

WINNERS OF 2004 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS HONORED IN CHERRY VALLEY ON MAY 7

The winners of the 2004 Historic Preservation Awards were honored at a ceremony and reception at the Cherry Valley Old School Gymnasium in Cherry Valley on May 7. Now in its sixth year, the Historic Preservation Awards for Otsego and Schoharie Counties program recognizes projects, organizations, and individuals that demonstrate excellence in the area of historic preservation and history projects. The winners in the following award categories are:

Career Achievement

- **Frank Rollins**, long-time Cooperstown resident, teacher, and photographer, was recognized for his outstanding work in photography. His work spans almost half a century and has captured the changing landscape of Otsego County through its landmarks, waterways, architecture, and farmland.
- **John Mott** was recognized for his lifelong work in the areas of agriculture and historic documentation. A Hartwick native, John has carried his interest in the history of farming to careers at area public schools, Sturbridge Village, and The New York State Historical Association. Most recently he has volunteered his time to assist the Town of Hartwick Historical Association develop its photographic collection and provided photographs for the town's recently published history, *Hartwick: The Heart of Otsego County, NY*.
- **Sandra Manko** was honored for her record of service and leadership in the Town of Sharon. She has worked as Secretary for the Chamber of Commerce, and currently serves as Vice-President for the Sharon Springs Free Library and as Secretary and Treasurer for the Sharon Historical Society. Her vision for the betterment of the town has led her to become involved in a variety of projects dedicated to the preservation and revitalization of Sharon.

Special Nomination

- **Underground Railroad Exhibit.** The Cooperstown Graduate Program, the New York State Historical Association, and the students in the Cooperstown Elementary Fourth Grade Art Classes

were honored for their art exhibit on the Underground Railroad, recently on display at the State Museum in Albany. To create historically appropriate scenes, elementary school students researched the history of the Underground Railroad and studied the artwork of African American artist Jacob Lawrence. The Cooperstown Graduate Program and the New York State Historical Association provided interpretive material for the exhibit and helped coordinate the project.

Honorable Mention

- **21 Railroad Avenue** in Cooperstown was recognized for its rehabilitation. Built in 1902 as a wagon shop, the building has since served a number of commercial purposes. The property was purchased by Mike and Carol Manno in 2001 with plans for a comprehensive rehabilitation. The work was completed in 2003 and the property, once in disrepair and largely vacant, is now home to several businesses and serves as a showpiece for the village.
- **The home of George and Barbara Rutler** was honored for its rehabilitation. Located on Route 29A in Springfield, the house is documented in *Landmarks of Otsego County* and is thought to be one of the oldest in the Springfield area. Rehabilitation work was done with an eye toward historically appropriate construction methods and materials.

The 2004 Historic Preservation Awards ceremony and reception were sponsored by Otsego 2000 and the Cherry Valley Historical Association