

History

The North Creek Railroad Station was built in 1874 and saved from the brink of demolition in the early 1990s. What was once a bustling rail station is now a comprehensive, museum, heritage center, as well as a cultural and economic hub in Historic North Creek.

Architecturally, the depot has remained almost entirely unaltered. Entering is a truly immersive experience into its rich and varied past.

The depot is the northernmost terminus of the Adirondack Railroad, a line that played an indispensable role in making the central Adirondacks accessible for recreational and industrial development. The Adirondack Company line was extended to North Creek in 1871 (facilitated by Thomas Durant of Union Pacific Railroad) to link the north and central parts of the state to facilitate the shipping of essential goods and local products.

Although the railroad supplied transportation for area industries, especially the garnet mine, tannery and Durant's woodworking plant at North Creek, its greatest use became the transporting of summer visitors. In the early days of the railroad, William West Durant (son of Thomas Durant) operated a stage line from North Creek to the hotels at Blue Mountain Lake. Horses for the stage were stabled in the large barn still located next to the original railroad station built in 1872. At the same time, a freight house was also constructed.

This avenue for tourism flourished into the mid-twentieth century as skiers flocked to the first downhill ski center in New York State, the Ski-Bowl at Gore Mountain.

Famously, the rail station was where Theodore Roosevelt learned that McKinley had been fatally shot and that he was now president of The United States. Standing on the platform you can easily imagine the president sprinting up the steps and boarding a train to the White House.

Today at the museum

Current Exhibits:

- "North Creek and the Adirondack Railroad" – a scale model by Dunham Studios
- The story of the Adirondack Railroad and its effect on the region.

- The story of Theodore Roosevelt's midnight ride to the Presidency and the impact of his Presidency on American Life.
- History of the Snow Trains and the development of Skiing at Gore Mountain.
- The D&H: History and its impact on the North Country

Recently, through a grant from The Glenn and Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation, the museum has a new touch-screen kiosk that allows visitors to the Museum to view timelines, articles, photos, and research information related to Theodore Roosevelt's personal life and his Presidency. This Exhibit is linked to the Dickenson University Library's extensive collection on Theodore Roosevelt.

The North Creek Depot serves as a fully accredited Museum of the History and Culture of the Gore Mountain Region.

Visit

North Creek Depot Museum

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Summer 2019 Open Thursday – Tuesday

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Closed on Wednesdays

Also Open by Appointment for Groups

To schedule a visit, call: 518-251-5842

or Email us at: admin@northcreekdepotmuseum.com

Admission is FREE

(All donations gladly accepted)

Come See Our New Caboose!