



The Preservation Trust of Vermont

Continuing Support for Vermont Communities Since 1980

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HISTORIC VERMONT

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NEWS FROM THE PRESERVATION TRUST

2006 Annual Historic Preservation Conference Heritage So Rich, 1966-2006: Celebrating 40 Years of Preservation

This year's annual historic preservation conference will take place on **Friday June 9th in St. Albans, Vermont**. More details to follow soon!

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 323 projects in communities throughout the state. These grants have played a key role in over \$90 million in total rehabilitation work. The last two rounds of grants include:

Wilder Block, Brattleboro: \$40,000: In December 2004, the Wilder Block in downtown Brattleboro suffered a devastating fire. The Preservation Trust, local officials, and other interested parties responded quickly and devised a plan to rescue the building. The Brattleboro Area Community Land Trust agreed to take on the task of coordinating the \$2.5 million rehabilitation of the landmark building. When complete, the building will house eight units of affordable housing, six office/studio units, and two ground floor commercial spaces. This grant will enable them to fully restore the façade of the building.

Colodny Building, White River Junction, \$15,000: The 1929 Moderne Style Colodny block, owned by the Vermont Housing Authority, houses the Center for Cartoon Studies, plus eight units for elderly tenants on the upper two floors. This downtown retail landmark had been vacant since the mid-1980s, when the Housing Authority rescued the building. The Center has been rehabilitating the main floor and basement for classrooms, studios, production lab, and a gallery. They welcomed their

first class in September 2005. CCS is now raising funds to restore the storefront. A grant of \$15,000 will allow them to uncover and restore a boarded-over glass transom that was designed to maximize light directed into the store interior. The project includes repairing the masonry surrounding that holds the window in place, and installing a new awning.

Worcester White School, \$25,000: The Worcester Historical Society is working hard to restore their two-story, 1892 Queen Anne-style, White School. This past year, they listed the property on the National Register of Historic Places, hosted story-telling events, and hosted with the Grange a community dinner that raised \$1,000. This small community of 500 is very involved in the project, including the 4th graders, who created a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the building. They have raised a total of \$12,000. This grant will allow them to fix the leaking roof, begin window restoration, and paint the building.

United Methodist Church, Middlesex, \$20,000: This side-tower Gothic-style church enters its centennial year in January 2006. Over the past ten years, the congregation has been working hard to raise over \$100,000 to build an addition to house a meeting room and handicap accessible entrance. Construction began this past summer and is now nearly complete. As part of the capital project, the church is also addressing maintenance needs for the historic building. They have already replaced half of the roof. This grant will help fund repairs on the other half of the roof, repair flashing and woodwork on the bell tower, conserve windows, repair the paneled front doors, rebuild the chimney, and paint the building.

Old Stone Church, North Bennington, \$30,000: Constructed in 1834, this vernacular Greek Revival building features a prominent neo-classical portico, three-stage tower, and Gothic-arched sanctuary windows with art glass panels. The Old Stone Church is a Bennington landmark but has been without regular use and at risk for over a decade. A new congregation has acquired the building and is working toward its restoration. In 2005, the congregation undertook repairs to the parsonage and began planning the rehabilitation of the church building. During the 2006 season, the congregation will make foundation repairs to the portico, repair the slate roof, augment the sanctuary floor frame, replace walks and steps, improve site drainage, conserve windows, doors, and sanctuary finishes, and add an accessible restroom. This grant will help cover the cost of professional construction oversight,

expert training in each of the trades, and construction materials.

Leahy Secures \$750,000 To Restore And Preserve Historic Vermont Buildings

Sen. Patrick Leahy announced recently that he has secured nearly \$750,000 in federal funds for use in partnership with the Preservation Trust of Vermont to help preserve historic buildings throughout Vermont . The funding will be granted to help Rochester, Ferrisburgh, Richford, Pawlet, Bradford, Sudbury, West Rutland, Worcester and Groton renovate and restore historic buildings in their village centers, including town halls, meeting houses, libraries and a mill.

