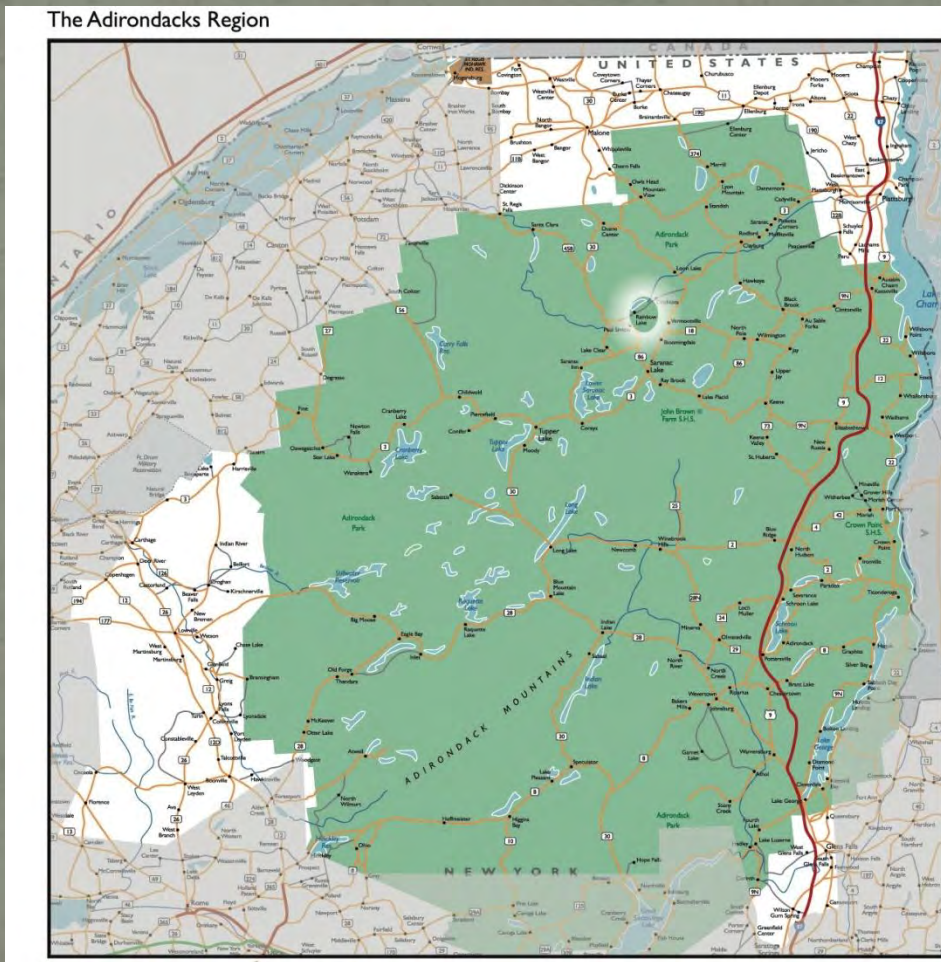


Great Camp Sagamore and the Conservation of Adirondack Cultural and Natural Heritage

