

Remember to check your stovepipes and chimneys for creosote buildup during these cold winter months.—What's happening in Hannawa Falls? Read Betty Newton's "Personal Touch" in the Courier and Freeman.

## Historic Preservation Efforts And Historic Market Street At Museum

Historic Preservation will be the theme of the next "Sunday afternoon in the Museums" program sponsored by the Potsdam Museum and the St. Lawrence County Historical Association. It will be held at the Potsdam Museum on Feb. 10 at 3 p.m.

The program will feature two films provided by the Preservation League of New York State. "Built to Last: Reusing old Buildings" is a slide-tape program which features a variety of imaginatively recycled old buildings. Using "before," "during" and "after" pictures of reuse projects that have been completed, the program demonstrates the historic and aesthetic benefits of preserving community landmarks. The presentation focuses on the social and economic advantages of rehabilitation and reuse.

"Main Street," a new color sound film examines the motives and methods of people who are helping to restore the buildings and revitalize the economy of older downtowns in small towns from New England to the Dakotas. The film considers not only building preservation but also such problems as parking, window displays, merchandising techniques, and how to effectively organize merchants.

The film is particularly suited to business owners and managers, planners, chambers of commerce, bankers, and similar professional groups. Produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with a grant from Bird and Son, manufacturer of building products, the film is a component of the Main Street Project which is a program

of the Trust's Midwest Regional Office. Historic District

The Potsdam Museum will also open an exhibit to celebrate Market Street Historic District being put on the National Register. After more than seven years of work and discussion, the New York Office of Historic Preservation nominated the District to the National Register and it was approved in November 1979. The District encompasses Market Street on the west side from the bridge to Depot Street and down Raymond Street to include the water treatment plant. On the east side it extends from the Arlington to the Town House restaurant.

The Museum has many pictures of buildings on Market Street dating from the 1880s to the present. The display will show the changes in the buildings and their ownership over the years. Two drawings done by J.S. Raymond in 1901 show Market Street as he remembered it in the 1830s.

Fires are not new to Market Street. There has been a major fire at least in every decade. In 1890 almost the entire block from Raymond Street to Depot Street was totally destroyed. One section of the exhibit will be devoted to pictures of these fires.

Also of interest will be the lion which was found in the middle of Market Street a few weeks ago. The lion was used as a trade sign for several businesses in the downtown area. From photos in the museum's collection, it has been found that the lion first stood in front of the Davies and Barbour Clothing Store (located in the building now occupied by

Barstow's Furniture). It was later moved to stand in front of the Heath Clothing Store (recently the Thomaris Agency and Isle of You). Morgan's Men's Store next occupied that particular space and also used the lion. The lion was removed in 1911 and was given to the owners of the Route 11 Motel, where it stood until a few years ago.

The lion is made of cast metal, either iron or bronze. The tail is made of wood, specially carved to repair it when the tail was broken by students.

According to one story, "One morning Fred Morgan found the lion painted green and gold, the Clarkson College colors, when he arrived to open the store. Tech students did such an artistic job on the statue—they had to pay \$5 to have the paint cleaned and another coat of the most expensive bronze paint brushed on."



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## Contributions Keeping The Merritt Window Lighted

The Potsdam Museum is continuing to light the Merritt Memorial window at night. The lighting is made possible by special contributions from local citizens for that purpose.

A recent contribution was made in memory of Rev. Luke Garner who was the minister of the Potsdam Universalist Church at the time the window was installed in the church in 1928. Mr. Garner, who continued his interest in the community and the former church building, now the Potsdam Museum, died in the autumn of 1979.

The window was given in 1928 by Mrs. Edwin A. Merritt, Jr. in memory of General Edwin Atkins Merritt and Eliza Rich Merritt. This was the 100th anniversary of the birth of both General and Mrs. Merritt. The Universalist Church of Potsdam a few years later voted to give the building to the Village of Potsdam for a library or community center. In 1935 the memorial window was given to Clarkson College.

