintage clothing, photographs of schools and hotels, portraits of early settlers, scrapbooks, medical equipment from town doctors, oddities and memorabilia.

## Newcomb

### Camp Santanoni Preserve

Over 45 buildings make up the entire complex which encompasses 12,900-acres—few other Adirondack Great Camps feature as many buildings and property, and offer such outstanding examples of rustic architecture. Visitors to the main lodge on Newcomb Lake must hike, ski, or ride five miles through the woods from the Gate Lodge parking area. (Motorized vehicles are not allowed.) The main lodge was constructed from 1,500 native spruce trees in 1893. Other buildings include a boat-house, lakeside studio, gate-house and a farm that supplied the camp with milk,

## Raquette Lake

### Great Camp Sagamore

Sagamore, a vintage Great Camp and National Historic Landmark, was built by noted Great Camp architect, W. W. Durant in 1897. It was used as a summer retreat for over 50 years by the Alfred Vanderbilt and Margaret Emerson families, who entertained illustrious guests from High Society to Hollywood. Guided tours of 27 buildings give insight into both the workers' lifestyles and the owners who came to the Adirondacks to indulge in the illusion of "roughing it."

### Raquette Lake Navigation Company

Scenic excursions aboard the W.W.Durant, an enclosed replica of a 19th-century steamboat, offer historic narration and fine views of Raquette Lake's numerous Great Camps.







# THE SOUTH CENTRAL

Brant Lake, Chestertown, North Creek, North River, Olmstedville, Schroon Lake



1908

Henry Ford manufactures first Model T automobile. In 1913, he implements the first assembly line.

1918

A deadly strain of Spanish influenza starts to spread around the world. Between 25 to 40 million people would die worldwide—an estimated 675,000 in America. Keene Valley is one of the hardest hit towns in the Adirondacks.

1920

The New York State Forest Commission estimate that less than 4% of the forest preserve was virgin timber. Intensive commercial logging during the mid-1800s and two Great Fires in 1903 and 1908 had devastated the forests of the Adirondacks.

1924

Last drive of 13-foot logs on the Hudson. Long logs went down the Moose River until 1948.

## Brant Lake/Chestertown

### Horicon Museum

Local history museum housed in a nine-room farm-house built during the 1800s. Pioneer home life is presented through a collection of antique clothing, furniture, china, quilts, dolls and old photo albums. The carriage house displays horse-drawn farm equipment, boats and large tools.

### Town of Chester Museum of Local History

Learn about the history of the Chestertown and Pottersville areas through displays, photographs and antique artifacts.

## North Creek

### North Creek Depot Museum

The Depot Museum features exhibits on local history, skiing, the Adirondacks and Teddy Roosevelt who received a telegram here informing him of President McKinley's death on the morning of September 14, 1901. He boarded a train for Buffalo where he was sworn in as President of the U.S. Train fans will find local railroad history exhibits, a model train, a hands-on children's exhibit, model train cars, and train artwork.

## North River

### Barton Garnet Mines

The Barton Garnet Mines, first established in 1878, is one of the world's largest garnet deposits. Take the garnet mine tour and learn about the history, geology, and present day operations of the garnet mines and how to find your own gemstones. Gem cutting demonstrations and mineral collection. Search for your own gem quality garnet.

## Olmstedville

### Minerva Historical Museum

The former Methodist Church houses a small local history museum collection which features prints and explanations of watercolors painted by Winslow Homer at the nearby North Woods Club.

## Schroon Lake

### Schroon Lake Boat Tours

One-hour scenic cruise with narration about local history, folklore and legends.

### Schroon-North Hudson Historical Museum

Step back in time to the era when grand hotels and summer camps lined the shores of Schroon and Paradox lakes and steamboats plied the waters. The post-Civil War home contains displays of vintage photographs, postcards, maps and posters. Listen to tapes made by older residents or look over local military records from wars spanning the era from the War of 1812 to the Vietnam War. Special Events: lectures, essay contest for children.