May, 2016

The Adirondacks



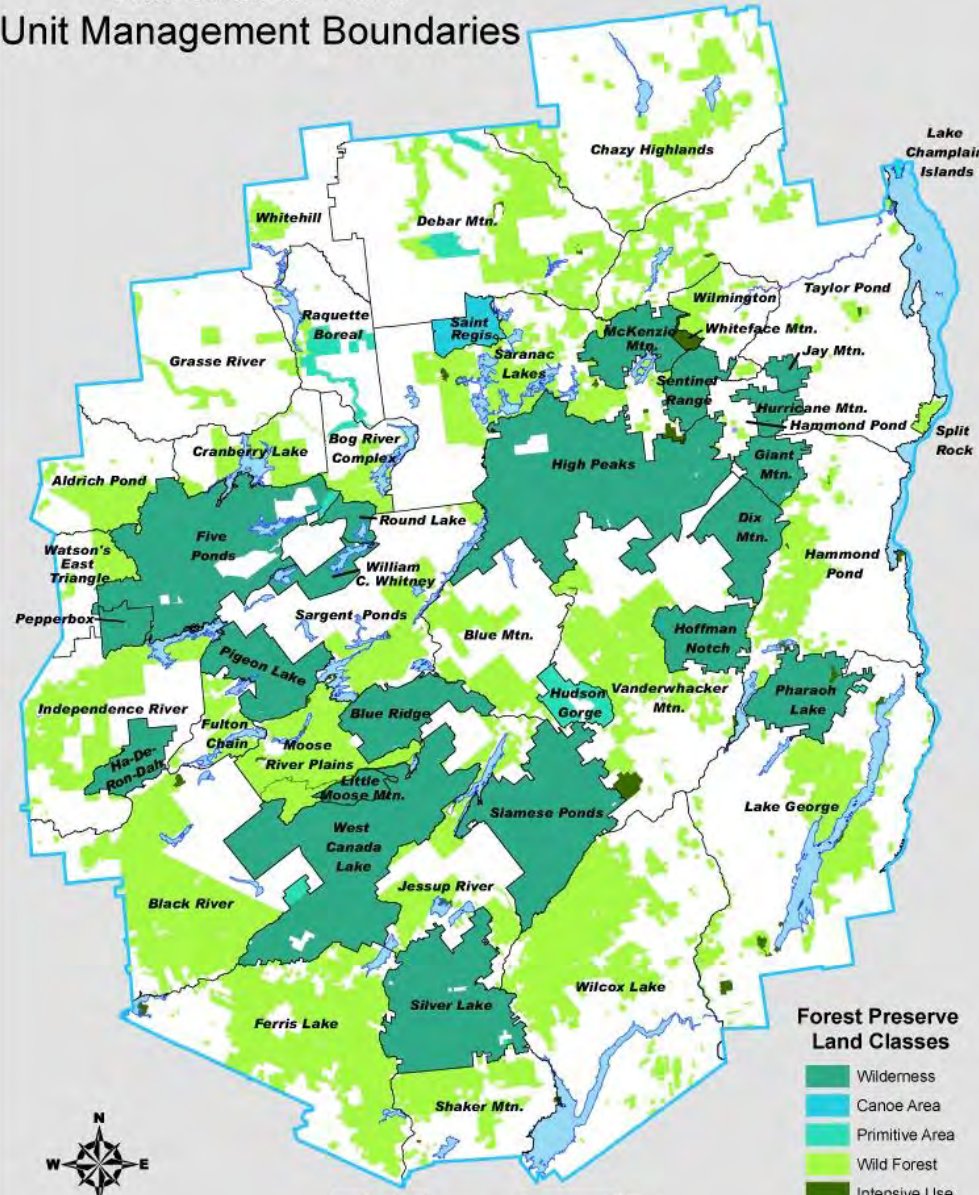
The Adirondacks

- × Six Million Acres, largest park in the Continental US
- × Unique mixture of public and private lands
- × Larger than many of the surrounding states
- × One of the least densely populated part of the United States:
 - × New York County, 69,500 people per square mile
 - × Hamilton County, 2.85 people per square mile

Adirondacks

- × Broad Cultural Regions
 - × Mimic old means of transportation
 - × Reflect different patterns of economy, culture and history
- × Impact on Cultural Organizations
 - × Strong regional and local identities in competition
 - × Visitation habits of visitors firmly engrained
 - × Working with other organizations vital for success

Adirondack Park Unit Management Boundaries



Forest Preserve Land Classes

- Wilderness
- Canoe Area
- Primitive Area
- Wild Forest
- Intensive Use
- Unclassified

