

New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources



Interpretation Assessment

for

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FIRST STATE HOUSE

Prepared for

The Division of Historical Resources
of the
New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources

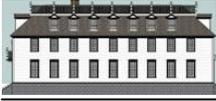


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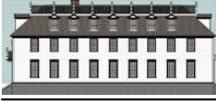
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A INTRODUCTION

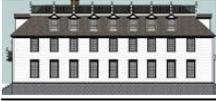
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The Cherry Valley Group, contract planning team included:

- Blake Hayes, Principal
- Katie Boardman, Principal
- Tom Elliott, Principal



Report Organization

This report is organized into four sections:

Part A, the Introduction, provides basic background material to understand the genesis and nature of the project and what it strives to achieve.

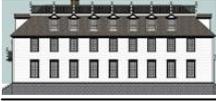
Part B is a review of the cultural resources that support the interpretation assessment.

Part C is a brief review of the potential audiences/markets for a New Hampshire's First State House interpretation.

Part D is the actual interpretation assessment portion of the report. The section includes four distinct components:

- **Interpretation Trends** – a brief summary of the current trends that are driving the design of new museum interpretation programs and other operational directions.
- **Interpretation Framework** – an organized content structure for guiding the development of the interpretation scenarios.
- **Interpretation Methods, Techniques & Delivery Modes** – sets a standard vocabulary for broad methods of interpretation, describes some of the specific techniques that may be employed, and explains the types of programs that could be developed.
- **Interpretation Scenarios: Applying Stories, Themes & Presentation Techniques to Utilizations/Venues** – outlines concepts for each interpretation option considered, reviews the specific methods & techniques of interpretation to be used, and includes specific daily and periodic programs that might be delivered to the public. Each scenario outline also includes cost estimates, interpretation pros & cons, and a summary analysis and recommendation on that scenario.

Part E consists of Appendices and Supplementary Materials, which provide documentation of the development of this interpretation assessment.



Project Description

Project Background

New Hampshire's First State House was built in 1758 in Portsmouth as the seat of New Hampshire's colonial government. Dismantled in 1836, one third of the building's frame was removed to Portsmouth's Court Street where it survived after being converted into a townhouse. In 1969, the State of New Hampshire purchased the building and moved it to Strawberry Banke Museum to await restoration. In 1990, after two decades of delay, the structure was removed from Strawberry Banke Museum. An historic structures report was prepared and the building elements were marked, placed into storage, and moved to Concord, NH. The 480 numbered pieces currently in storage comprise the remaining eighteenth-century elements from a two-and-one-half story 30'x30'6" portion of the original 80'x30' State House structure. The components consist mostly of major framing members, sheathing, and floorboards. Additional material in storage—the majority of surviving architectural elements—date to the rehabilitation of the structure in the 1830s.

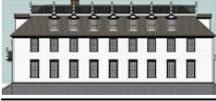
When the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded an Economic Development Initiative Grant for New Hampshire's First State House (FSH) Project in 2007 the project included but was not limited to studying the possibility of reconstructing the artifacts for use as a visitors center for the Seacoast Region—the area in which it was originally built in 1758. Since that time, however, other organizations have stepped up their efforts to promote heritage tourism in the Seacoast that generally fulfill that purpose. Therefore, the study to evaluate ways in which the history and values of the resource can benefit New Hampshire has been broadened. The project now seeks to explore a broad set of options for utilizing this cultural resource and effectively interpreting its history and significance for the citizen of New Hampshire. Scenarios to be considered for the use of the resource range from a full reconstruction of the original structure as an historic site, to a partial reconstruction, to using the remaining structural frame as the central organizing object in a museum exhibit, to virtual museum offerings based on the historic resource.

First State House Project Mission & Goals

The following mission and goals statements are drawn from the New Hampshire's First State House Project website (http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/state_house.htm).

Mission

This project, supported by an Economic Development Initiative grant (EDI) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will explore the First State House's historical values and its potential as a catalyst for public benefit and heritage tourism in New Hampshire, and to determine the best use or uses of the resource based on a series of targeted studies and public comment.



Goals

The project's intention is to appropriately preserve the remnants of New Hampshire's First State House and to create greater opportunities for the public to enjoy and benefit from the resource's history and values by:

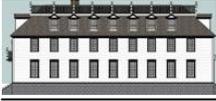
- understanding exactly what building elements remain of New Hampshire's First State House
- assessing the current physical condition of the remaining building elements
- considering the interpretive stories the resource can tell and the various ways those stories could be shared with the public
- determining the economic viability and community benefits of various interpretation and reuse options for New Hampshire's First State House within the context of historic preservation, heritage tourism, and other historic attractions in New Hampshire
- sharing the current understanding of the resource with the public and inviting public comment

Assessment Approach and Methodology

Interpretation Assessment Actions

The interpretation assessment portion of this study and planning for New Hampshire's First State House, as outlined in the Request for Proposals for this project, is designed to gather the results of the following actions.

- Evaluate the interpretive potential and best uses of New Hampshire's First State House (NHFSH): Provide an assessment of a wide range of interpretive stories/themes it can convey and audiences it could serve, and an analysis of which stories/themes would have the broadest appeal.
- Recommend engaging and relevant interpretive models for the architectural elements. These models should include recommendations using the architectural elements as part of a full reconstruction, as a partial reconstruction, as a museum-type exhibit, as well as other less traditional approaches including digital humanities. Creative and "thinking outside the box" models appropriate to this unique resource will be essential.
- Evaluate the recommended interpretive models for the NHFSH: Determine if the stories to be told by the NHFSH are currently told at existing sites or in other ways in the state, and assess how the NHFSH would compliment those other interpretive models/locations. Compare the recommended interpretive models to the current trends and interests of the general public.
- Evaluate the potential role of technology in implementing the recommendations for interpretation. Estimate up-front and annual costs (general range) for implementing and maintaining each suggested interpretive model. Assess benefits and challenges for each model presented.
- Recommend the best use/interpretive model of the NHFSH and provide an explanation.



Interpretation Planning Philosophy

The Cherry Valley Group embraces current approaches to interpretation that define the interpretive process as “a mission-based communication process that forges emotional and intellectual connections between the interests of the audience and meanings inherent in the resource.” (NAI, Definitions Project, <http://www.interpnet.com>) An interesting and challenging aspect of considering interpretation options for the remnants of New Hampshire's First State House is that, other than the overall mission and goals of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, there is not a formally stated mission for the resource. In fact, considering what a mission statement for the First State House might include became part of the NHFSH interpretation assessment planning process.

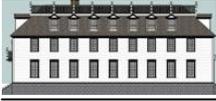
Honoring the messages, relevance and value of the First State House remnants to the citizens of New Hampshire and to a broader public is of primary importance. Effective and compelling interpretation is more than a presentation of facts. It is also an exploration based upon current research of ideas and concepts related to material culture, landscapes, traditions, places, built environments, processes and human stories that link to many different audiences.

There are many ways to present interpretive ideas and information. A variety of techniques can be used even at one site or exhibit to appeal to different learning styles, backgrounds, abilities, demographics and interests. The messages should be clear, relevant and link to universal human experiences across time, people and places. When interpretive connections are made with the audience, they can inspire, spark thought, and perhaps, move audience members to action or to further investigate a topic.

While developing the interpretive concepts for a historic site or building, CVG members work with the primary client team and its stakeholders to develop the right combination of topics, themes and interpretive methods to best serve current and potential audiences. Additionally, the resource's cultural, research and human assets should be showcased to their strongest advantage. We evaluate changing trends in visitor demographics, interests, and characteristics. We are also strategic in what we recommend, to ensure programs are feasible, sustainable, and meaningful.

The Interpretation Assessment Process

Following a Spring 2011 orientation meeting in Concord with the full CVG staff and five current or retired staff and scholars of the NHDHR, the CVG team began the interpretive assessment process by reviewing primary and secondary research related to NHFSH—its history, architecture, condition, scale drawings, artistic renderings, professional reports, documentation photographs, web postings, staff notes and other relevant materials. Using the information gleaned from these resources, preliminary research by CVG staff on potential



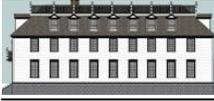
audiences for interpretive offerings related to the First State House, knowledge of current best practices in interpretation, and a professional familiarity with successful and appealing current interpretation a spectrum of potential interpretation scenarios was developed. A summer 2011 phone meeting of CVG staff and NHDHR staff was convened with on-line PowerPoint slides. This enabled further sharing of research, project information, questions and discussion between CVG, professional stakeholders and NHDHR staff.

A September 2011 phone meeting with an on-line PowerPoint presentation led by staff of CVG was helpful in gathering ideas from a group of museum professionals, historic preservation specialists, tourism and development representatives, scholars and other stakeholders about potential public interpretation options for NHFSH. History of the NHFSH and the process for the interpretation planning project were shared. The participants considered both what the value and significance of NHFSH might be, and the potential themes and storylines that the resource might illustrate. The group brainstormed what some interpretive programs might be for the NHFSH and it discussed the potential partners, funders and stakeholders for various options. A great deal of thought was given to how the pieces of NHFSH might be used in physical constructions, exhibits or studies. Topics such as historic preservation, royal government, architecture, life under the crown, law and justice, colonial economics, land acquisition, and Portsmouth history were explored for interpretive development. These responses guided the further work of CVG staff in developing the historical significance and potential program possibilities for the First State House. The time for questions and general discussion was fruitful. (Transcripts and/or notes from this and all in person and phone meetings and input sessions are included in the electronic Appendices to this report.)

In October and early November 2011, prior to two public input sessions, staff members of NHDHR composed a public survey to gather ideas, suggestions and reactions to the future of the First State House project and possible uses of the remaining pieces of the structure. Three questions were posted on-line. Direct e-mail invitations, posters, tweets, press releases in New Hampshire newspapers, and website postings announced the survey and invited members of the public to participate in the survey. (A verbatim transcript of the survey responses is included in Appendix E.3 of this report. A list of related on-line news articles is also located in the Appendix.) The summary of these responses is below:

1) What respondents found interesting

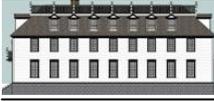
- a) Parts of it still exist/ the parts are in storage (18 responses)
- b) It represents part of New Hampshire's culture and history (14 responses)
- c) It is old/ possibly one of a kind_(6 responses)
- d) Did not appear to know much about it/didn't understand the question (4 responses)
- e) It does not have much value (1 response)



- 2) **How respondents envisioned the final outcome for the resource**
 - a) Reconstructing, rebuilding, replicating the building (19 respondents)
 - b) Use the parts in a public exhibit, decorative presentation (7 responses)
 - c) Did not appear to understand the question/no Answer (7 responses)
 - d) Discard, sell or destroy the building parts/the parts have little or no value (3 responses)
 - e) Use it to study preservation, historic construction, etc. (3 responses)
 - f) Do something interesting and innovative with the resource to share history (3 responses)
 - g) Do NOT reconstruct the building (2 responses)
- 3) **Benefits for the citizens of New Hampshire that respondents hoped to see from interpretation of the resource**
 - a) Preservation/Tourism/Education Benefits (14 responses)
 - b) Can be used to tell Portsmouth/NH History (14 responses)
 - c) There Are Important/Relevant Messages and Information to Be Learned From It (8 responses)
 - d) No comment/did not appear to understand the question (4 responses)
 - e) There are no/few benefits to be gained_(3 responses)

NHDHR staff hosted two public/interested stakeholder input meetings on November 14 and 15, 2011. These sessions provided fresh information and momentum to the assessment and planning process. The first meeting was held in Portsmouth at Strawberry Banke Museum's Tyco Visitors Center during the evening. The second, also an evening meeting, was held in Concord near the offices of NHDHR. The meetings were publically advertised by press releases, email invitations, posters, and tweets. Staff of NHDHR, Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc., TMS Architects, CVG and ConsultEcon made presentations, fielded questions and participated in discussion with those in attendance. There was lively discussion at the at the Portsmouth meeting, which included an interest in a reconstruction of NHFSH at a Portsmouth location. Discussion at the Concord meeting revealed interest in architectural fragments as a preservation interest, and no clear interest expressed in reconstruction.

Following the public meetings a rough meeting report draft and images of the recorded meeting notes were reviewed by CVG staff for further development of the interpretive planning report.



Brief Historical Background of New Hampshire's First State House

The history of the New Hampshire's First State House from Portsmouth (not the current structure located in Concord) can be studied from a variety of viewpoints including architectural, preservation and restoration, and the activities that took place in and around the building. These approaches can provide a rich context for discovering the meaning and significance of the First State House of New Hampshire, especially when they are combined with consideration of the social, political and economic history of royal English colonies in New England, with the study of the formation of the place called "New Hampshire," and with the story of the evolution of self-government from colony to new democratic nation.

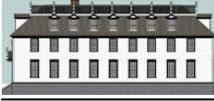
Such depth of research and understanding provides material for relevant stories and approaches for linking the remnants of the State House structure now in the care of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources to present-day New Hampshire residents and visitors. Parts of this broad history can be gleaned from sources cited in Section B of this report that lists research assets for the project.

This summary focuses on highlights of these reports and histories that provide a broad scenario for stories of particular interest in designing potential interpretive public presentations and programs that use and/or refer to the remaining structural fragments of New Hampshire's first statehouse. (For a detailed timeline of dates and events, refer to the work initially assembled by James L. Garvin and updated by DHR staff in 2011, http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/documents/fsh_timeline_rev.pdf.)

Colonial Settlement & Early History of the State House

Like other resource-rich locations with serviceable seaport potential on the North American continent, what became the region of New England was colonized by the English crown for procurement of raw materials and goods, territorial expansion, and commercial development. Representatives of the crown and their designees managed the colonies for profit and established communities governed by the laws and traditions of England. Between 1741 and 1775, Portsmouth was the residence of a Royal Governor and the seat of this government in New Hampshire.

Participants and officials initially met in taverns and other public halls to hold court, enforce law and order, distribute land, and manage other functions of government. After the final establishment of New Hampshire as a separate colony from the Massachusetts colony, and with some reluctance and frugality on the part of the Royal Governor and the Council, funds were allocated to build a structure to house these public functions in the center of Portsmouth, at the heart of the colonial capital. (The colonial management of the territory that became the New Hampshire colony fluctuated between governors in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.



After petitions from the colonists in New Hampshire, their holdings received designation as a separate colony with its own royal governance in 1741.) This initial building incorporated the frame of the structure for which fragments remain. This first stage of construction was completed in 1759 or 1760 (Adams and Roy *Historic Structure Report*, 1988, p1.) The second phase from 1764-1766 included the addition of interior finishes on the first and second floor and the addition of the balcony, door surrounds, roof walk, brownstone steps and cupola. (Adams and Roy, *Historic Structure Report*, 1988, p 1.)

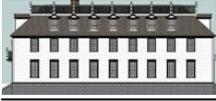
As to date research reveals, the New Hampshire state house was more modest than the larger, brick structure in the neighboring the Massachusetts and Rhode Island colonies. The architectural style and design and the wooden frame construction of the State House echoed that of Portsmouth houses of the period. It housed an open meeting hall on the first floor and a courtroom and meeting room for the colonial legislature on the second floor. It was furnished with chairs, desks and writing supplies. The courtroom featured boxed pews.

The structure was used to hold court and to hold meetings of the legislature up until the time of the American Revolution. Land purchases were formalized here, as well. As the public building in the capital's central parade ground and market area, the State House was also used to commemorate events of importance. The inauguration of the provincial governor, protests against the Stamp Act and importation of British tea and the reading of the Declaration of Independence chronicled changes in government and the formation of an independent United States. "The balcony was used to publicly announce the British surrender in 1783, and George Washington stood upon it while reviewing troops in 1789." (Adams and Roy, *Historic Structures Report*, 1988, p 2.)

Revolution, Statehood, Removal of the State House & Construction of Boarding House

During the American Revolution, the center of New Hampshire government moved out of Portsmouth to avoid English bombardments. After the conclusion of the American Revolution, the center of government moved to a number of locations around New Hampshire including Exeter and, finally, Concord. As New Hampshire developed under its own self-rule under the new United States Constitution, the old State House fell out of favor as a remnant of outmoded colonial times.

Although the State House in Portsmouth then was used as a local community center that hosted Freemason meetings and gatherings of other civic organizations, it increasingly fell into disrepair. By the early the 1830's, it was considered a fire hazard, traffic hindrance and eyesore in the center of Portsmouth. A town resolution in 1834 called for the building's removal from what was then called Market Square. The town sold parts of the structure to several individuals and groups, and the remaining rubble was removed.



Local entrepreneur, Mads Danielson, purchased the eastern end of the structure at this sale and removed it to Pitt (later Court) Street. He remodeled the frame to create a boarding house. This structural remnant served that and subsequently several other commercial functions into the mid-twentieth century. Structural changes to the building over these years were made to meet the needs of the various owners and their businesses. Once again, the structure experienced a period of neglect and decay.

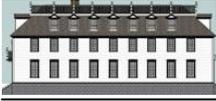
Relocation to Strawberry Banke & Storage in Concord

As early as the 1930s a WPA project was proposed to reconstruct New Hampshire's First State House. In 1967, with a similar idea, preservation-minded citizens lobbied the New Hampshire legislature to provide funding for the New Hampshire Division of Parks to acquire the structure and move it to a site near the Strawberry Banke Museum. The museum stabilized the condition of the structure while researching its history and documenting its condition and construction.

In 1987, the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources oversaw the preparation of an historic structure report of the building. Partial funding was designated to restore and reconstruct the building as a museum in Portsmouth. However, planning for the future of Strawberry Banke Museum was also taking place during the 1980s and 1990s. When that planning was complete, it was evident that there was neither an appropriate use nor location for the 1830s boarding house repurposed from a section of New Hampshire's First State House.

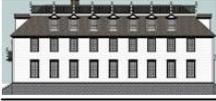
Meanwhile, the structure progressed through another cycle of deterioration. An effort was made to appropriate funds for restoration of the structure; however the appropriation was not realized. A smaller appropriation in 1989-1990 allowed the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources to contract for the marking of the building's structural elements, documentation, dismantling and moving of the remaining 1836 and 1758 elements to Concord for storage.

In 1998, a blue ribbon committee was formed by Portsmouth Mayor Evelyn Sirrell to work toward reconstructing the old state house in Portsmouth. This commission included historians, tourism promoters, and individuals with preservation interests. Extensive discussions were undertaken to find an appropriate site before the committee was formally retired in 2008. Committee member and preservation carpenter David Adams proposed that it would cost an estimated \$2.5-3 million in funding for reconstruction. In 2004, the group placed a plaque in Portsmouth's Market Square to honor the statehouse. They also commissioned the creation of a small-scale model of the statehouse, currently exhibited in the Portsmouth Municipal Complex in Portsmouth. (Division for Historical Resources, *Timeline for New Hampshire's First Statehouse*, http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/documents/fsh_timeline_rev.pdf, accessed 1/6/2012 and Roni Reino in Foster's contemplates remains of NH's original State House,



<http://www.nhhousegop.com/fosters-comemplates-remains-of-nhs-original-state>. (Accessed 1/5/2012.)

An Economic Development Initiatives grant to the state of New Hampshire, and administered by the Division of Historical Resources, provided funding for further research and consideration of options for public use and care of the structural elements. The current comprehensive assessment presents potential uses of this cultural resource and offers recommendations based upon their feasibility, economic climate of the region and relevant needs and interests of residents, visitors, scholars and others with an interest in New Hampshire history and historic places.



B AN ASSESSMENT OF THE AVAILABLE CULTURAL RESOURCES

The Artifact(s)

The artifact that is being studied for interpretation is the collection of 480 disassembled structural pieces of one-third of the First State House as dismantled and documented at Strawberry Banke. The intact structure, which this portion of the State House had been made into, had been moved to Strawberry Banke for potential inclusion in that museum collection.

These structural elements are now housed in Concord by staff of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources. The collection includes labeled eighteenth-century elements and unlabeled nineteenth-century elements.

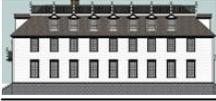
Additionally, four of the stone step treads (of the eight or more step treads from the two stair sets) from the structure are in the collections of Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Available Research Assets

Historical Documentation

Primary

Documents pertaining to the Royal Colonial Government and a variety of materials related to eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Portsmouth are housed in the New Hampshire State Archives and in other collections. Over the years, many of these resources have been consulted by scholars writing articles, reports, and books about colonial New Hampshire and the First State House. The bibliographies, footnotes, and reference lists in these secondary documents cite the nature and locations of these primary works, including legislative and legal documents in the New Hampshire Law Library (Concord); maps, photographs, provincial land records and probate records, court records, land surveyor records, state papers, provincial papers, Journals of the House of Representatives, and executive records managed by the New Hampshire Division of Archives and Records Management/New Hampshire State Library (Concord); genealogical materials, correspondence, historic newspapers in the New Hampshire State Archives (Concord); manuscripts (especially the Hibbard MSS) and treasury accounts at the New Hampshire Historical Society (Concord); legislative records and legal documents in the New Hampshire Law Library (Concord); regional photographs, city directories, historic newspapers (especially the New-Hampshire Gazette), maps, documents, census and other records in the Portsmouth Athenaeum archives and library (Portsmouth); copies of the



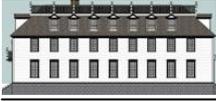
Portsmouth Journal in the Portsmouth Public Library (Portsmouth); and similar resources in other university and local libraries, archives and historical collections in New Hampshire.

Secondary

Appendix E.1, Project Bibliography, provides a more complete list of works consulted in preparation of the plan. The materials cited here are the major works that specifically relate to the First State House and New Hampshire colonial government and life.

Published Works and Internet Resources

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Other Studies & Reports

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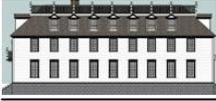
Architectural Documentation

Measured Drawings of the Surviving Building

- *J.R. Abbott Drawings: Part of Old State House, Portsmouth, NH*, Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, NH, 1962
- *Old State House "Disassembly" Drawings*, Salmon Falls Architects, S. Berwick, ME, 1988
- *Digital Upgrades: Old State House "Disassembly" Drawings (set of 7)*, TMS Architects, 2011

Conjectural Reconstruction Drawings & Models

- *Old State House "Disassembly" Drawings*, Salmon Falls Architects, S. Berwick, ME, 1988
- *Old State House "Disassembly" 3D Digital Models (set of 5)*, TMS Architects, 2011
- Physical small scale model of NHFSH, currently on exhibit at the Portsmouth Municipal Complex, Portsmouth, NH.



Archeological Resources

A 1976 Market Square Archaeological Research Project report includes a section on the original First State House site. Archeological sensitivity for that area, and surrounding areas, are suggested in archeological reports for nearby Portsmouth projects along Court Street. Future excavations of the site may reveal artifacts from the periods of construction, use and removal of the First State House.

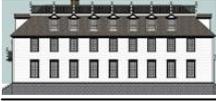
Conservation Assessment

In 2008, a complete conservation status assessment was carried out for the original eighteenth-century fabric from the New Hampshire First State House. The assessment results, together with recommendations on the structural viability and interpretative potential of the remaining elements, are recorded in the report *Conditions Assessment Report*. (Miller, Christine. Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc., North Wales, Pennsylvania, 2008) The assessors categorized the elements of the building into three condition levels: reuse in a building, reuse in an exhibit, and unsalvageable. They summarized that:

Although the conditions assessment demonstrated that the extant elements of the Old State House retain high integrity and are generally in good condition, it is important to note that the remaining elements do not comprise a building on their own. A large portion of the original Old State House, approximately two-thirds of the original building, is entirely missing. Additionally, a number of elements are missing from the extant section of the Old State House, including, but not limited to: the window sash, all interior wood trim, most exterior wood trim, all interior plaster, interior and exterior doors, exterior porches, interior cabinets and shelves, and shingles. As a result, any reconstruction of the Old State House using the extant elements would be largely incomplete. (Miller, *Conditions Assessment Report*, 2008, p 16.)

They further noted that:

Based on the review of the previous studies and the analysis of the 2007 conditions assessment data, it is the opinion of CHRS, Inc. that the elements from the Old State House would best be used as an exhibit or within an interpretative context. To reintegrate the extant elements within a building would necessitate that the majority of the elements be covered or sheathed with modern replacement materials. This would leave visitors to experience the Old State House as a reconstructed building rather than viewing the authentic colonial elements of the building. (Miller, *Conditions Assessment Report*, 2008, p 16.)



C POTENTIAL AUDIENCES / MARKET

Since the specific geographic location of the utilization options developed in this report varies, sizes of population available to form potential resident area audiences will be generalized. It is assumed in this report that the actual location of the First State House programming venue will be located somewhere in the southern part of the state of New Hampshire, perhaps in the Portsmouth-Exeter area or in Concord. Ultimately, the best utilization strategy to benefit the people of New Hampshire, coupled with the most feasible partnership and funding strategy should determine the location of the First State House project.

When discussing resident audiences in this report, it refers to the population living within 25 miles (the Primary Resident Market) and within 50 miles (the Secondary Resident Market) of a proposed venue. This Resident Market forms a pool of people who are the potential audience for any business or educational venue, and who, for most brick-and-mortar museums, constitute the group where core visitation is drawn from. It is therefore the target market area for advertising, programming plans, and membership and volunteer base development.

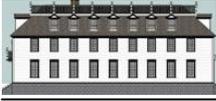
Areas outside this 50-mile radius form the travel markets, simply meaning that visitors from beyond this ring of miles consider themselves to be “out of town” when they visit the venue, and that they have a different sort of deliberation or perhaps a different motivation for planning to come to the venue (such as a day trip get-away, or perhaps a long weekend or an extended visit to the area for reasons tangential to visiting the sites we envision in this report).

Both the Resident and Travel markets can be broken down into a number of groups of visitors. It is useful to segregate these groups when thinking of interpretive programming and for purposes of directed advertising or recruitment. Each of these audience segments is discussed here in order to establish their interest in history programming and acceptance of different interpretive techniques and styles. Since two of the utilization scenarios involve a web-based “virtual” venue, a third market segment is also discussed: the On-line Market.

Available Audience / Market Segments

Resident Market

The Resident Market can be broken into various audience segments that traditionally have an interest in history museums or historic sites venues. The size of this potential Resident Market, again based on our venue being placed somewhere in southern New Hampshire, will be at least 500,000 people (drawn from the southern and eastern parts of New Hampshire, from the counties of Rockingham, Stratford, Merrimack, and Hillsborough, plus parts of southwestern Maine in the Piscataqua Watershed region of southwestern Maine). The cities and suburbs of



northern Essex County, Massachusetts may also be included in this nearby region depending on the final choice of venue location. This brings the total regional population numbers to between 1.2 million and 1.4 million people of all ages. It is important to note that in any of the utilization options presented in this report, at least 500,000 of these people would be part of the potential Resident Market.