Leahy partnered with the Preservation Trust of Vermont to create the Village Revitalization Fund, which allows Vermont 's small communities access to federal funds that would otherwise be unavailable to relatively small, community-based projects. Last year Leahy included a similar grant for the Preservation Trust of Vermont for \$600,000. To date, Leahy has secured \$1.35 million for the Village Revitalization Fund.

The following projects will receive funding under Leahy's provision:

- \$100,000: Rochester Pierce Hall
- \$100,000: Ferrisburgh Grange Hall
- \$100,000: Richford Sweat-Cummings Building
- \$75,000: Pawlet Town Hall
- \$75,000: Bradford Library
- \$75,000: Sudbury Meeting House
- \$75,000: West Rutland Vermont Carving Studio
- \$50,000: Worcester Town Hall
- \$54,900: Groton Village Restoration

River Arts and the Morrisville Grange

Each year the Field Service staff work with over 150 historic preservation projects. Most projects take several years from start to finish. All of the projects involve very special people working to make their community a better place. River Arts efforts to save Morrisville's Grange building is a case in point.

In 2004, we received a call from a Morrisville Grange member with a familiar story of dwindling membership and a building

that needed work. The Grange owned an 1847 Greek Revival style academy building in Morrisville historically known as the poor People's Academy (to distinguish it from academies for the affluent with tuition, room, and board).

Typical of building projects, we developed a road map for the building with the help of a \$250 Robert Sincerbeaux Fund matching grant to hire a preservation architect to do a condition assessment that laid out priorities and costs. The Town provided the match. Heidi Krantz, the Downtown Coordinator and new Preservation Trust Board Member, convened a meeting with members of the Grange, town officials, members of the neighboring VFW, and representatives from River Arts--a non-profit organization of community volunteers and teaching artists who offer arts programs in Morrisville.

That meeting eventually led to a remarkable solution. River Arts agreed to buy the building from the Grange for half of its appraised value. In return, they agreed to make the building available to the Grange for monthly meetings. The State Grange will use the proceeds to support other chapters across the state. River Arts is working to raise \$780,000 to rehabilitate the building, making it fully accessible, and to build an endowment. They are midway in their capital campaign and have received grant support from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, the A.H. Copley Foundation, the Preservation Trust of Vermont in partnership with the Freeman Foundation; a Cultural Facilities Grant; Downs, Rachilin & Martin; and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

For more information about this project, please visit the River Arts web site <http://www.riverartsvt.org> or contact President Joanne Harrison at 888-1261 or joanne@riverartsvt.org.

Vermont's 11-Most Designation Update

In 2004, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Vermont one of 11-Most Endangered Historic Places because of the threat of mega big boxes and Wal-Mart's desire to build seven new 150,000 square foot stores around the state.

The Preservation Trust has been at the forefront of those battles along with members of the Smart Growth Collaborative including the Vermont Natural Resources Council, the Conservation Law Foundation and the Vermont Forum on Sprawl. Here's an update on two of those battles:

On January 12, the Northwest Regional Planning Commission's (NRPC) Policy and Project Review Committee issued a report stating that the proposed 160,000 sq. ft. St. Albans Wal-Mart does not conform to the regional plan. If NRPC's board agrees, Wal-Mart's Act 250 state land use permit could be in jeopardy. Developers are hoping to build the Wal-Mart on a 108-acre tract at the north end of town. The project received local Development Review Board approval last June. One fear was that

Wal-Mart would attract other big boxes. Before permits have even been secured, that prediction came true with a Lowe's application to build a big box store.

In Bennington, on January 17, the Development Review Board approved with conditions an application to expand Wal-Mart's store in Monument Plaza to 112,000-square-feet, more than twice the size of the current one. With the support of the Preservation Trust of Vermont and VNRC, the Citizens for a Greater Bennington are appealing the local decision. The project still needs a State Act 250 permit.

The Great Travel Raffle 2006

The Preservation Trust's annual Travel Raffle has now become a tradition!

For \$100, your name will be put into a drawing to receive an all-expense paid National Trust for Historic Preservation Study Tour or \$10,000 in cash.

