Assessment of Historical and Cultural Resources

Character of New Hampshire

For as small as New Hampshire is — it is the fifth smallest and ninth least populous of the 50 states — it has no shortage of opportunities and challenges facing its 10 counties, 13 cities, 221 towns and 22 unincorporated places. Small doesn't mean stagnant or unchanging, even for the "Live Free or Die" state. Within the state's 9,304 square miles, the southern tier, where most of the cities are concentrated, faces different pressures than the less populous and less developed North Country.

The natural resources within the state are an economic draw, for both industry and recreation. With 1,300 lakes and ponds, 40,000 miles of rivers, and 18 miles of coastline, New Hampshire is also faced with the challenges that come with this amount of water, such as flooding, flood plain management, and sea-level rise.

The topography of the state is challenging with the White Mountains, spanning the north-central portion of the state, sometimes creating a sense of isolation for communities to the north. Protection of the cultural landscape that defines the state is imperative. Of the state's 5.7 million acres of land, more than 1.7 million acres have been permanently conserved statewide. These lands provide an economic benefit, including the goods harvested from the lands, the opportunities for tourism and recreation, and support for working farms and forest.[2] Both the natural and built environments are critical to New Hampshire's identity.

In New Hampshire, many towns still elect to hold annual town meetings; their elected select boards lead local government, some without professional staff to help with the day-to-day operations. All volunteer boards throughout town government are common, and many communities struggle to fill openings. This independent way of conducting municipal business has led to a perception that there is little cooperation or communication between communities, especially those facing regional challenges or pressure to adapt to the changing needs of residents. Despite this perception, there are many examples of communities engaging in innovative partnerships. Moving forward, regional, rather than statewide, identities and collaborations seem to be a more comfortable way for Granite Staters to address their challenges and to take advantage of opportunities.

Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm, Tamworth
These buildings are part of a working farm and museum that gives a glimpse of one family's 200-year history in Tamworth through its buildings, landscape, and collections.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

At times, it can seem as if there are two New Hampshires, rural and metro, with similar but disparate problems. The North Country has a continuous out-migration of young people and an in-migration of

seniors looking to retire, whereas the population growth in southern tier communities have stagnated altogether. In particular, younger residents may feel they cannot afford to stay, given housing prices and property taxes.

Palace Theatre, Manchester
Celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2015, the Palace Theatre is an important landmark in Downtown Manchester as both a tourist destination and thriving part of the city's economy.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire.**

New Hampshire's small population is aging quickly. New Hampshire has the fourth-oldest median age in the country. Population projections indicate that New Hampshire's older adult population will nearly double between 2010 and 2025, and because the state's overall population growth will slow in that time, the elderly population will increase to about one quarter of all Granite Staters. "The state's aging population, combined with its lowest in the nation birth rate and continued out-migration of young adults, threatens to throw the state's demographic profile off balance."[3] Demographic shifts such as this challenge community leaders to create planning practices and policies that address the needs of multigenerational communities.[4] Some of the challenges and solutions identified with this demographic shift are the need to provide a variety of affordable, accessible housing options; a range of transportation choices; walkable communities with mixed-use design; and easy access to social services, cultural amenities, and civic destinations.[5]

The 2011-2015 preservation plan was written and published at a time when New Hampshire's economy was sluggish, entrenched in the midst of the economic downturn that had taken hold as early at 2007. The trends discussed in the 2011-2015 plan reflect the economic state of New Hampshire at that time. It was noted that the earlier pattern of sprawling development had shifted to a dire need for almost any type of development that could provide jobs or revenue. Most economists say that 2014 was the year when New Hampshire was back to the levels where it was economically in 2007. Over that seven-year period, the state regained all the jobs it had lost. Other economic indicators, such as bankruptcies, foreclosures and home prices, reached pre-recession levels.[6] As this new five-year preservation plan is published, New Hampshire is in a period of shift from accommodating growth to accommodating change.[7]

Cultural Landscapes — Heritage, Traditions, and Place

The National Park Service defines a cultural landscape as "a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values" and defines four basic types of cultural landscape: historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and ethnographic landscapes. Historic sites and historic designed landscapes, which often include gardens and parks, are easily defined, but the latter two allow for a broader consideration of human impacts on and interactions with the world around us. A local example is the Pinnacle, a 34.5 acre park-like area surrounding a high outcrop of ledge in the town of Hooksett. A documented tourist and recreational attraction going back to the mid-19th century, it was listed to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places in 2011.

Our collective identities have layers. We are residents of the United States, of New Hampshire, of our towns and cities, and many of us come from somewhere different, too. In part, our collective identities reside in places, and our sense of place is key to knowing who we are. Heritage and place are where our individual and collective identities meet.[8] What stories do our places tell us? Stories about history, stories about the present? Whose stories do these places tell? Whose stories are excluded or forgotten? How can we use our places to better understand who we are? Heritage is composed of the stories that we tell about where we come from and who we are.

Agricultural landscapes are some of the most recognizable parts of New Hampshire heritage. But the history of agriculture here has layers as well, including multiple stages of clearing and regrowth of the native forest, changes to types of crops grown and their methods of production, and relationships to transportation networks and markets. Although many of New Hampshire's agricultural areas have become suburban in nature, the state is also seeing a resurgence in the number of acres in agricultural use in the 21st century. The history of farming continues to evolve and change through the present day.

Scamman Farm, Stratham
This property has been farmed for more than three centuries and is a reminder to all of the town's agricultural past and present.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Not all culture or heritage is tangible, and New Hampshire has many examples of "intangible cultural heritage," which can be hard to quantify and are often events and traditions. What defines us more than our cultural events? Our "First in the Nation" presidential primary tradition. The fairs that relate to our agricultural heritage. The town of Hampstead's midnight Fourth of July bell ringing. Littleton's Pollyanna Day. Sunapee's League of New Hampshire Craftsmen's Fair. Laconia's Bike Week. Various pumpkin and harvest festivals, Main Street festivals, Old Home Days, music and theater, and many more examples. Our cultural landscape includes the places where these events take place. The history of these places and their continuing use today for community events help us define who we are as Granite Staters.

We are seeing a broadening of this identity at events such as Manchester's "We are One" festival and Laconia's Multicultural Festival, and in publications such as *Different Roots, Common Dreams: New Hampshire's Cultural Diversity,* each of which celebrates the state's newer immigrant communities. The festivals occur in neighborhoods with older traditions of immigration and serve as a continuation. Our historic places carry layers of history, layers of stories. When we can look at history and heritage as a continuum, rather than as a closed book, our historic places become connectors between the past and future, connecting through our present use. What we decide is important today is the legacy we will protect for the future.

Who is Doing Preservation in New Hampshire?

The goal of preserving historical properties and special places enjoys broad support throughout New Hampshire. In a recent survey by the University of New Hampshire, 97% of respondents felt that preserving historic and cultural sites was important.[9] In a state with more than 12,000 years of history, who is working to preserve and promote the state's diverse and widespread historical resources?

Underlying the entire preservation movement are a range of Granite Staters, some who actively involved in historic preservation activities and others who simply enjoy history and love the landscapes, buildings, and neighborhoods that make New Hampshire's communities unique. Many of these people are the owners and caretakers of historical properties, whether homeowners, non-profits, public agencies, farmers and stewards of agricultural properties, or owners of historic commercial and industrial properties.

At the community level, these owners and caretakers regularly work with their community's heritage commissions or historic district commissions, comprised of volunteer members and, if available, advised by town or city planning staff. Of New Hampshire's 234 municipalities, an estimated 55 have an established historic district commission, 45 have heritage commissions, and 19 have both types of commissions.[10] Most of these commissions are located in the central and southern part of the state, and most local historic

(Continued on page 8)

Kathe Lewis — SCRAP Volunteer Profile

Call me the "Accidental Archeologist." I was a college anthropology major but had never done field work due to the necessity of a paying summer job to help with college expenses. My first field experience was marriage and family! I learned of the State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) while taking a course, "The Archeology of New England," through the Harvard Extension Program at the age of 59; something on my personal bucket list was to go to Harvard! While I had worked for a number of years in New Hampshire state government, the existence of SCRAP had been unknown to me. During the spring of 2008, I contacted Dick Boisvert, gave him my background, and was accepted into the program as a volunteer.

The first two-week session was an eye-opener in many respects. One was camping outdoors for two weeks and otherwise living and working in close quarters with total strangers ranging from college kids to "mature" types like myself. At the time I was still working on staff at Wellesley College. The work itself can be very physical from hiking in and out of a site, to working the shovel test pit, scraping meticulously with a trowel, and sifting the dirt looking for "good stuff." I learned how out of shape I was, and working with SCRAP has been incentive to improve myself physically so as to be able to contribute equally.

The highlight for me was in that first year when in the closing hours of that session, as equipment was being gathered up to move to a different location, and I frantically working with another volunteer to finish up a shovel test pit – a prize popped up in my sifter. I had learned enough to know that it was BIG; it was the lower end of a Munsungun red chert fluted point! Word spread and everyone crowded around to see the discovery which was important because this type of material is not native to New Hampshire. That shovel test pit was later expanded and yielded all kinds of important artifacts. I received the "official" State Archaeologist hug for recognizing what I had found, and I pronounced it as more exciting than shoe shopping! While field work has been some of the hardest work I've ever done, I've had fun, have met some terrific people and formed lasting friendships, and I'm still doing it seven years later. It's a terrific program, and it's been a privilege to be able to contribute to the story of New Hampshire's earliest people.

(Continued from page 6)

districts are located in larger, more densely populated communities. A study by Plymouth State University in 2012 found that more than half of the state's population lived in a town or city with a historic district commission.[11] A subset of communities with local historic districts are the state's Certified Local Governments; 21 communities have been awarded this designation, four in the last five years alone (Appendix C).

Flax Pond, Gilmanton
Volunteers from the Gilmanton Land Trust uncovered this more than 200-year-old flax retting pond, a process integral to making linen. The only one found to date in New Hampshire, this remnant of agricultural history is protected by a conservation easement.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Added to the work of these preservation commissions are the efforts of other municipal commissions with related interests and missions, such as conservation commissions that map historical archaeological sites and energy commissions that work to repair and increase the efficiency of historic windows in municipally owned buildings. Within the last five years, directors and staff at local public libraries have increasingly become active members of the preservation movement, listing nine libraries to the New Hampshire State and National Registers and successfully securing preservation grant funding for stewardship of these local landmark buildings. This work at the local level is further bolstered by supportive select boards, city councils, and, at times, community voters at annual town meetings.

Local, regional and statewide nonprofits comprise another important and vibrant part of New Hampshire's preservation movement. History museums and more than 200 local and regional historical societies, including the statewide New Hampshire Historical Society, range in size and mission. The members, directors, volunteers, and staff of these organizations are all important additions to New Hampshire's preservation movement.

New Hampshire's core of professional preservationists, architectural historians and archaeologists is small. It includes the staffs of the statewide preservation nonprofit, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, and the State Historic Preservation Office, also known as the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources. A handful of other state and federal agencies employ professional cultural resources managers, including the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, the New Hampshire Army National Guard, and the United States Forest Service. Other public agencies, such as the New Boston Air Force Base and the US Army Corps of Engineers, employ cultural resources managers on a part-time basis for projects in New Hampshire.

Professionals in allied sectors, such as law, planning, conservation, and land surveying, also do the work of preservation, as projects involving historical properties and archaeological sites cross their desks. Developers, architects, engineers, builders, landscapers, timber framers, and craftspeople do the invaluable of work of financing, managing, designing, and completing repair and rehabilitation projects at the state's special historical places.

Rounding out this professional core are cultural resources consultants, architectural historians, and archaeologists who respond to the requirements of regulatory programs such as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; the requests of property owners, such as nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and certifications under the Federal Tax Credit Program; and the preservation planning work of communities, such as historical property surveys and review and revision of historic district ordinances.

Status of Archaeological and Above-ground Survey

Archaeological Survey

The status of archaeology in New Hampshire may be considered to be stable with some notable achievements over the past five years and a few trends, presenting opportunities and challenges, on the horizon.

The professional archaeological community in New Hampshire is relatively small, with only three consulting firms based in the state, supplemented by several large consulting firms based in nearby states. With the economic rebound over the last five years, there has been an increase in projects that require review under federal requirements, mainly in two sectors. The first is the growth in energy-related projects, with a surge of new electrical transmission and gas pipeline projects coming into the review process. The identification phase is currently underway for what is clear will be the single largest project with archaeological impacts since the initial construction of the interstate highway system. The second growth area has been new housing construction and residential subdivisions. These energy and housing projects have been growing alongside a fairly stable history of transportation and other projects.

Research-related archaeology has been consistent over the years and while not voluminous, it has been productive. Each year there are from two to four field schools in the state. The State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) field schools have been the largest and most consistent. Field schools are also offered by Strawbery Banke Museum, Plymouth State University, Franklin Pierce University, University of New Hampshire, and other institutions or historical societies. The field schools tend to focus on site excavation and survey with a fairly even division between pre- and post-contact sites. The state lacks any graduate programs in archaeology; however, there has been some success in attracting students from other states to use data generated from SCRAP field schools for theses and dissertations. At the other end of the educational spectrum, the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources provides leadership for *Project Archaeology,* which trains school teachers to bring archaeology to the K-12 classroom.

Remnants of the Moses Poor Home, Salem
Sixth grade students in Salem have worked with their teacher to research and document what remains of Moses Poor's house, built ca. 1760. Poor was Salem's only resident to die in the Battle of Bunker Hill.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

There has been considerable development of new data and understanding from both compliance related and research oriented investigations. The Tenant Swamp Paleoindian Site, discovered and fully excavated in advance of construction of a new middle school in Keene, is recognized as a highly significant contribution to the discipline. Here four household encampments were analyzed, revealing that this site reflected mostly the activities of women, perhaps in the winter or early spring. Complementing the Tenant Swamp, the Jefferson VI Paleoindian Site, a focus of SCRAP field schools and a rescue operation, is highlighted in a case study. Together these sites provide a window on seasonal patterns and gender specific activities 12,000 years ago.

