



The Advocate

Winter 2025
Volume V Issue 1

Cazenovia Heritage
P.O. Box 103
Cazenovia NY 13035

Inside This Issue

Carl D. Stearns Grant	1
2025 Programs	1
Highlighted Historic Resource	2
Advocacy Updates	3
Know Your Caz	3-4
Lost Legacy	4

Carl D. Stearns Restoration & Preservation Grant Announced

Cazenovia Heritage is pleased to announce that up to \$2500 will be awarded to homeowners to undertake restoration or preservation work on their homes. This grant honors Carl D. Stearns, a founding Director of Cazenovia Heritage, and is in recognition of his leadership in architectural preservation over the last 50 years. There are few among us who have done more than Carl in advocating for Cazenovia’s historic

architecture and cultural resources.

To apply for a grant, the home must be at least 50 years old and located in the Village or Town of Cazenovia. Among eligible projects are the replacement or repair of original architectural features such as windows, cornices, moldings, etc.; exterior painting upgrades; masonry and stucco repointing; and restoration or repair of interior historic architectural features that contribute to the historic integrity of the structure. Other examples, as well as those of ineligible projects, are described in the grant guidelines. Both the guidelines and the online application can be found on the website under “Financial Resources.” **The Application process opens February 1st. Applications are due by March 15th, with an award to be announced by April 30th.**

Offering a homeowner grant was an early goal when Cazenovia Heritage was launched, particularly since few, if any, public grants are available to homeowners. Thanks to all of you donors, this grant is now possible. The amount and number of recipients hopefully will increase in the years ahead. Feel free to spread the word to anyone who may be interested!



2025 Programs Kick-Off in February!

Another year of programs are in development, with something for everyone. February 22nd showcases the former Lakeland Estate and current Lakeland Park. Two new walking tours will continue our goal of ultimately providing walking tours of all historic Village neighborhoods. *Legonovia* returns in May, while Autumn brings a program and self-driving tour on the architecture of *Homes of Famous Cazenovians*. And a few surprises may pop up! See the full schedule at <https://www.cazheritage.org/programs.html>





Highlighted Historic Resource: The Annas Farmhouse

As you drive along upper Ridge Road today, imagine that both sides of the road were once large farmsteads. The site of one such early farm is the Annas Farmhouse. The house with its center chimney is a two-story frame structure, covered in clapboard. It was built probably around 1836-1837, a time when the Greek Revival style was taking hold in Cazenovia. Yet this house retains a (very) late Federal Style, showing the persistence of building traditions in both the Village and rural settings.

In scale, form, massing, proportions, and detailing, the house incorporates most of the characteristic attributes of the Federal Style. The entrance door is flanked by reeded pilasters and sidelights, terminating in floral corner blocks and supporting a reeded architrave. Simple moldings surround six-over-six, double hung windows. However, its asymmetrical fenestration (two windows on one side, one on the other), four-bays wide, deviates from the more traditional balanced, five-bay, center hall buildings of the Federal style. That lack of symmetry is sometimes found in earlier, older Federal buildings, smaller in scale, and more modest in ornamentation. It is unusual that the larger and more elegant Annas Farmhouse does not incorporate the more formal center hall plan; instead, it presents a unique addition to Cazenovia's architectural diversity.

Alanson Annas, for whom this house was built, was born in 1805. He was the son of Uriah Annas who had come from Massachusetts to Fenner by the early 1800s. Alanson was married in Cazenovia to Miranda Chapell in 1833 and by 1836 had bought his initial farmland in Lot 14 of the New Petersburg Tract on today's Ridge Road. It is probable that he built this house around 1836-1837 following the land purchase. Alanson continued to acquire land through 1855 and became a successful farmer. He raised sheep and produce and was known for the quality of his sheep and wool, winning prizes at local fairs. The photo at right, in his later years, appears to have been taken at the front of the house. Alanson and Miranda had six children who lived to adulthood. He died in 1898 and is buried at Evergreen Cemetery.

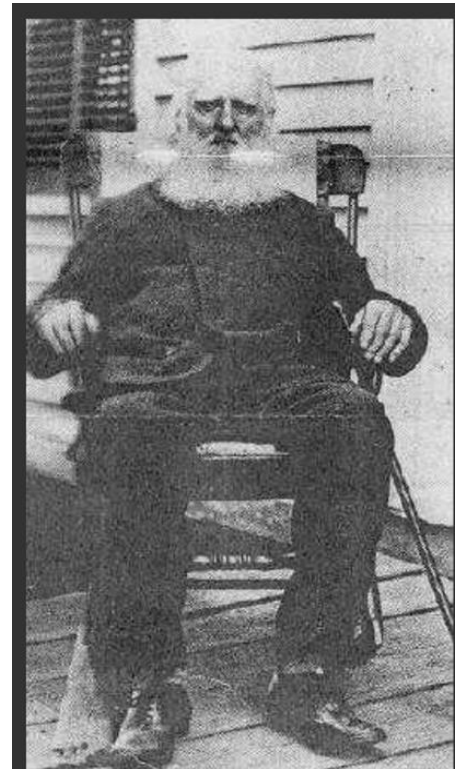


Photo courtesy of Anne Harris;
accessed via ancestry.com 16 Jan 2025





Advocacy Updates

Gothic Cottage: This past July, the Town Board submitted an application to NY State for the restoration of the Gothic Cottage. Unfortunately, due to the high volume of applications versus available funds, the application was declined this past December. We await word on the Town's plans for restoration.