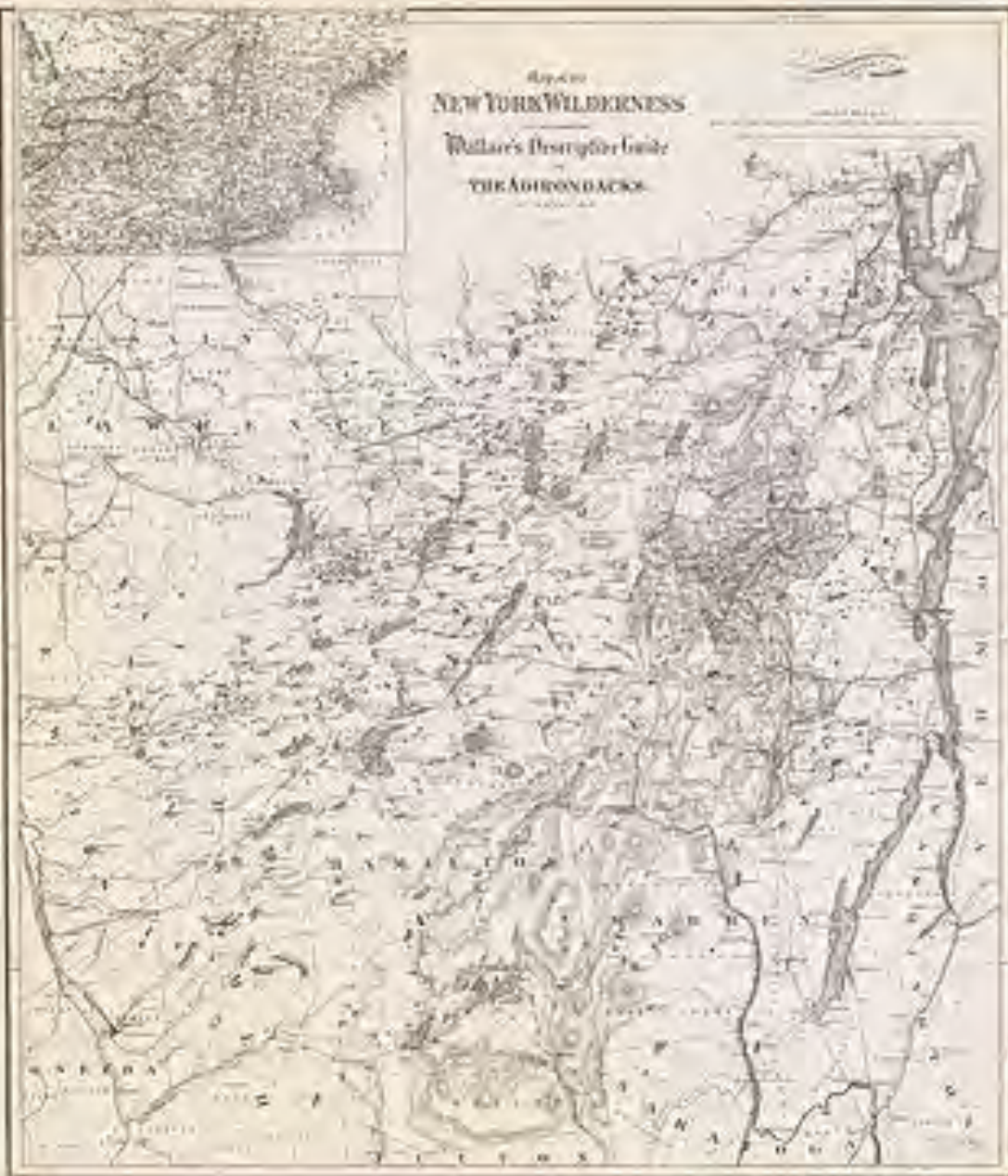


4/2011

Adirondacks as a park

- ✗ Different management Areas have varying regulations
- ✗ Strong conservation ethic controls use of park land and impacts site usage
- ✗ State agencies responsible for managing this area have been hit hard by budget cutbacks in recent years
- ✗ New initiatives offer promise for growth in recreational use of the park

Map of
NEW YORK WILDERNESS
Wallace's Descriptive Guide
of
THE ADIRONDACKS



STATE OF NEW YORK.
ADIRONDACK SURVEY.
VERPLANCK COLVIN,
Superintendent.

Seventh Report

Plate No 27.

