

Excerpt from Cultural Resources Mitigation Plan

2.3.1 Town of Windsor

A meeting at Windsor Town Hall on August 9, 2019 with Town of Windsor Supervisor Carolyn Price and Town Code Enforcement and Zoning Office David Brown resulted in the identification of four potential cultural resources mitigation projects for the Town of Windsor.

- The S/NRHP-listed Windsor Town Hall at 124 Main Street houses a second floor History Room that is open to the public two days per week and by appointment since 2010. The Town Hall was constructed circa 1904 as a two-and-a-half story brick structure that housed not only Town Offices but also a theater, jail and bowling alley (see Inset 1). The Town of Windsor History Room has no central heating nor air conditioning which means temperatures are not controlled for the benefit of sensitive historic collections. Installing a single zone heat pump system for the History Room would prevent degradation and prolong the life of the Town Historian's artifacts associated with the establishment of the town including historic books, maps, and photographs (see Insets 2-3). It would also provide year-round comfort to those who use the repository, including the three volunteers from the Historic Windsor Advisory Committee who work there to assist researchers that come to learn about town history and genealogy. Associated work would include improvements close gaps between the wall and original tin ceiling.
- The Town of Windsor is interested in mitigation funds to install two new historic roadside markers:
 - The first marker would honor the American painter and author George Catlin (b.1796-d.1872), who specialized in portraits of Native Americans in the old west. His work appears in the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. The marker would be placed in, at the location of Catlin's childhood home.
 - The second marker would honor the Town of Windsor as the buggy whip manufacturing capital of New York State at the turn of the century, with three factories operating in the late 1890s. It would be located near a former manufacturing factory in town.

The town prefers to install the markers along public rights-of-way. If applicable, the town will work with private landowners. The text for both markers will be determined by the Town Historian, and produced by Catskill Castings of Bloomville, NY.

- In addition, the town would like to replace a missing marker that was previously located at the circa 1888 S/NRHP-listed Ouaquaga Lenticular Truss Bridge (02NR04990; see Inset 5). The bridge spans the Susquehanna River at Dutchtown Road, connecting the Towns of Windsor and Colesville. It was built by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company as a double-span metal bridge with 10 truss panels and ornamental metal cresting over the south portal. The town is particularly proud of its significance, educating the public about it through a historic roadside marker, an informational kiosk and its website:

When this 341-foot long bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003, it was the only multiple span, through lenticular truss bridge in New York still used by vehicular traffic.

Approximately one mile down river was the site of Onaquaga, which was the largest Indian town on the Susquehanna when the American Revolution began. It became a cluster of Oneida and Tuscarora village communities with refugees from many other tribes until its destruction during our Revolution in 1778.

Just south of the bridge, General James Clinton bivouacked with his force August 14-17th, 1779, for three

days while en route to participate in General Sullivan's campaign against the Iroquois. General Clinton had formed up his brigade at the headwater of the Susquehanna River, where Cooperstown now stands, and moved his force on and along the river to join up with General Sullivan (Town of Windsor, 2019).

The town would like to replace the bridge's stolen bronze commemorative plaque with an identical copy, bolted firmly in place to prevent against future vandalism.

- The historic Ostrander and Edwards Cemeteries are both maintained by the Town of Windsor, and both contain a mature deciduous trees whose heavy limbs are falling. These unexpected collapses often damage gravesites and are dangerous for visitors (see Inset 6). The town is in need of professional assistance to remove at-risk back tree branches so that additional gravestone damage can be minimized. The town intends to reuse the oak branches to create a piece of furniture for the History Room.