For the post-contact period, several SCRAP field schools at the Field-Bickford Site on the seacoast in Durham have brought forward new data on a Euro-American frontier site that was part of the Oyster River Plantation. Excavations at the Workers' Housing Midden Site in Manchester have resulted in a new in-depth historic context that will broaden researchers' understanding of comparable neighborhoods dating to the late-19th and early-20th centuries (see page 28

(Continued on page 12)

Jefferson — State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program

— Richard A. Boisvert (State Archaeologist, SCRAP Director, and Deputy SHPO, NHDHR)

The State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) is the principal means through which the public engages in New Hampshire archaeology. Embedded in the program is a commitment to investigate sites that are at risk of being lost to erosion, development or other threats. In the autumn of 2013 community members alerted SCRAP that a septic system upgrade for a bed and breakfast in Jefferson would directly impact a major portion of a Paleoindian site previously identified and investigated by a SCRAP field school the previous year. Negotiations with the owner, a local bank as the property was under foreclosure, opened the way for rescue excavations. An initial window of opportunity of four days eventually stretched out to five weeks, allowing SCRAP to bring in a large number of volunteers. Since SCRAP has been training the public for more three decades, a significant pool of well-trained avocational and professional archaeologists was available. Volunteers came from all of New England, New York, Pennsylvania and Quebec, contributing more than 1,400 hours of excavation time.

The results of the investigations were substantial and significant. One of the excavation blocks produced the largest number of Paleoindian fluted points recovered from any single habitation area in the state. Rare, if not unique, examples of tool forms were recovered and are undergoing analysis. Financial support from community members allowed SCRAP to submit three tools for protein analysis, which resulted in the identification of black bear on one specimen. The site is one of only seven in North America with documented evidence for that animal in association with Paleoindian people. Although the excavations were executed as quickly as possible, the highest standards of recovery were maintained. Consequently SCRAP has the opportunity to analyze in detail the internal organization of activity of a 12,000-year-old family encampment and an associated specialized fluted point manufacturing work area. This detailed data will be provided to students and others who will generate new insights through publication of theses and dissertations, academic articles, popular publications, and public presentations. At the same time the residents of the community have learned a great deal about the history of their region and have become staunch advocates for the protection and appreciation of archaeology. The new owners of the B&B have even designated one of their rooms as the Paleo Room, accompanied by information on the site on the property. The residual effects of the rescue excavations will be felt for many years.

SCRAP is one vehicle for the public to learn of the importance and rewards of avocational archaeology. The rescue excavations at the Jefferson site simultaneously provided a means to educate the public about the value of archaeology and to directly engage them in meaningful research and rescue as well as make a significant contribution to the cultural history of the state.

Keene — Archaeology and Education at the Wyman Tavern

— Martha E. Pinello (Principal Investigator, Monadnock Archaeological Consulting, LLC)

Nestled between Wyman Way and Bruder Street on Main Street in Keene stands the newly painted Wyman Tavern, built in 1762. The tavern, the oldest building on Main Street, is the site of a new vision for an historic house museum. The Historical Society of Cheshire County seeks to transition the property from a period house museum into a Cultural Heritage Center with expanded educational programs, events, and activities.

To implement this vision, the society staff invited other professionals to assist them — architects, an architectural historian, board members, engineers, and archaeologists. With its own funding, the society sponsored an archaeological field school in 2013, led by Martha Pinello of Monadnock Archaeological Consulting, to determine the nature of the buried historical resources of the property. The society made a strategic decision to invite archaeologists to participate early in project planning. The financial commitment for field school and concern for cultural resources above and below the ground clearly demonstrated to funding groups and the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) the society's commitment for the preservation of the resources.

The society sought and received private donations, grants from the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation for the building restoration and continued archaeological field, laboratory and archival study. These funds were matched by the efforts of community volunteers and students from the High Mowing School of Wilton, who donated long hours excavating, processing artifacts, and analyzing the site. The volunteers included other archaeologists; retired teachers; middle, high school, and college students; and NHDHR staff members. Since 2013, volunteers have continued their efforts on Wyman Wednesdays.

The archaeological finds were dramatic: a brick-lined cistern constructed after 1798, field stone foundations and more than 500 different ceramic vessels dating to the late-18th and early-19th centuries. Yet, the most exciting part of this project is the challenge that the Historical Society of Cheshire County is embracing. Director of Education Jennifer Carroll invited two students to be guest curators for an exhibit, *A Thirst for Knowledge: Archaeology of the Wyman Tavern*. The society staff and archaeologists were in new roles — assisting in selecting artifacts for display, creating hands-on activities and the opening reception, and editing panels describing the students' perspectives of field school. The exhibit panels were shared at Fall Mountain High School in Langdon and have been exhibited at the Historical Society of Cheshire County free to the public. The student-curated exhibit panels are now available for presentations and exhibit at society events.

A new vision and the courage to collaborate, share, and let others join in telling their stories gives a glimpse of exciting possibilities for a Cheshire County historical site.

(Continued from page 9)

for its case study). All of these sites have figured in recent academic publications (Appendix D).

There are some significant challenges to archaeology in New Hampshire. Perhaps the greatest deficiency is a lack of focus on underwater archaeology, both marine and freshwater. There have been some good examples of research produced by graduate students and avocational divers, but a coherent program is lacking. Related to underwater archaeology is the threat of rising sea levels to archaeological resources along the state's seacoast and tidal areas, as are the threats of disasters such as flooding and severe storms for inland resources. Expanding survey coverage and keeping the state standards and guidelines current with the growing body of research remain continuous efforts as well.

Above-Ground Resources

Special Historical Places

One of the most interesting new developments in New Hampshire's efforts to identify and evaluate the importance of the state's historical resources is an expanding view of what can and should be valued as a historical resource. New Hampshire has long been recognized for its noteworthy 18th and 19th century historical homes and districts, exemplifying the Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival styles. As the important roles of agriculture and industry in defining the state's built environment came to be better understood, barns, farms, mills, and workers housing joined the ranks of regularly designated historical property types. Today, the discussion continues to broaden to embrace the concept of integrated cultural landscapes with layers of cultural, scenic, natural, and historical importance. It is also extending chronologically, as historians and property owners begin to view Mid-Century Modern and buildings from the 1950s and 1960s as significant illustrations of the post-World War II boom in New Hampshire.

New Hampshire remains largely a rural state, with large tracts of woods, mountains, lakes, streams, and farmland; conserving and using the natural landscape remains a widespread and deeply held cultural tradition. One of the largest efforts to recognize the historical significance of this tradition began about ten years ago with the nomination of the 6,135 acre Chocorua Lake Basin Historic District in Tamworth to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in conservation, recreation, and architecture. Similar efforts continued with the listing of two smaller natural landmarks to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places, Simmonds Rock in Merrimack (2007) and the Pinnacle in Hooksett (2011).

Blue Job Fire Tower, Farmington
Since 1913, this steel fire tower — located in Blue Job State Forest in the foothills of the White Mountains — has allowed thousands of hikers views of southeast New Hampshire, Maine, and the White Mountains.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Since the 2012 publication of the Multiple Documentation Property nomination "Squam, the Evolution and Preservation of a Lakeside Community," more than 265 resources on about 1,100 acres in the Squam Lake watershed have been listed to the National Register of Historic Places. They include a variety of buildings, landscapes, natural features, and other property types, all drawing their significance from shared development patterns along the shores of Squam Lake. Also underway is an evaluation of the historical significance of the Appalachian Trail, sponsored by the National Park Service. The 161-mile section in New Hampshire is among the earliest assembled portions of the trail and includes more miles above the tree line than in any other state.

The potential effects of several large-scale energy projects currently proposed in New Hampshire have intensified the challenge of preserving special places that combine historical, cultural, and natural resources. Residents, municipal officials, conservationists and preservation advocates are now working to-

gether to identify which special places and cultural landscapes are most valued within the project areas. Regulatory agencies and cultural resources professionals are tasked with the challenges of creating historic contexts for these properties and traditions, and then evaluating which should be considered historic and given particular consideration during the development of the projects.

Other Above-Ground Priorities

Listings on the New Hampshire State and National Registers and survey efforts by Certified Local Governments demonstrate other resource identification priorities in New Hampshire over the last five years. Public gathering places and libraries were the most popular resource types recognized on the registers. Twenty-four halls – whether meetinghouses, town halls, public halls, or grange halls – were listed, as were nine libraries. Churches, cemeteries, and schools were common listings; homes and farms remained perennial favorites as well. The state's Certified Local Governments also focused their survey and designation efforts on town halls, cemeteries, and farmsteads, as well as historic neighborhoods and industrial resources.

Richards Free Library, Newport
Libraries, such as the National Register-listed Richards Free Library, are important gathering places for communities statewide. Their recognition through listing to the New Hampshire State and National Registers has increased over the past five years.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

The growing interest of residents, travelers and local advocates in Cultural and Scenic Byways offers another opportunity for identifying and promoting historical resources. Close to 20 byways now crisscross the state. The level of survey completed along the routes varies, with two of the state's national byways — the Connecticut River Scenic Byway and the Kancamagus Highway Byway — leading efforts. Funding survey along these routes remains a steep challenge, as it is for all types of historical surveys and inventories. The federal funding formula for New Hampshire's transportation programs recently changed, and the byways program is no longer a grant priority.

A great deal also needs to be done to fund and complete historical surveys in disaster-prone areas in the state, particularly in the seacoast where sea level rise will worsen the effects of high winds and flooding. Roughly 11% of the land area of communities in southeastern New Hampshire have completed surveys, and many are these are now outdated.

Technological Opportunities for Survey and Inventory

At the time of this plan's publication, data from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources showed that more than 10,000 individual above-ground properties, 459 historic district and areas, and 3,300 archaeological sites were listed in the statewide inventory of historical properties. Of those, approximately 770 above-ground records and 170 archaeological records were added within the last five years. Added to this research base for the public's use are 750+ National Register nominations, 530+ historical property documentation reports, and 2,400+ archaeological reports.

Statistics, 2011-2015 (and cumulative)		
Type of Form	**Added 2011-2015**	**Total to Date**
Individual Inventory	722	10,357
Project Area	28	174
Historic District Area	52	250
Town-wide Area	0	35
National Historic Landmark	1	23
National Register	62	786
State Register	84	311
Archaeological Sites	170	3,300
Archaeological Reports	778	2,400+

Although the NHDHR has made solid progress in organizing these paper records in databases and creating a comfortable space for the public to use them, only a small portion of the materials are available to a broader online audience or users hoping to locate historical properties and sites via a Geographic Information System (GIS). Of particular growing concern in the state is the need to accurately locate historical resources during disaster planning, response, and recovery. These concerns are exacerbated on New Hampshire's seacoast, a densely built area rich in historical resources that faces the challenges of rising sea levels. Creating a statewide GIS of historical properties has been a longtime goal of the NHDHR, one discussed in depth in the state's 2011-2015 preservation plan.

In 2013, New Hampshire received funding from the National Park Service, via a Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Grant, to create the GIS and online public user platform for the six (of 10) counties in the state that received FEMA public assistance after the storm. Efforts are well underway to correct, update, and scan all records and reports and to work with other agencies, users and consultants to create the GIS and online platform. The challenge of funding this work in the state's remaining four counties (Merrimack, Strafford, Hillsborough, and Cheshire) remains despite several years of efforts.

Trends, Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities

The following themes have been identified as significant trends in New Hampshire over recent years and have emerged as current priorities through this plan's public input process. Each has a different emphasis toward status, challenges, or opportunities, but all reflect the plan's goals and objectives and certain concepts are repeated consistently.

Survey

Survey — the identification and evaluation of New Hampshire's historic and archaeological resources — is currently incomplete and inconsistent across the state. Further, the resulting collection of data is not static and takes ongoing action as each year passes because properties are always getting older or changing, and existing records require updating. However, survey of these resources is critical, impacting many if not all of the activities that communities and the state engage in to take care of the environments in which Granite Staters live, work, and play.

Old Town Hall, Bristol
The Bristol Heritage Commission used Certified Local Government grants to survey a local neighborhood, list the Old Town Hall to the National Register of Historic Places, and prepare a historic resources chapter for their Master Plan.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

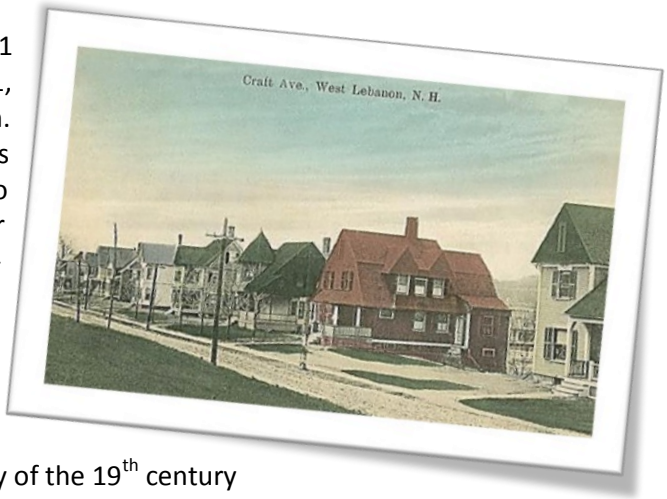
Survey is also used in the regulatory process to inform consultation, project design, and decision-making during compliance activities under federal and state laws, including Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and NH RSA 227C:9, Directive for Cooperation in the Protection of Historic Resources. The existence of up-to-date survey – already identified historic and known non-historic properties – makes the review process more efficient as well as informed, to the benefit of those agencies and project proponents responsible for upholding preservation laws.

