



October News

October 5, 2020

October Program Bringing Down the Dam, Freeing the Falls October 8 at 7:30 p.m. on Hudson Community TV



Elaine Marsh

Hudson Heritage Association welcomes Elaine Marsh, Summit Metro Parks Watershed Specialist, who will discuss the forthcoming removal of Gorge Dam and what it will mean for the environment and the region.

The rescue and restoration of the Cuyahoga River is perhaps Northeast Ohio's greatest environmental success story. But a hurdle still stands in the way of a complete rebirth of the crooked river, a 60-foot-high hurdle.

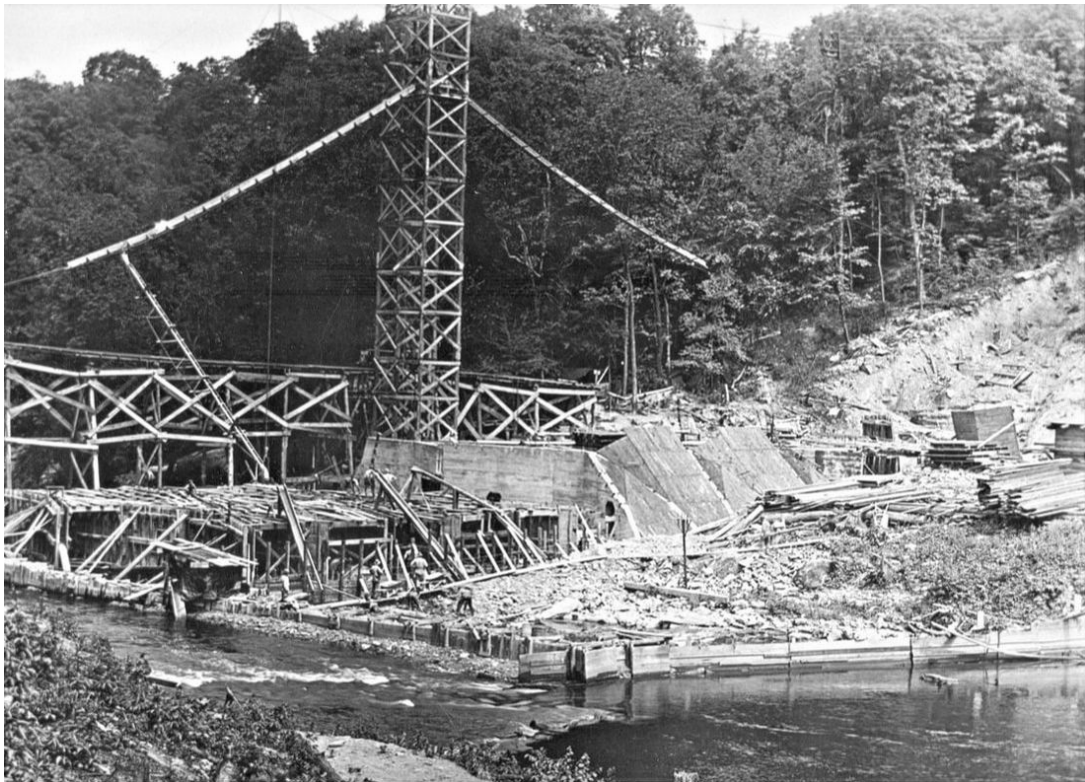
Marsh's presentation will take place on Thursday, October 8, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the program will be virtual, airing on Hudson Community TV (Channel 1021) and HCTV's online livestream (www.hudson.oh.us/1081/Watch-HCTV-Channels-Online). For those who miss the broadcast on October 8, the program will be available soon after on [HCTV's online archives](#).

Gorge Dam, which halts the river in Gorge Metro Park in Cuyahoga Falls, is 400 feet wide and 60 feet tall. It was constructed almost 110 years ago to generate electricity. Hydro-electric operations ceased more than 60 years ago. Marsh's presentation will examine the interwoven story of the dam, river and park.



Originally, the Cuyahoga River coursed through a series of waterfalls called "Big Falls," which were a local attraction. They will likely return with the removal of Gorge Dam.

"It's a fascinating tale of gravity and water, of scenic beauty and contamination, and of competing economies," she said. "Mainly, it's the account of how our vision for use of the Gorge has evolved."



Construction of Gorge Dam began in 1911.