Runner-up prizes include a \$250 gift certificate to the Inn at Shelburne Farms; a trio of limited edition prints of Bellows Falls, Bennington, and St. Albans inspired by early 20th century travel art by Vermont Artist Charlie Hunter; tickets for two to the August 1, 2006 Vermont Mozart Festival concert at the Grand Isle Lake House including dinner and overnight; tickets for two to the August 16, 2006 Music and Dance Event at the Grand Isle Lake House including dinner and overnight.

The drawing will take place Friday evening June 9th at the reception following our annual statewide Historic Preservation Conference in St. Albans.

To purchase a ticket, contact meg@ptvermont.org or call (802) 442-8951.

Make a Contribution Today

The Preservation Trust was founded to assist the on-going effort to help save and use Vermont's rich collection of historic architectural, cultural, and community resources.

To accomplish this critical goal, the Preservation Trust provides technical assistance to communities and groups, provides financial support to local preservation projects in partnership with a variety of funders, undertakes local and statewide education and recognition programs, and works with partners to pass legislation and galvanize local advocacy to strengthen Vermont's downtowns and village centers.

You can now make a contribution to the Preservation Trust

through our secure website. Please visit our website and make your contribution today:

http://www.ptvermont.org/how_i_can_help.htm

Your contribution will be used to support our work throughout Vermont.

VERMONT NEWS

Big Box Developers Would Have to Fund Impact Studies

By [Louis Porter](#) Vermont Press Bureau

Developers of very large retail stores would be required to pay for independent local-impact studies under a bill that won preliminary approval Thursday, March 16th by a wide margin in the Senate.

The studies would examine issues such as whether cities and towns would likely spend more to provide municipal services than would be covered by increased property taxes, said Sen. Vincent Illuzzi, R-Essex/Orleans, a key supporter of the legislation.

Developers who want to build stores larger than 75,000 square feet first would have to fund such studies, which would be done by a consultant selected by the town.

To read the Full article in the Rutland Herald, please visit:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060317/NEWS/603170328/1004>

Vermont Communities Receive Preserve America Grants

In a ceremony held on Capitol Hill on March 9, Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States and Honorary Chair of *Preserve America*, announced the first round of *Preserve America* Grants totaling nearly \$3.5 million and acknowledged a number of new *Preserve America* Communities, including the first five *Preserve America* Community Neighborhood designations.

Three communities in Vermont were among the grant recipients. They are:

Barre City Downtown Marketing Program

Barre, VT

Funded at \$22,410

The grant will be used to develop marketing materials to promote Barre's historic downtown, arts, and cultural attractions.

Estey Organ Factory Heritage Tourism Master Plan

Town of Brattleboro, VT

Funded at \$32,500

The grant will create a master plan for the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse as a heritage tourism destination, the south-east portion of the former Estey Organ factory complex, and a history museum focused primarily on the national industrial heritage of the Estey Organ Company as its central attraction.

Destination Historic Poultney

Town of Poultney, VT

Funded at \$25,000

Funds will be used to develop a brochure to be available through State and regional tourism offices, lodging, and retail establishment in the area that will focus on the town's historic resources. Develop Web-based resources focusing on Poultney's history, museums, historic buildings, and sites. Produce a walking tour CD of Poultney's downtown historic district and the East Poultney historic district.

Develop a history exhibit for the new Visitors Center.

For more information about the Preserve America program, visit: <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/>

National Register News

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

Gould's Mill Bridge, Springfield

This single span, steel, Baltimore through truss bridge built by Boston Bridge Works in 1929 and has ten 16 foot panels that create a 160 foot span over the Black River. It is 26 feet 6 inches wide and is currently closed to traffic but will be rehabbed for continued highway use as well as a bike path. The bridge originally had a dual function; the easterly half used by the Springfield Terminal Railway Company-an electrified urban railroad important to the town's industrial development, and a standard one lane highway. The bridge has a skewed alignment to accommodate the railroad. The bridge was built as a result of the destruction of the 1927 flood and illustrates many of the innovations and characteristics typical of bridges of this era. Baltimore trusses are rare in Vermont, a few continue to serve Vermont's rail systems and only two remain on the state's highway network.