Many astute communities in New Hampshire know that well-prepared and up-to-date survey contributes to good community planning. While discussed in more depth elsewhere in this plan, master planning, disaster planning, smart use of existing assets to meet trending community needs all benefit from completed survey, as do appreciation of community pride of place and identity. Responses to the plan's questionnaire show that there are communities across the state that know at least some (41%), a good amount (33%), or a lot (13%) about their histor-

(Continued on page 18)

Lebanon — Smart and Creative Certified Local Government

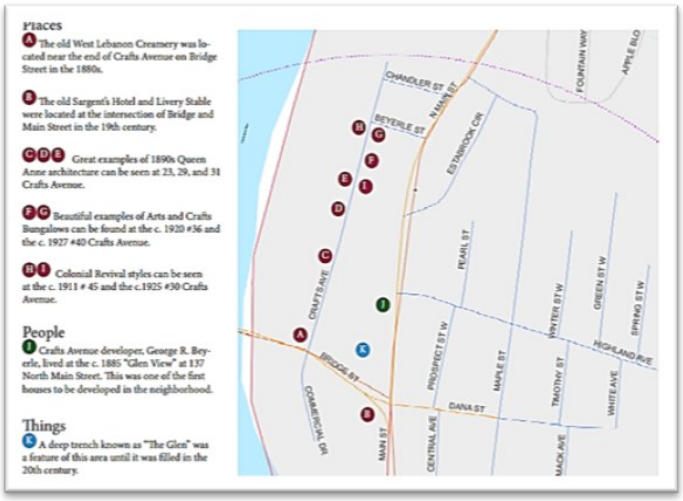
— Maggie Howard-Heretakis (Associate Planner, City of Lebanon)



The City of Lebanon became one of New Hampshire's 21 Certified Local Government (CLG) communities in 2011, and has since received four grants through the program. The driver for the city's commitment to historic resources is its master plan, which calls out several goals related to historic resources, specifically the recognition of their value and ensuring they are protected as the city continues to grow within the urban core. To achieve the goals of the master plan, the city has been utilizing the CLG grants in order to identify and examine the historic resources of the community.

The first two CLG grants were for a comprehensive survey of the 19th century Crafts Avenue neighborhood, which was identified as the first designed subdivision in Lebanon. Due to the extent of the survey and the availability of funding, the grant was split over two years. The Crafts Avenue neighborhood did not meet the criteria for National Register of Historic Places historic district designation, but the work led to the creation of Lebanon's first "Neighborhood Character Zone." This designation provides a way for the city to identify and preserve the unique features of each designated neighborhood. The Crafts Avenue neighborhood has features that were unique to its 19th century design. With a large development taking place directly next to Crafts Avenue, it was possible to identify the valuable features that should be protected to ensure the neighborhood character was not significantly impacted. These features went beyond the architecture of the houses, and also included the lot layout, the siting of the homes along the street, and the silver maples that still line the street. Without that knowledge, sewer improvements needed for the new development could have severely impacted the trees.

Building on this experience, the next grant focused on outreach and education. Community involvement and participation is key to the process, and it is clear that education and outreach will always play an important role for all future grants. The next step will be a modified city-wide survey. The grant will identify all the neighborhoods within the city that might have potential for either historic district or Neighborhood Character Zone designation. The modified city-wide survey will provide the Lebanon Heritage Commission with a template for how to proceed with future grants, as it will be able to target specific neighborhoods for future survey within the CLG grant program. The city's goal of promoting preservation and protection of the unique neighborhoods and their characteristics will be assisted through the survey process, but also through education, encouragement, and regulation, as appropriate.



Chichester — Inventory and Stewardship on Historic Main Street

— Michelle Plunkett and Lucille Noel (Chichester Heritage Commission)

Chichester, a town of 2,500 people, is located east of Concord and is bisected by two major state highways, Route 4 and Route 28. Our Main Street contains our more historic structures: the Chichester Grange/Town Hall, the early-19th century library, and two mid-19th century churches. Many late-18th and early-19th century homes along this two and a half mile street contribute to its "sense of place."

The Chichester Heritage Commission, established in 2009, has chosen to carry out its mission of preserving community character by concentrating its efforts on Historic Main Street. We focused on the Grange/Town Hall due to its historic significance to the town. First, commission members nominated it to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places. Research on the building's history was collaborative and aided by longtime resident and Grange member Walter Sanborn. During this time the heritage commission partnered with the Chichester Historical Society to present "This Place Matters," focusing on the grange. The building was listed to the New Hampshire State Register in July 2010. In November, a representative of the statewide non-profit, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, visited the building to determine eligibility for its building assessment grant program. The assessment found that the building was in overall good repair except for the windows and slate roof. To address the windows, the commission applied for and received a Conservation License Plate grant for the first phase of the window project. A grassroots fundraising effort, "One Pane at a Time," resulted in additional contributions from private donors and organizations. The project was publicized in newspaper articles and displays at Old Home Day and town meeting. Additional Conservation License Plate funds were applied for and awarded in 2013, and the remaining 27 windows were restored by 2014.

Sometimes one small idea or project morphs into something larger and far reaching. From the window restoration came the collaborative project with the Chichester Photographers' group, "Architectural Features of Historic Main Street." This exhibit, held at the Grange Hall, was also an opportunity to show off the newly restored windows. More recently, Plan NH conducted a two-day charrette focused on Historic Main Street and the revitalization of the "Heart of the Village" around the Chichester Grange/Town Hall. All money to host the charrette was raised from private donors; no tax payer money was used. Plans are now underway by the local charrette team to redesign, revitalize, and beautify the area around the grange to provide green space, benches, fencing, gardens, and trees.

Some things that we learned:

- Partnerships with others result in the highest returns.
- Ask the experts who have the knowledge and experience for assistance.
- Keep community members and governing boards involved and informed.
- Do not be timid about asking for money.
- Network and share with others – successes and failures.
- Dream big, think of all the possibilities and do not give up!

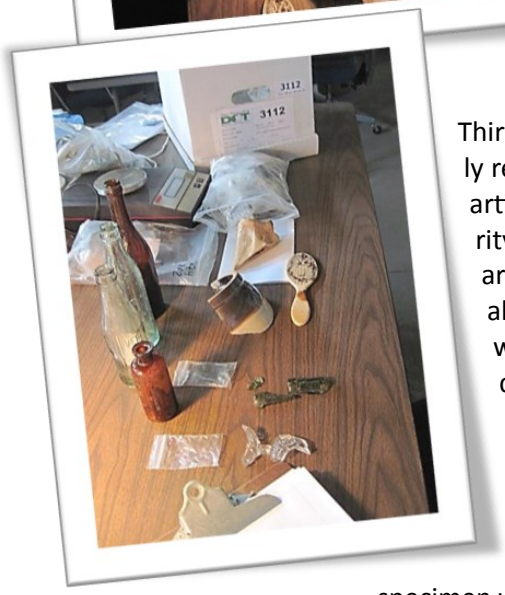
Department of Transportation — Archaeological Collections Management

— Sheila Charles (Cultural Resources Program Specialist, NHDOT)

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) sponsors statewide archaeological research whenever the department initiates a project that may adversely impacting archaeological resources to comply with federal laws. To date, there have been a total of 326 archaeological sites identified in association with NHDOT transportation projects. These sites range in time from the Paleoindian period (10,500 before present) to the Post-Contact Period (post-1400).

NHDOT archaeological collections are stored at the New Hampshire State Archaeological Laboratory, part of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR). Between October 2013 and June 2014, the NHDOT undertook collections management tasks that identified the artifacts derived from NHDOT projects and determined what collection components have research, exhibit, and educational potential.

Following detailed review of the material in each box, more than 259,521 artifacts, derived from 130 archaeological sites, were consolidated as more manageable units into 336 artifact boxes.



Thirty-five boxes and 12,731 specimens were deaccessioned, or permanently removed from the collection using professional guidelines. Deaccessioned artifacts included specimens that had deteriorated resulting in loss of integrity, were hazardous, and/or highly redundant. Most of the deaccessioned artifacts were from the late-20th and early-21st century (e.g., Styrofoam, aluminum foil, aluminum flip-top can lids). In addition, some collections with a plethora of non-diagnostic brick fragments were sampled. Prior to discard, deaccessioned objects were also reviewed for inclusion in an artifact study collection or educational outreach kit. In some collections, hazardous materials such as asbestos were properly discarded. In one case, a clear glass pharmaceutical bottle, manufactured by John Wyeth & Bro., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (c.1860-1899) contained mercury, one of the most toxic and environmentally damaging elements. This specimen was transported to a hazardous waste facility for disposal.

Collections review also identified components that have research value, including clay pipes, quartz lithics, fire cracked rock, and fauna. NHDOT makes items like these available for study by graduate students and researchers.

While the NHDOT assemblage contains some exhibit-worthy specimens, for the most part the collection includes few re-constructible vessel forms. Furthermore, the assemblage of approximately 259,521 artifacts in 336 boxes is relatively small, when compared to the entire holdings of 1,121 boxes at the New Hampshire State Archaeological Laboratory and the more than 800 boxes housing approximately one million artifacts at Strawbery Banke Museum.

In the future, the NHDOT would like to see the collections database on a state network accessible not only to department staff, but also to the NHDHR and other researchers. This network would offer protection in case of computer failure. Ideally, the NHDOT would also like to work closely with the NHDHR and other users to create a state of the art lab facility, with expanded staffing, exhibit space and accessibility for researchers and the general public.

The *Epic of American Civilization* mural, Baker-Berry Library, Dartmouth College, Hanover
Mexican artist José Clemente Orozco's mural was listed as a National Historic Landmark in 2013. The mural, painted between 1932 and 1934, depicts the history of the Americas from the migration of the Aztecs into central Mexico to the development of our modern industrialized society.

(Continued from page 14)

ic properties and special places. Respondents still recognized that more survey is needed. Furthermore, responses to a question on how communities use the information they have indicates that more communities need to do more with it. Use of knowledge about historic properties and special places seems to come into play more often in "soft" discussions like community visioning, and less often when it comes to actions such as passing ordinances, development decisions, and disaster planning. Interestingly, 4% of respondents did not think the topic applied to disaster planning and 2% did not think it applied to visioning. Education at a variety of levels would appear to be of great benefit to the communities that do not have up-to-date survey or have not yet embraced the importance of using the information in decision-making.

Survey is also beneficial to those searching for funding opportunities. Many available preservation grant programs — such as the Conservation License Plate Program — require a determination of eligibility or listing on the New Hampshire State or National Register for funding eligibility. Up-to-date survey allows for easier, and earlier, grant applications. An uptick in the survey of municipal buildings such as town halls and libraries appears to be tied to these types of grant opportunities. Quality survey also provides for informed project design choices that follow preservation best practices, ensuring the best use of public funds for building rehabilitation.

Survey is also critical as a general research tool. The inventory files held at the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources function as archives for information about New Hampshire's built environment. Well-stocked archives with well-organized and up-to-date materials are the most useful for all purposes.

Despite these benefits, challenges remain in keeping up with survey from year to year, expanding survey coverage, and maintaining best practices in survey. These challenges can be faced with education, improved organization and dissemination of survey information, and more widespread appreciation for, and use of, available survey information.

Under-Represented Communities

In 2012 the National Park Service asked State Historic Preservation Offices to share thoughts and information about communities in their states that were under-represented in historic resource surveys and preservation activities. A relatively ethnically homogenous state, New Hampshire's list of under-represented communities showed, even then, that the Granite State's reflections on itself might be a bit different than expected elsewhere in the country. New Hampshire identified projects that have brought to light the history of groups isolated by economic status, gender, and disability, in addition to a relatively limited list of diverse ethnic groups.

Historical layers of some of these communities have been uncovered over the past five years, highlighted by the recognition of José Clemente Orozco's Dartmouth College mural *The Epic of American Civilization* as a National Historic Landmark in 2013, the dedication of Portsmouth's African Burying Ground memorial in 2015, inventory and determination of National Register eligibility for the Laconia State School (historically the New Hampshire School for the Feeble

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Portsmouth — African Burying Ground

— Stephanie Seacord (www.africanburyinggroundnh.org), photographs by David J. Murray (ClearEyePhoto)

Located in downtown Portsmouth, the Portsmouth African Burying Ground opened on May 23, 2015, rededicating a site that may contain as many as 200 Africans, enslaved and free, in a city cemetery. Identified on city maps as early as 1705 and still in use in the early 1800s, the site had been paved over, built on, and largely overlooked except for inclusion in 1995 as a site on the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail. In 2003, street excavation unearthed human remains. Subsequent forensic archaeology, including DNA testing, determined that the remains were of 13 individuals, all of African descent.

The new park includes a burial vault where the remains are re-interred, bronze statues representing Portsmouth's first enslaved person and Mother Africa, a fence with silhouettes of community members who "stand in honor of those forgotten," and ceramic tiles of West African adinkra symbols created by local schoolchildren. It also includes a ribbon of pink granite engraved with a quotation from a 1779 petition for emancipation made by 20 Africans enslaved in Portsmouth households; the petition was adopted by the New Hampshire Legislature in 2013. Although there are no records remaining of who is buried in the Portsmouth African Burying Ground, it is likely that some of the petition signers, and others who helped build colonial Portsmouth and served in the Revolutionary War army and navy alongside their masters, are there.

The Portsmouth African Burying Ground recalls the experience of slavery in New Hampshire and the long struggle of Africans who helped build the early colony into the third largest port in 18th century America. It is the only DNA authenticated African cemetery of its kind in New England.

The creation of the new memorial sparked a community conversation. When fragments of wooden coffins and bone were disturbed in the 2003 street excavations, respectfully removed, and proven through forensic analysis to contain African DNA, the city began a series of “What’s next?” dialogues. City government formed an official Mayor’s Blue Ribbon African Burying Ground Committee, now chaired by the president of the Seacoast African American Cultural Center, with representatives from the local descendant community, including the founder of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, city council members, archaeological professionals, and residents. Members of the community weighed in with thoughts and comments on the design for the agreed-upon Memorial Park, and a formal search began for designers. Design plans were selected from Jerome Meadows of Meadowlark Studios in Savannah, Georgia, and local landscape architect Roberta Woodburn to create the African Burying Ground Memorial Park, *We Stand in Honor of Those Forgotten*. Piscataqua Landscaping served as the general contractor.

The creation and dedication of the memorial depended on generating interest and support from many different entities. Community conversations and awareness building took many forms, from informal house parties, to formal presentations, public lectures, symposia and talks, concerts and performances. Events such as these aided with building the message of the importance of the memorial and supported the fund-raising efforts. The fund-raising goal of $1.2 million was met through appeals, through grant applications, donations from large foundations and individuals, and special events organized as reminders of the campaign.