Education Audiences

The education market, including public and private primary and secondary schools, would represent an important ongoing market for any site interpreting the First State House. These students and teachers are potential visitors to the site during weekdays, particularly in the months of October, November, April and May.

- K-12 (483 Districts~252,000)
- Home-school (more than 4,000)
- Higher Education (~62,000)
- Adult/Continuing Education –"Lifelong Learning" (10 identified Lifelong Learning Institutes in NH)

General Interest Audiences

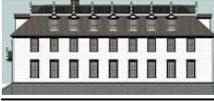
A second important segment of the Resident Market are people with a general interest in history and museums and who are looking for something interesting to do on a given day. These audiences may be broken into families and friends, couples, and individuals; they are visitors to the site primarily on weekends or extended weekends, particularly in the summer months and in May, September and October.

Special Interest Audiences

A third important segment of the Resident Market audience consists of people who have a specific interest in one or more aspects of the resources and interpretation of the site. These people seek out the site, usually as individuals, but sometimes from affinity groups (clubs, societies, etc.) and may interact with the site at many different times of the year and gravitate toward membership in the site, if it offers such an opportunity.

Travel Market

The overall travel market for New Hampshire is drawn from throughout the United States; internationally, it draws quite a few visitors from England. According to a 2010 report by the New Hampshire Division of Travel and Tourism Development, New Hampshire "receives about twice as many visitor trips as its share of the national population and ranks in the top ten states in the importance of tourism to the total state economy."



Regional Driving Market

The regional drive-in travel market for New Hampshire is drawn from the New England region and extends on the north and west to New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario (Canada), and to Vermont; and to the south into Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. Approximately 83% of New Hampshire's travel visits are made by drive-in tourists (NH Div. of Travel and Tourism Development, 2010).

Motor Coach

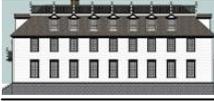
Prior to the 2008 recession, trends in motor coach travel had been upwards. A possible reason for this may be a return to the use of buses for intercity travel; in addition, there may be a related acceptance of bus transportation by the older portion of the baby boom generation now entering retirement years. In addition, the motor coach industry has been upgrading its fleet to include panoramic windows, reclining seats, and wireless internet service. These factors, along with its price-point advantage, indicate motor coach travel will be on an upswing in coming years. Cultural attractions that have the necessary amenities for motor coach visitors – bus drop-off and parking, shuttle service where necessary, food service, shopping and resting areas – will be able to build mutually beneficial relationships with motor coach operations in their region.

Fly-Drive

Although enplanements and deplanements at New Hampshire's two major airports have been down by as much as 13% in the past two years, the Great Northwoods, White Mountains and Lakes Regions of the state continue to be a draw for fly-drive tourists. A cultural attraction located near these airports can expect to receive some secondary visitation from these tourists.

The On-line Market

While museums in the U.S. are generally characterized by having a physical site of one or more locations and typically involve some sort of collecting or exhibiting base, many museums now also include a website or "virtual " presence for their collections, exhibits, and programs. As more and more devices are created that allow subscribers to access the World Wide Web from more and more mobile locations through wireless technologies, the use of these sites is on the increase. At this time it is not possible to separate the number of visitors who use these services from regular users of the physical museums they are attached to, but in the next few years it seems likely that studies will be conducted to learn how many unique visits to such sites occur on an annual basis and to assess how they impact the brick-and-mortar museums they represent. It is now possible to imagine a virtual museum without collections or walls.



Market Characteristics

Statewide, New Hampshire’s demographics differ somewhat from the nation as a whole. Although New Hampshire is less racially and ethnically diverse than the nation, when looking at the main urban centers of the state, they more closely resembles a “snapshot” of the nation.

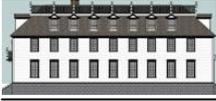
Just as New Hampshire differs from present demographic makeup from the nation as a whole, its recent trends in migration and immigration differ. While it is true that New Hampshire’s minority population grew at a much more rapid rate than that of the non-Hispanic white population (30% compared to 4.7%), the overall gain as a percentage of population in the state was modest. Based on this current trend, the gradual growth of minorities statewide will continue, with most dramatic increases of minority residents occurring in the metropolitan regions of the state.

Fig. 1 Demographic Snapshot of New Hampshire

| Category | United States | New Hampshire | Portsmouth, NH | Concord, NH |
|--|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| Race/Ethnicity | | | | |
| White persons | 72.4% | 93.9% | 91.5% | 91.8% |
| Black persons | 12.6% | 1.1% | 1.7% | 2.2% |
| Asian persons | 4.8% | 2.2% | 3.5% | 3.4% |
| Hispanic/Latino persons | 16.3% | 2.8% | 2.8% | 2.1% |
| Education | | | | |
| High School graduates, 25 years of age + | 84.6% | 90.5% | 96.0% | 91.3% |
| Bachelors degree or higher, 25 years of age + | 27.5% | 32.4% | 49.5% | 37.1% |
| Economic | | | | |
| Per capita income | \$27,334 | \$31,422 | \$36,823 | \$29,298 |
| persons below poverty level | 14.3% | 8.6% | 7.2% | 11.0% |

Based on the 2010 US Census, State and County QuickFacts – U.S. Census Bureau.

New Hampshire has been growing at a fairly brisk pace. Between 2000 and 2006, the state added 79,000 residents. Surprisingly, the greatest growth rates were in the non-metropolitan areas of the state, where older migrants from other states, often in their mid-childrearing years, moved into areas that are known for their outdoor recreation value. As a result, New Hampshire’s largest age-specific change was among families with parents aged 30-39 with



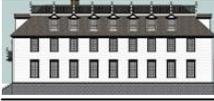
children 9-years old or younger. Regarding the metropolitan regions that make up most of the resident market for utilization options discussed in this plan, a recent Carsey Institute demographic study states,

In metropolitan New Hampshire growth was balanced between natural increase, domestic in-migration and immigration. These areas benefit from the outward sprawl of the Boston metropolitan areas as well as from regional economic gains. Population gains were greatest among age groups likely to include parent-child households. Metropolitan New Hampshire is also retaining most, if not all, of its young adults, but losing its retirement age population. [Johnson, Kenneth M. UNH, 2007].

Market Competitors/Potential Partners in the Resident Audience Area

These museums, historic houses and historic sites are potential competitors for visitors and/or partners and collaborators with NHFSH public projects. These organizations present topics and themes related to Colonial and Revolutionary War era history in Portsmouth, the Piscataqua Region and New Hampshire. An expanded annotated list also appears as Appendix E.2 to this report.

- American Independence Museum, Exeter, NH
- Fort Constitution Historic Site, New Castle, NH
- Gilman Garrison House, Exeter, NH
- Governor John Langdon Mansion, Portsmouth, NH
- Governor John Wentworth Historic Site, Wolfeboro, NH
- Jackson House, Portsmouth, NH
- James House, Hampton, NH
- Kittery Historical and Naval Museum, Kittery, ME
- Moffatt - Ladd House and Gardens, Portsmouth, NH
- Museum of New Hampshire History, Concord, NH
- New Hampshire State House and Visitor's Center, Concord, NH
- The Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, NH
- Portsmouth Historical Society – Discover Portsmouth Center, Portsmouth, NH
- Portsmouth Historical Society – John Paul Jones House and Museum, Portsmouth, NH
- Portsmouth Harbor Trail, Portsmouth, NH
- Portsmouth Old Graves, Portsmouth NH
- Pitt Tavern (Strawbery Banke Museum), Portsmouth NH
- Warner House, Portsmouth, NH
- Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion, Portsmouth, NH
- Wentworth-Gardner and Tobias Lear House, Portsmouth, NH
- Woodman Institute Museum, Dover, NH

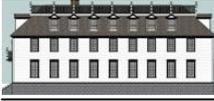


Trends in Museum Audiences / Markets

Three issues have captured the attention of museum administrators and planners over the past five years. The first was the gradual decline in museum attendance between 1992 and 2008, noted in a study by the National Endowment for the Arts published in 2008. This decline particularly affects art museums and programs, but it also affects science, natural history, and history museums. The second, the coming shift to a “minority-majority” national demographic, will redefine the makeup of potential audiences sometime in the ten years between 2030 and 2039. This fact, signaled by the Center for the Future of Museum’s inaugural publication, *Museums & Society 2034: Trends and Potential Futures*, has drawn the attention of the entire field. The third issue, the millennial generation’s penchant for on-line everything and the expectation that information should be available now and everywhere we go, challenges museums to remain relevant and vital for this audience segment and its children. Why? Because we know family museum-going history is one of the key factors in determining who will be lifelong museum visitors. Although New Hampshire’s museums may have slightly different missions and deal with somewhat different content than museums nationally, and although New Hampshire’s demographics may vary somewhat from the national snapshot, these three issues are just as present in the thoughts of museum administrators and planners in New Hampshire as they are in the minds of their counterparts across the country.

What Have Visitation Trends Looked Like Since The 2008 Economic Downturn?

The museum community has been nervously checking on attendance trends since the economic downturn of 2008, expecting visitation to slump or even decline precipitously. In February of 2010, Philip Katz, assistant director of research for the American Association of Museums, concluded a study of visitation trends, tabulating surveys from 481 museum administrators who responded to an on-line survey. Katz reported good news. Despite the economic crisis, most museums have experienced an increase, not a drop, in attendance. Katz cites several possible explanations for this attendance trend, including increased marketing by museums to local school group leaders and to their local (resident) audience base trying to make the most of the “staycation” trend widely reported in the national media. Also cited was a trend in increased updating of exhibits and to the more intangible notion that in times of economic stress, people look to institutions such as museums, botanical gardens, zoos, and libraries as “places of respite.” A sour note in the report for New Hampshire residents is that although the upward trend is fairly consistent for all types and sizes of museums across the country, museums in the northeast are “least likely” to have benefited from the uptick. Another recent study by Reach Advisors confirms this same trend and adds some additional insight into the possible reasons for the surprising increase in visitation. In this study, 103 museums of all types shared visitor information that allowed survey data to be gathered from more than 40,000 households, inquiring about their museum-going habits since the economic downturn. Seven

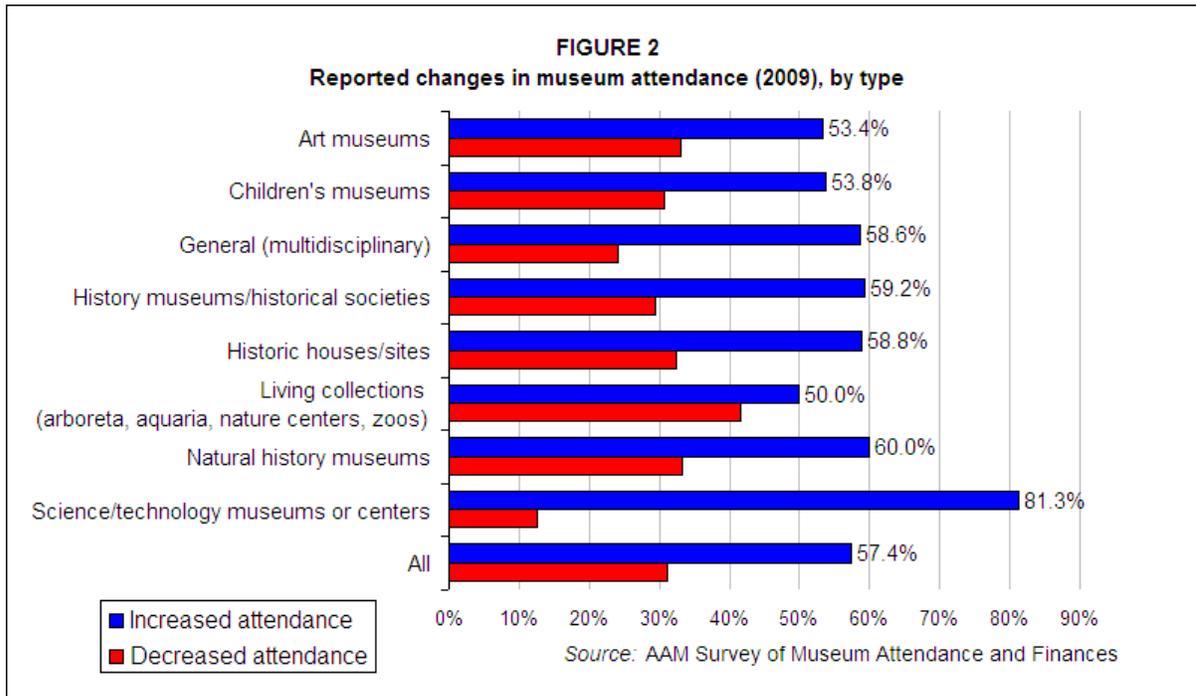
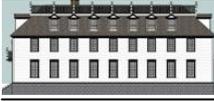


percent indicated they would go less often while another seven percent indicated they would attend more frequently (the “staycation” effect?), while 15% said that, while they made no value judgment about the museum, they generally will be cutting back on household expenses. Although this would seem to indicate a visitation loss of 15%, actual responses from those surveyed confirmed Katz’s more positive results. So which visitors more than made up the slack and which spent less on visits to the museum? In analyzing their data, Reach Advisors determined that most of those spending less were individuals or couples in their twenties from the Generation Y group and families whose children were eight years old or older. Families of children aged five and younger made up most of the increased visits. It should be noted that the respondents to this survey were core museum visitors, not casual visitors or non-visitors. Also, Katz’s AAM study used actual attendance numbers while Reach Advisors asked about general visitation patterns.

In spite of this good news, the museum industry is still skeptical of plans that count on increased attendance. Everyone in the museum industry has had to deal with the knowledge that there has been a gradual drop in attendance to America’s museums since the AAM began a key tracking study in 1992. The AAM study noted this decline through 2008. It is important to note that attendance has not dropped for all types of museums in the same measure (art museums have fared the worst) and not among all segments of museum audiences. It is also important to note that tracking studies on museum attendance suffer from a lack of longitudinal depth, as no studies have following the same group of visitors over a long period of time to see how and why their visitation habits have changed.

Who Goes To Which Museums?

The AAM again provides us some answers about which types of museums received the greatest benefit in the recent visitation increases nationally. The chart below is from the Philip Katz study referenced above. Science/technology centers and museums seem to have had the greatest appeal with 81.3% recording increased attendance, and natural history museums are second strongest with 60% of these museums experiencing attendance growth during 2009 compared with other recent years. But history museums/historical societies and historic houses/sites are only a bit behind at 58.8% and 59.2% respectively.



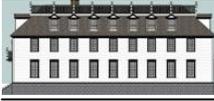
From Katz, American Association of Museums, 2010

Another chart from the AAM's 2009 Museum Financial Information shows the median annual attendance for different types of museums. Here we see a starker contrast between history museums and living collection museums and children's museums. Certainly a big part of this discrepancy can be explained by the large number of historic sites, houses, and societies that exist across the country compared to the numbers of museums in the other categories. Still, it brings to mind the data that tells us that most U.S. families refrain from visiting history museums until their oldest child reaches the age of 10 [Reach Advisors, Oct. 23, 2007] and Reach Advisors' analysis showing that families with children younger than five represent the biggest part of the potential growth bubble.

Figure 3. Median Annual Attendance at Different Types of Museums in 2009.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Art Museum | 44,878 |
| Children's/Youth Museum | 130,870 |
| General Museum | 58,500 |
| Historic House/Site | 11,700 |
| History Museum/Historical Society | 10,000 |
| Living Collections | 208,574 |
| Natural History/Anthropology Museum | 58,176 |
| Science/Technology Center/Museum | 357,103 |
| Specialized Museum | 22,000 |

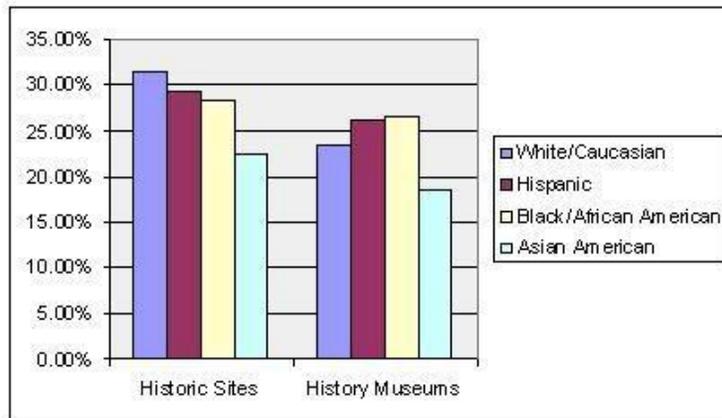
From American Association of Museums, 2009 Museum Financial Information



Reach Advisors provided detail from their survey of 5,500 museum-going families in its October 23, 2007 on-line newsletter; two interesting streams of analysis emerged from this study. First, race does seem to make a difference in the determination of which type of museums are visited in the U.S.; second, the age of the oldest child was the principle factor in determining what types of museums are visited by families. It seems clear that history museums and historic sites will continue to struggle with family audiences containing younger children, but those institutions may be able to build audiences by creating engaging programming that targets those families.

Racial preferences show that non-Hispanic whites, African-Americans, and people of Hispanic descent all form a core visitor base for the history museum field. Historic sites are most popular with whites, followed closely by Hispanics and African-Americans. When it comes to history museums, African-Americans and Hispanics are somewhat more likely to visit than whites are. There also seems to be a reduced barrier for people of lower education and income levels to visit historic sites than, say, art museums, so this is good news for the history museum and public history field.

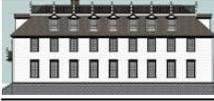
Figure 4. Racial Preferences in Museum Visitations



From Reach Advisors August E-news: Family Visitation at Museums, Part II: Historic Sites and History Museums, October 23, 2007

What Do Museum-Going Audiences Expect And Want Today?

In its follow-up to the *Museums & Society 2034: Trends and Potential Futures* article, the AAM's Center for the Future of Museums published a new (20??) report, *Demographic Transformation and the Future of Museums*, which attempts to "search out and summarize the existing research on demographic trends in the U.S. and the (much rarer) data on patterns of museum use by ethnic and racial groups."

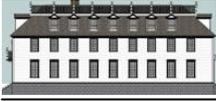


The Future Diversity of Museum Audiences

The first report paints a startling potential for the gradual marginalizing of museum's role nationally in scholarship, education, and in "edutainment." Given the knowledge that mostly older non-Hispanic whites make up the core of the museum audience and the knowledge that this audience has remained stubbornly static, losing ground gradually, year-by-year as it becomes a smaller percentage of the overall population, there is reason for concern. And when we couple this data with the knowledge that today's students enrolled in U.S. museum studies and management programs are made up by 80% or more of young, white women, are we perpetuating the same core audience for the future?

In the follow-up report, CFM takes care to remind us that this view is only one potential future, and that the value of working to predict the future is to be able to develop initiatives today to ensure disaster is not the outcome. And although U.S. Census data is a wonderful tool and a good starting place for understanding trends of many kinds at the national, state, and even local level, the categories it has traditionally used to identify different groups of Americans (race, ethnicity) are not necessarily the most helpful in understanding groups of museum-goers. The report's authors point out that looking at racial and ethnic data in isolation may miss the core understanding of who visits museums and why. Perhaps better understanding might be acquired by looking instead at generational, political, historical, or geographic groupings.

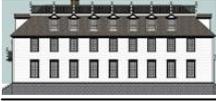
It's also not clear that the minority-majority waiting to be welcomed twenty-some years from now won't have already become a more avid museum-going group. Gregory Rodriguez, Executive Director of Zocalo Public Square and frequent keynote presenter, pointed out in his 2009 lecture titled *Towards a New Mainstream* that despite the political rhetoric for the past twenty years focusing on the strength of American cultural diversity, what America is really good at is cultural assimilation. He points to older immigrant populations such as the Italians and the Jews and asks, "who would have anticipated Dean Martin or Woody Allen?" He notes that the largest single part of the new minority-majority are people of Hispanic descent and asks who is to say that as a group they won't identify with the previous white majority and be just as likely to be interested in museums as part of their cultural enrichment? The same argument may apply to Asian people. Furthermore, Reach Advisors already tells us African-Americans are more likely to visit history museums than white people. Reach research also points to American Indians as the strongest fans of historic sites (42% visit them), although the small numbers mean their wants or expectations are only rarely included in analyses by museums for interpretation or programming outcomes.



Community and Segmented Audiences.

So what do museum audiences want today? With all this diversity, it may seem problematic to envision a new kind of museum that can remain relevant and be a vital center of the community in the years to come. It's clear, though, from many studies over many years, that history museums and historic sites have something that seems to transcend changing audiences, tastes, and technologies: they have the real thing. The notion that you are in the presence of actual history when you see objects displayed in museums is an incredibly important idea that hasn't grown old. We need to bring this together with the idea of making the historical experience personal and meaningful to people in a specific community, in a specific place. [Dearstyne, AASLH, 2011] We also know that the generation called the Millennium Generation (people now in their teen years) who are considered "native computer technology users," distinguishing them from all of the rest of us have a new set of expectations and desires which will most likely extend to their museum experiences.

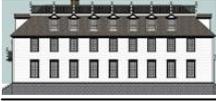
In their recent article "The Winds of Opportunity," published in *Museum News*, Laura Roberts and Barbara Franco build a case for a new model of museum. It is interesting that even though many museums have experienced increased attendance since the economic downturn, many history museums have experienced budget losses between 5% and 40%. No doubt, this is due to the fact that most museums operate on a mix of funding including government support, which has been decreasing. Add that loss of budget with diminished earned revenues, contributions, and declining earned revenues that some institutions are experiencing, and we have an explanation. Most museums typically earn no more than one-third of their operating budget through revenues generated by visitors, but even when this revenue stream remains steady, losses from government sources, individual contributions, and foundations increases the demand for earned revenue. Given this situation, Roberts and Franco foresee a shift in the business model for museums that is more systematic and one where museums seek to be more specialized, avoiding a duplication of services with other museums or non-profits in their region. They liken this shift to what has happened in health care, where the industry has "a range of providers, from walk-in clinic to a major teaching hospital, [where] each provides care appropriate for a variety of ailments and patient needs." This resonates with the idea of deepening the niche in which smaller museums operate, emphasizing services for specific communities and audiences in particular markets.



The Millennium Generation

At the same time, several studies suggest that it will be important to reach the newest generation of potential core museum-goers by understanding their wants and their expectations. An important part of this group's expectations involves the ability to access content information from whatever delivery platform they favor (or have with them in their pockets). The trend toward "pocket mobility" is here. Beyond merely being able to use some sort of handheld device to delve deeper into the story they are following in a museum, Millennials are likely to want to be able to add their own ideas and experience into the museum forum space in some way. This last desire relates to visitor-generated content, a somewhat controversial topic in museums today, which generates discussion of the institution's traditional role as expert and connoisseur—the "voice of authority."

In his article "Mastering Civic Engagement," Robert Archibald, director of the Missouri Historical Society, suggests that this new role "depends upon the creation of new and really collaborative relationships, where we do not presume to know what audiences need. In these new relationships we will regard ourselves as reservoirs of information and expertise and will relinquish our traditional authoritarian roles in favor of new responsibilities as both resources and facilitators of dialogue about things that matter most to people." Today's young visitors with smartphones touting 3G or 4G wireless internet service are very likely to go on the web to get answers for all kinds of questions they have. Given this technology, some museums have begun testing the use of QR codes in their galleries to provide additional information about their collections or to supplement interpretation in exhibits. According to a recent study at the Brooklyn Museum, the use of QR codes seems to have had little impact in increasing visitors' use of supplemental data over their previous systems to provide the same type of information through on-line links. Although the study was not conclusive, it is interesting to note that visitors with smartphones seemed as likely to go to Wikipedia for information about something in the museum they want more information about, as to access the link supplied by the museum itself. This may point to a greater acceptance by the young museum-going public to the authority of wiki-generated information and may tie into the trend of user-generated information being as valid in a museum setting as anywhere else. The trend toward seeking out user-generated information about almost anything, as opposed to going to some more authoritative source, may be an insurmountable trend. In fact, one system of QR codes being explored by The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, the *QRpedia* website, combines the efficiency of QR codes with the information already present in Wikipedia to provide more detailed content about an exhibit object in the visitor's own language. This new technology coupled with (especially) younger people's ways of using it, point to an expanded range of both "virtual" and participatory museum experiences.



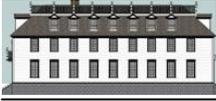
Is There Evidence That Virtual Museums Work?

Almost as soon as the internet gained widespread popularity, museums began thinking about creating on-line versions of their collections and exhibits. They also recognized the value of web sites for their ability to supplement advertising to the public and as a method of communicating with their members. Early attempts at “virtual museum” presentations generally provided condensed versions of information that had previously been generated for use in the physical museum; gradually, these evolved to include more complete versions of exhibits until nowadays web sites include new and unique information that cannot be found at the physical site. With the explosion of wireless technology, even more participatory sites can be imagined.

The Horizon Project, a research initiative of the New Media Consortium, identifies and describes emerging technologies likely to have a large impact over the coming five years in a variety of sectors worldwide. *NMC Horizon Report: 2011 Museum Edition* (Johnson, Adams, and Witchy, with a host of Advisory Board museum people from the U.S. and around the globe) identifies six emerging technologies expected to enter mainstream use within three adoption horizons over the next five years and studies their significance to museums. Each of these identified technologies corroborates information we have been receiving from the museum field itself. The report predicts three horizon timelines for the six emerging technologies anticipated to be in mainstream use between 2011 and 2016. They are listed here without adornment, but each is described more fully in the executive summary to the report (and the report supports each with several concrete examples already in use):

- Increasingly, visitors and staff expect a seamless experience across devices.
- Collection-related rich media are becoming increasingly valuable assets in digital interpretation.
- The abundance of resources and relationships made easily accessible via the Internet is increasingly challenging us to revisit our roles as educators.
- There is a growing chorus of voices advocating a more active role for visitors in shaping what museums do.
- Digitization and cataloging projects continue to require a significant share of museum resources.
- Expectations for civic and social engagement are profoundly changing museums' scope, reach, and relationships.

Purely “virtual” virtual museums, either freestanding or as an option of existing brick-and-mortar museums, are still a rare commodity. A recent report by Margee Hume and Michael Mills in the *International Journal of Non-profit and Voluntary Sector Marketing* (Aug., 2001), sheds some light on audience use and acceptance of some of these. The study was based on the experience of 12 museums of different types and sizes from around the world with some component of on-line content. The study is mainly geared toward assessing the value of on-



line marketing for museums, but it gives us some notion of the visitation to the “virtual museum” in relation to visitors to the actual museum. While most of the twelve museums in the case study had increased general attendance in 2010 over 2009, four with on-line enhancements that include virtual tours or virtual exhibits had mixed results.

