

The 30th

Conference on New York State History

June 4–6 • 2009



SUNY Plattsburgh

Sponsored by
New York State Historical Association

In collaboration with
New York State Archives Partnership Trust

Co-sponsored by
New York Council for the Humanities



New York Council for the Humanities

Thursday June 4

8:30 - 5:00 Registration

2nd Floor Lobby, Angell College Center



9:00–2:00 • Full-day Workshop

Advance Registration Required



Creating a Community History

Sponsored by
Upstate History Alliance

Stephanie Lehner
coordinator



Documentation of a community's history is vital to the presentation of its story for future generations. Each person, each story, and each business lends itself to the greater story of New York State and beyond. Participants in this workshop will hear from community history leaders to gain the basics they need to develop their own community history projects. They will explore examples of how to engage the community in recording and sharing its history.

This workshop has been developed by **Upstate History Alliance**, a non-profit service organization that works with museums and historical societies in New York State. It is supported by the Documentary Heritage Program, a statewide program of the New York State Archives, which strives to identify historical records and make them available to the public.

Participants will include:

Virginia Westbrook
The Virginia Company/Champlain
Valley Heritage Network

Ellen McHale
New York Folklore Society

Andy Flynn
Writer, *Adirondack Attic*

Angiel Snye
Adirondack Museum

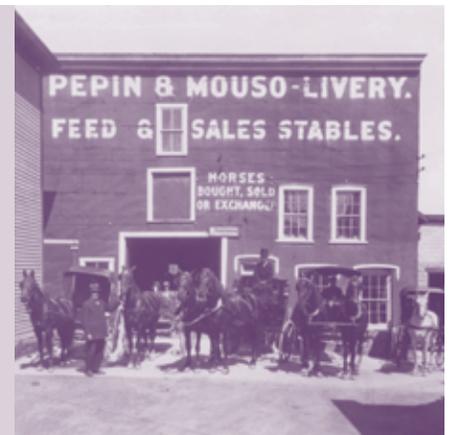
Rich Strum
Fort Ticonderoga



2009 Program Committee

Robert W. Arnold, *College of St. Rose*
Sylvie Beaudreau, *SUNY Plattsburgh*
Blake Bell, *Pelham Town Historian*
Kate Betz, *NYSHA (ex officio)*
James Folts, *New York State Archives*
Henry Mueller, *Capital District BOCES*
Garet Livermore, *NYSHA (ex officio)*
Paul Mercer, *New York State Library*
Michael Miscione, *Manhattan Borough Historian*

Anastasia Pratt, *Clinton County Historian*
Edythe Ann Quinn, *Hartwick College*
Eric Roth, *Historic Huguenot Street*
John Scherer, *New York State Museum*
William H. Siener, *Independent Scholar*
Marilyn Van Dyke, *Queensbury Town Historian*
Nicholas Westbrook, *Fort Ticonderoga (emeritus)*
Field Horne, *conference chair*
Edward Knoblauch, *conference deputy chair*



Thursday June 4

8:30 - 5:00 Registration
2nd Floor Lobby, Angell College Center



2:00-4:50 • Afternoon Workshops

Open to registrants of the Community History workshop and of the conference itself. Certificates of participation will be available at registration.

2:00 - 2:50

101 The Quadricentennial Newspaper-in-Education Project

Cardinal Lounge

Mary Miller

New York Newspaper Publishers Association

Robert Bullock

New York State Archives Partnership Trust

102 Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Documentation

Alumni Conference Room

Bruce Dearstyne

Educator

Robert W. Arnold

College of St. Rose

3:00 - 3:50

201 Grants Workshop

Cardinal Lounge

Jane McNamara

New York Council on the Humanities

202 Internet Sources and Methods

Alumni Conference Room

Blake Bell

Pelham Town Historian



4:00 - 4:50

301 Simple Tricks to Turn Your PowerPoint Presentation from Dreary to Dazzling

Cardinal Lounge

Michael Miscione

Manhattan Borough Historian

302 Research Resources in the North Country

Alumni Conference Room

James Folts

New York State Archives

Debra Kimok

SUNY Plattsburgh

Jerold Pepper

Adirondack Museum

5:00-7:30 • Dinner On Your Own

7:30 • Evening Program

Continental Engagement: U.S. - Canada Relationships, 1609 to Present

Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Canada, SUNY Plattsburgh

Yokum Hall

Moderator:

