**The View From The Top**

**ORIENT THE MAP** (opposite) - To use a compass note that magnetic north is about fourteen degrees west of true north. Look for natural landmarks to line up the map:

1. GREAT SACANDAGA LAKE, the narrow arm of water 8-16 miles distant and about 27 degrees west of south.
2. Baldhead Mt. with Crane Mt. just behind it, 8-12 miles away just a few degrees east of north.

GPS coordinates are 43.374°N -73.9505°W

**SURVEY THE SCENE** - water, trees, clearings, rooftops, mountains, cliffs, and more water.

**THINK ABOUT WATER** - the lifeblood of the planet. The Great Sacandaga Lake was once a free-flowing river, its course determined by events of the Ice Age of 10,000 years ago.

In 1913 severe flooding occurred on the Hudson River at Albany and Troy as well as close by in Luzerne. The Sacandaga River, tributary to the Hudson and draining some 1060 square miles, reached a peak flow of almost 16 million gallons per minute compared to the average discharge of about a million gallons per minute.

A flood-control dam was built on the Sacandaga at Conklingville. Completed in 1930, the dam raised the water level by 60 feet at Batchellerville. Several villages and at least one cemetery were moved to different sites. The Batchellerville Bridge, about 13 miles away, is often visible from here.

**THINK ABOUT TREES** - preventing soil erosion, providing homes for birds and mammals, their leaves "exhaling" oxygen for us to breathe, and providing paper for this brochure, books, newspaper and the like.

**LOOK FAR NORTH** - for a glimpse of the High Peaks area. If it's clear, you can see parts of the Great Range, including Algonquin, Dix and Giant. Nearer, at 21 miles and west of the High Peaks, is Gore Mountain and its popular ski center (look for its trails). Years ago, ski trains from New York City provided transport and overnight lodging for skiers at Gore's predecessor, the North Creek Ski Bowl. To the right of Gore, behind Baldhead Mt., is Crane where rock climbing competitions have been known to occur.

**LOOK EAST** - about 10 miles northeast (50°) are the Three Sisters, low hills near Warrensburg village and close to the confluence of the Schroon River with the Hudson. Nearby (75°) at 12 miles, are Black Spruce Mt., with many radio towers, and its neighbor, Prospect Mt., which is automobile accessible near the village of Lake George. At 53°, 26 miles away, find Black Mt., with its fire and radio towers, on the east side of Lake George. Buck and Pilot Knob are nearby. That distinct knob sticking up in your immediate view is Potash over on Rte. 9. On the horizon at 45-50 miles are the Green Mountains of Vermont.

**LOOK SOUTH** - and, if weather permits, you can see three rounded "bumps" on the horizon; these are the northern peaks of the Catskills, 75 miles away. In the intervening space are the Mohawk Valley, the State Capitol in Albany, and a concentration of many activities including industry, transport, population, politics and the fast-paced life from which Hadley Mountain's natural beauty can provide a transitory refuge from and a renewal of spirit.

**LOOK WEST** - to catch a spectacular view of the Great Sacandaga Lake. As you pan to your right, you'll see Ohmer, the initial planned site of Hadley's fire tower. Spruce Mt. is in the forefront, while Snowy, in the Indian Lake area, and Blue Mountain are to the northwest.