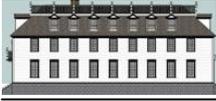
The National Museum of Australia reported an attendance increase of 15.73% between 2009 and 2010, with 771,000 visitors coming through its doors. To this they added 467,000 on-line visits. The Smithsonian Museum of Natural History recorded 9.25% more visitors than in the previous year (totaling 5,874,000), plus it counted another 12,000,000 visits to their web site. The Musee de Louvre reported a downturn of 1%, but still got about 5,727,000 visitors. They did not report how many people visited their on-line site. The last entry, The Museum of London, saw attendance drop by 15.33% over the previous year, but it received an additional 1,544,000 virtual visits. The authors of the case study point out that data from the museums is uneven, and that there is no way to be sure if visitors to a museum’s “virtual museum” web site were unique visits or repeat visits to the physical site. Still, these numbers confirm the existence of a large audience for a museum’s virtual offerings. Whether this on-line presence dampens attendance to the brick-and-mortar sites is difficult to determine from the report.

As futurists point out, the starting point of envisioning the future is the solid ground of what we know about the present. Each prediction based on what we know now potentially takes us further away from the direction the future might actually take, since we can’t know exactly what forces might influence the trajectory or course. The value, then, of looking ahead is to prepare for the probable future with what we know now.

What Should The New Museum Be To Satisfy The Needs And Expectations Of Its Community?

The museum of the near future needs to be relevant and vital to its community. To be relevant, it needs to have a better understanding of the needs, wants, and “style” of its constituents; to be vital; it needs to be a unique and responsive resource serving its constituents’ real needs. In summary, what it should be like is really quite different from the traditional museum model of the last century.

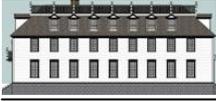
The model of the relevant and vital New Museum will be that of a globally-connected resource in service to a particular geographic community – local, regional, statewide or national. It will know and welcome a diverse group of audiences within its community, signaling that welcome both by the way it interprets its area of content to reflect the experience of its various audience groups and by the fact that its staff reflects those groups. It will be a museum in which the audience participates in the processes of the museum, up to and including a forum of ideas allowing audience members to choose what is important to



examine, discuss, and to comment on—thus contributing to the conversation. It will be a unique resource capable of providing authoritative information on specific areas of content to its audiences, which will include the education community and government, as well as those audiences seeking the “edutainment” value of the museum.

The New Museum will target families with children of all ages, knowing that the age of the children is a key determinant in the type of programming it needs to offer, and knowing that developing a habit of museum visitation as a child is key to lifelong involvement with museums. It will also create programming aimed at specific audience segments not currently taking advantage of the museum, knowing that creating a broad base of core museum users is a key to sustainability. The New Museum's programs will be accessible to audiences in multiple delivery platforms; all these platforms will offer audiences opportunities to engage and participate in the content and experience of the museum.

Looking outward, individual museums will assist the museum field in finding new ways of recruiting a more diverse body of students entering museum studies programs across the country; they will, whenever possible, create opportunities for graduates entering the field. The museum will also seek out diverse and involved trustees to serve as its governing body, to help ensure all segments of the community can be reached in the scope of the museum's operations.



D THE INTERPRETATION ASSESSMENT

Current Museum Education and Interpretation Trends

Over the past decade, the increasing frequency, diversity and depth of research into the current and potential audiences for museums and historical sites in the United States (Please refer to the section in this report on Trends in Museum Audiences) have sparked experimentation and changes in public offerings. Shifting trends and changing mandates within public and private education have also led museums to change their offerings for elementary through college-age students.

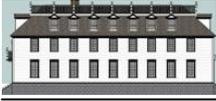
Although the museum education and interpretation community does not recommend specific programs or public offerings (such as, for example, tours, exhibits, museum theatre, or printed brochures) it does recommend various sets of current standards and best practices be used to inform the design and evaluation of those offerings. These standards and practices are collected from the International Council on Museums and Sites (ICOMOS) Ename Charter for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites, 2007 (Ename Charter, 2007), the National Association for Interpretation (NAI), Standards and Practices for Interpretation, 2009 (NAI Standards), American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), Steps Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations, 2008 (AASLH Steps, 2008), and the current Code of Ethics and Code of Ethics and Accreditation Standards used by the American Association of Museums (AAM) for review and accreditation of museums and sites in the United States (AAM Accreditation Standards, 2011).

In considering the various ways audiences might access information about and interact with the architectural fragments of New Hampshire's First State House, it is important for those designing interpretations to meet these best practice standards and trends. The following section includes some current trends selected from case studies in museum journals and books, on-line blogs, e-mail lists, websites and conference presentations.

(See Appendix E.1, Resource List of Museum Education and Interpretation References)

Becoming Audience- and Visitor-Centric

Several trends and approaches can be gleaned from professional trade blogs, on-line discussions, printed books and magazines. Historical institutions, sites, and museums are increasingly audience- and visitor-centric in their approach to interpretation. These institutions create program choices and offerings targeted to specific audience segments with distinct needs, interests, wants, learning styles, and characteristics.



“Learning styles” is a term used by educators to describe the different ways people learn new information and skills or make sense of the world around them. These cognitive, neurological, and social functions may change over a person’s lifetime or they may remain constant throughout their lives. Teachers and museum educators learn the theories of Piaget, Vygotsky, Howard Gardner, and others that describe these styles. Knowing how people learn helps museum educators and interpreters design programs and experiences that satisfy many people of diverse ages, styles, and backgrounds.

In short, museums and historic or cultural sites are making conscious efforts to discover as much as they can about current and potential audiences. They match mission-related (or goal-defined) programs and offerings to the audiences.

Offering Experience Choices

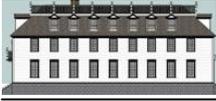
Many museums and sites are offering choices for how audiences and visitors experience the site and its resources. Increasingly, visitors to virtual and physical sites want to choose what they will experience and in what order they will experience it. They also wish to choose how to engage with the information and offerings. This means menus of options are expected and sought after. It also means a wider and deeper well of content from diverse perspectives must be provided by the institution.

Providing Interactive Experiences as the Norm

Interactive experiences, whether hands-on or minds-on, are the new normal. In arenas as diverse as advertising, dining, and entertainment, customers expect to be offered something interesting or creative. To meet this demand, today’s museums and sites often employ digital or electronic elements. Sometimes the museums and sites invite kinetic interaction or spark further thought and reflection. The most successful facilitate the participants making meaningful connections and encourage further interest in the topics and stories. They enable the “data literacy” that some educators are promoting.

Offering Digital Experiences

Increasingly, schools, universities, and museums offer digital experiences. Visitors and audiences expect well-designed, functional, helpful and interesting websites, blogs, and other electronic social media that are fresh and up-to-date. Audiences are searching for basic information on the organization or museum, programs, services, location, ticketing, and links to related information. Facebook, Twitter, smartphone applications, updated interactive content, games, videos, podcasts, and other changing media platforms are used and enjoyed by an increasing number of audiences. New portable media are quickly evolving with tablets and other devices, many which use Wi-Fi or cellular phone service for portability of data access.



Making It Relevant

Offerings need to make relevant and meaningful connections with current life for every museumgoer, from the young child to the most experienced and sophisticated visitor. Historical interpretation (making meaning from historic objects, stories and places) in museums and historical organizations must address the topics and concerns in the hearts and on the minds of the many different audience segments. Current examples might include topics investigating the nature of corporate, business, and work life or immigration and the path to citizenship. Ongoing national conversations in coffee shops and courtrooms question how society provides meaningful work that can support individuals and families with a living wage and whether corporations should have the same “rights” as individual citizens and the same responsibilities to support the good of all in a democracy.

Other examples of universal concern include health care and public care for the less fortunate, the role of government in the twenty-first century, how we, as a society, promote values of civility and respect, how we promote and legally enforce ethics that address the needs of many rather than the few, and how we function in a global society of closely linked trade and economic conditions. Historical interpretation should not shy away from these topics.

Telling Stories

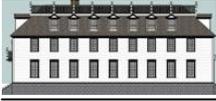
Audiences crave stories, and the sharing of historical and current narrative is a basic function of museums and historical organizations. People are engaged by stories and narratives that reflect common human experiences and emotions. Live and recorded storytelling programs (e.g. *StoryCorps*), biographies, oral histories, and other narrative offerings bring topics and events alive in museum galleries and as part of web-based experiences.

Providing Universal Access

A basic assumption of museums and historical organizations today is that they accommodate universal access (Americans with Disability Act) needs. Ambulation, hearing, seeing, sensing, understanding, and many other access modes must be accommodated for good hospitality, successful interaction, satisfied audiences and, in many cases, compliance with federal, state, or municipal requirements. The use of digital media has provided many creative ways to accomplish this.

Collaborating and Partnering

Collaborations and partnerships in presentations, programs and operations are increasingly common. Regional and local organizations that complement each other in programming and content are sharing marketing, ticketing, administrative, or interpretive functions. They often showcase each other's exhibits and programs in ways that enhance visitor and audience experiences at one or more physical venues as well as on a variety of digital venues. (The January/February 2012 edition of *Museum* magazine from the American Association of



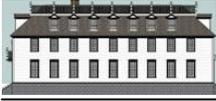
Museums contains a good article by William B. Crow and Herminia Wei-Hsin Din on the nature of such endeavors.)

Accommodating Multi-lingual Audiences

Many museums and historical organizations serve new and more diverse audiences by accommodating multilingual needs. Spanish is becoming spoken by more and more people in the United States. Many cities are ports of entry for immigrants. These audiences will need some assistance in their own language for using and engaging with historic sites and interpretive offerings, live or virtual.

Practicing Hospitality

And, finally, this short list of trends would not be complete without observing that museums, historic sites, and historical organizations are thinking creatively, with an entrepreneurial spirit as they practice generous hospitality. Whether visitors choose a physical or a virtual digital experience, museums work hard to make the visit easy, welcoming, and comfortable. Museum staff plan and design for many different learning styles, interests, and needs across many generations. They are aware of state and federal learning standards and core curricula. They change their programming to accommodate changing social needs and conditions.



The Interpretation Framework

This Interpretation Framework is, as its name suggests, the skeletal structure of an interpretive plan. It creates a hierarchal outline for developing a plan and the specific programs to be delivered to the public. In this instance, it serves as the common content underpinning for the development of multiple scenarios for the interpretation of New Hampshire's First State House.

Mission, Goals & Vision

NHDHR Mission

Helping individuals, communities, businesses, organizations and agencies preserve and enhance New Hampshire's historic and cultural heritage.

Department of Cultural Resources Mission

The Department strives to nurture the cultural well-being of our state. From the covered bridges and traditional music of our past to the avant garde performances and technological resources of today and tomorrow, New Hampshire's culture is as varied as its geography and its people. This strong cultural base—which truly has something for everyone—attracts businesses looking for engaged workforces, provides outstanding educational opportunities and creates communities worth living in.

General Interpretation Mission

The interpretive offerings related to New Hampshire's First State House will support and complement the mission and goals of the Department of Cultural Resources and its Division of Historical Resources, while engaging diverse audiences in stories, concepts and meaningful present-day connections related to the remaining physical elements of the First State House. The offerings will be provided in ways that current audiences enjoy and find easy to access. They will provoke thought, memory, curiosity, and pride in New Hampshire's heritage. They will support the growth of the audiences as informed and active citizens.

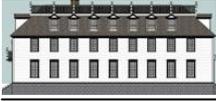
Interpretation Objectives

Organizational Objective

- To properly preserve, present and make New Hampshire's First State House relevant and accessible to New Hampshire's citizens and visitors.

Visitor Outcome Objective

- For New Hampshire's citizens and visitor to value and appreciate the cultural resource that is New Hampshire's First State House and to be informed and inspired by its messages.



Interpretive Significance

New Hampshire's First State House is historically significant because:

- It is the remains of the 18th century building that served as the royal capital of New Hampshire from the 1760s until the American Revolution.
- It is a symbol of the change from colonial government to a new form of self-government and the creation of the United States of America and the State of New Hampshire.
- It is an object which connects the people of New Hampshire to the past while providing opportunities for them to relate that past with their present condition.
- New Hampshire's First State House is significant as a representation of the time when Portsmouth was the center of commerce, coastal trade, industry, government, society and culture for the English colony of New Hampshire. It was a place of colonial identity, wealth, influence and elegance.

Main Message

The main message or "Big Idea" of an historic resource interpretation is intended to define a clear and distinct message that all visitors to the site will leave understanding – the one specific thing they will learn as result of participating in your programs.

The Common Main Message of New Hampshire's First State House

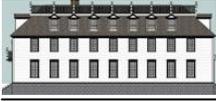
- The First State House celebrates the origins of New Hampshire, its political traditions, its citizens, and its cultural heritage.

Stories & Topics

The Key Stories of New Hampshire's First State House

The following is a list of the stories that are the foundation of the interpretation framework. The existing and continually expanding knowledge base in these historical arenas, gathered from research in primary documents, material culture objects, architecture, etc., is the pool from which specific and directed story content is drawn for presenting the Main Message, Topics, and Themes for New Hampshire's First State House.

- New Hampshire's First State House housed the functions of the royal colonial government when Portsmouth served as the center of the New Hampshire colony.
- The First State House continued to serve the Portsmouth community during and in the years following the American Revolution, even as the capital center moved to Exeter and eventually Concord.
- From State House to boarding house, the structure that stood in Portsmouth was repurposed, remodeled and used in many different ways over its functional life.



- The history of the study and preservation of elements of New Hampshire's First State House reflects changes in the philosophy and methods of historic preservation in the United States.

List of Topics for Interpretation

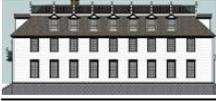
Interpretive topics are one-word or short-phrase subjects on which programs, workshops, tours, exhibits or other visitor offerings might focus. Topics are often broad in scope and sometimes add context (as in the case of secondary/supporting topics) to more focused thematic viewpoints. Topics are generally not emphasized as strongly or in as great a depth as interpretive themes or thematic statements. "Architecture," "Economics," and "Colonial Government" are all examples of topics.

Primary/Core Topics

- Colonial Architecture
- Colonial Governmental Structure & Process
 - Executive
 - Legislative
 - Judicial
- The American Revolution in New Hampshire
- Self-Government in New Hampshire
- Citizenship
- Preservation – Architecture/ Architectural Fragments

Secondary/Supporting Topics

- Colonial Economics
- Colonial Social/Class Structure
- Seacoast Merchants
- Land-Grants (land distribution)



Interpretive Theme Concepts

Interpretive themes are full sentence statements that state concepts about the topics, storylines, and messages of a historic resource. Interpretation and interpretive programs help audiences and visitors discover meaning, relevance, and understanding of a resource. Interpretation enhances how visitors and audiences find value in the resource and find connections between it and their own lives.

Themes or thematic statements take a position, express a viewpoint, or establish a thesis about a resource or concept. They answer questions of “so what?” “who cares?” and “what difference does this resource or idea make?” Interpretive themes linked to storylines provide multiple ways for visitors to connect with historic sites or objects.

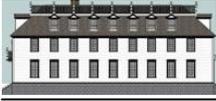
The following are theme concepts for New Hampshire's First State House. They do not present fully developed themes but help to begin to focus on understanding the broad value of the resource.

Law & Justice

- A hallmark of a civil society is the establishment of laws and the enforcement of laws that govern in a just manner for public safety and well-being. New Hampshire's First State House housed the judicial and legislative functions for such a government that evolved into the democratic system of the United States.
- The representation of engaged citizens in the formation and practice of common law and legislation is a long and highly valued tradition in the United States. The construction, use, and eventually change in use of New Hampshire's First State House provides a backdrop for this story in the colony and state of New Hampshire.

Self-Government and Citizenship

- From Royal Colonial Council and Assembly to the current State Legislature and Town Meetings, the citizens of New Hampshire have taken strong and active roles in the government of their home state. New Hampshire's First State House was the first dedicated structure for this dialogue and participatory government.
- The government of New Hampshire has a unique organization among states with a structure that continues the pattern of its royal colonial government in a manner that promotes active citizenship and democratic representation. What began as a Royal Council and Assembly in Portsmouth, and was practiced in the First State House, was modified to accommodate a democratic system with little structural change. Such a structure serves American citizens as a living link to the formation of our democratic nation.



Historic Preservation – The Life of a Building

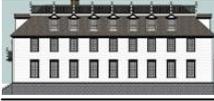
- The story of the historic structure of New Hampshire's First State House illustrates many approaches to historic preservation and the care of cultural properties for the citizens of the state.
- The structure that was New Hampshire's First State House changed in appearance and use throughout its history. These changes illustrate the practice of creative reuse and repurposing of buildings to serve changing community needs.
- The fragments of New Hampshire's First State House provide a unique insight into the architectural design and construction of an eighteenth century public building in Portsmouth.

Being New Hampshire

- From the first years as a royal colony and throughout statehood, the people of New Hampshire have worked to create a place of security, comfort and prosperity through hard work and active civil involvement. New Hampshire's First State House symbolizes those values.
- The place and character of New Hampshire is built upon strong identities of regional community and self-determination as a state. During its early years, New Hampshire's First State House was the setting for seminal judicial, legislative and political actions that helped to shape this identity.
- The establishment of town, state and personal property boundaries was foundational activity in the American colonies. The First State House of New Hampshire was a location where land grants were established and ownership lines were determined.

Life in New Hampshire's Royal Capital

- The political, economic, and social changes of 18th century Portsmouth echoes stories of colonial New England. With the First State House at the center, land acquisition, establishment of profitable trade, self-determination in government and generation of wealth and influence were hallmarks of those times that continue today.
- Located at a busy port in the Piscataqua region near abundant trade resources of timber, naval stores, and agricultural products, Portsmouth was the center of eighteenth century life and culture in colonial New Hampshire. The First State House commanded a primary location and influence on the market green and parade ground in the heart of Portsmouth. Seacoast merchants, artisans and land owners alike were drawn to this seat of commerce and government.



Interpretation Methodology & Techniques

Utilization Options / Broad Interpretation Methods

The following is a list of several of the potential utilizations/broad methodologies for the interpretation of New Hampshire's First State House. For each there is a brief explanation of why they were or were not selected as one of the scenarios that is developed in this assessment, based on their interpretive viability and value, and the comments provided by the public survey and on input from stakeholders.

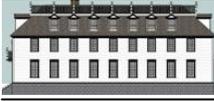
In each instance it is important to remember that the existing cultural resource is approximately one-third of the structural frame of the First State House. Any form of reconstruction will require the complete re-creation of all of the visible exterior and interior elements of the building portion to be reconstructed (siding, roofing, windows and doors, decorative trim, plaster and other wall finishes, etc.). Full reconstructions would also require the structural framing to be newly constructed for two-thirds of the building. Partial reconstruction options are based on only that portion of the building for which the frame exists being re-created.

Reconstructed Historic Building – All interior spaces historically re-created and interpreted as 18th century spaces

This “living history” option requires the greatest level of conjecture in re-creating historical interiors. Because there is little understanding or direct documentation of how the first floor of the building was used, interpreting it as an historic space would offer minimal historical meaning or value to the public. Mandated handicapped access elements would also negate the premise of a total reconstruction. Stakeholders were divided between some who felt that there would still be interest in the full reconstruction even if partly based on conjecture and those who felt that a historically-accurate use of the resource was the better option. No scenario has been developed for this option.

Reconstructed Historic Building – Some interior spaces historically re-created, some spaces used for modern exhibits and visitor services support

Although this option would still have a high degree of conjecture, by historically re-creating only the upper floor interiors and making the lower floor available for modern interpretation elements, it allows for a wider range of interpretation techniques to be applied to the building. This would expand the opportunities to tell compelling stories about the State House and the overall historical context of the colony and its times, and to clearly define the nature of the reconstruction to the public. It also allows for the historic building to operate as a completely functioning “stand-alone” museum/historic site. Based on the comments at the public input meeting of November 14, 2011, this type of multi-functioned reconstruction seems



to be the one most favored by those proposing a reconstruction of the full structure. A scenario for this option is included.

Reconstructed Historic Site as an Adaptive Reuse Structure – Interior spaces house government or community services, or are rented to commercial or retail businesses

This option would achieve the basic goal of reconstructing the State House as desired by many, but would provide much less opportunity for any meaningful interpretation of the historical significance of the building. The actual historic resource would be “in storage” in a different mode and thus essentially be invisible to the public. Although the public has expressed some interest in this option, it provides minimum opportunities to interpret the history of the building to the public. Because this assessment is primarily focused on the historical interpretation of New Hampshire's First State House, no scenario has been developed for this option.

Partially Reconstructed Historic Structure (attached to another building) – All interior spaces historically re-created

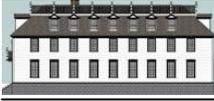
As with the full reconstruction of the same type, this option has difficult interpretation challenges, primarily concerned with how the first floor is visually presented and how are visitors greeted and served. This option depends a great deal on an undefined, attached building to provide many of its basic services, such as restrooms and handicap access. No scenario has been developed for this option.

Partially Reconstructed Historic Structure (attached to another building) – Some interior spaces historically re-created, some spaces used for modern exhibits and visitor services support

As with the full reconstruction of the same type, this option expands the opportunity to provide additional useful interpretation techniques to enhance the range and appeal of the interpretation. It may also reduce the need for dependency on the attached building to some degree. A scenario for this option is included.

Exhibition of Re-erected Original Frame in an Existing Structure

This option provides the opportunity to display the actual historic object in its most honest and authentic mode—the real, surviving portion of the 18th century frame of the First State House—with no conjectural additions. It allows for a range of topics and themes to be presented with a variety of interpretation techniques, which has the potential to reach a wide set of audiences with different interests and learning styles. Seven respondents to the on-line survey favored this use of the resource. A scenario for this option is included.



Exhibition of Re-erected Original Frame in a New Museum

This option is essentially the same as the previous one, except that it assumes the need to build a completely new museum in order to house the exhibition of the resource. Although this option could provide for even greater interpretation opportunities encompassing the identified First State House topics and themes, the capital cost directed at something other than the actual resource would be exceedingly high. No scenario has been developed for this option.

Restoration of the 1830's Boarding House as an Historic Site

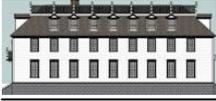
This option is potentially a more appropriate and honest action from a strict historic preservation standpoint, since there is far more documentation for the structure that represents the second life of the State House. Interpretively however, this option does not provide the best opportunity to recognize the overwhelmingly more significant history of this building as the First State House. No scenario has been developed for this option.

Rehabilitation of the 1830's Boarding House as an Adaptive Reuse Structure

Like the above option, this may be an acceptable preservation action, but it has the potential to require the altering (and potential destruction) of the original resource to meet the needs of a new use. And perhaps even more importantly, it does not take full advantage of the real interpretive significance of the resource. No scenario has been developed for this option.

A Virtual Museum - An educational platform presenting a digital collection that is developed primarily for off-site programming.

This option preserves the original fabric for research and study purposes while promoting a wide range of interpretation options that are respectful of the resource and its interpretive significance. A virtual museum has the capability of focusing an interpretation mission and presenting content rich themes to distinct target audiences. It utilizes a delivery medium that is increasingly familiar and engaging to modern audiences. Seven respondents to the on-line survey showed interest in this type of use of the resource, and the stakeholders in the September, 2011 on-line/phone input session expressed interest in this type of use. Two distinct scenarios employing this method are developed in this assessment.



Presentation Techniques Options

The following is a list of common Interpretation techniques that may be applied to any of the interpretation scenarios developed in this assessment. The list represents techniques that can be used alone or can be combined to create an interpretation (e.g. a third person, costumed presenter providing a guided tour of a furnished period room). Multiple techniques can be applied in different locations or at different delivery times for a more complex interpretation program.

A discrete set of techniques has been suggested for each interpretation scenario developed in the assessment.

Furnished historic Interiors (period rooms)

- Open-access with interpretive labels
- Live interpretation (stationed or tour-based)

Live interpreter Presentations

- First-person interpretations (costumed, historical character role-playing)
- Third-person interpretation
 - Costumed interpreters
 - Non-costumed interpreters

Guided Tours

- General audience “scripted” tour
- Specialty “scripted” tours

Interpretive Exhibits

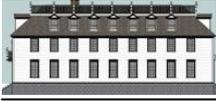
- Interpretive panels and labels
- Cased artifact displays
- Scale models and artists’ illustrations
- Period vignettes/Period room
- Interactive and hands-on displays
- Ambient sound
- Audiovisual (multi-media) presentations

Educational Workshops

- Structured workshops for small education groups (K-12)
- Non-school-based workshops

Special Public Programming

- Lectures, slide presentations
- Films



- Musical performances, dances
- Meals
- Theatrical performances

Program Delivery Mode Options

The following list of Program Delivery Modes defines the interpretation program in relation to presentation location, time, audience segments, etc. For each interpretation program defined in the scenarios one or many of these modes may be applied.

On-Site Programs

General Visitation

- Open Visitation/"The Daily Program" (public open hours – drop-in)

Scheduled Group Visits

(public "open hours" or non-"open hours")

- Adult/Higher Ed, K-12 Student Groups or Youth Groups
 - General access
 - Specialty tours
 - Special programs/workshops

Special Public Programs

(public "open hours" or non-"open hours")

- General audience programs
- Targeted audience programs
- Reservation-only programs
- Member-only programs

Special Events

(public "open hours" often occurring over multiple days)

- Major themed events

Private/Invitation Events

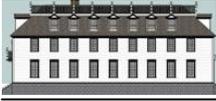
(non-"open hours")

- Member events/parties
- Private use rental

Off-Site Programs

Physical Outreach Programs

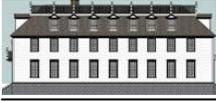
- Travelling exhibitions
- Off-site lectures and presentations to specialty target groups



- Classroom programs

Electronic Outreach

- General website access
- Podcasts
- K-12 curriculum materials (web-based, CD-based)
- Distance learning programs



Interpretation Scenarios: Applying Stories, Themes & Presentation Techniques to Utilization Options

The New Hampshire First State House Historic Site

In this scenario the existing historical resource would be incorporated into a full reconstruction of the New Hampshire First State House as it may have appeared in 1769 when the second phase of its construction was completed. The reconstruction would be based on the existing historical and architectural research, and consider all other guidelines recommended by the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for Reconstruction of Historic Buildings*, as possible.

