

Martha H. Lyon, ASLA, Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC

October 2012

The Race Course

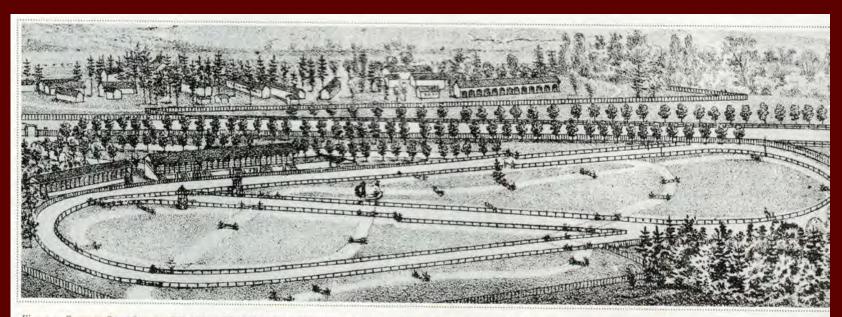
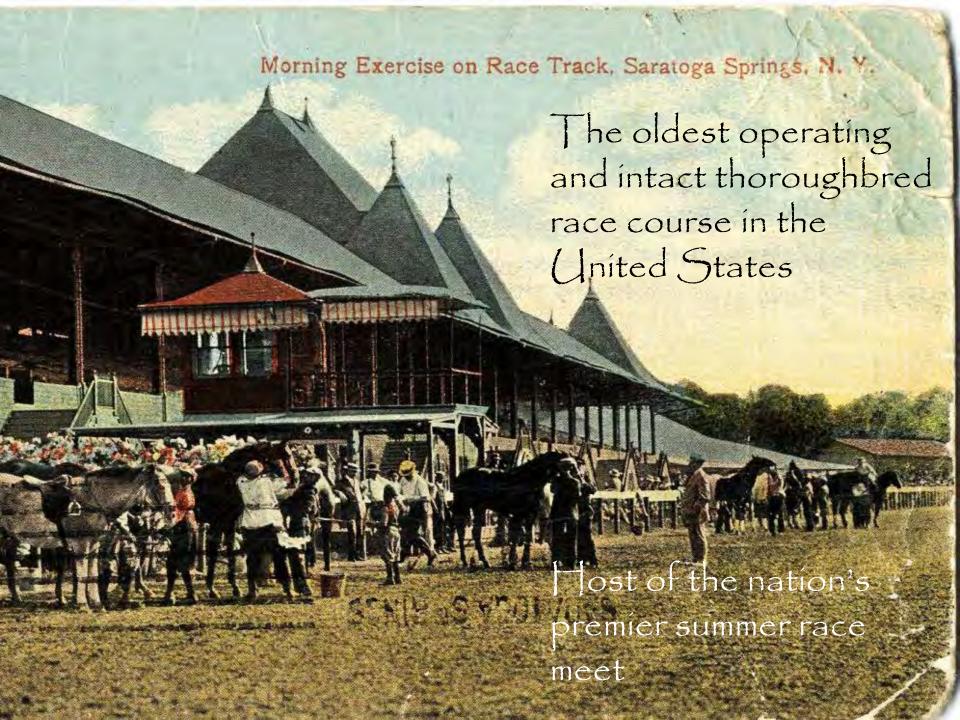
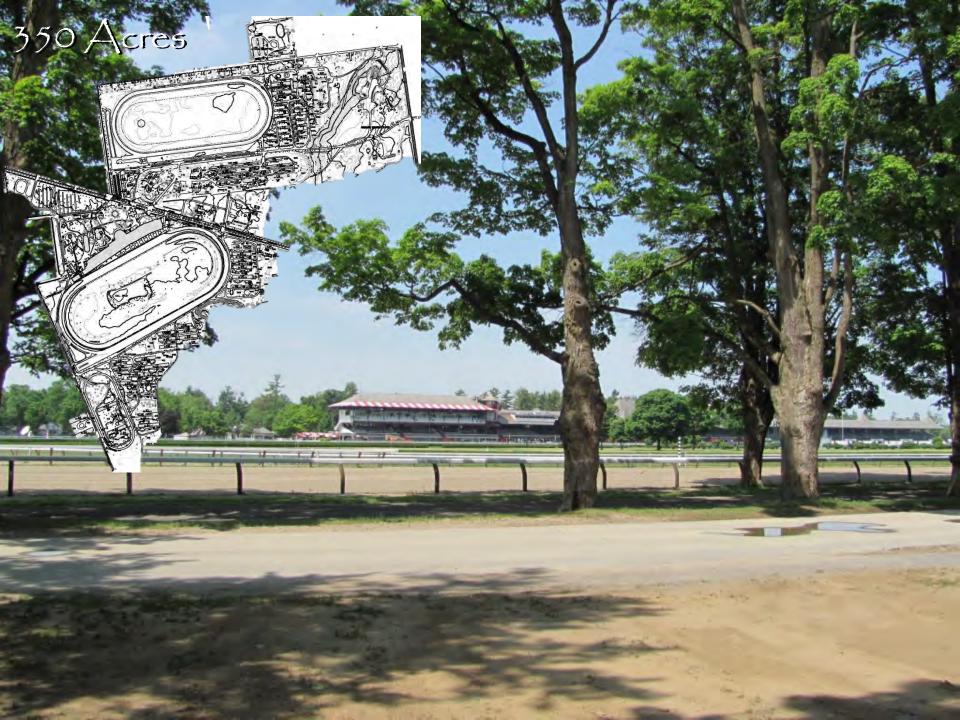