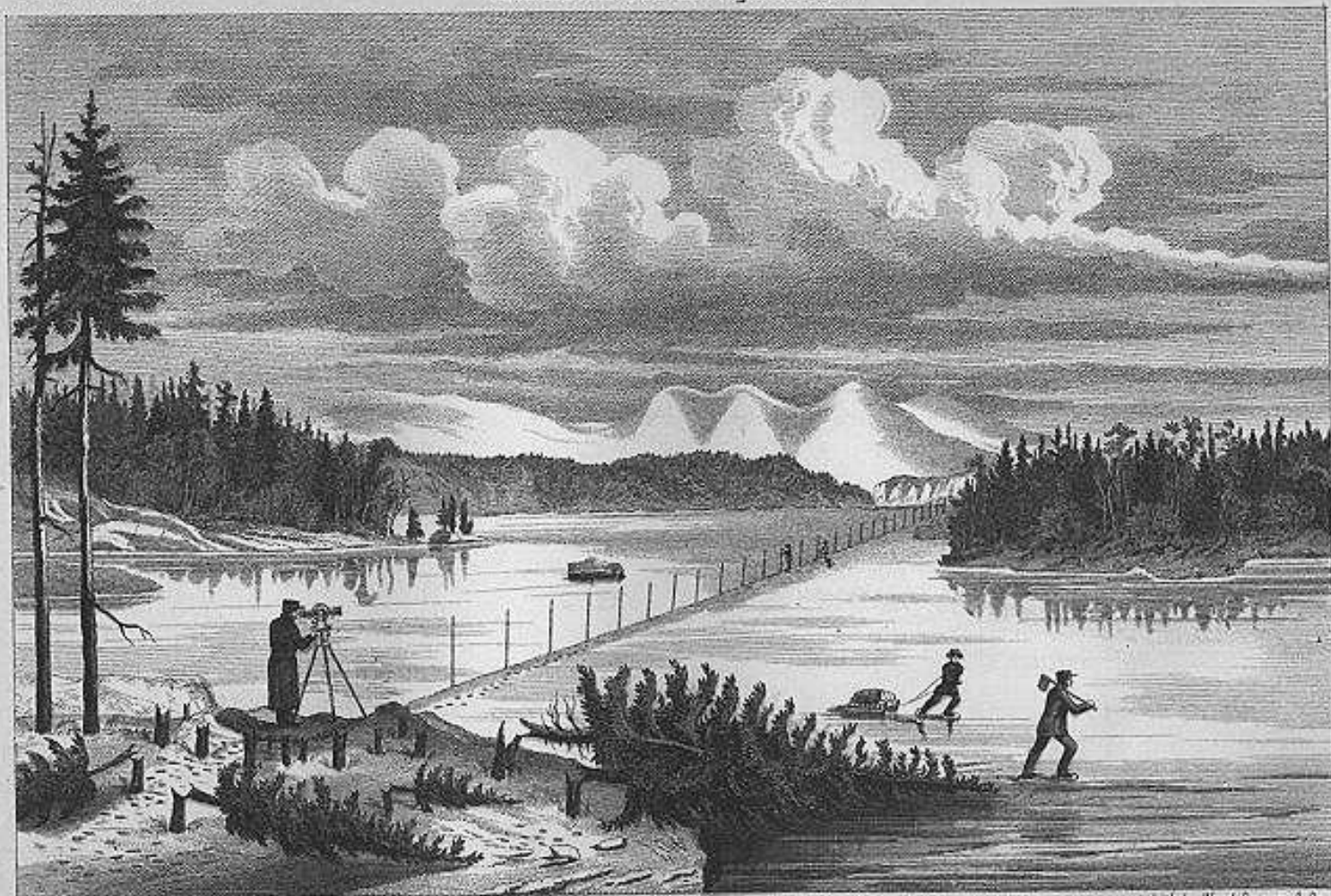


Drawn by Verplanck Colvin

Lith. by Wood, Parsons & Co.

DIVISION OF LEVELS.
Measurement of Whiteface Mountain,
with Spirit-Level and graduated Rod





Drawn by Verplanck Colvin.

Lith. by Wood, Parsons & Co

TERTIARY TRIANGULATION.
Sub-Base-Line.
Measured on the Ice of Raguette Lake Feb 1877.









AMERICAN HUNTING SCENES.

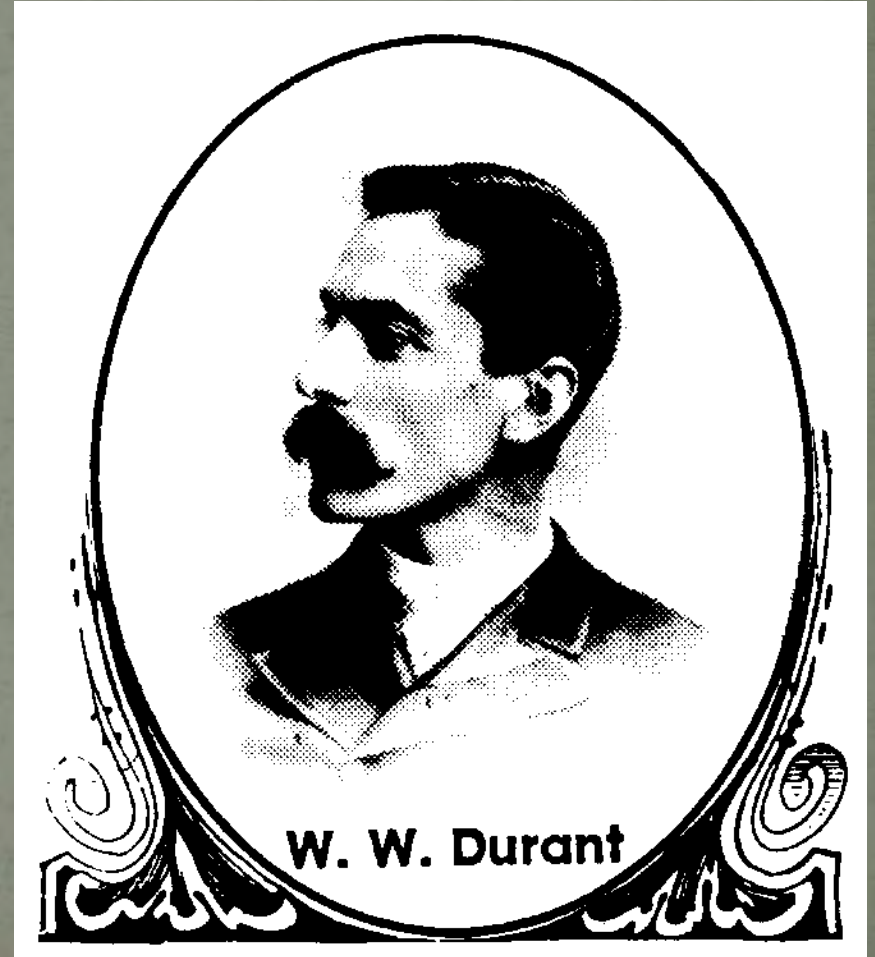
"A Good Chance"