The damming of the Cuyahoga River by Gorge Dam significantly altered the river's flow

"There are real, transformative benefits of dismantling the dam and 'freeing the falls,' which currently lie drowned under this obsolete mass of concrete," she added. "Gorge Dam is one of the Cuyahoga River's biggest unresolved water-quality problems."

Marsh will also discuss the surprising progress in the plans and funding for the dam's removal, which may come as soon as 2024.

"All of us should be excited by the potential benefits to the dam's removal," she said. "The project will restore the original grandeur of the gorge. It will also mean cleaner water, more natural beauty and a boost to recreation and the local economy."

In 1989, Marsh co-founded Friends of Crooked River, a grassroots group dedicated to the Cuyahoga River. She currently serves as the organization's president and facilitator for Canal Diversion Dam Removal. From 1996 to 2008, she was Project Director for Ohio Greenways. She sits on many boards and has received numerous recognitions, including a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Ohio Environmental Council.

"The Cuyahoga River was crucial to the successful settlement and thriving growth of the Western Reserve throughout the 19th and 20th centuries," said Chris Bach, Hudson Heritage Association President. "Returning it to its natural splendor will allow the river to again help our region and residents thrive."

"A core part of HHA's mission is restoration, and the removal of Gorge Dam will help preserve and restore a historic waterway. We are eager to get the details from Elaine during what will certainly be a fascinating presentation."

Join HHA as we dive into the history and future of
Gorge Dam.

October 8 at 7:30 p.m. on HCTV Channel 1021

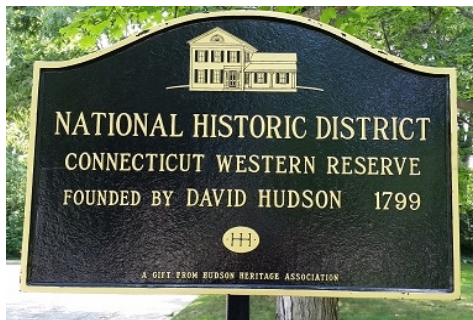
HHA Supports Historic District Expansion

As announced in the [September 23 issue of the Hudson Hub](#), Hudson City Council has decided to move forward with expansion of Hudson's Historic District - another great step in the ongoing effort to help preserve and protect the historic character of Hudson's downtown neighborhood.

The latest effort to expand Hudson's Historic District began in April 2016 when 25 residents submitted a petition to the City of Hudson requesting that the Historic District be expanded to include Elm Street and Rosalyn Avenue. This request was followed by consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), informational meetings with the Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS) and online surveys conducted over the past three years by the City of Hudson. Most recently, the city sought additional feedback from the property owners that might be affected by the expansion. That survey involved 44 homeowners and yielded 40 responses - a 91 percent response rate that will allow the city to move forward with the expansion.



Adam Westfield House, 1889 at 121 Elm Street



Hudson's Historic District is part of the National Register of Historic Places, a federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that merit preservation because of their importance to the understanding of American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture. The National Register of Historic Places was established by an Act of Congress in 1966 and is administered by the National Park Service.

Once this landmark legislation was enacted, work began on Hudson's first National Register Historic District nomination, which was submitted to SHPO for consideration. In 1973, as a result of the submission, Hudson's "village center" became the second National Register Historic District in the state. It consisted of an area roughly bordered by Streetsboro, College, Baldwin and Main Streets, and included one block of Owen Brown Street. In 1975, a second nomination was approved to expand the district to include Western Reserve Academy. Both nominations were prepared by Thirza Cady, assistant to Janet Sprague, archivist for the Hudson Library & Historical Society.



In 1989, recognizing that Hudson had a significant concentration of buildings that were united historically and aesthetically and that gave Hudson much of its character, another application was submitted to the National Register Historic District for further expansion. This time, the nomination was prepared by Lois Newkirk, working as a consultant for Hudson Heritage Association. The resulting expansion included Streetsboro Street on the south, the triangular section of Hudson and Aurora Streets, and Oviatt Street. It stopped short of including the 1927 Hudson High School on Oviatt, although it is believed that the school building would be eligible for its own designation based on its architectural merits. Given the current concerns about the 1927 building's future, HHA hopes it can be included in this latest expansion.