Figure 13, Saratoga Race Course, 1888. Print of the 1864 circuit, showing the Grandstand (on right), public stand (on left) and Horse Haven beyond



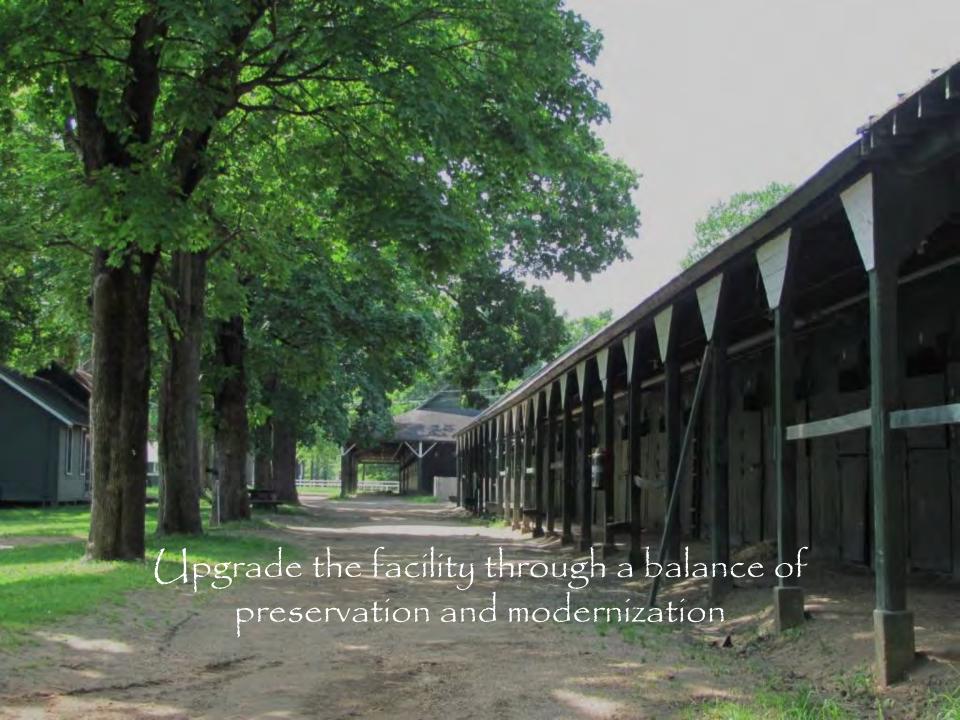




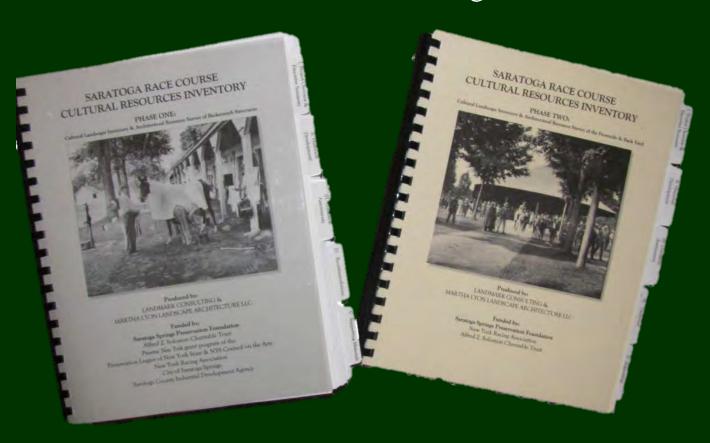
The Course's Condition



The Solution



The Study



Document the property's history

Assess existing conditions

Identify preservation concerns

Make preservation recommendations



Guide and inform capital improvement decisions





Introduction Why Us?

Kim

Architectural Preservation Consultant
Previous Experience with Historic Sporting Venues



Martha

Landscape Architect Specializing in Historic Preservation Previous Experience with 19th Century Public Landscapes