Christopher Kirkey

SUNY Plattsburgh

Panelists:

Brett Wells

College of William and Mary

Brian Young

McGill University

Andrew Holman

Bridgewater State College

Jarrett Rudy

McGill University



Friday June 5

Exhibits
8:00 - 6:00
Friday (only)

7:00 - 6:00 Registration

2nd Floor Lobby, Angell College Center



8:00-8:50 • Plenary Session Yokum Hall

Do We Need a Vision for New York State's History?

Bruce W. Dearstyne
moderator

Garet Livermore
New York State
Historical Association

Christine Ward
New York State Archives

Robert Weible
New York State Historian

9:00-10:30 • Early Morning Sessions

401 Celebrations

Cardinal Lounge

- ▶ **THE PRESENCE OF THE PAST: THE EVOLUTION OF A HERITAGE TOURISM LANDSCAPE IN THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY**

Sylvie Beaudreau
SUNY Plattsburgh

- ▶ **REASONS TO CELEBRATE: NEW YORK AND THE OPENING OF THE ERIE CANAL**

Caroline Fuchs
St. John's University

- ▶ **THE 1948 NEW YORK CITY GOLDEN JUBILEE**

Michael Miscione
Manhattan Borough Historian

Comment: Edward Knoblauch, College of St. Rose

402 Disasters

Alumni Conference Room

- ▶ **THE GREAT EASTER "MIDWESTERN" FLOOD IN NEW YORK STATE, 1913**

Trudy E. Bell
Independent Scholar

- ▶ **THE ASTOR PLACE OPERA HOUSE RIOT, 1849**

John W. Fried
Columbia University

- ▶ **THE POLITICS OF MORAL OUTRAGE: RETHINKING THE TRIANGLE FIRE OF 1911**

Robert W. Whalen
Queens University of Charlotte

Comment: Tim Kneeland, Nazareth College

403 Early Influences

Yokum Hall

- ▶ **ARIAANTJE COEYMANS, ENIGMATIC DUTCH COLONIAL WOMAN**

Karen Hess
Ravena-Coeymans Historical Society

- ▶ **RETHINKING THE ETHNIC IDENTITY OF THE "HUGUENOTS" OF NEW PALTZ**

Eric Roth
Historic Huguenot Street

- ▶ **TOWN MEETINGS IN NEW YORK**

Mary Robinson Sive
Independent Scholar

Comment: Nicholas Westbrook, Fort Ticonderoga (emeritus)

10:30 - 11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 • Late Morning Sessions

501 Armed Actions

Cardinal Lounge

- ▶ **THE NIAGARA FRONTIER DEFENSE LEAGUE'S PATRIOTIC WAR ON ORGANIZED LABOR, 1917-19**

John S. Olszowka
Mercyhurst College

- ▶ **"SHOOTING FOLKS AT NIGHT": THE JACOB HANSON CASE AND THE PROHIBITION REPEAL MOVEMENT ON THE NIAGARA FRONTIER**

William H. Siener
Independent Scholar

- ▶ **THE GUN IN URBAN UNREST IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY NEW YORK**

