

Quitman Resource Center

for Preservation

Vol. 22 No. 2

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2009

2009 ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday December the 6th from 2 - 4, the QRC will be holding their annual meeting at the Quitman House. For the past three years, QRC has honored persons who have been instrumental in furthering the preservation of the Quitman House or the Palatine Farmstead. This year, Warren Temple Smith will be honored, not only for his contributions to the preservation of the Farmstead, but for his sensitive work as an architect in preserving the historic character of the Village and Town of Rhinebeck. This presentation will be at 3:00.

The house will be decorated for the holidays, refreshments will be served, and those attending will have holiday activities in which to participate.

Since honoring a person for their interest and promotion of historic preservation has become an annual tradition, the QRC has decided to establish guidelines for this award and will be expanding this recognition to those persons in our community who meet the preservation objectives of the Quitman Resource Center for Preservation.

WARREN TEMPLE SMITH

Warren has worked in architecture since building sandcastles on the beaches on Nantucket in the 1960's. He worked summers, while in high school, for a Princeton architectural office where he was introduced to historic restoration and adaptive reuse. After studies at London's Architectural Association and the Yale School of Architecture, Warren worked in NYC, where he was responsible for projects which included historic restoration, renovation, sympathetic additions, and adaptive reuse.

In 1993 Warren moved to Rhinebeck. His work continues to encompass projects that have involved research of historic properties, learning about original methods and materials used in early construction and reproducing these techniques when appropriate.

Warren served on RHS's board and as president, and is currently a director of HRH. He served on Rhinebeck's Planning Board for 13 years, and is a member of the Town's Comprehensive Plan Committee.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

There has been a flurry of activity at the Quitman House this fall with new paving installed to eliminate the constant pot holes at the drive's entrance,



trimming the old mulberry and locust trees,

Rock City Sand & Gravel crew installing the macadam.



Integral Tree makes it look easy.

replacing the gutter system at the rear of the house,



Copper gutters were used to match the roof.

and John Hatch's yearly battle with the persistent brush which grows along the north stone wall.



Clearing the brush reveals the stone wall.

Because the front porch is constantly under assault from the elements, this past spring the steps needed to be replaced for the second time since they were originally installed in the 1980's. This time weather resistant mahogany was used.

As all home owners know, houses need constant maintenance. The QRC board thanks its supporting members who help, with their donations, maintain this historic building.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Attendance was down, but those who came had a great time enjoying the views of the Hudson River, the tour of the Kip House, and the delicious and plentiful food provided by the QRC and the Museum board members. **The date for next years event will be Sunday September the 12th. Plan to join us.**



The desert spread, count the calories.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the owners of the Kip House, Andrew and Gina Packard, and the owners of the former Rhinecliff Episcopal Parsonage, Robert and Emma Tourtelor.

BOARD VACANCIES

Due to various reason both Dennis Wentworth and Joan Quaderer have had to resign from the Quitman Board. A search is on for persons who would be interested in serving in this position. The QRC has a nine member board with each member responsible for some aspect of the organization's activities.

CONSORTIUM OF RHINEBECK HISTORY

The use of the Local History room at the Starr Library has been increasing over the past months. A database of research subjects has been started by the Town Historian. Researchers are using the facility to gain information about area buildings, families and events. Many new items have been added to the bookshelves, microfilm, and CD collections and are now listed in the library's card catalog. New surname file folders are also available. The History room is open 10 - 3 on Tuesdays and Thursdays for research.

A Rhinebeck Historical Society committee continues work to inventory over 1000 maps in the Teal surveyor's collection. This effort adds valuable information about our local properties.

The Egbert Benson Historical Society reports that 50 images, taken form glass plate negatives made in the twentieth century have been placed in the Consortium collection on the www.hrvh.org website.

Looking ahead to 2010, the Museum of Rhinebeck History is coordinating with St. Paul's Wurtemberg Church to prepare an exhibit for its 250 anniversary. The Town Historian is planning an exhibit at the Town Hall to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the emigration of German Palatine families to the Hudson Valley and to Rhinebeck. Items relating to the first owners of the Palatine Farmstead, Frans Neher, will be included in this display.

Hudson River Heritage, the newest member of the Consortium, has begun work coordinating a calendar of events for Rhinebeck's historical organizations.

The use of the Consortium's website www.rhinebeckhistory.org continues to bring inquires directly to member organizations. It is gratifying to know that the varied collections of Rhinebeck Historical materials are being put to good use.

"The Mission of the Quitman Resource Center for Preservation, Inc. is to advocate, support and educate for the preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of Rhinebeck's historic resources protecting the community's tangible connection with the past."