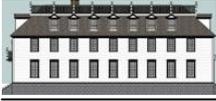
The resulting building would be interpreted as an “historic site” museum, with the historically significant areas of the building fully presented as period room settings, depicting the original eighteenth century furnishings and usages. These areas would create the core of the “period experience” component of the interpretation. Visitors to these areas would encounter the court room, Council Chamber or House of Representatives’ room as they are presumed to have appeared in the 1770s.

A large portion of the first floor of the re-created building interior, where original uses are not as well defined, would be used to support “non-period setting” interpretation uses such as an orientation film or an educational workshop classroom and administrative and program support/visitor services functions. The third floor “garret” rooms could be also be utilized as offices or support spaces. The resulting reconstructed structure would be a self-contained museum operation housing all the required elements for interpreting, administering, and maintaining the facility.

The following outline defines the details of the interpretation scenario:

Venue/Utilization

- Total reconstruction of the original First State House as an Historic Site Museum
 - Re-creating the documented design of exterior features
 - A portion of interior spaces recreated with historic features (i.e. 2nd floor assembly rooms)
 - A portion of the interior spaces re-created with non-historic features to be used for museum administration/program support
- Re-use of all extant 18th century historic material—conserving, restoring and incorporating the frame portion of the First State House that presently exists in storage



Topics

Primary/Core Topics

- Colonial Governmental Structure & Process
- The American Revolution in New Hampshire
- Self-Government in New Hampshire
- Preservation – Architecture/Architectural Fragments

Secondary/Supporting Topics

- Colonial Economics
- Colonial Social/Class Structure
- Seacoast Merchants
- Land-Grants (land distribution)

Themes

- Law & Justice
- Life in New Hampshire's Royal Capital
- Self Government and Citizenship
- Historic Preservation – The Life of a Building

Interpretation Method

- Historic Site Museum with period and non-period interpretation settings

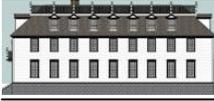
Interpretation Techniques

- Furnished period rooms (reproductions)
- Live presentation via costumed 3rd person interpretation
- Guided tours (school groups & low visitation periods)
- Stationed interpretation (high visitation periods & special programs)
- Interpretive exhibits
- Audio-Visual presentations
- Printed guide materials
- Educational workshops
- Curricular support materials (on-line)
- Historical theater
- Special workshops/seminars/colloquiums

Program Delivery Types

On-Site Programs

- The daily program
- Scheduled K-12 educational programs



- Special programs & workshops
- Special events
- Rental/Catering events

Off-site/Outreach Programs

- General on-line access via website, social networking, etc.
- Web-based educational materials (Curricular support materials)

Program Examples

- **Mock Colonial Government Program** (ala *Boys/Girls State*). A participatory program where high school students assume the roles of Governor, Council, Assembly and Justices, and explore the operation of the colonial government on the eve of the American Revolution.
- **Colonial “People’s Court” Theater Program** A theatrical program that present real scenarios from historic court cases, with or without visitor engagement. These might explore issues of land ownership, taxes and/or criminal court cases.

Venue Location

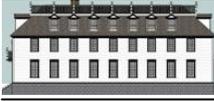
- Portsmouth

Target Audiences

- Resident audience
- Primary & middle school educational audience
- Travel audience

Potential Partners and/or Funding

- Private Foundations
- American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary (sponsors of Girl’s State and Boy’s State)
- NH Chapters and US organization of Daughters of American Revolution or Colonial Dames
- The New Hampshire Bar Association – “We the People” program
- The New Hampshire Bar Foundation
- New Hampshire Supreme Court Society
- New Hampshire Institute of Politics /Law Library
- University of New Hampshire School of Law
- Carsey Institute at University of New Hampshire
- New Hampshire Law Library
- General Court and State of New Hampshire



Cost Estimates (rounded to the nearest 100. See Figure 5 - Cost Estimates, for details)

Estimating Assumptions

These estimates are based on the following assumptions:

- The cost of a site for the reconstruction is not included
- The cost of preliminary site development prior to construction is not included
- Reconstructions of this nature are considered new construction, and will need to meet all code requirements that would be applicable to any new construction project
- An elevator will be required to provide for handicap access to all floors

Capital Development Cost

- Basic construction 1,433,000
- Architectural & Professional Services 273,000
- Conservation & reassembly of historic fabric..... 432,000
- Specialty historic interior trim and finishes86,700
- Modern loose furnishings & equipment 10,300

Interpretation Start-Up Cost

- Reproduction 18th c. furnishings 49,000
- Exhibit design and construction 151,500
- Interpretation program planning and training 50,000

Total Cost Estimate (rounded to nearest 10,000) **\$2.59 m**

Ongoing Operations Resources Requirements

Staffing

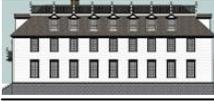
- Administrative & support 1.5 FTE
- Visitor Service 1.5 FTE
- Program & support 2.5 FTE
- Operation/Maintenance 2.5 FTE

Interpretation Support

- Program supplies
- Interpreter training

Other Operational

- Energy/Utilities
- Routine maintenance & repairs



Interpretation Scenario Pros & Cons

PROS

- Conserves and preserves the surviving original elements of the State House
- Provides an experiential context for learning about the functions of the seat of colonial government
- Provides a variety of interpretive techniques to tell the story of the First State House—meeting multiple visitor learning styles

CONS

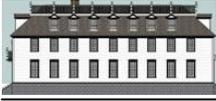
- High capital development costs
- Potentially high ongoing operational costs
- Overlap with existing historic sites interpreting the colonial history of New Hampshire in the region
- Conjectural nature of reconstruction may undermine credibility of the interpretation

Analysis and Recommendations

For many years, Portsmouth residents interested in historic preservation and history have desired and sought some sort of reconstruction of the First State House. Responses from the November 2011 stakeholder/public input meetings and the October-November on-line survey also indicate strong continuing interest in a fully reconstructed First State House. The majority of on-line survey respondents (19), indicate support for reconstructing, rebuilding, or replicating the building (15 additional responses suggested other non-reproduction uses). The interpretive scenario for a full reconstruction of the First State House appears to address preservation concerns for the architectural fragments of the original State House and the interests of many stakeholders.

However, there are significant drawbacks to such a scenario. Based on the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for Reconstruction of Historic Buildings*, reconstruction of this building is not recommended: the structure would not be erected on the original site; there is little or no (below ground) archaeological evidence available for a complete documentation of the historic structure; and although documentary historical and architectural evidence exists to inform the reconstruction, there is no visual or graphic historical evidence to support detailed re-creation of exterior or interior arrangements, fittings, or finishes. To fully re-create such elements would require “borrowing” from regional style precedents and other historic sites of the era. This practice is explicitly not recommended by the *Standards*.

The exterior and interior appearance of such a reconstructed structure would be highly conjectural. This undermines the professional interpretation standards that require substantial historic research on which to base accurate and informative public interpretation and



programs. AASLH *StEPs Standards and Best Practices, 2009* states: “HSL Standard 3: The institution’s research of its historic structures and landscapes is conducted according to appropriate scholarly standards” and “INT Standard 4: The institution’s interpretive content is based on appropriate research.”

In addition, visitors who seek authenticity in historic houses, sites, and museums may well be confused or disappointed. As many historic house and open-air museum interpreters anecdotally report, visitors are commonly confused about what is a “real” building (original structure on its original site) and what is a reconstructed building or a totally new re-creation. Historic house visitors want to see, walk into, and experience “real” places where “real” historical events took place. In order to present the most accurate information about authentic historic structures and sites, as recommended by the International Council on Monuments and Sites Ename Charter of 2007, it is important to be very clear with visitors about the nature of the structure they are visiting.

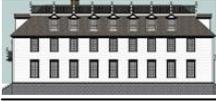
ENAME CHARTER 4. Respect the authenticity of cultural heritage sites, by communicating the significance of their historic fabric and cultural values and protecting them from the adverse impact of intrusive interpretive infrastructure, visitor pressure, inaccurate or inappropriate interpretation.

ENAME CHARTER 2.2. Interpretation should be based on a well researched, multidisciplinary study of the site and its surroundings. It should also acknowledge that meaningful interpretation necessarily includes reflection on alternative historical hypotheses, local traditions, and stories.

A reconstruction scenario such as this one for the First State House makes it difficult to achieve such clarity and authenticity. As a result, appropriately accurate interpretive programs would be more difficult to create.

Admittedly, the use of period rooms and interpretive role-playing by performers or audience members appeals to those who enjoy kinetic learning and who tend to empathize with historic people and stories. The addition of printed labels in exhibits would satisfy those with linguistic learning preferences. Other interpretive techniques could additionally enhance the standard historic house tour, and a reconstructed First State House would be a location where the public could learn about the history of colonial New Hampshire and the building’s role as the seat of royal government. However, many of the themes and stories of Portsmouth’s colonial and revolutionary history and architecture are already presented by tours and exhibits in Portsmouth’s many original historic houses on their original sites.

Indeed, there are several well-preserved sites and contemporary cultural centers in Concord and within a 50 mile radius of Portsmouth. The Moffat-Ladd House, Warner House, Wentworth-Gardner House, and Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion, for instance, share stories of life in a royal colony, architectural styles, changing forms of governance and law, colonial and



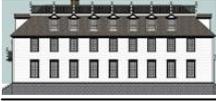
revolutionary Portsmouth, colonial economics, and the emergence of American politics. These locations offer similar historic house visitor experiences of tours and exhibits. Given current concerns for low visitation and sustained support for historic houses, a newly reconstructed First State House, lacking in authentic furnishings and antiques, would be just another competitor among the local historic houses and history museums. It must also be noted that travel visitors interested in seeing a colonial State House would have the option of visiting the original extant 1716/1746 Massachusetts Old State House, which served as the seat of government for New Hampshire until New Hampshire's separation from the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1741.

Successful collaborations and partnerships among Portsmouth's cultural organizations might benefit the Portsmouth sites and a new reconstructed First State House. However, such collaborations demand a continued and ongoing commitment of staff, time, and funds; given the nature of the sites and their competition for visitors, maintaining this commitment could be challenging. As is noted in the Visitor Trend section of this report, the base pool for visitors to history museums is already the lowest among all museums, so more of the same is unlikely to be better. The "sameness" of tours in historic houses can also tire visitors, especially those seeking a choice of different experiences in museums and historic sites. A reconstructed First State House might simply present new competition for the more authentic, well-furnished period houses already struggling for visitation and sustainability.

Over the past decade, many professional museum meetings and publications have discussed ways for historic houses and sites to survive the continued waning of attendance and appeal of historic houses, historic sites, and history museums. Some entrepreneurial options move the site into public programs that do not rely upon in-person tours and visits. James Vaughan of the National Trust for Historic Preservation has stated that many history museums and sites "are struggling to survive, facing declining attendance, deficit budgets, a staggering backlog of deferred maintenance, erosion of endowment, and inadequate funds for collections care and conservation" (Turino, *History News*, Volume 64 #2, 2009, 12.)

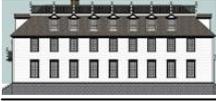
Given this, what is most questionable in this scenario is the ability for the public (whether based on private, public, corporate, or foundation funding) to not only support the capital development costs, but more importantly, the ongoing operational costs of a complex interpretation in a building of 7200 square feet. With the reconstruction itself likely to be deemed non-conforming to the *Secretary of Interior Standard for Reconstruction of Historic Buildings*, opportunities for federal funding in support of the interpretation/program planning, design and development (such as from the National Endowment for the Humanities[NEH]) will be placed in jeopardy as well.

Since an interpretation/operations scenario like this depends upon earned income associated with visits by the public (admissions, program fees, gift sales, etc.) to meet as much as 35% - 40% of its operations budget income, there will need to be a sizable visitation base



(50,000+) willing to pay more than a nominal admission fee in order to support such an operation. At present the premier historical attraction in the region, Strawberry Banke, is posting visitation numbers in the neighborhood of 65,000.

This is not a recommended scenario for interpretation of New Hampshire's First State House.



The New Hampshire First State House Partial Reconstruction

This scenario has a similar approach to interpretation as the full reconstruction scenario, but on a much smaller scale. It would reconstruct only one-third of the State House—representing that portion of the structure for which the original frame survives—as an addition or attachment to another structure.

The resulting building would be interpreted as an “historic site” museum, with the historically significant second floor of the building presented as a period room setting, depicting the original eighteenth-century furnishings and usages. This area would create the “period experience” component of the interpretation. Visitors to this floor would encounter the Council Chamber as it is presumed to have appeared in the 1770s.

The first floor of the re-created building interior would be used to support “non-period setting” interpretation uses such as an orientation exhibit and visitor services functions. Other administrative and support function might be housed in the third-story/garret area.

Unlike the situation in a full reconstruction scenario, in this scenario it may not be possible to provide all of the interpretation spaces, access and traffic flow (particularly a means of handicap access to the second floor) or the support services spaces needed to operate the museum (the first floor area would be roughly only 900 sq. ft.). In that case some use of the adjoining building might also be needed.

The following outline defines the details of the interpretation scenario:

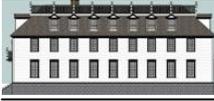
Venue/Utilization

- Partial reconstruction of the original First State House as an Historic Site Museum
 - Re-creation of the documented design of exterior features for the eastern 1/3 of the State House
 - A portion of interior spaces recreated with historic features, i.e. 2nd floor Council Chambers room
 - A portion of the interior spaces re-created with non-historic features to be used for visitor services/program support on the first floor
- Re-use of all extant 18th c. historic material—conserving, restoring and incorporating the frame portion of the First State House that presently exists in storage

Topics

Primary/Core Topics

- Colonial Governmental Structure & Process
- The American Revolution in New Hampshire
- Preservation – Architecture/Architectural Fragments



Secondary/Supporting Topics

- Colonial Economics
- Colonial Social/Class Structure
- Seacoast Merchants
- Land-Grants (land distribution)

Themes

- Law & Justice
- Life in New Hampshire's Royal Capital
- Historic Preservation – The Life of a Building

Interpretation Method

- Historic Site Museum with period and non-period interpretation settings

Interpretation Techniques

- Furnished period rooms (reproductions)
- Live presentation via costumed 3rd person interpretation
- Guided tours (school groups & low visitation periods)
- Stationed interpretation (high visitation periods & special programs)
- Interpretive exhibits
- Printed guide materials
- Educational workshops
- Curricular support materials (on-line)
- Historical theater
- Special workshops/seminars/colloquiums

Program Delivery Types

On-Site Programs

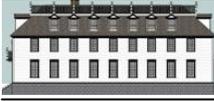
- The daily program
- Scheduled K-12 educational programs
- Special programs & workshops
- Rental/Catering events

Off-site/Outreach Programs

- General on-line access via website, social networking, etc.
- Web-based educational materials (Curricular support materials)

Program Examples

- **Mock Colonial Assembly Program** (ala *Boys/Girls State*) A participatory program where high school student assume the roles of Governor and Assembly members, to explore the operation of the colonial government on the eve of the American Revolution.



Venue Location

- Portsmouth area

Target Audiences

- State-wide resident audience
- K-12 educational audience
- Travel audience

Potential Partners and/or Funding

- Private Foundations
- The New Hampshire Bar Association – “We the People” program
- The New Hampshire Bar Foundation
- New Hampshire Supreme Court Society
- New Hampshire Political Library
- University of New Hampshire School of Law
- Carsey Institute at University of New Hampshire
- New Hampshire Institute of Politics /Law Library
- American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary (sponsors of Girls State and Boys State)
- NH Chapters and US organization of Daughters of American Revolution or Colonial Dames
- General Court and State of New Hampshire

Cost Estimates (rounded to the nearest 100. See Figure 5 - Cost Estimates, for details)

Estimating Assumptions

These estimates are based on the following assumptions:

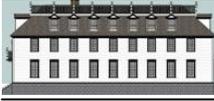
- The cost of a site adjacent to an existing building for the reconstruction is not included
- The cost of preliminary site development prior to construction is not included
- Reconstructions of this nature are considered new construction, and will need to meet all code requirements that would be applicable to any new construction project
- An elevator will be required to provide for handicap access to all floors

Capital Development Cost

- Basic construction..... 722,000
- Architectural & Professional Services 230,800
- Conservation & reassembly of historic fabric..... 432,000
- Specialty historic interior trim and finishes 28,900
- Modern loose furnishings & equipment 6,900

Interpretation Start-Up Cost

- Reproduction 18th c. furnishings 16,300



- Exhibit design and construction63,100
- Interpretation program planning and training42,000

Total Cost Estimate (rounded to nearest 10,000) **\$1.54 m**

Ongoing Operations Resources Requirements

Staffing

- Administrative & support - 1.5 FTE
- Program & support - 1.5 FTE
- Operation/Maintenance - .5 FTE

Interpretation Support

- Program supplies

Other Operational

- Energy/Utilities
- Routine maintenance & repairs

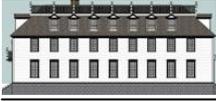
Interpretation Scenario Pros & Cons

PROS

- Conserves and preserves the surviving original elements of the State House
- Provides an experiential context for learning about the functions of the seat of colonial government
- Provides some variety in interpretive techniques to tell the story of the First State House—meeting multiple visitor learning styles
- Fewer conjectural elements incorporated into the reconstruction

CONS

- Potential for a confusing interpretation as a remnant of an “historic” building tacked on to another
- Less space to orient visitors, explain building context and introduce overall storyline
- Overlap with existing historic sites interpreting the colonial history of New Hampshire in the region
- Less space for special programming and events
- High capital development costs
- Potentially high ongoing operational costs



Analysis and Recommendations

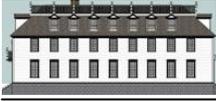
The same concerns for meeting professional standards and best practices in historic preservation and interpretation that exist with a proposed full reconstruction of the First State House also exist with the scenario calling for a partial reconstruction of the building using the original architectural fragments. Additionally, other concerns arise with this scenario.

The intent of the partial reconstruction is to re-create a fraction (one-third) of the historical building and adjoin it to an existing building. This would create a new structure, one that never before existed. This practice is expressly not recommended by the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for Reconstruction of Historic Buildings*. These standards are also supported by the International Council on Monuments and Sites ENAME Charter, 2007 and by the Association for Preservation Technology's *Williamsburg Resolutions on Architectural Fragments* of 1995. Although this scenario uses and preserves the original historic fabric, it does so in a manner considered a questionable preservation and cultural resource management practice.

Most important in assessing this option is the question of validity and value of the interpretation for audiences ranging from fourth-grade students to adult historic house visitors. When great museums such as Winterthur and the Philadelphia Museum of Art include portions of historic structures and interiors within their buildings, they are presented as objects within galleries. A partial reconstruction appended to another structure presents the potential for even greater visitor confusion about the re-created building, because its interior spaces will appear in a form that never existed historically. Attempting to explain what the visitor is seeing, or not seeing, can be quite difficult. Further, it draws the interpretive focus away from the topics and themes that the "historic site" should be presenting.

The proposed interpretation allows the lower floor to present exhibits that can be applied to the task of explaining the nature of the building. But that effort serves only to reduce the space available for the interpretation of the real significance of the original building's history: its service and history as the seat of colonial government. As conformed in this partial reconstruction, the first floor space is rather small (~900 square feet) for housing exhibits, handling basic visitor services functions, and allowing for the circulation of groups of students or other visitors. Granted, if the existing building to which the partial reconstruction would be attached were to provide elevator service, an attached breezeway to the second floor, restrooms and other visitor services, this problem might be somewhat mediated. Even if the first floor were to simply house interpretive exhibits, however, it would still offer a cramped and crowded space for all but the smallest groups.

In this scenario, the best space to accommodate education programs would be in the upper floor's re-created council room. It is here, however, where the greatest story (and the best documentation) exists about the building's original functions, and hence where the best "historic interior" experience could be achieved for the general visiting public. This experience

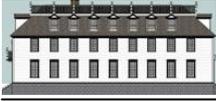


would be compromised if the room were tasked with a demanding dual purpose (note that in the full reconstruction scenario, two rooms can be used for these interpretation activities).

Fewer interpretive and educational options can be made available in this scenario, even for smaller audiences, in the reduced space. This approach is thus contrary to current trends in museum interpretation and education, since it would be less effective at “becoming audience- and visitor-centric,” or “offering experience choices.” This approach is also likely to be less cost-effective, since only small groups can be accommodated, which is anticipated to affect overall visitation.

From the standpoint of attracting potential tourism travelers and serving an increased number of regional residents, it seems unlikely that a smaller structure such as the partially reconstructed First State House would become a destination drawing new and more diverse visitors. This option offers a short-stay experience for even the most committed history museum visitor and does little to encourage an expansion of the existing history museum visitation pool. From a sustainability viewpoint, given the small numbers of visitors it is likely to attract or could accommodate, this scenario is not cost effective.

There are no advantages for preservation, audience, or interpretation in a partial reconstruction compared to a full reconstruction. This is not a recommended scenario for interpretation of the First State House.



The New Hampshire First State House Exhibit

In this scenario the surviving eighteenth-century architectural elements of the First State House would be re-assembled within an existing structure, and serve as the focus of an interpretive exhibit. The object would be presented as an exposed frame, incorporating the floor boards, sheathing and other additional original elements.

Interpretive exhibit elements would be installed in the spaces surrounding the re-erected frame and within (at least) the first floor interior of the structure itself. Visitors would be able to enter the building structure at the first floor and closely view the way the architectural elements were assembled. Modern-engineered elements that may be required to safely support the historic structure could also be used as armatures to contain some of the exhibit components or to create a mezzanine platform to allow visitors to directly view the second level of the frame.

Graphic panels surrounding the structure would set the stage for the core interpretation. Through an “object theater” interpretation approach supported by primary records, the building would “tell its life story.” Utilizing graphic scrims, projections and other multi-media elements, the visitor would be able to visualize conjectural representations of the exterior and interior details of the building and get a glimpse of how it functioned as the seat of royal government in the eighteenth century, how it became a boarding house, and how it came to travel the long road to becoming the “star” of the exhibit.

Venue/Utilization

- Reconstruction of the frame portion of the First State House that presently exists, inside of an existing publicly accessible building
 - “Stand-alone” exhibition of the historic fabric of the First State House
 - Virtual re-creations of historic exterior and interior

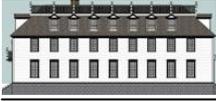
Topics

Primary/Core Topics

- Colonial Architecture
- Colonial Governmental Structure and Process
- The American Revolution in New Hampshire
- Preservation – Architecture/Architectural Fragments

Secondary/Supporting Topics

- Colonial Economics
- Colonial Social/Class Structure
- Seacoast Merchants
- Land-Grants (land distribution)



Themes

- Historic Preservation – The Life of a Building
- Life in New Hampshire's Royal Capital
- Law and Justice

Interpretation Method

Museum Exhibit

Interpretation Techniques

- Interpretive exhibit
- Object theater
- Media presentations

Program Delivery Types

On-Site Programs

- The daily program
- Scheduled K-12 educational programs
- Special programs & workshops
- Rental/Catering events

Off-site/Outreach Programs

- General on-line access via website, social networking, etc.
- Web-based educational materials (Curricular support materials)

Venue Location

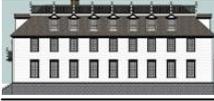
- Southeastern New Hampshire

Target Audiences

- Resident audience
- K-12 educational audience
- Travel audience

Potential Partners and/or Funding

- New Hampshire Historical Society
- New Hampshire State Library
- New Hampshire Division of Archives and Records Management
- New Hampshire Humanities Council
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- University of New Hampshire Center for the Humanities
- Manchester Airport
- New Hampshire Preservation Alliance



- Private Foundations
 - Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation/New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- General Court and State of New Hampshire

Cost Estimates (rounded to the nearest 100. See Figure 5 - Cost Estimates, for details)

Estimating Assumptions

These estimates are based on the following assumptions:

- The housing structure for the exhibition exists
- The overall size of the exhibit footprint is 1,300 sq. ft.
- The cost of preparing the interior space of the venue is not included
- Ongoing administrative costs are borne by the housing venue

Capital Development Cost

- Architectural & Profession Services 64,800
- Conservation & reassembly of historic fabric 432,000
- Modern loose furnishings & equipment 2,100

Interpretation Start-Up Cost

- Interpretation program planning and training 31,000
- Exhibit design and construction 149,500

Total Cost Estimate (rounded to nearest 10,000) **\$.68 m**

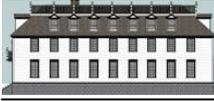
On-Going Operations Resources Requirements

Staffing

- Exhibit maintenance .5 FTE

Other Interpretation Support

- Exhibit maintenance supplies
- Technical services contracts



Interpretation Scenario Pros & Cons

PROS

- Conserves and preserves the surviving original elements of the State House
- Interprets the entire history of the building, from original construction to the present
- Provides some variety in interpretive techniques to tell the story of the First State House—meeting multiple visitor learning styles
- No conjectural elements incorporated into the reconstruction, with any conjectural elements presented in a theatrical manner that is more honest
- Low staff-based ongoing program cost

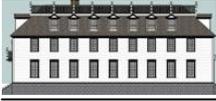
CONS

- Potentially high exhibit development, design and construction costs
- High ongoing maintenance costs for multi-media equipment
- A large open span with high vertical space is needed to physically install the original frame

Analysis and Recommendations

This interpretation option for the First State House would erect the extant elements of the First State House inside a suitably scaled and equipped building where the fragments would serve as the centerpiece of a contemporary interpretive exhibition. Although the interpretive exhibit elements built around the artifact would be a state-of-the-art immersive environment utilizing multi-media, dramatic lighting, sound, and stage techniques to bring to life all of the topics and themes of the First State House, the artifact itself would be shown in the most honest and responsible way. This option showcases the artifact of the First State House for what it is and what it represents. It exhibits the architectural fragments in a context where they can be preserved and cared for while being seen, understood, and appreciated as part of the original structure. This preservation and interpretation approach supports current standards and best practices for historic preservation and interpretation, including Association for Preservation Technology's Williamsburg Resolutions on Architectural Fragments of 1995, which states as one of its tenets: "Architectural fragments should be used in a manner consistent with national and international standards for the stewardship of historic properties" and "... exhibition, interpretation and other uses of architectural fragments should be planned and conducted so as to maintain the integrity of those objects and their associated documentation."

In an array of exhibits, the historic fragments of the First State House would be front and center in the show. Younger audiences who might find a history presentation humdrum will be engaged by the exhibit experience itself, an experience designed to be digitally accessible



with enhancements accessible by any wi-fi enabled device. Visitors will be able to access extended interpretation geared for various age interests and in multiple languages. Visitors will be invited to get involved in the story, participating through such techniques as digital historical role-playing and by adding their own experiences and ideas through feedback and response opportunities incorporated into the exhibits. Coupling this presentation with interpretive planning that stresses relevance to today while showing audiences “the real thing” will make this exhibit a must-see event, utilizing techniques and characteristics that match current trends in museum interpretation.

