



Tour to Watkins Glen for the 2015 Watkins Glen Vintage Racing Festival September 10 to 13, 2015

A One Time Only Trillium Event!

Watkins Glen hosted the first sports car races after WW II in 1948. They raced through the village and the roads just west of town. They even stopped the New York Central's trains at a level crossing. This continued on the original circuit until 1952. For a while racing was continued on county roads, but that too didn't last long. By then, motor racing had become an important part of the community and a purpose built race track allowed motor racing to continue at Watkins Glen.

Each year a festival is held that celebrates the town's historic connection to motor racing. There are activities that commemorate the races held from 1948 through 1952. Like 1948, they still shut down Franklin Street, the town's main drag. Car shows, driving tours, talks, lectures, and drives around the original course, take up all day Friday. Each year a different car is chosen as the featured marque. This year it is sporting Mazda's; the Miata and the RX-7 and RX-8. Because Mazda is the Featured Marque, Mazda drivers can participate in the Tour de Marque which includes two laps of the original road course exactly as it was in 1948 except that the short gravelled part of the original course has since been paved.

The Festival is usually held at the same time that drivers in the U.S. Vintage GP compete at Watkins Glen International Raceway (WGI). The track is closed for paving so this year's Vintage Race will be held earlier in the season. Because there is no race, the Festival is planning new and unique things for this year's festival.

Tour plans include

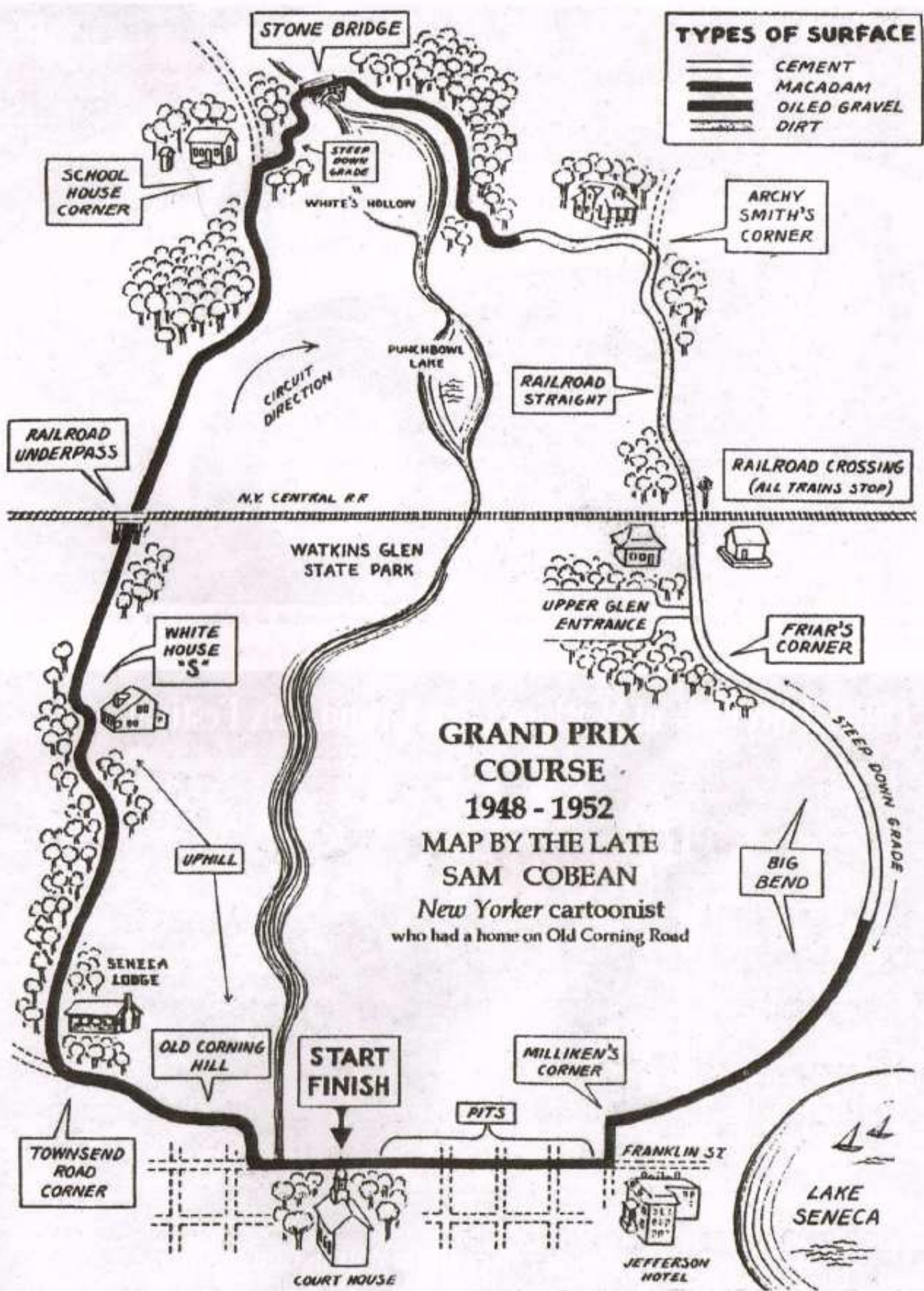
- Driving to Buffalo on the QEW, crossing the boarder and almost immediately
- taking in the Buffalo Transportation (Pierce Arrow Museum). www.pierce-arrow.com After visiting the museum walk a short block to eat
- lunch at the highly rated Italian Chef's Restaurant. After lunch we embark on
- a drive on two lane scenic roads, that become more interesting the closer we get to the Glen. We arrive to
- dine at the Montage Grill overlooking Lake Seneca. This is where we find
- accommodation at the famous Glen Motor Inn, www.glenmotorinn.com/ historic in that most competitors have stayed here over the years. (The grandson of the founder, a man my age raced his 1968 McLaren until just two years ago) then.
- Friday, we dine at the rustic Seneca Lodge, www.senecalodge.com built just before the first race. A great place to gather and eat.
- on Friday, Saturday and Sunday you are free to do what you like or go where you want and participate in events you are interested in. As time goes by what you can do will become clearer as details of the Festival's plans are revealed.
- Sunday afternoon visit the Glen H Curtis Museum in Hammondsport <http://www.glennhcurtisismuseum.org/> as part of our return home

Our tour is limited to seventeen cars. The Festival's Tour de Marque, which includes two laps of the original course, requires registration and is also limited. Spaces are expected to be filled early. Submit your registration to me now. As soon as I receive your registration, I will send you booking details and the Stone Bridge event registration document.

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Amended March 31, 2015

TYPES OF SURFACE	
	CEMENT
	MACADAM
	OILED GRAVEL
	DIRT



GRAND PRIX COURSE
1948 - 1952
 MAP BY THE LATE
SAM COBEAN
New Yorker cartoonist
 who had a home on Old Corning Road