Eric Wakin
Columbia University

Comment: Thomas E. Leary, Youngstown State College

502 Outsider Women

Alumni Conference Room

- ▶ **THE STRANGE BREACH-OF-PROMISE CASE OF GEORGE BARNARD VS. MARY POWER**

Benjamin P. Feldman
Independent Scholar

- ▶ **"MADAME JUMEL OUTSHONE BY A NEGRO": RACE, GENDER, AND SOCIAL PRETENSION IN ANTEBELLUM SARATOGA SPRINGS**

Jane Lancaster
Rhode Island School of Design

- ▶ **BLACK CLEOPATRA: HANNAH ELIAS AND THE MURDER OF "THE MAN WHO INVENTED N.Y."**

Jon-Christian Suggs
CUNY (emeritus)

Comment: Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont

503 Religion

Yokum Hall

- ▶ **"START YOUR OWN RELIGION": NEW YORK STATE'S RADICAL ACID CHURCHES**

Devin R. Lander
Independent Scholar

- ▶ **CREATING THE CULTURED CATHOLIC AT THE CATHOLIC SUMMER SCHOOL OF AMERICA, 1893-1941**

Raymond A. Patterson
Saint Michael's College

- ▶ **THE "COLORED" MISSION CHAPELS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Jean Ballard Terepka
St. Michael's Church

Comment: Richard Schaefer, SUNY Plattsburgh

Friday June 5

7:00 - 6:00 Registration
2nd Floor Lobby, Angell College Center

12:30 - 1:45 Lunch
Flynt Commons, Angell College Center

—Music—
Bernard Ouimet
“UN CANADIEN ERRANT”



2:00–3:30 • Early Afternoon Sessions

601 First Peoples

Cardinal Lounge

- ▶ **A LILY AMONG THORNS: THE MOHAWK REPATRIATION OF KÁTERI TEKAHK:WITHA**
Darren Bonaparte
Independent Scholar
- ▶ **THEY HEAR HIS VOICE: THE LONG ODYSSEY OF PETER WILSON, CAYUGA PHYSICIAN/ORATOR**
Mary Hess
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- ▶ **ONEIDA LACE MAKERS: A LASTING INFLUENCE OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN REFORM MOVEMENT**
Patricia Matteson
Independent Scholar

Comment: *Jim Rice, SUNY Plattsburgh*

602 Canals

Alumni Conference Room

- ▶ **THE ERIE'S FORGOTTEN LITTLE SISTER**
Jessica DuLong
Author
- ▶ **SOURCES OF THE ORIGINAL AND ENLARGED ERIE CANALS' BUILDING STONE**
Mariana Rhoades
St. John Fisher College
- ▶ **RESEARCHING THE FEEDER CANAL, PART OF GLENS FALLS' INVISIBLE HISTORY**
Erica Wolfe Burke
Crandall Public Library

Comment: *Altina Waller, University of Connecticut*

603 Historic Preservation I

Yokum Hall

- ▶ **THE REDEDICATION OF THE PRISON SHIP MARTYRS MONUMENT**
Dan Abatelli
Fort Greene Conservancy
- ▶ **REVOLUTIONARY LANDSCAPE: ROGER MORRIS PARK**
Erin K. Elto and Camilla Huey
Roger Morris Park Conservators
- ▶ **VISIONS OF PERMANENCE ON THE CITY'S EDGE: FORT TRYON, 1901–31**
Adam Zalma
Rutgers University

Comment: *Eric Roth, Historic Huguenot Street*

3:30 - 4:00 Break

2:00–3:30 • Late Afternoon Sessions

701 Industry

Cardinal Lounge

- ▶ **THE HISTORY OF SUB-AQUEOUS TUNNELING IN NEW YORK CITY**
Andrew Cushing
Ove Arup and Partners
- ▶ **THE CORNELL IRON WORKS AND THE NEW YORK IRON INDUSTRY**
Katharine C. Gorka
Independent Scholar

