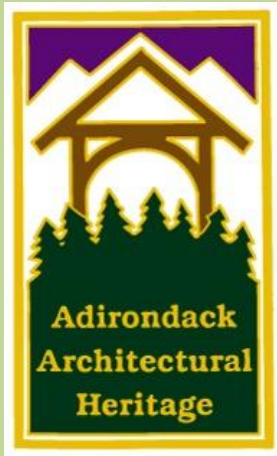




Adirondack Architectural Heritage nominates **Howie Kirschenbaum** for a Preservation League of New York State *Excellence in Historic Preservation Award* for his substantial contributions over more than thirty-five years to historic preservation in the Adirondack region. Through his leadership, personal initiatives, partnerships with others, and broad educational work, many nationally important historic buildings in the region have been saved and, perhaps more importantly, public awareness about the importance of the region's architecture and its preservation has been significantly elevated.



## Founder and Leader of AARCH

Howie was a founding board member, first president, and early guiding light of Adirondack Architectural Heritage. He helped create the organization's mission and focus, grew its membership and financial health, brought together a talented board of directors, established its effective program of public education, advocacy, partnerships, and technical assistance, and provided the leadership around important issues like the preservation of Camp Santanoni, fire towers, Debar Pond Lodge, and Eagle Island. As AARCH grew, he also cultivated and supported its staff, led strategic planning efforts, and gracefully allowed others to assume some of his roles and responsibilities in the organization so that it could grow and thrive beyond the work of its founder. By AARCH's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010, it had a diverse and far-ranging public education program, managed Camp Santanoni, a state-owned historic site, was an effective advocate for endangered historic properties, had relationships and partnerships with dozens of local communities, had a physical presence in a restored mill complex in Keeseville, and had become what one well-known historic preservationist called "the best in the business."







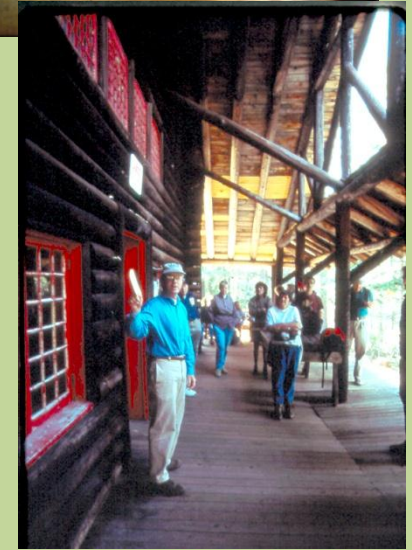
**Camp Sagamore**, the William West Durant designed, Alfred Vanderbilt family camp near Raquette Lake, was purchased by the Sagamore Institute at a time when the future of such large camps was very much in doubt. Howie and his colleagues demonstrated that Great Camps should be highly valued and could be restored and put back into a variety of private, nonprofit, and public uses. Their work at Sagamore slowly restored all of the site's remaining buildings and landscapes and made the camp a center of innovative education and recreation.





At Sagamore, the League played a huge role in, first, preventing the sale of the entire property to New York State and, second, to leading, with the Sagamore Institute, the successful constitutional amendment effort to acquire the caretaking complex back from the state. Howie's involvement here took place between 1976 and 1989.





As board president of Adirondack Architectural Heritage, Howie led the effort to raise awareness about the importance of **Camp Santanoni** and its deplorable condition under state ownership; helped put together a vocal constituency to advocate for its preservation; and crafted a legal mechanism for doing so. He also led regular tours at the camp, started a summer internship program there, led volunteer work projects, and was the author of *Santanoni: From Japanese Temple to Life at an Adirondack Great Camp*.

