



# The Preservation Trust of Vermont

*Continuing Support for Vermont Communities Since 1980*

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Home

News

Field Service Program

PTV Activities

Commentary

Success Stories

Annual Highlights

Publications

Funding

Links

About PTV

## **HISTORIC VERMONT**

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### **In This Issue....**

#### News from the Preservation Trust

- *Preservation Grants Awarded*
- *Sterling Weed and His Imperial Orchestra*
- *The Great Travel Raffle*
- *25th Anniversary Celebration*
- *2005 Grand Isle Lake House Retreats*
- *2005 Preservation Trust Awards*
- *Social Band's Vermont Composer's Project*
- *Robert Sincerbeaux Funds Awarded*
- *2005 Historic Preservation Conference Summary*
- *Travel Posters that Never Were by Charlie Hunter*

#### Vermont News

- *Senate Leaders Introduce Big Box Legislation*
- *VHCB Grant Awards*
- *Downtown Development Board News*
- *National Register News*

#### Local News

- *Mt Holly Barn Program*
- *This Hall Will Rise Again!*

#### National News

- *Distinctive Destinations*
- *11 Most Endangered Places*
- *Historic Hotels of America on the Web*
- *If Walls Could Talk*

### **Publications & Resources**

- *PreservationOnline.org E-Newsletter*
- *Division of Fire Safety Website*

### **Education & Training Opportunities**

- *Downtown Conference*
- *Place-Based Education in the Northern Forest*
- *National Trust Conference*

### **Grants & Funding**

- *Mid-Career Grant Program in Historic Preservation*

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## **NEWS FROM THE PRESERVATION TRUST**

### ***Preservation Grants Awarded***

Since 1994 the Freeman Foundation and the Preservation Trust of Vermont have had a partnership to support preservation projects. Over \$8 million in grants have been awarded to help more than 318 projects in communities throughout the state. These grants have played a key role in over \$86 million in total rehabilitation work. The latest round of grants includes:

***Alice M. Ward Memorial Library, Canaan: \$30,000.*** The library was built c. 1846 by Fernando Jacobs. Known at the time as Jacobs Stand, the building was the most northerly station in the United States on the Connecticut River route of the Underground Railroad. The Town, with the Building Construction & Restoration Carpentry Program at Canaan Memorial High School, has developed a complete rehabilitation plan for the building including insulation, electrical and lighting improvements, upgrading the heating system, plaster repair, window rehabilitation and weatherization, building a cupola, exterior woodwork, adding a handicap ramp, and painting the exterior. This grant, coupled with the labor provided by the buildings trades program and a bit more fundraising will complete the proposed work.

***Everett Mansion, Southern Vermont College, Bennington: \$50,000.*** This request is part of a joint effort by the Vermont Land Trust and the Preservation Trust. The Everett Mansion cost in excess of \$2 million when it was constructed between 1911 and 1914. It was built for entrepreneur Edward Hamlin Everett. The College now faces a major challenge in completing the restoration of the roofing system -- gutters, eaves, and clay tiles. The total cost of the work is estimated to be \$232,000. With funds from the Freeman Foundation, the Land Trust has worked with the College to conserve forest land on the side of Mt. Anthony. In return, the College will use the \$125,000 received for the land conservation to help cover the cost of restoring the roof. Those funds coupled with a grant of \$50,000 will enable the College to complete this critical work this year.

***Baptist Church, Washington: \$25,000*** This 1848 vernacular Greek Revival building is located at the center of the village and is

notable for its tower and Gothic Revival detailing (installed c.1900). The building is generally well maintained, and the small congregation completed tower repairs at a cost of approximately \$30,000 in 2004. The next phase of repair work will include repairs/replacement in-kind of the basement floor frame, foundation repairs, drainage improvements, and reinstatement of interior finishes. Historically, this congregation has employed volunteers in making repairs, and the upcoming project is being planned around the participation of volunteer crews from three to four Baptist congregations in North Carolina. Supervisory responsibilities will be shared by a volunteer from the Washington congregation and an experienced preservation contractor. One of the goals of the project is to provide hands-on historic preservation training for project volunteers. This grant will complete their project funding.