The Larger Team

Local Preservation Advocacy Organization (Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation)

New York Racing Association (NYRA)

Facilities Development Consultant to NYRA (Turnberry Consulting)

TurnberryConsulting

The Even Larger Team



State of New York
Race Course Patrons
Horse Owners and Trainers
Jockeys
Race Course Workers
City of Saratoga Springs
Saratoga Springs Residents and
Business Owners



The Horses

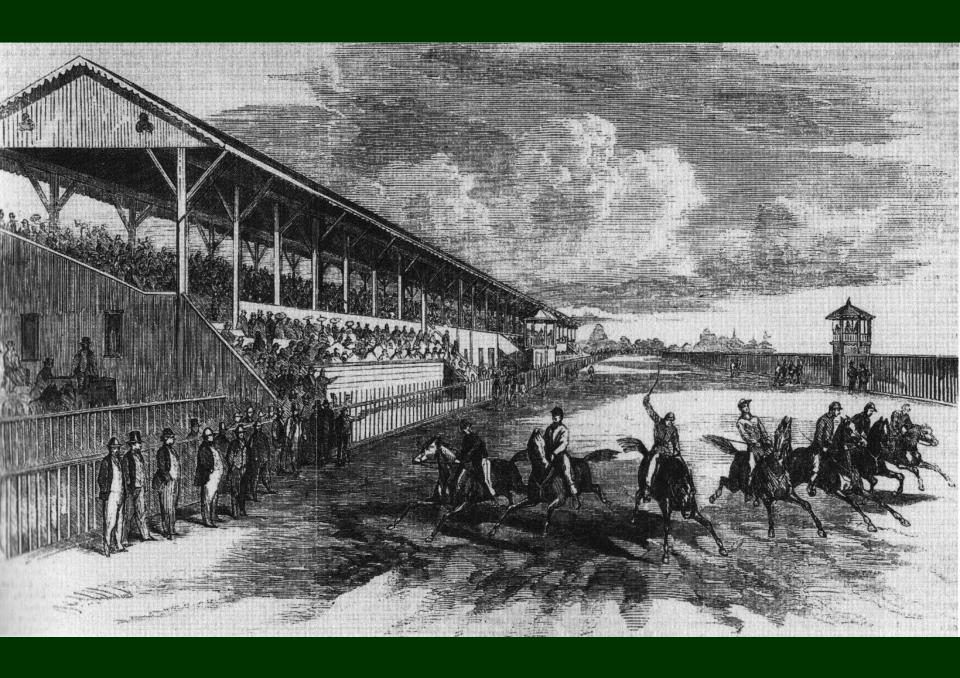
Development History Four Periods



First Period Late 1840s - 1890s

Major Landscape Features 1840s - 1890s

- Elegant Main Entrance
- 6-Acre Cooling Area
- Pine Grove at Horse Haven
- Horse Haven Avenues Named for Famous Thoroughbreds

