CHUSID SYMPOSIUM ON PLACE
CHRISTOPHERSON CENTER FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING

Chusid Symposium Guide
Chautauqua County

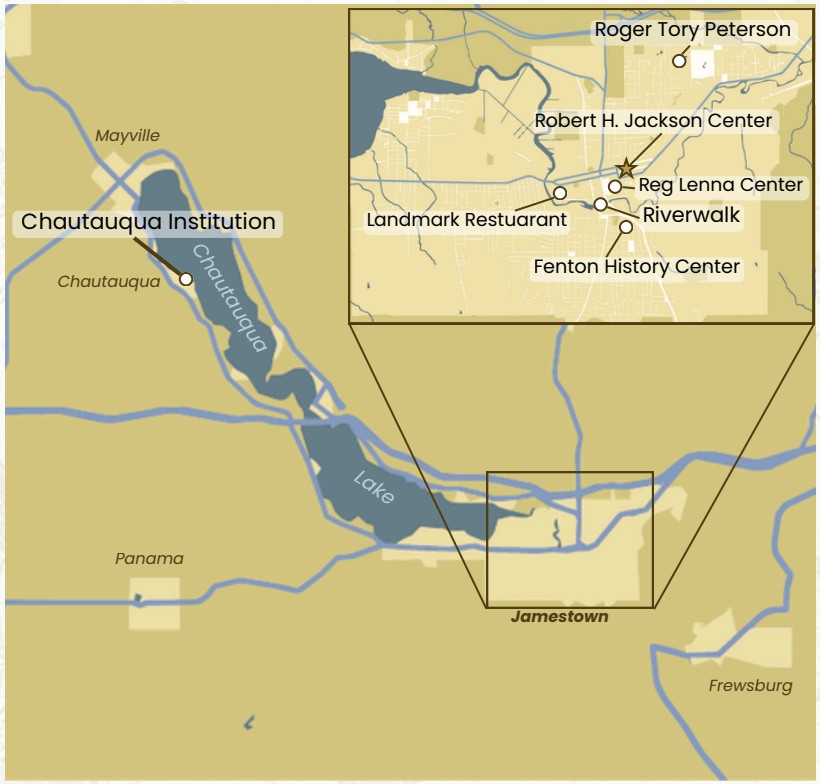
Jamestown Riverwalk
203 West 2nd St, Jamestown
What was once an overgrown, fenced-off industrial zone along the Chadokin River has been transformed into a scenic, accessible waterfront park in the heart of Jamestown. It connects downtown landmarks like the Lucile Ball Desi Arnaz Museum and the National Comedy Center, serving as a prime example of regional placemaking that honors both Jamestown's natural environment and its industrial heritage.

Reg Lenna Center for the Arts
116 East 3rd St, Jamestown
Mon,Wed,Fri, 12-8PM
Nicknamed "The Reg," the theater first opened its doors in 1923 as the premier vaudeville and movie house in Chautauqua County. Restored to its original gilded splendor in the 1980s, the 1,165-seat theater features ornate plasterwork and sweeping architectural detailing reminiscent of cinema's golden age. The Center was named in honor of local industrialist Reginald Lenna and his wife Betty, who also played a vital role in purchasing the Kent Mansion for the Robert H. Jackson Center.

Roger Tory Peterson Institute
311 Curtis St Exd, Jamestown
Tue-Sun, 10AM-4PM
Nestled in a 27-acre nature preserve, the Institute honors Roger Tory Peterson, whose field guide series revolutionized the science of wildlife identification in the 1930s and contributed to the growth of modern birdwatching. The site of the Institute was constructed in 1994 in an Arts and Crafts style, with complex joinery and interior trim made by local woodworkers, honoring the furniture manufacturing legacy of Jamestown.

A Legacy of Great Makers and Thinkers

Founded in 1811, Chautauqua County boasts a rich history defined by industrial innovation, natural beauty, and a deep commitment to civic life. From its early boom in world-class manufacturing along its waterways to its pioneering role in national educational and arts movements, the region has long served as a fertile ground for human progress. Over the centuries, this unique landscape has nurtured an extraordinary roster of visionary thinkers, skilled artisans, and pioneering makers whose contributions resonated far beyond its borders.



Fenton History Center
67 Washington St, Jamestown
Mon-Sat, 10AM-4PM
"If someone really wants to learn about Jamestown's history," Jackson Center President Kristan McMahon recommends the Fenton History Center. It is the second oldest brick house in Jamestown (behind the Kent Mansion). The Italianate villa was built in 1863 as the residence of longtime Jamestown resident and New York Governor Reuben Fenton. Today, it is a museum that documents the history of Chautauqua County, including the manufacturing traditions in furniture making. Many of the rooms have been restored to look as they would have in the 1860s.