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, ASTOR LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

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JOHN W. CLAYTON & CO.,
NEW YORK.

1875

William West Durant's Vision



Durant's Sagamore Lodge, 1897-1901



Durant/Stoddard Marketing

SACAMORE PARK
in the
ADIRONDACKS.



SUMMER HOME OF

·WILLIAM·WEST·DURANT·

·FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY S·R·STODDARD

Durant/Stoddard Marketing



Durant/Stoddard Marketing





Sagamore Lodge, Vanderbilt Years 1901-1915









Margaret Emerson Vanderbilt Takes Charge 1915-1953







Sagamore Worker's Complex



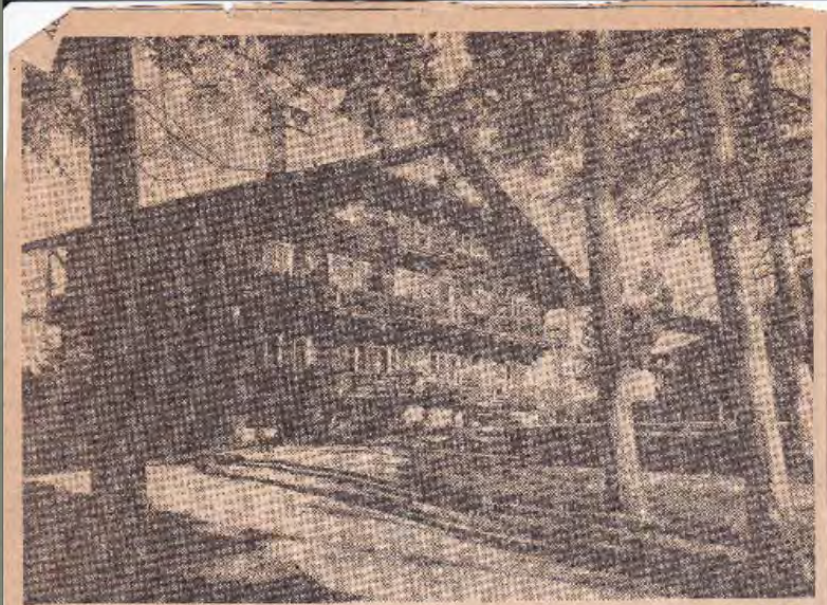




Sagamore, Syracuse University Years 1953-1973



1974 Syracuse University Divests



The Adirondack Museum

A photo taken of Sagamore in 1899 by S. R. Stoddard. The camp is on Sagamore Lake, just south of Raquette Lake.

State Buys Vanderbilts' Adirondack Camp

By HAROLD FABER
New York State has just purchased Sagamore, the 1,500-acre Adirondack Mountain Camp, Inc. was used by the Vanderbilts in the early 1900s to add to the "forever wild" section of the Adirondack Forest Preserve.

But the acquisition has revealed a major problem that is causing grave environmental difficulties, state officials say. Plans intended in historic preservation—how to protect the ecological of the 19th-century building—those are the foremost considerations of Adirondack state architecture, a combination of simple log construction

with crasse Swiss chalet decorations.

Through an array of proceedings, the buildings would have to be torn down if they were to land purchased by the state, according to the prevailing interpretation by state officials of Article 14 of the State Constitution, which mandates keeping the Adirondack area "forever wild."

