

## **PTV Highlights: 2002**

Partnerships are at the heart of how the Preservation Trust works to save and actively use our historic places. We depend on local partnerships, passion and commitment to meet our goals. Partnerships with funders like the Freeman Foundation and the Walter Cerf Fund provide significant resources to rehabilitate a wide range of historic buildings. Our partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides on-the-ground, face-to-face technical assistance and encouragement to local officials and community members. We work in partnership with state government and a wide variety of state-wide organizations to meet challenges like downtown revitalization, minimizing sprawl, affordable housing, and developing better building codes.

These partnerships are a powerful force. They help to unleash tremendous local energy. They save historic buildings. They build local capacity. They play an important role in community revitalization. They reach every corner of our state. And in combination, they help protect the essential character of Vermont.

### **Here are some of the things our partnerships helped communities accomplish in 2002:**

#### **Preservation Grants**

Our partnership with the Freeman Foundation began in 1994, and since then the Preservation Trust has been able to distribute over \$6.5 million in grants in support of over 250 preservation projects around Vermont. In turn, these grants have played a significant role in over \$70 million in preservation work. Libraries, art spaces, museums, educational facilities, community meeting places, affordable housing, and churches have all benefited. With continued support from the Freeman Foundation, this year we distributed over \$1 million to 35 projects. (See list below.)

#### **Field Service Program**

In April, the Preservation Trust hired Doug Porter to join our Field Service team, a partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In 2002, Doug and Ann Cousins provided direct assistance to over 175 community preservation initiatives. Of the 175, 45 received seed grants through our Robert Sincerbeaux Fund. As part of the Field Service Program, the Preservation Trust hosted four two-day retreats at the Grand Isle Lake House. Seventy volunteers from over 35 local organizations attended. The retreats brought together

these groups from across Vermont who were working on similar kinds of projects in order to share ideas and mentor one another.

### **Downtown Initiatives**

A bill with a batch of new and expanded incentives for downtown development was passed by lawmakers during the last session of the Legislature. This new downtown bill was the result of work by the Vermont Forum on Sprawl, the Downtown Network, the Vermont Downtown Program, the Preservation Trust, and others. It further underscores Vermont's commitment to strengthening downtowns and community centers. Our work with the Department of Labor and Industry has helped develop a new, "customer-friendly" approach for the agency as they work with historic building owners in downtowns and community centers.

### **Route 7 Communities**

Public services along with a healthy mix of locally-owned commercial businesses are a big part of vibrant village centers and downtowns. On the other hand, losing a post office or municipal offices can lead to a downward spiral. In Pittsford, we provided financial and technical assistance to the Friends of Pittsford Village in their legal and Act 250 battles to keep the post office in their village center. In Ferrisburgh, we provided a planning grant and technical assistance to the Town Center Committee to develop a plan to rehabilitate the Grange building into new town offices in its village center. In Brandon, we continued to work with Select board and community members to find a cost-effective downtown location for their town offices. A collection of donors enabled the Preservation Trust to provide Middlebury with the resources necessary to better plan new municipal facilities in downtown.

### **Latchis Hotel and Theater**

As our year comes to an end, the Brattleboro Arts Initiative and we are close to our goal of acquiring the Latchis Hotel and Theater complex. Generous donors and charitable lenders have enabled BAI and PTV to amass over \$1.6 million for the project. The acquisition will be followed by substantial rehabilitation work and the development of a performing and visual arts facility. We think this effort is crucial to the future vitality of downtown Brattleboro.

### **2002 Preservation Grants: Partnership of the Freeman Foundation and Preservation Trust**

Albany Historical Society  
Ascutney Union Church, Ascutney

Ben Thresher's Mill, Barnet  
Vermont Granite Museum, Barre  
Barton Memorial Building, Barton  
The Haskell Opera House, Derby Line  
East Burke Congregational Church  
Glover Community Church  
Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick  
Hardwick Town House, Hardwick  
Holley Hall, Bristol  
Isle La Motte Methodist Episcopal Church  
Isle La Motte Historical Society: Blacksmith Shop  
Lower Waterford Congregational Church  
Lyndon Historical Society: Shores Museum, Schoolhouse, Town House,  
Randall Covered Bridge  
Middletown Springs Elementary School  
Center for Fine Arts at Union Institute, Montpelier  
Moretown Library  
Morgan United Churches  
Vermont Technical College's Red Schoolhouse Project, Randolph  
Center  
Richmond Free Library  
Christie Building, St. Albans  
Pierson Building, Shelburne  
South Londonderry Baptist Church  
Stannard Town Hall  
Bayley Hazen Store, South Peacham  
Sutton Free Will Baptist Church  
Thetford Center Community Association  
Thetford Town Hall  
Gilbert Hart Library, Wallingford  
Wallingford Town Hall  
Waterbury Center Church  
Brattleboro Area Community Land Trust Housing Project, West  
Brattleboro  
Westminster Town Hall  
University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm, Weybridge

**2002 Grants by the Preservation Trust's Robert Sincerbeaux  
Fund**

Friends of the Pioneer Street Bridge, Montpelier  
Jeudevine Library, Hardwick  
Town of Shoreham  
Sudbury Meeting House  
West Haven Historical Society

Franklin United Church  
United Church of Northfield  
Hutton Barn, Orwell  
Statehouse Model, Montpelier Historical Society  
Burlington City Arts  
Union Christian Church, Coolidge Foundation, Plymouth  
Pierce Hall, Rochester  
White River Craft Center, Randolph  
Landgrove Town Hall  
Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury  
Mad River Valley Planning District  
Bentley Hall, Community Development Law Center, Poultney  
Boys & Girls Club of Rutland County  
Third Congregational Church, East St. Johnsbury  
East Clarendon Chapel Association  
United Church of Strafford  
Tilles Barn, Strafford  
Starksboro Baptist Church  
Coburn Barn, Strafford  
Pawlet Community Church  
Charlotte Congregational Church Parsonage  
Brownington Grange Hall  
Hardwick Town House  
Bethel Lympus Church  
Burlington Build-out Study  
South Royalton Community Church  
Sandgate Schoolhouse  
Rice's Mills Community Association, Thetford  
Huntington Town Hall  
The Carving Studio, West Rutland  
Rokeby Museum, Ferrisburgh  
Montpelier Downtown Community Association  
Westmore Town Offices  
Pittsford Historical Society  
Elmore Town Hall  
Starksboro Baptist Church  
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum  
Westford Library  
Bellows Falls Newbery Building  
Concord Town Hall  
East Charleston Barn, Vermont Leadership Institute  
Montpelier Community Visioning Project  
Preservation Leadership Training Scholarship  
United Church of Ludlow

Strafford Unitarian Universalist Church  
Bradford Library  
Root District Community Center, Norwich  
First Congregational Church, Springfield  
North Hero Community Hall