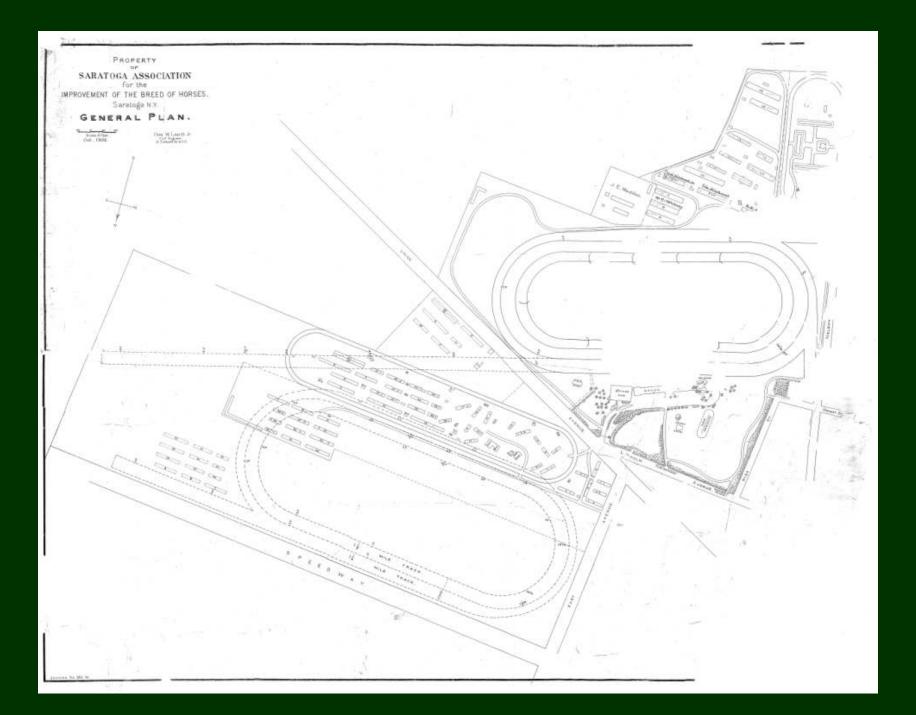


Major Architectural Features 1840s-1890s

- 3 Barns in the Backstretch
- Barns and "Kitchens" at the Horse Haven Infield
- Greek and Gothic Revival Styles