Landmark Restaurant
516 West 4th St, Jamestown
Tue-Sat, 4:30-8:30PM
Located on West 4th Street, The Landmark Restaurant is housed in a carefully reconstructed Ironstone building that showcases Jamestown's woodworking legacy. The restaurant features intricate dark oak paneling, stained glass and a new outdoor dining pavilion made by local craftsmen. There you can find upscale comfort food, steaks, seafood, and pasta.

Chautauqua Institution
1 Ames Ave, Chautauqua
The Chautauqua Institution, founded in 1874, was the birthplace of the nationwide Chautauqua movement that brought education, religious, and arts programming to millions of adults around the nation. President Theodore Roosevelt described Chautauqua as "typical of America at its best." The landmark Victorian structure features an open-air amphitheater that is used to host events such as the annual Robert H. Jackson Lecture on the Supreme Court, sponsored by the Jackson Center.

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Chusid Symposium Guide
Cattaraugus County

Sovereignty, Rails & Revival

Founded in 1817, and named after the Seneca word describing the natural gas along its waterways, Cattaraugus County spans the Allegheny Plateau down to the Pennsylvania border and encompasses the ancestral homelands of the Seneca Nation, including Salamanca, the only city in the United States located entirely on an Indigenous reservation. Olean, in the southeast, was a bustling rail junction and oil refining hub during its late 19th-century boom. It was even a resting stop for notorious gangsters like Al Capone, earning the name "Little Chicago." In spite of recent population decline, Cattaraugus County has continued to invest in improvements, and the Seneca Nation is leading a profound cultural and economic revival across its lands, keeping Haudenosaunee traditions alive.



Seneca Iroquois National Museum
82 W Hetzel St, Salamanca
Mon-Sat, 9AM-4:30PM
Founded in 1977 to safeguard and celebrate Haudenosaunee heritage, the museum, now housed in the modern Onöhsagwë:de' Cultural Center, documents centuries of Seneca history along the Allegheny River. From ancestral clan traditions and historic treaties to contemporary art, its collections highlight the enduring sovereignty and living culture of the Seneca Nation. It stands as a vital cultural institution in Salamanca for the Seneca Nation.

First National Bank Studios
101 North Union St, Olean
Constructed in 1915 as the First National Bank building at the corner of North Union and State Streets, this structure earned its local nickname, the "Manny Hanny Building," during its era as a major branch for Manufacturers Hanover Bank. Featuring classical architectural detailing, intricate terra cotta cornices, and original subterranean bank vaults, the tower long stood as the city's tallest commercial anchor before enduring over two decades of vacancy. Following a major award-winning historic restoration, it was transformed into apartments, an art studio and commercial and event space. Praised by Olean's municipal leaders as a "crown jewel" project of the city's Downtown Revitalization Initiative, the Manny Hanny demonstrates how breathing new life into historic urban architecture can contribute to the restoration of a city.

Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino Event Center
777 Seneca Allegany Blvd, Salamanca
The Seneca Allegany Resort opened in 2007 as a multi-purpose venue designed to host national entertainment, conventions, and major civic gatherings for the Seneca Nation in Cattaraugus County. Beyond its role as an economic driver for regional tourism, it serves as an essential cultural platform by hosting Seneca Iroquois National Museum's annual art markets and Indigenous artisan showcases. By bringing together master beadworkers, antler carvers, traditional basketmakers, painters, and sculptors from across the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, it provides Indigenous artists with a high-visibility marketplace while reinforcing the vital connection between tribal economic enterprise and cultural preservation.

The Old Library Restaurant and Inn
116 South Union St, Olean
Wed-Sat, 5-10PM
Constructed in 1909 through a grant from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, this Beaux Arts landmark served as Olean's public library for over six decades, fostering generations of local learning. Following the library's relocation in the 1970s, the structure was saved through private investment and converted into an elegant restaurant and inn, preserving its grand woodwork, stained glass, and historic interior details. Today, it is a celebrated example of commercial adaptive reuse, allowing patrons to dine inside a treasured piece of civic history.