Comment: *Robert W. Arnold, College of St. Rose*

702 Legal and Political History

Alumni Conference Room

- ▶ **THE EARLY LEGAL CAREER OF ELIHU ROOT**
Michael Allsep
Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB
- ▶ **TESTING SUFFRAGE: LITERACY AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN NEW YORK, 1922-65**
Ari Rubin
Harvard University
- ▶ **RELIGION AND DIPLOMACY IN THE 1969 N.Y.C. MAYORAL ELECTION**
Jeffrey F. Taffet
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Comment: *Peter Eisenstadt, Independent Scholar*

703 Historic Preservation II

Yokum Hall

- ▶ **RESTORING HAMILTON'S HOME TO A COUNTRY SETTING IN URBAN MANHATTAN**
Stephen Spaulding
National Park Service
- ▶ **A LANDSCAPE DESIGN PLAN FOR THE JOHN BOWNE HOMESTEAD, FLUSHING**
Joseph Disponzio
N.Y.C. Department of Parks and Recreation

Comment: *Robert M. Toole, Landscape Architect*

5:45 • Evening Program

5:45 - 6:30 Reception

Burke Gallery, Fine Arts Building

6:30 Dinner

Flynt Commons, Angell College Center

8:00 Film Preview:

“DEAD RECKONING: CHAMPLAIN IN AMERICA”
GILTZ THEATER, HAWKINS HALL

A behind-the-scenes look at the production of this documentary, a one-hour television program which will be an historically accurate, fully animated documentary focusing on Champlain's years of exploration, 1603–1616, and his successful adaptation to the ways of the Amerindian people, who taught him how to explore and survive in the wilds of North America. Mountain Lake PBS will screen a preview of the documentary, followed by a discussion with Executive Producer Colin Powers, Producer/Writer Frank Christopher and Director Marc Hall.

—Wendell Tripp Lecture—

8:30

Giltz Theater,
Hawkins Hall

David Hackett Fischer
Brandeis University

“A FRENCHMAN IN
NEW YORK: CHAMPLAIN
AMONG THE
MOHAWK IN 1609”



Saturday June 6

8:00–11:00 Registration
2nd Floor Lobby, Angell College Center



8:30—10:00 • Early Morning Sessions

801 Military History

Cardinal Lounge

▶ NEW YORKERS AT THE BATTLE OF BENNINGTON

Michael P. Gabriel

Kutztown University

▶ UNLOCKING THE MATERIAL CULTURE OF THE Magasins du Roi

Steve Delisle

Independent Scholar

▶ RE-EXAMINING CHAMPLAIN'S 1609 MOHAWK ENCOUNTER

Thomas L. Nesbitt

Independent Scholar

Comment: *Paul Huey*, NYS Office of Parks,
Recreation, and Historic Preservation

802 African Americans

Alumni Conference Room

▶ JOHN BROWN'S BODY: REMEMBERING ABOLITION AT NORTH ELBA

Jesse J. Gant

University of Wisconsin

▶ NORTH COUNTRY UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Don Papson

The Champlain Valley's Underground
Railroad Canadian Connections

▶ NEW YORK STATE'S RADICAL BLACK ABOLITIONISTS

Alan Singer

Hofstra University

Comment: *Amy Godine*, Independent Scholar

803 Knickerbocker's History of New-York: The First Two Hundred Years

Yokum Hall

Elizabeth L. Bradley

The New York Public Library, chair

Panelists to be announced.



10:00 - 10:30 Break

10:30—12:00 • Late Morning Sessions

901 Broadcasting New York State History (panel)

Cardinal Lounge

▶ A LOOK BACK AT RADIO DOCUMENTARIES ON NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Gerald Zahavi

University at Albany SUNY

▶ PRODUCING "THE FIRST FIRESIDE CHATS," A RADIO DOCUMENTARY

Geoffrey Storm

University at Albany SUNY

902 Three Approaches to Revealing the "Humanity Behind the Hardware"

Alumni Conference Room

Jessica Williams

Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum

Eric Boehm

Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum

Sheri J. Levinsky

Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum

Comment: *Thomas Eldred*,
Cayuga County Historian (retired)