Proposed area expansion

What's so important about this planned expansion? The area under consideration for addition to the Historic District contains many homes of architectural interest and value. In addition, being part of the District helps protect against inappropriate alterations that can negatively affect the aesthetics of individual properties and even neighboring properties. Alterations must be approved by Hudson's Architectural and Historic Board of Review (AHBR), which was created by the city in 1975 as the Historic District was being established in Hudson. Today, the AHBR continues to issue certificates of appropriateness to construct, alter, remove or demolish structures, buildings or landmarks within the Historic District following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Being in the Historic District ensures that homeowners know how to best update their homes in ways that enhance their historic value. It helps preserve and protect these properties.

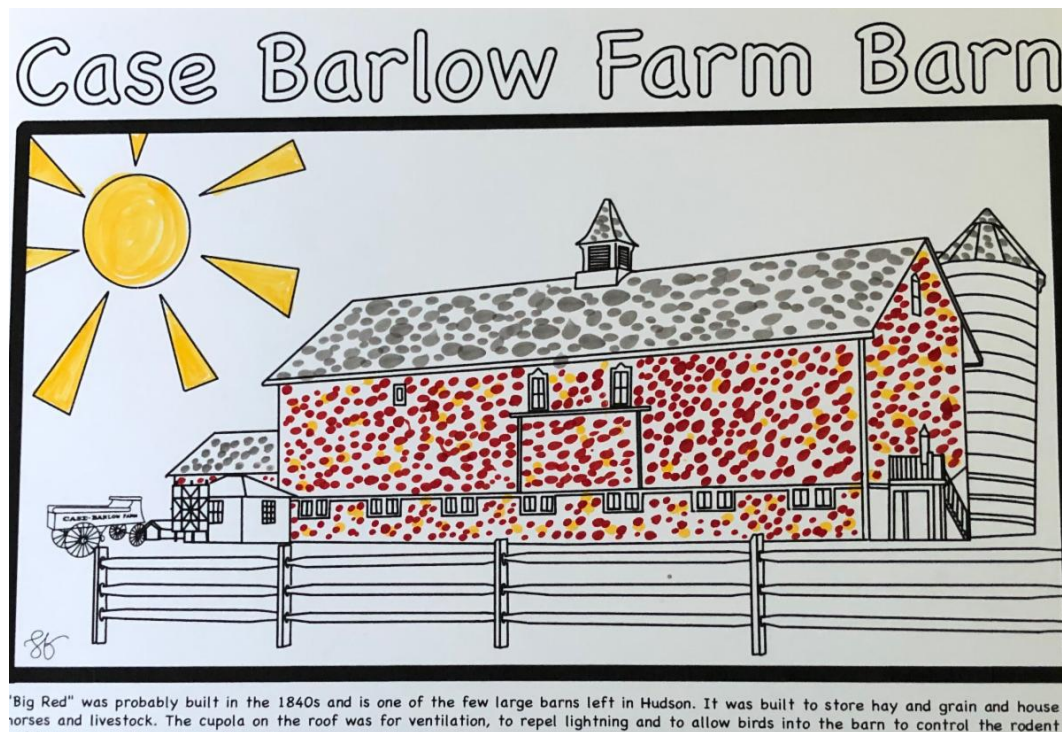


For more information about the National Register of Historic Places visit, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm> or <https://bit.ly/3adj1Zm>.

HHA's Coloring Challenge Adds Hues to Hudson's Summer of 2020

If it seemed like the Summer of 2020 was more colorful than usual, you weren't mistaken. Thanks to Hudson Heritage Association, scores of Hudson residents spent part of their summer coloring some of the town's most notable historic structures.

The 2020 Coloring Challenge allowed residents to go to HHA's website (HudsonHeritage.org) and download printable, black and white drawings suitable for coloring, featuring seven of Hudson's most well-known and historic buildings: Brewster Mansion, the barn at Case-Barlow Farm, the Clock Tower, the Baldwin-Buss-Merino House and Western Reserve Academy's Chapel, President's House and Loomis Observatory.

