

# Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site



## 2006 Annual Report & Upcoming Events

### Letter from the Superintendent:

An annual report is an opportunity to highlight news about park projects and activities. The National Park Service staff, our volunteers, and our nonprofit partners have been busy indeed, and that is reflected on the following pages. I invite you to read this report, and allow me to briefly mention news about other upcoming events and developments.

The site's 1996 General Management Plan identified four adjacent parcels of land that are of interest to the park for the purpose of preservation, viewshed protection, and assisting with future operational needs. One of these parcels is the Blow-Me-Down Farm, owned by the park's nonprofit operating partner, the Saint-Gaudens Memorial. The NPS is in the early stages of working with the Memorial regarding the future of this property. The Memorial and the park are jointly exploring all options, soliciting ideas and will share news as it becomes available. If you are interested in the history of the farm, I encourage you to read *This Land of Pure Delight - Charles Beaman and the Blowmedown Farm* by John Dryfhout. Copies are available for purchase by contacting the park.

This year, 2007, is very special as we commemorate the centennial of the death of Augustus Saint-Gaudens. In partnership with the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, a new hour-long documentary, *Augustus Saint-Gaudens: Master of American Sculpture* is being produced. Read inside for more about this new film, associated special programs, and Saint-Gaudens exhibitions.

Please visit our web site, [www.nps.gov/saga](http://www.nps.gov/saga), for up-to-date information on park news and schedules for concerts, exhibitions, sculpting workshops, as well as other special programs and events. I invite you to visit the park and take advantage of our many offerings, or simply enjoy on your own, the tranquility and reflective nature of the gardens, home, and studios that so inspired Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

BJ Dunn  
Superintendent

### New in Collections



The park was pleased to receive a gift of the Mary Queen of Scots Cameo by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred T. Morris, Jr., the onyx cameo in a jeweled setting was one of the first important commissions given to the young Saint-Gaudens. The cameo, which depicts the Queen in profile, was made in 1872 in Rome for Montgomery Gibbs, a diplomat and lawyer who was the first major patron of Saint-Gaudens. Gibbs commissioned this cameo for his wife, as well as marble busts of his two daughters Florence and Belle. This is an important addition to the museum collection.

There have been a number of other gifts to the park's collections within the past year including archival materials, pottery and works by both Louis and Annetta St. Gaudens.

Elizabeth Huttig Redman presented a collection of 65 letters by Paul St. Gaudens, written between 1938 and 1964, to her parents, Hart and Rose Huttig. Accompanying the letters were four pieces of pottery by Paul St. Gaudens. Of particular interest in the letters are first-hand accounts of the 1938 hurricane and personal impressions of World War II.

**New film about  
Saint-Gaudens in  
production.**

**See page 2.**



## Augustus Saint-Gaudens: Master of American Sculpture



### Film Project in Full Swing

Marking the centennial of the death of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, the park and the Trustees of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial are producing the first new hour-long documentary on the sculptor in over twenty years. In collaboration with Dartmouth College, a very special day-long program is planned for the world premiere of this new film (see right).

The film, shot in widescreen high-definition, includes interviews, aerial footage of the site, scenes from the 2005 “Masque of the Golden Bowl,” and remarks by General Colin Powell. This should not be missed!

The park and the Trustees are also excited to announce that New Hampshire Public Television will broadcast the film in fall 2007. Additional regional premieres are scheduled:

- **Smithsonian American Art Museum**  
September 7, 2007
- **The Metropolitan Museum of Art**  
September 23, 2007
- **Art Institute of Chicago** Date TBA
- **Philadelphia Museum of Art** Date TBA

**Friday July 13, 2007**, Hanover, New Hampshire

#### SPECIAL VIEWING

##### **Dartmouth College Library’s Saint-Gaudens and Cornish Colony Collections**

Ticknor Room, Rauner Library  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Free

#### SYMPOSIUM

##### **Augustus Saint-Gaudens: Master of American Sculpture**

Loew Auditorium, Hood Museum of Art

1:30 - 5 p.m., Free

The Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College and the Saint-Gaudens NHS present a symposium devoted to the artist’s life and works. Speakers include Saint-Gaudens scholars *Kathryn Greenthal*, Art Historian and Curator, Boston, MA; *Jennifer Hardin*, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida; *David Lubin*, Charlotte C. Weber Professor Art, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC; *Thayer Tolles*, Associate Curator, Department of American Paintings and Sculpture, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY. Reception follows.