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Chusid Symposium Guide
Allegany County

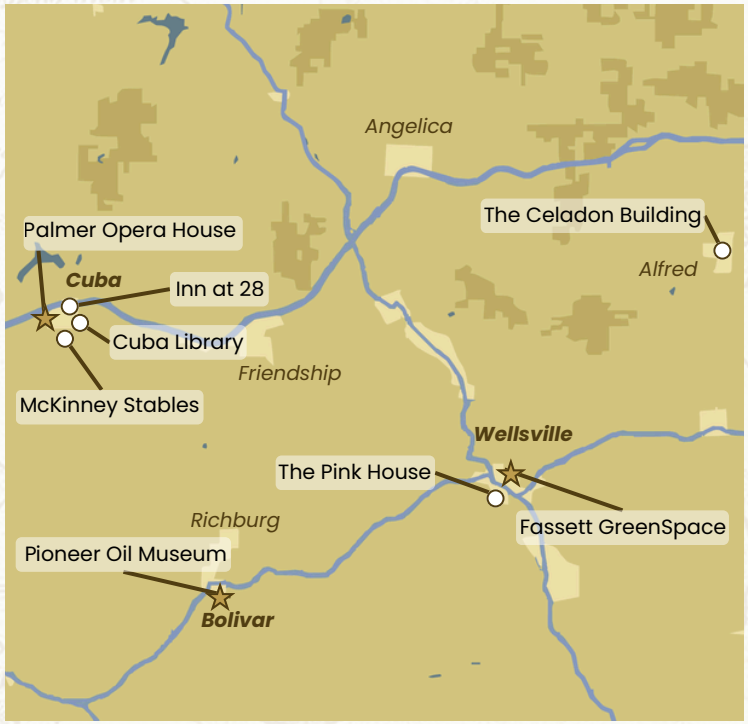
Cuba Cheese Shoppe
53 Genesee St, Cuba
Daily 8:30AM-5PM
Tracing its roots back to 1871, the Cuba Cheese Shoppe was established during an era when Cuba, New York, was widely recognized as the "Cheese Capital of the World," with local prices setting market rates on the New York Milk Exchange. Operating continuously for over 150 years, the business expanded from a wholesale regional producer into an iconic retail destination known for its signature New York State extra sharp cheddar and gourmet foods.

Cuba Circulating Library
39 East Main St, Cuba
Mon-Thu, 9:30AM-8PM; Sat, 9:30AM-3:30PM
The library was originally chartered in 1872 with just 100 books housed in rented spaces, including the Palmer Opera House. It's permanent home was established following a $30,000 gift from former Cuba librarian Elisabeth Sheldon in 1922.The Tudor Revival-style Arts and Crafts building at the corner of East Main and Maple Streets was constructed in 1924 as a "forever free" library for the community. Following a major community-supported recovery from severe floods in 2021, the historic building continues to serve as a cornerstone of civic life in Cuba, offering educational programming, community event spaces, and modern resources for generations of local residents.

McKinney Stables of Empire City Farms
105 South St, Cuba
Built between 1907 and 1909 by horse breeder and New York City businessman William Simpson, this 347-foot-long structure is known to locals as the "Block Barn." Designed by architect John H. Coxhead, the stable was constructed using fire-resistant concrete blocks cast directly on site and topped with a striking terra cotta tile roof manufactured in nearby Alfred. Today, it serves as the celebrated home of the annual Cuba Garlic Festival.

Craft, Enterprise, Boomtowns & Cheese

Founded in 1806, the county is named after the Lenape term for a trail that followed the Allegany River. For centuries, the Genesee river was an essential transportation route for the Seneca and successive European settlers. In the mid to late 1800s, it was part of the oil boom in western New York. Cuba, in particular, was a hub for the making and selling of cheese, called the "Cheese Center of the World." Today, the region continues to honor its rich 19th-century history of agriculture, oil and dairy, with residents who are dedicated to preserving their community heritage.



The Celadon Building
North Main St, Alfred
Built in 1892 in Alfred, the Celadon Building was originally constructed as an architectural showcase office for the Celadon Terra Cotta Company, designed to display the intricate roof tiles and decorative ceramic masonry that put Allegany County on the national industrial map. Featuring elaborate red terra cotta relief panels, detailed clay roofing, and historic masonry, the structure stands as a testament to the region's rich ceramic arts heritage and local material craftsmanship.

The Inn at 28
28 Genesee Pkwy, Cuba
The Inn was built in 1852 as a grand family mansion by Russell Smith, a prominent early pioneer who played a vital role in establishing the village of Cuba. For well over a century, the historic home remained in the hands of the Smith family before being transformed into a bed-and-breakfast in 2016. Today, the restored property retains its original 19th-century architectural detail, featuring a wraparound porch, a stately wood-detailed dining room, and inviting living spaces anchored by a working fireplace.

The Pink House
193 West State St, Wellsville
Constructed between 1866 and 1869, the pink Italianate villa was designed by local pharmacist Edwin Bradford Hall, who was inspired by a villa he saw on a trip to Italy. Hall mixed the home's pink paint at his own drugstore in Wellsville. The three-acre estate includes a historic carriage house, an ice house, and a unique "fossil house" that once held locally collected Paleozoic fossils. The residence features original Victorian-era stained glass and a central tower. The house has remained in the same family for five generations.