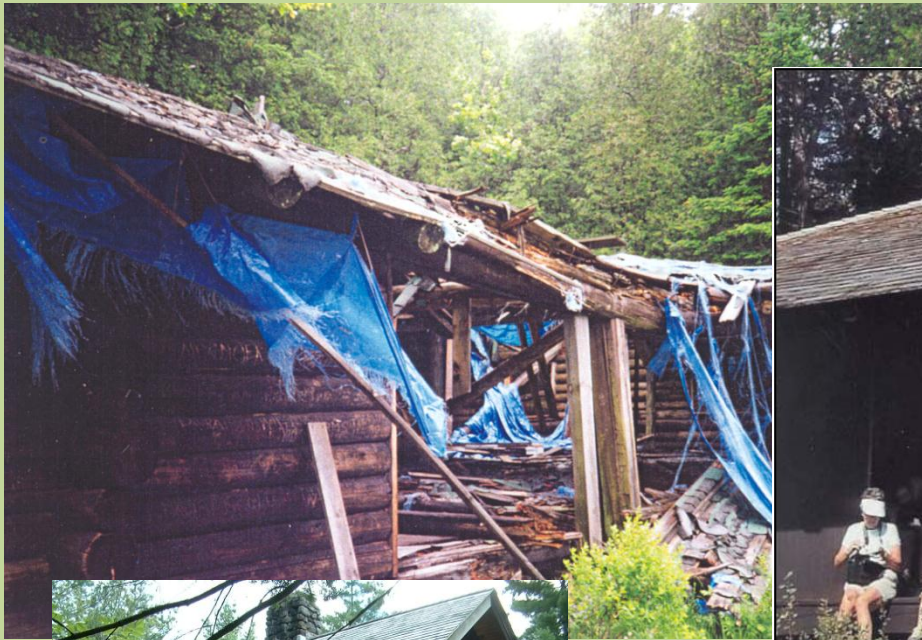




Much of this initial work culminated in 2000 when Santanoni was designated as a National Historic Landmark and as an historic area within the Adirondack State Master Plan. These images show Howie addressing people at the NHL dedication, signing books with Paul Malo, and a group (including League President Scott Heyll, with the NHL plaque.







The Preservation League's role at Santanoni has been substantial and long-lived and included being a critical advocacy ally and, through the Preserve New York Program, funder of conservation studies and Historic Structures Reports for the Main Camp, farm complex, and Gate Lodge complex. The latter set the stage for subsequent work there (\$1.7 million over 12 years).





At Camp Uncas, Howie and his partners took another neglected Great Camp, designed by William West Durant and owned by J.P. Morgan, and slowly went about preserving dozens of buildings there and developing an innovative multiple ownership arrangement that also ensured the preservation of the camp in perpetuity.

**1976 - Present**





At Uncas, Howie has done a great deal of the conservation and restoration work himself and has been very generous in opening up the camp to visitors.







At the time Howie and his partners purchased White Pine Camp in 1993, it had been abused and neglected for decades. Their work slowly restored all of the site's remaining buildings and landscapes and put the camp back into public use. This is the Owner's Cabin, post restoration. White Pine Camp was the Summer White House of President Calvin Coolidge in 1926. **1993 – Present.**





The service wing received equally excellent attention.





The boathouse, bridge across the lagoon, and Japanese bridge (all shown here) and the tea house, bowling alley, and dozens of other cabins and buildings were restored and put back into use.





Howie's work to stabilize, then resell, Warren Point Lodge on Tupper Lake (left), made its eventual restoration possible. He also restored the home shown below in Saranac Lake.



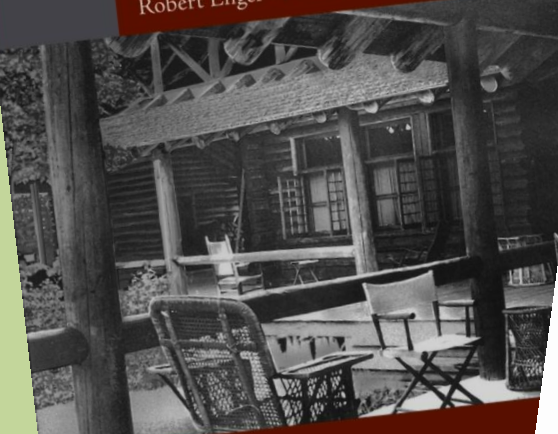


A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

# Santanoni

From Japanese Temple  
to Life at an Adirondack Great Camp

Robert Engel Howard Kirschenbaum Paul Malo



An Adirondack Architectural Heritage

Howie is also the author of *Santanoni: from Japanese Temple to Life at an Adirondack Great Camp*, *The Story of Sagamore*, and a series of articles on historic preservation for Adirondack Life magazine. He also lectures widely on regional architecture and historic preservation and appears in video documentaries.