# THE EAST

Crown Point, Port Henry, Ticonderoga





## Crown Point

### Crown Point State Historic Site

The French and the British both built forts at this strategic location on Lake Champlain. In 1734, the French built Fort St. Frederic, a huge four-story stone octagon—the walls were 12 feet thick and cannons lined every floor. The Fort was repeatedly threatened by the British in 1755-58, they finally occupied the site in 1759. The French destroyed the fort and retreated to Montreal. The British immediately started work on their own fort, His Majesty's Fort at Crown Point which was the largest British strong-hold ever constructed in the colonies. The museum provides an introduction to the site and its history with exhibits and an audio-visual presentation. Explore the remains of both forts on a self-guided walking tour—the white flag of the French navy department waves above the grass-covered remains of the French fort and the Union Jack flies over the ruins of the British fort which includes stone barracks, walls, and redoubt remains. Special Events: military encampments and demonstrations. Across the road from the fort area is the Champlain Memorial Lighthouse located on the NYS DEC Crown Point Reservation Campground. The Crown Point Lighthouse was established in 1838. A new tower was erected in 1910 to commemorate Samuel de Champlain, the Champlain Memorial Lighthouse remained in service until 1929 when the bridge was completed. Just across the Crown Point Bridge is the Chimney Point State Historic Site. The former 18th-century tavern now houses a comprehensive exhibit on prehistoric peoples in the Champlain Valley. The historic and unique ferry crossing between Crown Point and Chimney Point may be re-established in the near future.



1926

President Calvin Coolidge spends six weeks at White Pine Camp near Paul Smiths.

1929

Stock Market crash.

1931

The 'Blue Line' is extended to include all of Lake George and the shores of Lake Champlain. Construction begins on the Whiteface Mtn. Veterans' Memorial Highway.

1932

III Olympic Winter Games held in Lake Placid.

1939-1942

World War II

## Crown Point

### Penfield Homestead Museum and Ironville Historic District

Known as the "Birthplace of the Electric Age," the hamlet of Ironville is the site of the first industrial application of electricity in the U.S. A replica of the large electro magnet, now housed in The Ironville area was instrumental to modern progress and to the efforts in the Civil War. Iron ore was mined locally, separated in Ironville, and then shipped by railroad to Port Henry on Lake Champlain where it was processed, shipped and later used in many applications including the Civil War Ironclad Monitor and the cables for the Brooklyn Bridge.

The Federal-style Penfield Homestead was built in 1827 by Allen Penfield whose son, Captain James Penfield, was a Union officer in the Civil War. The museum features original artifacts from the Penfield family and other historic Crown Point homes, as well as exhibits covering the local iron industry, town history and involvement in the Civil War. The historic district includes the hamlet of Ironville and the industrial remains of Crown Point Iron Company works.

## Port Henry

### The Iron Center Museum

Railroad and mining history exhibits are presented by the Town of Moriah Historical Society in a restored carriage house at the former Wither bee-Sherman and Company mining headquarters. The museum documents the operations of the local iron ore mining industry, which flourished from 1820 to 1971, its impact on workers' lives and the preparation, processing, and transport of iron ore from Lake Champlain to the world. Port Henry was the largest pre-war producer of iron ore in the country. High grade iron ore was mined in deep tunnels near the villages of Mineville and Witherbee.

The Railroad and Mining Heritage Park encompasses a number of historic structures which were part of the Witherbee-Sherman Mining Company waterfront complex. The Iron Center building was originally a carriage house, ice house and laboratory for testing iron ore. The Company's main office building, built in 1875 in the grand French Second Empire-style, now houses the Town Offices. The Romanesque Revival train depot, built by George Sherman in 1888, is now an Amtrak station. The remains of a steel trestle, built in 1929 and used for loading ore, can be seen along the waterfront. All that remains of the huge Cedar Point Blast Furnace and Foundry, which produced 200 tons of iron per day in 1892, is the concrete block warehouse, now used by the marina. Outdoor displays include an original locomotive, ore car and caboose.

### Port Henry Walking Tour

Explore Port Henry's historic downtown and learn about Moriah's industrial legacy on A Walk Through History, a self-guided walking tour. The architectural walking tour section of the brochure includes descriptions of 12 buildings in downtown Port Henry, many are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visit the remains of early industrial sites at Park Place, Powerhouse Park and Cedar Point which relate to the mining and railroad history of Port Henry.

## Ticonderoga

### Fort Ticonderoga

Built in 1755 by the French, who named it Carillon, Fort Ticonderoga has played a strategic and critical role in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. The greatest French victory of the French and Indian War—the Battle of Carillon, July 8, 1758—occurred when a small French force, lead by Montcalm, repelled a massive British attack and devastated the 42nd Highland "Black Watch" regiment. In 1759, the fort fell into British hands when General Jeffery Amherst led a powerful assault on Carillon; the French garrison withdrew after blowing up the powder magazine. Thereafter the fort was named Fort Ticonderoga.

