

The Upland Journal

A publication of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation ~ October 2004

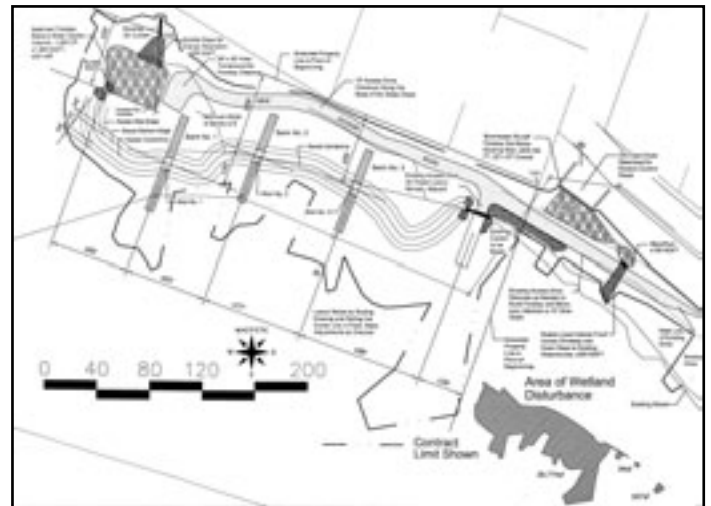
Stormwater “gardens” combine raw materials and innovative design

Much of this summer’s unprecedented amount of rain flowed off Village roofs, yards, parking lots, and streets and into storm sewers that discharge into the Willow Patch. This is exactly why we are developing a series of “Willow Filtration Gardens” there. The “gardens” will capture this stormwater runoff and filter it through willows to remove pollutants (oil, copper from brake linings, road salt, and sand) before they reach Chittenango Creek. Designs for the Willow Filtration Gardens were developed by a collaborative team of SUNY-ESF landscape architecture and forest engineering students. This involved integrating engineering parameters (area runoff volumes for different storm events, sizing of elements, reducing effects of erosion) with the other objectives for access, willow cultivation, and education.

As reported earlier, CPF was awarded funds from the Community Foundation of Central New York for this innovative approach to stormwater management. Cazenovia Restoration matched the Community Foundation grant. Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District provided support with the assessment of the existing topography. Local environmental scientists have been monitoring the quality of the water and the biological community of the wetland.

This summer their work was further developed into design details and permit reports by SUNY-ESF landscape architecture student Tobiah Horton. Don Ferlow’s experience with stormwater design and wetlands was an invaluable contribution through the whole process. Steve McLaughlin of the Village should be recognized for his outstanding contributions to the project.

The Filtration Garden at the Allen street outlet was the first part of the design to be completed. This site is very steep and, to make it more difficult, the slope is covered with slabs of concrete from an old coal chute and storage facility. The first goal was to reduce the force and velocity of the water by cutting diagonal stripes through the concrete and filling the stripes with rubble from the cut. The pieces placed on end absorb the brunt of the water’s force nearest the pipe outlet. The stripes then directed the water over to willows planted in the sections where



Site plan for the series of weir dams and pools to be planted with willow.

concrete was removed. At the bottom of the slope a detention pool allows sediment load and pollutants to settle out. The same elements of concrete rubble and willow are used there as well. McLaughlin and crews from the Village public works department have assisted in the construction.

Construction of the larger Filtration Garden at the stormwater outlet farther into the Willow Patch will have to wait until November when the ground is less saturated and the vegetation is less dense. The design of this garden is for a higher volume of water and involves a series of pools created by weir dams. The shallow pools will be planted with willow reminiscent of the pattern of willow cultivation at the turn of the 19th century. The willows will be harvested annually and used by various individuals and school groups. The dams will be built from concrete sidewalks salvaged from the replacement of sidewalks in the Village this summer.

When completed, the Willow Filtration Gardens will reveal where the stormwater from homes and streets goes and how it can be filtered by the willow. The Willow Patch will also serve to link this modern environmental function with a unique element of our cultural history.

— by Matt Potteiger

Four directors join CPF board

Four new directors joined the CPF board at its annual meeting in the spring: Barbara Clarke, Thomas R. Pratt, Charles Read, and Julia Smith-Shotzberger.

