

Historic Preservation Committee,
a Sub-Committee of the Conservation Advisory Committee
of the Town of Copake.

To: Copake Town Board
From: Historic Preservation Committee
Subject: Historic Markers Project
Date: March 7, 2023

Proposal: Historic Markers Project

The Historic Preservation Committee (HPC), as part of the town's upcoming 2024 Bicentennial, requests authorization from the Town Board to establish and implement an historic markers project for buildings constructed in Copake between 1824 and 1910. The purpose of this program is to identify the Town's noteworthy historic structures and to raise awareness among residents and visitors alike of the Town's history.

HPC respectfully requests that the Town authorize an expense of \$9,550 which includes 50 signs for a cost of \$8,550 and an additional \$1,000 in contingency costs.

The proposed 5" x 8" cast aluminum marker (see attached artwork) is a commemorative plaque created for the Town's Bicentennial to mark the date built for noteworthy structures. HPC proposes that the Historic Marker's Project be piloted in early 2024 with 50 plaques and at a unit cost of \$163 - \$171 (excludes shipping). (Note: The Copake Grange has requested a plaque by June 2023 in time for their 125th Anniversary celebration.) If a property owner accepts the plaque, they agree to install it at their own expense. HPC will offer installation assistance if necessary.

HPC's criteria for building recognition are:

- Buildings represent each of the hamlets: Copake, Copake Falls, West Copake, and Craryville including Copake Lake
- Are a good example of an architectural style, with minimal alterations and additions that obscure the historic design
- Are representative of key historic themes and eras, e.g. residential, commercial, civic, agricultural, ecclesiastical
- Are located along a main road and visible to pedestrians and passers-by to reach a large number of residents and visitors.

Criteria for establishing/verifying the construction date of eligible buildings are: historic maps, owner documentation, property deeds, and other public records. HPC will verify information provided by property owners.

The project was presented to and approved by the Bicentennial Committee on February 21st, 2023. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Historic Preservation Committee members:
Catherine Mikic, Chair
Jed Luchow, Secretary
Howard Blue, Town Historian