#### DARTMOUTH COLLEGE HOPKINS CENTER FILM SPECIAL

##### **Augustus Saint-Gaudens: Master of American Sculpture**

Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center

8 p.m.

World premiere of a new hour-long documentary about Augustus Saint-Gaudens by award-winning filmmaker *Paul Sanderson*, Dartmouth Class of 1978. Q&A session with the film director follows the premiere. Tickets (\$5) will be available at the Hopkins Center Box Office at 603/646-2422 or online at <http://hop.dartmouth.edu/tickets>



## SCULPTURAL VISIONS

### Clay, Wood Metal, Stone

On October 7, 2006, the park held a special event, co-sponsored by the Friends of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial that was enjoyed by over 400 people. The celebration featured sculpture in its many forms and included artists demonstrating several sculpting techniques. The free event was open to the public and provided a wonderful opportunity for park visitors to interact directly with artists.

**SAVE THE DATE! Sculptural Visions 2007 – September 29.**

Highlights included:

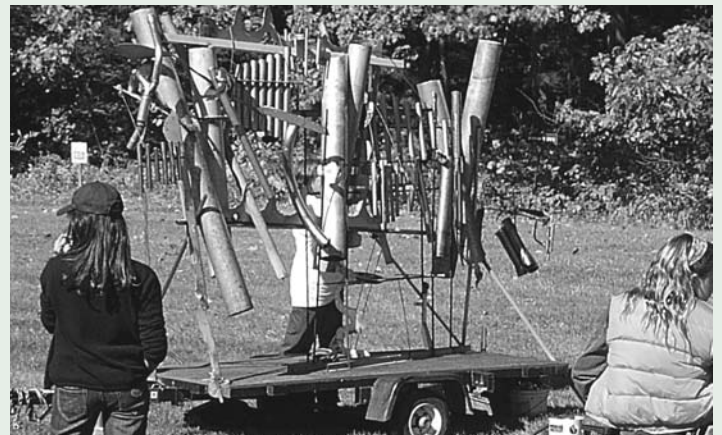
- Stonecarver *Everett Webber*, from the AVA Gallery Uncommon Chiselers, provided demonstrations of carving in marble, alabaster, and other stone
- *Dustin Coates*, artisan woodcarver and bowlmaker found beauty in tree burls and other unusual cuts of wood (look for such items in the park’s Museum Shop in 2007)
- Artist *Wendy Klemperer* brought her sculptures created from steel and other metals and demonstrated welding techniques
- Contrasting art forms – painting and sculpture – two artists, *Gary Mileck* on canvas and *Helene Massey Hemmans* in clay, worked side by side, each interpreting a garden scene and vista in their respective media
- 2006 Sculptor-in-Residence *Bill Williams* provided explanations of the lost wax bronze casting methods with examples of clay, wax, molds, and casts
- Artists *Ed Kimball* and *Adam Hosmer* presented their interactive mobile art-box-and-project space (part of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial exhibition series)
- Children and adults worked on bas relief projects in the Activity Tent.



*Glen Campbell, owner of an artist foundry in West Rutland, Vermont, uses a portable furnace to cast two bronze sculptures using the ancient “lost wax” bronze casting method. This is the same method used by Augustus Saint-Gaudens to cast everything from his detailed portrait reliefs to huge monuments such as the Shaw Memorial. Casting demonstrations like this are rarely seen by the general public. Fritz Maslan of Cornish is one of the artists that had his sculpture cast in bronze during the demonstration.*



*Martha Knapp, Museum Specialist at Saint-Gaudens NHS, demonstrates how to use gold leaf to gild finished works.*



*Antoinette Jacobson plays her fire organ, a sculpture that can be used as an instrument. Ingeniously created from metal pipes, the organ is actually played using a blowtorch, resulting in an extraordinary sound.*



*Hedge removal / replacement project in progress.*

## Cultural Landscape Report

One of the most significant features of the park is its historic landscape – the gardens, birch grove and allee, the honey locust tree, brick pathways, benches, and historic hedges. A Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) is a guiding document to help the park maintain and preserve these character-defining features.

