



The Lorenzo

Spring/Summer 2015
Vol. 17, No. 1

NEWSLETTER

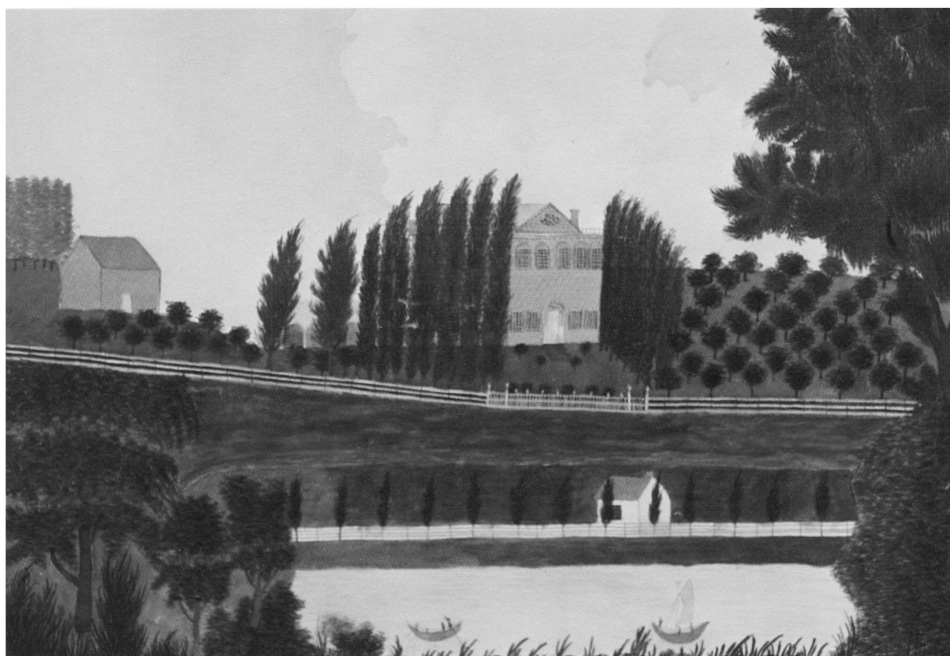
From the Director

Celebrating Four Decades of Support by the Friends

by Barbara G. Bartlett

This year, the Friends of Lorenzo mark their fortieth anniversary of advocacy and fundraising on behalf of Lorenzo State Historic Site. The original certificate of incorporation for the Friends was granted by the State University of New York in October 1975, and the founding trustees of the organization were Mrs. Thomas T. Dolan; the Honorable Stewart F. Hancock Jr.; Mrs. Robert Horstmyer; Ann Preston Koeze; Charles Mack; Mrs. Walter G. Oakman; Robert Riester; Jayne Ritz; and Mrs. William Steffan.

Over the past four decades, the Friends of Lorenzo have distinguished themselves as being among New York State's leading affiliate historic-site organizations, dedicating their all-volunteer ef-



The earliest-known illustration of Lorenzo, *A View of Colonel Lincolns [Lincklaen's] Seat*, by Caroline Betts, was purchased by the Friends in 1982.

forts to the ongoing preservation of Lorenzo. Acquired by New York State in 1968, Lorenzo is one of thirty-five statewide historic facilities operated by the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. Through membership support and a variety of fundraising activi-

ties, the Friends have played an instrumental role in making many restoration, educational, interpretive, and programming initiatives possible for the site.

Setting the stage for the next

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DON'T MISS OUT!
Symphoria Summer Concert
Returns to Lorenzo

Friday, July 10, 2015

See insert for more details.

FRIENDS OF LORENZO NEWSLETTER

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**For site information,
please call:**
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In closing out 2014, the Friends board celebrated wrapping up their activities at their final board meeting of the year. First row, from left to right: Kate Schwartz; Barbara Bartlett, Lorenzo director; Suzanne Munger; Jane Mistur; Susan Hodge; Casey Frazee; and Jessica Johnson. Back row, from left to right: Ben Reilley; Kelly McGreevy; Renee Joseph; Tara Hash; Sean Hagan; Pat Hill; Ainslie Ellis; and Lydia Brownback. Photo courtesy Scott Phillips.

From the President Thank You!

by Jane Mistur

There is no denying that it has been a long winter in Central New York. As I sit typing this column, my Weatherbug icon is once again flashing, warning me of windchill values yet again approaching negative 30 degrees. But that being said, I can't tell you how excited I am for my term as president of the Friends of Lorenzo.

The Friends, incorporated forty years ago, help to serve and support Lorenzo State Historic Site, which is owned and operated by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. In recent years, the Friends have played a much more integral part in helping to support programs and restoration projects that New York State can't afford. Through all of your support, we have been able to continue operating and serving not only the Cazenovia community but also the greater Syracuse area and beyond.

It is a difficult time for historic house museums. Funding is being cut, and people do not visit as they once did. There are people who actually think there are too many historic

house museums and want some to close. A good read can be found in the *Boston Globe* on this very subject, in an August 10, 2014, column by Ruth Graham.