In a surprise, pre-dawn raid on May 10, 1775, Benedict Arnold, Ethan Allen, and the Green Mountain Boys captured the British controlled fort giving America its first victory in the struggle for independence. In July of 1777,

General Burgoyne reclaimed the Fort for the British in a strategic win when he placed cannons on nearby Mt. Defiance. Reconstruction on the Fort you see today began in 1908; it was first opened to the public in July 1909. On-site interpreters in period costumes explain their roles and what life was like at the Fort. A fife-and-drum corps marches and plays, cannons fire and there are musket demonstrations. An outstanding museum displays thousands of artifacts from two 18th century wars and exhibits explain the military history of Lake Champlain and Lake George. Educational programs and daily historical talks. Bookstore, gift shop, and restaurant. Special Events: 18th century encampments and reenactments, living-history events and lectures. Three historic gardens on the Fort property span the history of the Garrison Grounds. The Garrison Garden and Native American Garden are both re-creations of subsistence gardens using heirloom seeds and plants of the period. The King's Garden is a restored 1920s Colonial Revival walled garden. Self-guided tours are aided by on-site interpreters. Visitors to the Fort can also visit nearby Mount Defiance, site of Burgoyne's threatened artillery attack on the Americans. From the village of Ticonderoga, a narrow road climbs to the top of Mount Defiance for great views of the Champlain Valley and Fort Ticonderoga. Covered picnic shelter on the summit.



1942

An ore railroad is built from North Creek to the MacIntyre Mines near Tahawus.

1950

Great Blow down of 1950. A destructive windstorm hits the Adirondacks; 125-miles-per-hour winds are recorded.

1967

Proposal to create a National Park in the Adirondacks is defeated. Adirondack Northway (I-87) completed. Construction began in 1959.

1968

Governor Nelson Rockefeller appoints the Temporary Study Commission on the Future of the Adirondacks which results in the creation of the Adirondack Park Agency whose purpose is to regulate development on private lands in the park.

## Hancock House-Ticonderoga Historical Museum/Walking Tour

The Georgian-style Hancock House, an exact replica of Thomas Hancock's (John Hancock's uncle) former Beacon Hill home in Boston, was built as a home for the New York Historical Association. The museum collection includes furniture and objects from the 18th and 19th century including Duncan Phyfe and Chippendale pieces, colonial-era furniture, old toys, local history displays, and a unique collection of memorabilia from the Defiance Hose Company, a local volunteer fire department circa 1880. Genealogy research center. A self-guided Walking Tour of Ticonderoga features the architecture and history of 28 different historic buildings, homes and churches.

## Ticonderoga Heritage Museum

Ticonderoga history is inexorably linked to paper, mills, graphite mining and pencils. The museum is housed in the former main office of International Paper Company, the area's largest industry and employer. Displays and exhibits interpret the manufacturing techniques and the history of paper and pencils, the International Paper Company, and the American Graphite Company, makers of the famous Dixon-Ticonderoga pencils. Learn about graphite mining, which started here in 1815, and the technology of mills—saw, grist, graphite, iron, paper. Video presentations. Special Events: Workshops for children. A nice complement to the museum is the LaChute River Interpretive Trail which begins just outside the museum. Pick up a map at the museum and learn about local water power, paper







# RESTORED

Once the domain of fire and safety observers, fire towers across the Adirondacks were retired in the summer of 1990. The towers were abandoned by the DEC, and many were removed or fell into disrepair. At one time, nearly 70 fire towers capped peaks in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, New York's two Forever Wild locations. In 1993, a movement began to save the rapidly deteriorating fire towers as educational sites and recreational destinations. Over time, restorations were made to over 20 towers for safe public use, and many are now listed on the National Register. Today, they are beacons for hikers and adventurers, offering the chance to climb that much higher. Enjoy a 360-degree view from any one of these restored fire towers.