***Town Hall, Jamaica: \$31,000.*** The Town Hall was originally constructed in 1851 as a Universalist Church, and was converted by the Jamaica Dramatic Club to the town Opera House in 1880. Since 1921, the building has been used as the Town Hall. It is a local landmark, and anchors the southern end of the historic village center. A wonderful depression-era mural depicting maple sugaring painted by Vermont artist Arlo Monroe greets visitors in the vestibule. Over the recent past, the building has fallen into disuse as a result of deferred maintenance, inadequate systems, and inaccessibility. Town government has now partnered with a local nonprofit to restore the building for use as a performing arts and community meeting space. Emergency stabilization of the Town Hall was undertaken in 2004. The next phase of construction will include salvaging and reinstalling the slate roof, structural frame repairs, foundation repairs and drainage improvements, preparing and painting the building exterior, repairing interior finishes in the main auditorium, and electrical improvements. This grant will enable them to complete this work.

***Library, Windsor: \$25,000.*** A local landmark, this Georgian Revival library was constructed in 1904 and is remarkably intact. It is well maintained and heavily used. After 100 years, brickwork and stone copings require repointing, and the chimneys must be reconstructed. The library has retained a good preservation mason to make repairs. This grant will enable them to complete the work.

***East Burke Congregational Church: \$5,000.*** This Federal style 1855 church features an 1880s entry canopy and decorative ceiling and wall ornamentation dating from c. 1900, a gift of prominent resident, Elmer Darling who owned the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City. In November 2001, the Freeman Foundation and Preservation Trust made a \$15,000 grant to help repair the roof, repoint the foundation, address site drainage problems, and complete interior ceiling repairs. In addition to the repairs, the congregation raised funds to install an accessible lift. That phase of work totaled \$70,000. In the process of working on the ceiling, the contractors uncovered the c.1900 decorative painted ceiling, including a central circle of clouds. The contractor and project manager stopped work, called in an architect and plaster/paint specialist, and with the congregation decided their only choice was to take on a full restoration of the ceiling, adding \$31,000 to the budget. They are actively fundraising to cover the unexpected costs, and a \$5,000 grant will help them meet their goal.

***Sterling Weed and His Imperial Orchestra***

Big Band Sounds!!! Swing with Sterling Weed's Imperial Orchestra, and Celebrate Sterling Weed's 104th Year! You're invited to a special evening of dinner and dancing at the [Grand Isle Lake House](#), East Shore Rd. North, Grand Isle on **Wednesday August 17, 2005**.

Suggested contribution levels:

- Contributor \$35 per person
- Friend \$50 per person
- Sponsor \$100 per person
- Patron \$250 per person
- Founders' Circle \$1,000

For tickets, contact the Preservation Trust at (802) 658-6647.

P.S. To hear an interview with Sterling Weed, check out Vermont Public Radio's website: [http://www.vpr.net/vt\\_news/bigband.shtml](http://www.vpr.net/vt_news/bigband.shtml)

### ***The Great Travel Raffle!***

Here's your opportunity to be part of PTV's most exciting fundraising event -- The Great Travel Raffle! For \$100, your name will be put into a drawing to receive an all-expense paid National Trust for Historic Preservation Study Tour (valued at \$10,000) or *\$10,000 in cash*.

Runner-up prizes include:

- \$250 gift certificate to the Inn at Shelburne Farms;
- \$100 Gift Certificate to the Starry Night Café in Ferrisburgh;
- A pair of limited edition giclée prints of Bellows Falls and Bennington inspired by early 20th century travel art, valued at \$178. By Vermont artist Charlie Hunter;
- Tickets for two to the July 2006 Vermont Mozart Festival concert at the Grand Isle Lake House including dinner and overnight;
- Tickets for two to the August 2006 Sterling Weed Big Band Swing Dance at the Grand Isle Lake House including dinner and overnight.

The drawing will take place Wednesday evening August 17, 2005 at the Sterling Weed Big Band Dance at the Grand Isle Lake House.

To purchase a ticket, contact [paul@ptvermont.org](mailto:paul@ptvermont.org) or call (802) 658-6647.