Historic museums that are making it work have strong Friends programs and have thought of new ideas to attract the community. The founders of our Friends had that vision and fortitude to help grow Lorenzo to the popular destination that it now is. Since 2002, an average of 46,000 people visit Lorenzo each year. Community programs play a large part in attracting people to the grounds. With your annual support, we host the Garden Gala each spring and honor our gardeners and the Cazenovia and Syracuse garden clubs. Your support also provides for the May preservation series; the Rippleton Schoolhouse Summer Camp and fall Community Day; the Moonlight Medley concert and movie night each August; the holiday Preview Party each December; and various other programs throughout the year. Each year Lorenzo also hosts the EuroCar and Garden Art Show; the CAVAC Arts

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and Crafts Show; Symphoria; the Lorenzo Driving Competition; and the L.L. Bean winter snowshoe program. This is all in addition to underwriting the maintenance of the Eleanor Shipman formal garden,

providing support for a part-time groundskeeping position for the 87-acre campus, and funding K-12 educational programming.

I profoundly thank all of you who have become supporters of the Friends of Lorenzo and would like to extend an invitation to

those of you who may not have visited in a while to stop by. Take a tour through the mansion, stroll through the gardens, or participate in one of the many events listed in the enclosed event brochure. We welcome you!

News from the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation

\$900 Million Revitalization Plan Announced for 180 Parks and Thirty-Five State Historic Sites

Editorial Note: The following is excerpted from a March 2, 2015, press release from the press office of Governor Andrew Cuomo. Lorenzo is one of the agency's thirty-five state historic sites. For more information, visit www.nysparks.com or call (518) 237-8643.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today unveiled a seven-point framework of the *NY Parks 2020* Plan that will leverage approximately \$900 million in public and private funding to modernize the state park system. *NY Parks 2020* was previewed in the governor's Opportunity Agenda. The plan is part of a multi-year commitment since 2011 to restore facilities, enhance visitor experience, update signage, and create better access for tourists at parks across the state. The 2015–2016 Executive Budget adds \$110 million toward this initiative.

“New York State is home to some of the best outdoor recreation areas in the nation, and this investment will help maintain them in peak condition and enhance the experience for all of our park’s visitors,” Governor Cuomo said. “The *NY Parks 2020* plan is building on our State’s recent success in developing our parks and historic sites into local economic engines, and it will position New

York State as a top recreation destination for years to come.”

NEW YORK HISTORIC PRES- ERVATION PLAN 2015–2020

Rose Harvey, state historic preservation officer and commissioner of New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, recently unveiled the agency’s five-year preservation plan.

As pointed out by Commissioner Harvey, “its goals and objectives offer strategies for strengthening preservation efforts across the state, it promotes the expansion of preservation activities at the local level among municipal officials and private enterprise, and it strives to instill *pride of place* among all New Yorkers. It is a plan for all of us, no matter where we live or work or what our backgrounds or interests are. The plan also provides an overview of New York’s historic and cultural resources and includes an impressive range of projects and properties that not only relate to the goals and objectives, but will

also, we hope, inspire you to forge a personal connection with your community.” Highlights of the plan include:

- Strengthening the practice of preservation.
- Enhancing collaboration to advance preservation.
- Training New Yorkers in preservation trades, skills, and crafts.
- Showcasing preservation contributions.
- Integrating preservation into local and regional decision making.
- Building support for preservation among officials and developers.
- Expanding and diversifying participation in preservation.
- Engaging New Yorkers in historic sites and museums.
- Capitalizing on heritage tourism.

For a copy of the plan and for more information about how the plan’s preservation goals and objectives may impact our locale, please visit www.nysparks.com or call (518) 237-8643.

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"Celebrating Four Decades..."*

forty years of support, one of the very first fundraising efforts sponsored by the Friends was "A Red Carpet Event," in April 1976. A theatrical performance and dinner were presented, and funds were raised to purchase a reproduction carpet for the family dining room by the venerable New York decorating firm Scalamandré. Plaster repairs, painting, and new draperies for the space were also made possible by the Friends. Dozens of successive mansion restoration projects sponsored by the Friends over the decades have included underwriting custom reproduction textiles, wallpapers, carpets, and object acquisition and conservation efforts. Highlights include acquisition of the first-known depiction of Lorenzo, a watercolor by Caroline Betts (c. 1822); construction of a pole barn to house a large portion of the site's carriage collection; contracting for technical design services for the challenging reproduction of the drawing room carpet; and sponsoring the frame conservation of Sanford Gifford's *La Marina Grande* so that this stellar collection piece could be loaned for a Gifford retrospective exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

The historic landscape of Lorenzo has also benefitted markedly from the fundraising efforts of the Friends. Of particular note are the reestablishment and ongoing maintenance of the Ellen Shipman formal garden since 1983, the un-

derwriting of the *Lorenzo Cultural Landscape Report* by SUNY ESF, and providing seasonal grounds-keeping services to help maintain the estate characteristics of the site.

