

Elise Johnson-Schmidt

New York State Senate
2007 Woman of Distinction



Elise Johnson-Schmidt's career and passion have been restoring and rehabilitating the historic architecture of the Southern Tier. A member of the American Institute of Architects, her wholehearted commitment to preservation is widely recognized from the Southern Tier to statewide efforts encouraging historic preservation. She serves on the New York State Board of Historic Preservation and the New York Main Street Alliance Board of Directors; was a member of the Preservation League of NYS's Technical Services Committee and the Corning Intown District Management Association Board; and served as Executive Director of Market Street Restoration Agency in Corning from 1990 to 2001, for which she serves as a board member and interim director.

Upon graduating from Cornell University, Mrs. Johnson-Schmidt received an Eidlitz Fellowship for Architecture Research, traveling abroad to continue her education in historic architecture. Her career explored the public, private and not-for-profit sectors, seeking a balanced and realistic approach to preserving historic structures. She was the recipient of the STAR Award for community service by the Greater Corning Area Chamber of Commerce and was recognized with the Preservation Leadership Award by the Market Street Restoration Agency. She was also the recipient of the Corning Architectural Preservation Award for her architectural and preservation leadership by the Southside Neighborhood Association in Corning.

Elise Johnson-Schmidt's volunteer services are many and include her passion for teaching children about architecture and the importance of preserving our historic neighborhoods.

Her efforts toward historic preservation and her social conscience to provide for those in need are some of the outstanding characteristics of a woman whose motivations are driven by strong ethics as well as her passion for her work.

Elise Johnson-Schmidt, AIA, was selected as a 2007 Woman of Distinction by Senator George Winner.