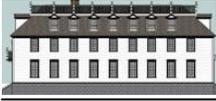
Potential audiences for this concept include not only resident-area visitors, school groups, lifelong learners, and those with specific interest in New Hampshire history, but travel audiences as well. The First State House exhibit would be designed so that visitors will have a variety of choices of how they will visit and interact with the exhibit; it will be universally accessible for differing physical and cognitive abilities; and it will be accommodating to the visitor. It can interpret New Hampshire history in a way that is meaningful to people today, making connections to the present and the future. It can provide a large space that can accommodate tour groups and school groups as well as travel visitors.

Exhibit developers would consider current National Core Curriculum standards and New Hampshire Learning Curriculum Guidelines as significant design components of the project. This will insure that the First State House Exhibit and all formats of its educational programs and materials connect with educational goals, making this new venue an effective partner with schools throughout the region.

This interdisciplinary approach to the exhibit and its educational outreach components will meet the interests and requirements for planning and implementation funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the New Hampshire Council on the Humanities and other granting agencies. The interpretive topics and themes offer collaborative potentials with both the host venue and other partners. Such organizations might include the New Hampshire Historical Society, University of New Hampshire Center for the Humanities, state and local tourism associations, and other organizations concerned with colonial history, revolutionary war history, and historic preservation.

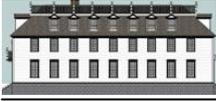
A number of evocative interpretive experiences have been sparked where museums have housed full or partial structures within their walls. Examples include a log cabin and a gristmill at The Tennessee State Museum, a diner, gas station, and the Buckminster Fuller Dymaxion House in the Henry Ford Museum, comparative timber and balloon house frames at The Farmers' Museum, and a Mohawk-Iroquois long house at The New York State Museum. These kinds of presentations make memorable experiences for diverse audiences.

This scenario will appeal to new audiences and groups because it utilizes forward-looking interpretation techniques targeting younger audience members; this supports family visitation



and the growth of future audiences. It has the potential to bring new visitors into the region, because it presents the history of the region in a way that augments the existing stories of colonial New Hampshire without presenting them in typical historic house/site fashion.

The exhibit would both preserve an important historical resource and create a strong historical attraction that serves the people of New Hampshire. An interpretive exhibit is a recommended scenario for interpretation of the First State House.



The Virtual First State House Museum

In this scenario the architectural fragments of the First State House would be the focusing cultural resource of a study collection/database that provides the material for the development of on-line exhibits and programs. The virtual museum would assemble artifacts, historical documents, graphics and other research materials in much the same way as any museum might, but in this case as digital objects only. Through a web-based “front-end” the members of public would “enter the museum” and either access historical content in the form of mediated on-line exhibits or directly access the database of digital objects directly to satisfy their own research needs or basic historical curiosity.

This option would also incorporate a “learning laboratory” feature that would engage college-level students in the study of the architectural fragments of the First State House and other historical resources that may be assembled to support the on-going programming. This feature of the program could provide a resource to support academic study programs in the areas of History, American Studies or Historic Preservation.

The initial interpretation effort of the virtual museum would be the creation of an on-line exhibit about New Hampshire's First State House, focusing primarily on one or two of the identified themes. The assembled database and the web-based nature of the exhibit design and delivery system would allow for the continual evolution of the core exhibit, the potential expansion of the themes associated with the exhibit and with allied programs, and the potential for other similar but discrete exhibits on additional topics and themes. In each case, the underlying digital assets could be tailored into program products for a variety of audience types, age groups, and learning styles.

Venue/Utilization

- Digital architectural fragments collection/Historical research database / Learning laboratory
- Housed at an academic or historical/cultural institution

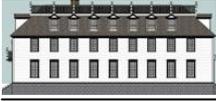
Topics

Primary/Core Topics

- Colonial Architecture
- Colonial Governmental Structure & Process
- The American Revolution in New Hampshire
- Preservation – Architecture/Architectural Fragments

Secondary/Supporting Topics

- Colonial Economics
- Colonial Social/Class Structure
- Seacoast Merchants



- Land-Grants (land distribution)

Themes

- Historic Preservation – The Life of a Building
- Life in New Hampshire's Royal Capital
- Law and Justice
- Self Government and Citizenship
- Being New Hampshire

Interpretation Method

- Virtual museum
- Training laboratory

Interpretation Techniques

- On-line exhibits
- Educational outreach programs (distance learning)
- Curricular materials (on-line)
- Special workshop/seminars/colloquiums (on-line)
- Laboratory/classroom

Program Examples

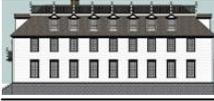
- ***The Life of a Building of State: Examining the Record and Remains of New Hampshire's First State House.*** An interactive virtual exhibit built from the research database targeting students of architecture, restoration, and history that incorporates a laboratory practicum utilizing elements of the artifact in storage.
- ***Visualizing the Royal Capital.*** An interactive, three-dimensional exhibit model built on the research database and utilizing material from other library and archive sources that allows visitors to explore the capital of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, ca. 1770.
- ***Inner New Hampshire.*** A symposium and resultant lecture series that examines what it means to be a New Hampshireite and New Hampshire's impact on the zeitgeist of America.
- ***The New Hampshire Grants.*** A virtual exhibit built from the research database detailing the history of the New Hampshire or Benning Wentworth grants, and their role in the creation of state borders (including New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, New York and Massachusetts) and or individual wealth. Targets secondary education students and the education community.

Venue Location

- Greater Portsmouth region (Portsmouth/Durham/Exeter)
- Plymouth

Target Audiences

- State-wide audience
- Post-secondary students of architecture, architectural history, and American History



- Educational community (teachers/professors)
- Lifelong learners

Potential Partners and/or Funding

- University of New Hampshire Center for the Humanities/ Center for New England Culture
- Plymouth State University
- Goucher College
- New Hampshire Preservation Alliance
- American Independence Museum
- Strawberry Banke
- Portsmouth area colonial historic houses/sites
- Historic House Associates
- Portsmouth Historical Society/Discover Portsmouth Center
- Portsmouth Athenaeum
- National Park Service
- New Hampshire Humanities Council
- NEH
- National Trust
- Private Foundations
 - Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation/New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

Cost Estimates (rounded to the nearest 100. See Figure 5 - Cost Estimates, for details)

Estimating Assumptions

These estimates are based on the following assumptions:

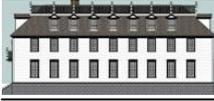
- The costs of housing of the actual artifact(s) will be assumed by the organization that sponsors/houses the virtual museum, but only the costs of preparing/outfitting an existing space for this use is factored into the capital development costs
- Conservation of the architectural fragments necessary to insure their preservation while allowing for additional study and recordation would be the responsibility of the virtual museum entity
- Cost for the required hardware, software, domain support and network services, etc. whether owned directly by the museum or leased via a sponsoring organization are included as a capital cost

Capital Development Cost

- Hardware, software, network set-up, database design..... 18,000
- Modern loose furnishings & equipment 2,100
- Storage space and lab set-up..... 30,000

Interpretation Start-Up Cost

- Interpretation program planning and development44,500
- Consulting Architect (conjectural interior modeling).....25,000



- On-line exhibit design and construction 261,500

Total Cost Estimate (rounded to nearest 10,000) **\$381. K**

Ongoing Operations Resources Requirements

Staffing

- Director/Curator 1 FTE
- Research Associates 2 FTE (graduate internships)
- Digital Resources Tech 1 FTE

Other Interpretation Support

- Ongoing hardware, software, network services fees & maintenance
- Administrative office facilities

Interpretation Scenario Pros & Cons

PROS

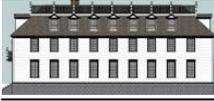
- Low capital development costs
- Insures the ongoing conservation and preservation of the original historical resources
- Provides the opportunity for a wide variety of interpretation topics and themes
- Can reach a broad and diverse set of audiences, while easily targeting some products for the distinct needs of a particular audience segment
- Does not preclude the use of the historical resource for some other physical interpretation use in the future

CONS

- Eliminates the general public's direct access to the real, physical artifact(s)
- Potentially high ongoing operational costs

Analysis and Recommendations

The Virtual Museum scenario for New Hampshire's First State House presents the historical resource in an intellectual manner, primarily as a research and study tool. While this option does not reassemble the frame of the State House, neither does it "bury" the frame, out-of-sight, within a reconstructed building. Like the first and third scenarios (Full Reconstruction and Exhibit), this concept can offer full access to the core topics and themes related to the First



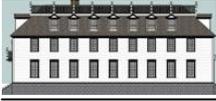
State House, but it does so without a physical presence. The scenario as presented would insure the continued preservation of the object(s), and the laboratory practicum program suggested provides an opportunity for some parts of the original artifact to be conserved. This approach to the physical object also opens more doors for funding support and program partnerships. This option also does not preclude the possibility that the resource could be used for some other interpretation option in the future; such as use as a free standing object in an exhibition.

A Virtual Museum of the First State House would appeal to a broad and diverse audience base, particularly to the growing number of “native digital users.” The format and delivery of the interpretation is forward-looking, recognizing that the future audiences of museums and heritage interpretation are steeped in digital communications and tools. Increasingly, these audiences expect their information to be presented in this easily accessed form. With this type of interpretive resource, well-structured scholarly information can be presented through text, images, and video formats. Trends in public and private education, museum programs, and interpretation make use of a wide variety of digital experiences and internet platforms. National Core Curricula and New Hampshire curriculum standards can be easily supported. Universal accessibility and multiple language needs can be easily addressed through common digital tools. New digital formats offering easy-to-use interactive options continue to evolve. This scenario recognizes and satisfies the trend for offering digital information and experiences to the audiences of the future.

The First State House Virtual Museum would serve as a portal to other sites for related information. This feature appeals to educators from the secondary level through the graduate level. These site visitors would use the research and other offered materials to build lesson plans for specific classrooms and meet curriculum outlines, standards, and student needs. This scenario also appeals to a small group of lifelong learners who are increasingly computer and internet savvy and who seek information by these means. The 2010 Horizon Report: Museum Edition outlines key information to museums about the digital interests and abilities of young and future generations of visitors and audiences. These generations expect to access information about museums and their subject matter at any time on any digital platform they might use.

While a Virtual Museum does not attract resident audiences in any specific geographic area to a specific location, it reaches out to the entire state through its on-line presence. While it does not attract a travel audience, it reaches out to people everywhere, and it can help promote greater use of other historic resources in New Hampshire.

The interpretation content and topic options associated with a Virtual Museum are very broad. They include but are not limited to exploration of the resource as an architectural/archaeological exploration tool; a primer on colonial architecture and construction; and sharing the entire historical context of New Hampshire's colonial experience



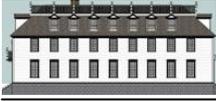
and role in the American Revolution. Between the development of digital resources directly associated with the First State House and the option of expanding that dataset to incorporate digital assets built from the collections and research materials of partner institutions, on-line exhibits could be created that present numerous topics and themes appealing to a wide audience base. This option would offer public access in one location to all the information known about the First State House, including the existing frame, conjectural reconstructions, an historical timeline, historical research about the frame, and the context of history that happened within and around the State House. Curriculum materials could be easily posted, as could image slide shows and videos.

For current audiences with many interests and learning styles, full menus of choices could be presented that explore the First State House from the perspectives of different disciplines, time periods, story lines, topics and themes. Visual learners will relate to the historic images and illustrations. Spatial learners will be drawn to the architectural drawings and digital models. Mathematical and science-related learners will enjoy information about the technical aspects of historic preservation and object conservation. One goal of this interpretive option should be that the web address of this virtual museum, and not Wikipedia, is the first search result students find when researching “colonial government in New Hampshire.”

The cross-disciplinary nature of this interpretation option, along with its potential partnerships, support of current and evolving curriculum requirements, and accessibility to large and diverse audiences, are all appealing to the National Endowment for the Humanities and other funding sources needed for planning, testing, and implementation. Program partnerships, the representation of many scholarly disciplines, the practical application of knowledge and skills it offers, and its accessibility to a large, diverse audience, make this program appealing to state, federal and private funders. Museum peer-reviewed awards by the American Association of Museums and the American Association of State and Local History and grants by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute for Museums and Library Services, and various state funding organizations routinely look for these criteria.

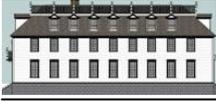
With the potential on-line audience the virtual museum could reach, this scenario may provide better public value (as well as more visitor engagement and satisfaction) than the two reconstruction options when measured against its lower capital costs. Audiences almost everywhere can be reached by this virtual product and it has clear value as a curriculum-related education resource for schools in New Hampshire and neighboring states.

The Virtual Museum interpretive program has the smallest capital investment of the options presented. It is not able, however, to put audiences “face-to-face” with the architectural fragments of the First State House. This program also lacks the ability to draw tourists to locations in New Hampshire where they can purchase meals, lodging, and take-away souvenir memories of their visit. The Virtual Museum does not provide the opportunity for physical and



emotional memories of visiting a real place, memories that bring visitors back as lifelong learners and repeat visitors to a physical site's resources.

The conservation "learning lab" component of this scenario is the one key element that provides direct access to the architectural fragments of the First State House, and creates the opportunity for students to engage in a practical educational activity that would support the long-term preservation of the artifact. Although this is a potentially valuable method of preservation and interpretation, the audience reached through this endeavor will be very small. With the closing of Historic New England's architectural conservation facilities (SPNEA Conservation Center, Waltham, MA), and the near-by architectural conservation workshop of the University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program, there is some question as to the desire or need for a New Hampshire graduate-level preservation program to embrace an architectural conservation learning-lab concept.



First State House History Center for Civic Engagement

In this scenario New Hampshire's First State House serves as the symbolic icon of the history of New Hampshire's relationship with democratic government: what it means to be a citizen, the responsibilities inherent in maintaining self-government, the importance of the rule of law and the administration of justice, and the need for an informed electorate/citizenry. The Center would create and maintain a library and archive/database of historical and contemporary materials to support its work in much the same way as in the Virtual Museum scenario. The Center would be an advocacy organization for educating both students and adults, citizens and those aspiring to become citizens.

Using the story of the creation and governmental functions of the First State House as a springboard, the center will develop traveling exhibits and outreach programs that teach new generations of Granite-staters the importance of each citizen in the provision of self-government using the lessons of New Hampshire's historical record. One exhibition (the larger of the two defined here) would be targeted to travel to major historical organizations for extended periods (e.g. six months to a year) and be developed to incorporate artifacts, images, and other materials from participating institutions related to the specific topics and themes defined. The other, smaller exhibit would consist of a two-to-three panel, text and graphics-only kiosk exhibit, targeted at schools and public libraries; multiple "copies" of this exhibit could be produced. In conjunction with the exhibits, print-based and web-based support materials would be developed for distribution to target audiences and as classroom curricular materials for teaching civics to students at a variety of levels and in accordance with the New Hampshire Department of Education's Common Core State Standard. The center would also sponsor other forms of public programs (lectures, seminars, or theater presentations) with participating partners in order to promote historical themes associated with civics and political engagement.

Venue/Utilization

- Educational Outreach Center/Historical research database
- Housed in private non-profit library or archive

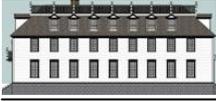
Topics

Primary/Core Topics

- Colonial Governmental Structure & Process
- Self Government in New Hampshire
- Citizenship

Secondary/Supporting Topics

- Colonial Economics
- Colonial Social/Class Structure
- Seacoast Merchants



- Land-Grants (land distribution)

Themes

- Law and Justice
- Self Government and Citizenship
- Being New Hampshire

Interpretation Method

- Education Outreach Advocacy Organization / Library and Archive

Interpretation Techniques

- Mid to long term traveling exhibit(s)
- Virtual exhibits
- Curricular materials
- Participatory theater

Program Examples

- ***New Hampshire's First Statehouse: Our First Civics Forum.*** A mid to long-term traveling exhibit targeting museum, historical society, and public exhibition venues statewide.
- ***Designing Democracy in New Hampshire and the United States: 1783 – 1789.*** A virtual exhibit and curricular materials about New Hampshire's constitution and bill of rights targeting middle school students.
- ***Defining Personal Freedom in the "Live Free or Die" State.*** A virtual exhibit and curricular materials about New Hampshire legislative history regarding personal freedoms targeting high school students studying participation in government.
- ***Whose Country Is It, Anyway?*** A theater-based educational outreach program focusing on inclusiveness and based on jurisprudence targeting 6th through 8th grade students.

Venue Location

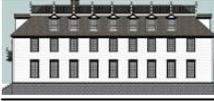
- Concord
- Manchester

Target Audiences

- Statewide audiences
- Middle School/High School Students
- The legal community (law students, professors, lawyers, elected officials)
- Lifelong learners

Potential Partners and/or Funding

- The New Hampshire Bar Association – “We the People” program
- The New Hampshire Bar Foundation
- New Hampshire Supreme Court Society



- New Hampshire Political Library
- University of New Hampshire School of Law
- Carsey Institute at University of New Hampshire
- New Hampshire Institute of Politics/Law Library
- Center for Civics Education (National)
- Leadership New Hampshire
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- New Hampshire Humanities Council
- The New Hampshire Library Association
- Private foundations
 - Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation/New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- Traveling exhibit participation fees

Cost Estimates (rounded to the nearest 100. See Figure 5 - Cost Estimates, for details)

Estimating Assumptions

These estimates are based on the following assumptions:

- Cost for the required hardware, software, domain support and network services, etc. whether owned directly by the center or leased via a sponsoring organization are included as a capital cost
- The costs of housing of the actual artifact(s) will be assumed by the organization that sponsors/houses the center, but only the costs of preparing/outfitting an existing space for storage and lab use is factored into the capital development costs
- Cost for traveling the larger exhibit to a set number of venues (5) is incorporated into the capital development costs
- Costs for developing and producing multiple “copies” of the smaller panel exhibit is not included in these costs – costs are for one exhibit only
- Potential income fee associated with the travelling exhibit are not considered as an offset for capital development costs

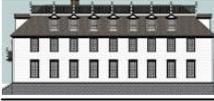
Capital Development Cost

- Hardware, software, network set-up, database design 18,000
- Modern loose furnishings & equipment 24,200

Interpretation Start-Up Cost

- Interpretation program planning and development 55,000
- Consulting Architect (conjectural interior modeling) 25,000
- Data access front-end and research & data development 171,500
- Traveling exhibits design and construction 238,000

Total Cost Estimate (rounded to nearest 10,000) **\$532. K**



Ongoing Operations Resources Requirements

Staffing

- Director/Administrator 1 FTE
- Education Coordinator 1 FTE
- Research Associate 1 FTE (graduate internships)
- Digital Resources Tech 1 FTE

Other Interpretation Support

- Ongoing hardware, software, network services fees and maintenance
- Exhibit maintenance cost – normal wear-and-tear replacement needs
- Administrative office facilities

Interpretation Scenario Pros & Cons

PROS

- Low capital development costs
- Provides the opportunity for a wide variety of interpretation/education programs all based on a well-focused, clear mission
- Can reach a broad and diverse set of audiences, while easily targeting some products for the distinct needs of a particular audience segment
- Has the potential for broad financial support and program partnerships
- Does not preclude the use of the historical resource for some other physical interpretation use in the future

CONS

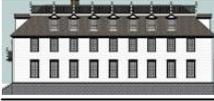
- Eliminates the general public's direct access to the real, physical artifact(s)
- Does not insure the ongoing conservation and preservation of the original historical resources
- Potentially high ongoing operational costs

Analysis and Recommendations

"I remember being a girl and being called a citizen and this was important. Sure I was a second-class citizen, but I was still a citizen. After World War II we were called American consumers not American citizens, and we are now called [American] taxpayers. This means our relationship with our country now is not the same as it used to be when being a good citizen was something important."

Toni Morrison in an address to the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, April 8, 2011

This recent observation by Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison poetically summarizes many of today's concerns and trends in politics, education, economics and citizenship in the



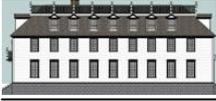
United States. From immigration to tea party activism to occupying Wall Street to presidential candidate primaries in New Hampshire, civics and how we govern ourselves is in the hearts and on the minds of Americans.

This First State House History Center for Civic Engagement interpretation model for interpretation of the First State House speaks not only to the past but also to the present and future. The historic New Hampshire First State House resource will be showcased to the public as a symbol and brand of the independent and democratic history and heritage of New Hampshire. The center is conceived of as a definitive resource not only of history, but also of civics education; it will be a forum for civic and political engagement in New Hampshire and in the region; and, because it is internet-based, it can serve the nation.

The Center will have three important roles to play: the role of the definitive source of historical information about the development of New Hampshire from its colonial roots to its emergence as a leader in independent thinking and democratic governance; the role of leadership in civics education supported by historical content within the state of New Hampshire, providing on-line resources for schools, recent immigrants, government agencies, and others; and, finally, the role of forum for an engaged citizenry actively involved in the furtherance of New Hampshire's democratic ideals and continued leadership in the American political experience through a connection with the experiences of the past.

Although the Center will have a strong internet presence, it will establish itself as a statewide and regional resource through its initial physical traveling exhibit component. While this report only tracks the initial development of what the Center needs for its creation, it is quite possible that traveling exhibits will be a signature aspect of the way the Center continues to maintain its relevance, meeting new generations of "visitors" who will both benefit from and build on what the Center is and does. Additional interpretive and educational products and programs that can be created and branded by the Center include theater-style presentations, printed materials, DVDs, on-line curricular materials, symposiums, and public forums. Although the physical architectural fragments of the State House may not be physically viewed in their entirety, these artifacts can continue to be cared for and preserved for a future physical exhibit, display, or reconstruction.

The two traveling exhibits, one scaled to work for relatively large traveling exhibit venues at museums, university galleries, airports, and similar venues, and a second, smaller version (in several copies) that travels to community libraries and centers, will be able to engage traditional museum visitors – the Gen Y and Gen X groups, as well as Baby Boomers. The travel component of the project allows the exhibit to reach resident markets around the state and region. These exhibit showings will market the work of the new Center broadly, helping it establish its brand. Initial input from Portsmouth area stakeholders strongly supported the idea of interpreting the First State House through a traveling exhibit offering.

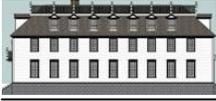


The First State House History Center for Civic Engagement will seek out two distinct and important audiences: younger audiences who want to be more than just “American taxpayers” and educators who see traditional formal history education as limited. The New Media Consortium’s recent study, *NMC Horizon Report: Museum Edition* (2011) identifies trends likely to impact museums in the next four years. One trend describes the ease with which information is obtained on-line, making the curator-as-expert model of interpretation less appealing and necessary. This causes museums to re-examine their roles in education. A second trend shows that access to internet tools used by early adopters and technology natives has created a museum visitor as interested in making the content as in receiving it. Taken together, these trends challenge museums to relinquish their role of expert source in favor of being a reservoir of reliable information and a facilitator of ideas and discussion. This Center seeks to assume those roles and become a partner with formal education and government in New Hampshire.

The cross-disciplinary nature and the potential partnership aspects of a First State House History Center for Civic Engagement provide the Center with a broad and timely audience appeal. Potential programmatic collaborations and partnerships are very strong for this NHFSH project recommendation. Programs, web hosting, staff funding and other needs and sponsorships might be found in conjunction with the New Hampshire School of Law, the New Hampshire Law Library, the New Hampshire Bar Association, the New Hampshire Bar Foundation, and/or the New Hampshire Institute of Politics. A partnership with The New Hampshire Bar Association's *We The People* program (an affiliate of the Center for Civic Education) might develop a program similar to the partnership between The Chicago Historical Society and The Congressional Right Foundation Chicago (another *We The People* affiliate). In this partnership, supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, a program called "The American Jury: Bulwark of Democracy" provides schools with on-line resources related to the American jury system. The *Jury Trials for Classrooms* component of the project provides resources on famous historic trials that occurred in Illinois and provides lesson plans for staging a mock trial. (<http://www.crfc.org/americanjury/index.html>)

This concept also falls in line with the interests and requirements of the NEH and other sources of planning and implementation funding. Current topical interests of the New Hampshire Humanities Council include discussions and explorations of civic engagement in government.

A number of projects featuring internet components have been funded by National Endowment for the Humanities planning and implementation grants in the past few years, including the Thomas Jefferson Foundation/Monticello in Charlottesville, VA, Brown University, *The Choices Program: History and Current Issues for the Classroom*, The Center for Civics Education, Washington, DC., and the previously noted "The American Jury: Bulwark of Democracy" project. In each case, these grants are reviewed by a cross-section of museum professional and scholar peers with an interest in what is quality interpretation, what are timely subjects in American life, what is sustainable, and what is an effective use of funds and resources.



In the 1991 report, *Governor's Commission on New Hampshire in the 21st Century*, a key stated initiative was to improve civics education within the state. This report also proposed the creation of a Civic Forum in New Hampshire to convene every eight years to explore the role of citizens in community and government. The New Hampshire Civic Forum will reconvene during 2012 and 2013 to consider such topics as who we are as a society, citizens' roles in government, future planning, and sustainable life in New Hampshire.

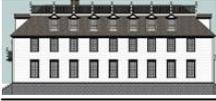
This use of New Hampshire's First State House as the heart of a History Center for Civic Engagement is a strong and timely option for the interpretation of the resource.

Final Recommendations

The Cherry Valley Group recommends that two distinct interpretation options be considered for further exploration as the future use of the New Hampshire's First State House. One, an actual physical use of the historic resource, is the First State House Exhibit. The other, a virtual use of the resource, is the First State House History Center for Civic Engagement.

The First State House Exhibit provides for the most physically direct and publicly accessible use of the historical resource itself, while best adhering to the accepted standards and best practices of historic preservation and interpretation. This scenario engages the visiting public with the actual surviving eighteenth century historic fabric of the building and then assists the visitor in visualizing what the First State House may have looked like and how it functioned throughout history. The option has the capacity to present content related to all of the historical themes identified in this assessment, and do so through a multiple set of interpretation techniques. The exhibit is intended to be an immersive, exciting experience that presents the object and the history of New Hampshire's First State House in a way that is appealing to the broadest number of resident and travel visitors. It would appeal to the important family segment of the market primarily because its multi-media aspects would engage a youth audience in a way that the typical historic house/site does not. The exhibit has the potential to become a signature destination attraction, with the type of appeal that is more associated with a science center than a history museum. It would stand apart from the typical tour-based historical interpretation experiences that are now commonly available in the region. The First State House Exhibit has a greater potential to drive heritage tourism than the other scenarios, which can help boost attendance to the existing historical properties in the region.

