

# Valley Paper Mill Park Application

## Executive Summary:

Reconstruct the decorative capital of the 94 foot chimney at the Valley Paper Mill Park located in Alcove, NY. Appendix 1 includes photos of chimney capital that was removed and roof cap placed in 2012, as the masonry had deteriorated due to weather elements and was in danger of collapse.

Proposal is to rebuild the capital as originally constructed, using salvaged red clay brick, so that the public can view this capital as it was when constructed circa 1848. Rebuilding would be on an appropriate foundation at ground level.

This structure and site was listed on the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places in 2004. The Alcove Preservation Association (APA) has partnered with the Town of Coeymans in an effort to preserve this landmark. Using small grants, private donations, community labor and support from the Town, APA has undertaken restoration of the stone masonry foundation, 40 feet of the chimney stack, and established a passive park on the site.

## Anticipated Project Expenses:

\$ 6,000	Concrete footings, frost walls and slab
N/C	Stone base (donated by New York Quarries, Alcove, NY)
\$ 13,000	Labor to reconstruct brick masonry to original standard
\$ 300	Mortar
\$19,300	Total

Note: Using salvaged red clay brick of same size as original. In kind service of excavation and site preparation provided by Town of Coeymans.

## Benefits:

Replacing key element of the chimney and landmark will be visible to all who visit this historic site. Most local residents were unaware the decorative capital existed, because they did not look high up the chimney. With the capital rebuilt at eye level, it will be visible and appreciated. Another endeavor to present and preserve history in the Town of Coeymans.

Undertaking and completing this project will have the following direct and indirect impacts:

- recreating a piece of local history for current and future generations.
- provide economic benefit to the Alcove community by engaging local business (which is donating locally quarried stone materials) to recreate this structure.
- attract residents and visitors for historical and educational purposes.
- cultural impact of inviting school classes for education in restoration and repurposing of locally salvaged stone materials.
- encourage both senior and young adults to join and contribute to historical groups.

### **Need For Financial Assistance:**

Funding sources available from Town of Coeymans and Alcove Preservation Association are insufficient to cover costs of this project. Local fundraising efforts will also be pursued and solicitation of donations from local businesses. **Deficit of \$ 12,000 exist and that amount is being requested.** Dedicated matching funds are not available.

### **Letters of Support:**

Letters of support from Legislator Collins and the Alcove Preservation Association.

### **Appendices:**

Appendix 1 presents photos of the chimney capital when it was removed in 2012 due to its deteriorating condition. Size of structure is 5 foot square by 6 ½ foot high. Capital will be replicated to the same size and detail as shown in the photo, using vintage clay brick. These sustainable materials will allow this key chimney element to enhance a piece of history for the future.

Appendix 2 presents photos of the park kiosk that includes old photos and describes past businesses that occupied the site from the early 1800's.