

PLACES LOST AND FOUND: Re-imagining New York State Communities in the Post Urban Renewal Era

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ABSTRACT

New York State has a vibrant history that has influenced industrial, cultural, economic, transportation, educational and political developments of the nation. Beginning with the Iroquois Confederacy, through early European settlements, these trends continue today. As a result, the region is endowed with a rich and diverse architectural heritage that forms an outward expression of the region's origins, growth and development.

Historic preservation is a specialized field of professional practice that involves a broad range of endeavors associated with the preservation and conservation of the built environment. Even though past Places Lost and Found events have been certified for continuing education credits by AIACNY, the presentation is designed for a wider audience. Other professionals and community leaders need to be apprised of the work urban planners and architects do in the field of historic preservation and community revitalization. This format enables us to learn from one another.

Beginning with the demolition of Penn Station in New York City the evolution of historic preservation is an ongoing process that has been decades in the making. The proposed presentation begins by addressing the question of how the loss of significant historic buildings and neighborhoods came to be. It continues by presenting case studies of significant losses followed by successful historic preservation projects in New York State.

BIOGRAPHY

Robert E. Charron, AIA, is a 1970 graduate of the Syracuse University School of Architecture. He began teaching and researching architectural history and design at the SU School of Architecture in 1972. Since 1980, he has served as Assistant Professor at the Onondaga Community College Department of Architecture and Interior Design. Robert was licensed to practice architecture in New York State in 1979. He is a sole practitioner and his work focuses on historic preservation and community renewal. From 2008 to 2014 he was the architectural advisor to the Thousand Island Park Historic Preservation and Architectural Review Board. His work on the Thousand Island Park Preservation Handbook won an AIACNY Design Award in 2014. Robert is currently a Trustee of the Alexandria Township Historical Society.

Andrea Smith, AICP is the Director of Planning and Development for the City of Ogdensburg, NY. She received a dual Master's in Landscape Architecture and Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Tech in 2008 where she previously earned her Bachelor's in Landscape Architecture in 2006. In 2011, Ms. Smith relocated to her native home in Ogdensburg and has been working for the City's planning office on their Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) program. In January 2013, Ms. Smith was appointed to her current position as Director. Presently, the department administers over \$2 million in EPA brownfields grant funds, and nearly \$500,000 in

NYS DOS grants. Andrea also serves as the Administrative Director of the Ogdensburg Growth Fund Development Corporation, whose mission is to enhance the quality of life within the greater Ogdensburg area through maximizing employment opportunities, job training, business assistance, and economic revitalization efforts.