### ***Preservation Trust of Vermont 25th Anniversary Celebration***

Throughout our history, the Preservation Trust has been very fortunate to have the support of many generous donors who have made it possible for us to provide almost 1,000 grants to community preservation organizations. Meet these organizations, share in their success, and view the 25 Years of Historic Preservation in Vermont Exhibition. Date: September 24, 2005. Time: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. The Breeding Barn at Shelburne Farms. For more information, contact the Preservation Trust of Vermont at (802) 658-6647. [www.ptvermont.org](http://www.ptvermont.org).

### ***2005 Grand Isle Lake House Retreats***

We'd like to invite you to join us for a Grand Isle Lake House retreat for groups working on an historic preservation or community revitalization project. These retreats are a group mentoring experience where each group presents a 10 to 15

minute case study about a challenge they're facing related to their project followed by group discussion and brainstorming...cross mentoring.

The whole idea is to learn from one another and the collection of case studies. We try to bring people together from around the state who are working on an interesting collection of projects in order to take advantage of the collective experience and thinking. In addition, we have resource people at each retreat to help find solutions. We try to have about 6-8 groups of 2-4 people representing each project. The goal is to boost projects along their timeline by strategically identifying resources, solving problems, garnering peer support, and generating self-confidence and momentum.

#### ***2005 Retreat Dates***

- August 23-24 (no theme)
- September 12-13 (focus on the Arts and Industrial Heritage)
- October 11-12 (focus on Churches)

Check-in at the Lake House is 3:00 and we'll finish by 2:00 the following afternoon. The Gannett Foundation and Burlington Free Press have generously agreed to help with program costs, so prices are very reasonable! Cost for room and three meals is \$85/person for a shared room, \$110 for a single. There are a limited number of single rooms available on a first-come basis.

Please be in touch soon if you'd like to attend so that we can find the best dates for your project. We try to link varying projects together in order to get the best mix. Please call or email if you'd like more information or would like to discuss your project.

Ann Cousins @ 802-434-5014; [ann@ptvermont.org](mailto:ann@ptvermont.org)

Doug Porter @ 802-644-2815; [doug@ptvermont.org](mailto:doug@ptvermont.org)

#### ***2005 Preservation Awards***

Since 1982, The Preservation Trust of Vermont has recognized outstanding contributions in the field of historic preservation. Awards are presented to the individuals and organizations who have made special contributions in preserving Vermont's historic architecture. The awards will be presented at the Preservation Trust's Annual Meeting in November. Sponsored by the Equinox Hotel, Manchester. All nominations must be postmarked on or before Wednesday, October 12. For more information about how to nominate a person or project, please visit <http://www.ptvermont.org/AWARDS/2005awards.htm>

#### ***Social Band's Vermont Composers Project***

Social Band offers an exciting program of new choral works commissioned from 25 diverse Vermont composers. These consistently high quality new works range in styles from the shape-note tradition to gospel-influenced to the quirkily arty. The Social Band is helping to celebrate the Preservation Trust's 25th Anniversary by performing in great historic venues, many of which were rehabilitated with help from a Preservation Grant. Performances are offered throughout Vermont through Fall 2005. ..**SEE THE SCHEDULE!**

#### ***Robert Sincerbeaux Funds Awarded***

The Preservation Trust's Robert Sincerbeaux Fund provides grants up to \$500 are available to municipalities and non-profit organizations to hire consultants to provide specialized assistance for a preservation project. For more information, please contact one of the Field Service Representatives: [ann@ptvermont.org](mailto:ann@ptvermont.org), [doug@ptvermont.org](mailto:doug@ptvermont.org) or [meg@ptvermont.org](mailto:meg@ptvermont.org). Recent Robert Sincerbeaux Fund Grants include:

- Barton Union Church
- Bean Hall, West Fairlee Village
- Bellows Falls Immanuel Episcopal Church
- Burnham Hall, Lincoln
- Congregational Church of Chester
- Congregational Church, New Haven
- Georgia Plan Baptist Church
- Pittsford Congregational Church
- Tinmouth Citizens Group
- Vermont Granite Museum
- Vermont Humanities Council
- Williamstown Planning Commission
- Windsor Library, Windsor

#### ***2005 Historic Preservation Conference Summary***

Thanks once again to all the people who contributed to and participated in the May 2005 Annual Historic Preservation Conference in Bennington. It was a great day!