Second Period 18905 - 19405



Major Landscape Features

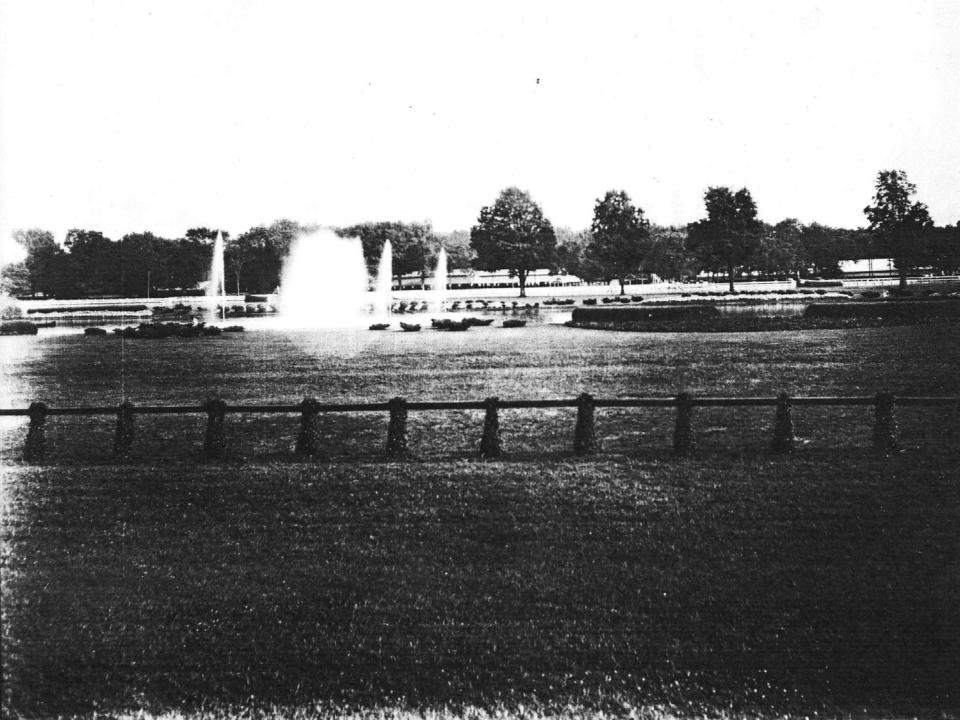
1890s - 1940s

- New Track
- Infield Lake with Plantings
- Enhance "Back Yard"
- Formal Enclosure
- · Generous Plantings of Trees & Shrubs











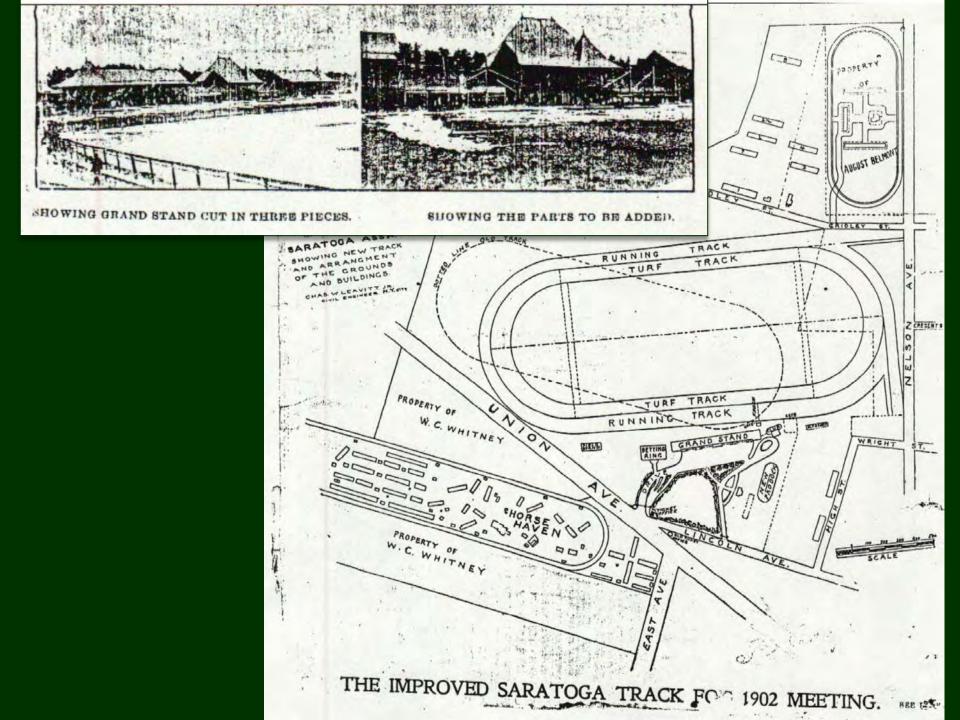






Major Architectural Features 1890s-1940s

- · Re-located Grandstand, Clubhouse, Betting Ring
- Modified Grandstand and Betting Ring Structures
- New Saddling Shed, Field Stand, Ticket Stand
- Many New Barns Built in the Queen Anne, Stick, and Arts & Crafts Styles



Race Track Club House, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.