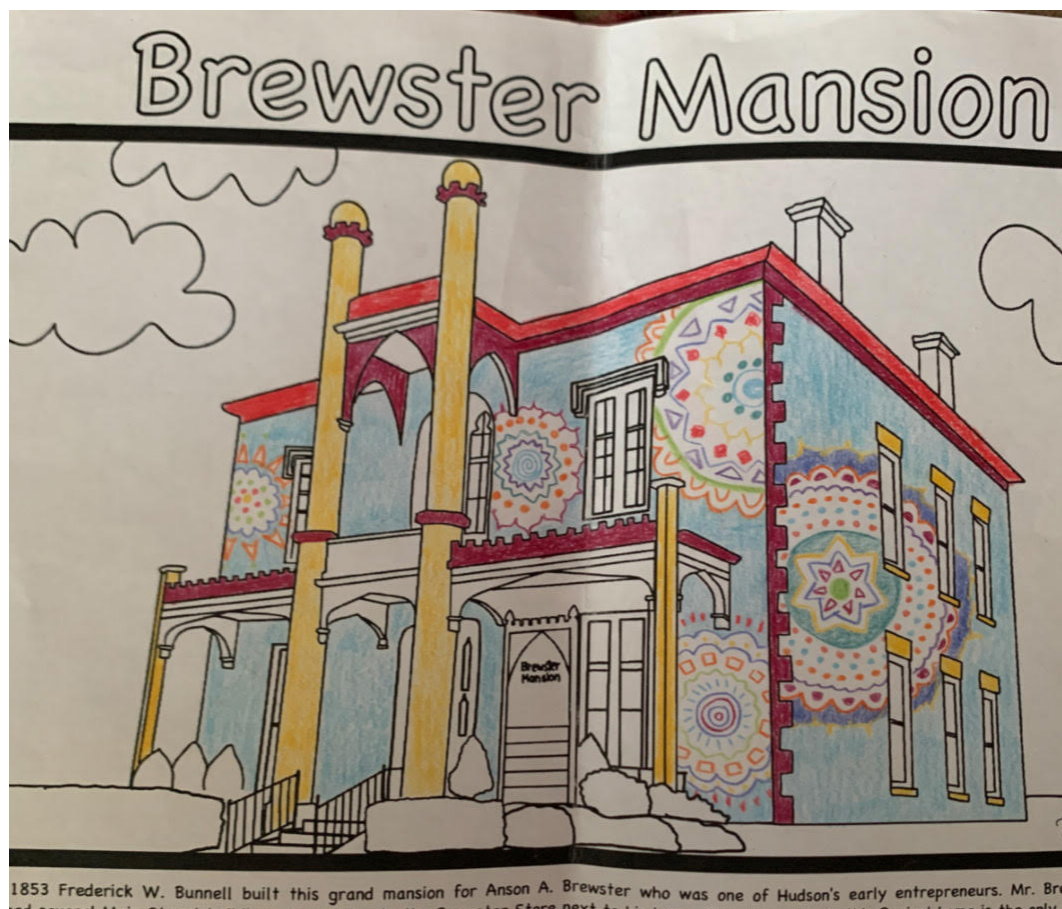


Hudson's Case Barlow Farm colored by Katie Coulton

The pages were accessed more than 300 times as of Sept. 1, and more than 40 completed pages have been either submitted to Hudson Heritage Association via email or posted on social media.

Artists ranged in age from 4 to over 70 years old, and everyone who completed the challenge, was awarded a certificate of completion, a coupon for a free Hershey's ice cream cone and an HHA keychain. One lucky artist, Elsa Kendrick - who also submitted artwork with her 4-year-old daughter - was randomly selected as the winner of a \$25 gift card to the Learned Owl Bookstore. (All prizes were donated to HHA.)

The challenge was made possible, in part, with support from [Ohio History Connection](#) and its [Ohio History Fund COVID-19 Emergency Grant Program](#). This temporary grant program helps history organizations address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Hudson's Brewster Mansion colored by Elsa Hendrick

Here is what some of the participants said about the 2020 Color Challenge:

"We loved that there was a picture of Case Barlow farm, because we go to there frequently! Thank you!"

- Chrissanna Krsich, mother of Levi and Ezra.

"The contest kept (my grandchildren) somewhat occupied since we started having them with us while Mom and Dad are back in their respective schools. Next plan is to take the kids on the HHA walking tours. ... The Coloring Challenge was fun for the kids."

- Betsy MacLeod, grandmother of Adeline and Thad.