In 1993, the National Park Service's Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation completed Volume 1 of the CLR that documented the site's landscape history. In 2005 and 2006, the site received additional funding to complete CLR Volumes 2 & 3 with the Olmsted Center. Volume 2 documents changes since 1993, and notes existing conditions and an analysis of their integrity. Volume 3 will provide recommendations for treatment options to the landscape and will serve as a guiding management document for the park. For example, the report will address how the park will implement appropriate landscaping and parking adjacent to the new Visitor Center.

Both volumes are currently in draft, to be completed in 2007. A summary document and public presentation of recommendations from Volume 3 will be held this year.

## Hedges and Nursery

Concurrently, while working on the Cultural Landscape Report, the park also received 2006 NPS project funding to support work on the hedges – plantings of white pine and eastern hemlock. Funding allowed for annual pruning of the 2/3 mile of historic hedges, removal of the declining roadside pine hedge (to be replanted in spring 2007), and installation of a temporary, on-site nursery to grow hemlock seedlings. A long-term hedge management plan will also be developed.

The new nursery will provide a ready supply of hemlock for future hedge replacement, as the species is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain from commercial sources due to the invasive insect the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.

## Museum Objects Conserved

In 2006, 21 preliminary plaster studies by Augustus Saint-Gaudens were conserved thanks to a 2005 grant of \$7,000 from the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, which was used to match a 2005 grant of \$14,000 from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts. The combined funding provided for important conservation work of these plasters allowing them to be exhibited, some for the first time.

Due to the success of this project both the Saint-Gaudens Memorial and the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts have repeated these grants in 2006, allowing for continued conservation of museum objects in 2007, including three paintings by Frances Houston, a member of the Cornish Colony.



## Exotic Plant Management

Saint-Gaudens NHS continues to manage 17 species of exotic, invasive plants that have been mapped within the park boundary, with over 25,000 removed since 2002. This total does not include efforts to control purple loosestrife at Blow-Me-Down Pond, which continues to be successful. In 2001, the park released beetles at the pond that specifically target purple loosestrife as its main food source. Through the use of monitoring plots the park tracks the density of purple loosestrife. Following a peak density of 10.5 stems/square meter in 2003, only 2.7 stems/square meter were found in 2006.



Linda Waugh

## Volunteer Spotlight – Linda Waugh

Linda Waugh of Claremont, NH, began volunteering at the park in 2005 by first participating in green-up activities. Shortly afterward, she helped with the 2005 Masque celebration and then went on to assist during concerts, providing visitors with information on the park and its programs. Linda also volunteers at the Museum Shop in the Visitor Center.

Linda's interest in Saint-Gaudens NHS began years ago when she and her husband, Ted, were living in Greenwich, Connecticut. Though she had worked in a surgical teaching program in Connecticut, she spent

much of her free time at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, often joining the museum's guided tours, particularly where Saint-Gaudens' work was discussed. She was surprised to hear the docents frequently questioning how Saint-Gaudens and the Cornish Colony artists could tolerate living in rural New Hampshire rather than the big city. On further questioning, the majority admitted they had never been to Cornish. Recalling the beauty of the Cornish area from previous visits to the park as a child, Linda found it all rather amusing, and in the mid 1990s, she and her husband moved to the area.

In 2007, Linda looks forward to leading tours of the galleries and Aspet. Her enthusiasm and cheerfulness are wonderful assets to the staff and the site and our visitors are very fortunate to have her as a volunteer.