—10:30—

903 Sundown Towns in New York

Yokum Hall

James W. Loewen

Catholic University of America

—11:15—

904 The St. Lawrence Seaway at Fifty

Yokum Hall

Claire Parham

Siena College

12:00—1:15 • Lunch

Flynt Commons,
Angell College Center



—Speaker—

William E. Wander

McSorley's Old Ale House

"The Beefsteak Party: A New York City Original"

Saturday June 6



1:30–5:00 • Afternoon Activities

Bus Tour to Chazy

An organized tour will be offered on Saturday afternoon. It will depart at 1:30 from Rugar Street directly in front of the Angell Center.

The tour will visit the **William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute** (1951), an experimental farm, with particular attention to its historical exhibit, and the **Alice T. Miner Colonial Collection** (1924), a museum of the Colonial Revival as interpreted by the wife of the Institute's founder.

A chartered bus will take up to 43 participants. This tour cannot run without a minimum number of participants. If it is cancelled, you will receive notification by e-mail one week before the conference, and a refund will be mailed to you after its conclusion.

Alternate Options

In addition to the organized tour, Plattsburgh and the general vicinity offer a number of options for historical touring on your own.

- **Plattsburgh museums** are open all day Saturday with free admission to mark Museum Day. A list with directions will be in your registration packet.
- **The Spirit of Ethan Allen II** departs from the foot of College Street, Burlington at 4 PM for a 90-minute lake cruise (\$15). Visit <http://www.soea.com/> for more details.
- **Fort Ticonderoga** is open until 5 PM and is offering half-price admission (\$7.50) to those with conference name badges.
- Plattsburgh is only 20 miles from the Canadian border and only 64 miles from **Montreal**. Consider an afternoon tour of the old city, or extend your stay in the area and make a weekend of it.

2009 • Conference Information

Registration for Accommodations

On-site conference lodging will be in newly-renovated MacDonough Hall on the Plattsburgh campus. Rates are \$45 per person per night for a single room or \$35 per person per night for a double room. All rooms have shared baths down the hall. Pillow, blanket and linens including towel, washcloth, sheets and pillowcase will be provided. All reservations will go directly through SUNY Plattsburgh's College Auxiliary Services Office. Conferees registering for lodging must do so by **May 28, 2009**. Cancellation and refund requests must be received in writing by Thursday, May 21, 2009. No refunds for late cancellations or no shows will be honored.

The registration form is available online at: www.plattsburghcas1.com/NYSHistoryLodging

Lodging can be reserved online (preferred method), or by phone, fax, or mail using the contacts below:

Kate Chilton, Conference and Event Services

College Auxiliary Services,
SUNY Plattsburgh
Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901
Phone: (518) 564-3054
Fax: (518) 564-4092
E-mail: kate.chilton@plattsburgh.edu

For off-campus housing options as well as dining and activities, see:

www.cityofplattsburgh.com
www.plattsburgh.com
www.northcountrychamber.com
www.goadironclack.com

Getting There

► Automobile

From the south, take Interstate 87 to Exit 37; turn right on Rte. 3 at the fork (traffic light) bear right onto Broad Street; at third light turn right into Kehoe Administration Building parking lot (#11–12); you may park in this lot, or continue through the lots and turn right onto Rugar Street, then an immediate left into parking lot (#16–17). The Angell College Center is directly across Rugar Street. Driving time is 2.5 hours from Albany, 5.5 hours from New York City.

► Railroad

The northbound Adirondack leaves New York Penn Station at 9:20 AM, arriving at Plattsburgh station at 3:15 PM. The southbound Adirondack leaves Plattsburgh at 12:35 PM, arriving at New York Penn Station at 8:36 PM. Fare is \$62 each way. The train station is one mile from the SUNY Plattsburgh campus.