The lives of tens of thousands of visitors and Central New York residents have also been enriched by the vast array of special events held on the grounds of Lorenzo. The Lorenzo Driving Competition was first introduced to the site thirty-nine years ago with sponsorship by the Friends. *Christmas at Lorenzo* was also established by the Friends soon after its incorporation and continues to delight visitors annually due to significant underwriting from the Friends. Thousands of patrons have also enjoyed free symphonic, operatic, and jazz concerts on the front lawn of the mansion over the decades, and the presentation of classic movies and community concerts have also been introduced over the last decade by the Friends.

The cultural landscape at Lorenzo is now punctuated by the addition of Rippleton Schoolhouse, with the relocation having been undertaken by the Friends in 1997. Supplemental capital dollars were also raised by the Friends at that time, making the restoration of this local educational landmark a reality. Thousands of local students have eagerly attended the annual immersion programs now offered at Rippleton, and each fall, the Friends sponsor the admission-free Community Day at the schoolhouse for the enjoyment of country lessons, wagon rides, autumnal crafts, and apple-inspired treats. Over the last eleven years, the Friends have also sponsored summer day-camp at Rippleton, making an authentic

educational experience available for enthusiastic students.

Promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of the cultural assets at Lorenzo has also been an important aim of the Friends over the decades. In addition to publishing a twenty-eight-page, four-color guidebook for the site, other interpretive initiatives have included support toward educational staffing; contracting for living history programming; celebrating Preservation Month each May; helping to underwrite the fifteen-minute orientation video *Lorenzo: A Landscape Legacy for All*; purchasing exhibit fixtures, faux flowers, and foods for display; sponsorship of exhibits, including *Pastimes & Pleasures: A Glimpse into the Art of Leisure at Lorenzo* and *From Bustle to Bodice: Layers of Elegance at Lorenzo*; and providing support for special presentations, educational supplies, and travel for the Docent Corps.

In reviewing the pages of the Friends publication of the mid-1970s, "The Speculator," to perusing subsequent decades of newsletters, the passion and commitment of the Friends to Cazenovia's most recognized landmark is quite clear. In supporting the administration of the site by New York State, the Friends have not only helped to preserve the site but have ensured that Lorenzo will continue to be pertinent, accessible, and meaningful for generations to come.

It is with much gratitude that I express my sincerest congratulations to the Friends of Lorenzo for all they have accomplished on behalf of the site, the staff, and the greater Cazenovia community since 1975.

The Meadows

by Carolyn S. Holmes

On one particular visit to the Meadows in 1987 my husband, David, and I were going to a cocktail party hosted by Anna Oakman to honor Arthur de Cazenove and Wilame-na de Cazenove van Essen, whose daughter Arabelle was doing an internship that summer at Magnavox CATV in Manlius, where my husband worked, which is how we came to be invited to the cocktail party. We are friends with Arabelle to this day, and both Anna Oakman and our family enjoyed having her stay with us that summer.

The party was a festive event at a lovely and distinctive home. I hadn't thought about what a magical place it was—and is—until I came once again to the Meadows this past fall to take photos for this article. The current owners graciously allowed me to do this on a day when they were not at home, and this time I immediately felt the magic of the place in its sunny silence. I pulled in behind the house and began by taking pictures of the garden, still in full bloom on this warm day in early September. It reminded me of Lorenzo's garden, yet the fish fountain that sits in what once was a pond



The Meadows today

"I remember hearing 'our' bells as our sleigh approached to take us home and having to scurry into coats and overshoes so as not to keep the horses and coachman waiting on a frosty night. All recognized the sound of everyone's bells, some deep, some high, all distinctive. Otherwise they were silent as camels, their hoof beats muffled by the snow. They were lovely days!"

—Anna Burr Hubbard Oakman to Ann and Rush Marshall, January 3, 1991

impressed me with its whimsically distinctive feel. The owners carefully made this change so that the pond can be restored in the future.

As I walked around to the front, taking photos of the house, I turned to look out at the front meadow from which the house takes its name. Stretching out before me was a large, quiet, self-contained world

with green lawns and trees. I began to imagine how wonderful it would be to grow up here and remembered Anna Oakman's siblings—her twin sister, Helen; older brother, Richard; and younger brother, Robert James, who were children here just one hundred years ago. Now, in 2015, it is once again a house filled with children.

My most recent visit to the house occurred on a cold February day, and I noted the stark beauty of the snowy, windswept grounds. The house has been restored to an appealing blend of comfortable yet traditionally respectful furnishings with a large, modern kitchen—so helpful when raising children. Its architecture and gardens resemble Lorenzo, yet the Meadows is a



The Hubbard children. Courtesy Cazenovia Public Library archives.

home rather than a museum. The owners graciously answered my questions, and what remains with me now is how much they love and appreciate the gardens and grounds of the property, just as Anna Oakman and her forebears did.