Although both of the options that utilize virtual components are appropriate and viable interpretation uses of the cultural resource, The First State House History Center for Civic Engagement scenario is a preferred "push" model for interpretation and audience involvement. Rather than provide interpretation opportunities that audiences may seek out at a single physical location, it has strategies that seek out the audiences and deliver the interpretive content to diverse audiences in their own communities. This outreach includes an



internet-based interactive forum and resource center, as well as an interdisciplinary traveling exhibit.

The historical content and themes explored by the Center are viewed not simply as stories of the past, but approached as opportunities to actively impact the present and future. It is a model for forward-looking interpretation as it seeks to engage a broad set of audiences that are less likely to attend history museums, such as young adults, high school students, or recent immigrant populations. It does this by showcasing modern relevancies to the history of New Hampshire's colonial government—providing links to today's issues that can be informed by the experiences of the past. The Center engages audiences with a number of presentation and interaction techniques—some very traditional and others designed to meet the needs of future generations. The First State House History Center for Civic Engagement provides opportunities to create a dialog with and among the audience—allowing them to define the meaning of the past and inform the direction of the future. This interpretive option for the First State House has a mission that uses history to achieve a clear outcome—to improve civic education in New Hampshire, and to engage citizens in their communities and government.

Figure 5

Capital Development & Start-up Cost Estimate Chart

| Utilization Option | Ttl. bldg. con. cost* | Frame Cons. re-assembly | Arch. & prof. Cons. fees | Spec. hist. trim & fin. | Interp. Ex. s.f. costs | Special media | Interp /prog develop | Virtual Ex. develop. | Historic furnishings | Modern furn. & Equip. | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| FSH Reconstruction | 1,432,984 | 432,000 | 372,997 | 86,649 | 103,500 | 48,000 | 50,000 | 0 | 49,000 | 10,319 | \$2,585,449 |
| FSH Partial Reconstruction | 722,020 | 432,000 | 230,804 | 28,883 | 43,125 | 20,000 | 42,000 | 0 | 17,000 | 6,940 | \$1,542,772 |
| FSH Exhibit | 0 | 432,000 | 64,800 | 0 | 97,500 | 52,000 | 31,000 | 0 | 0 | 2,100 | \$679,400 |
| FSH Virtual Museum | 0 | 0 | 25,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44,500 | 261,500 | 0 | 50,100 | \$381,100 |
| NH Center for Civics & Pol. Eng. | 0 | 0 | 25,000 | 0 | 238,000 | 0 | 55,000 | 171,500 | 0 | 42,200 | \$531,700 |

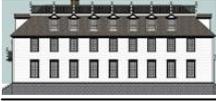
* Total building construction costs used in this estimate include a 10% allowance for general conditions and a 15% allowance for general contractor's overhead and profit and contingencies. General conditions cover local working condition and work rules costs; overhead includes costs for permits, workers compensation, insurance, and bonding fees, and contingencies.

* Frame Conservation and Re-assembly. This cost includes the work of a professional conservator and skilled carpenters to review the conservation report, treat each piece of the original structure, and re-assembling and joining it as indicated by plan and in keeping with best practices.

*Special trim and finish takes into account the windows, doors, roof balustrades, balcony & interior trim and built-ins that will be required.

* Interpretive Exhibits square foot costs: A common s.f. cost factor is used for basic exhibit components based on recent actual exhibit costs. An addition factor is added for advanced media and presentations.

* Virtual Exhibit Development costs: Costs to create an interpretive exhibit plan and develop the virtual exhibit are based on similar projects completed in 2010.



E APPENDICES & SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

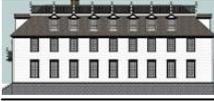
Project Bibliography

(Includes an Inventory of NHDHR First State House Project research files)

Annotated List of Market Competitors

Public Input Information

Electronic Supplementary Materials



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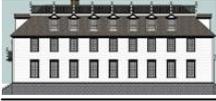
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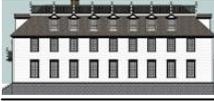
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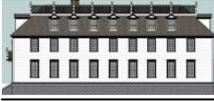
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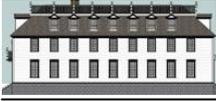
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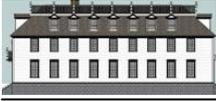


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Division of Historical Resources, New Hampshire's First State House Research and Project Files

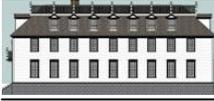
Research and Project Files, New Hampshire's First State House

Inventory by Katie Boardman, 2/3/12

This unprocessed set of records is made up of past and current files of research notes and papers; correspondence; newspaper, periodical, and internet articles; contracts; and other information and notes related to New Hampshire's First State House. At the time of the inventory, these items were housed in the office of project manager Laura S. Black on a shelf and in a four drawer file cabinet. The locations and organization of these materials will not necessarily remain as described below when these materials are processed for archival storage.

Shelved Materials

- *New Hampshire's First State House Press Packet*. "Old State House Planning Project;" What Does the NH Division of Historical Resources Do?," March 2006; "Division of Historical Resources Staff," December 2006; Garvin, James L. "Brief Timeline For The Old New Hampshire State House."
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 - Email correspondence among staff, February 2008 about grant requests and funding for NHFSH project; Email of January 28, 2008 of article by Ashley Chamberlain "Old State house: Architect Hired", from news@seacoastonline.com..Hiring of architects to create 3-D rendering of NHFSH.
 - Email of November 20, 2007 of article by Amie Plummer "First N.H. Statehouse to get second chance" (Outlines examination and stabilization of architectural fragments. Elizabeth Muzzy quoted "With the information found from examining the timbers, they



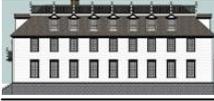
- will move onto the second step, assessing the best uses and needs of the first Statehouse and the “interpretive stories it can convey,”
- “We then hope to do a study of the economic benefits of heritage and cultural tourism in New Hampshire’s coastal region (the third step) so we can decide the best location (step four.)” “The fifth and final step, she said, includes, finding the “widest possible audience and the most logical operational structure for a seacoast visitors’ center.”
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- *Blue Ribbon Committee for the Reconstruction of the Old New Hampshire State House. 2006-2008 minutes, correspondence, House Bill 157 information, RFPs for contractors.*
- *News Articles Relating to the EDI Grant Initiatives, Book II, June 21st, 2007. Copies of news articles 2006, 2007, 2008, 2011. Not all are related to the First State House.*
- *News Articles on Old State House & Information Related to the EDI Grant. Clippings and copies of news articles, print and online 1999, 2006, 2007.*
 - *May 24, 2007 Adam Leech, The Portsmouth Historical Society wants to transform the old public library on Islington Street into a multipurpose museum, incorporating parts of the Old State House and a replica façade. Inside would be display areas for exhibits, digital multimedia, ticketing offices for the city’s various cultural venues, an information center and collaborative programming aimed at increasing use of various cultural opportunities. It also would include a re-creation of the historic Executive Council chamber, using fragments of the original room, on the second floor.*
- *Strawbery Banke Report: On Options for the Restoration of the Original New Hampshire State House, April 12, 1985. Includes the report, notes, correspondence, text of 1984 House Speaker John B. Tucker speech on September 18, 1984 on the creation of the Committee on the Old State House. Also includes 1983, 1984 correspondence.*

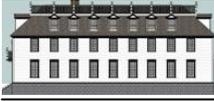
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- Steven Pendery, *Market Square Archeological Research Project (Portsmouth, N.H.)* October 8, 1976. Archaeology Report (Summary of structure history with quotes from historic



documents and dates of significant events. Recommendation that "If grading of Market Square is to be undertaken in the area north of the North Congregational Church indicated in Map 19, it is recommended that such work take place under the supervision of an historical archaeological archaeologist, who will be responsible for recording structural remains uncovered during the course of the excavation." This was recommended in effort to find foundation and other remains of the Old State House.

- Randolph P. Dominic, Jr.; *Analysis and Critique of Joseph W. Hammond's "The New Hampshire Provincial State House"* Strawberry Banke, Inc. October 1983. Dominic's scholarly paper refutes the theory that the First State House was completely destroyed in the 1830s and the remaining portion of an 18th century structure identified as part of the First State House was actually a reused portion of Portsmouth's Almshouse.
- James L. Garvin, *Memorandum to Commissioner George Gilman Regarding the "Old State House"*, at Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, 2 October 1983. The Garvin Memoranda are architectural discussions about the "Old State House" at Strawberry Banke. He states that recent research dismisses the theory that the building is the old almshouse and is, in fact, part of the First State House.
- James L. Garvin, , *Memorandum to Commissioner George Gilman Regarding the "Old State House"* at Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, 13 December, 1983.
- James L. Garvin, *Summary of Documentary Evidence, Old State House, Portsmouth, New Hampshire*. Garvin's Summary of Documentary Evidence explores specific design, construction and furnishing research information for the First State House. Photocopies from documentary account books are included.
- Strawberry Banke. *Strawberry Banke Report: On Options for the Restoration of the Original New Hampshire State House*, April 12, 1985. An initial section, "General Considerations." Outlines the preservation and restoration possibilities and related costs for the structure.
 - Option 1. The building would be placed on a new foundation and some features replaces. "Treating the building in this way would allow for the installation of an exhibit, consisting of graphic illustrations, models and artifacts, to interpret the historical change from royal government to state government during the Revolutionary period, as well as the history of the building itself. There may also be enough room for use as a public meeting space or as a classroom for educational purposes." P 2.
 - "Option 2-Restoration of the Surviving East End. The surviving portion of the building would be restored to its original appearance. This would require the use of prototypes for the east doorway entrance, the balcony, the balcony doorway, and the roof walk. The first floor interior would consist of the eastern end of the original lobby... The western end (dating from 1836) could be adapted to house modern plumbing and stairs leading to the second floor. The Council Chamber on the second floor would be restored using surviving evidence and prototypes... Treating the building in this way would require several judgments to be made by the restoration architect. An exhibit on the origins of state government could be placed on the first floor. The restored Council Chamber could be used for meetings or educational programs." P 3.
 - "Option 3 Restoration/Replication of the Entire Exterior: Interior Restoration of the Council Chamber... This would provide a visual representation of the original appearance of the entire State House. It does, however, require a number of restoration decisions, and has the potential for misleading the public. It would provide a large amount of space for exhibits, educational programs, and other public programs." P 4



- “Option 4 Full Restoration of the State House This... would provide a visual representation of the original appearance of the entire State House, both inside and out. It does, of course, require a number of restoration decisions, and has the potential for misleading the public. The interiors would be most suitable for furnished period rooms on the second floor, and perhaps an exhibit with graphic illustrations and artifacts on the first.” P 5
- A short discussion of Boston and Newport State Houses as Prototypes is included. Several pages of Information on all Building Features explore interior and exterior concerns. Documentary photographs of building details are included with selected measured drawings. Other New England structures are cited as potential comparative prototypes for doorways, the balcony and the roof gallery.

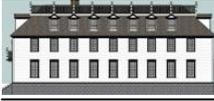
Contents of Files in File Cabinet

File of James L. Garvin:

- 2005, 2005 Committee Correspondence, Agenda, Minutes of the Committee to Restore the Old Statehouse
- Invitation to dedication of “The Original New Hampshire State House” plaque from The Committee to Restore the Old Statehouse. Includes photo of the plaque.
- United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. *Maritime Portsmouth New Hampshire*. Paper on comprehensive survey of historic structures, docks, warehouses, shipyards, inland waterway, and other 18th century features. 2/16/2006 transcription by Garvin.
- Correspondence concerning 2005 study grant and 2006 status. Prescott Park being considered and recommended.
- Copy of handwritten correspondence about potential restoration costs and fundraising. 2005.
- Copy of article by Beth LaMontagne “They’re trying to save old state house: In pieces, it sits in a Concord trailer” Sunday Monitor, May 22, 2005. Article after dedication of commemorative plaque.
- Building conservation articles.
- News articles on Portsmouth tourism, 2005.

File of James L. Garvin:

- Correspondence and research regarding articles and publications RE: First State House
- 1990 color photograph of the First State House/Tenement House structure at Strawberry Banke
- News article on renovation and reopening of Boston Old State House, August 1992, AllianceLetter of Boston Preservation Alliance.
- Copy of December 1969 news article “Old State House To Be Restored”
- Copy of news article about House Bill 556, 1965 for funds to move the structure to Strawberry Banke.
- Copies of historic documents and articles related to First State House. (1890 Circuit Court, 1850s’)



File of James L. Garvin:

- 2004 correspondence and news articles about First State House
- 2004 Meeting minutes of Committee to Save the Old State House
- “Old State House Mission Statement, February 10, 1999 Mission: to rescue the surviving portion of the original New Hampshire State House and to restore the building to its colonial ere-elegance on a suitable site in Portsmouth, NH. To re-animate the building as a living monument for use as a unifying symbol of our heritage, a focus of historic interpretation, and as a forum for discussion of ideas central to New Hampshire residents from colonial times to present.” Included in a grant application to The Walker Fund.
- Director Alphabetical Index for foundations and granting agencies.
- Budget Proposal for Reconstruction of the Old State House. 6 May 2004.
- Information on grant and foundation funding sources.

File of James L. Garvin:

- 2008 2001, 1998, 1999, 2000 articles , correspondence, minutes for the Committee To Save the Old State House.
- “Old State House Mission Statement Updated February 10, 1999” (Same as above plus the following) “Goals; To Preserve To preserve and restore the Old New Hampshire State House as a physical symbol of new Hampshire history and the region’s commitment to historic preservation. To Orient: To make the restored building into a central unifying site for the interpretation of historic Portsmouth and a starting point for understanding New Hampshire history. To Educate: To tell—with clarity, accuracy and drama—the story of the evolution of New Hampshire from a royal province to one of the original United States: to make history relevant to modern audiences by exploring our connection to local events and local people in the past. To Advocate: To advocate, and provided a forum for, the ongoing discussion of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in New Hampshire.”
- 1997 chronology of Exeter Town House, Garvin, October 1997.
- Copy of The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, 1995.

File: “Old State House Site & MGMT Plan”

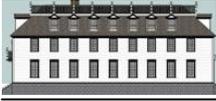
- Correspondence, notes, and copies of news articles related to Committee To Save The Old State House, 1993, 1988, and 1990.
- Cost Estimate for reproducing furniture for Old State House, 2/2/88.
- February 9, 1988, Preliminary Report on the Old State House (concerns, restoration costs, advantages).
- Potential site maps.

File: “Old State House Press Releases, &”

- Copies of related press releases and news articles- print and web, 2000, 1998,1993,2004,2003,2002,2001,1999,1998,1995,1992,1990,1989, 1987.
- A documentation of public visibility of planning, discussions, photographs, interviews, etc.

File: “Old State House Fumigation”

- Preservation literature and articles.



- 1992 fumigation bid.
- RFP for fumigation 1992.

File of James L. Garvin

- Correspondence, grants information re. Old State House 1988. Report on the Efforts to Study Possible Restoration of The Old State House, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Final Report, February 26, 1988. Submitted by R. Stuart Wallace, Director, Division of Historical Resources, Department of Libraries, Arts, and Historical Resources. Refers to the HSR by Adams & Roy. This was used to share information with NH Senator Elaine Krasker, 1988. Site considerations listed, capital costs outlined, operation costs outlined. The final recommendation was to incorporate “the remaining remnant into a new building” “From the outside, the building would faithfully replicate the original Old State house” “This would give visitors and school children a sense of the building’s size and appearance. On the inside, however, the building would be new. It could contain an orientation center/meeting room on the first floor, a permanent exhibit area on the second floor, and at the eastern, or “old” end, groups could be given a tour of the partially-restored fragment. Some timbers on the first floor might be left exposed, while portions of the Governor and council chamber on the second floor, including the entrance to the balcony, might be “finished” in an authentic manner.” “The construction of an “old Ste House Museum,” while not a pure restoration, would have a number of advantages over the old Williamsburg approach to restoration. There are:
 - A. A recognition that “restoration is really impossible, and efforts to recreate the ‘Old State House’ would result in deception.”
 - B. A less expensive options that would make better use of funds.
 - C. A building that was just as “authentic” on the outside as a building resulting from the restoration option but one that would be more attractive.
 - D. Greater flexibility.
 - E. People would actually be able to see something of the Old State House in the Old State House Museum. The remaining fragment of the Old State House would be well preserved.

File of James L. Garvin:

- Copies of research reports and correspondence found in other files.
- Copies of 18th century account books related to the Old State House.

File of James L. Garvin:

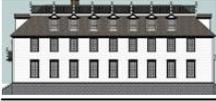
- 1990, 1991 correspondence, interagency and with city of Portsmouth.
- Draft specifications for RFP on Dismantling of Old State House.

File: “Old State House Contracts, 1990”:

- Correspondence and contracts to various contractors.

File: “Old State House Physical Investigation”

- Research notes, correspondence, drawings and measurements, 1995 timeline of the structure, blueprints.



File: “Old State House British Archives”

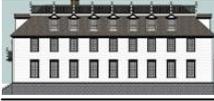
- List: Maps Pertaining to New Hampshire in the Public Record Office at Kew Surrey.
- Correspondence with libraries and archives re: research.
- Copy of pages from Photographs o American Maps, Archer Butler Hulbert, 1909.
- Copy of pages from The Province Seal of New Hampshire Under William and Mary 1692-1694. James Rindge Stanwood, Boston, 1889.

File: “James Garvin Copies of Correspondence 1962-1970”

- Correspondence of the Save the State House Committee, 1999.
- Copy of National Registry of Historic Places application, 1972.
- Agreements with Strawberry Banke, Inc.

File of James L. Garvin:

- EDI: General Info. Contains correspondence and copies of application forms, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006.
- EDI 1 Files: OSH Committee 2004, 2005 copies of news articles, correspondence, agenda, copy of letter from Jeremy Waldron- a founder of Strawberry Banke, public meeting notice.
- EDI File: Visitor Center 2005, correspondence.
- EDI File: Planning & Interp Info. Copies of articles, correspondence, Community life and the Arts: Portsmouth, New Hampshire Cultural Plan, December 2001. Goals: Preservation, Space, Youth, business, Marketing, Agency. Portsmouth Listens: Report of the Group on History, Arts and Culture, PowerPoint slide printouts.



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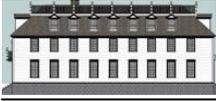
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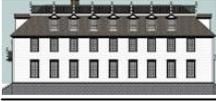
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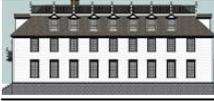
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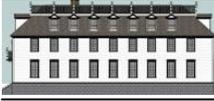
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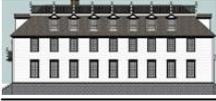
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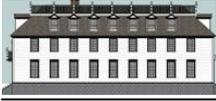
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Appendix E.2 - Annotated List of Market Competitors

American Independence Museum, Exeter, NH

Housed in the Ladd-Gilman House, (1721), a National Landmark Property, interpretation features the story of the Gilman families, who were prosperous Exeter merchants and became inextricably linked to the Revolution. The Folsom Tavern, down the hill from the Ladd-Gilman House, built c. 1775 by local entrepreneur Colonel Samuel Folsom, was the center of Exeter's political scene during the Revolution. The museum also features stories of men and women who overcame their uncertainties about freedom from Great Britain and helped establish the United States. Among the museum's permanent collection of documents chronicling the nation's founding are an original Dunlap Broadside of the Declaration of Independence and early drafts of the U.S. Constitution. Permanent collections include American furnishings, ceramics, silver, textiles and military ephemera. Exhibits detail the history of Portsmouth and the structure itself. The site of the New Hampshire Treasury during the American Revolution, this museum is home to an original broadside of the Declaration of Independence and early drafts of the U.S. Constitution. (<http://www.independencemuseum.org/>)

Fort Constitution Historic Site, New Castle, NH

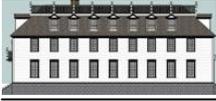
Originally constructed in the 1632 and named Fort William and Mary, this Fort museum interprets the history of the Fort itself and the key events it played a role in, including: A British stronghold that sat on Portsmouth Harbor, it was captured by colonists in 1774, 2 years before the American Revolution. Only ruins of the fort now remain, and visitors can glean information from the panels located at the site. This is where governor Wentworth and his wife and child spent 2 months in 1775 before sailing to Boston, and where Wentworth dissolved the assembly, the last act of royal authority in New Hampshire. The site is a National Historic Landmark, operated as a New Hampshire State Park. (<http://www.nhstateparks.com/fortconstitution.html>)

Gilman Garrison House, Exeter, NH

John Gilman, an early settler of Exeter, owned saw mills on the Squamscot River beginning in the 1650s. Built in 1709 by the Gilman family, this fortified structure was across the river from the family saw mills. The house passed to other families in the 1790s and was added to and altered through the nineteenth century. The house was purchased in the early twentieth century by a Gilman descendant and "restored" to its earlier appearance. The house is now presented by Historic New England as an architectural study house, and they continue to survey the house to learn more about its unique construction. (<http://www.historicnewengland.org/historic-properties/homes/gilman-garrison-house>)

Governor John Langdon Mansion, Portsmouth, NH

This historic house is a property of Historic New England. Visitors to the Governor John Langdon house learn about the history of Portsmouth through the life of John Langdon and others who lived here. The house tells the story of the early colony of New Hampshire, the glory days of the city's mercantile boom, and the Colonial Revival movement that blossomed in Portsmouth during the early twentieth century. From the vast central hall to the reception



rooms, everything in this mansion was designed to reflect Langdon's status as the town's leading citizen. Langdon became a sea captain, merchant, shipbuilder, Revolutionary leader, signer of the United States Constitution, and three-term governor of New Hampshire. (<http://www.historicnewengland.org/historic-properties/homes/gov.-john-langdon-house/gov.-john-langdon-house>)

Governor John Wentworth Historic Site, Wolfeboro, NH

This site is the location of the former summer estate of Governor John Wentworth, the last of New Hampshire's colonial governors. Visitors can see the remains of an extensive northern plantation built just before the outbreak of the American Revolution. Built by New Hampshire's Second Royal Governor, John Wentworth, the mansion burned to the ground in 1820. It has been the site of a recent archaeological dig where artifacts have been carefully pieced together. The artifacts reveal details about daily life and work methods of the privileged class of the period. (<http://www.nhstateparks.com/wentworth.html>)

Jackson House, Portsmouth, NH

A property of Historic New England, the Jackson House is the oldest surviving house in New Hampshire and Maine. It was built by Richard Jackson, a woodworker, farmer, and mariner, when timber from the region's abundant forests formed the basis of the economy. To highlight its interesting construction methods, the house is shown unfurnished, allowing an examination of first period construction techniques in this seventeenth-century architectural study. The Jackson House resembles English post-medieval prototypes, but is notably American in its extravagant use of wood. Succeeding generations added a lean-to by 1715, and more additions in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to accommodate several different family groups sharing the property at once. (<http://www.historicnewengland.org/historic-properties/homes/jackson-house/jackson-house>)

James House, Hampton, NH

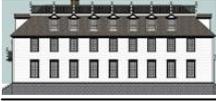
The James House is a living museum of architectural and social history of early New England. As this project develops, much of the interpretation is of the preservation of this "first period" colonial structure. Preservation of the James House is sensitive to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties. Where possible the property is being preserved as it has evolved to the present. Major reconstruction has occurred only where the deterioration has been extensive, and the original structure was largely destroyed. (<http://www.jameshousemuseum.org/>)

Kittery Historical and Naval Museum, Kittery, ME

This site is primarily a local history museum. Naval vessels have been built along the Piscataqua River since the Revolution, starting with John Paul Jones' sloop *The Ranger* which launched from Badger's Island in 1777. At Kittery's museum, exhibits include shipbuilding displays, carvings by the famed nautical carver John Haley Bellamy, old photographs, toys, archeological finds, ancient tools and household. (<http://www.kitterymuseum.com/>)

Massachusetts Old State House, The Bostonian Society, Boston, MA

Although this site is outside Resident Market as defined in this report, it is within the regional travel audience. As a colonial state house it would be a strong competitor to any interpretation of New Hampshire's First State House.



Known today as the Old State House, this building was the center of Boston's civic life in the 18th century and the scene of some of the most dramatic chapters in the lead-up to the American Revolution. Within these walls, Samuel Adams, James Otis, John Hancock, and John Adams debated the future of the British colonies. Just outside the building, five men were among the first casualties of the battle for independence, in what would later be known as the Boston Massacre. The Declaration of Independence was proclaimed from the balcony to the citizens of Boston in 1776. (<http://www.bostonhistory.org/?s=osh>)

Moffatt - Ladd House and Gardens, Portsmouth, NH

The Moffatt-Ladd House and Garden (1763) is a National Historic Landmark and has been open to the public as a historic house museum since 1912. One of America's finest Georgian mansions, the house was built for merchant John Moffatt between 1760 and 1763. During the Revolution, it was the home of General William Whipple, one of New Hampshire's three signers of the Declaration of Independence and his wife Katharine Moffatt Whipple. In 1817 the house passed to John Moffatt's great granddaughter, Maria Tufton Haven Ladd. Her son, Alexander Hamilton Ladd, lived in the house from 1862 until his death in 1900. The house is furnished to showcase its original features and to reflect its use as a private home from 1763 through 1900. The site is operated by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of New Hampshire. (<http://www.moffatladd.org/>)

Museum of New Hampshire History, Concord, NH

The museum collection is a somewhat encyclopedic array of historical materials from the state of New Hampshire. Ongoing exhibits about dog sledding (Chinook), The Mystery Stone, and an overview of New Hampshire History. Since 1823, the New Hampshire Historical Society has been preserving the state's past and presenting an interpretation of that history to the citizens of New Hampshire. (<http://www.nhhistory.org/museum.html>)

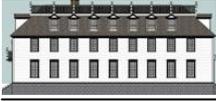
New Hampshire State House and Visitor's Center, Concord, NH

The Visitor Center staff schedules, conducts, and provides information for guided and self guiding tours of the State House. The Visitor Center also provides general information concerning New Hampshire history, government, state agencies, and tourism. Tours are provided to schools, scouts, civic organizations, citizens and tour groups. There are approximately 600 school tours during the school year and an additional number of smaller tours during the summer months.

