

PTV Highlights: 2006

Through generous financial support from individuals, foundations and businesses, the Trust has doubled in size over the last ten years, adding Field Service staff and increasing grant amounts for community projects.

The focus has also evolved, from simply saving historic buildings to include a broader vision for historic preservation that includes supporting village store start-ups, encouraging statewide barn conservancy efforts, and opposing inappropriate commercial or civic development outside of a community's central business districts.

Highlights from 2006...

The Preservation Trust does its work primarily by building capacity at the local level through technical assistance, grant support, and lots of encouragement. The 2006 Map and these Highlights tally over 250 projects undertaken. It is important to remember that every mark on the map represents a great story about what a local group is doing to save or use an historic building or strengthen their community. Here are some of the ways we help:

Field Service Program In 1997, the Preservation Trust started a Field Service Program in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Today, three part-time Field Service Representatives work with local organizations to save and use historic places. In 2006 they supported 256 projects in 135 different communities by providing technical assistance, encouragement, and grant support through the Robert Sincerbeaux Fund.

Grants

Throughout its history, the Preservation Trust has used grant-making as a key tool to support local preservation efforts.

Robert Sincerbeaux Fund

In honor of the Preservation Trust's first benefactor, this fund provides seed grants to community organizations. Last year the Preservation Trust awarded 76 Robert Sincerbeaux Fund grants to local projects.

Preservation Grants

Since 1994, the Preservation Trust has partnered with the Freeman Foundation to provide \$9 million in bricks-and-mortar grants, resulting in over \$98 million of preservation activity. Over 330 historic buildings have benefited from this program. Last year 16

projects received grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Village Revitalization Initiative

In partnership with Senator Leahy, the Preservation Trust granted in 2005-2006 18 major grants totaling \$1.35 million to community preservation projects that are reclaiming or enhancing community gathering places, such as libraries, opera houses, and community halls.

Community Fund Grants

With funding from an anonymous donor, the Preservation Trust provided 10 grants to support local advocacy, economic development activity in downtowns and village centers, and initiatives that helped to protect the essential character of Vermont.

Downtowns and Village Centers

The Preservation Trust focuses much of its work on strengthening downtowns and village centers while curbing commercial sprawl. This past legislative session, the Trust worked with Vermont Forum on Sprawl to expand tax incentives for downtown and village center revitalization and to establish a process for designating growth centers. The Preservation Trust took the lead on the downtown portion of the legislation, and the Forum took the lead on the growth center program. At the same time, we fought against inappropriate out-of-town big-box development that zaps downtown vitality. In 2006, the Trust worked with local citizens groups in Bennington, St. Albans, Morrisville, Middlebury, and Newport-Derby and with the Vermont Natural Resources Council to oppose mega-Wal-Marts proposed in those communities. Through a very generous donation, the Trust has been able to establish a special revolving fund to combat threats to community centers.

Easement Program

In 2006, six new façade easements were added. The Preservation Trust holds 44 easements on 75 buildings, structures, and archeological sites. Each year, we make stewardship visits to each property. The vast majority of the sites are protected through a partnership with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board.

Educational Programs

In June, the Preservation Trust, the Division for Historic Preservation, and St. Albans for the Future hosted the 12th annual Preservation Conference featuring Governor Phil Hoff's keynote, *With Heritage So Rich: 1966-2006*. While the series of speakers and workshops provided

learning opportunities, something was to be said for the face-to-face sharing of ideas over coffee, lunch or between sessions. This same kind of person-to-person mentoring happens on a smaller scale at the Grand Isle Lake House Retreats. Throughout the summer, the Trust host 2-day retreats for local volunteers who are working on preservation projects. Participants come away feeling encouraged with new ideas to further their individual projects. One of the best outcomes, though, is the feeling that they aren't alone; others across the State are doing similar kinds of projects...and succeeding! An important educational outreach vehicle is the Preservation Trust's electronic newsletter and web-site which provide news about preservation projects, advocacy initiatives, new publications, and grant opportunities.

The Preservation Trust provides encouragement, technical support and financial resources to communities and local organizations; but in the end we depend upon local commitment, leadership and passion to get this important work done. We are grateful to individual donors, businesses, and foundations that made this year's astonishing collection of work possible!