A 1987 article in *Better Homes and Gardens* by Ulysses G. Dietz tells of how Anna Oakman accepted her role of steward when her twin sister, who had remained with their parents until their deaths, died in 1957. "Today when somebody dies, the house is broken up," she said. "There is no continuity." Dietz writes, "Her two brothers balked at moving to the Meadows, believing that their wives wouldn't feel free to change things." Anna Oakman told her brothers that she was going to change the house, but since she had grown up there, they knew she would keep it the

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same. And they were right, Dietz notes; things have changed, but the atmosphere remains.

The atmosphere does remain intact, from a Dwight Williams painting that sits on the living room wall, which was found by the current owners in a closet, to the tree peonies, which my hostess loves and described to me as “peachy beige.” The *Better Homes and Gardens* article mentions “Marchioness” peonies and describes them as “a soft yellow suffused with pink.” Percy Saunders of Clinton developed the flowers, a process continued by his daughter Silvia after his death. At the time of my visit, one of the tree peonies had recently died, but my hostess was excited when she was able to replace it with one from Watson Greenhouses. Another striking feature, which unfortunately did not survive, was the “barn red” Chinese footbridge that spanned the creek. Many long-time Cazenovians fondly remember the bridge.

A meaningful link to the past of the Meadows lies in a letter written in 1892 to Wilhelm Frederick Grunert, great-grandfather of the current owner, asking him to come to Cazenovia to work as a gardener on this estate. Grunert came to Cazenovia and lived for a long time in a house near Carpenter’s Pond.

Paul and Maria Badami initially restored the house after Anna Oakman died in 1993. It was the first time since 1827 that ownership of the Meadows—and, more importantly, stewardship—fell outside the founding family. Fortunately, all four owners since then have continued to be excellent stewards of this unique property.



The Meadows today

So why is this particular home, delightful as it is for those who live there, important to the current community of Cazenovia? To answer, we must return to Jonathan Denise Ledyard, brother-in-law of Cazenovia founder John Lincklaen, who oversaw the building of the original estate. Dietz quotes Anna Oakman as saying, “My family has always had a dual interest—the village and the farms.” Dietz goes on to note that Anna Oakman was a “major figure for many years in local preservation efforts.” She also served on the Cazenovia Library board of trustees for a long time—appropriate, as her grandfather donated the building to the village.

A similar legacy was left by her great-grandfather. His long obituary in the *Cazenovia Republican* on January 22, 1874, states that he became the agent of the land company after John Lincklaen’s death in 1822. The obituary notes that with “great energy, untiring industry and strict probity, he succeeded in meeting his obligations to the company.” What emerges a bit further on is that he was an exceptional individual: “He was regarded

by the people upon his tract, more as their friend and adviser, than as their creditor, and there were few, who did not look forward to a business visit to him, with the pleasurable anticipation with which one expects to meet a valued friend.”

Toward the end of the obituary appears a Latin quote: *Si monumentum quaeris, circumspice*, which means, “If you’re looking for a monument, it’s all around you.” The obituary clarifies: “He was ever foremost in the support of every project calculated to promote the prosperity, or to enhance the beauty of our place.”

He and all his relatives down through Anna Oakman helped to make Cazenovia a uniquely special and surprisingly cosmopolitan community—the horses were “silent as camels.” These people of privilege loved Cazenovia but also traveled and moved in the larger world, bringing their books, artifacts, and experiences to us. This is why we should be pleased that the Meadows is still a lovely and magical home in our town and unlike any other in Upstate New York.

Cazenovia Is a Place of Traditions

Driving Competition Returns Third Weekend in July

In July 2015, the Lorenzo Driving Competition once again brings together two of the most prized in Cazenovia: the community's rich equestrian heritage and summers celebrated with grace, charm, and style.

The setting, as it has been for thirty-nine years, is the jewel-box grounds of the Lorenzo State Historic Site, the manicured lawn and lush gardens the perfect foil to the elegant horses and smartly attired drivers. The transformation happens in mere days: tents sprout; white stakes and looping lengths of chain mark the bounds of two show rings; ribbons get sorted, trophies polished, and bunting secured.

Then a stabling area assembles, the trailers roll in, the gentle snort of horses and squeak of carriage wheels fill the air, and the mansion's rolling front lawn becomes the venue for one of the premier pleasure-driving competitions in the Northeast. Held this year from July 17–19, this is a weekend like no other in the Cazenovia calendar, a chance to be transported to a time when "road trip" meant four legs and a whip instead of four wheels and a gas pedal.

Last year—after a 2013 show that inexplicably coincided with Cazenovia's first-ever monsoon season—the show went off without, ahem, a hitch. Lorenzo does sport and pleasure like no other event, and "Hats Off to Lorenzo," the opening gala, set the tone for the weekend, with music by the Cazenovia Community Band, a best-in-chapeau contest



Scenes from the 2014 Lorenzo Driving Competition, courtesy Shoot That Horse! Photography.

won by an English bowler (actually made by William and Thomas Bowler), and a ball-fringe confection nicknamed "The Lampshade."