Barbara Clarke had lived in the Village of Cazenovia since 1977, until a very recent move to the Town of Nelson. She has served on the board of the Cazenovia School District, Cazenovia Lake Association, League of Women Voters, and Willow Bank Yacht Club. Mrs. Clarke is director of academic review at SUNY Empire State College in Syracuse. She also is a former editor of the *Cazenovia Republican* and director of the displaced homemaker program at Regional Learning Service. She is committed to Cazenovia and to participating in thoughtful and well-managed growth and change. Mrs. Clarke says she's "an advocate of preservation—the lake, its neighborhoods, its trails, and its historic, rural character." She and her husband, Tom, former Village mayor, have been involved in school and community activities for many years.

Thomas Pratt is president of Thomas R. Pratt Architect, PC, and managing principal of Architect Management, LLC, located in Fayetteville and specializing in design of schools and commercial facilities. Mr. Pratt lives in the Village of Cazenovia and is involved with organizations both in Cazenovia and Fayetteville. He has served on the Cazenovia Area Conservation Commission, was recently appointed to the Town of Cazenovia planning board, and is president of Cazenovia Rotary. In Fayetteville, he serves on the Village Historic Commission. "A community is in part a reflection of the residents. As an architect we study a variety of topics from building to city planning, and both become more interesting as communities exist and change

over time," Mr. Pratt says. "The Cazenovia Preservation Foundation provides a variety of opportunities to use my architectural knowledge and experiences for the benefit of the community."

Dr. Charles Read retired this summer as superintendent of Cazenovia Central Schools. Dr. Read was an active member of the Cazenovia Area Planning Project. He believes "Our community is unique, not by accident, but rather through the efforts of many who have worked hard and continue to work hard to maintain its character," adding, "With the influence of suburban development and population sprawl pressuring us from various directions, I feel a sense of duty to help preserve those qualities that make our community unique." Dr. Read and his family have lived in Cazenovia 24 years.

Julia Smith-Shotzberger moved to Cazenovia in 1996 and, she says, immediately recognized the sense of true community that is so very much a part of this town. Cazenovia is a great place to live and raise a family. "Aside from my role of Mom, I have served two terms on the Friends of the Public Library board, two as co-president, and have recently joined the board of directors for Project Café." She coordinates the 4th grade Cazenovia Lake Week program, a week-long curriculum focused on the importance of watershed management. She's been involved in developing enrichment programs that take Cazenovia Public Library Museum artifacts directly into 2nd and 7th grade classrooms. "Cazenovia and its surroundings have so much to offer, and I'm enjoying being part of an organization whose goal is to protect Cazenovia's treasures while supporting responsible growth and change," she says.



Graduate student Tobiah Horton, left, saws through the concrete of the old coal chute at Allen Street. Right-hand photo depicts concrete rubble slowing down stormwater. In the background, willow is beginning to grow in the stripes. See story Page 1

CPF properties & goals enlighten Harvard intern

I had a unique opportunity this summer to work with the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation (CPF) through an internship with Dr. Liz Moran at EcoLogic. I compiled a computer database of CPF properties and completed baseline environmental assessments. In June, after my first year at Harvard, I had only a partial image of the extent of CPF properties.

Even as a life-long, environmentally concerned resident of Cazenovia, I had limited knowledge of CPF's involvement in preservation. I mostly associated the organization with two simple duties: maintenance of the Gorge Trail, where my mother guided my younger brother and me on childhood nature walks, and as small-town super heroes, recalling members bravely halting the encroachment of neon signs and Wal-Mart in our quaint town.

With this narrow view, one can imagine my surprise when I discovered that I would spend nearly my entire summer compiling a database of CPF properties and taking inventory of its environmental resources.

In an environmental science class at school last semester, I unconsciously committed several disturbing facts to memory. Among them:

- the area covered by impervious surface (pavement) outnumbers remaining wetland area in the United States by nearly 5,500 square miles; and
- human activity has caused the extinction of 100 bird species in the past two centuries.

Gift of 149 acres a lasting legacy

The Cazenovia Preservation Foundation is pleased to announce it is the beneficiary of a bequest under the will of the late Peggy Hubbard of Deer Hill on Burlingame Road.