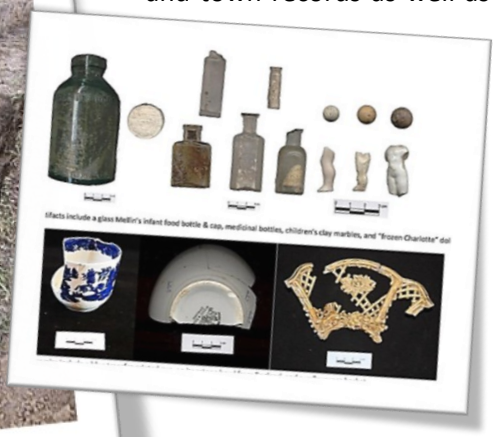
Two days of commemorative events opened the Portsmouth African Burying Ground Memorial Park, including community-driven activities ranging from an ancestral vigil at New Hope Baptist Church, to the solemn Reburial, a celebration, and a Governor’s Proclamation.

This local accomplishment drew national attention because of the community dialogue that framed how Portsmouth came together to learn from its past to create an important lasting memorial.

Manchester — Archaeological Investigations, Workers' Housing Midden Site

— Rosemary Cyr and Ellen Cowie (Northeast Archaeology Research Center, Inc.)

An archaeological investigation of the newly discovered Workers' Housing Midden Site (27-HB-435) within the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Manchester I-293 Exit 4 Bridge Refurbishment Project (#14966) was conducted by the NHDOT and the Northeast Archaeology Research Center. In 2012, archaeologists exposed sealed artifact deposits that date from the 1890s to 1920s, hidden under layers of road fill, which reveal a story of the local community. The artifacts represent trash from working class families that lived in housing in the neighborhood near the historic Crafts and Green Shoe Factory. Results indicate the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



Investigations combined archaeological and archival research methods to develop in-depth historic contexts and associated research themes related to large-scale factory shoemaking, municipal expansion, public health, and waste disposal practices. The archaeologists used historic documents including town histories, maps, censuses, company and town records as well as detailed artifact analysis and comparative studies to reconstruct the story of the working class neighborhood. Archaeologists also studied issues related to land acquisition, neighborhood formation, ethnicity, household composition, and other aspects of everyday life related to urban working class communities in the late-19th and early-20th centuries.

Historic documents demonstrate that construction of the Crafts and Green Shoe Factory in 1890 stimulated the growth of the neighborhood, blending municipal planning and private development. Single and multi-family residences were built to house workers and families, who moved there to find work and better opportunities. Immigrants came from Germany, England, Canada, Scotland, Austria, Holland, Sweden, and Ireland; others came from New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Maine, Massachusetts, and Nebraska. Many children were first-generation Americans, and they often went to work as teenagers in nearby factories. Of the 107 workers listed in the censuses, 40% worked in shoemaking. Others were cotton and textile workers, carpenters, farmers, day laborers, servants or domestics, cigar makers, blacksmiths, tailors, tinsmiths, grocers, and peddlers. Artifacts reveal an upwardly mobile working class who purchased household items like teawares and tablewares that reflect both broad and local trade networks. Discarded medicine, alcohol, infant, and dairy bottles indicate changing social customs and views on health.

The study also demonstrates how creation of municipal laws impacted trash disposal patterns. The presence of the Workers' Housing Midden Site reflects the common historic practice of filling in low, undeveloped areas at city margins with neighborhood trash and construction debris. Trash was also picked up by private contractors in a "scavenger" system; later, by more regulated city garbage collectors.

A primary goal of the Workers' Housing Midden Site study was the development of an in-depth historic context that could be used for other similar archaeological sites. This context will inform future archaeological studies related to workers' housing neighborhoods that developed during this time in response to the growth of various industries. The study provided a wealth of information on the history of this late-19th and early-20th century West Manchester working class neighborhood during a dynamic time period.

(Continued from page 18)

-Minded) in 2012, and the excavation of a Manchester neighborhood midden site in 2012.

The National Park Services' continued initiative to recognize the history of all places, cultural groups, and segments of the population prompted two direct questions on this topic in the plan's online questionnaire. Only 22% of respondents felt that New Hampshire has done "a comprehensive job of preserving everyone's history and places," and respondents were mixed when asked "whose history and places need additional attention." Of the 137 open-ended answers, 31 suggested that Native American history needed more attention. Since 2011, the New Hampshire Commission on Native American Affairs has worked to promote and strengthen Native American heritage in the state, focusing in the areas of education, arts and crafts, social services, and preservation and protection.

Colonial Theater, Laconia
The Belknap Economic Development Council, in partnership with the City of Laconia, purchased the Colonial Theater in downtown Laconia during the summer of 2015 with the intent to restore it. Legacy cities such as Laconia were among the resources Granite Staters feel are under-represented.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

A large number of responses argued that the cultural groups most in need of attention were not diverse groups of people interspersed within communities, but instead were communities themselves that feel marginalized. Examples include New Hampshire's North Country, rural and agricultural areas, legacy cities, and small towns. Focusing education and outreach efforts in these communities could have a very positive impact. The appreciation of attendees at the Randolph listening session for the inclusion of their North Country communities in the preservation plan planning activities demonstrates the success such outreach efforts can have.

Status of Tax Incentives in New Hampshire

The two most commonly referenced tax incentive programs in New Hampshire for historical properties, outside of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive, are the Discretionary Barn Preservation Easement Program (NH RSA 79-D) and the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive (NH RSA 79-E). NH RSA 79-D encourages the preservation of historic barns and other agricultural buildings by authorizing municipalities to grant property tax relief to owners who demonstrate a public benefit of preserving their barns or other farm outbuildings and who agree to maintain their structures through a minimum 10-year preservation easement. Similarly, NH RSA 79-E provides temporary tax relief for a property owner who wants to substantially rehabilitate a building that is located in a historic district, downtown, or village center. These tax incentive programs have been in

Ten Rod Farm, Rochester
The owners of Ten Rod Farm in Rochester successfully used the Discretionary Barn Preservation Easement Program (NH RSA 79-D), and a site visit there was a highlight for the New Hampshire Historic Agricultural Structures Advisory Committee (also known as "the New Hampshire Barn Committee") in 2015.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

(Continued on page 23)

Somersworth — Building Rehabilitation and Economic Development

— Christine J. Soutter (Economic Development Manager, City of Somersworth)

In an effort to encourage the revitalization of buildings in the historic downtown, in 2013 the City of Somersworth adopted NH RSA 79-E, one of the very few preservation tax incentives available to New Hampshire communities. The program offers short-term property assessment tax relief for qualifying projects in a community's designated zone. Property owners planning significant rehabilitation projects can apply for several years of tax relief, during which the assessed property value is frozen at pre-renovation levels.

Shortly before it adopted NH RSA 79-E, Somersworth began a major investment in its downtown with the passage of a multi-million dollar bond to replace aging infrastructure and to rehabilitate the Somersworth/Berwick Bridge. The city was also awarded a Transportation Enhancement grant to replace broken sidewalks, improve pedestrian safety, and enhance the downtown. During the project construction, the city learned of and adopted NH RSA 79-E to provide an incentive for property owners to invest in some of the underutilized buildings within the downtown.

The program was modified to best suit the needs of the city. Approved projects are typically granted up to five years of tax relief. An additional two years of tax relief may be granted for projects that result in non-subsidized (also referred to as "market rate") housing on the upper floors of a mixed-use building. Stand-alone residential projects are eligible for two years of tax relief.

Somersworth has a large downtown historic district and added the following language to encourage historical restoration and investment in the homes in a neighborhood called The Hill: "The City Council may, in its discretion, add up to an additional four years of tax relief for the substantial rehabilitation of a qualifying structure is on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places, or is located within and important to a locally designated historic district, provided that the substantial rehabilitation is conducted in accordance with the United States Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation" (City Ordinance Chapter 31, Section 5. C).

The first project was located at 44 Market Street. Prior to the rehabilitation the building sat vacant and had numerous code violations in both the commercial space and the second floor apartment. The building now boasts a popular pub-style restaurant with outdoor seating and offers a variety of activities, including live music, game nights, and gathering space for local events. The second floor of the two-story building houses a two-bedroom apartment with exposed beams and view of the river.

A second project is currently underway and will transform a formerly vacant storefront into two commercial units on the ground level and a second story luxury two bedroom apartment, complete with a roof top deck. The property owner of this building plans to invest in another downtown property through the NH RSA 79-E program once this project is complete.

Both property owners, who were granted seven years of tax relief, stated that the improvements and level of investment would not have been possible without the 79-E tax incentive. The City of Somersworth showed its commitment to the downtown through the infrastructure investments and the adoption of NH RSA 79-E. Building owners can see the city's commitment and now have a solid financial incentive to invest in their own properties.

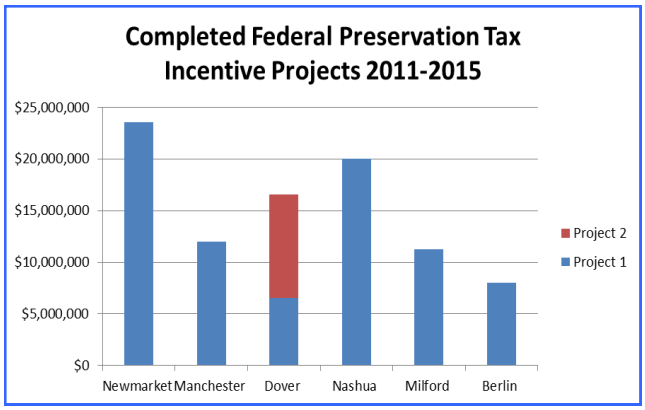
The tax incentive is a great opportunity for communities looking to revitalize their downtowns. The incentive is a win for the community and a win for the property owner. NH RSA 79-E is not complicated, not costly to implement, and may help bring new life to a community's downtown.

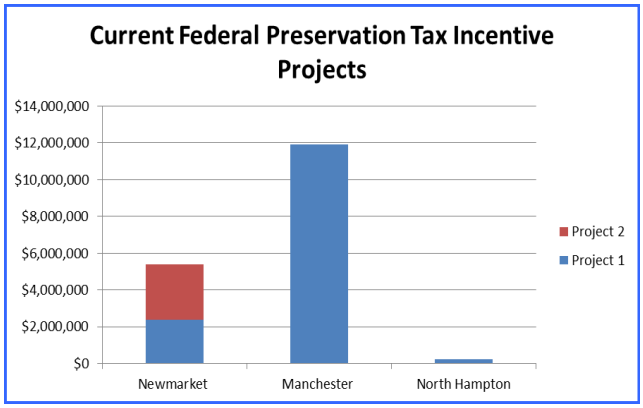
(Continued from page 21)

place since 2003 and 2006, respectively. However, when asked how the effectiveness of tools for preserving historic properties and special places, only 37% of plan questionnaire respondents stated that tax incentives were either very effective (13%) or effective (24%) tools. Many people commented that they would like to see tax incentives that would benefit private homeowners and saw that as a solution to increase investment in historic properties. Increased use of NH RSA 79-D and community adoption of the enabling legislation for NH RSA 79-E by more communities could also build awareness of the incentives as useful preservation tools.

New Hampshire communities rely heavily on property taxes to fund local government; programs that may reduce a community's tax base, even temporarily, are carefully considered. The economic downturn following the establishment of the enabling legislation for NH RSA 79-E in 2006 may also be part of the reason for the slow growth of the tool. Adoption of this tool at the discretion of the towns and cities; since 2011 the number of communities that have adopted the enabling legislation has more than doubled, from 11 to 27. The New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning asks communities to self-report whether they have enacted NH RSA 79-E. As of June 2014, 27[12] cities and towns reported that they had do so, and eight communities had successfully completed projects using the incentive.[13] Initially, the incentive was conceived to encourage development that enhanced downtowns and town centers by offering relief from increased property tax assessments when owners or investors undertook rehabilitation of a qualifying property. The legislation was amended in 2013 to allow communities to broaden the tax relief benefit to historic properties outside of downtowns and village centers, but added a 10% or up to $5,000 investment in energy upgrades requirement to those properties.

The first batch of barns that benefited from the passing of NH RSA 79-D in 2002 — which encourages barn preservation through a reduction in assessed property value and requires a 10-year preservation easement — had their easements expire in the past few years. Eighty-six communities statewide have participated in this incentive, and the Historic Agricultural Structures Advisory Committee has seen an increase in awareness and use of the barn tax incentive program due to promotion and contact with communities as easements expire and renewals are applied for.[14]





Over the last seven years, the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit has steadily gained momentum and proven to be an integral funding piece for many of New Hampshire's large-scale redevelopment projects, particularly with respect to historic mill redevelopment. The program provides a 20-percent federal tax credit to property owners who undertake a substantial rehabilitation of a historic building in a commercial or other income-producing use, while maintaining the building's historic character. New Hampshire's use of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit grew from 13 projects completed using the program from 2001-2010, to 12 projects underway (three completed) in the last five years alone. Greater outreach efforts and early successes have brought new projects to the program, which in recent years has expanded beyond large mill complexes to smaller properties, such as a blacksmith shop, school, and barn.

Growing Collaborations

As heard in nearly every plan listening session and in multiple open-ended responses in the questionnaire, Granite Staters recognize the importance for increased collaboration. At the local level, this means getting local boards and committees to understand each other's roles and embrace working toward similar ends to benefit their community. This also involves communicating with others beyond town and city boundaries. Communities can learn from each other and work together, especially when contemplating challenges that transcend municipal boundaries, such as transportation, economic development, housing, and natural resource protection.[15]

Painter at Joy Farm, Madison
A wide range of people enjoy New Hampshire's mountains and scenic vistas for their beauty and recreational opportunities.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Regional and statewide cross-sector partnerships and collaborations are just as important. When the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, The Nature Conservancy, and the Trust for Public Land commissioned a 2012 survey on the conservation attitude of New Hampshire voters, questions also covered the preservation of historic and cultural sites. The survey found that a strong percentage of respondents (62%) believe that preserving historic sites is important in conjunction with land conservation. Among those surveyed, 37% strongly agreed that the State of New Hampshire should spend public funds for the preservation of historic buildings and landmarks.[16] Time and again, the growing public sentiment is that the natural and historic environments of New Hampshire are inextricably linked, and efforts to protect both should be a shared venture.