No one seriously believes that the buildings of Sagamore will actually be torn down immediately, but the State Parks fund to maintain them, and thus they become a danger potentially should they be in the future.

As a result, the buildings and the six acres surrounding them were kept out of the sale, but an ad hoc committee of private citizens and organizations has been set up in an attempt to buy and preserve the buildings as an example of the typical rural great camps of the fabulous 19th century.

Under such names as Uncle Sam, King and Queen Hill, and Sagamore, the camps recall a bygone era when the Morgans, Huntlings and Vanderbilts and their guests traveled to their private retreats from New York City to their summer vacation estates in the mountains.

For them, the word camp was used in the same way that their friends called their palatial second homes in Newport, "cottages." It was their way of getting close to nature without any discomfort, with the shores laced with by large numbers of servants, sometimes as many as 40 in one household.

In recent years, Sagamore, which is in the central Adirondacks on Sagamore Lake, just south of Raquette Lake, has been owned by and used as a residence by Syracuse University Dr. Clifford L. Wahlen Jr., vice chancellor

Continued on Page 46, Column 2

AUCTION	
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE	<small>SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY AT RISE IN THE COMMUNITY</small>
OCTOBER 3	10A.M.
<p>Several hundred items of furniture, pictures and rugs -- some of the furnishings of the Sagamore conference center near Raquette Lake in the Adirondacks -- will be sold by Syracuse University at public auction at Sagamore Oct. 3 beginning at 10 a. m. Those interested may preview the items and walk around the estate Saturday, Oct. 3, from 1 to 4 p. m. or from 9 to 10 a. m. Oct. 3. There will be no preview prior to Oct. 2.</p> <p>Sagamore, the summer home of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt and his family for more than half a century, was used by SU for conferences and meetings until it sold the property last year. Many of the items to be auctioned are typical of the rustic furniture built by local craftsmen to furnish the gracious Adirondack camps of the wealthy.</p> <p>Thomas J. Lipe, director of real estate, said SU will also auction at Sagamore the contents of another property donated to the University by Julia French Worrell. The Worrell estate items include a wide variety of furniture, books, paintings, as well as many fine examples of early American craftsmanship -- old pewter pieces, a blanket chest, a tiger maple chest, a Shaker rocker and a blue and white coverlet made in Benton, N. Y.</p> <p>Knapp Brothers Auctioneers of Denmark, N. Y., will be the auctioneers. Shirley Hubbard of Syracuse is the sales manager and has also been a consultant to SU on the sale.</p>	
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE	<small>SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY AT RISE IN THE COMMUNITY</small>

Creating Sagamore Institute of the Adirondacks



1975 – 1986 Saving Sagamore

- ✗ 1975, Syracuse sells all but 7.75 acres of 1500 acre property to New York State to the Preservation League of NY State.
- ✗ 1977, Volunteer work weekends begin
- ✗ 1983, “Sagamore Amendment” to the New York State Constitution passed by overwhelming margin
- ✗ 1986, Property transfers complete, Great Camp Sagamore becomes an 18 acre, 28 building educational institution
- ✗ 1995, Initial phases of restoration work completed





Sagamore Institute of the Adirondacks

Preservation Model: To use Sagamore as a living educational organization to convene groups of people in a beautiful place in the wilderness

- Brings in about 12,000 people annually for overnight and day programs
- funds most of its \$1M budget by program income
- is not a “velvet ropes” museum
- has built a loyal audience of people who come back year after year
- builds a culture of preservation and care.

Sagamore Today



Sagamore Institute of the Adirondacks

- × Challenges of Sagamore's Model:
 - × Uses the Space (12,000 times 40 years = 480k points of contact)
 - × Tension between authenticity and use grow with each decade
 - × Model creates its own culture of use of the property (at forty years closing in on the Vanderbilt's 50 years)
 - × Artifacts continue to find their way to a “non-collecting” institution

Sagamore Volunteers



Sagamore Volunteers

- ✗ Program is as old as the institution, started by Barbara Glaser and Howie Kirschenbaum
- ✗ Volunteers now account for several thousand hours of labor each year
- ✗ Many volunteers bring friends and family. Some have been contributing over three generations

Results of Sagamore Volunteer Program

- ✗ Managed between 11,000 and 22,000 hours of volunteer labor
- ✗ Brought in about \$100,000 worth of direct corporate support
- ✗ Encouraged the volunteers to donate an additional \$32,000 in contributions



The Future of Sagamore