# THE RESTORED Fire Towers

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <b>Azure Mountain</b><br>Waverly, NY                  | 12. <b>Goodnow Mountain</b><br>Newcomb, NY         |
| 2. <b>Mount Arab</b><br>Tupper Lake, NY                  | 13. <b>Hadley Mountain</b><br>Lake Luzerne, NY     |
| 3. <b>Hurricane Mountain</b><br>Elizabethtown, NY        | 14. <b>Pillsbury Mountain</b><br>Speculator, NY    |
| 4. <b>Loon Lake Mountain</b><br>Loon Lake, NY            | 15. <b>Snowy Mountain</b><br>Indian Lake, NY       |
| 5. <b>Kane Mountain</b><br>Arietta, NY                   | 16. <b>Wakely Mountain</b><br>Inlet, NY            |
| 6. <b>Lyon Mountain</b><br>Standish, NY                  | 17. <b>St Regis</b><br>Santa Clara, NY             |
| 7. <b>Mount Adams</b><br>Newcomb, NY                     | 18. <b>Blue Mountain</b><br>Blue Mountain Lake, NY |
| 8. <b>Vanderwhacker Mountain</b><br>North Hudson, NY     | 19. <b>Rondaxe Mounatin</b><br>Old Forge, NY       |
| 9. <b>Belfry Mountain</b><br>Witherbee, NY               | 20. <b>Woodhull Mountain</b><br>Town of Webb, NY   |
| 10. <b>Owls Head Mountain</b><br>Long Lake, NY           | 21. <b>Stillwater Mountain</b><br>Town of Webb, NY |
| 11. <b>Poke-O-Moonshine Mountain</b><br>Chesterfield, NY |  |





# THE SOUTH

Caroga Lake, Edinburg, Morehouse, Northville, Piseco, Speculator



1970

The New York Legislature creates the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

1971

NYS Assembly and Senate pass legislation creating the Adirondack Park Agency. The State Land Master Plan is unveiled a year later, followed by the Private Land Use and Development Plan in 1973. Adirondack Land Use Maps are created.

1980

February 1980 – 13th Winter Olympic Games held in 1980 marked the second time that Lake Placid hosted the Winter Olympic Games, having previously hosted them in 1932. These games saw the “Miracle on Ice,” occur when U.S. ice hockey team defeated the four-time defending gold medalists from the Soviet Union. The U.S. would go on to win Olympic Gold against Finland.

1983

American Bald Eagles are re-introduced to the Adirondack Park at Follensby Pond.

1992

Lake Placid Club burns. Adirondack Scenic Railroad begins operation at Thendara.

## Caroga Lake

### Caroga Historical Museum

The simple white home, once used by tannery workers, is now the site of a local history collection which includes several rooms of furniture and decorative arts such as quilts from the 1880s and collection of wildlife sketches and prints by noted illustrator Paul Bransom. An old-time general store is set up in another building and the large barn (circa 1860) contains farm tools and a display about local tanneries with maps, diagrams and photographs.

## Edinburg/Northville

### Nellie Tyrell Edinburg Museum, Walking Tour, and Rural Museum

The Nellie Tyrell Edinburg Museum, named after along time local school-teacher and town historian, is housed in a one-room clapboard building which was once the Beecher's Hollow School and town hall. The collection includes rural artifacts and photographs of times before the inundation of the area now covered by Great Sacandaga Lake. The nearby Rural Museum offers a series of themed display areas—a Victorian parlor, the country kitchen, workshop exhibit and early logging—in a large barn. Pick up the brochure Edinburg Walk-About and take a tour of Beecher's Hollow, the part of Edinburg that survived the flooding of the dam. The tour includes a visit to the restored Copeland Covered Bridge, built by Nellie Tyrell's great-

grand-father in 1878 to get his cows across Beecher's Creek

### Northville-Northampton Historical Museum

The former Giffords Valley Schoolhouse, a classic one-room schoolhouse from the early 1800s, was moved to this location and now houses an interesting local history collection and genealogy information.

## Morehouse

### Morehouse Historical Museum

The Methodist Episcopal Church now houses a local history museum with many old photographs of people and the locale, family histories and memorabilia.

## Piseco

### Piseco Lake Historical Museum

The pre-Civil War Riley House, which dates back to the once thriving tannery and sawmill industry found in the Piseco Lake area, is now home to a local history collection. Artifacts and photographs tell the story of local hotels and industries, old schools, families, and the famous Piseco beach carousel (now on display at the Shelburne Museum in Vermont). There's even an intact mid-19th century saloon—Riley's Tavern—complete with bar and backroom. The nearby Bush Pilot Museum at the Piseco Airport features airplane

photographs and a history display.