Mrs. Hubbard has left CPF a substantial tract — an estimated 149 acres of beautiful woodlands crisscrossed with trails — together with a broad corridor connecting the tract to Burlingame Road, thus ensuring public access. For many years the Hubbards had maintained the property in its natural state and welcomed use of the trails by members of the public.

To the end of her life, it was Mrs. Hubbard's ardent wish that this land belong to CPF and continue forever to benefit the public, in memory of and in tribute to her late husband, Jimmy, and his role in protecting and preserving the land, and in founding of CPF. "Jimmy started Preservation, you know," she remarked.

Fortunately for us all, Peggy Hubbard was able to make her, and Jimmy's, wish come true. For years to come, their generosity and public spirit will continue to enrich life in Cazenovia.

—by Jim Evans

By the end of the semester, it was no wonder I had little remaining hope for the state of the environment. However, we are fortunate that

Cazenovia seems virtually unplagued by such malicious environmental degradation. During my work with the CPF this summer, I learned its preservation efforts extend far beyond trails and signs, and I acquired a newfound hope by discovering that its easements and properties protect ravines, marshland, fields, and forests.

In partial amazement I scanned the property documents for approximately 25 CPF properties and easements, and, while compiling the documents in a database, realized the true scope of CPF protection. By completing the environmental assessments of the properties and walking through CPF's approximately 100 acres of wetlands, 150 acres of protected ravines, 60 acres of maintained recreational trails, and well over 1000 acres of preserved fields and forest, I began to recognize CPF as a main contributor to environmental protection and preservation in Cazenovia. From climbing the ravine of Sherman's Gulch to walking through the wetland of King Field, I observed Cazenovia's resources first-hand, and gained a new appreciation and pride for my hometown.

The Cazenovia Preservation Foundation is a powerful tool that allows citizens to take conservation into their own hands by collaborating with citizens to develop uses for land to ensure its continued protection. CPF properties and easements include both public and private properties, and property access ranges from easily accessible trails to restricted and limited access. Its protected resources will now be monitored every year along citizen environmental monitoring guidelines I developed this summer to ensure the preservation and protection of these valuable areas. Both the database and the environmental monitoring standards I developed warrant the future success of CPF preservation. Taking steps towards preservation and conservation today will allow us to continue to enjoy the environmental health of Cazenovia.



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Trails map FREE to new members!

The Cazenovia Trails Map features seven local trails, how to get to them and where they go. The trail system guide details nearly 10 miles of trails in a convenient pocket-sized map that unfolds to an easy-to-read 13.5 in. x 16 in.

Featured trails include:

- South Trail (2+ miles)
- Fairchild Hill Trail (1.5 miles)
- Shermans Gulch Trail (2 miles)
- Carpenters Pond/Creek trail (0.5 miles)
- Gorge Trail (2 miles)
- The North Country Trails Associations Link Trail (10+ miles through Cazenovia)
- Stone Quarry Hill Art Park Trails.

Eric Byers, trails chairman, contrasted publication of the map and the growth of the local trails system to many less-visible CPF projects. "As an organization dedicated to natural and historic preservation, many CPF projects provide relatively little in the way of tangible changes. Whether preserving open space or historic buildings, CPFs success often results in unseen changes. In contrast, CPFs trails system has grown over the years, and offers members and the community an ongoing, visible example of CPF's efforts." Byers also thanked Stearns & Wheler for its expertise in preparing the map.

The map has been distributed free to CPF members, and it is a welcome *Thank You* for new members. Extra copies are available for \$3.

This issue of *The Upland Journal* includes a lot of information about current projects and activities of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation. Many of CPF's efforts are not always apparent, but without them Cazenovia would be a different place. CPF works to preserve what is unique and important to our community. It exists with the help of the community.

We would welcome you as a new, or renewing, member of CPF!

Make your contribution payable to Cazenovia Preservation Foundation and mail to:
CPF, P.O. Box 627, Cazenovia, NY 13035-0627.

CPF Annual Memberships

Conservator membership — \$1,000+	Sponsor membership — \$50 - \$99
Benefactor membership — \$500 - \$999	Sustaining membership — \$25 - \$49
Patron membership — \$100 - \$499	Regular membership — \$10 - \$24

Name _____

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Please enclose your employer's matching gift form, if applicable.

I wish to become more involved in CPF. I have circled my area of interest.
Trails Stewardship Education Architecture Grant Writing Agricultural Easements