While the show committee can't promise another weekend of flawless blue skies and temperatures in the just-right Goldilocks zone, it can guarantee days filled with equine pursuits, evenings dedicated to equine pursuits, and a venue that is unique, spectacular, and historic—all combined into one. Following are five can't-miss, take-it-to-the-bank good times to anticipate now and savor this summer.

1) Some of the top pleasure-driving teams in the Northeast will be at Lorenzo, showing off the unique combination of skill, attire, and showmanship that defines the sport. Competition will take place in two rings set against the backdrop of the mansion. Watch and appreciate as drivers maneuver through an obstacle course in one and then display their skill at reinsmanship in the second. The signature Pleasure Drive, held Sunday morning, takes horse and carriage through



five miles of some of the most scenic off-road trails in Central New York. Spectators can watch the teams from the Lorenzo grounds or points along the route, including the water crossing near Burlingame Road. There is no charge for parking or to watch the competition.

2) The Driving Competition \$5 refillable beer and wine glasses re-

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main the best value in (horse) show business. Look for their return Friday and Saturday night along with a catered meal on the lawn under the big top. Watching the sun set on Cazenovia Lake while channeling the ghosts of Lincklaens and Rockefeller? Priceless.

3) Family-friendly activities, educational clinics, demonstrations,

and a marketplace brimming with artwork, horse wares, and equestrian style make it a weekend for everyone. Don't miss the chance to stroll Lorenzo's magnificent garden, or wander the Dark Aisle, a double hedge of pine, hemlock, and spruce. A full schedule of events is available on the LDC website, www.lorenzodriving.com.

4) The Carriage Dog Class: Dogs in hats. Need we say anything

more? Okay, maybe we need to say awwwww.

5) The click of hooves. The clatter of wheels. The rustle of skirts. Being part of something that began when the Olympics came to Montreal, *Frampton Comes Alive!* topped the charts, and a gallon of regular gas cost 59 cents.

Docent Corps

The Year Ahead in Food

by Barbara Bartlett

As with most cultural and arts organizations, service to their constituencies is heavily dependent upon volunteer commitment, and Lorenzo is no different. Here at the site, the Docent Corps makes it possible to support ongoing interpretation, education, and special-event programs for the benefit of the public. In fact, during the calendar year 2014, the contribution of the Docent Corps to Lorenzo accounted for an impressive portion of the 8,220 hours of volunteer dedication to the site.

In support of their efforts, and with funding from the Friends of Lorenzo, the Corps holds monthly meetings each year during which they invite guest lecturers and Lorenzo staff members to discuss and interpret the various cultural features of the site. Topics range from architectural history and restoration, to collections management and connoisseurship, to social customs and folkways. This year's selected themes, in concert with the upcoming two-year exhibit,



At the March meeting, docents were treated to an open hearth cooking presentation by Lynne Belluscio of LeRoy Historical Society.

Dinner Is Served! Exploring the Culinary Arts at Lorenzo, are traditional foodways and dining etiquette of the nineteenth century. And of special interest, an April afternoon tea was presented, and a "delectable" culinary field trip is planned for the fall.

To the extent of their availability, new members and volunteer participants are always welcome to join the Corps. For more information about the service and activities of the Corps, please contact Susan Anthony, chairman, at (315) 655-8766; or Jackie Roshia, curatorial associate, at (315) 655-3200.



Docent Sally Ryan planned and coordinated the April Afternoon Tea for the Corps.

A Scandalous Affair

by Sharon Cooney, archivist

After the marriage of Charles S. and Helen Lincklaen Fairchild in 1871, Lorenzo was their summer home, but Mr. Fairchild's career led the couple to take up residence in larger cities as well. In the 1872, while serving as New York State deputy attorney general and later as state attorney general, the Fairchilds resided in an apartment in Albany. In the 1880s, Washington, DC, was home base while Charles served as assistant secretary of the treasury and later secretary of the treasury during Grover Cleveland's first term as president of the United States. After leaving political office in 1889, the Fairchilds lived in New York City, where Charles served as president of the New York Security and Trust Company until 1904. He was also a trustee of the Union Trust Company, president of the Harvard Club of New York, and president and trustee of the Birkbeck Investment Savings and Loan Company. Additionally, he actively opposed the women's suffrage movement.

Among the several different places in New York City the Fairchilds called home was the Grosvenor Hotel, located at 35 Fifth Avenue on the corner of Tenth Street. The Grosvenor opened in 1876 and was known as one of the first residential hotels in the city, catering to a rich, well-known, and respected clientele. But the hotel was not without scandal, and in 1910 the Fairchild's maid Josephine Hayes witnessed an unacceptable impropriety. The shaded column contains her account, written on June 1, 1911:

On the eighth of December, 1910 I went to the Grosvenor Hotel and was shown to room No. 42 on the sixth floor. I was there about a week when I learned that Mr. Applegate had the room next to mine.

I think it was early in January one Sunday evening I heard Mr. Applegate come to his room about twelve o'clock and soon afterward I heard voices in his room and one was a woman's voice. They sounded as if they were quarreling. About two o'clock they stopped talking and the door was closed. Catherine Carroll afterward told me that Nurse Healy said she was in Mr. Applegate's room that night.