## Speculator

### Sacandaga Pathway

The pathway is a wetland walkway with a boardwalk which enables the physically challenged to take a 'walk' in the woods. The route traverses a variety of habitats and three types of wetlands. Historical exhibits on logging, geology, and other topics are found along the boardwalk. Picnic area.





A vintage, sepia-toned photograph of two men in a canoe on a calm body of water. The man on the left is wearing a hat and a light-colored shirt, while the man on the right is wearing a dark suit. They are both holding oars. The background shows a distant shoreline with trees. The title 'THE SOUTHEAST' is overlaid in large, bold, yellow capital letters.

# THE SOUTHEAST

Bolton Landing, Glens Falls, Lake George, Lake Luzerne, Stony Creek, Warrensburg



1995

Devastating windstorm sweeps across central and north western Adirondacks. Many old-growth pines are lost.

1997

New York State purchases the 15,000-acre William C. Whitney Tract which includes Little Tupper Lake and nine other ponds.

1998

Destructive ice storm strikes the northern Adirondacks. Champion Land Purchase adds 140,000 acres to the Forest Preserve.

2000

The inaugural Winter Goodwill Games and ESPN Great Outdoor Games take place in Lake Placid.

## Area Driving Tours

### The Mohican Trail

#### Self-Guided Military History Tour Map

The 200-mile loop tour around Lake George from Ticonderoga to Saratoga Springs and back passes scores of 17th- to 20th- century military sites. The map is in a booklet to make it easy to find all the historic markers, museums, libraries, houses, cemeteries, battle and fort sites in what was the heart of North America for 200 years.

### Self-Guided Tour of Historical Sites and State Markers in the Lake George Area

Lake George, and its vicinity, is rich in historical facts and legends. Here were fought some of the most important battles during the making of our country. The tour brochure provides maps and descriptions of area events and historic sites, many designated by historical markers and monuments, as well as area museums and historic buildings.

## Bolton Landing

### Bolton Historical Museum

The 1890 Blessed Sacrament Church is the repository for the local history collection which includes an extensive collection of regional artifacts and memorabilia. The photographs and exhibits feature hotels, lakeside mansions, businesses, steamboats, boats, ice harvesting equipment, scrapbooks, family histories, schools, antiques, vintage clothing, tools, farm implements, Indian artifacts and small displays about some of the town's notable residents—doctors, artists and opera singers. Special Events: summer lecture series. Visit the Knox Monument in nearby Rogers Park. The monument is dedicated to Henry Knox who lead an effort to drag captured artillery from Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point, 300 miles east to Boston during the winter of 1775-76. The artillery was used to force the British out of Boston.

### Marcella Sembrich Opera Museum

In 1877 Mme. Sembrich made her operatic debut in Athens at the age of 19 and quickly became one of the world's greatest opera singers. She was Europe's premier soprano during most of her early career, spending one year at the Metropolitan Opera in 1883 during its first season. Rejoining the Met in 1898, she stayed for a decade, retiring in 1909. She founded the vocal departments at the Juilliard School and the Curtis Institute, and was for 25 years preeminent among teachers of singing in America. Her summer home

and teaching studio on the shore of Lake George was turned into a museum following her death in 1935. The personal collection of operatic memorabilia—portraits and prints, opera posters and vintage photographs, lavish costumes and accessories, music and correspondence from composers and admirers—is beautifully displayed in the pink stucco cottage on the water's edge where she taught gifted students from 1921 to 1935.

## Glens Falls

### Chapman Historical Museum

Enter the DeLong House and step back in time to the Victorian era as you wander through five period rooms restored to the tastes of 1860-1910. The museum owns a vast collection of images by Seneca Ray Stoddard, a highly acclaimed 19th-century Adirondack photographer and Glens Falls native. See how Victorians enjoyed the nearby lakes and mountains in the images of his stunning photographs. Guided tours, special changing exhibitions. Museum shop.

### Crandall Public Library/Folklife Center

The Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs preserves and presents the living and historical cultural heritage of the upper Hudson Valley and southern Adirondacks. The research archives and special collections are available to everyone in the Reading Room, and there are cultural programs and performances, family workshops, a lecture series, publications, and exhibitions at the Folklife Gallery. The staff will assist with genealogy and local history questions.