Creative partnerships result in innovative solutions to challenges. Faced with a strong desire to conserve long-held family camps in the Squam Lake watershed, the Squam Lakes Conservation Society used a team of land conservation professionals, historians, preservationists, and local volunteers to bring its campstead easement program to fruition. Campstead easements combine a historic preservation component for buildings with a land conservation easement. Together, the tools retain a relatively low-impact land use pattern, protect sensitive shoreline habitats, and protect the cultural landscape.

As the challenge of climate change and resiliency gains prominence in the preservation field, collaboration with scientists, planners, and other professionals concerned with these impacts also becomes critical. Very few plan questionnaire respondents felt existing tools for addressing disaster planning were very effective or effective (1% and 7%, respectively). And only 7% of respondents noted that their community has worked with local and state emergency management agencies to ensure historic resources are taken into consideration when planning for disasters. The majority, 73%, did not know if such coordination has happened. As communities and organizations move forward with collaborative efforts, publicizing them will be critical to build awareness.

> *The real "NH Advantage" is our love of tradition, our outdoor recreational traditions and love of history. It is imperative that we make it a high priority to protect our natural and historic places. This is the biggest part of our heritage. Not protecting these places would be the biggest mistake we could make. We must keep our priorities straight.*
>
> Anonymous questionnaire respondent

(Continued on page 26)

Multi-Town — Partnerships at Squam Lake, National Register Initiative

— Elizabeth Durfee Hengen (Preservation Consultant) and
Roger Larochelle (Executive Director, Squam Lakes Conservation Society)

Since 2009, a coalition of conservationists, historians, preservationists, concerned residents, and non-profit organizations has been working together to recognize and protect the numerous historic properties within the watershed of Squam Lake, one of New Hampshire's most cherished lakes. The project area includes some 40,000 acres in five towns and three counties, making it the largest undertaking of its kind in New Hampshire.

The primary purposes of this project have been to identify and document Squam's historical resources, to raise awareness of the interconnectivity of the built and natural landscapes, and to encourage their preservation. While much has been written about the Squam Lakes area, this project is providing the first in-depth, comprehensive, scholarly documentation of its most iconic properties.

The coalition first oversaw the compilation of a National Register Multiple Property nomination of historical resources. The scope of the Multiple Property Documentation Form, which established the framework for subsequent National Register nominations, was unusual and innovative, weaving historic data into a narrative that explains how and why the Squam watershed evolved to be a pristine natural area with a rich cultural heritage. The form has provoked a great deal of interest, as it not only lays out the historic evolution of the area, but it articulates exactly what the character-defining elements of both the buildings and built landscapes are, thus laying the groundwork for managing future growth. The form has proved so popular that it is for sale, with proceeds going into a grant pool to assist owners with costs associated with the nominations.

By the end of 2014, a total of ten separate nominations had been completed and listed on the National Register. The listed properties include more than 265 resources on about 1,100 acres, most of it undeveloped but historically associated. The resources are wide-ranging: an island camp, several camp enclaves and their diverse outbuildings, farmsteads with significant agricultural outbuildings, Rockywold-Deephaven Camps (a large organized camp for families), country houses, and a country estate. One of the properties is an historic district of eighteen cottages accompanied by outbuildings and boat/bath houses that encompasses the earliest summer development on Squam. Additional properties, including a 1950s lakeside camp and Chocorua Island with its summer chapel, will be listed in the near future.

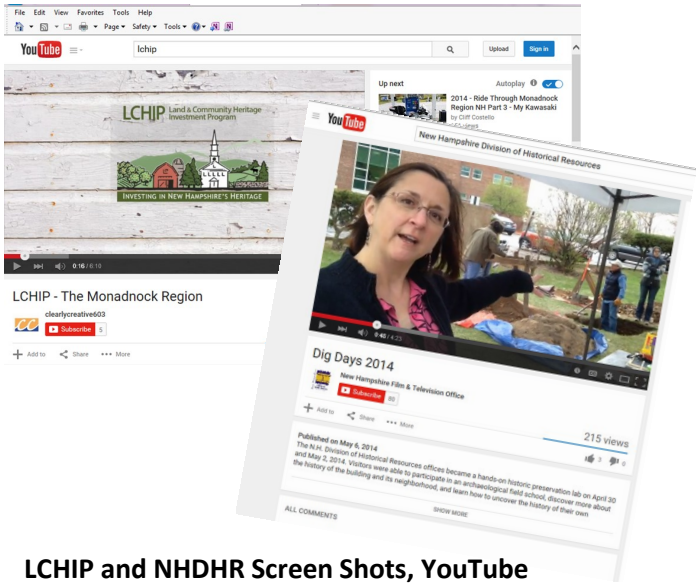
Already, several related projects have grown out of the Squam National Register Initiative. A new Archive Committee is working with the Squam Lakes Association to create appropriate space for archiving historic documents relating to Squam. The Town of Holderness recently added a chapter on historic resources to its master plan.

The effort is a natural complement to ongoing efforts of the Squam Lakes Conservation Society and the Squam Lakes Association to conserve land and water quality. Such conservation work has been entrenched within the Squam community for more than 100 years—as of 2015, 26% of the land within the watershed is under permanent protection. This project has served to link land conservation and historic preservation, helping to ensure that the traditions of Squam can be passed down to future generations.

Education

Education has been a topic of note in previous preservation plans, and much has been achieved in the last five years. Very early on in the development of this plan it was apparent that education and outreach, in a variety of forms, impacts the outcomes of many of the goals and objectives of a preservation plan.

New technologies have continued to improve communication and dissemination of information. Preservation has benefited from the explosion of social media, with everyone from the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to South Danbury's "Friends of Danbury" now on Facebook. Increased use of creative forms of publicizing the preservation message include the production of LCHIP videos, the New Hampshire Film and Television



LCHIP and NHDHR Screen Shots, YouTube
New Hampshire preservation organizations have embraced social media and other online platforms to share their stories and successes.

Office's 2014 "Dig Days" video, and the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's campaign funded by Citizens Bank's Champion in Action®. Place-based education has also been successful, with walking tours (by Segway on the seacoast!), guided archaeological investigations, and educational events held at historic sites across the state.

The less-than-traditional classroom environment has led to a wealth of hands-on exposure to preservation techniques and materials, other professionals in the field, current challenges and successes of the preservation world, and resources available. The inclusion of acting professionals in the field of preservation and archaeology is probably the strongest asset the PSU program can offer its students.

Paige Tattersall, PSU Graduate Student in Historic Preservation

Higgins House, Rochester
James Garvin explains plaster and lathe construction. Along with his PSU historic preservation graduate students, Garvin documented the historic house in May 2015 for the New Hampshire Department of Transportation before the house was demolished.

Training opportunities continue to expand. Since 2012, Plymouth State University (PSU) has offered a Master of Arts in Historic Preservation, in addition to a graduate certificate. The program has seen two graduating classes thus far (2014 and 2015), with at least one program graduate added to the state's qualified architectural historian consultants list. Keeping the program sustainable is a challenge for the future. The Lakes Region Community College is offering courses such as "Introduction to Archaeology" and "Cultural Anthropology" as well. HistoriCorps came to the Granite State in 2014, bringing hands-on training in building rehabilitation techniques to the White Mountains. Both PSU's historic preservation programs and the HistoriCorps program appeal to both in-staters and out-of-staters, bringing regional and national perspectives to preservation in New Hampshire. The apprenticeship program of the New

(Continued on page 29)

Amherst— What is Hidden is as Important as What is on the Surface

— Will Ludt (Chair, Amherst Heritage Commission)

It is easy to describe an 18th or 19th century building based on its plain marks, roof line, type of framing, and external features, but when only remnants of a resource are left, the task is much harder. Although sometimes difficult, documenting historic resources and town treasures that are hidden beneath the ground or are in a second growth forest can yield valuable information about the early settlers of the area.

In Amherst, as in any town in New Hampshire, there are hidden historic resources that are almost forgotten by time and are not obvious as a resource. In a joint effort to document and rediscover lost resources, the town heritage and conservation commissions made such an effort to find, locate and then accurately document the hidden resources that time and the town had forgotten. In starting this task, archaeologists from New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources were contacted to assist our small group in letting us know about proper tactics and techniques for identifying resources. Community training took place in mid-2014. An overview presentation was made by the professional archaeologists, setting goals and expectations. A mixed group was in attendance, including members from the heritage commission, conservation commission, historic district commission, planning board, Nashua Regional Planning Commission, Amherst Town Library, and the historical society.

With basic information and tools in hand, we began the task of actually doing onsite investigation. The team tackled the Fuller Farm, containing foundations and two separate wells, the Peabody Saw Mill foundations, and, finally, a little known early-19th century site where a small turning and grinding mill was located. At the end of the day, team members felt that they had spent a worthwhile day in the woods, getting dirty and making a difference in accurately recording the sites. Through this hands-on exercise we learned enough archaeological information to be able to go out on our own and document other sites.

As we completed our training session with NHDHR, there were some realized benefits to our adventure in the woods. Below are several of the top benefits:

- Learned techniques for accurately documenting historic resources, allowing the heritage commission to go on its own in future projects
- Added to the Amherst Town-wide Historic Resources document — identified new structures and resources not previously known
- Bringing town organizations together for a small common cause — sometimes individual organizations within a town are so caught up in their own missions and efforts they are not mindful of other needs and desires
- Meeting new people and having fun learning more about our own community history

I would encourage others who want to embark on a similar journey to start by using the services of NHDHR to help get the project started. Don't be afraid to seek advice and assistance from our state departments in Concord — NHDHR was extremely helpful and dedicated in helping us fulfill our goals.

White Mountain National Forest — HistoriCorps rehabs Fabyan Guard Station

— Sarah Jordan (Heritage Program Manager, WMNF)

The Fabyan Guard Station, located near the junction of Old Cherry Mountain Road in Twin Mountain in the Town of Carroll, is a one-room log cabin constructed by White Mountain National Forest (WMNF) rangers in 1923 as a base for managing surrounding National Forest lands. The cabin's historic significance was recognized in the 1980s, when it was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2011, the WMNF's Heritage Program, in partnership with local history group WhiteMountainHistory.org, began to search for opportunities to restore the cabin as an important piece of local and WMNF history, spurred by the centennial celebration of the Weeks Act and the inclusion of the cabin on the Weeks Act Legacy Trail and the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's "Behind-the Scenes Tour and Talk: Historic Bretton Woods and Crawford Notch." The United States Forest Service's Eastern Regional Office included the project in a larger effort to bring HistoriCorps to National Forests in the eastern United States. HistoriCorps is a national organization whose mission is "to save and sustain historic places for public benefit through partnerships that foster public involvement, engage volunteers, and provide training and education."

For the 2014 project, HistoriCorps recruited volunteers online, who signed up for one-week sessions of the three-week project. Participants came from northern New Hampshire as well as other parts of the state, and from as far away as Chicago and Spain. They camped near the cabin, and HistoriCorps provided group meals at a camp kitchen. The WMNF engaged youth in the project by involving the forest's Youth Conservation Crew (high school students) and Youth Environmental Leadership Crew (college students). Under the guidance of two HistoriCorps historic preservation professionals, volunteers helped raise the cabin on jacks to replace rotten logs, rebuild the stone foundation, and repair the door and windows. They learned historic preservation ethics and skills in carpentry and traditional tools, and enjoyed the camaraderie and satisfaction of contributing to a meaningful project. At least two of the youth involved expressed interest in working on other projects with HistoriCorps and potentially pursuing a career in similar work.

The Fabyan Guard Station project stemmed from forming relationships with partners, both local and national, whose interests matched the building's needs. The HistoriCorps model of teaching hands-on historic preservation skills to volunteers was a key element of the project, and a good fit for a project on publicly owned land, such as the National Forest. Volunteers provided labor, generated local support, and contributed to media interest in the project. The oversight and direction of volunteers by qualified specialists was critical for the integrity of the historic structure and the safety of the volunteers. I encourage historic preservation and restoration professionals in New Hampshire to consider the challenges and rewards of directing a volunteer workforce on projects. Volunteers are an immediate way to connect people to a project, to enhance understanding and appreciation of historic preservation, and to foster both the demand for these important skills by a public that values them and a workforce with the ability to provide them.

(Continued from page 26)

Hampshire's Timber Framers Guild, begun in 2010, is another training opportunity available in the state for those looking for skills training in the craft. The program was noted in an article, "Trades Education in the New Century," in *Traditional Building*, a national publication.[17]

New Hampshire State House, Concord
The State House hosts many visitors each year, including thousands of fourth graders who learn about our history and government.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Career fair participation, lunch and learn sessions, consultants' trainings, and expanded active participation in a wide variety of regional and statewide committees and workshops are all informal ways in which preservation education has also been shared in New Hampshire over the last five years. Programs offered by the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, such as the Old House and Barn Expo, annual preservation awards, and the Seven to Save program offer additional ways to raise awareness about preservation in New Hampshire.

Comments provided in all forms of input for the current plan revealed, however, that many Granite Staters are currently unaware of existing opportunities for training and sources of information, and continue to look for more. Education and outreach may also alleviate the "lack of" and "it doesn't work" syndromes that colored some questionnaire responses on topics ranging from effective preservation tools to available funding. A multi-layered approach may be the best solution: education and outreach that build awareness and appreciation for historic properties and special places; education and outreach that guide people to existing resources; and education and outreach through hands-on training for preservation planning, rehabilitation and stewardship.

New Routes to Stewardship

While an economic analysis of historic preservation activities has not yet been completed in New Hampshire, connections between New Hampshire's historic places, tourism, and economic vitality have been noted in a variety of studies conducted in the Granite State in recent years. The state's regional planning commissions, with extensive public input, recognized that heritage tourism, and the historic places that support heritage tourism, are critical to the state's economy in the report *A Granite State Future*. Heritage tourism programs were also identified by 76% of respondents to this plan's online questionnaire as moderately effective, effective, or very effective as a tool for preserving New Hampshire's historic properties and special places. That said, open-ended comments in the questionnaire revealed that while many people understand this connection to be true, more

Weeks Estate Tower, Lancaster
The only stone fire tower in the state, the tower is part of Weeks State Park and commands impressive views of the Presidential Range of the White Mountains and the Green Mountains of Vermont.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

(Continued on page 32)

Canterbury — Canterbury Shaker Village Strategic Partnerships

— Funi Burdick (Executive Director, CSV)

In recent years, Canterbury Shaker Village (CSV) has established itself as a leader in redefining how mission-driven goals are balanced with limited resources. The village is in the midst of a three-pronged strategy to support historic preservation through partner-driven active learning opportunities and income streams.

