

History Advisory Committee
July 31, 2021

Tony Albino, Richard Coons, Alvin Sheffer, Donald Dubac, Hank Himelright, and Tom Shannon
in attendance.

- Oral history project: we developed a list of people to ask some time ago. We have a willing interviewee lined up and will schedule it as soon as possible. Rich recently posted our archive of previous interviews to the Germantown History Department YouTube page.
- Demolition permits: we have been notified of an application to demolish the two attached barns at 98 Viewmont Road, formerly Bob Rider's farm. Will do a walk through and document the barn at 7:30 AM, Monday, August 2nd.
- Hover Foundation grant submission: Tom will submit the grant at the conclusion of this meeting. We are seeking \$1,500 for the kiosk project and \$3,950 for a bronze plaque and stone marker for the currently unmarked First Reformed cemetery on Sharp's Landing Road. Germantown Park Commission and Germantown Library are our 501(c)3 partners for the respective projects.
- Pomeroy Foundation grant: Tom will send out a draft next week for a new Sharp's Landing NYS historic sign. Looking to have the grant submitted in the next week or two.
- Preservation of the Methodist cemetery: We again discussed the Methodist cemetery on Camp Creek road. It, along with the church and parsonage, are for sale currently. Tom will get more information and determine what options there are for preservation.
- Germantown's Wikipedia page: The Wikipedia entry for Germantown, NY is now virtually all an essay about Mohican history, almost all of it relating to Shekomeko and other places in Dutchess County, and with some very shaky assertions sprinkled throughout. There are a few sentences about the Palatines and a few about post-Palatine era history. We have a Wikipedia account now and will work on addressing this.
- History Walk series: Turnout for the Reformed Cemetery walk was something like 35 people. Unfortunately it was cut short by a thunderstorm, just after the Ekert plot and just before Court Myers' grave as luck would have it. Next one is Lower Main Street, scheduled for August 11th, at 6:30 PM. Viewmont Cemetery is scheduled for September, and part two of the Reformed Cemetery is scheduled for October.
- Iron Mountain archival grant: still pending. We need to give them an inventory of our glass plate negatives, tintypes, and maps.

- Bard Archaeology Field School begins on August 2nd. Christopher and students will be working in the front yard this year, looking for remains of a dwelling that possibly predates the 1767 Parsonage.
- Gertrude Clum Rockefeller gravestone: One of Dr. Franklin D. Clum's daughters, she was born in 1894 and died in 1984. Her only child, Vernon, was killed in action in World War II. She lived widowed in Cheviot for many years after. The "84" for her death year was never carved into her gravestone at Cheviot cemetery. We have arranged for a local memorial service company to do just that. It is scheduled for mid-August.