Project Summary

The Youth Experience: History & Impact of Local Interstate Road Development Project was funded by a 2018 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant to engage up to ten students in grades six to nine in a two week summer program of discovery and interpretation of the historic and cultural aspects related to the building of Interstate 87 through the Towns of Chesterfield and AuSable in New York State.

The goal was to foster learning through hands-on research, site visits to I-87, and specialist presentations by key informants. Historical data and its present day implications were to be collected, preserved, and integrated into a multi-media display along with a public presentation and publishing a companion print booklet.

Early deliverables proceeded as projected, but, due to unexpected health issues, contributed, in part, to difficulties in recruiting student participants. Ultimately no students enrolled and the project was regretfully terminated in early August. The project did have some success including:

- Identification of a significant aspect of history that had not been previously interpreted at a local level.
- Establishment of a preliminary resource file and lesson plans on the history of the local section of Interstate 87.
- Increased community interest in learning and sharing local history at a personal level as well as at the big picture level
- Development of templates for a designated service contract and participant enrollment with photo release permission form.

Output: A new approach to delivering a two-week summer educational program related to the building of Interstate 87 through Chesterfield and AuSable, NY.

Outcome: Tasks addressed in the 2011 CVNHP Management Plan:

Task 9.1.1: Support historical and archeological research and documentation

Task 9.1.3: Utilize new and existing research and documentation to support the evaluation, conservation, and interpretation of natural and cultural heritage resources.

Tasks addressed in 2017 Opportunities for Action:

III.C.1.a: Provide support for needed historical and archeological research, and accelerate the identification, evaluation, protection, and interpretation of heritage resources, including ethnographies of the cultures within the CVNHP.

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