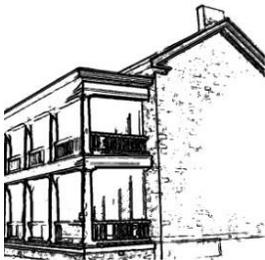


NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friends Announce New Life For Plattsburgh's Old Stone Barracks

Plattsburgh, November 24th, 2014 - *Friends of the Old Stone Barracks* (FOSB) is pleased to announce the results of their request for proposals and a new life for Plattsburgh's Old Stone Barracks. FOSB has come to an agreement with Terry Schmaltz and Mary Therese Pearl, proprietors of Valcour Brewing Company, and will assign the contract to purchase the Old Stone Barracks to them. Mary Theresa is originally from Plattsburgh and both she and Terry are retired Army officers who look forward to returning to Plattsburgh.

Constructed in 1838, this is the oldest building at the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. Following the sale of the Barracks to a Canadian developer, FOSB was formed to explore available options to save the property from inappropriate development. In August, the Old Stone Barracks was added to the Preservation League's list of New York State's most threatened historic resources, *Seven to Save*. Since then, *The Friends* have been actively campaigning to raise funds for the purchase of the building while soliciting project proposals to identify and cultivate the best possible future for the barracks.

Schmaltz and Pearl approached the FOSB proposal committee with a comprehensive plan for the property, a deep appreciation for its history and significance, and a great deal of experience in business. Reassigning the contract will quickly enable them to undertake their extraordinary plan to preserve the barracks and transform the building into a craft brewery, tasting room, events space, and inn.

Jerry Bates, president of FOSB states that "we are very excited about Terry and Mary's plan for the property. They are the kind of energetic and imaginative people needed to preserve and restore the building and to make something good happen here for the community. Their vision to create a home for the Valcour Brewing Company at the barracks is a wonderful fit."

Terry Schmaltz says about the new endeavor: "As veterans and retired Army Officers we are very excited to bring together our passion for military tradition with our passion for brewing great beer. We plan to get started immediately to repurpose the barracks and in the spring—although you may need to pardon our dust—we hope you stop by to see the progress and taste the brews. Our plan is to have phase 1 completed by early July."

Steven Engelhart, FOSB trustee and Executive Director of Adirondack Architectural Heritage emphasizes a continuing relationship with Schmaltz and Pearl. "We look forward to working with them as they complete this project. We stand ready to help them to design the very best preservation and adaptive reuse project possible and to get the support they need as they work their way through the review and regulatory process."

Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League of New York State, remarks "Thanks to the Friends of the Old Stone Barracks and Valcour Brewing Company, the Old Stone Barracks has a bright future. The Preservation League of New York State congratulates the advocates on this successful outcome for one of our 2014-15 *Seven to Save* sites."

Coming to this agreement achieves the most important goal of the *Friends of the Old Stone Barracks*, which was to "ensure the appropriate adaptive reuse of the barracks." Yet, their work is not complete. Part of the agreement with the Valcour Brewing Company gives FOSB the opportunity to develop an interpretive heritage trail through the barracks property using the funds raised by FOSB. This will provide an educational experience through which the public may learn about the history and importance of the Old Stone Barracks and the rich military history of the Champlain Valley. Engelhart states that this is a way of "ensuring that the property is appreciated and cherished."

Deposits and funds raised by The Friends will not be used for the purchase of the barracks or to benefit Valcour Brewing Company in any way. The FOSB will continue to conduct a capital campaign to raise additional funds for the public interpretive trail. Donations to the campaign may be mailed to the Friends of the Old Stone Barracks, PO Box 1889, Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

For more information, or to make a secure donation or pledge online, visit www.OldStoneBarracks.org. The Friends of the Old Stone Barracks is dedicated to securing the highest and best use of Plattsburgh's Old Stone Barracks by obtaining and preserving the property, engaging the community, and ensuring the appropriate adaptive reuse of the barracks. The Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and operates with substantial support from Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH), the private non-profit, historic preservation organization for the Adirondack Park.

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