The bridge was nominated under the Metal Truss, Masonry, and Concrete Bridges in Vermont MPDF and meets the Registration Requirements for metal truss bridges.

Camp Billings, Thetford

First opened in 1907, this children's camp is located on the north end of Lake Fairlee. The camp embodies the nationwide YMCA camp movement that focused on child development and represents a period when Vermont's children's camping movement was at its developmental peak. It consists of 32 buildings constructed in a traditional rustic style between 1904 and 1954. 19 buildings are contributing and 13 are noncontributing. The buildings include several structures that were originally private camps, as well as a many structures specifically built for camp use. The buildings reflect architectural styles that were popular during the early to mid 20th century for children's summer camps and private cottages-the Queen Anne, Bungalow and Adirondack Rustic styles. Unique to this camp is a c. 1921, 40 foot high, shingled, Bungalow style clock tower with a flared base located on the camp's central green. The camp was nominated under the Organized Summer Camping in Vermont MPDF.

Bridge 27 (Lover's Lane Bridge), Berlin

This single span, steel Warren pony truss bridge was built in 1918. The 17 foot, 6 inch wide bridge has an 85 foot span carrying Lover's Lane over the Dog River and continues to carry traffic. The bridge is an excellent example of a truss type that had become common by 1900 and remained popular after World War I, especially in locations with wide spans such as this. Its moderate width is reflective of a transitional period of bridge construction during the years just prior to the onslaught of automobiles in Vermont. The bridge was nominated under the Metal Truss,, Masonry, and Concrete Bridges in Vermont MPDF and meets the Registration Requirements for metal truss bridges.

District 6 Schoolhouse, Lyndon

Center

This building, built in 1857, served as a one-room schoolhouse until 1900. From that time until its recent restoration, it was used as a garage to store cemetery maintenance equipment. The one story, clapboarded, gable front building with double front entries, sits on a stone foundation and is embellished with Greek Revival features such as a molded cornice with returns, corner pilasters, and 6/6 windows. Recently restored both inside and out by the local historical society, the school was nominated under the Educational Resources of Vermont MPDF.

Lucy Ruggles House, Burlington

This building is located on South Prospect Street, two blocks south of the University of Vermont green. It is a c. 1857 Italianate style, 2 ½ story gable roofed brick house with a large, 3 story rectangular mansard roofed tower and two rear ells. An associated c. 1940, 1 ½ story, two bay, gambrel roofed, wood frame detached garage is included on the site. The house is embellished with paired cornice brackets, bay windows, windows with arched heads, and highly decorative porches. The center ell was built c. 1820 and its original fireplace with beehive ovens and 6/6 windows remain. The main block retains striking interior woodwork, changes that reflect the property's ownership from 1868-1878 by Mial Davis, a wealthy Burlington lumber baron. The home served as a single family residence for 70 years before its purchase in 1927 by Dr. Carl Robinson who kept an office and 24 bed sanitarium there. In 1935 he developed the rear portion of the property into Robinson Parkway, a neighborhood of residential homes. He sold the house to the Ruggles Foundation in 1930 and it was opened in 1932 as a home for retired women teachers. The building served as a retirement home until recently renovated, using the RITC, for use as elderly housing.

215 School Street, Shoreham

Located just south of the Shoreham Common, this small, c. 1795 Federal style Cape Cod house includes a 1 1/2 story, 5 X 2 bay, eaves front, wood

frame main block with an early 19th century single story wing. The house retains its original form and massing, and a floor plan from the first half of the 19th century after the removal of its original center chimney. Many historic finishes remain including plaster, interior doors, both molded and flat door and window surrounds, horizontally oriented beaded wide board wainscoting in one room, vertical boarding on some walls, and wide board flooring. The building is associated with Job Lane Howe, a noted house wright working at the turn of the 19th century in the Shoreham area. He built a number of high style Federal houses and the c. 1800 Shoreham Congregational Meeting House, which is no longer standing. The house was owned by the locally prominent Bush family for one hundred years. The building was rehabbed using the RITC and is now rental housing.