Third Period 1955 - 2007

Major Landscape Changes 1940s - 2007

- Saddling in Enclosed Ring (1986)
- · Admission Gates Along Union Avenue
- Family Recreation Area (1984)
- Increasing Amount of Paved Surface
- Loss of Trees







Major Architectural Changes

- New Dormitories
- "Kitchens" Converted to Dorms & Toilets
- Family Recreation Area (1984)
- Upgraded Fire Safety
- Extensive addition of canopies
- · Additions of Loose Stalls
- Additions of Modern Washstands & Muck Storage Bins



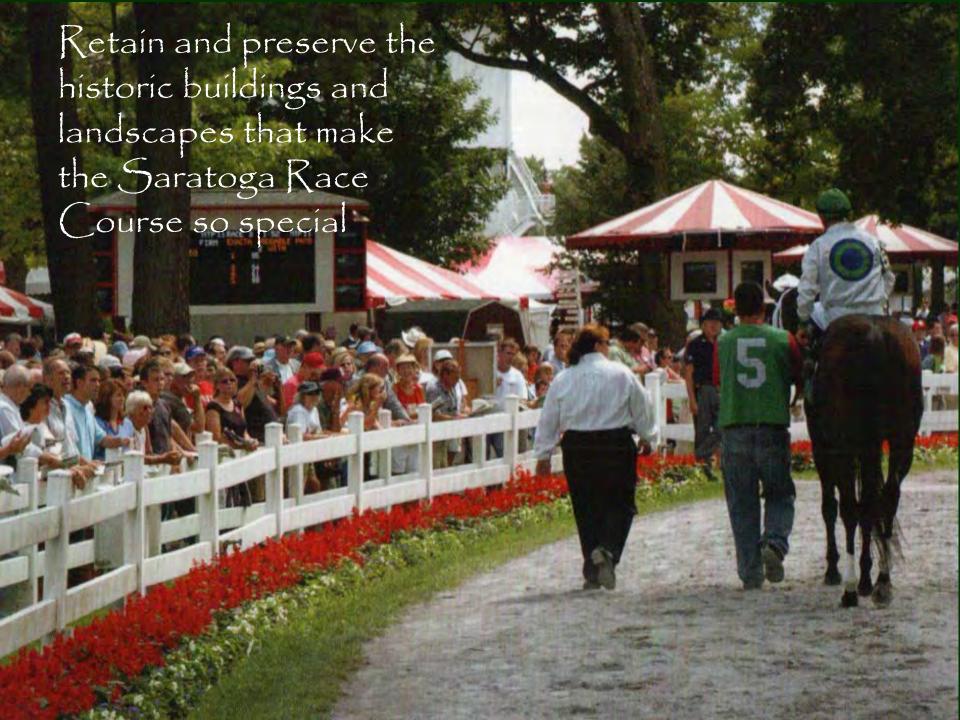






Fourth Period 2007 and Beyond





Preservation Challenges