### City of Glens Falls Historical Walking tour

Walking tour highlights 26 buildings of architectural and historic significance and is designed to be a self-guided tour between The Chapman Historical Museum at 348 Glen St. and the Hyde Collection at 161 Warren St. Maps available at either location.

### Glens Falls Feeder Canal Park

The canal's original purpose was to carry water from the Hudson River to the Old Champlain Canal (circa 1822) guaranteeing adequate water at its summit. In 1832, the canal was widened and deepened to accommodate boat traffic. Mills and factories sprang up along the Feeder Canal and



2005

The historic Lake Placid Lodge burns to the ground. Originally built in 1882 as a private camp, the luxury resort was considered one of the top hotels in the U.S. at the time.

2006

The Wild Center opens in Tupper Lake officially on July 4th.

2013

OK Slip Falls, considered one of the highest waterfalls in the Adirondacks, is open to the public in the Hudson River Gorge Wilderness after the state purchases the land.

2015

June 2015 – Two inmates, Richard Matt and David Sweat, escaped from Clinton County Correctional Facility in Dannemora, kicking off the largest manhunt in New York State history. After three weeks of evading law enforcement, Matt was shot and killed on June 26. Sweat was discovered and shot on June 28. He survived his wound and is currently serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

2015

New York State commits to a multi-year agreement to purchase 65,000 acres of former Finch, Pruyn & Company Lands from the Adirondack Nature Conservancy, opening up parts of the Hudson and Opalescent rivers, as well as the Boreas Ponds Tract.

there were six boat basins for loading, unloading and repairs. One of the most unique engineering features of the canal is the Five Combined Locks at Burgoyne Avenue in Hudson Falls. The original towpath is now a multi-purpose trail where you can walk, bike or cross-country ski. The nine-mile route starts at the Feeder Dam in Queensbury and runs to McIntyre Park in Fort Edward. You can also canoe a five-mile section of the canal. Access and parking is available at several points.

## The Hyde Collection

Charlotte Pruyn Hyde intended for her home to be a showcase for paintings, tapestries, sculpture, rare books, furniture, and other artifacts. The Hyde family collection has become a world-class museum with works by noted modern artists and old masters presented in an intimate and elegant environment. Major changing exhibits. Gift shop.

# Lake George

## Fort William Henry Museum

Fort William Henry, named after the grandson of King George, was a log-and-earth stockade built in 1755 during the French and Indian War. Colonial defenders held off the French for two long years until the summer of 1757 when a huge force of 12,000 French Regulars and Indian Allies lead by General Montcalm finally succeeded in taking the fort and it was burned. In 1759 British General Amherst arrived from the south with an army of 11,000 and Montcalm withdrew his French troops. The book and movie,

The Last of the Mohicans, captures the mood of the times and the events that unfolded here. The Fort was reconstructed in the 1950s. View French and Indian artifacts, audio-visual presentations, and take a guided tour with a costumed interpreter. Witness cannon and musket firings and learn how musket balls are made at living history demonstrations.

## Lake George Visitors Center

Corner of Canada Street and Beach Road, Lake George. YR. Information center with interactive historic displays and local travel information.

## Lake George Battlefield Park & Fort George State Park

The extensive park, near Fort William Henry and across Beach Road from Lake George's Million Dollar Beach, was the site of the Battle of Lake George which took place on September 8, 1755 during the French and Indian War. Later on that September day, a surprise attack by the British took the lives of over 200 French regulars, Canadian militia and Indians at Bloody Pond. One of the commanders of the American Colonial militia, Colonel Ephraim Williams, and the Mohawk Chief King Hendrick,were killed in the engagement. Paths wind through the park and interpretive signage tells the story of the area's significance in both the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Explore the remains of Fort George, a bastion built in 1759. An interpretive marker identifies the site of an American hospital camp used to treat survivors of the ill-fated attempt to capture Quebec during the winter of 1775-76. The battlefield was also the site of the largest smallpox hospital in North America during the American Revolution.

## Lake George Historical Museum

The old Warren County Courthouse, complete with 19th-century courtrooms and jail cells, is the setting for this local history museum. The handsome brick and stone structure, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was completed in 1845. Exhibits feature Native American artifacts including a dugout canoe; displays on ice harvesting, steamboats and hotels; local memorabilia and historical maps, books and prints. A light-up map shows historic sites around the lake.





2017

The Adirondack Museum rebrands and is renamed, Adirondack Experience, The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake.