One night in the week beginning May 7, 1911, I went to the bathroom for a glass of water about two o'clock in the morning and I saw Miss McMahon's parlor door wide open. On returning to my room I met Nurse Healy in the hall dressed in a kimono. I went to my door and stood. Mr. Applegate's door was open. It was closed when I passed it a few minutes before on my way to the bathroom. Mr. Applegate came to his door in his night shirt with bare feet. I turned up the electric light and said I am the wrong one. He said Oh, Josephine and leaned heavily against the side of his door. I said she came out of your room, she is your mistress and he begged me not to tell it as he could not afford to get another room now, and she also had to earn her living. I said you know these are not the right conditions to exist in a respectable house and my conscience would not let me keep quiet. He said think of her. It would ruin her if I told it and I asked him if he would marry her if I did not tell it and he said no. I said I shall tell the proper authorities. He said if you tell anyone, everyone will know it. I said you know this is not the first time that she has been in your room at night. He said well she has only been in here three times. He asked me to wait and not tell anyone for a time and he or she would probably leave the hotel. As he didn't let me know any decision that they had come to as he said he would I told Mr. and Mrs. Sears just what had happened. Later I told Mr. Sears, also Mr. Applegate, that as Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild were not at the hotel, I would tell all their friends in the hotel if something wasn't done about it.

Nurse Healy came to my room that evening and said that I was not her Judge, that she went to Mr. Applegate's room on the impulse of the moment, that she wanted to say something to him. I said it was a queer time of night to go to a gentleman's room and as I had heard him come from her rooms at eleven o'clock that evening, she could have said anything that was necessary to him then.

Mr. Sears came to Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild's apartment. He said Mr. Applegate had assured him that there was nothing wrong and that he would never have a woman in his room again. That he could not let Mr. Applegate go as it would take a new man a year to learn and all the work would fall on himself.

Josephine Hayes
Cazenovia, NY

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Charles Fairchild enclosed this account with a note to Mr. J. Sears, manager of the Grosvenor, writing, "I hope that you can see your way to get another assistant who will be unobjectionable. If not, I cannot return to my apartment. . . . I was very comfortable there but it would not be right to take my wife to live in a place where such things were done by the officials and not properly dealt with by the responsible authorities."

Three weeks later, Mr. A. M. Applegate wrote a note to Charles advising him that in order to avoid

further trouble, he would resign his position at the Grosvenor, all the while professing his innocence. And the manager, Mr. Sears, wrote that he had thoroughly investigated the matter with Mr. Applegate and Miss Healy and had "reached the conclusion that it was mostly the maid's imagination and that there was nothing in it except some indiscretion and absolutely no wrong doing." However, Mr. Sears said that he would hire a new man to replace Mr. Applegate.

The Fairchilds returned to reside at the Grosvenor Hotel, and the matter was considered closed.



The Grosvenor Hotel, 35 Fifth Avenue, New York City, on the corner of 10th Street, seen here in 1910, was built in 1876. A 1908 hotel advertisement described it as catering exclusively to patronage of the highest class, affording a permanent residence for select families. It was replaced in 1926 with a new fifteen-story Grosvenor hotel apartment.

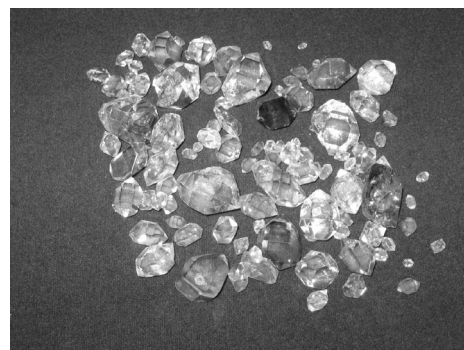
Tour Treasures

All That Glitters: Herkimer Diamonds

by Elizabeth Whiting, historical interpreter

They say that "diamonds are a girl's best friend," but I don't think they meant Herkimer diamonds, which are the double-terminated quartz crystals found in Herkimer County, New York. These crystals have the typical hexagonal habit of quartz; however, the double rather than the typical single termination results from the crystals growing in a liquid environment with very little or no contact with the surrounding dolomite bedrock, which deposited about 500 million years ago in the Cambrian Age. Being the hardest of all the quartz and doubly terminated make the crystals very rare and extremely popular with mineral collectors. The crystals are found also in Arizona, Afghanistan, Norway, Ukraine, and China.

Mohawk Indians and early settlers discovered the shiny crystals in the stream sediment and plowed fields. The Mohawk Indians, native to the area, became known among the Iroquois nations as "The People of the Crystals." The crystals, which could be quarried in a few local mines, abound on the Mohawk village sites. The crystals were symbolically and spiritually important to them as amulets of power, protection, success, health, and long life. Up until the early 1600s, the Mohawks were the main suppliers of these crystals. Settlers in the early 1700s believed the crystals to be diamonds. While Herkimer diamonds are sought after by mineral collectors for their rarity, others seek them for their holistic qualities. Some believe that the crystals can stimulate clairvoyance, spiritual vision, and telepathy and that they energize, enliven, and promote creativity. Others believe that the quartz has healing properties



and can relieve insomnia and detoxify the body.