Jay Collier of Lebanon, New Hampshire very generously donated his time to put together an excellent summary of the morning session and selected afternoon sessions:

<http://www.lebanonnhhistory.org/news/2005-05-preservation.html>

#### ***Available Now -- "Travel Posters That Never Were" by Vermont Artist Charlie Hunter***

In 2004, Bellows Falls artist Charlie Hunter began work on a series of "Travel Posters that Never Were" reminiscent of graphic masters Walter Green, Leslie Ragan and Maxfield Parrish. Images of downtown Bellows Falls and Bennington were created to help market the 2004 and 2005 Annual Historic Preservation Conferences.

Limited edition prints are still available of Bellows Falls, and the original artwork as well as limited edition prints are available of Bennington! To see these fabulous works of art, and for more information about the artist, please visit:

<http://www.hunter-studio.com>

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## **VERMONT NEWS**

### ***Senate Leaders Introduce 'Big Box' Legislation Focusing on Municipal Planning***

Twelve Vermont Senators introduced legislation this spring designed to assure municipalities eligible for big box-store proposals sufficiently plan for large scale development and account for its impacts.

"The beauty of Vermont is that in times of need, we have leaders who rise to the top and, seeing the entire picture, take action for the entire state. I applaud the sponsors of this bill. Their foresight offers a hope to those communities and citizens who still value the quality of life that a vibrant downtown present," said Mayor of St.

Albans Peter DesLauriers, who joined the sponsors at the State House

Wednesday.

The proposal will establish a statewide cap on new retail development at 50,000 sq. ft., while provides that municipal governments may amend the cap if they demonstrate an articulated policy for box retail development.

Qualifying municipal policies would:

- Establish zoning bylaws that designate big box retail to particular growth areas, such as designated downtowns, village centers, or designated new town centers;
- Include design control standards;
- Require permit applicants to complete a comprehensive community and regional impact study.

"It's critical we have the discussion before an application for a mega-store is filed. Otherwise, it's too late. If a community wants a 240,000 square foot city on the outskirts of town that has the potential of driving out existing local businesses like pharmacies, bakeries, tire shops, grocery stores, and nurseries, the communities should plan for those consequences," said Sen. Vince Illuzzi, Chair of the Senate's Economic Development, Housing, and General Affairs Committee.

A recent special election in Bennington, where developers outspent opponents by a margin of more than 10 to 1, saw voters overturn a recent retail cap established by town officials. Senate leaders say that the Bennington case proves precisely why municipalities should consider the issue of jumbo development well in advance of proposals and not be reactionary.

#### ***VHCB Awards Grant to Wilder Block, Brattleboro***

The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board recently approved an award totaling \$70,000 for the Wilder Block in Brattleboro, consisting of a \$62,500 0% loan to the Brattleboro Area Community Land Trust for stabilization and \$7,500 to the Preservation Trust for stewardship/baseline documentation of the historic preservation easement (significant exterior and interior features).

A devastating fire on December 4, 2004 destroyed the top two floors of the four-story Wilder Block, leaving brick exterior walls looming precariously over Brattleboro's Main Street. At the time of the fire the building was fully occupied with seven residential apartments, three storefronts and multiple offices.

Within days of the blaze, the Preservation Trust of Vermont, with encouragement from Jay Ancel, a PTV Board Member, organized a two-day session attended by over 30 people to develop a short-term response in order to save the historic structure. Staff of the Preservation Trust of Vermont, VHCB, BACLT, Housing Vermont, Gilman Housing Trust, local and state officials, the building owner, an engineer, and a private developer participated. The owner of the Wilder lock, Fred Noble, was open to all options for the redevelopment of the building, but was constrained by a very short timeline; the Brattleboro Fire Department and the Department of Labor and Industry required that the unstable, upper two floors either be demolished or stabilization work started within two weeks. One conclusion was evident by the end of the session – if the building was to be saved and its historical uses and elements retained, BACLT was the only group with the skills and resources to act within the timeframe. Within days, BACLT entered into negotiations with the owner.