**National Clothespin Factory,
Montpelier**

This c. 1918, three story, flat roofed, rectangular, wood frame factory building, with prominent elevator shaft, is located along the Winooski River and railroad tracks in a traditionally industrial section of Montpelier. The building is an excellent example of small, family run factories that were significant in the development of the city and region. It is the last remaining clothespin factory in the United States, an industry that traditionally was focused in the northeast where wood and water power were abundant. The building's simplicity, rectangular plan, multiple large windows, and open floor plan is representative of early 20th century New England industrial buildings where raw materials entered one end of the building and moved through the building from one floor to another, with the finished product exiting at the other end of the rectangular structure. The building is being rehabbed using the RITC and will become artists studios.

Spaulding Bridge, Cavendish

This single span, pin connected, Parker pony truss built in 1905, crosses the Black River. It spans 98 feet, 6 inches, is

16 feet, four inches wide and continues to carry traffic. The bridge is a rare example of a pin connected design-fewer than 6 remain standing in the state. It is an outstanding example of a small category of metal truss bridges purchased and erected by towns before Vermont's legislature authorized state aid for local bridge projects in 1912 and before state engineers began influencing the design of local bridges after federal aid became available in 1916. This bridge is typical of the designs towns purchased directly from manufacturing firms prior to 1916. The was nominated under the Metal Truss, Masonry, and Concrete Bridges in Vermont MPDF and meets the Registration Requirements for metal truss bridges.

Kellogg-Hubbard Library Wins Support on Town Meeting Day

The Kellogg-Hubbard Library asked voters in Montpelier to increase their support for the library on Town Meeting Day. In 2005, the voters approved \$99,600 and the library petitioned for an additional \$96,000 in 2006. The library's ballot item passed with support of 60% of the voters and the popular library was also successful in the five other communities in its service area.

The Kellogg-Hubbard Library was built in 1895 and it is an impressive presence in Montpelier's downtown. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The library received a Better Communities grant from the Preservation Trust and the Burlington Free Press in 2000. Since an addition was completed in 2001, circulation at the library has increase over 50% and it has the second highest circulation of public libraries in Vermont. Strong demand for library services has created a "problem of success," which necessitated the increased request to voters.

Kellogg-Hubbard is a gracious building, filled for constant activity. Visit <http://www.kellogghubbard.lib.vt.us/> for more information and library hours.

NATIONAL NEWS

Lobby Day 2006 a Big Success!

The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Offices and Preservation Action held their annual meetings on March 12-14, and held their annual Lobby Day on Capitol Hill with the National Trust, NATHPO and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions to make Congress aware of and garner support for

historic preservation's policy agenda. This was an "off year" for the National Trust, with meant Trust Advisors, as well as Statewide and Local Partners, held meetings in their regions in lieu of coming to DC as they did last year to lobby. For those who did participate, Hill visits were made to congressional delegations in support of issues such as historic rehab tax credit amendments, a new authorization for the Advisory Council and Historic Preservation Fund, and full funding for the Save America's Treasure's (SAT) program.

http://www.nationaltrust.org/advocate_better_policies/PPWB03172006_final.pdf

New Urban and Historic Parks Website

The City Parks Alliance and the National Association for Olmsted Parks have launched a new website to share experiences and lessons learned and provide a network for those interested in urban and historic parks.

<http://www.parkspractices.org>

<http://www.cityparksalliance.org/>

<http://www.olmsted.org/>

COMMENTARY

Making the Right Choice

by Meg Campbell

Wal-Mart's distinctive blue sign, with a star in the midst of its name, has become the most recognizable emblem of discount consumer goods in America. Its low prices and the breadth of merchandise have attracted shoppers in hundreds of American communities. Unfortunately, what shoppers don't see are the many ways these stores actually cost the community money - demonstrably, more money than is saved through the stores' discount prices.

Bennington has had a Wal-Mart since 1995, a small one by the company's standards (52,000 square feet) but a size that represents a good compromise: Consumers have had access to the merchandise and prices that have made Wal-Mart famous, but the community has not had to endure the costs and impacts that the larger stores present.