We do not know which family member at Lorenzo purchased or mined the 111 diamonds we have in our collection. Herkimer diamonds may not be actual diamonds, but they are beautiful, clear, rare quartz crystals. If they happen to cure our physical woes and help us see into the great beyond, that's an added bonus. As the song says, a kiss on the hand may be quite continental, but diamonds are a girl's best friend.

Curatorial Corner

An Elegant Affair: The Nineteenth- Century Dinner Party

by Jackie Roshia, curatorial associate

In 1807 a formal dinner at Lorenzo was likely served *à la française*, with the dishes for each course placed on the table for guests to serve themselves. This service style was a throwback to the Medieval period, when European royalty and nobility ate at large tables with guests from all walks of life. At that time, what you ate denoted your social station; the choicer foods were placed in front of the most important diners. By the early nineteenth century, service *à la française* had evolved to three courses: soups, meats, and desserts. The courses were elaborately presented and laid out on the table in a specific pattern. The more guests there were at the dinner, the more dishes were presented with each course. If you wanted to try a dish set farther down the table, it would be passed to you and then returned to its original placement. This led to some awkward moments for polite diners—nineteenth-century etiquette allowed

you to ask for a dish to be passed but also dictated that you not make a nuisance of yourself. By the mid-nineteenth century, American dinner parties, following the European trend, were being served *à la russe*. A servant would discreetly appear next to each guest and serve him or her individually. Less food was served with each course, but formal dinner parties at this time consisted of at least ten courses and lasted about four hours. The meal typically began with soup or raw oysters and relish dishes and proceeded through meat, poultry, and fish—each served with a vegetable and often a starch—ending with salad, cheese, and sweets. On July 10, 1856, a local diarist described a dinner she had attended

at Lorenzo as including several kinds of wine, pea soup, boiled ham, veal, roast beef, corn, peas, and potatoes. She noted that the salad was prepared with oil and mustard, and the dessert that followed included a “charming pudding” and ice cream.

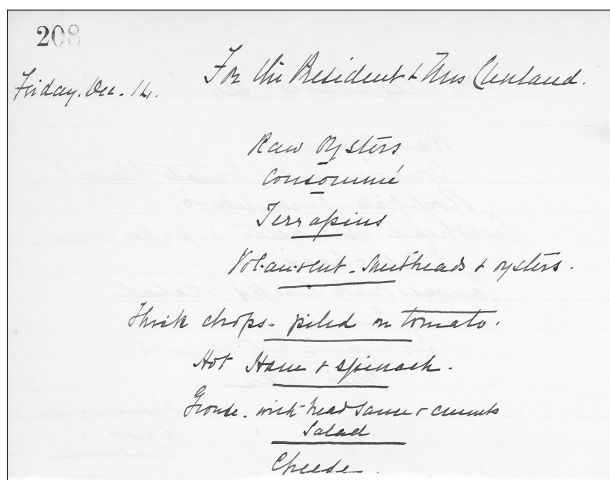
Toward the end of the nineteenth century, Lorenzo’s third own-



Lorenzo’s formal dining room table set for service *à la russe* with early nineteenth-century Chinese export soup plates and c. 1850 French porcelain dishes.



The formal dining room at Lorenzo c. 1906.



Helen Fairchild’s handwritten menu for a dinner she served to “the President and Mrs. Cleveland.”

ers, Helen Lincklaen Fairchild and her husband, Charles, often entertained in grand style. Helen Fairchild surely invested hours planning a formal dinner party. The guest list and the menu had to be carefully considered, as did the service and the seating arrangement, orchestrated to create a perfect flow of conversation.

By 1887 Charles Fairchild was secretary of the treasury in President Grover Cleveland’s adminis-

tration. Lorenzo’s third own-

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tration. In July of that year the *Cazenovia Republican* reported that during the president's visit to Cazenovia, he enjoyed both lunch and dinner at Lorenzo. What was served on that July evening is unknown. But at another dinner party given "For the President and Mrs. Cleveland" in her Washington, DC, resi-

dence, Helen served a menu that included raw oysters, consommé, terrapins, vol-au-vent (puff pastry filled with meat or seafood in a savory sauce), "thick chops piled on tomatoes," hot ham and spinach, salad, and cheese (refer to the illustration).

At Lorenzo a formal dinner party likely ended with coffee or tea being served in the drawing room.

By the late nineteenth century the popular hot beverage to serve at the end of such an event was café noir, a very strong coffee served in the French manner, with lots of sugar but usually no milk, in demitasse cups. Café noir was thought to "promote digestion and a lively flow of spirits."