Preservation Grants in Partnership with the Freeman Foundation

Alburgh Historical Society Firehouse
Barton United Church
Bennington , Old Stone Church
Brattleboro , Wilder Block
Brookline Schoolhouse
Brownington Congregational Church
Chelsea Town Hall and Library
Glover, Bread and Puppet Museum
McIndoe Falls Congregational Church
Middlesex United Methodist Church
Morrisville River Arts
Norwich Congregational Church
Rochester , Pierce Hall Community Center
White River Junction, Colodny Building
Whitingham, Sadawga Springs Hotel
Worcester White School

Robert Sincerbeaux Fund Grants

American Precision Museum , Windsor
Bethany Church UCC of Randolph
Big Heavy World Foundation

BPOE, Bennington Lodge
Bradford Cemetery Association
Bridgewater Congregational Church
Bridport Historical Society, Inc.
Brookline Historical Society
Burlington City Arts
Chelsea Village Store
Chester Congregational Church
Clarendon Grange Community Center
DAR Strong Mansion , West Addison
East Barre Congregational Church
Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium
Fletcher Farm Foundation
Free and Accepted Masons, Wilmington
Grace United Methodist Church , Plainfield
Greensboro Historical Society
Greensboro Library
Henry Sheldon Museum of VT History
Huntington Historical and Community Trust
Hyde Park Opera House
Hyde Park Congregational Church
Island Arts
Keewaydin Foundation on Lake Dunmore
New Beginnings Christian Church, Concord
Northfield United Methodist Church
Norwich Historical Society
Old Parish Church , Weston
Old Stone House Museum , Brownington
Peacham Community Housing Trust
Peacham Historical Association
Pierce Store, Shrewsbury
Pittsford Preservation Corp.
Poultney Historical Society
Providence Island Association
Randolph Area Community Dev. Corp.
Randolph First Congregational Church
Reading Historical Society
Readsboro Historical Society
River Arts, Inc., Morrisville
Rockingham Arts & Museum Project
Roxbury Free Library
Rupert United Methodist Church
Solid Rock Assembly of God, Barton
South Londonderry First Baptist Church

St. John's in the Mountains Church , Stowe
St. Johnsbury Mt. Pleasant Cemetery
St. Johnsbury Railroad Heritage Society
The Intervale Foundation, Burlington
Tinmouth Historical Society
Town of Brighton
Town of Charlotte
Town of Guildhall
Town of Moretown
Town of Rupert
Town of Starksboro
Town of West Fairlee
Town of Wheelock
United Church of South Royalton
United Church of Underhill
University of Vermont
Upper Valley Assembly of God Church
Vermont Conservatory of Music
Vermont Forum on Sprawl
VT Council on Rural Development
VT Small Business Development Center
Washington County Mental Health Services
Weston Historical Society
Williamstown Art Conservation Center
Windsor Public Library
Woodstock Historical Society
Woodstock Recreation Center
Village Revitalization Grants in Partnership with Senator Patrick Leahy
Bradford Public Library
Ferrisburgh Grange/Town Hall
Groton Village Restoration Project
Pawlet Town Hall
Richford, Sweat Cummings
Rochester , Pierce Hall
Sudbury Meeting House
West Rutland Carving Studio
Worcester Town Hall
Community Fund Grants
Citizens for a Greater Bennington
Bradford Affordable Housing
Brattleboro , Harris Ski Jump
Ferrisburgh Town Center
Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association
Starksboro Country Store

St. Albans for the Future
St. Albans , Northwest Citizens for Responsible Growth
Barn Grants funded by The Burlington Free Press and The Gannett
Foundation
Mount Holly Barn Preservation Association
Charlotte, Thorp Barn
Richmond , Dean Slocum
Montpelier , Bill Kaplan
So. Hero, Button Barn
Glover, Bread and Puppet Theatre
Benson, Lois Trenn
Alburl, Heather Darby
Shrewsbury , Ludie Biddle
Brandon, Alyssa Zollman
Plainfield , David Strong and Laura Zeisel
Brattleboro , Goodenough Farmstead Trust
Belmont, Cami Rowe
Richford, Colleen and Tim Pratt
Mt. Holly , Jill Gates-Paz
Ludlow , Marilyn Martin and Phil Dunwoody
Windsor, Dressler Barn
Belmont, Glenn Davis
Brookfield , Evangeline and Gene Parent
Cornwall , Gary Barnett and Louise Dion