Now, however, Wal-Mart proposes to double in size, and those impacts will be substantial.

While the project has sparked a healthy and constructive dialogue in our community - what do we want for our town, and how can residents' consumer needs best be met - the formal process for reviewing and conditioning the proposal has not provided for a full airing of the issues.

We are only going to get one chance to do this right. It is our obligation - to ourselves, our neighbors, our children and their future - to make sure that if there is a larger Wal-Mart, it is the right size for our community, it fully pays its own way and integrates successfully with our existing commercial sector. If it doesn't, the effect could be a cumulative loss of jobs, a depressed standard of wages and workers' benefits, lower property tax revenues and loss of character that makes Bennington Bennington.

Above all, the development could end up imposing costs upon Bennington's taxpayers that would more than erase the increased taxes generated by the project.

Last April, voters overturned a bylaw that had been adopted, after careful study and consideration, by the Planning Commission and Select Board, revealing that they do not want a size cap on new retail development. (The campaign against the bylaw was funded almost entirely from Wal-Mart promotional money.) Later, the Select Board passed - unanimously and unchallenged - a requirement that all applicants seeking to develop more than 50,000 square feet of retail space must complete a community impact study, which will provide critical information to evaluate future proposals.

However, BLS of Bennington submitted its plans for a 112,000-square-foot Wal-Mart after the size cap was defeated but before the community-impact evaluation was required. Therefore, this proposal - which is really what the community conversation about large retail development has been all about - is in danger of sliding through without the public scrutiny it deserves.

We can't let that happen. Take a look at what happened up north in Williston after a 114,000-square-foot Wal-Mart (almost precisely the size of the store proposed for Bennington) was approved by local officials in the late 1990s. The company agreed to pay the costs of a scaled-down traffic mitigation plan, but those road improvements proved to be vastly inadequate. Taxpayers are paying for the rest of the needed roadwork. As development continued, Williston's crime has increased, as have traffic accidents. A community once served by a single constable now supports 11 police officers. Town services have grown exponentially, to the point where Williston had to impose a 1 percent local sales tax to meet the burdens generated by the development at Tafts Corners (See www.vermontwalmartwatch.org).

Citizens for a Greater Bennington has been participating in the Wal-Mart application process not because we want to prevent Wal-Mart from having a store here, but to urge, and assist, the Development Review Board to be thorough and thoughtful as it considers the proposal. We are now appealing because we believe the proposal deserves a complete review. We care about our town. We care about our merchants and wage-earners, our taxpayers and our children.

Let's be certain to make the right choice. This is our only chance.

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

Vermont Gathering Places

In celebration of Preservation Trust of Vermont's 25th Anniversary, Peter Miller has produced an exquisite photography and essay book entitled *Vermont Gathering Places*.

The book includes over one hundred images of gathering places in communities around Vermont, including village stores, post offices, local restaurants, libraries, churches, art centers, community halls and Main Streets. Many of these places have been directly supported by Preservation Trust grants.

The book is the third in a Vermont Trilogy by the author and photographer. His first two books, *Vermont People* and *Vermont Farm Women*, are recognized as state classics and have won three national awards.

"*Vermont Gathering Places* is about where Vermonters meet," said the author, "from town meetings to country stores, fairs, church suppers and farmer's markets. It is a book about community and the personal interactions that are so important to Vermont, and make our state unique."

Miller photographed and reported on gathering places in every Vermont county. Two of the largest chapters are on country stores and town festivals and parades. *Vermont Gathering Places* is available in Vermont bookshops, through the Preservation Trust of Vermont (802-658-6647) or can be ordered through the secure site www.silverprintpress.com

Vermont Directory of Foundations, 2006 Edition, Now Available

All updated, many new listings, with notes and guidance from the foundations themselves.

To purchase a copy, please send \$50 includes postage and handling to CPG Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 199, Shaftsbury, VT 05262.

You can download an order form at www.cpgfundraising.com, and send it with your check or simply send a check with your name, organization name and address on a separate sheet. Please include 6% tax if you are not a tax exempt nonprofit! Sorry, no credit cards accepted.