The first phase of CSV's evolution toward being a more dynamic and sustainable organization has been the development of transformational strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations and businesses. The Canterbury Shakers recognized that their economic success was directly tied to their relationships with the outside world and economy. Today, this is no less true for CSV the museum. Strategic partnerships are simultaneously the solution to a specific economic problem and an opportunity for expanded mission-driven programming. Each of the village's five current partners was selected for their commitment to education, their shared values, and their understanding of the CSV mission. These partnerships are transforming today's museum into a living laboratory where agriculture, craftsmanship, historic preservation, culinary arts, and folklife traditions are explored in the context of the Shakers' 200-year legacy.

The village's current (as of summer 2015) partners include Brookford Farm, Concord Food Co-op, Lakes Regions Community College (LRCC) Culinary Arts Program, Preservation Timber Framing and Sanborn Mills Farm.

As the village's strategic partnerships and their related programming become more established, the village is moving into the second phase of the long-term strategy—differentiating between the buildings that are essential to telling the Shaker story and those that can be dedicated to active learning activities. To date, three major changes have occurred that reflect this re-envisioning process. First, the building that once housed the village's restaurant became the home to the LRCC Culinary Arts Program. The next building to undergo a re-envisioning is the Trustees' Office. The building is being renovated in order to restore some of the original Shaker functions (administrative offices, guest quarters and public receiving space) and to provide space for modern-day museum needs such as collection storage and live-in management staff. Lastly, in spring 2015, the village opened all four floors of the historic Dwelling House to daily visitors and added new galleries and exhibits that provide a more centralized and cohesive interpretive experience.

The final phase in this process is to develop a long-term building sustainability plan that will create an endowment for each structure and connect donors to individual buildings and the programs and/or partners contained within. By more closely tying funders' expertise or interests to the ongoing maintenance and preservation needs of individual structures and other resources, such as forests and dams, and the related programming, CSV will be able to establish a broader base of support and foster longer-term commitments from funders.

For those organizations considering this type of approach, it is important to first understand the difference between a transactional partnership and a transformational partnership (and decide what's right for your organization). When the village talks about strategic partners, we are describing a relationship that is intended to transform both organizations in very tangible ways over the long term. While there are transactional elements to each of our partnerships, it is only the starting point. Organizations that share your vision and that have a capacity to grow with you have the potential to be transformational partners. Transformational partnerships require more time, attention and oversight, but also have the potential to yield more significant and long term changes.

Before you can find a suitable partner, have a clear vision for your organization and your needs. Develop a framework to identify the right partners. Define what success looks like and the timeline for the partnership. Then focus on who your potential partners are and what attributes you each need in order for this to be successful. Both partners need to be flexible, but you also need to be able to remain true to your long-term vision and goals.

Portsmouth — Heritage House Program at Strawbery Banke Museum

— Elizabeth Farish (Curator, Strawbery Banke Museum)

Through furnished houses, role-players, and exhibitions, Strawbery Banke Museum tells the stories of the many generations who settled in Portsmouth's Puddle Dock community from the late-17th to the mid-20th centuries. The Heritage House Program (HHP) offers the opportunity to live and work among the operations of a preserved American neighborhood.

The HHP is designed to rehabilitate underutilized buildings at Strawbery Banke Museum and provide rental space and revenue to support museum operations and exhibition space.

Beyond the furnished and exhibition museum houses, Strawbery Banke is preserving historic houses to create a community living and working together by incorporating rental space within museum grounds. The program preserves the exterior of buildings to period condition, provides attractive commercial and residential space in downtown Portsmouth, and provides much needed income to maintain museum buildings and programming. The HHP, when completed, will include 10 buildings on the museum campus. An example of an HHP property is the Thales G. Yeaton House, which is currently being rehabilitated to make available a residential apartment on the second floor, which will provide market rate monthly rental income, and a first floor exhibition gallery space.

The Yeaton House, though built c.1795 as a single family home had become a four-unit tenement by the mid-20th century. The exterior of the building is being preserved as it appears today, depicting changes in clapboard style and window sash design done about 1840. On the second floor, the 1930s kitchen and bathroom have been fitted with contemporary appliances and modern heating and cooling. The back stair hall was preserved and encapsulated to provide needed square footage for present-day demands. Features such as mouldings, fireplace surrounds, and Federal period detail such as the parlor paneling featuring punch work ovals and a reeded chair rail were retained. Layers of paint were stripped so the detail of the fine early work can be seen. In the coming months, an exhibition on maritime history will be installed.

The Yeaton House is the eighth building to be rehabilitated through HHP. There are now six contemporary residential apartments and six buildings containing 31 offices. The work has been funded by individuals and corporations and through grants. A percentage of the annual rental income from each unit is put into a preservation fund, with the goal of providing the necessary funds to ensure their cyclical maintenance and provide needed funding for all museum building needs. The 2016 fiscal year will see an increased percentage of the $434,000 in annual rental income go toward building preservation.

(Continued from page 29)

needs to be done to remind decision makers and the general public that financial investment in historic places is not an extravagance, but, in fact, equates to financial investment in growing local and state economies. At the local level, this often leaves "historical societies and town preservation committees struggling to maintain their historic sites" (Anonymous questionnaire respondent). Communities that currently recognize their historic places as assets have much to share with the rest of the state.

> *With tourism making up the state's second largest industry, historic preservation and natural resources protection not only enhance the state's quality of life but represent very real investments in the state's economy.*
>
> *A Granite State Future,* 2014:3

Heritage tourism covers a wide variety of places and activities, with fans who travel the state to catalog State Historical Highway Markers and those who photograph village centers and covered bridges. Of course, there are also those historic places that have traditionally operated as museums and use ticket sales towards their maintenance budgets. In 2012, an interpretive study was prepared for New Hampshire's First State House. The report explored whether the historical artifact could be a catalyst to heritage tourism, explored options for its best use, and provided a succinct summary of new and evolving trends in museum audiences and museum engagement.[18] The report, capturing the results of a variety of studies and publications in the museum field, reflected on three trends of particular interest to museums: a gradual overall decline in museum attendance over the past two decades, a shift in demographics and audience diversity, and the technological expectations of new generations of potential museum-goers. Many museums have been forced to think outside of the box in order to continue operations. In the case of historic house and site museums, this also means reinventing how significant buildings will be maintained and preserved into the future.

Bath Covered Bridge, Bath

Rehabilitated in 2014, the Bath Covered Bridge is one of many covered bridges statewide set within a small village that draws tourists and adds to a community's identity and sense of place.

Two of the state's largest museums, Canterbury Shaker Village and Strawbery Banke Museum, have embarked on creative programs to retain their sites' vitality and historic buildings. Both, in their own ways, engage re-invented partnerships and building uses to bring in new revenue streams and maintenance opportunities for their significant sites. Open-ended responses in the plan's questionnaire, as well as discussion during listening sessions, reveal that many Granite Staters expect or hope to see more historic buildings as "economically self-sustaining." These two museums demonstrate that going in this direction can be both respectful of the historic buildings in their care and effective in alleviating budgetary challenges to taking care of them.

> *I think we grossly underestimate the value of historic structures and places to our tourist economy.*
>
> Anonymous questionnaire respondent

Grassroots Preservation

Local interest, local values, and local accountability are important to Granite Staters. As noted elsewhere, much of what is discussed, worked on, and accomplished in New Hampshire is done at the local level. Preservation is no exception. Grassroots efforts by dedicated individuals and small groups often quietly and steadily build appreciation and support for preservation projects within their own communities.

New Hampshire has seen a steady increase in public involvement in a variety of preservation activities. In recent years, the Portsmouth (and Kittery, Maine)

(Continued on page 35)

Allenstown — Grassroots Preservation at the Old Allenstown Meetinghouse

— James L. Garvin (retired State Architectural Historian) and
Edna Feighner (Archaeologist and Review & Compliance Coordinator, NHDHR)

Built in 1815 as a place for town meetings and a house of worship, the Old Allenstown Meeting House is a unique one-story town meetinghouse. Over the years, it has been owned and cared for by the Town of Allenstown (1815-1908); Buntin Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) (1908-1991); the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (1991-2004), and, again, by the Town of Allenstown (2004-present). When the DAR restored it in 1908, the building became a pioneering example of historic preservation in New Hampshire.

The building has narrowly escaped destruction three times. During the raising of the frame, New Hampshire was ravaged by the Great Gale of 1815, our most destructive windstorm before the Hurricane of 1938. Almost a century later, in May 1914, the worst forest fire in Allenstown's history narrowly spared the structure, leaving it standing in a devastated landscape that eventually became Bear Brook State Park.

Early on July 15, 1985, a passing motorist noticed smoke. An arsonist had started a fire under a rear corner of the building, and flames were creeping upward into the attic. Local fire departments responded quickly. The building lost its roof, but the interior remained miraculously intact. Local preservationists, beginning with the DAR, followed by DRED, and finally by a steering committee appointed by the Town of Allenstown, have spent the last 30 years working to safeguard and restore the much-loved building.

Due to limited town financial support, the committee searched out alternative funding sources and won four grants, including three Conservation License Plate grants and a New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) grant that addressed exterior and interior rehabilitation. A historic structure report and a preservation plan helped ensure all work followed the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

Members of the Allenstown steering committee were also leaders in the Allenstown Historical Society. The Society allied itself with the town steering committee, making the restoration the Society's top priority until completed, and raising crucial funds to match the Conservation License Plate and LCHIP grants.

Archaeology Dig Days at the Allenstown Meetinghouse have been conducted since 2005 and encouraged public participation. Through the years the State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) provided educational opportunities to all those interested in learning about the property's history through participating in archaeological excavations and in the analysis of the material culture recovered.

Extending for 30 years after the fire with no direct tax-supported funding, this project could not have happened without grants from New Hampshire's Conservation License Plate Program and LCHIP. These preservation efforts demonstrate that the near impossible can be accomplished with an unanimity of purpose and a determined alliance of volunteers, whose contribution will not be forgotten in Allenstown.

Danbury — Enthusiasm and Dedication for the Town's Heritage

— Gail Kinney (Pastor, South Danbury Christian Church UCC)

In Danbury, in recent years, an appreciation for the town's history has blossomed, with some truly exciting results. There is no single explanation for this energy. Rather, one perhaps could call it a harmonic convergence of individual passions for Danbury's heritage.

The community's first organized undertaking was a 1998 inventory of the historical, cultural, and environmental places that people cared most about. The strong consensus from the inventory was that the vacant c.1853 one-room North Road Schoolhouse should be saved. The Danbury Historical Society secured grant funding to restore the building and create a museum, which is lovingly maintained and regularly made available for visitors and events – thus setting an example for all of the "art of the possible" in terms of historic preservation and restoration.

This sense of possibility was in full focus in 2013 as the Blazing Star Grange #71 took stock of its rare early-20th century hand-painted stage scenery and an "advertising curtain" painted by New Hampshire artists. As Danbury's Grange members came to appreciate how exceptional their curtains were, they resolved to restore them and engaged the whole community in making it happen. From giving pennies to substantial dollars, the community response far exceeded expectations, and the restoration was completed in 2014.

Establishing a network is important in Danbury. Information about local happenings is shared at local stores, public buildings, the town transfer station, the churches, and elsewhere that people gather. But there is something to be said about social media also. With fewer than 1,200 residents in Danbury, it is notable that well more than 700 individuals are connected to the "Friends of Danbury" Facebook page. Thus, it is easy in Danbury to simultaneously inform hundreds of residents past and present of efforts such as the Grange curtains restoration project and to build pride and excitement about – and community engagement in – these endeavors.

With the value of old things and old ways very much on Danbury minds, members of the South Danbury Church began to take stock of their own building and its significance to the community. Continuous reminders, through the stories of the late Audrey Curren, that South Danbury was once a bustling village that featured a school, store, post office, busy rail station with a garnet sorting and shipping shed for the nearby mine, and many more commercial and agricultural activities helped. Today, the church is the only remaining anchor for the village and therefore has value both as a link to South Danbury's heritage and as the embodiment of its identity today. Broadening the church's role in the community as a gathering place, a Friday Night Speaker Series plays host to an enthusiastic group of regulars, many of whom "don't do church" on Sunday mornings. The story of the South Danbury Church project is yet to be written, but with town's embrace of the "art of the possible," this historic preservation story should indeed be a positive one.

(Continued from page 32)

> *We, the people, need to be more active in preserving the history of our community.*
>
> Anonymous questionnaire respondent

community contributed countless hours in highly active engagement in the Section 106 process for no less than two major Piscataqua River bridge projects. Although ultimately a replacement project, multiple stipulations in the Memorandum of Agreement for the Memorial Bridge Replacement Project implemented over the past five years relied heavily on dedicated community members who continued to provide input and support well after construction on the new bridge began. Their input ensured meaningful mitigation for significant historic resources in the city impacted by the project. Large transmission projects have also garnered significant public interest throughout the state. In response to public concern, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance offered five public workshops to explain the Section 106 process and how the public could become better engaged during the review of large energy projects. These workshops were very successful with relevant questions raised.

***Colebrook Chronicle* Building, Clarksville**
For nearly 50 years, the Colebrook Chronicle *has been published in this building, which was previously a schoolhouse, cheese factory, and a sawmill at various times in its history.*
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Granite Staters take advantage of other established avenues of preservation involvement as well. Local historic preservation ordinances and commissions were noted as moderately effective, effective, or very effective by 81% of the plan's questionnaire respondents. In 2012, a Plymouth State University historic preservation graduate class conducted intensive research on the status of communities with historic district commissions and heritage commissions. The research, which was based on updated 2006 data, concluded that there are 84 communities with either a local historic district commission, heritage commission, or a local historic district.[19] Annually, the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning asks communities to self-report whether they have established historic district commissions, heritage commissions, or both. As of 2014, 55 of New Hampshire's 234 cities and towns reported that they have historic district commissions and 45 communities reported having a heritage commission. Nineteen communities have both a historic district commission and a heritage commission. A total of 61[20] New Hampshire cities and towns have enabled local preservation initiatives. These numbers are all self-reported, however. The number of active historic district and heritage commissions known at the state level remains inexact.

