Heyworth Village Apartments Onwards



Soon after the closure of A Mason and Sons Lumber Mill, the industrial site was transformed into a residential site. By the late 1980s, A&C Properties had developed "Heyworth Village", an apartment complex with over 80 units. Some of the mill buildings were converted into apartments, and new buildings were constructed. The 1836 stone Heyworth building was renovated to accommodate 12 apartment units.

On June 27th 1998, unprecedented heavy rains led to a major flood along the Little Ausable River. The flood waters, over four feet deep, ripped through the apartment complex. Thankfully, few of the apartments were occupied due to the closure of the Plattsburgh Air Force Base. While there were no deaths or serious injuries, most of the buildings were damaged beyond repair. Through the New York State Emergency Management Office, Clinton County bought out the property through a Hazard Mitigation Grant. The county cleared all the buildings away, except for the stone building. They transferred ownership of the property to the Town in 2002 and established a conservation easement on most of it.

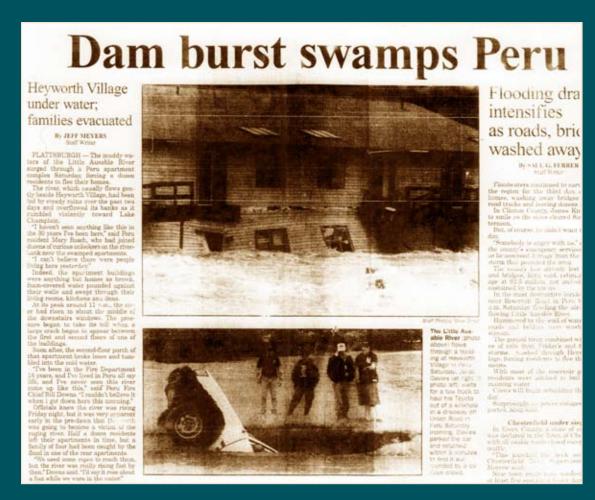
The Town of Peru decided to develop the property as a park to protect it from future development and allow residents and visitors alike an opportunity to learn about its important history and enjoy its natural beauty. In 2005 the Town was awarded a matching grant from the New York State Council on the Arts to develop a Site Master Plan. In 2007 Peru was awarded a Parks Grant funded through the Environmental Protection Fund for the development of the first phase of this Master Plan.



Flooding destroys Heyworth Village Apartments on Saturday, June 27th, 1998. Only the 1836 stone building survived.



1995 aerial photo of the apartment complex.



Front page of the Press Republican, Sunday, June 28th, 1998.



After the flood the site sits empty and quiet for the first time since 1795.