Preservation Challenges Historic vs. Contemporary Uses





Preservation Challenges Historic vs. Contemporary Tastes













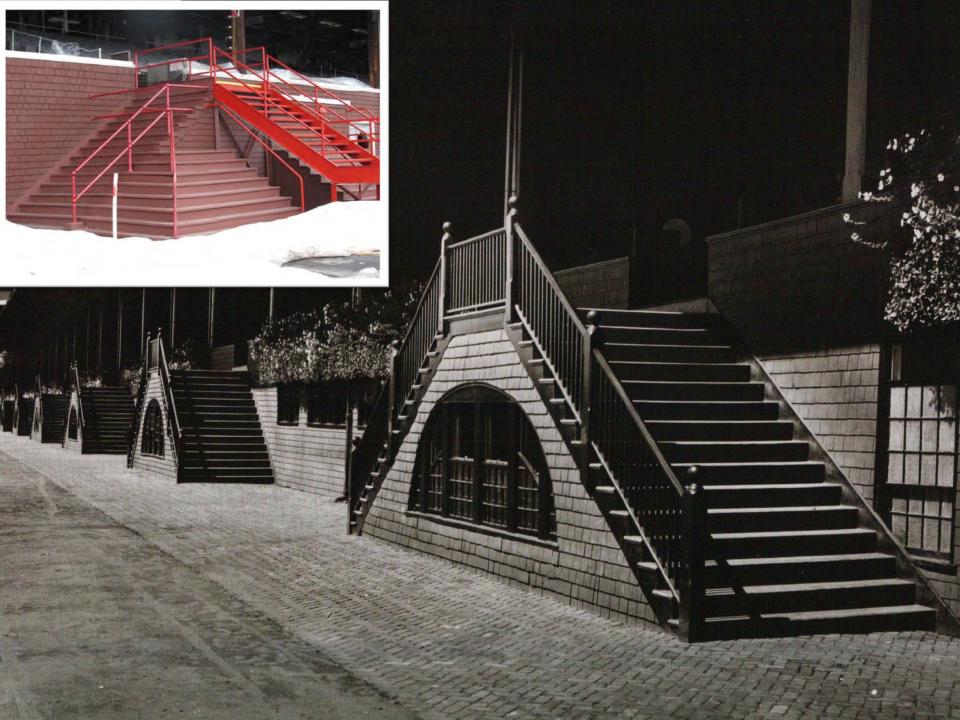


Figure~33.~Clubhouse~ver and a, where~Saratoga's~elite~racegoers~dined~overlooking~the~track.

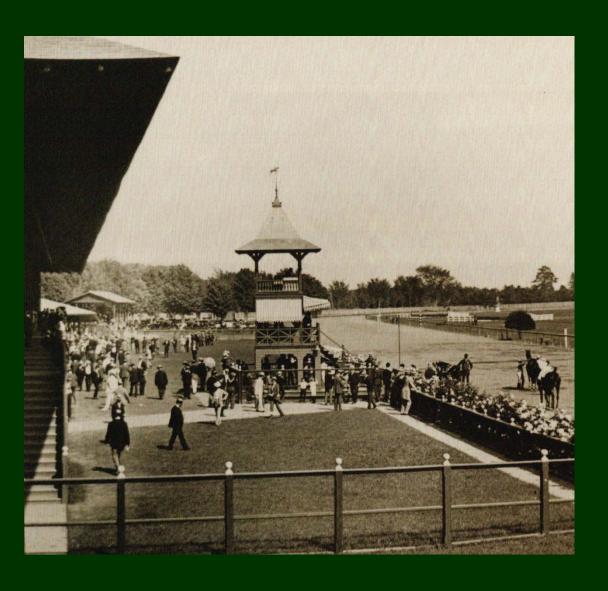
Preservation Challenges
Historic vs. Contemporary
Standards
for Health and Safety







Collective Recommendations: Guiding Principals for Preservation Treatment



Collective
Recommendations
Adhere to
the
Period of
Significance





Collective Recommendations

Engage in
Selective and
Thoughtful

"Deconstruction"