With a verbal commitment from BACLT and increasing strain on the building due to accumulating snowload the owner began the stabilization process in late December. Since then, BACLT has moved quickly and took title to the Wilder Building on February 14th, acquiring the building for \$1.00 and assuming all costs associated with stabilizing the property.

The previous owner has provided 60 day financing to BACLT as they assemble the funding through VHCB and the Vermont Community Development Program to cover stabilization costs. In tandem with the stabilization work, BACLT's architect Denny Frehsee is examining the feasibility of preserving the four-story historic building, restoring the street level retail space and increasing the number of residential units while adding accessibility to the building – a real challenge given the 3200 square foot footprint and zero lot lines of the building.

The c. 1875 Wilder Building is seen as a gateway landmark in Brattleboro, prominently visible to anyone approaching the downtown from the south, east or west. The building fronts Main Street near the intersection of Main and Bridge Streets. The Whetstone Brook forms the southern boundary of the property and another historic building, the Latchis Theater, is adjacent to the property. A common firewall saved the Latchis from damage from the fire. Important historic features include the cast iron storefront with granite corners, brightly colored ceramic tiles between the third and fourth floors, segmented arched windows openings and the remains of a decorative, copper roof cornice.

The storefront, made by the Atlantic Ironworks of New York, is unique in the historic district. In addition to being an important part of the aesthetics and history of the urban core, the building is integral to the economic and community vitality of Brattleboro's downtown. The Wilder building has long provided space for commerce and housing in the core of the downtown district.

### ***Downtown Development Board News***

#### ***Downtown Designation Renewals***

Vermont Downtown Development Board has renewed the Downtown Designation status for Brattleboro, supporting the on-going and dramatic improvements to that downtown.

Governor Douglas said Brattleboro was initially designated in 1999, and this renewal recognizes the work of the Town, and of the community's non-profit corporation, Building a Better Brattleboro.

“With this designation renewal, the community will continue to have access to important transportation grants and tax credits that are reserved for designated downtowns, as well as receiving priority consideration for other state funding,” the Governor added.

Additionally, Downtown Designation status for Poultney and Rutland has been renewed. The designation renewals recognize the ongoing improvements in each of these downtowns and the excellent work done by the communities and their non-profit downtown organizations – Poultney Downtown Revitalization Committee and the

Downtown Rutland Partnership.

***New Village Centers Designations***

This spring, the Downtown Development Board approved village designation for Brookfield (Pond Village), West Fairlee, Chelsea, Danby and East Poultney.

“There has been a lot of interest in the Village Center Designation Process, and I think this is reflective of the strong interest Vermonters have in their communities,” said Kevin Dorn, Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and Chair of the Downtown Development Board. “The energy and commitment of these small communities is impressive and we look forward to supporting their vision for their village centers’ future.”

To become a Designated Village Center, a community must demonstrate a confirmed planning process and develop a map of the commercial and civic core of the village, consistent with the statutory definition. Those communities that receive designation become eligible for a number of benefits, including tax credits for building rehabilitation and improvements to help support continued commercial activity in the village center.

“The 45 villages now participating in this program demonstrate the clear interest Vermonters have in the success of their village centers”, said Kevin Dorn, Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and Chair of the Downtown Development Board. “We see a lot of volunteers and a lot of activities in these communities – from building rehabilitations, to public celebrations, to new businesses. Our Board is pleased to be able to help with their efforts.”

***Downtown Development Grants***

Bennington was awarded a \$64,658 grant for improvements to the Town Hall (parking lot, which will include a better traffic pattern, better drainage, and new parking spaces to support the redevelopment of the old manufacturing building at 210 South Street.

Brattleboro received a \$40,000 grant to support the second phase of improvements to Plaza Park.

The Board also made an award of \$244,185 to Burlington under a separate program that allows sales taxes paid on downtown building materials to be reallocated to the host municipality. The reallocated sales tax funds will come from the new Westlake Hotel project, and will be used to help construct an additional level on the existing

Lakeview parking facility on Cherry Street.

Finally, the Board finalized a Downtown Transportation Fund grant for transportation improvements at the former Barre Street School, at 58 Barre Street in Montpelier.