2018

The historic Hotel Saranac reopens after a multi-year, multimillion dollar renovation.

2019

A fire destroys Whiteface Mountain's Mid-Station Lodge.

2020

Lake Placid celebrates the 40th Anniversary of the 1980 Winter Olympic Games.

## Sacred Heart Church

See the history of the Lake George area as depicted in the stained glass windows of Sacred Heart Church. The windows tell the story of Fr. Isaac Jogues, a missionary and the first European to see Lake George. The tour continues with panels depicting Fr. Jogues preaching among the Hurons and Mohawks; the discovery of Lake George; the attacks and torture of Fr. Jogues and his companions; and the story of Blessed Kateri Tekawitha.

## Submerged Heritage Preserves

Three sites in Lake George are available for exploration: The Sunken Fleet of 1758; the 1906 motor-launch Forward; and the radeau, Land Tortoise, a 1758 floating gun battery which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Land Tortoise and the Sunken Fleet of 1758 were intentionally scuttled to store them under the winter ice and prevent their capture or destruction by enemy forces. The radeau, Land Tortoise, has been designated by the Smithsonian Institution as "the oldest intact war vessel in North America." You must register and be assigned a time slot to dive the Land Tortoise. Register with the DEC at the Lake George Beach. The Sunken Fleet of 1758 includes seven bateaux which are spread out over a 450-foot-long area at a depth of 25 to 59 feet. Diving is on a first-come, first-served basis. The Forward is perhaps the earliest gasoline-powered vessel on Lake George. The 45-foot wooden hull sits in 25 to 45 feet

of water and features a specially prepared underwater trail system and stations. Removing artifacts or damaging these resources is forbidden by law and deprives others of the opportunity to view and study them. Do not touch the remains, they are fragile. Please take nothing but photographs.

## Lake George Boat Tours

### Lake George Shoreline Cruises

Narrated day and evening sightseeing and entertainment cruises aboard enclosed cruise ships including the classic wooden yacht Horicon which is listed on the National Register, and brand new, state-of-the-art Adirondack.

### Lake George Steamboat Company

Narrated one- to four-hour scenic cruises aboard classic ships: the 1907 M/V Mohican; the SS Minne-Ha-Ha, an authentic steamboat paddle-wheeler; and the 190-foot Lac du Saint Sacrement, a reproduction of classic 19th-century Hudson River day vessel. Brunch, lunch and dinner cruises (reservations suggested). Snack bar, cocktail lounge, gift shop. The special 18th Century Historic Battle Tour is a combination bus/boat tour of French and Indian-era battle sites, the American Revolution at Fort Ticonderoga, and the Skenes borough Museum in Whitehall, the birthplace of the American Navy.

## Sagamore Resort Boat Tours

Narrated tours of Lake George aboard the small luxury cruise boat Morgan, a 72-foot replica of 19th-century wooden touring vessel. Lunch and dinner cruises.

## Lake Luzerne

### The Frances G. Kinnear Museum

The 1880s Victorian home features period rooms, a vintage clothing collection, over 1000 photos of the Lake Luzerne area, local history exhibits and reference material for genealogical studies.

### The Schoolhouse Museum

Generations of children attended first through eighth grades from 1865 to 1937 in this small, one-room schoolhouse. The simple furnishings, desks, books and other learning materials that remain create a vivid picture of school days past.

### The Pulp Mill Museum

A picturesque riverside Mill Park is the setting for this restored building which was one of the first pulp mills in America. Exhibits include historic photographs, paper-making history, the grinding stone and other original machinery used in the paper making process.

## Stony Creek

### Stony Creek Historical Museum

History of life and industry in Stony Creek.

## Warrensburg

### Warrensburg Museum of Local History

Turn-of-the-century Warrensburg was a thriving mill town; remains of the water-powered mills can still be seen along the Schroon River. The museum features many photographs from this era as well as antique clothing, jewelry, furniture, quilts and local war artifacts. Learn about famous locals like Floyd Bennett, who was the pilot for Richard Byrd's North Pole expedition.

### Historic Warrensburgh Walking Tour

Explore the Warrensburg Historic District which includes 428 historic properties and is the largest district north of Saratoga. The walking tour details can be found in the free booklet An "Architectural Heritage Tour of Warrensburgh, New York."





VISIT

**ADIRONDACKS**

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