(http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/nh_visitorcenter/default.htm)

The Portsmouth Athenæum, Portsmouth, NH

The Portsmouth Athenæum is a non-profit membership library and museum, incorporated in 1817 and located in the heart of historic Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The Athenæum maintains a library of over 40,000 volumes and an archive of manuscripts, photographs, objects, and ephemera relating to local history. It also sponsors exhibitions, concerts, lectures, and other educational and cultural programs. The mission of the Portsmouth Athenæum is to retain its tradition of serving as a locus of convivial interchange and intellectual discourse; to collect and preserve materials relevant to the study of the history of Portsmouth and the Piscataqua region; and to make these materials available to its Proprietors, to scholars, and to the general public. (<http://www.portsmouthathenaeum.org/>)



Portsmouth Historical Society - John Paul Jones House, Portsmouth, NH

The house has been known as the John Paul Jones House for several generations. Jones (1747-92), the celebrated naval hero of the American Revolution, spent time in Portsmouth in 1777 and again in 1781-82. He is believed to have rented a room in this house during 1777, when the widow of Gregory Purcell was operating a boarding house here. The museum provides interpretation on eighteenth century architecture, Portsmouth furniture and the role of Portsmouth in the American Revolution.

(http://www.portsmouthhistory.org/john_paul_jones_house/)

Portsmouth Historical Society – Discover Portsmouth Center, Portsmouth, NH

Operated by the Portsmouth Historical Society, the center converted the former city library to a new “one stop” central gateway to the historical, cultural and artistic venues of greater Portsmouth and a new exhibition site displaying the art and history of the region.

(http://www.portsmouthhistory.org/discover_portsmouth_center/)

Portsmouth Harbor Trail, Portsmouth, NH

The trail passes more than 70 points of scenic and historic significance in Portsmouth, include ten buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, ten National Historic Landmarks, and three homes maintained by Historic New England. The Highlight Tour will enlighten you with stories of colorful Portsmouth residents and dignitaries. Learn about history and beauty as you walk through the city's quaint downtown, along the waterfront, and through neighborhood streets that date back to the 17th century. Or take the Twilight Tour and learn how bordellos and bars that catered to both sailors and politicians were allowed to exist and were eventually put out of business and then "swept under the carpet" when Portsmouth's pristine Prescott Park and Strawberry Banke Museum were created.

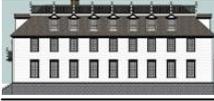
(<http://www.portsmouthnh.com/harbourtrail/>)

Portsmouth Old Graves, Portsmouth NH

This program shares the rich history of Portsmouth NH as told through its 17th, 18th, and 19th century gravestones. The gravestones of Portsmouth and New England in general are unique places to learn this history firsthand as well as view beautiful early art through their carvings. In addition to numerous historic figures and interesting people of note, in Portsmouth rests some of the first settlers of our country, sea captains and shipping merchants, colonial revolutionaries, civil war veterans, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, African-American slaves, colonial politicians and governors, and other people whose lives contributed to history. It also presents grave stone carving as an art form and presents workshops on restoration and preservation. (<http://www.portsmoutholdgraves.org/default.asp>)

Strawbery Banke Museum, Portsmouth, NH

On this ten-acre site the houses, shops, taverns and gardens continue to tell the stories of the generations who called the Puddle Dock neighborhood home for almost four centuries of New England history. Through restored furnished houses, exhibits, period gardens, historic landscapes and costumed role players Strawberry Banke is the living history of the people who settled in Portsmouth, New Hampshire from the late 17th century to the mid-20th century. The extended site offers many opportunities for “hands-on” learning and features. Collections include historic houses and buildings, archeology, history, decorative arts, and historic gardens. (<http://www.strawberybanke.org/>)



Pitt Tavern (Strawbery Banke Museum), Portsmouth, NH

A restored 18th century tavern located in Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth that is restored to its original condition and interprets the colorful history of its builder and owner, John Stavers, who had royalist leanings, but eventually recovered the trust and respect of his fellow Americans after the revolution. Many famous figures of the Revolutionary War from the New England area had been visitors to the tavern. (<http://www.strawberybanke.org/pitt-tavern.html>)

Warner House, Portsmouth, NH

The Warner House is the earliest extant brick urban mansion in New England. It was built in 1716-1718 for Captain Archibald Macphedris and his bride-to-be Sarah Wentworth, daughter of New Hampshire's Lieutenant Governor, John Wentworth. Here visitors explore the social life of the Portsmouth family who occupied the Warner House for six generations. This history is told in rooms furnished with many of the original family pieces, documented by estate inventories and early photographs. Each room represents different owners, culminating in the recently restored parlor of Evelyn Sherburne, one of the last residents. (<http://www.warnerhouse.org/>)

Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion, Portsmouth, NH

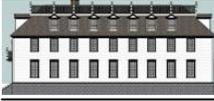
The Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion is the former home of New Hampshire's first royal governor, Benning Wentworth. The rambling, forty-room mansion which overlooks Little Harbor is one of the most outstanding homes remaining of the colonial era. Its stateliness and impressive interior and furnishings reflect aristocratic life in Portsmouth in the 1700s. The Wentworth-Coolidge mansion is maintained as an historic site by the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Resources and Economic Development. (<http://www.nhstateparks.org/explore/state-parks/wentworth-coolidge-mansion-state-historic-site.aspx>)

Wentworth-Gardner and Tobias Lear House, Portsmouth, NH

Located in the historic South End of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the Wentworth-Gardner and Tobias Lear Houses are adjacent to each other on Mechanic and Hunking Streets. Both houses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The houses date from the mid-1700's and are classic examples of Georgian architecture. Built in 1760, the Wentworth-Gardner house is one of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in this country. The house was built by the Wentworth family for their son Thomas as a wedding gift. The Wentworth clan was a powerful force in colonial New Hampshire. The Lear House was built in 1740 by Captain Tobias Lear III. He was the grandfather of Tobias Lear V, who became the private secretary to President George Washington. (<http://www.wentworthgardnerandlear.org/>)

Woodman Institute Museum, Dover, NH

The Woodman Institute Museum is housed in the 1813 Senator John P. Hale home, an original 1675 colonial garrison house furnished with period artifacts, the 1818 Woodman House, and the Keefe House built in 1825. The museum is a natural history, local history and art museum that has existed since 1916. (<http://woodmaninstitutemuseum.org>)



Appendix E.3 - Stakeholder and Public Input Meeting Materials

Regional Stakeholders On-line Input Meeting Minutes

First State House of New Hampshire
Phone and Web Meeting, Thursday, September 15, 2011
10 AM- 12:04 PM

Notes by: Katie Boardman 9/26/11 Update

Facilitators: Laura Black, NHDHR
Blake Hayes, Katie Boardman, Tom Elliott, The Cherry Valley Group

Others Present: Jim Garvin; Rodney Rowland; Edward McDonough; Steve Zdravec; Richard Candee; Cindy Hayden; Jennifer Goodman, Maryellen Burke, Peter Michaud, Elizabeth Muzzey, Deborah Gagne

Welcome and Introductions 10:03 AM

Laura: We have been working on this project since April 2010. Many past ideas have been shared about the values and significance of what we physically have. We are looking at how to share it with present and future audiences. We are trying to be creative to find the best use for the resource. We are trying to think outside of the box for possibilities. CVG will lead us in doing this. Whatever happens to the resource won't be decided or happen in a vacuum. We are speaking with key organizations and the wider public. At today's gathering we hope to gauge how organizations might set an action plan into place. We are quite interested in participant reactions.

DHR staff members' introductions:

Peter Michaud, Former Special Projects Director/involved with project initially-;
Elizabeth Muzzey, Director of Division of Historical Resources;
Deb Gagne: Grants Coordinator
Jim Garvin, retired State Architectural Historian and been with project since summer 1963 at Strawberry Banke;

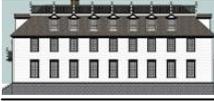
Introductions of organization representatives:

Richard Candee- Vice President, Portsmouth Historical Society/Discover Portsmouth Center
Maryellen Burke, Executive Director Portsmouth Historical Society, John Paul Jones House/Discover Historic Portsmouth
Edward McDonough, Portsmouth School District Superintendent
Steve Zdravec, Portsmouth School District Assistant Superintendent
Cindy Hayden, Deputy City Manager, Portsmouth
Jennifer Goodman, NH Preservation Alliance
(Rodney Rowland, Strawberry Banke Museum, arriving a few minutes later)

Agenda Review 10:12 AM (Blake Hayes)

Introduction to the First State House Planning Project: (Laura Black) 10:13 AM

Today we will focus on this current grant project.
For context, Laura shared a short background of the resource. It was originally built 1758. It was the first seat of New Hampshire government. It was used as a community center until the 1830s when 2/3 of the building physically disappeared. The remaining section was moved, renovated and turned into



a boarding house. After a number of uses, it was moved in the 1960s to Strawberry Banke Museum for possible inclusion in their exhibits.

There was a refocusing of the Strawberry Banke Museum mission. In 1990 NH sponsored an HSR. Then the structure was marked, dismantled and moved to Concord for storage. In 2007 the NHDHR received an Economic Dev Grant from HUD. This resulted in a Conditions Assessment by a building conservator. She worked with timber framers and others. They found the remnants to be in fairly good condition. They also ascertained that reconstruction would require a lot of reproduction parts. Visitors would see a mostly modern structure if a reconstruction was attempted.

Additionally, an architect has created digital models. These and other resources are on a refreshed project website of NHDHR.

There are models also on the website of how a structure might look in a landscape. These were created to get an idea of scale and form- full/partial reconstruction. Again, a lot of reconstruction would be needed for such an approach.

The have recently rethought the grant project. There was a possibility of using the structure as part of a visitor center for seacoast organizations? But, others have stepped up and done this. Therefore, DHR stepped back to look at other options.

Following this phase of project conceptual planning, ConsultECon will look at economic viability- heritage tourism and economic viability. There will be public discussion sessions, too.

Summary of the Interpretation Planning Process: (Blake Hayes) 10:19 AM

CVG staff is looking in very broad ways at how the resource might be used.

There has been a good bit of research reading. We are gathering and assembling data for the creation of an interpretive framework. Such a framework might be illustrated as a "data hopper" where all of the information is pulled together.

CVG will then create a matrix of ideas for utilization of the resource and its interpretation. They will create a series of interpretive frameworks for each idea. And, develop more complex scenarios for each idea. The proposed ideas will be assessed by larger project team, ConsultECon (economic feasibility) and groups of the general public.

CVG is reviewing basic data and research: governance, general market segments, demographics, who are competitors/partners in Colonial history in NH story, and stories of the resource (building, Colonial/Revolution, Colonial/Revolutionary time in NH), cultural assets (property, architectural remains, archeological, archival/research, primary, secondary).

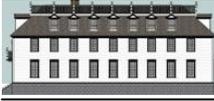
Question:

Richard Candee: The biggest asset of the project may be the NH bar. Lawyers in NH have shown a special interest in New Hampshire's role in the formation of the judiciary system and operations of government. They feel that those stories, past and present, need to be told. We need to make interpretive themes link to the present- educationally and with who's involved. There may be possible partnering from lawyers available.

Interpretation Framework Presentation Concepts: 10:27 AM

Blake reviewed headings for The Interpretation Framework: mission(s), main message(s), topics, themes/sub-themes, delivery methods and techniques, content and exhibition "script" outlines.

Data/Idea hopper to framework triangle illustration was discussed.



Participants' Input Activities:

Interpretation Significance Exercise: 10:31 AM

We have a set of architectural remains. What is its significance?

Richard Candee: Its biggest asset with special audiences of lawyers and the NH Bar. It is more and archeological significance than architectural. The remains are so partial and are just the inner guts of building. The fragments are symbolic of the value of government in a critical time. These physical remains can help us understand the written record. It can evoke the story of what happened in and around the building. We can see in our minds what it might have been or digitally reconstruct what was. What happened are a result? That is the question to answer interpretively.

Rodney: The resource is a stage. It is not a complete thing. But, we can learn from it and teach from it. We think of things at Strawberry Banke that way. When the object can't speak for itself- we surround it with other objects, texts, documents and objects that support and complete the story of the object.

Jim G: In 1987, I worked with the architects on HSR when structure was standing at Strawberry Banke. It was a disappointment to find how much is missing of the 18th century structure. But, we found the treasury records at the NH State archives that filled in information. We were able to created a mental construct of the building and place it in architectural context. We could reconstruct what it was. The building couldn't stand alone as it is. But, we know what we know through other means. Moffett-Ladd house was built by the same builders.

Consider the Structure as a stage- a launching point for an interpretive venture. Its story focuses on law, royal government and, on broader sense, of life under crown. We can imagine what was really like to live as a royal subject. It is a launching point for interpretation of law.

Governor and council relationships can be explored through this structure. For more on those relationships, see a 1950s book on the judicial aspect. (Title and author?)

Unless we have an institution or group of institutions willing to share those stories through this stage- we won't go anywhere with the project.

This building can help us understand in accurate and unbiased way what it was like pre-Revolution. Who will step forward to adopt such a mission?

Jennifer- Confesses that she is stuck on how the structure relates to the preservation movement and how it relates.

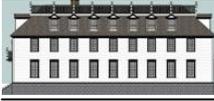
Tom E- What significance might the public schools find? History departments, in particular?

Rodney -Strawberry Banke welcomes 12, 000 kids a year. They have an architecture program, Sherburne House, Winne House, Building Science summer camp – This structure might fit into that program.

Richard C - Where does the story fit in the K-12 NH state curriculum? Civics?

Steve Zadavec- The curriculum encourages teachers and schools to make best use they can of local resources, Portsmouth sites and Strawberry Banke is within walking distance of schools in our district.

There is value in using the sites to teach about early government. Visits can touch on the Social Studies curriculum. 3-4 grades are focused on local and statewide. Middle school students are looking at local history resources. High School students we are trying to get more engaged in community preservation work and use of the resources.



Rodney- Rye Jr. High comes to Strawberry Banke and are bringing not just Social Studies teachers. They include experiences for shop and art. The museum sets up a tour that is not just about history. How buildings put together, how tools used, and other topics are explored.

Jim G- If this building in another building, one could show it in an “exploded” exhibition- interpret the physical evidence, nail holes, shadows on woodwork, suggest missing joinery. This might require participation from the Smithsonian or some institution with a budget, mission and concentrated knowledge to make it happen. The focus is architectural. Previous planning has shied away from such an approach when they discovered how little of the bldg still exists. It is a tool to study architecture.

Peter - A back seat significance for the resource is that we can talk about golden age of Portsmouth. It's economic and cultural rise and fall and then its rise again with the 19th- 20th century Colonial Revival. We can see examples here of the WPA post- WWII preservation philosophy. A microcosm of that philosophy is embodied in the old statehouse. We should recognize its 19th and 20th c significance, even 20th life as a NH State Liquor Store!

Maryellen- She noted being stuck on what is the market for the story. What is the need for the building? What is the difference that the Statehouse could add that is not already filled? What is the value for the huge cost of reconstruction? Start with how it fills in that something else isn't filling. Is there no demand and not funds for it?

Rodney: What is the best media for telling these stories?

Maryellen- Yes.

Jim: Her point about demand, this was interpreted as an economic study. That's an artificial way to approach it. I sat on a mayor's blue ribbon committee to determine use. Our economic grant might have skewed the look at what is economic impact of heritage tourism seacoast Maine and NH.

Laura- We're going to be looking at the economic side of any ideas put forth. The next step will be an action plan. We want to think of other ways to interpret it that may not be very expensive. Break out of limitation of restoration, putting up and people visiting.

Peter- Whatever the interpretation model chosen, it should support the other historical entities in the region. The state house should connect with them all.

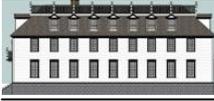
Topic/Storyline Exercise: 10:55 AM **Themes/Storylines**

Blake shared the initial brainstorm list from CVG to start the conversation on PowerPoint slides. University of Maryland, Visual Resource Project of viewing early Washington, DC area in War of 1812 was shown as an example of a virtual project approach.

Jim: We can do a site on the “contents of a crate.”

Maryellen: (Departed the group at 11 AM for another commitment.)

Richard: Architecture is a primary story. But the bigger story is Government (Citizens' Role in Participatory Government). All things Civics is a much larger topic than keeping it to the Colonial. Much of the Colonial has been just a Portsmouth context. We should think in a NH context- get around the state!



Jim: We have continually referred to the interpretation of government in the broadest sense. We can refer to the book by Page on judicial beginnings. Systems of weak governor, representative assembly, councils all came through the old court cases. The remaining west end of the structure was the only court room in the colony. Land grants were made there by the royal government for west NH and VT.

There are stories of the encouragement for settlement, and transfer of value in land.

Richard- The rich getting richer.

Jim: Yes. Portsmouth oligarchy of well-connected families. Is there any entity to take it on? UNH (University or New Hampshire) has potential. (David Waters). That theme is being taught there by Elijah Gould.

Rodney- The government topic, in the broadest sense, isn't being taught in any institution in the region. This could be a huge help. It will need a body to take it on with funds to do it. How can this happen with current economics and struggling of existing institutions?

Jim- We should seek out parallel institutions. We should be looking for partnerships - Bar Association, New Hampshire Museum, and Historic Portsmouth-David Waters Center at University of New Hampshire. We received an NEH planning grant at Historic Portsmouth a few years ago. Supreme Court Historical Society might be a good partner.

Jennifer- There is a set of funders who have contributed to civic discourse in last few years. Has the wave of interest in this crested?

Blake- (refocused conversation) We will talk more about partners and funders a bit later.

Cindy H: Can there be a short view and long view for this project? Like a community master plan? Does it include funding and partners over time?

Jim: Yes. There's no rush about it. We can bring some ideas to life while the bones of building are still in storage. Perhaps we should consider the Supreme Court Historical Society as a partner.

Jennifer- Justice David Souter as a partner?

Blake: Are there any more broad themes that you would like to list?

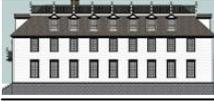
Richard: Government in the big sense is huge. It is never ending and a great area of focus. Not a good idea to add much more to that. The project then becomes unwieldy.

Blake- Architecture and government have been repeatedly mentioned.

Richard- Look at state curriculum to make sure the smaller storylines are of great interest to teachers of the state.

Blake- CVG will look beyond just social studies for curriculum connections.

Richard – There may be interesting connections for the structure's story. Strawberry Banke hosts naturalization swearing-in ceremonies. (Chief Justice Souter has taken part in those recently.) That was done historically at the State House. The other topics are really sub-themes under citizen and state government.



Becoming a New Hampshireer doesn't read right, but how people form a government in a broader sense is what we're looking at.

We wouldn't want to use the actual building fragments – but could use digital, video, photographic products to extend the architecture line to a larger Facebook or other audiences.

Rodney- Great thought. The use of technology can make it a whole story. Kids are motivated by visual instruction.

Richard- Potential partners or co-sponsors might be timber framers or the research end of the Timber Framers Guild (TTRAG?).

Katie: (Asked a question of the school district representatives about the new Common Core Curriculum. It focuses more on skills that specific content. Is this being used in New Hampshire schools?)

Ed: New Hampshire has adopted the Common Core Standards. English and Math are the first sections released. English and Literacy use an interdisciplinary approach. The themes being talked about will be fleshed out more in the new future. There is not a specific Social Studies effort in Common Core. New Hampshire is reviewing their state standards to be in line with the Common Core initiative.

Utilization/Interpretation Methods Exercise: 11.21 AM

Blake- Review the concept spectrum. Full restoration appears not viable.

Richard/Jim: Drop it.

Jennifer: Are there still people who want to see it happen?

Richard & Jim: Yes.

Rodney: The biggest reason not to do it is the amount of CASH required. We could put the frame back up, but there is nothing in there to teach with.

Blake: Presented the potential conceptual scale of possibilities to start conversation. Building a new museum is on one extreme.

Richard/Jim: Even worse idea. "Would throw rotten eggs if he had them."

Blake – The photo on the scale is actually the building frame. The conceptual completed section might be a theatrical scrim, rather than a structure. This idea would need real space in a real building.

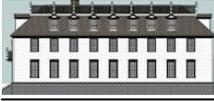
Richard- That's why it shouldn't happen (in another bldg)

Blake- The structure could also be part of an exhibit in an existing venue.

Richard- There's another piece that we haven't listed. There are a lot of buildings in the state that host traveling exhibits. That might be a feasible option.

Blake- Another idea is the Boarding House Restoration as a Bed and Breakfast. It could also serve as a historic preservation or architecture research and training lab with a variety of partners.

Another set of possibilities is the completely virtual approach.



(There were a few group cheers at mention of completely virtual.)

This is a broad continuum on this scale.

What do you think it the place to lean towards on the continuum?

Are there other ideas from you?

Beth: These options are not mutually exclusive. With parts stored, a reconstruction or use of parts is always an option later.

Richard: Virtual is on top and some combo of research/training in existing venue.

Add my vote a movable exhibit to travel around state and connect with such a lab.

Get Jim to connect the frame sections and see similar treatments around Portsmouth in existing buildings- many of which were made by the same builders as those who built the State House.

iPod download programs might be possible.

Jim; Moffett-Ladd would be the closest match to the State House. This can play out this approach in many other places in Portsmouth. The Virtual option is within our more immediate grasp.

The full restoration option shouldn't be totally foreclosed. There still remains a lot of interest for that in some circles in Portsmouth. It may be a generation before that idea will disappear.

There may come a need for the physical structure parts. The Discover Portsmouth Center is filling a Visitor Center need. We are one generation. Thirty to fifty years from now there may be others concepts. This goes to Peter's idea of changing ideas of historic preservation.

Rodney-Beth - What about a Boarding House Restoration? An "authentic visitor experience." Is there a possibility of remaining part of the state DRED, Tourism initiatives, etc?

Tom: If you went that rout it would sustain the elements.

Rodney: Would State give up ownership to put it toward adaptive use? I love the idea, but not sure where and who could afford it?

Blake- Manchester.

Jim: Occupied by every Presidential candidate who ever comes to New Hampshire?

Jennifer: This reflects an idea they have bounced around the state: English models of people staying in historic buildings. This possibility could be part of Parks and Recreation, tourism, etc. We've stretched people's ideas to think beyond total restoration.

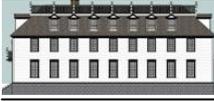
The idea of taking the building out of state ownership would take a similar effort.

Richard: Gave a place for the state to put those remnants back to work – putting remnants into an otherwise new building.

Blake- Another idea is to rebuild the entire structure as a hotel/

Tom: Some ideas may bring sustainability and adaptive reuse options.

Rodney- Strawberry Banke has talked about turning a building into a place to stay in conjunction with other local hotels.



If the building would stand alone, it might be an option. If Boarding House would be a for-profit option, it throws out the education aspects.

Jim: Consider Virtual education. Put the building across from Strawberry Banke. Get twice as many rooms with a full restoration. Use some for other uses when not completely filled.

Jennifer: Create an easement for use.

Beth (?): Does the resource lose something if it's a boarding house?

Jim: We could "lie"; Create the interior of the 18th century and exterior of a 19th century plain boarding house as a B and B.

Jim: There is a historic marker coming for market square. The location of the structure is. Marked out on the street.

Rodney: Strawberry Banke still has the building's steps.

Blake: Will the markers have QR codes to link to the virtual? There are all kinds of ways to link to virtual presentations now.

Potential Partners Discussion: 11:45 AM

Blake: A project might create a set of partnerships with non-profit cultural organizations and University that has a hospitality training ground.

Richard: There is a long history of failed efforts in NH with that. Many were not successful, so one needs to be careful about that.

Jim: This is a small building- only 30 ft square. You would need to reconstruct the whole building.

Rodney: Virtual certainly needs to be a part of this. But, so many kids are bombarded by screen time. They need something that has touchable, live items and spaces. I love the other options to make it an experience outside of a screen. We would hope for a tangible/touchable element as well as virtual.

Cindy: Wasn't kidding about Retired Justice Souter. He resides in NH. He did the naturalization ceremony on the 4th. He is very interested in historic preservation and being a bigger player.

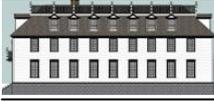
Jim: David Souter is also very interested in civics, civic engagement and judicial history. Invite him to be a part of the conversation. He is a plain spoken person who clearly speaks his opinions. There was a recent NPR filming of him speaking at a film screening.

Richard: Cindy? What is status of MacIntyre Federal Building.

Cindy: We don't know. Stalled. It will be several years out before moving out.

Richard: I have heard several folks looking at the parking lot behind the Federal bldg as a location for Old State House. Maybe the location would work if the purpose for the structure was sustaining.

Cindy: There will be LOTS of stakeholder input about that building and the lot. She will add the State House to the list as another good idea. Portsmouth doesn't want to start the conversation too early.



Rodney: (Spoke of Strawberry Banke visitor center input for their design.)

Richard: Offer it to the Portsmouth Historical Society as an exhibit venue for a traveling exhibit with curriculum pieces. Historic Portsmouth Center. It would need partners to help do it.

Rodney: (Larry Yerdon of Strawberry Banke is at a conference, so he can't respond for the museum.) But we could talk about possibilities at Strawberry Banke. It would be best if it were someone else's show and we help,

Cindy: Does the curriculum interest meet a need?

Richard: We are just now getting to long range planning for exhibits and content at Strawberry Banke. An exhibit related to the first statehouse would involve finding the right timing and partnership(s). We could offer advice and implementation help. But, we couldn't take on the whole project.

Rodney: They work a little at William Penn Tavern with government as an interpreted topic.

Jim: Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion offers a little interpretation on royal government in New Hampshire, too. The education center, however, is now a very beloved arts center. So, an idea might need to augment the arts approach.

Richard: Sandra Rux at the Portsmouth Historical Society has wanted to host a conference on royal homes. A 1 year exhibit that contained State House material could combine well with such an effort 1 year exhibit.

Beth: New Hampshire Political Library, what has been the reception from their audiences?

Jim: I was on their board at its founding. Gov. Hugh Grey was especially interested in a full spectrum view of political history in New Hampshire there. But, I am not sure who is running it now. They have a board but lost staff due to budget cuts and moved their collections to the state archives. This could be beneficial so that the library can broaden its focus again to larger government.

Richard: Has anyone talked to Exeter Independence Museum?

Rodney: (Departed at 11:59 AM)

Blake: **(NOON)** Encouraged feed back after this virtual meeting through emailing responses to him on the worksheets. Thanks to all who participated. We'll wrap up very quickly

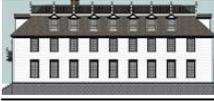
Laura: Thank everyone for participating.
We're hopeful to shoot some new energy into the discussion that will be very valuable.
If you are talking with others who are interested have them contact us.

Blake: We will talk the rapid transcripts into a summary report and submit to Laura. We find a way to share that back with you.