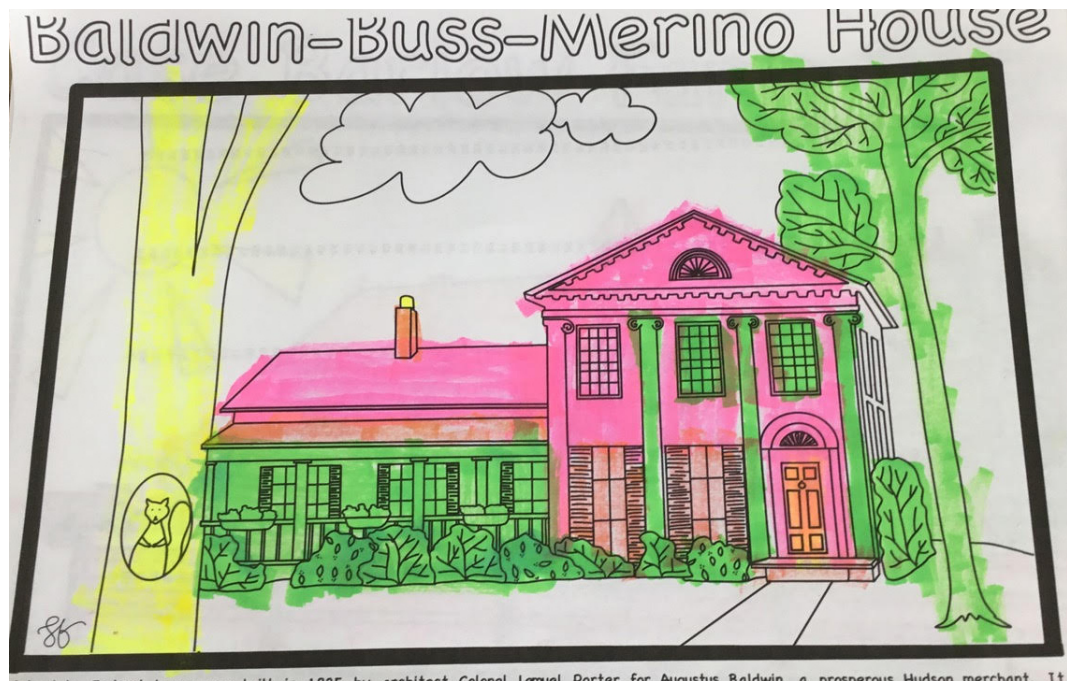
"Thanks for this fun opportunity to learn more about Hudson!"

- Elsa Kendrick, mother of Harper and winner of the Learned Owl gift card.

"He really enjoyed doing this project. Thanks again for making it available to him."

- Chris Crist, mother of Caleb

The coloring pages will remain available for download indefinitely on www.HudsonHeritage.org under the ["For Families"](#) tab.



Hudson's Baldwin-Buss-Merino House, colored by Adeline Luker

LAST CALL!! Membership Reminder

DON'T DELAY! Memberships received before October 15 will be included in the **2020/21 HHA Member Directory**. The simplest way to renew or join is to use the online payment option that you'll find on our website by [clicking here](#). Your membership dollars are critical in funding our programs, advocacy efforts and operations. Thank you in advance for your interest in HHA and the trust you have in our work toward preservation in Hudson.

There's no time like the present to support the past!
Please renew or join by **October 15!**

Thank you to all who have joined already!

It's easy to renew online at www.hudsonheritage.org/membership/ or send a check to cover membership fees at one of the following levels:

- \$35 Individual
- \$55 Couple
- \$100 Historian
- \$100 Business
- \$250 Preservationist
- \$500 David Hudson

Mail to: Hudson Heritage Association, Box 2218, Hudson, OH 44236

Please contact us at info@hudsonheritage.org for more information.

We hope to hear from you soon! Thank you for your support!

2020/21 Program Dates

HHA is planning a virtual program year for as long as there are state mandates against in-person gatherings. The safety of our members and friends is our priority! Please plan to join us on our regular program dates/times (second Thursdays each month at 7:30) when our programs air on HCTV (channel 1021) and Hudson Community Television's HCTV Channels Online and anytime after as the programs are available on HCTV's online archives.

Tune in to HCTV (channel 1021) at 7:30 p.m. as HHA presents the following:

October 8

Removing Gorge Dam with Elaine Marsh
Hudson's Cuyahoga River Watershed

November 12

History of the Railroad in Hudson with Tom Vince

January 14

The Art of Dying, Glendale Cemetery with Michelle Colopy

February 11

Millionaire's Row with Dan Ruminski

March 11

Women of Summit County with Leianne Neff Hepner
Summit County Historical Society

April 8

David's Hudson's Family with Tim Hudson

May 13

HHA Annual Meeting - TBD

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