

**FRIENDS OF HISTORIC GROOMS TAVERN
P.O. Box 1166
CLIFTON PARK, NEW YORK 12065**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 8, 2009

Contact: Alexandra Verrigni
(518) 399-2446

FRIENDS TO LECTURE ON TAVERNS
*"Temples of Ease, Accommodating the Upstate Traveler
in the Canal and Turnpike Era"*

CLIFTON PARK, New York – The Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern, a not-for-profit association dedicated to Historic Grooms Tavern, will host a talk on the significance of taverns in the Mohawk Valley by Ronald Burch, Curator of Art and Architecture at the New York State Museum on Friday evening, October 2, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Grooms Tavern, corner of Grooms and Sugarhill Roads, Rexford, New York. The talk entitled: “Temples of Ease: Accommodating the Upstate Traveler in the Canal and Turnpike Era” is a First Friday Event at the Grooms Tavern and part of the River Days festivities over the weekend of October 2-4 in the Town of Clifton Park.

Ronald Burch has been Curator of Art and Architecture at the New York State Museum for over twenty-five (25) years. He received a Masters Degree in museum studies at the Cooperstown Graduate Program and a Masters Degree in history from Duke University.

Mr. Burch will give a power-point presentation offering comparisons of several early to mid-nineteenth century canal and turnpike taverns in the Mohawk Valley. He will outline structural as well as functional similarities and differences of the taverns. His discussion will review the restoration of the Historic Nellis Tavern, Fonda, in which he is currently involved.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.