The Adirondacks  Forever Wild

Peter Henderson

Session 3
The Great Adirondack Camps

“The Gilded Age”
Great camp built by Brazil ambassador to the United States in early 1900’s
Keene Valley
Camp Pine Knot - William West Durant. Begun in 1877, it was the first of the "Adirondack Great Camps" Huntington Memorial Camp.
ADK great camp style include log and native stonework construction, decorative rustic items of branches and twigs, and layout as a compound of separated structures.

Pine Knot today, owned by SUNY Cortland and is only open to the public on July 30th during Durant Days.
What is the best known great camp in ADKs?

Great Camp Sagamore on Sagamore Lake
Murder of Grace Brown in 1906. Inspired the fictional character Roberta Alden in Theodore Dreiser's novel *An American Tragedy*

Berkeley Lodge, President Benjamin Harrison’s Adirondack Residence
Video clip on great camps from PBS special “The Adirondacks”
Youtube Video historical clip on White Pine Camp
Outdoor Activities

• Walking, **Hiking**, Camping, Fishing & Water falls
• Winter: skiing; **sledding**; ice skating, fishing & climbing
• Biking: road, off road & **railroad**
• Golf
• Birding, wildlife refuge & **interpretive centers**
• Photography: all seasons, fall leaf peeking
• History & site seeing: **Ausable Chasm**
• Water
  – Swimming, **cliff jumping & rope swings**
  – Paddling: Kayaking & Canoeing, **rafting** & tubing
  – Boating: Power & Sail, lake cruises
  – Snorkel & skin diving, ship wrecks Lake Champlain
Interpretive Centers

Center for Nature Interpretive Center - Newcomb

Visitor Interpretive Center – Paul Smiths College
Interpretive Centers
Youtube Video clip on Rafting the Hudson River
WPTZ TV station video story on railroad biking (available on Youtube??)
Cliff Jumping
Personal Super 8 video clip (1966) of kids at Sugar Island, on Raquette river, dam jumping into water
Adirondack rope swing
Personal Super 8 video clip (1976) of kids using rope swing on Raquette river
Ausable Chasm (Keeseville)

‘Grand Canyon of the Adirondacks’

Ausable River

Hiking, Rock climbing, Rafting, Tubing, Rappelling
Lake Placid Toboggan Chute onto Mirror Lake
Lake Placid Toboggan Chute
For Information Call 523-2591
Hiking in ADK region

• Over 2,000 miles of hiking trails
• All levels: easy, moderate, strenuous, challenging
• Various distances
  – water falls ½ mile
  – 122-mile long Northville-Lake Placid Trail (7-10 days)
• Hiking Trail & Camping register
• No permits required for hiking/camping in ADK forest
  – No camping above tree line, and designated locations
  – Lean-tos are first come basis
  – Groups limited to 15
  – Snowshoes in winter
  – Leave no trace
Trail & Camping Register
NORTHVILLE PLACID TRAIL
BLUE MT. LK./LONG LK. SECTION
ONEIL LEAN-TO 3.3
TIRREL POND LEAN-TO 4.3
LONG LAKE 17.7
ADK promotional Video clip of ‘preppy’ couple hiking
Carins are used as hiking trail markers in many parts of the world.
• There are 46 high peaks above ~4,000 feet in the ADK park

• Hiking Challenges: The Adirondack 46ers
Trailer from the movie “The 46ers”
Pete Fish – ADK head ranger for 30 Years. Climbed Mt Marcy almost 800 times. On his days off he often hiked in kilts and played the bag pipes. A pair of his hiking books are enshrined at the Adirondack History Museum.
Did you recognize my friend Skip? Did your recognize his voice?

Tim Singer, Sportscaster – Winter Olympics - mainly luge, skeleton and bob sled
Another bear story

The Legend of Yellow-Yellow: New York's Most Infamous Bear

Bears in the Adirondacks Defeat BearVault Food-Protection Container
Four minute Youtube Video clip hiking Mount Marcy
National Geodetic Survey Marker
Indian Falls – Rest stop on the main hiking route to Mt. Marcy. You still have 2.5 miles to the top. This route from the ADK lodge is 14 miles round trip, vs 19.5 miles from Tahawus (T. Roosevelt)
Ticonderoga native Grace Leach Hudowalski, the *first woman* to climb all 46 High Peaks in 1937.
Hurricane Mountain – Keene (not a 46)

6.5 miles round trip
2,000 feet of vertical up/down
Hurricane Mt

360 degree Views
East – Lake Champlain & Vermont
West – High Peaks

Most recent renovated fire tower
The Central Champlain Valley features a scenic landscape of farms, forests, fields, wetlands, and historic landmarks nestled in the Adirondack foothills with beautiful views of Lakes Champlain, the Adirondack High Peaks, and the Green Mountains of Vermont.

Champlain Area Trails (CATS) creates trails that link communities, connect people to nature, and promote economic vitality. Please enjoy the trails and our wonderful landscapes and support local businesses.

CATS invites you to get out on the trails and share the vision of New York's Champlain Valley where productive forests and farms surround vibrant hamlets and people hike, snowshoe, and ski on a network of public trails.

You will go through woods and meadows with easy to moderate hills and great views. Bring family and friends together for pleasant walks. And for them nothing beats quiet, enjoy peaceful moments on our trails.

CATS saves land by working with partners through our Champlain Valley Conservation Partnership Program to protect natural habitats, farms, clean water, and scenic views that people enjoy on the trails.

Champlain Area Trails are available year-round for everyone. You can bike, ski, and snowshoe the trails or hike on county roads - then visit the valley's hamlets for food, drinks, lodging,
Qualified Charitable Contribution (QCD)

- If you are 70½ or older, and have a traditional IRA

- **A QCD May reduce your taxable income**

- A QCD can be used to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA.

- I have a one page handout with details if you are interested.
We did not cover sports:
Winter Olympics
Lake Placid Ironman