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BY THE GUSTAV STICKLEY  
HOUSE FOUNDATION

# GUSTAV STICKLEY HOUSE: PHASE 2 RESTORATION

In 1900, Gustav Stickley purchased a newly built, Queen Anne style home in Syracuse for his family. It was close to his workshop in Eastwood and comfortable for his large family. On Christmas Eve 1901, a fire significantly damaged the inside of the home. What happened next left an indelible impact on American design.

Stickley's re-design of the inside into one of the earliest "Craftsman" style interiors.

Today this Arts & Crafts home is being restored and transformed into a unique historic house museum and guest house. Stickley owned the home from 1900 to 1911. Following his wife Eda's death, he lived there with his daughter Barbara Wiles and her family from 1919, until his death in 1942. The first floor contained living and dining rooms, an iconic Arts & Crafts style inglenook, a broad stair and entry hall as well as a kitchen and butler's pantry. The upper floors held bedrooms, the only bathroom and a master suite with Stickley's adjoining private study. The Wiles family sold the house in the 1950s and it was divided into apartments. Luckily, most of Stickley's significant design and materials survived these changes. The building was vacant for several years and suffered deterioration and damage. The Audi Family



Exterior Before



After Restoration

purchased the home, saving it from destruction, and in 2016 donated it to a local nonprofit and restoration began, starting with the exterior.

While the outside restoration is complete, the inside still has a long way to go. Led by the Gustav Stickley House Foundation, the interior historic elements will be restored and the building will be updated to assure universal access and modern code compliance. The interior requires substantial work; virtually all mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems are unusable, and materials and finishes suffer from lack of temperature control, moisture, water, and wear, including elements installed by Gustav Stickley.

Once restoration is complete, the facility will be owned and operated by the Onondaga Historical Association. The space will host educational programs, exhibits and tours and be available for private and cultural events. Upstairs will be



Second Floor Stair Hall



Living Room with American Chestnut paneling



Second Floor bedroom



Water damaged main hall ceiling





Digital rendering of proposed bedroom after restoration



Stickley's Study fireplace with Grueby tile



Digital rendering of proposed hallway and diningroom after restoration

five guest suites with private baths. A two bedroom apartment in the basement will house a full-time caretaker. A new three-story addition at the rear of the house will provide universal access, an elevator (LULA) and publicly accessible toilet as well as a second stairwell for egress.

On the evening of March 5th, a Capital Campaign kicked-off with a successful event and then Covid-19 curtailed planned activities for 2020. Recently the project received a \$500,000 Save America's Treasures Grant from the National Park Service. This matching grant program seeks to protect "America's threatened cultural treasures" and is a big shot in the arm for the Campaign which needs to raise \$2.2 million to complete restoration.

The restoration of the Gustav Stickley House and its return as a functioning example of the American Arts & Crafts Movement is a testimony to decades of vision, dedication and commitment by many. The home will once again honor and reflect the vision of Gustav Stickley and be a public example of innovative historic restoration and interpretation while serving as a community gathering place.

## GUSTAV STICKLEY HOUSE FOUNDATION

For questions or discussion please contact AAPA member David Rudd, foundation president, at 315-727-3497 or [stickleyhousefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:stickleyhousefoundation@gmail.com).

For donations or to read about our project go to [www.gustavstickley-housefoundation.org](http://www.gustavstickley-housefoundation.org)