***Downtown and Village Center Tax Credits Award***

The Downtown Board awarded almost \$40,000 in tax credits to a project at 156 Main Street in Montpelier for commercial uses.

The Board also awarded tax credits totaling almost \$45,000 for three downtown and village building projects:

- \$30,000 for installation of elevators and sprinklers at 49 Wales Street in Rutland, allowing upper floor occupancy in the building;
- \$5,000 for code improvements at Toscano's Bistro in Richmond;
- \$7,842 to support the rehabilitation of a commercial property at 22 Pleasant Street in Randolph

***National Register News***

The National Park Service has recently listed the following Vermont properties on the National Register of Historic Places:

***Arthur D. and Emma J. Wyatt House, Brattleboro***

This c. 1894, 2 ½ story, highly intact, Shingle style house and c. 1915 detached garage is located in a residential neighborhood on Putney Road just north of the town common. The house was built for locally renown photographer Arthur Wyatt and his wife Emma and was co-designed by Wyatt and his architect, Brattleboro native Francis W. Crosby while he was an employee of the renowned Boston architect Francis R. Allen.

The house was constructed during a residential building boom in Brattleboro in the 1890s. It was built in a prime location within easy walking distance of downtown but at the edge of undeveloped land. A local trolley service was established shortly after the house was built with a stop one block away.

***Josiah and Lydia Shedd Farmstead, Peacham***

This farmstead consists of a c. 1838 Greek Revival style, 2 ½ story farmhouse with attached carriage barn, two bank barns, milk house, and historic gas generator. The property reflects the diversified farming practices of mid-19th to mid-20th century hill farms. The property was nominated under the Agricultural Resources of Vermont MPDF and meets the Registration Requirements for the Farmstead property type.

***St. Johnsbury Federal Fish Culture Station, St. Johnsbury***

This property, located on the Sleepers River, includes three primary buildings-an 1894 Shingle style hatchery building, an 1898 Colonial Revival style Superintendent's house, a c. 1900 Colonial Revival style eclectic carriage barn, and two vernacular secondary buildings- a c. 1930 gatehouse/garage and a c. 1950 utility shed. Remnants of ponds and related concrete raceways, water distribution gates, drains and pipes remain.

The property was the first US Fish Culture Station established in Vermont in 1891. The hatchery was constructed to propagate, stock and establish trout populations in VT, NH and NY and to rear fingerling salmon for stocking the headwaters of the Connecticut and the St. Lawrence Rivers. It closed in 1960.

The hatchery building was designed by the US Commission of Fish and Fisheries engineer, Hector von Bayer, and is noteworthy for its design that combines materials and textures in a Shingle style design. The Superintendent's House was designed by Packard and Thorne Architects of St. Johnsbury and is a previously unrecognized Lambert Packard designed house.

The owners used the RITC to rehab the property for use as office space. The property was nominated under the Fish Culture in Vermont MPDF and meets the Registration Requirements for Fish Culture Stations.

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## LOCAL NEWS

### ***Mt. Holly Barn Program***

The Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association has developed a terrific community survey of historic barns and are now trying to find the resources to help save them. Their story of the origins of their program is one of ambition and resourcefulness -- a model for communities all across the state. To read more, please visit our website: [www.ptvermont.org/MTHOLLY/mt\\_holly\\_barns.htm](http://www.ptvermont.org/MTHOLLY/mt_holly_barns.htm)

### ***This Hall Will Rise Again!***

In our January newsletter, we reported on the fundraising successes of the Ferrisburg Town Hall project which had planned on rehabilitating the old Grange building on Route 7 for a Town Hall for municipal offices, community meeting space, and an upstairs auditorium. The community had supported the project and raised thousands of dollars through individual contributions and grants from a wide variety of state and national funding sources.

Tragically, the old Grange building burned down in February. Below is an inspiring update from a Ferrisburg resident on the status of the project:

"I'm happy to say that the project is going very well. In the aftermath of the fire, our town expressed overwhelming sentiment at Town Meeting to reproduce the building. Within the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* is a section entitled "reproduction".

