

THE  
**FUTURE**  
OF  
**AMERICA'S**  
**NATIONAL**  
**PARKS**

First Annual  
Centennial Strategy for

# Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: SAGA

Year: 2007

**Vision Statement**

In 2016, visitors to the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site will enjoy works of the great American sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens on display in the well maintained home, studios, and galleries. Museum collections, historic and non-historic structures, and the cultural landscape will all be in good to excellent condition. The park will model exemplary stewardship of its significant resources as a newly accredited institution by the American Association of Museums.

Visitors will enjoy diverse interpretive program offerings including formal, ranger-led tours and self-guided options that will utilize the latest available technologies, such as handheld multimedia players, as well as a new orientation video. The summer Sunday afternoon concert series and temporary exhibitions at the Picture Gallery will continue to be popular and successful programs of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, Inc., the park's nonprofit operating partner.

The Centennial vision for the park and its partners (existing and/or new) is to develop the Cornish Colony Arts Center to be located at the Blow-Me-Down Farm. The programs of the Cornish Colony Arts Center will compliment the mission of the park by interpreting and celebrating the legacy of Augustus Saint-Gaudens and other members of the Cornish Colony - a group of extraordinary artists, writers, musicians, and political figures who followed Saint-Gaudens to Cornish, New Hampshire. The Center will offer expanded orientation and museum exhibition space for works of the sculptor and other Cornish Colony members. A small number of artist studios and short-term residential housing will provide for a seasonal artist-in-residence program. New artistic works will be on exhibition or performed for the public, along with other opportunities for public interaction with the artists. Multi-purpose program space will be available for school groups, sculpting workshops, and other conference and meeting needs of the park and its partners.

The 2016 vision also includes conserving adjacent lands to the south of the park by acquisition-in-fee or by conservation easements, so that the historic viewshed of the park is protected. Expanded hiking and nature trails will connect visitors from the Connecticut River, where a small landing will be available for visitors who might arrive by canoe, to the Cornish Colony Arts Center at the Blow-Me-Down Farm, and continue to Aspet - the home and studios of Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

**Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager**

BJ Dunn

Site: SAGA

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Improve the condition of park resources and assets.**

**Rehabilitate high-priority historic buildings to good condition, and help communities to preserve their history through programs like Preserve America.**

The park will continue to rehabilitate the buildings included on the List of Classified Structures including the installation of fire protection and security systems in several structures.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

**Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.**

The park will continue to implement its comprehensive Exotic Plan Management Plan.

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Site: SAGA

**ENVIRONMENT**

**Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.**

**Reduce the environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality.**

The park will explore the use of alternative energy sources, including solar power, as well as alternative technologies to decrease the energy uses associated with park-wide maintenance practices. The park will also be more conscientious in water conservation and the use of paper products.

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Site: SAGA

RECREATION

Encourage collaboration among and assist park and recreation systems at every level—federal, regional, state, local—to help build an outdoor recreation network accessible to all Americans.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The park will rehabilitate its existing nature trails and expand the trail system to include the Blow-Me-Down Farm, interconnecting the farm property with the core historic area of Saint-Gaudens NHS. In addition, Blow-Me-Down Farm will have a canoe access, thereby making the park accessible via the Connecticut River.

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Site: SAGA

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The park will continue to develop and implement curriculum for a comprehensive educational outreach program targeting all educational levels. The park will recruit and hire a temporary education specialist for this purpose.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: SAGA

EDUCATION

Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The park will utilize new technologies, such as handheld multimedia devices, in order to provide visitor with exciting new ways to explore and learn about the site.

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Site: SAGA

**PROFESSIONALISM**

Model what it means to work in partnership.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The park has a number of formal and informal partnerships that provide assistance in fulfilling the site's mission in a variety of ways. The park will seek to expand its existing partnerships and cultivate new ones; of particular importance in developing the Cornish Colony Arts Center at the Blow-Me-Down Farm.

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