Water Troughs: The deteriorating condition of the historic water troughs was included in last Fall's presentation on the historic horse culture of Cazenovia. The good news? The Town of Cazenovia and Cazenovia Heritage have each committed \$5,000 toward their restoration in 2025. With the remaining balance to be raised from the general public, we anticipate work will be underway this coming summer.

Renew Albany Street: Dwyer Building: More good news! The Dwyer Building will undergo restoration and painting of the historic "window hoods" and façade of this iconic Cazenovia landmark this coming spring.

Byrne Gas Station: Members of Cazenovia Heritage advocated at two public hearings to deny the application as inconsistent with the intent of the Comprehensive Plan for this area; and if nonetheless approved, to modify the site plan significantly to better reflect Cazenovia's character and protect the adjacent historic properties. A decision may be made in February.

Update to the Town's Comprehensive Plan: Two public hearings have now been held. Several of the specific recommendations made by Cazenovia Heritage have been accepted; in particular, for the first time, a Town Counselor will be designated as responsible for initiatives concerning the protection of historic cultural resources, much in the same way a Counselor is responsible for lake issues, programs for youth, highways etc. This is a major positive step forward. An updated draft is to be issued in the next month, with Board approval currently slated for the February Town Board meeting.

Know Your Caz: Village Streets, Part III

You're in the home stretch! This should complete the origins of historic Village Street names gleaned from several Caz Republican articles from 1944 – 1992 and some additional 2024 research. No comprehensive list of Town Road name origins was found in Town or County records or news stories; however, research is underway for a later issue. If you missed the two earlier Village listings, they can be found in previous issues of *The Advocate* on the cazheritage website, *Educational Resources* tab.

Park: Named for "Village Park" (believed to be at the Fountain). Was first called Carpenter Street but changed when the present Carpenter Street was created in late 1800s.

Riverside Drive: Earliest reference found in press article of 1944. Originally Brewery Lane, home of Hearsey's Brewery (ca. 1827-1855) and Twist's Brewery (1870s) and was so called through at least

1894. Then "Wheelbarrow Avenue" (cars were blocked access) and then finally, Riverside Drive.

Seminary: Named for the Oneida (Baptist) Conference Seminary which became Cazenovia College.

Sims Lane: Named by 1894 for James Sims, farmer and teacher who died in 1904 at the age of 101. His father was one of the first settlers, buying land near

Constine Bridge. James bought the Willard Crandall farm in Number 9 district and later moved to the Village. Sims Lane was later cut through to Burr Street by R. Riedl.

South: adopted in 1851, previously an extension of Lunkey's Lane, now Allen Street (which was formerly Pond Street)

Sullivan: For General John Sullivan who led an expedition against the Iroquois in 1779.

Sweetland: Found in use in 1857, named for Zadock Sweetland who founded the first paper mill in Cazenovia in 1810 at the intersection with Clark Street.

Union: Reported incorrectly in 1944 as adopted after the Civil War, it was actually so named by Village trustees in 1851.

Upper Farnham: Used informally (i.e., "upper Farnham") before 1926 when it is found as Upper Farnham Street in the press.

Wall: This is the alley behind Albany Street businesses east of Kinney's, and whose north side had dwellings before the 20th century. Appears as an unnamed alley on 1890 Sanborn map; in 1945, said to be named not for the NYC Wall Street but for "Mrs. Wall, who lived there in the early 1800s." This anecdote could not be verified satisfactorily.

Williams: (Or William, depending on the street sign and map). Williams Street appears in 1847 press while on 1853 map, it is William's Street. There were numerous Williams who were settled in Cazenovia by 1810; it is possible the name is attributed to Thomas Williams (father of wool factory John Williams) whose family settled in the area of Williams Street.

Willow: The street was created around 1888 by George Ledyard, named supposedly for the willow found in a bog formerly existing near this site.



Sadly, A Lost Legacy



The William D. Davies Memorial Building, 1934. County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation; Allen J. Schaben/Los Angeles Times, via Getty Images

On top of the horrific loss of humans, housing, and businesses, the Los Angeles area has lost 30 of its most significant architectural structures in the recent devastating fires. The *New York Times* highlighted ten that were burned to the ground, ranging from Will Rogers's house to early 20th century Craftsman, mid-century, and post-modern landmarks by noted architects. The full article can be found here:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/15/arts/design/fires-architecture-burned-neutra-ain.html>. At least a photographic record remains. All of us mourn the losses.



And one last note: a big **Thank You** to all who responded to this Year's Annual Appeal, exceeding our goal!