Syracuse Garden Club

Celebrating Four Decades at Lorenzo

by Cyndi Tolosa, Cooperstown Graduate Program intern

Between 1854 and 1860 Ledyard Lincklaen planted the grove of trees known today as the Dark Aisle. Located to the south and west of the formal garden, the Dark Aisle is comprised of a double hedge of coniferous trees that was intended to separate the garden plot from the surrounding farmland. As the trees grew, Lincklaen cleared out the underbrush and established paths for shady summer strolls.

When the State of New York acquired the Lorenzo property, the undergrowth in the aisle had choked out native wildflower colonies that had once beautified the area. In preparation for the nation's bicentennial, a group of women from the Syracuse Garden Club met with site staff and established a plan to restore the area to its former glory. Led by Faith Knapp, the project chairman, the Lorenzo Bicentennial Special Project Committee was formed and included Dorothy Ashley, Ruth Balderston, Harriet Davis, and Katharine Hansen.

The women initially raised \$1,500

to conserve the trees of the Dark Aisle, identify and cultivate native plant material, and prepare educational materials. Extensive research was undertaken to identify remaining wildflowers and others that could be reintroduced to the garden. The project committee then compiled this research in a brochure entitled *Wildflowers of the Dark Aisle*, which gave details on the thirty wildflower species newly thriving as a result of the project. As a result, the Syracuse Garden Club received two commendations from the Garden Club of America: in 1987 the club committee was recognized for creating the brochure, and in 1996 they were awarded the Zone III Historic Preservation Award for their work at both Lorenzo and the Erie Canal Museum.

Today, Syracuse Garden Club members continue to volunteer annually at Lorenzo, maintaining the paths and plants in the Dark Aisle. Once spring begins in Cazenovia, the volunteers come on a weekly basis to clean up debris from the snowy winter months. After the seasonal cleanup is finished and the paths have been reestablished, the volunteers work tirelessly to keep the area in its best condition, free of weeds and full of wildflowers for the enjoyment of the thousands of



Venerated Syracuse Garden Club members, the late Sally Thompson (left) and the late Faith Knapp (right), review club plantings and markings in the Dark Aisle in the mid-1990s.

visitors to the site each season. The club has also provided support for tree maintenance over the decades.

The work in the Dark Aisle is coled by Carol Porter and Onetia Pierson, who volunteer because of their love of the garden's wildflowers. Graham Egerton, former Friends of Lorenzo trustee and a dedicated Dark Aisle volunteer over the last decade, maintains the trilliums, for which he has a particular fondness, and other vulnerable wildflowers and works to protect them from deer.

The Syracuse Garden Club is always happy to welcome more volunteers to their efforts at Lorenzo. To help advance this project by volunteering or by giving flowers or donations, please contact Carol Porter at (315) 637-3792 or at cwporter007@yahoo.com; or Onetia Pierson at (315) 682-6164 or at neets@twcnvrr.com for more information.

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The Garden Gala:

A Time-Honored Celebration

Marked by torrential downpours and unusually chilly temperatures, Friday, June 13, 2014, appeared to be an unfortunate day for an elegant garden party. Yet the weather failed to dampen the spirits of those brave souls in attendance at the annual Garden Gala, hosted by the Friends of Lorenzo (FOL). More than 150 supporters gathered to salute thirty-nine years of FOL dedication to the restoration and care of the magnificent Ellen Shipman-designed formal garden.

Enticed by the instrumental music provided by Cazenovia High School's string quintet, guests hurriedly made their way to the festivities. Wellies and slickers, donned by several fashion-forward individuals, proved enviable as guests carefully navigated the soggy lawn. Attendees sought refuge within the elegantly

ornamented main tent, leaving the waterlogged lawn and its exposed garden seating vacant. Happily, the beautifully manicured formal garden remained visible through the sheets of rain, lending to the aesthetics of a Monet canvas. Inside, guests were treated to a delicious array of hors d'oeuvres and wine. A raffle was held to benefit the maintenance and restoration of the formal gardens. Ellie Byrne, the envy of all in attendance, was the winner of the coveted prize, a fabulous dinner for eight in the gardens at Lorenzo, catered by Suzanne & Company.

In the end, the inclement weather and close quarters proved fortuitous, contributing to an exceptionally intimate and enjoyable evening filled with great conversation and camaraderie.

This year's Garden Gala will take place on June 18th at 6:00 p.m. With the peonies and lupine in full

bloom, we will gather in celebration of summer's return as we pay tribute to the splendor of Lorenzo's Ellen Shipman Garden. As in years past, guests will enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and engaging conversation. The Cazenovia High School string quintet, under the direction of Mary Coburn, will grace the evening with their immense talent and poise. Don't miss out on the chance to buy the winning Friends raffle ticket! The lucky winner will host an evening of culinary magic—an elegant and intimate dinner for eight in the gardens of Lorenzo State Historic Site, catered by Suzanne Phillips Munger of Suzanne & Company. Tickets will be available for \$10 each from FOL Board members.

Be sure to mark your calendar for June 18th, 6:00–8:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you at this time-honored celebration!



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