► Bus

A Trailways bus leaves New York Port Authority at 12:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 11:15 AM, 6:30 PM and 9:00 PM, arriving after 5.5 to 6.5 hours. Fare is \$70 each way. Buses arrive at 316 Cornelia Street, close to both the SUNY Plattsburgh campus and most hotels.

► Air

Cape Air serves Plattsburgh International Airport (2 miles from the college) from Boston. Flights are also available to Burlington and Montreal, both of which have limo service to Plattsburgh, or rental car options.

► Taxi

ABC Taxi: (518) 562-1010
City Taxi: (518) 561-7777

General Campus and City Information

See the SUNY Plattsburgh website at www.plattsburgh.edu/admissions/allcampusmaps.php for campus information and regional highlights.

Exhibition Hall

As usual, the exhibition hall on Friday will be packed with publishers, book dealers, and organizations eager to tell you about their products or services. If you are interested in being an exhibitor at the conference, please e-mail historyconference@nysha.org or check our website at www.nysha.org for a registration form.

In-Service Credit

The New York State Historical Association is pleased to offer continuing education unit (C.E.U.) credits for teachers. If you are interested in receiving C.E.U., please inquire at the registration desk.

Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships are available to graduate and undergraduate students and officially-appointed municipal historians.

To apply, please request an application form at historyconference@nysha.org or by calling (888) 547-1450 ext. 461.

historyconference@nysha.org

(888) 547-1450 ext. 461

Conference on New York State History

June 4–6, 2009 • Registration

Name _____ Member ID Number: _____
NYSHA _____ APT _____
Affiliation _____ Business Address Personal Address
Address _____
City/Town _____ ST _____ Zip _____
E-mail _____

A confirmation will be sent to you via e-mail. If e-mail is unavailable, please call for confirmation.

Mail registration form to:
Conference on New York State History
c/o NYSHA
PO Box 800
Cooperstown, N.Y. 13326

**Register by
May 18**

Registration

Postmarked on or before
Monday, May 18 \$80 \$ _____
—(NYSHA/APT members \$60)
Postmarked after
Monday, May 18 \$100 \$ _____
—(NYSHA/APT members \$80)

Thursday

Full-day workshop (UHA) \$30 \$ _____
—(includes box lunch)

Thursday afternoon practical sessions

Please indicate preferences:

- 101 —or— 102
 201 —or— 202
 301 —or— 302

Friday lunch \$15 \$ _____

Friday dinner \$20 \$ _____

Saturday lunch \$12 \$ _____

Saturday afternoon
—Bus tour \$20 \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Late Payments • On-site Registration

Please do not mail registrations to NYSHA after Tuesday, May 26. If you need to register after this date, please call directly. On-site registration will also be available all three days. A limited number of tickets for meals and events will be available for sale on site at an additional cost. These will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cancellations and Refunds

In order to be eligible for a refund, you must send written notice of cancellation by mail or e-mail by the dates listed below. We will process refunds following the conference and mail them to the address given in your registration packet.

- Cancellation received before Monday, May 18, 2009—
100% of registration fee, meals, and events purchased
- Cancellation received on or between May 18 and May 26, 2009—
80% of registration fee and 50% of meals and events, purchased
- Cancellations received on or between May 27 and June 3, 2009—
50% of registration fee and no refund for meals and events purchased
- Cancellation received Thursday, June 4, 2009 or after—
No refund given

Method of Payment

- Check enclosed (make checks payable to "NYSHA")
 Please Send Invoice Credit Card • Card Type _____
Account # _____
Exp. Date _____
Signature _____

Registration for Accommodations

Please see complete information on Page 7.
Campus lodging must be booked by May 28.

Questions?

Registration questions should be directed to historyconference@nysha.org or 888-547-1450 ext. 461.



Do not send registrations to the return address on this brochure!

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Albany NY
Permit No. 293

New York State Education Department
Cultural Education Center, Suite 9C49
Albany New York 12230