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 <http://www.PreservationOnline.org/newsletter>. To send items for inclusion in Trust Worthy, please e-mail: pr@nthp.org.

Applications Available for VCRD's Creative Communities Program

The next deadline for applying to the Creative Communities Program at the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) is Friday, April 21st. Participants receive technical assistance for strategic planning around their community's creative economy. Applications are available online at <http://www.sover.net/~vcrd>.

In 2005, the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) launched its Creative Communities Program and started work with an initial group of towns and cities, selected through a competitive application process. Hardwick, Rockingham, Rutland City, City of St. Albans and Windsor were the first to receive strategic planning assistance to develop innovative projects that turn their ideas about the creative economy into tangible successes. A second application round, with an April 21st, 2006, deadline, will select the next group of participating communities.

VCRD bases its creative economy work on the premise that we can sustain a vigorous economic environment through encouraging a healthy interplay of commerce and culture, and valuing individuals' creative skills. The strategic planning accomplished through the Creative Communities Program sets the stage for capturing the value of new ideas in any field. Our process brings all potential partners in economic development to the table, including non-traditional partners, such as arts, heritage, place-based, and other (usually) not-for-profit organizations. An outside facilitator organizes the process so that it can invite far-reaching participation while also moving quickly from broad ideas into concrete next steps.

Participants in the Creative Communities Program are part of a much larger network of communities interested in the creative economy. They will have access to the resources of towns that have completed successful creative economy projects in the past as well as the expertise of individuals around the state who are dedicated to advancing Vermont's creative economy.

The Creative Communities Program application is available on VCRD's website at <http://www.sover.net/~vcrd> or by contacting the program director Helen Labun Jordan at (802) 223-3793 or via e-mail at ccp@sover.net.

Save America's Treasures

Applications are available for Save America's Treasures grants to fund the preservation and/or conservation of nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and collections and nationally significant historic properties. Administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the

Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Deadline is April 18.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/treasures/>

EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2006 Preservation Retreats at the Grand Isle Lake House

Please mark your calendar for the 2006 Preservation Trust of Vermont Retreats at the Grand Isle Lake House:

- May 22-23: Community Preservation Projects
- June 19-20: Designated Village Centers
- July 25-26: Community Preservation Projects
- August 14-15: Community Preservation Projects
- Sep 11-12: Arts & Performance Venues
- Oct 23-24: Churches

The retreats are designed for groups working on an historic preservation or community revitalization project. 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.

All inclusive cost for the retreat is \$85/ per person for a shared room. \$115 for a single (first come basis). Reservations should be made as early as possible to give us time to invite specific resource people. Deadline is two weeks before each retreat date.

Check-in at the Lake House is 2:30 and we begin at 3:00 and finish by 2:00 the following afternoon.

For reservations, please contact one of Preservation Trust's Field Representatives:

- Ann Cousins @ 802-434-5014; ann@ptvermont.org
- Doug Porter @ 802-644-2815; doug@ptvermont.org
- Meg Campbell @ 802-442-8951; meg@ptvermont.org

For a preview of the Lake House, please see our web site:

www.ptvermont.org

***Shared Field Service Representative Job Opening
New Hampshire Preservation Alliance and National Trust
for Historic Preservation Northeast Office***

The NH Preservation Alliance and the NTHP are seeking an individual to represent both the Preservation Alliance and the National Trust, provide direct services to local organizations and communities which are actively involved in historic preservation efforts, and to build a strong ongoing presence for preservation in communities throughout New Hampshire.

Needed are strong leadership, administrative, written and verbal communications skills; the ability to work collegially with a wide variety of interests, work independently, juggle many tasks and responsibilities. Substantial experience in community organizing, preservation, fundraising, law, planning, development, government, journalism, and/or advocacy. Must have willingness to travel. Undergraduate degree in preservation or related field preferred. Masters degree desirable.

Considering both full-time and part-time applicants.

For more information, contact Jennifer Goodman, Executive Director, New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, P.O. Box 268, Concord, NH 03302 or admin@nhpreservation.org.

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