Those Standard's are our rulebook. They provide us guidance as to just what is "allowed" in a reproduction. As soon as we could, town citizens performed a salvage and documentation operation on the Hall. We removed various windows, doors, and every trim style. Some items we can reuse, some will be for duplication purposes only. We documented everything we could.

We were lucky to be joined by Eileen Heideman and Phillip Barlow, two UVM historic preservation grad students. They took away 25 pieces from all over the building to analyze for colors and returned to us an 80-page report that covered every coat of paint on the building. Fascinating and extremely comprehensive, this report is very, very helpful. We hired a member of our planning board who is a computer drawing professional to take all the various trim styles and the overall building and render them electronically.

At the same time, our building committee reviewed a "short list" of qualified architects, and choose Breadloaf Construction, of Middlebury. This is a design services/construction management company. Our town has appointed the chair of the building committee to be the town's representative in the project. That'd be me.

Every week, our town clerk Chet Hawkins and I venture down to Middlebury for a meeting with Breadloaf. Steve Schenker, our architect, and his staff have been doing a great job.

We are not allowed to build exactly what was there. Code issues such as handicapped accessibility, fire exits, and mechanicals systems are not granted any "pre-existing conditions" variances on a new structure. Steve has drawn a floor plan that incorporates code compliance and historic ambiance.

Basically, our insurance, through the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, will replace our building. But, they would only replace our Italianate and historic hall with an equal-sized but modern version. It is the retaining of our historic preservation grants that allows us to add enough to the insurance settlement to make this a true reproduction by those aforementioned Standards. It is the grant money that will pay for the cornice brackets, pilasters and quoins, cartouche, architraves, plaster wall in the assembly hall, and the like. Our town will be paying for the addition we need to house the vault and additional offices.

We have many masters in this project. Our Grantors in the historic preservation community have their point of view. Our insurers who are paying for the majority of this reproduction have their point of view. Our townspeople have their point of view. We are glad to include them all. This Hall will rise again. Groundbreaking in October!"

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## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### ***Distinctive Destinations***

From a charming coastal New England town most famous for its tragic past, to the Chicago suburb that's home to the largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright buildings, to

a former Arizona copper mining camp now rediscovered as an artist colony, America offers alternative vacation destinations that symbolize an increasing dedication to historic preservation. In recognition of this travel trend, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, the country's largest private, nonprofit preservation organization, recently announced the selection of its 2005 Dozen Distinctive Destinations, an annual list of unique and lovingly preserved communities in the United States. To see the destinations, visit: [http://www.nationaltrust.org/dozen\\_distinctive\\_destinations/2005/index.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/dozen_distinctive_destinations/2005/index.html)

### ***11 Most Endangered Places***

Since 1988, the 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list has been one of the most effective tools in the fight to save America's irreplaceable architectural, cultural, and natural heritage.

The 11 sites chosen each year are threatened by neglect, insufficient funds, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy. Some are well-known, such as the Vieux Carré in New Orleans or Ellis Island in New York Harbor. Others, like the Kennecott Copper Mines in Alaska or the village of East Aurora, New York, are less famous but just as important, because they too represent preservation challenges facing thousands of communities. Each site raises awareness about the dangers to specific parts of America's heritage and about preservation generally.

The list has now brought national attention to 168 significant buildings, sites and landscapes. At times, that attention has galvanized public support to rescue a treasured landmark, while in others, it has been an opening salvo in a long battle to save an important piece of our history. 11 Most has been so successful at educating the public that now than 20 states and numerous cities and towns publish their own lists of endangered places.

See the 2005 list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places:

<http://www.nationaltrust.org/11Most/>

### ***Historic Hotels of America on the Web***

Historic Hotels of America (HHA) have recently posted an on-line web portal for reservations:

<http://www.historichotels.org>. HHA is a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. HHA has identified 213 quality hotels, including five in Vermont, that have faithfully maintained their historic architecture and ambiance. All are great places to explore!

### ***If Walls Could Talk***

*If Walls Could Talk*, a popular weekly series on Home & Garden Television (HGTV), explores the many homes across the country with intriguing pasts. This series profiles passionate homeowners who make surprising historical discoveries about their homes as they research and restore them. The program is coming to Vermont in October! If you have an old home that can tell a tale of great discovery, please contact: Alada Ramsey, [ARamsey@highnoonproductions.com](mailto:ARamsey@highnoonproductions.com).