St. Kieran's Community Center for the Arts, Berlin
Following the closing of the church in 2000, a non-profit and community arts center moved into the vacant building to provide performing arts space in the North Country. It was named to the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's "Seven to Save" list in 2015.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

Other communities participate in preservation activities outside of established legal processes or programs. Danbury is one such town that has grown support of history and its historic places organically through a variety of creative means. “Preservation pebbles in a pool… ” is how retired Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer and Danbury resident Linda Wilson referred to the evolution of preservation in her community. Danbury’s Master Plan 2011 update asked, "What are the three most important things about Danbury for us to preserve?" The residents' responses were: Danbury's natural environmental resources, its small town atmosphere, and its historical heritage.

Allenstown is another community with a history of grassroots activity toward the preservation of its beloved resources. The community’s dedication to the restoration of the Old Allenstown Meetinghouse was well-rewarded recently during a celebration of the 200th anniversary of the 1815 building.

There is a great deal to celebrate throughout New Hampshire. Preservation activities large and small are happening all over the state. As many commenters shared during listening sessions and through open-ended answers in the plan questionnaire, these successes need to be shared more broadly. Neighbors can, and do, inspire neighbors, and communities can, and do, inspire other communities.

Changing Demographics and Preservation Solutions

The reuse of historic properties can enhance the special sense of place that distinguishes one New Hampshire community from another and is fundamental to preserving the character of the state.

Jeff Taylor, Planner

As New Hampshire’s population ages and it struggles to retain its young professionals, communities respond to this shift in a number of ways, including its impact on the built environment. Many communities that have retained a traditional mixed-use, connected neighborhood are better positioned to meet the needs of the changing population who find this type of community desirable. For all communities, the need for adequate housing, transportation, social services, and access to health care and other amenities will become increasingly important.[21]

More than 42% of New Hampshire’s housing stock was built before 1970; in the next five years many of those will newly meet the 50-year threshold for consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, the number of Granite Staters finding themselves with a direct role in historic property stewardship will increase. Many of those buildings will need rehabilitation in order to accommodate the state’s housing needs and the preferences of its residents. However, in its 2014 evaluation of the state’s future housing needs and preferences, the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA) noted, “The rehabilitation of the existing housing stock may become more needed, yet much of New

Center Meetinghouse, Bradford
Meetinghouses and other public buildings are sites of many meaningful community events, both past and present.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

(Continued on page 38)

Berlin — Rehabilitation of the Notre Dame School

— Olivia Beleau (Senior Project Manager, AHEAD)

In December 2014, Affordable Housing, Education, and Development (AHEAD) celebrated the completion of Notre Dame Apartments, a 33-unit senior housing project in Berlin. The community-driven effort to rehabilitate the historic Notre Dame School provides service-enriched housing for low-income seniors.

AHEAD is proud of this effort, which is important not only as a senior housing project, but also as the centerpiece to revitalizing a distressed neighborhood. A group of Notre Dame alumni formed the "Rescue Notre Dame" group in 2003 to save the building, which had been vacant for many years and suffered damage from arson. The City of Berlin, working with the Environmental Protection Agency, spent more than $800,000 to remove hazardous materials from the site prior to the building's rehabilitation.

The more than $8 million rehabilitation of Notre Dame School was funded with a $1 million loan from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, a $500,000 Community Development Block Grant, and more than $1.5 million from the Federal 20% Preservation Tax Credit program. The project met the difficult task of placing 33 units of modern and accessible senior housing into an historic school while keeping the character-defining spaces and features of the school intact. The school also needed to be modernized to allow for better energy use in a way that conserved resources without doing damage to the building. The ultimate success of the project was built on the foundation of a collaborative process including the owner, the architect, the preservation consultant, the contractor, and representatives from the State of New Hampshire.

The Notre Dame School, with its views of Berlin, the Androscoggin River, and New Hampshire's Presidential Range, serves as a comfortable and attractive home to Berlin's senior population. The school's location places it in walking distance to many churches and the city's downtown. The success of the Notre Dame School project has been celebrated locally and across the state. In 2015, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance honored the project with a preservation award.

(Continued from page 36)

Hampshire's housing regulations, including local planning and zoning ordinances, are not currently geared towards this segment of the market."[22]

Affordable Housing, Education, and Development (AHEAD), the North Country's local affordable housing non-profit, found a preservation-friendly solution for Berlin-area residents who wanted to age in place because of their strong sense of community identity and attachment — by adaptively reusing a vacant school for senior housing.

While the adaptive reuse of large, former institutional buildings is one solution, other options communities can consider include accessory apartments, shared housing arrangements, and multi-family apartments, many of which can occur in existing building stock, if local zoning ordinances allow for it. The NHHFA's study found that the state's current regulatory environment for housing overly focuses on controlling growth (which has subsided greatly) without sufficient focus on supporting flexible housing solutions.[23]

A challenge to preservation's role in economic development, housing, and meeting other solutions is the perception that rehabilitation is more expensive than new construction and that preservation cannot be part of solving the affordability issue of safe and comfortable housing. Rehabilitation is not always the more expensive option, and in some cases creates cost savings. A relatively small percentage of plan questionnaire respondents, 11% and 18%, respectively, strongly agreed or agreed that preservation of historic properties and special places creates more affordable housing options. More than half of the questionnaire respondents (52%) were neutral about preservation's role in creating more affordable housing options. More publicity and the sharing of successes, such as AHEAD's, can help the public and other professionals understand preservation's role in addressing development challenges.

Moving forward as each community finds its own "housing solutions," the need for strategic partnerships and creative problem solving will be necessary. As communities plan to address their housing, transportation, and other community needs, innovative provisions such as dense village centers, conservation subdivision design, inclusionary zoning, and form-based codes can accomplish multiple goals. A thoughtful planning process can preserve the appearance or composition of the community, including its rural character or its village setting.[24]

Long-Term Community Vision and Planning

Every New Hampshire community has a concept of its unique identity: what makes it different from its neighbor, and what makes it different from similarly sized municipalities in other regions of the state. Almost every community in the state has created a Master Plan that guides its long-range goals and objectives for development with the idea of maintaining or modifying that identity for the future. The late Jeff Taylor, former Director of the New Hampshire Office of State Planning and planning consultant, often noted the priority goals identified in almost every Master Plan in New Hampshire were for small towns to preserve their rural character, and for larger towns and cities to revitalize their downtown. Preservation activities are critical in meeting those community development goals and objectives.

Mill Pond Dam, Durham
Working through the process of identifying historic resources, communities can draw attention to, plan for, and recognize the resources they feel create a sense of place.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

It was the desire of many people who attended this plan's listening sessions and who answered the online questionnaire that historic preservation and historic and cultural resources chapters should be required of all Master Plan documents. Seventy-five

(Continued on page 41)

Kingston — Small Steps Leading Toward Significant Change: Collaboration

— Virginia Morse (Chair, Historic District Commission) and Debra Powers (Chair, Heritage Commission)

Similar to many other small New Hampshire towns, the Town of Kingston has limited access to funds in order to achieve optimal preservation of its rich heritage. Yet the last few years have been an exciting time of historic preservation due to concerted efforts by various organizations and individuals to collaborate. When interest in and appreciation of historic properties began to grow, financial support from the town budget and through grants followed, and the number of volunteers began to increase – a slow but positive snowball.

Although the Kingston Planning Board has always been consistent in land use regulation and planning, the many other town boards and committees with a focus specifically on historic preservation were confusing to townspeople, who mixed up the roles of the historic district commission, the historical society, the museum committee, the Nichols Historical Library ad hoc committee, and the new heritage commission. Education, information, and collaboration were needed.

The small steps that have been taken year by year (since the mid-20th century) may not seem too exciting, but they have led to the effective partnerships that have brought about the successes we can now tally with pride. These steps include:

- Building respect for the historic district commission by running a monthly meeting that both complies with the town ordinances and is home-owner friendly
- Collaborating with the planning board to clarify and standardize the process for applications in the town's two historic districts
- Increasing public awareness about the historical treasures in town through a periodic newspaper column, "Kingston Chronicles," about town buildings and preservation efforts
- Gathering oral histories from older residents through the "Remember When" series
- Supporting memberships in state agencies and attendance at educational conferences and training programs to ensure well-informed leadership
- Enlisting the support of town officials such as the building inspector, staff in the Select Board's office, town clerk, and the planning board secretary to assure compliance with town ordinances on historic preservation
- Keeping communication open by posting agendas, minutes, and events on the town website

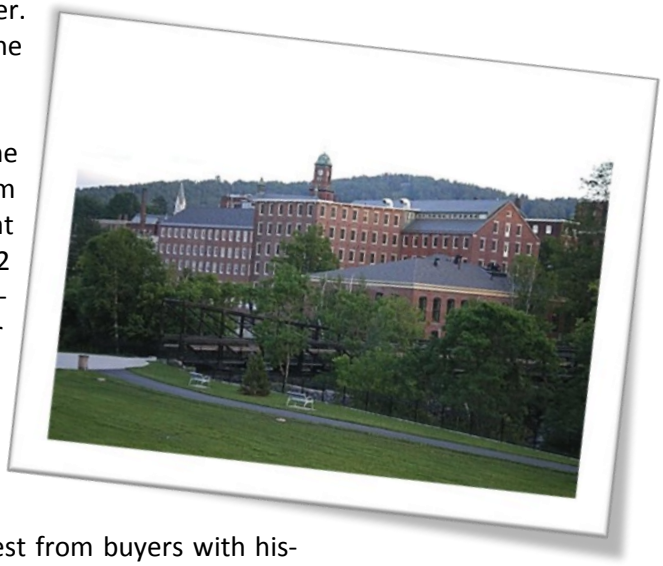
Through collaboration much has been achieved toward historic preservation and awareness: listings on the National Register of Historic Places (the Josiah Bartlett Homestead [also a National Historic Landmark], Sanborn Seminary, First Universalist Church "Church on the Plains," and the Nichols Memorial Library); application and award of preservation grants to maintain the historic Kingston Bandstand, the Nichols Memorial Library and the Josiah Bartlett Homestead; repurposing of historic properties; Certified Local Government (CLG) status for the town; participation in regional and state meetings (both as presenters and audience); historic site and property inventories; creation of a historic district walking tour pamphlet; creation of websites and a database, and many other activities that support and monitor preservation of historic properties and natural resources.

All successes are directly attributable to the collaboration of abovementioned groups and individuals. This wide population of likeminded people working together has created preservation progress. The supportive decisions made by voters proves that residents are coming to understand that preservation promotes not just a sense of community pride but also growth. In the upcoming months, these partnerships will continue with the establishment of the new museum in the Nichols Memorial Library building, restoration of the Kingston Bandstand, enhancement of the historic district walking tour, publication of a town brochure, audio and visual documentation of historic properties and places, repurposing of the Grace Daley House, and collaboration with the regional school board to repurpose Sanborn Seminary — quite a bit of achievement for a little town of 7,500 residents.

Claremont — Partnerships, Funding Sources, and Community Impacts

— Nancy Merrill (Director of Planning and Development, City of Claremont)

A walking tour of the Claremont Village Industrial Historic District states, "Together, the buildings of the Monadnock Mills Co. and the Sullivan Machinery Co. present more than a half-mile-long complex of classic 19th century and early-20th century brick industrial structures." As is often the case in New Hampshire, these buildings line a river and mark the entryway into an historic city center. They have a key visual, as well as economic, impact on the community.



Several of these mill buildings have been tax deeded to the city in various states of repair over the years. Among them were Monadnock Mill No. 6 (1915), which is connected at all six floors to the north façade of Monadnock Mill No. 2 (1853), and the Monadnock Mills Weave Shed (1909). Despite numerous efforts they stayed vacant for a decade or more with no interested buyers. The condition, size, and other infrastructure weaknesses were impediments to private investment. A public private partnership was necessary for successful revitalization.

After a request for developers process that sought interest from buyers with historic rehabilitation experience and the financial capacity to complete a project, the city entered into development agreements with the Common Man Inn & Restaurant, Red River Computer Co., and Sugar River Mills Redevelopment (SRMR). The agreements noted expectations, investments and timelines for both the private and public sectors to advance the project. For the public sector, it was water, sewer, storm water, road, brownfields, and parking investment. For the private sector, it was cooperating on the same timeline with significant private investment in a major redevelopment project. At the time, Monadnock Mills No. 2 and No. 6 were in imminent danger of collapse.

Financing for such a list of both public and private investment was daunting and time consuming, but the end result was so important for Claremont that patience was a small price to pay. Both New Market and Historic Tax Credits were utilized. The buildings were located in a designated tax increment finance district for bonding purposes. Other resources included two federal special appropriations, brownfields funding, Community Development Block Grant funding through the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority, as well as programs through the New Hampshire Business Finance Authority, Claremont Development Authority, and the Capital Regional Development Council.

After the long-vacant mills on Water Street were rehabilitated in 2009, people remarked that it was nice to see the lights on again. Such a small thing, yet a dark and blighted skyline for decades had impacted the entire city center. Throughout those years, however, the city had maintained roofs and security systems knowing that the buildings were important to Claremont and its history, and that eventually someone would see their value. We are grateful to the vision and investment in this community by the Common Man, Red River Computer Co., and SRMR.

Further rehabilitation is taking place in the mill district. The Sullivan Machinery Co. Forge Shop (1902-1911), a vacant building under city ownership, is following a similar process. It will soon be transferred to Claremont MakerSpace for redevelopment. With a mission to encourage creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship, the adaptive reuse is fitting given the historic uses of the mills. The Claremont City Council also recently adopted the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Program (NH RSA 79-E) and approved its first application, for the Monadnock Mills Boarding House/Storehouse No. 5 (1836-1839). The building will undergo significant rehabilitation for new business uses. One building at a time, these revitalized mills are transforming Claremont.