Richard: Has anyone talked with American Independence Museum in Exeter? Some of this content matter is in their mission.

Blake: If you would like a copy of the PowerPoint, let me know.

12:04 Adjourn



Pre-Public Meeting On-line Survey Results (verbatim)

1. What do you find interesting about New Hampshire's First State House?

It is our history

11/7/2011 8:59 AM

that it has been kept in storage for so long... typical in regards to some peoples inability to make timely decisions and discard unnecessary clutter.

11/6/2011 11:12 AM

The fact that a portion of it still exists and seeing images of how it supposedly looked.

11/6/2011 8:09 AM

That it has been kept in storage for so long!

11/5/2011 7:01 PM

The story of its journey through time...an emerging preservation story.

11/5/2011 1:54 PM

press release on NH.gov

11/4/2011 10:14 PM

Location, Rich History

11/4/2011 9:05 AM

It still exists.

11/3/2011 11:51 AM

Are you kidding? It's from ****1758****, which around here is old, and it's from the time our current society was born.

11/3/2011 10:59 AM

That it's still standing ...

11/3/2011 9:39 AM

It illustrates the importance of Portsmouth, ship-building, the harbor, and the ocean to the state.

11/3/2011 9:24 AM

That it's available & preserved

10/31/2011 3:37 PM

That some of it actually exists - even though it was forgotten in a storage trailer in Concord for many years.

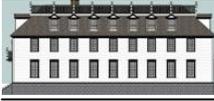
10/31/2011 12:03 AM

The history of it and the people who used it.

10/28/2011 11:49 AM

Sorry to say, I don't know much about it.

10/27/2011 10:55 PM



that any part of it survives

10/27/2011 3:47 PM

its original location, design (what little is known) and purpose

10/27/2011 1:54 PM

The fact that it actually exists even if in a box trailer for so long. It certainly is a primary historical resource.

10/27/2011 1:09 PM

The fact that a portion of New Hampshire's Provincial State House still exists is remarkable. That its master-builder and carpenters raised its sizable frame (30 by 80 feet with 21-foot posts) atop a 5-plus-foot high granite foundation (what a sight to have witnessed!). That fifth-generation American and respected governor John Wentworth was New Hampshire's only royal governor to take the oath of office in its council chamber (June 13, 1767), etc., etc.

10/27/2011 11:32 AM

That it is still in use and houses so many paintings.

10/27/2011 11:27 AM

It represents where government started in New Hampshire or as close to it as we are going to be able to see today.

10/27/2011 11:18 AM

There has been a lot of effort over the years to have this building reconstructed utilizing very little physical evidence. I don't think it was worth it.

10/27/2011 10:51 AM

???

10/27/2011 10:19 AM

To learn more about NH past.

10/27/2011 8:52 AM

The fact that people thought it was worth saving way back when - and that the pieces survived.

10/27/2011 8:48 AM

archetecture

10/26/2011 8:53 PM

That it's in storage!

10/26/2011 6:51 PM

it is NH's FIRST state house. In a state now divided into right regions or fiefdoms, it represents an era when the government and commerce were centered on an oligarchy of seacoast leaders who saw the rest of the state as a source of natural resources. it represents the sudden transition at the state's only seaport from a colonial to a sovereign government and the demise of the state's seafaring economy that followed.

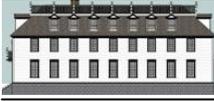
10/26/2011 6:03 PM

It's old

10/26/2011 5:23 PM

The fact that it has been saved and stored and discussed for so long without resolution.

10/26/2011 10:15 AM



The First State House is a tangible remnant and symbol of New Hampshire's long history as a royal province, and of the years of revolution and early statehood. It is also an artifact that represents much of the legal and judicial history of New Hampshire.

10/25/2011 6:19 PM

2. How do you currently envision New Hampshire's First State House Project and its final outcome?

Use it as a learning tool with the NH Voc Tech School. As our country ages, carpenters that are experienced in restoration will be in demand. Have our students here in NH use it as one of their projects.

11/7/2011 8:59 AM

this is not the time to waste more \$ that could be used to help others (US-NH citizens) in need. the outcome could be to raffle off portions or all of the materials to anyone that cares enough to have them. the proceeds should then be used to assist needy NH indigenous people or school programs.

11/6/2011 11:12 AM

I see it serving as an excellent seacoast museum and NH history Interpretation Resource Center that would become a major tourist attraction for the NH Seacoast much like what Heritage NH was in Glen, NH.

11/6/2011 8:09 AM

It would be great to re-erect it in Portsmouth. It should be used to infill a vacant lot in the old section of town and as much reproduced as possible

11/5/2011 7:01 PM

I would favor it as a working laboratory for the study of the preservation process.

11/5/2011 1:54 PM

reassembled in portsmouth. it would npbe a perfect addition at Strawberry Banke

11/4/2011 10:14 PM

Tourist Attraction, School Field Trip for History

11/4/2011 9:05 AM

I think it should be reconstructed and placed at Strawberry Banke.

11/3/2011 11:51 AM

Preserve it for future opportunities.

11/3/2011 9:39 AM

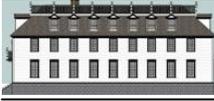
I don't know enough to answer that question.

11/3/2011 9:24 AM

Not sure -- would love to see it rebuilt as a statewide public meeting center -- in the tradition of NH's Official Town Meeting House (the Belknap Mill) and NH Institute of Politics at St. Anselm's College

10/31/2011 3:37 PM

A plaque, bench, landscaped area at it's original location. Original replication at it's hostage location in Concord.



10/31/2011 12:03 AM

Possibly an exhibit that travels around the state

10/28/2011 11:49 AM

N/A

10/27/2011 10:55 PM

Best left unreconstructed

10/27/2011 3:47 PM

an awful lot of effort has been expended to date for not much in potential/ eventual benefit. Find a place to re-erect the frame where it can be safe and dry, add some interpretive panels, and let it go at that. if not, keep it safely stored. Do not try to raise money to reconstruct the entire building; that would be too costly and cover up what few original elements there are.

10/27/2011 1:54 PM

Reconstruction, in part or in sections. Either out of doors or inside a building that would protect and enhance the display.

10/27/2011 1:09 PM

Because its true physical nature is unknown, the remaining portion of New Hampshire's Provincial State House should not be reconstructed, but preserved and exhibited -- as is -- within a suitable structure.

10/27/2011 11:32 AM

I don't know enough about the project to comment but hope that the building stays it active use for its intended purpose.

10/27/2011 11:27 AM

Not sure, I am hoping that it can represent a time and give a feeling of what it was like at that time in NH government.

10/27/2011 11:18 AM

I would rather see the effort and dollars go to a more worthy project. There is nothing unique or significantly revealing in the few remaining building relics.

10/27/2011 10:51 AM

The announcement is not clear. What is the Project? Calling it a "resource" and "artifact" means nothing to me.

10/27/2011 10:19 AM

What is the project? The "flier" was not very clear. There was reference to a resource - do you mean that the First State House is a resource?

10/27/2011 10:00 AM

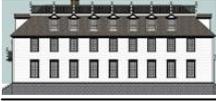
I do not know if you are going to focus on the history of state house politics as the NHSPF is about the White Mountain Forest and its politics. Or how the State House effected the residents of NH?

10/27/2011 8:52 AM

Resurrection

10/27/2011 8:48 AM

back to its original state



10/26/2011 8:53 PM

It would be great to see it rebuilt and on display at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth.

10/26/2011 6:51 PM

A model of the statehouse, a video about what it meant (see above), a book about its history and evolution to the capital at Exeter, then Concord, and an exhibit of some of the timbers.

10/26/2011 6:03 PM

??

10/26/2011 5:23 PM

An exhibition of preservation challenges and questions most communities have or will encounter at some point, with this exhibit as the resolution to NH's State House Project.

10/26/2011 10:15 AM

Everything depends upon the identification of a partner or partners who have the will and the resources to make some interpretive use of the artifact and/or the historical themes and concepts that it represents.

10/25/2011 6:19 PM

3. What benefit(s) for New Hampshire citizens do you hope to see result from the interpretation of New Hampshire's First State House?

We learn from our past. By protecting our history we can improve on it and change our future

11/7/2011 8:59 AM

that not all clutter is worthy of keeping.... memories can be kept in photographs and stories as well. thank you...

11/6/2011 11:12 AM

Increasing pride and interest through better interpretation & promotion of N.H.'s truly colorful and unique heritage. After all, the first overt act of the American Revolution took place at New Castle in 1774; the first Mast Tree Riot in America took place in two parts in April 1734 at Exeter which at the time included Fremont & Brentwood where the riot actually took place; the first Civil War Riot in New England which took place in Fremont on July 4, 1861; the fascinating Spaulding & Frost Barrel Cooperage that operated for 125 years in Fremont between 1874 & 1999; the world's largest weaving room at Newmarket in the early 20th century; and countless other fascinating little-known events & firsts that I could elaborate on which occurred in N.H. Survey completed by: Matthew E. Thomas Fremont, NH 11/6/11

11/6/2011 8:09 AM

It should stay near to the original site to retain as much integrity as possible. I see it being optimally used as a rent-able meeting space. If the historic use has been as a meeting place for early New Hampshire legislation, it could at least continue to be used as a gathering place.

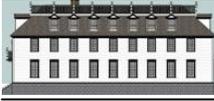
11/5/2011 7:01 PM

The preservation alone is important to me, but it could mean even more if it was turned into an interpretative center for the study of preservation methods, protocols, etc

11/5/2011 1:54 PM

appreciation of our history and the unique role NH played in the founding of our nation

11/4/2011 10:14 PM



Enhancing our cultural resources with history.

11/4/2011 9:05 AM

That we know our state's history better.

11/3/2011 11:51 AM

Greater knowledge of how we started. And some pride in conserving our resources and saving good things.

11/3/2011 10:59 AM

The availability and accessibility of a unique state historical landmark.

11/3/2011 9:39 AM

It will help citizens better understand the state's long history, reaching into its pre-REvolutionary past.

11/3/2011 9:24 AM

Living history for all ages to learn about, particularly students and newcomers -- combining with our first in the nation primary tradition

10/31/2011 3:37 PM

Cultural enrichment. We had a humble beginning - with a touch of reality.

10/31/2011 12:03 AM

a greater understanding of our history as a state. How we became a state, who those community leaders were back then and how they shaped the way we are today.

10/28/2011 11:49 AM

greater sense of what early NH was like

10/27/2011 10:55 PM

Not many--there are many things more interesting and important for NH than the remnants of the first state house

10/27/2011 3:47 PM

Could be yet another interesting story to tell somewhere in Portsmouth, among the many historic sites and museums in the downtown.

10/27/2011 1:54 PM

Any reconstruction would provide a wonderful chance to study and interpret the construction techniques of that era. In sum, it would be an invaluable teaching experience.

10/27/2011 1:09 PM

Although unintentionally neglected, it would help New Hampshire's historic community to interpret better the state's rich Provincial history (1680-1775).

10/27/2011 11:32 AM

I don't know enough about the project to comment but hope that the building stays it active use for its intended purpose.

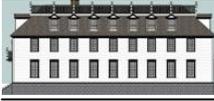
10/27/2011 11:27 AM

A chance to know what it was like at that point in NH history.

10/27/2011 11:18 AM

That we studied what physical evidence we had and that we cannot compile enough information to do an accurate reconstruction.

10/27/2011 10:51 AM



Where, what if the NH's First State House?

10/27/2011 10:19 AM

What kind of interpretation? I kind of see what you are getting at but you are using jargon that ordinary citizens may find bewildering ...

10/27/2011 10:00 AM

If I do not know your goal how can I answer?

10/27/2011 8:52 AM

Kids will be able to walk through history and hopefully begin an early appreciation of history and artifacts.

10/27/2011 8:48 AM

our states history correctly portrayed

10/26/2011 8:53 PM

An understanding of New Hampshire's influential role in early American government, and NH's attempts to create a functioning state government.

10/26/2011 6:51 PM

NH is supremely bad at telling its own story. We don't honor the 1623 founders. We don't promote our state-owned historic properties well, we don't tell our story in a way that attracts and appeals to the public. We don't put enough funding into researching, designing, or disseminating our history. The state house is potentially a good teaching point, but will most likely go the way of the rest of our stories -- unfocused, largely forgotten, barely maintained, never well told to a 21st century audience that likes it's history dramatic and exciting and relatable to their busy lives in a high-tech world.

10/26/2011 6:03 PM

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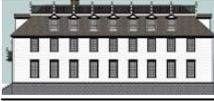
10/26/2011 5:23 PM

It's a good story that could stimulate interest in local history.

10/26/2011 10:15 AM

A focus on New Hampshire's history under British government, and an understanding by modern citizens of New Hampshire of the significance and legacy of that history.

10/25/2011 6:19 PM



Public Meeting Minutes

First NH Statehouse Public Meeting Portsmouth, NH November 14, 2011 Strawbery Banke Museum Tyco Visitors Center

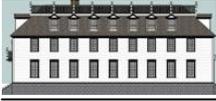
Laura Black welcomed attendees and gave a brief history of the First NH Statehouse (FSH) including its modern history. She then explained the purpose of the EDI grant, which studies are underway, how they relate to the overall project. She also gave an overview of the changes that have occurred since the award of the grant, including the development of a visitor center at the Discover Portsmouth. Laura summed up the project by stating that we are looking to get a viable action plan as a result of this project.

Laura introduced Stephen Gianotti as the meeting facilitator.

In attendance: John Sullivan (former Blue Ribbon Committee), Robert Padian (BR), Roger Wood (NH Public Radio), Steve Field, Ann Walker (BR), Bob Cook (Portsmouth Patch website), Kerry Vautrot, Lulu Pickering, Elizabeth Farish, Richard Nylander, Duncan MacCallum (BR), Ken Herrick (Albacore), Wendy Lull (Seacoast Science Center), Craig Tuminaro (Historic New England), Nancy Carmer (City of Portsmouth), John Sullivan, Lawrence Yerdon (Strawbery Banke Museum), Joey Cresta (Portsmouth Herald), Harold Whitehouse, Bob Lister (City of Portsmouth), and staff of the Division of Historical Resources.

Christine Miller Cruise presented her conservator's report. Loss and overall integrity were assessed with each element. From this information, repair recommendations were made for each piece. Some pieces were identified as "unsalvageable." Future use was also considered. Most have 0-35% of deterioration; overall the pieces have pretty good integrity. At the time of the survey the number of hours needed to repair all the elements was estimated at 811.5 hours. Only a handful of pieces could not go back together. Her report recommends that the FSH would be best used as an exhibit or within an interpretive context. It is also important to note that 2/3rds of the building are missing and reconstruction would cover all of the early pieces.

Jason Bailey presented for TMS Architects. Their task was to create digital models that give a better idea of what the FSH parts would look like when reassembled and to present conjectural digital representations and models. The original disassembly drawings were used to create the new CAD drawings. In the digital models, each piece is a separate layer and is identified using the same nomenclature as the original drawings. The conjectural full reconstruction drawings created by Salmon Falls were used to create CAD drawings, which were then used to create 3-D drawings.



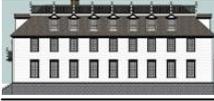
Blake Hayes of the Cherry Valley Group presented on the interpretive models that are currently being explored and began with existing research on the resource, the other information needed when developing an interpretive plan, and how that information is used. A potential spectrum of use for the FSH was presented, including three test scenarios:

- NH Center for Civics Education
- FSH Virtual Museum
- FSH Inn/B&B

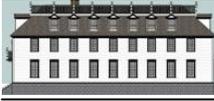
James Stevens from ConsultEcon discussed the economic impact analysis that will be undertaken for the project. He will be looking to provide a realistic evaluation of the economic viability of interpretive concepts for the FSH and to provide a qualitative assessment of how the state as a whole can increase the positive economic impacts of historic preservation and heritage tourism-related activities.

General reactions from the public:

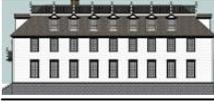
- I was very surprised at the lack of quantity. When the FSH was present on this site, she brought her children to see it and later watched one of her former students put it in the trailer piece by piece. She is surprised how little is left from what she remembers.
- The trailer itself is rotting! It was in the trailer, being eaten by spiders, and the trailer is sinking into the mud. Nobody seems to care. I thought there were some interior features stored in the trailer. (It was explained that some finished pieces date from the 19th century, after the building was subdivided, moved and its use changed.) They have people ready to raise the money if they have the space.
- Has anybody working under the grant read the minutes taken during the Blue Ribbon Committee meetings and reviewed them to see how they addressed the questions being asked? The Committee's biggest problem was finding a location. (Laura Black has those documents and has reviewed them. The committee did a huge amount of work. A solid understanding of what we have and a way to translate that to the general public is the current focus.)
- How much of our original \$250,000 is in the state's budget? It was seed money, how much is left? (Laura explained that the money was for a planning project and could only be used for the planning activities in the grant agreement with HUD.)
- For the record, there is a model based on the original document and a computer based model sited at the park.
- Harold Whitehouse agreed with Mr. Sullivan that a lot of research had been done. He would like to see how much money was spent on salary, etc. Can we get an accounting of what has been spent? (That information is available at the Department of Cultural Resources business office.)
- If the McIntire site is available, could the FSH be reconstructed on it? If the site is available, is there anybody who thinks that it cannot be done there? Discussion ensued; the consultants responded. If there is public and financial support, there is no reason (Interpretation). It can be done with enough money but from a preservation standpoint, what do you have? You are not preserving the original object, but the idea. It is not sound preservation philosophy but as preservation of an idea, it might work (Conservator). Funding for construction would be needed. (Economic Impact). There is not enough here; by the Secretary's Standards there is not enough evidence for reconstruction. What is the story that is to be told here? The building was the capital



- building for only a short period of time in its history. There is a legal piece to it, but the story has not been defined yet (Architect).
- When it was paid to have the steeple done on the North Church, assuming that most of the timbers were replaced, it still preserves an icon important to NH. Newington did the same. Why are we so mired that it has to be preserved by a ridged historical standard? The other point she has is related to the Louis DeRochemont house in Newington, which people wanted to restore. A public/private partnership made it happen. Could this happen with the FSH? (John Merkle was involved with that project and noted that the interior and exterior elements were all extant and intact.)
 - There are multiple treatments for working with historical resources: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction. The steeple project was rehabilitation. The primary concern with the reconstruction is the false sense of history it provides. If we are reconstructing building without solid evidence and placing it in a different location are we creating a false sense of history?
 - It is not an original building that can be reconstructed. It could serve a valuable purpose to students. It could be a public/private partnership. There is no place for people with cottage tourism industries to operate out of. It does not have to be a faithful/pristine reconstruction, but it could be of some value.
 - As a newspaper reporter in the past, I covered this story when it was at Strawberry Banke Museum. Why did they not want it? The building did not belong to SBM, but to the State of New Hampshire. Considering the interpretive plan that existed at the museum, it did not fit into that plan.
 - Councilor Bob Lister hopes we will not get hung up on preservation and reconstruction. It has the opportunity to bring people to the city. With modern buildings being built, it is important to have an opportunity to see something of historic value. I hope this does not get stalled for a long time.
 - There is a rumor that Concord wants to have it.
 - Laura Black commented that we have had a lot of comments from people who see value in the other interpretive models that are being explored. Ideas?
 - Be done with it, bonfire. There comes a time when too much money is spent rehashing. I am surprised that none of the presentations brought up the work of the Blue Ribbon Committee. If the State continues to delay, then it should be destroyed. We should do, not delay. Construct it.
 - The team who presented today has taken the first step to getting a product we can use. The planning done is important in understanding what the next step is. The conservator's report is a great resource; the architects' model has incorporated very good information.
 - As we move ahead, I hope we put this in a broader context of preservation. Portsmouth has some amazing resources, as does the rest of the state. What kind
 - of financial situation is every one of those single institutions in? About 1500 people come to the Gov. Langdon Mansion each year. About 65,000 (12,000 schoolchildren) come to Strawberry Banke Museum. The numbers do not support the idea that thousands of people will come. Who will come, in what numbers, for what services?
 - It needs to be repurposed to meet unmet needs. A small business area for tables selling products. A place where children can change their clothes with lockers and public restrooms. One room could be used for interpretation. It is not that large a building and could be combined with the McIntire project. If it is rebuilt and it looks like the building, there should be people willing to front the money.



- We have the Discover Center in Portsmouth that acts as the central information center for visitors.
- But the Discover Center is noncommercial and not kid friendly; we need to do something that is kid friendly. The Pitt Tavern was renovated by the Masons, with \$400,000.00 they raised. If it has a commercial context where tables are rented for businesses, then there is income. A new building will have less maintenance costs.
- When the Children's Museum left, the city lost a resource. Could this fill that void?
- If it was in the parking lot off of Bow Street next to an open park, it could work, but not as a museum.
- Finding a partner is key.
- Re-using the FSH could be one of the requirements for a developer to re-develop the McIntire building/lot.
- Would you then propose that having a building that is an exterior reconstruction?
- The proposal would use only a part of the parking lot. It could be built on the corner of Penhallow and Bow streets.
- Is there a way we can incorporate the structure as part of an exhibit, but not as part of the actual structure?
- The wood is old, but there is nothing that makes it into an historical masterpiece. It is all about interpretation. Some of the framework could be incorporated and exposed. Some artifacts could be in a case and some could be touched. You could reconstruct it – use the bones of it to the extent you are able and expose them – and use floor boards, etc., as it makes sense. Give people a feel for what it was – feel and see history.
- In the Pitt Tavern, only one corner has salvaged original floorboards. It, like the FSH, has a Washington connection.
- When kids go into a building, they want to feel what George Washington felt and see what he saw. The building would be more interesting as a faithful reconstruction. We need to reconstruct that experience even if it is not true.
- (Blake) “When you create a true environment...creating a place to get in touch with history and not worrying too much about the specific nature of the historic fabric, everything is conjectural. You can mention that George Washington stood in this building, but what happened on a day-to-day basis and what is compelling for our visitors?”
- This is not the State of NH; this is the colony of NH. It was built by King George and is pre-America.
- The committee that met for five years mentioned this briefly. The Portsmouth Traffic circle will be redone. The liquor store could be rebuilt with the lower story used for that purpose and the upper floor could be restored and a tourist attraction.
- We (Blue Ribbon Committee) looked at every possible open space in the city of Portsmouth. The one that was most cherished was in Prescott Park near the water. It could have located with the flower gardens in front. It could have been a visitor center for SBM in that location. In the community, the highest commodity is finding the property to put it on, not building and maintaining it.



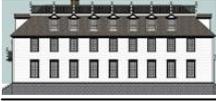
**First NH Statehouse Public Meeting
Concord, NH
November 15, 2011
2 Pillsbury Street, 5th Floor**

The first hour shared the same information presented the evening before in Portsmouth (see above.)

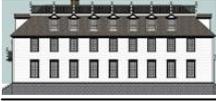
In attendance: Martha Pinello, James L Garvin, Connie Austin, E. Nicholl Marshall, Maggie Stier, and staff of the Division of Historical Resources.

General reactions from the public:

- The suggestions from the interpretive assessment were impressive. Some of the ideas are placed in other parts of NH. If this is going to be a partial or full reconstruction, it should be in Portsmouth.
- With establishing the virtual museum, only electronically in cyberspace, the other options would still be available for future implementation.
- The name of the project – what building was used for colonial government before 1758? (J. Garvin answered that the Governor and Council met in taverns.)
- One of the things I have grave concerns about is how we as a State take care of our artifacts. An organization disassembled its building fragment collection in a very sad way in the recent past. These fragments should be preserved. It is very clear that reconstruction is not even the right term to be using based on how much we have. We need to think about this as an archaeological resource. Other study collection examples: Harrisville and Historic New England. We should be very careful in a time of very limited resources that to be stewards of our resources, not only for this one, but for the ones that are still standing. There are areas in Portsmouth that echo the FSH story: the stories of life under the crown and to independence. The crown is not
- discussed in our schools and needs to be.
- There are uses for the building that will take a lot of work and a lot of training. Coursework to train future architects, engineers, archeologists, etc.
- If this was to be rebuilt into a partial building or a B&B, is it habitable? (Christine Miller Cruiss: You can make it habitable, but would cover up a large portion of the original portions.)
- We should look at this not as a building but as a piece of sculpture. Think of it as a passive exhibit in Manchester Airport; it would reach large numbers of people with minimal expense.
- If reconstruction was doable, it would have been done by now.
- Though reconstruction may become one of the options we have long talked about, what we have is an artifact. What do we do with architectural fragments is a concern. The State of New Hampshire needs to make a curatorial commitment to preserve these large fragment collections.
- By our actions of how this is treated, it sets an example of what is possible. How the State House is treated will provide a model for others to follow.
- To see a three dimensional model that shows the fragments is positive and more important than a slicked up model of what it could be.
- If we look at restoration/reconstruction of this, we do not need this fragment.



- What will be created will be all new, and the old would not be seen. Reconstruction could happen at any time with or without the fragments incorporated into it.
- Are NH kids taught the history of New England and NH under the crown? I doubt that this topic is ignored.
- I want to complement the project; I am blown away by all the work that has been done. It is on the right track to bring a better understanding of what the resource is. Who are the partners for any of these ideas? Has this been looked at? Have you talked to inn keepers, the universities, the historical societies? So many kids come to Concord to look at State history; this would be a great place for it. It could be in the atrium outside of the Preservation Alliance's office! (Blake: We need to limit the options to what is possibly doable and costing will be looked at. Laura: We have talked to a number of key organizations and stakeholders in a conference call meeting and in other conversations.)
- Who is responsible for talking to these partners? (DHR)
- I would love to see more heritage trail info with virtual tools. Other states have these trails that incorporate physical maps and on-line resources.
- Who will fund it? (Maine has used graduate students.)
- Can we start this work and leave the remains in the trailer?
- Highways have been willing to fund exhibits in rest areas. This could be a possible venue.



Appendix E.4 - Electronic Supplementary Materials

These project documentation materials are provided in electronic-form-only on the attached CD-ROM, which also includes an electronic version of this hard-copy report.

Meeting Agendas and Notes

- NH OSH Meeting Notes_May 9, 2011 [TME].doc
- InputMtgAgenda-updated.doc
- NHFSH-program_notes with NHHC mtg notes.doc
- NHPlan-notes_91211.doc
- FSH Agenda Nov 2011.doc
- Summary_NHFSH_Surveycvg.doc

Electronic Presentations

- Understanding NHOSH.ppt
- V-Input_Framework NHFSH.ppt
- CVG-Public_Meetings NHFSH.ppt

Tables

- Input_Mtg_Participants.xls
- Options_estimates_table.xls