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## **PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES**

### ***PreservationOnline.org E-Newsletter***

Preservation magazine recently launched a free weekly e-newsletter that provides links to

daily preservation related news stories through its Web site, PreservationOnline.org. Sign up to receive the latest headlines and links to stories about the world of historic preservation at [www.PreservationOnline.org/newsletter](http://www.PreservationOnline.org/newsletter). To send items for inclusion in Trust Worthy, please e-mail: [pr@nthp.org](mailto:pr@nthp.org).

#### ***Division for Fire Safety***

As you already may be aware of a new Division of Fire Safety, under the Department of Public Safety, has been created to combine together the staff and programs of the former Fire Prevention Division, Department of Labor & Industry.

This Division of Fire Safety has published a new website at [www.vtfiresafety.org](http://www.vtfiresafety.org). This web-site is currently using some documents and links from the former Fire Prevention (Labor & Industry) Homepage and the Vermont Fire Academy Homepage. These documents will be amended and this web-site re-constructed to expand the information available and simplify using the information.

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### **EDUCATION and TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### ***Downtown Conference***

The date has been set for this year's downtown conference. The conference will be held on **Thursday, October 13th** at the Windham Hotel in Burlington. More information to follow.

#### ***Place-based Education in the Northern Forest***

**November 17-19th, 2005**, at the Eagle Mountain House, Jackson, NH  
Presented by the Northern Forest Center and the Center for Place-Based Learning and Community Engagement

Educators, administrators, resource experts and policy makers from across Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York, are invited to gather in support of place-based education. The event will build on the learning, networking, and enthusiasm of the first two years' sold-out conferences. This year's conference is again extended to include a variety of in-depth workshops on Thursday.

More detailed information will be available this summer at [www.northernforest.org](http://www.northernforest.org) or [www.shelburnefarms.org](http://www.shelburnefarms.org). To learn more about the first two Promise of Place conferences, visit [http://www.northernforest.org/tech\\_programs.htm](http://www.northernforest.org/tech_programs.htm).

For more information, contact Pat Straughan, [pstraughan@shelburnefarms.org](mailto:pstraughan@shelburnefarms.org), (802) 985-8686 x43 or Lidie Whittier Robbins at [lrobbins@northernforest.org](mailto:lrobbins@northernforest.org) (802) 291-9800.

#### ***National Trust Conference***

The National Preservation Conference is the premier preservation conference in the United States for professionals in preservation and allied fields, dedicated volunteers, and serious supporters. It is the single best source for information, ideas, inspiration, and contacts.

This year's National Trust for Historic Preservation Annual Conference will be held from **September 27 to October 2, 2005** in Portland, Oregon. For all of the complete information, please visit the conference website at: <https://www.nthpconference.org/>

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Diversity Scholarship Program also offers partial scholarships for community activists, preservation professionals, and students to attend the Trust's annual National Preservation Conference and to expand their preservation knowledge and share their experience with like-minded leaders from across the country. More information and scholarship applications are available online.

[https://www.nthpconference.org/PDFFiles/Scholarship\\_2005.pdf](https://www.nthpconference.org/PDFFiles/Scholarship_2005.pdf)

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## GRANTS and FUNDING

### *Mid-Career Grant Program in Historic Preservation*

The James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation ( <http://www.fitchfoundation.org/> ) works to advance the study and practice of preservation by supporting preservation endeavors through a research grant program as well as publications, seminars, and lectures.

The foundation will award \$25,000 research grants to mid-career professionals with an advanced or professional degree and at least ten years' experience in historic preservation or a related field (e.g., architecture, landscape architecture, architectural conservation, urban design, environmental planning, archeology, architectural history, and the decorative arts). A smaller research grant may also be awarded.

The grants are intended to support innovative original research or creative design projects that advance the practice of historic preservation in the United States. Funded projects must demonstrate usefulness to practitioners and include results in publishable form. Grants are made possible, in part, through the generosity of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

See the James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation Web site <http://www.fitchfoundation.org/> for eligibility requirements. Deadline: September 8, 2005.

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