

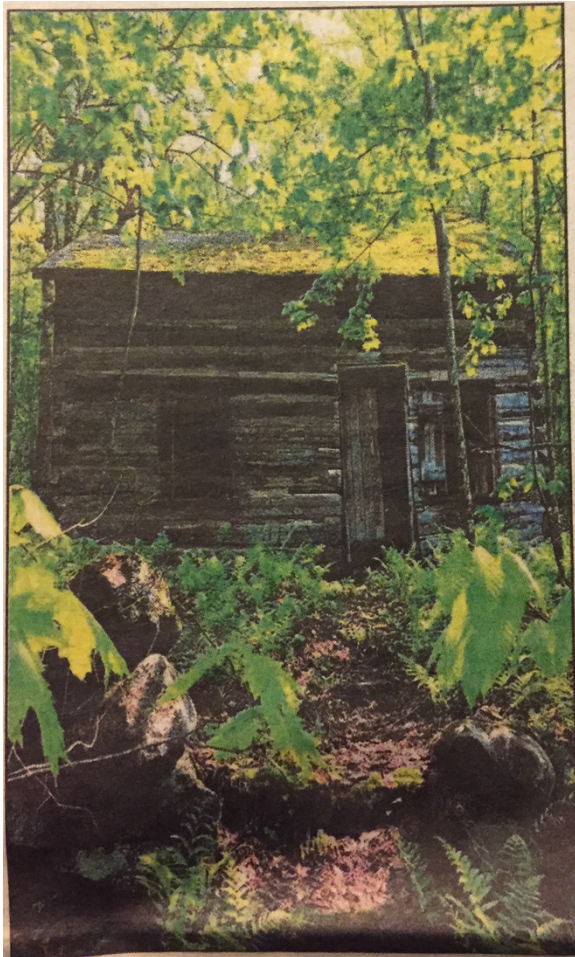
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Stevensville Cabin update and workshops

By Sara Lourié

Dear Friends of Stevensville Cabin

I am sorry, it has been an embarrassingly long time since I have been in touch, but I finally have some news to share.

As you may recall, we had a very successful workshop last June, during which Paul Ruta demonstrated techniques of logging with his two beautiful Percheron horses. We partially cleared a trail towards the back of the property, and felled and brought several trees down to the cabin that we are hoping to use in the restoration. Subsequent to that, Ernest Krusch transported the six logs kindly gifted to the project by a neighbor. Plus we were lucky enough to obtain some beautiful spruce logs from the Hinesburg Town Forest.

Some of these logs will form the basis of a second workshop on Hewing Logs in preparation for building (or in our case rebuilding) a pioneer-era log cabin. The workshop will be led by Miles Jenness of Vermont Heavy Timber. It will take place at the cabin (264 Stevensville Rd., Underhill) on Sunday, 19 July, 1:00 – 5:00 PM (please see the poster for more information).

The following week Miles and his crew will start the process of dismantling the cabin. Given the poor condition of the structure, and the potential dangers involved, they cannot have other people helping out with this part of the project; however, they would be happy for people to come and watch (from a distance). If you are interested in doing so, please get in touch with me before showing up (sara.lourie@mail.mcgill.ca or 802-585 0223).

Prior to the hewing workshop and the dismantle, there was a Treasure Hunt on Sunday, July 12 for anyone interested in learning to use metal detectors to find lost / buried items. This workshop was led by The Ring Finder (Mike Baker) (www.theringfinders.com/Mike.Baker/).

Lastly, I want to let you know that the project now has a website: www.stevensville-cabin.org. This is very much a work in progress, but I will do my best to keep it updated. Feel free to share it with others who might be interested.

This is going to be (already has been!) a very costly project. If you are interested in helping financially with the restoration, there is a way to contribute via PayPal on the bottom of the front page. I will get a full budget up on the website soon, in addition to what I already have it is currently looking like it still needs ~\$120,000... that could be covered by approximately 50-100 people, each contributing \$100-250 (or 5-10 people contributing \$1000-2500). There may be a way to get a grant; however, I think that I need to set up a 501(c)(3) organization in order to apply for one. Have set up/run a 501(c)(3) before, I know that it is a lot of work! Still, I am trusting that there will be a way to make this happen somehow. If you are able to contribute financially please do so via the website, and/or let me know, I appreciate it hugely :-)

Whether or not you can help financially, I am delighted that you are interested in the project, and I thank you for being part of this exciting restoration.