## New Visitor Programs

A number of popular interpretive programs were developed in 2006. These and other new programs will be offered in 2007. Call ahead for a schedule of programs on any day you might plan a visit.

- **Stanford White** – learn of the friendship and important working relationship between White and Saint-Gaudens.
- **Tapestry talk** – explore the history and restoration of the antique tapestries
- **Women of the Cornish Colony** – learn about the important contributions of the women in the Colony in dance, art and the Women's Suffrage Movement
- **Blow-Me-Down Mill** – a program at the mill highlighting the history of the structure and surrounding landscape
- **Curator's Choice** – gallery talks focusing on specific museum objects
- **Garden Tour** – a history of the park's gardens
- **Nature Walks** – a look at the park's natural environment

## Sculpture Workshops

Each year a very popular series of sculpture classes, co-sponsored by the site and the Friends of Saint-Gaudens are taught by the site's Sculptor-in-Residence. Workshops include beginner to advanced classes, rubber and plaster mold making, plaster casting and patination. Last year's classes had waiting lists, so sign up early. For more information see our website or call the park for details.



2006 permanent and seasonal staff and Student Conservation Association volunteers.

## Saint-Gaudens Exhibition in Switzerland



*Saint-Gaudens NHS Curator, Dr. Henry Duffy, poses with Museo Vela Curator/Director, Dr. Gianna Mina.*

The traveling exhibition, *Augustus Saint-Gaudens: American Sculptor of the Gilded Age* went abroad in 2006. The exhibition, including over 70 pieces of the sculptor's works, traveled to the Museo Vela in Ligornetto, Switzerland, a small town in the Lake Lugano region along the Italian border. The host museum has many similarities to Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. A Swiss federal institution, the museum includes the home, studios, and gardens of the Italian sculptor Vincenzo Vela (1820-91).

The exhibition opening was preceded by a press conference, attended by the park Superintendent BJ Dunn and Curator Dr. Henry Duffy. The exhibition enjoyed excellent coverage in the French, Italian, and Swiss press. The opening reception was on a beautiful warm day, with a large crowd gathered to view the exhibition and hear the welcoming remarks from representatives of the Swiss Ministry of Culture, the Museo Vela, Saint-Gaudens NHS, and the Trust for Museum Exhibitions.

This was an important cultural event in Switzerland, marking the first time Saint-Gaudens' works were exhibited in that country. An accompanying catalog, *Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907): sculture Americane dell'Era d'Oro*, the first scholarly publication in Italian about the artist was also produced. The exhibition was a great success and an exciting collaboration between the federal cultural agencies of the two countries.



*Museo Vela*

## Saint-Gaudens at the Flagler Museum in 2007

The four-year traveling exhibition *Augustus Saint-Gaudens: American Sculptor of the Gilded Age* has arrived at the Henry Morrison Flagler Museum in Palm Beach, Florida. This is the final stop of the exhibition, which has been seen by more than 150,000 people at fourteen museum venues. The exhibition runs from January 16 to April 15, 2007. An opening reception was attended by over 300 guests including park Superintendent BJ Dunn. For more information about attending this exhibition please see their website at [www.flaglermuseum.com](http://www.flaglermuseum.com). The 70 museum objects that have been lent for this four-year exhibition will return on display this summer in the studios at the park.



## Summer/Fall 2007 Coin Exhibition



Saint-Gaudens NHS is collaborating as a major lender with the American Numismatic Society and the gallery of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York City, who are presenting an exciting exhibition on Saint-Gaudens' ten- and twenty-dollar gold coins. For many people these coins are the best known of Saint-Gaudens' works, and are acknowledged as the most beautiful coins ever made in America. Commemorating the centennial of the design of these two coins, as commissioned by President Theodore Roosevelt, this exhibition will present the most comprehensive show to date on the coins. Utilizing the rich collections of the American Numismatic Society, Saint-Gaudens NHS, and other public and private lenders, this show will bring together rarely seen preliminary studies and casts for the coins and other associated objects. There will be a fully illustrated catalog written by exhibition curator David Tripp, author of *Illegal Tender: Gold, Greed, and the Mystery of the Lost 1933 Double Eagle*, which is available for sale at the Saint-Gaudens NHS Museum Shop.

