

A PUBLIC SPACE
+
A SYMBOL OF LOCAL
HERITAGE



Tuberculosis patients on a cure porch.
[HSL Collection, TCR #226]

This project draws on the American cultural tradition of a front porch—a place to visit with neighbors and enjoy the outdoors. In the early 1900s, Saranac Lake welcomed thousands of tuberculosis patients to come for the “fresh air cure.” These patients spent most of their time on specially built “cure porches” where they could experience the restorative effects of fresh air and socialize with other residents despite the contagious nature of tuberculosis. As a symbol of our local history, the Cure Porch on Wheels is a fitting venue for a variety of arts and culture programs.



Historic Saranac Lake is a not-for-profit architectural preservation organization that captures and presents local history from our center at the Saranac Laboratory Museum. Open year-round Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00-5:00.



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HISTORY AND ARTS
ON THE MOVE

A PROJECT BY
HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE

WHAT IS THE CURE PORCH ON WHEELS?

A symbol of local heritage, the Cure Porch on Wheels is a mobile public space that hosts a wide variety of arts and culture activities. A project of Historic Saranac Lake, it serves the residents of Saranac Lake and the Adirondack region.



The Cure Porch on Wheels behind the Saranac Laboratory at 89 Church St.

The Cure Porch on Wheels is an affordable venue where local organizations and individuals can host public events. As a mobile space, it allows us to move beyond the walls of our organizations to connect with the public in new places. The possible uses are many! It can serve as a warming hut at outdoor winter activities, or a studio for plein air painters. Historic Saranac Lake uses the Cure Porch on Wheels as a place to record the voices and stories of community members as part of its Oral History Project.

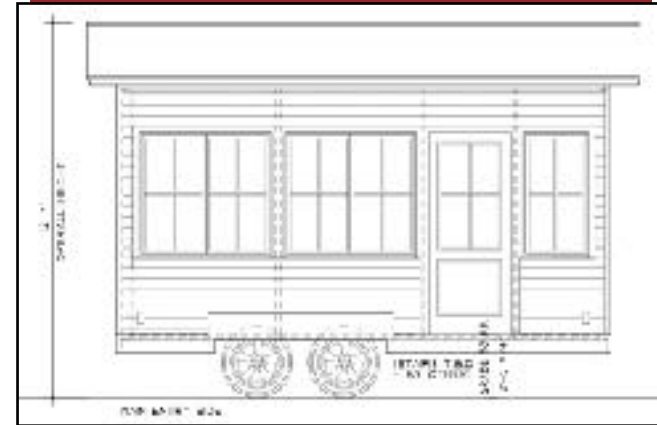
BUILDING THE PORCH

In 2016 Historic Saranac Lake was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Artworks Grant to design the Cure Porch on Wheels. In 2018 the design plans were finalized and construction began at Donald Rumble Carpentry. Blue Moon Builders created reproductions of classic cure porch windows, and a team of volunteers worked to complete the construction of the Porch. The Cure Porch on Wheels made its debut in the 2019 Winter Carnival Parade.

The Cure Porch on Wheels is built on a trailer, and can be towed to a variety of locations. Complete with a wheelchair lift, lights, electrical outlets, and solar power, the Porch is an affordable venue that can be used in even the most remote locations. The Porch is also heated for year-round use!



The Cure Porch on Wheels was unveiled in the 2019 Winter Carnival Parade. The theme was Prehistoric Park.



The design plans for the Cure Porch on Wheels

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.CUREPORCHONWHEELS.ORG

Visit our website to keep up with the latest news of the Cure Porch on Wheels and find out if the Porch is right for your event! There you can reserve the Porch for your organization, find information about upcoming events, and follow its travels as our mobile oral history booth.

We would like to thank the many generous individuals and foundations who made this project possible. Visit our website for a complete list of the Cure Porch on Wheels supporters.



The Cure Porch on Wheels is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.