(Continued from page 38)

percent of questionnaire respondents strongly agreed that preserving historic properties and special places retains a sense of place and identity, and 46% of respondents strongly agreed that preservation helps communities grow in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. Forty-four percent of respondents said that their communities very frequently (11%) and frequently (33%) take the information they have about historic properties and special places into consideration during community visioning.

The approaches communities take to integrate preservation into larger conversations are varied. Smaller towns, such as Kingston in the southeast corner of the state, have focused on collaborative long-term movement and preservation-friendly community conversations to achieve a growing number of preservation success stories. The City of Claremont along the Connecticut River has used multiple preservation tools and strong leadership within the city government — which stewarded properties until their redevelopment was possible — to revitalize its downtown through time.

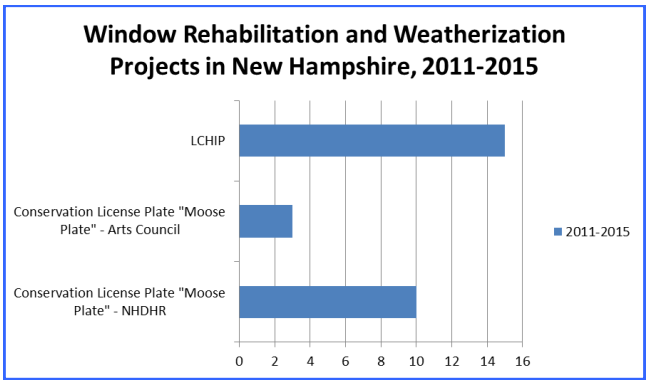
Once a community vision is in place, the next step is ensuring that local ordinances and design guidelines help achieve that vision. The public consistently states that more support and education for local boards and commissions is needed, particularly historic district and heritage commissions, for efforts to be effective. A clear understanding of each commission's or board's role, of the laws, ordinances, and incentives that they can use and promote, and of the resources that will move projects forward is critical to helping communities and the state as a whole achieve its vision of what New Hampshire wants to be.

Energy and Sustainability

Keeping historic windows in good repair is a wise way to both save energy and preserve a building's historic features. Three different New Hampshire grant programs can demonstrate an uptick in applicants who feel the same way. The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources's Conservation License Plate grant program funded 11 window rehabilitation projects in nine communities between 2011 and 2015. Three communities received more than one window

Milton Mills Free Public Library, Milton
Many communities statewide have looked at their publicly owned buildings and are achieving energy efficiency by restoring their historic windows and incorporating historically sensitive upgrades.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

rehabilitation grant as they phased their projects over multiple years. The New Hampshire State Council on the Arts also awards Conservation License Plate grants and awarded five window rehabilitation projects, mainly for stained glass windows at libraries. Prior to 2011, the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) had only funded one window-specific grant; however, between 2011 and 2015 LCHIP supported seven window repair projects in seven different communities. Another eight projects supported by LCHIP included window rehabilitation or energy efficiency upgrades as part of a larger rehabilitation project.



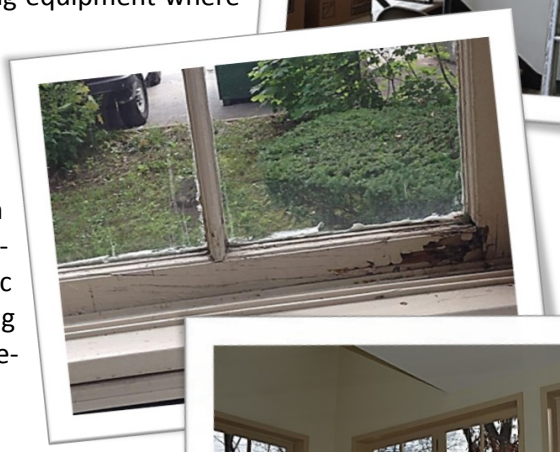
Communities, such as the Town of Plainfield, whose energy committee applied for and has received two Conservation License Plate grants from the NHDHR

(Continued on page 44)

Concord — Energy Efficiency at the Margaret Pillsbury General Hospital Annex

— Mary Kate Ryan (State Survey Coordinator, NHDHR)

The building that the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources occupies, the Margaret Pillsbury General Hospital Annex, was built as a hospital ward with individual patient rooms in 1928. It is a brick-faced, terra cotta tile building, with double-hung 8/8 single-glazed window sash. It utilizes community steam system heat in the winter and scattered window unit air conditioners in the summer. Over the past decade, the New Hampshire Department of Administrative Services, through its Bureau of General Services, has completed small projects to promote energy efficiency within the building. The occupants — NHDHR, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the New Hampshire Film and Television Office — have also become better versed in energy efficiency through use measures such as turning off equipment and lights when not in use, upgrading equipment where feasible, and using the building systems efficiently. The projects that have been completed thus far include the insulation of the attic, the replacement of steam traps and installation of efficient thermostats on the radiators, and the installation and tuning of attic vent fans to help exhaust summer heat. Currently, the historic windows on the rear stairwell are being rehabilitated to increase efficiency and preserve features original to 1928.



In the four years since these minor preservation-friendly projects have been completed, the energy use in the building has been reduced by 26,807 kBTUs. This is 7,856 kWh, or 235 gallons of gasoline, for a more relatable measurement. At the average cost of energy — averages may differ based on fuel options — this saves about $1,282 per year. This was accomplished with minimally-intrusive projects that did not alter character-defining features of the historic building, a win from a number of perspectives.

Plainfield — Energy Efficient Window Rehabilitation at Plainfield Town Hall

— Evan Oxenham, Plainfield Energy Committee

In 2013, the Plainfield Energy Committee (PEC) elected to rehabilitate the historic town hall as a priority project. Built in 1895 and listed on the National Register in 1998, the town hall houses both the Plainfield Town Offices and the Police Department. Situated directly on Main Street, its renovation simultaneously showcases the efficacies of historic preservation and energy efficiency.

As a first step PEC commissioned a thorough assessment of the town hall's needs by a qualified preservation specialist. Financed by a grant from the New England Grassroots Environment Fund, the assessment guided decision-making on the project.

The first step was to repair the town hall's well-worn original windows and front doors. Repairs of these essential features would enhance the building's functionality, longevity, energy efficiency, and its aesthetic qualities. Work began in 2014 on the restoration of the small windows with 2/2 sash and the double front doors. Although the large windows, with 6/6 sash, are more dramatic in both scale and appearance, the dire condition of the smaller windows was deemed to require immediate attention.

Repairing, re-glazing, painting, and weatherizing the smaller windows came first. The interior wall spaces, or pockets, of the original weight and pulley system used for the windows' operation provided channels for cold air to penetrate, and for heated air to escape, the building. Adding vermiculite to the air pockets (completely hidden within the walls), and installing modern spring counterbalances achieved the desired energy efficiency while retaining the historic window sash.

The double set of front doors were weatherized while retaining the original decorative wood trim, which was newly caulked and repainted. The main doors were rehung to achieve a tight fit, and caulking, paint, and attractive brass fittings completed the work.

The second phase of the project is still in progress. This work encompasses the rehabilitation of the large windows and the installation of historically appropriate storm windows, both to protect the town's investment and to further limit heat loss. With the addition of these energy efficiency measures, the original windows will meet the efficiency goals of the town while retaining historic character, potentially for another century.

(Continued from page 41)

for window projects, see the importance of finding energy-efficiency through enhancing existing historic fabric, especially those that define or add to a building's character. Many local contractors specializing in window restoration are willing to teach proper window repair and restoration techniques to interested property owners so that it is not always a job that has to be hired out to a professional.

Leading the way in public education with respect to historic window restoration and achieving energy efficiency in historic buildings is the statewide preservation non-profit, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance. Several sessions at its 2014 Old House and Barn Expo, a biennial event, brought local and nationally known speakers to present to a broad audience. Among the sessions were an historic window restoration question and answer session; a presentation on how historic houses can be made 21st century comfortable, and a session on introducing solar energy in a historically sensitive manner. Conferences and educational sessions such as these demonstrate how preservation approaches to energy and sustainability challenges can be cost effective, build awareness of the successes, and promote the link between preservation, conservation, and sustainability.

Through a partnership with Citizens Bank, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance was named a Champion in Action® in 2012. One aspect of the program was increased media coverage from New Hampshire's WMUR-TV. One useful and easy to understand public tool created was a slideshow on "Tips for Weatherization." The slide show is still a popular link on WMUR's website.

> *The greenest building is the one already built.*
>
> Attributed to architect Carl Elefante and reiterated by an anonymous questionnaire respondent

Many of the Granite Staters consulted in the preparation of this plan said that they would like to see a broader public understanding of the value of the materials and efforts put into constructing historic structures and to use these structures rather than tearing them down and making new, "better" ones.

Climate Change, Disaster Preparedness, and the Importance of Cultural Resources in Creating Resilient Communities

Cultural resources[25] are the marks that human civilization has left on the natural world. We are not separate from it – humans are animals that build and create and shape the spaces around us. We mold the landscape, and it molds us.

> *We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us.*
>
> Prime Minister Winston Churchill

Our cities, towns, and neighborhoods are shaped by how we choose to live. Our choices shape the natural landscape around and between these areas. When we study these decisions and their effects on our world, we can gather insight on ways we might deal with the changing climate we face today. Our historic downtowns and residential neighborhoods offer insight on compact walkable land use planning. Our regional patterns of development — with small villages, larger cities and towns, agricultural areas, and conservation areas — offer a broader insight on land use. Historic buildings can teach us how local materials can be used and how energy can be conserved

Meetinghouse, North Sutton
This meetinghouse, along with many others statewide, illustrates building evolution. Constructed in 1797, it was remodeled in 1855 and the bell tower added in 1870. Today, the meetinghouse is home to the Free Will Baptist Church.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

passively through building design. Archaeological sites can offer information on how humans dealt with past changes in climate – because climate change itself is not new, nor are disasters. What has changed is the pace and effects of climate change in the 21st century.

Many effects of climate change will be unpredictable. We need to prepare to be flexible in the face of unpredictability. The Science and Technical Advisory Panel of the New Hampshire Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission has made predictions regarding sea-level rise, storm surge, and extreme precipitation, using the best science available.[26]

The small coast of New Hampshire will experience sea-level rise of between six inches and two feet by 2050 and between 1.6 feet and 6.6 feet by 2100. Because the watershed includes Great Bay, the Lamprey River, and other tributaries, the effects of sea-level rise are likely to be seen inland as far as the town of Deerfield, about 40 miles inland. Storm surge is predicted to expand the 100-year flood plain, extending the effects of severe storms as the sea level rises. The increase in extreme precipitation events — defined as the number of times each year that the 24-hour rainfall amount exceeds the largest 1% of precipitation events in that year — has led to a 50% increase in total annual precipitation between 1901 and 2012. New Hampshire can expect to see this continue (Appendix E).

Other risks are more difficult to offer predictions for: wildfires, earthquakes, and droughts have already been felt in other parts of the world and may or may not affect New Hampshire. Increased numbers of storms could increase the number of tornadoes, but not in a predictable way with current scientific models. New Hampshire has already seen an increase in freeze and thaw cycles, and an increasing number of days of extreme temperatures, both hot and cold.

Community identity in New Hampshire is very localized and almost always includes the history of place. The founding of a community, the building of its institutions – town halls, libraries, schools, and downtowns or village centers – all factor into how the community views itself today. Neighborhoods and agricultural areas are often cited by residents as reasons for settling in a certain place, and the natural, cultural, and recreational resources are important to residents and visitors alike.

Preliminary research into the psychology of sense of place and the psychology of resilience indicate that places that retain their identities recover their sense of community more quickly after a disaster. Cultural resources are markers of our past that provide continuity between past, present, and future. By including cultural resources, as well as natural resources, in planning for disasters, we can help create more resilient places in New Hampshire.

War Monument, North Hampton
Erected in 1923, the monument honors North Hampton veterans. The monument and library behind it were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2014.
Submitted to **My New Hampshire**.

The State of New Hampshire has been taking action on climate change since 2007-2008, when the "Climate Change Action Plan" was created. The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources has been involved in making connections with other state agencies surrounding climate change, disaster planning, and preparedness since then, keeping cultural resources on the table as an important consideration in state-level discussions. The NHDHR has presented

public workshops on climate change preparedness and cultural resources across the state and in Washington, DC. Cultural resources specialists are typically not first responders to a disaster, however, they can be useful in the planning and preparedness stages and have been asked to be part of the recovery plan for the state. Local advocates and organizations also need to be involved with these conversations at all levels – from the federal, state, and local levels, all the way down to conversations with friends and neighbors.

Active involvement in disaster planning, preparation and recovery is a preservation best practice. Communities cannot protect resources they do not know about. Large parts of New Hampshire remain unsurveyed for historical properties and archaeological resources. Survey has been a goal of preservation planning in New Hampshire for years, and it remains a top priority within this new context of disaster planning. Although small, a growing number of cultural resource professionals in New Hampshire are available to assist communities with preparing survey for planning purposes. A professionally completed survey creates a more useful and comprehensive product.

Communities must also understand the importance of cultural resources in their identity and long-term recovery after disaster. Much local disaster response discourse focuses on immediate emergency response, whereas cultural resources fit better into planning and recovery. Through avenues such as the pre-disaster planning grants the NHDHR offered in 2015, a number of communities are leading the way in creating model projects that incorporate cultural resources identification and mitigation and adaptation plans for inclusion in new or updated hazard mitigation plans.

Improved communication and collaboration between local commissions will also help disaster planning efforts. Many local community groups are already working on climate change and disaster planning issues, and most would make excellent partners for local cultural resources groups. Natural resources groups are an obvious example. The NHDHR's ongoing partnership with New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management resulted in the inclusion of cultural resources in both the state Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Recovery Plan. It has allowed the NHDHR a platform to discuss cultural resources with local emergency managers and first responders, which may lead to the inclusion of cultural resources in local hazard mitigation plans.

Although funding opportunities for pre-disaster planning appear to be limited, especially for those that include cultural resources, local plans that include adaptation and mitigation strategies of hazards to cultural resources will open opportunities for FEMA funds in the unfortunate event of a disaster.

Ongoing work with cultural resources policy, pre-disaster planning, and cultural resources organizations at the local level will shape the legacy of New Hampshire for future generations.