## 2007 Picture Gallery Exhibitions

Exhibitions at the Picture Gallery are generously sponsored by the Saint-Gaudens Memorial (see right). This year, an expanded exhibition program is planned, including a very special exhibit on Augustus Saint-Gaudens and his family.

**May 26 - July 8**

**Opening Reception: June 2, Saturday 4:30 - 6 p.m.**  
**Gerry Bergstein /Gail Boyajian: Paintings**



*Gail Boyajian, Historical Horse Show*

**May 26 - October 31**

**Opening Reception:**  
**June 2, Saturday, 4:30 - 6 p.m.**  
**Holly Alderman: Banners**

**July 14 - August 19**

**Opening Reception:**  
**July 14, Saturday 4:30 - 6 p.m.**  
**Saint-Gaudens Fellows**  
**Ann Carlson/Mary Ellen Strom:**  
**Video Installation**



Holly Alderman, Banner

**August 24 - September 23**

**Opening Reception:**  
**August 25, Saturday 4:30 - 6 p.m.**  
**Augustus Saint-Gaudens: A Personal Retrospective**

Organized by the park curator, Dr. Henry Duffy, the exhibit will feature the sculptor's own tools, clothing, and archival materials to give visitors a personal perspective of the man. Other works of the Saint-Gaudens family will also be shown. While Augustus was the most famous artist of the family, his wife Augusta, brother Louis, sister-in-law Annetta, nephew Paul, and niece Marie were also artists, and their works will be on display.



*Son, Homer Saint-Gaudens with pet goat, named Seasick.*

**September 29 - October 31**

**Opening Reception:**  
**September 29, Saturday 4:30 - 6 p.m.**  
**Gabrielle Rossmer: Sculpture**

## Trustees of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial



The Saint-Gaudens Memorial is a private, non-profit corporation chartered by the State of New Hampshire in 1919. The Trustees operated the site as a museum from 1926 until 1965, when they donated the property to the National Park Service. The Memorial continues to play an important role as a park partner and supports the site in a variety of ways including sponsoring programs and activities that promote public awareness of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, his work and sculpture in general.

Each year the Saint-Gaudens Memorial sponsors a summer concert series at the site and art exhibitions in the Picture Gallery. The Memorial also contributes toward the ongoing conservation treatment of museum objects, acquires new objects for the park's museum collection, and sponsors educational programs.

## Friends of Saint-Gaudens

Organized in 2001, the Friends of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial assist the Trustees and the park in a number of ways including serving as an advocate for improving park facilities, helping the Trustees and the site locate works of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, adopting projects, and sponsoring special workshops and programs such as Sculptural Visions.

Benefits of membership include a bi-annual newsletter featuring articles of interest about the park, Saint-Gaudens life and work, and related topics, as well as an annual pass to the park.

For more information about the Trustees of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial or to join the Friends of the Saint-Gaudens and to help them in their support of the park please contact:

Saint-Gaudens Memorial  
17 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017  
(212) 750-3690  
SGMemorial@aol.com • www.sgnhs.org