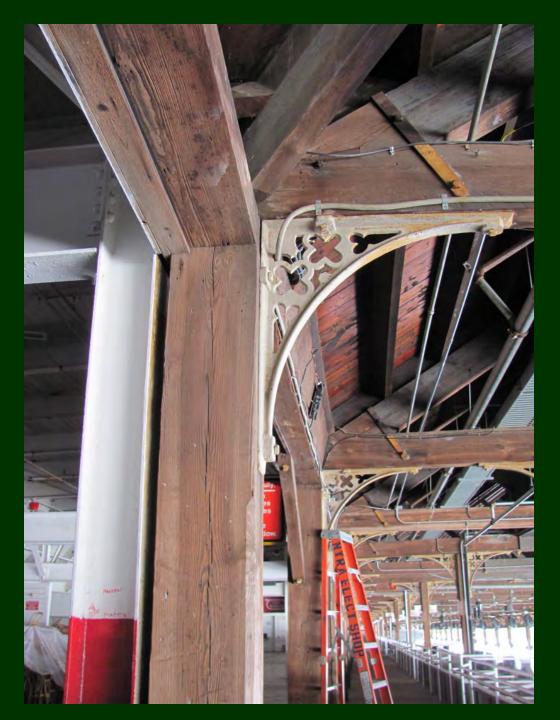


Collective Recommendations

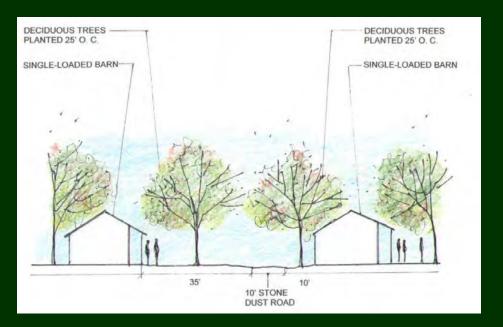
Engage in

Selective and
Thoughtful

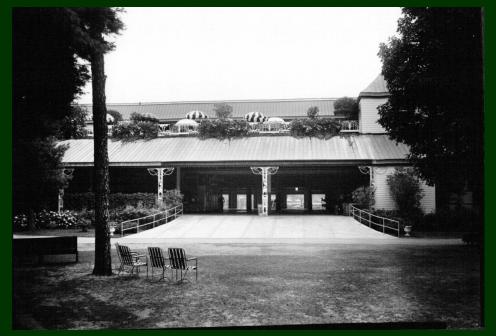
"Deconstruction"



Collective Recommendations
Draw from a
Palette of
Materials







Collective Recommendations
Redefine
Front Doors

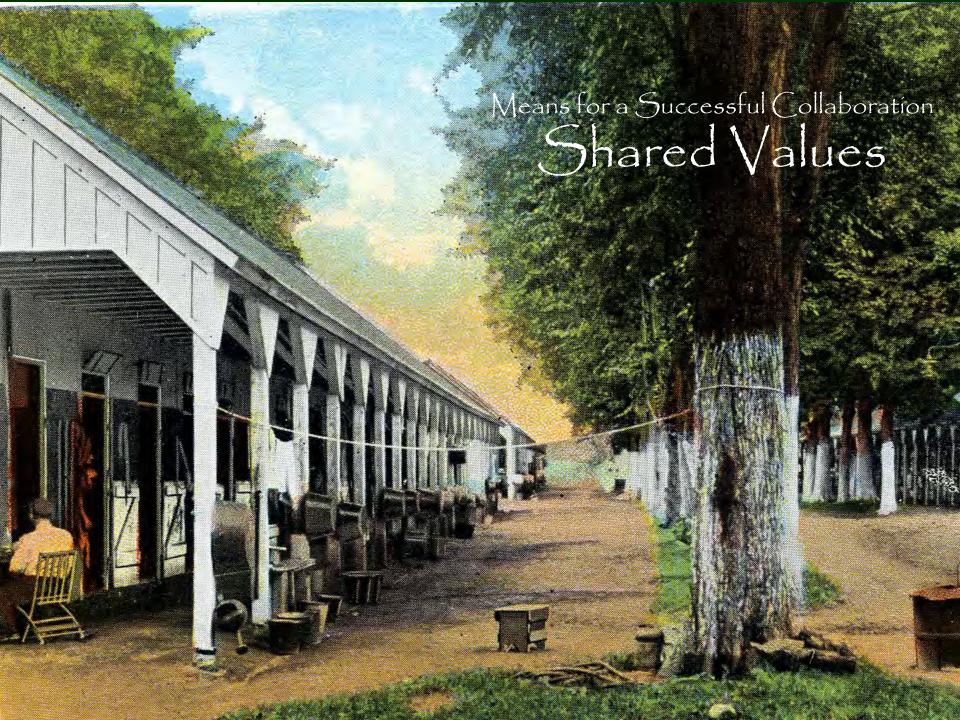


Collective Recommendations Simplify Circulation





Means for a Successful Collaboration





Means for a Successful Collaboration
Careful
Background
Research

Means for a Successful Collaboration Mindfulness of the Need for Crowth











TurnberryConsulting

Means for a Successful
Collaboration
Open
Communication



Thank You

Saratoga Race Course
Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation
New York Racing Association
Turnberry Consulting
Citizens of Saratoga Springs, New York

Association for Preservation Technology

and

The magnificent thoroughbreds that have, for nearly 150 years, contributed to the prominence of this historic resource.