When the Potsdam Public Museum in 1977 moved into the main area of the building which had been used by the library until 1976, a search was made for the missing window. It was located in the basement of Holcroft Hall of Clarkson College. Dr. Robert Plane, president of Clarkson College, agreed that the appropriate place for the windows was in its original spot not the Potsdam Museum and the college donated the window to the museum.

It was installed in October, 1977 and rededicated on Jan. 22, 1978 just 50 years from the day of the original dedication.

## \$8,000 Grant To County History Unit

CANTON—The St. Lawrence County Historical Association is pleased to announce that it has been awarded an \$8,000 grant from the New York State Council on the Arts.

This award is restricted to three specific areas in the operation of the Association. About one-half of the funds will be used to partially underwrite staff salaries and the publication of "The Quarterly." The remaining funds are to be used for the second half of an educational program now being designed in cooperation with the Potsdam Public Museum.

This program will, by September, 1980, result in a county-wide school service project that will help make the resources of the Silas Wright House & Museum and the Potsdam Public Museum available to the public schools of St. Lawrence County.

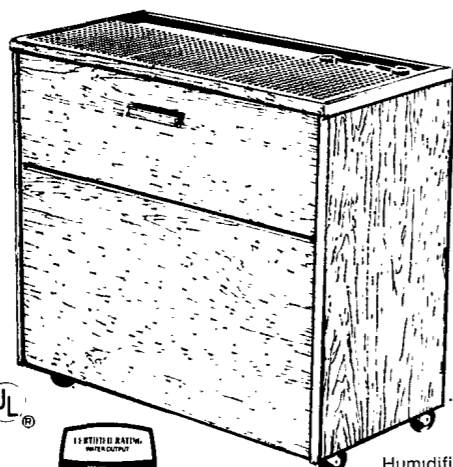
John Sholl of Norwood is serving as project director of this program.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the lighting of the window may send a check to the Potsdam Museum, Civic Center, Potsdam, marked "Merritt Window."

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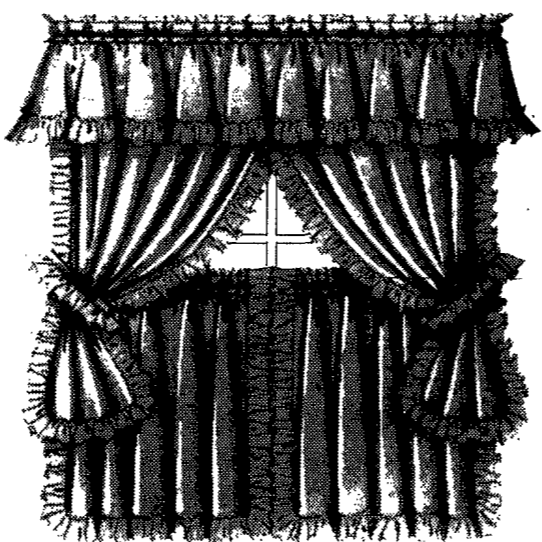
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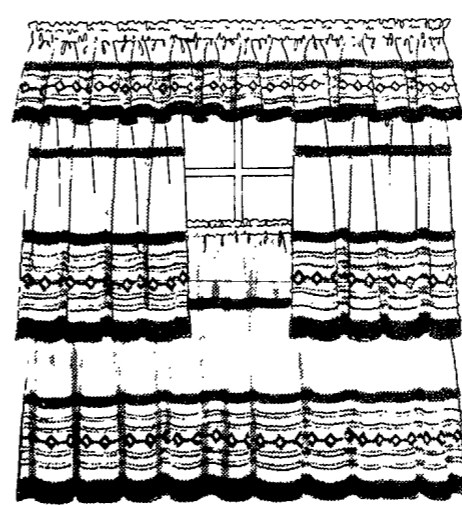
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