## 2006 Park at a Glance

\$1,021,000 NPS base operating budget

\$805,000 NPS project funding

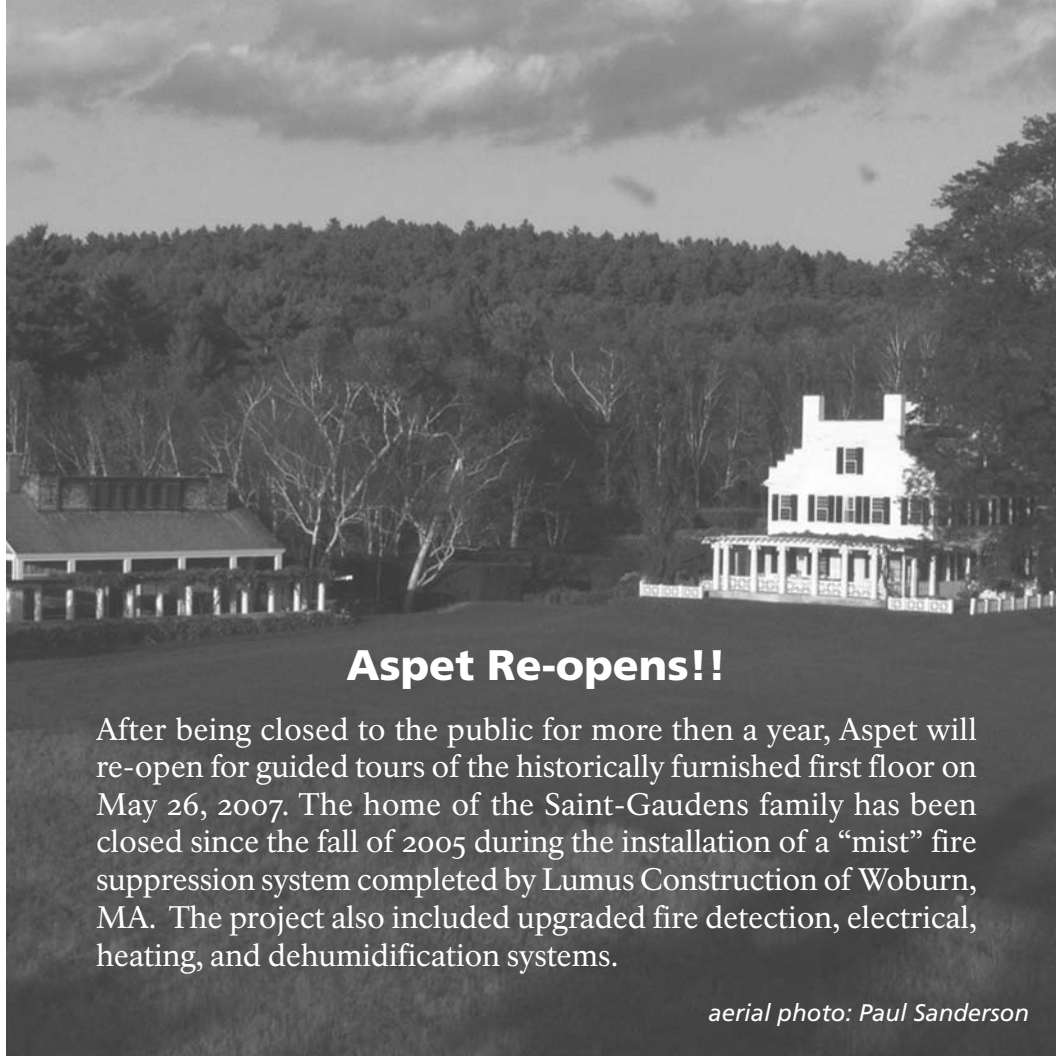
25,858 visitors

Eight concerts attended by 1,725 people

3,345 volunteer hours donated to the park

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**Aspet Re-opens!!**

After being closed to the public for more than a year, Aspet will re-open for guided tours of the historically furnished first floor on May 26, 2007. The home of the Saint-Gaudens family has been closed since the fall of 2005 during the installation of a “mist” fire suppression system completed by Lumus Construction of Woburn, MA. The project also included upgraded fire detection, electrical, heating, and dehumidification systems.

*aerial photo: Paul Sanderson*



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 www.nps.gov/saga

BULK RATE  
 POSTAGE & FEES  
 PAID  
 National Park Service  
 Permit No. G-83  
 Windsor, VT

**To visit:** The park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., from Memorial Day Weekend until October 31. Admission is \$5 per person for those 16 and older and an annual park pass is available for purchase for \$25 (good for cardholder and guests arriving in one non-commercial vehicle).  
**Directions:** available on our website

**Mission:** Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site preserves, protects, and interprets the cultural and natural resources historically associated with Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907). In partnership with the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, the site promotes the arts through exhibitions, special events, and programs as a living tribute to the sculptor.