

# New Hampshire Alliance *news*

Fall 2005

## Preservation Active in North Country Revitalization

*Editor's note: The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, together with the N.H. Main Street Program, North Country Council and N.H. Department of Resources and Economic Development, recently worked together with many other local partners to define the assets and needs of the North Country for a major proposal to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for rural heritage development assistance.*

New Hampshire's North Country is at a crossroads in its history, and preservationists want to help chart a course for its economic revitalization and success.

The region faces the same problems found in other rural areas—loss of manufacturing jobs, lagging infrastructure, loss of population, service industry jobs that do not pay living wages, increased business costs, remoteness and isolation from other businesses and difficulty in competing with warmer climate areas due to high utility costs. Unfortunately, while many rural areas of the country must address one or more of these challenges, the North Country confronts them all.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Census, 1999 per capita income (PCI)



*The covered bridge and town common in Stark, N.H. comprise one of the most well-known North Country landmarks. (NHDTTD/David Legg)*

in the North Country's Coös County was the lowest in New Hampshire at \$17,218, compared to the state's overall PCI of \$23,844. Carroll County communities that are part of the North Country shared similarly adverse economic conditions.

Restructuring in the dominant forest products industry and other major employers has meant losing both jobs and community vitality, while the prevalent service industry jobs offer some of the lowest wages in the state. Between 1969 and 1999, employment in paper and allied products dropped between 17 and 52 percent in the North Country. In 2000 and 2001 alone, the job stability of more than 2,100 workers was affected by mill closures and layoffs in that area.

Part of economic diversification efforts for the North Country center on its natural and historical resources. Its

*cont'd on page 3*

### *WREN: A North Country Success Story*

In 2000, the Women's Rural Entrepreneurial Network (WREN) relocated to Bethlehem, purchasing property and developing a facility that now serves as a community, cultural and economic hub for the region. Within this facility WREN created a public access Technology Center and launched Ovation!, a WREN-owned retail store featuring products from more than 15,025 members and The Gallery at WREN, a showcase and selling point for regional artists.

These market access points have generated \$512,000 in sales

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## Mission Statement

New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, founded in 1985 as Inherit New Hampshire, is the statewide organization dedicated to preserving New Hampshire's historic buildings, landscapes and communities through leadership, advocacy and education.

## Protecting the Irreplaceable

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# Calendar

Call contacts for fee and registration information.  
Visit [www.nhpreservation.org](http://www.nhpreservation.org) for more events.

## OCTOBER

### TRADITIONAL BLACKSMITHING FOR THE EXPERIENCED BEGINNER WITH GARRY KALAJIAN

Saturday & Sunday

October 15 & 16

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sanborn Mills Farm

Loudon, N.H.

Contact: Sanborn Mills

435-6004

or jim@sanbornmills.org

### PRESERVE MASS. BARNS 2005 CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 29

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Doyle Center

Leominster, Mass.

Contact: Preservation MASS

(617) 723-3383

or [www.preservationmass.org](http://www.preservationmass.org)

## NOVEMBER

### INSIDE VICTORIAN ARCHITECTURE

Four study sessions

Tuesdays, November 1, 8, 15 and 22,  
3:30 to 5 p.m.

Manchester Historical Association

Contact: 622-7531

### PRESERVATION ALLIANCE 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, November 8, 5 p.m.

See page 6 for more!

Contact: 224-2281 or [www.nhpreservation.org](http://www.nhpreservation.org)

### MAINTAINING HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

Horticultural Illustrated Talk Series

Thursday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.

Strawbery Banke

Portsmouth, N.H.

Contact: 433-1108 or [www.strawberybanke.org](http://www.strawberybanke.org)

## National Trust Seeks Support for Katrina Relief

In response to Hurricane Katrina's trail of destruction along the historic Gulf Coast, the National Trust for Historic Preservation is preparing to participate in preservation assessment teams, assist small businesses through the National Trust Main Street Center and disperse critical grant monies to organizations on the ground in affected communities.

In addition to supporting rescue and relief efforts, preservationists can invest in the recovery of affected historic areas by donating to the Trust's 2005 Hurricane Relief Fund. The National Trust also needs volunteers skilled in preservation, architecture, engineering and small business development, who are willing to serve on assessment teams. You can make a contribution to the fund or volunteer to help by visiting the National Trust's Web site at [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org).

## North Country

*cont'd from page 1*

Scenic Byways (the White Mountains Trail, the Presidential Range Tour, the Woodland Heritage Trail, the Moose Path Trail and the Connecticut River Byway) lead travelers to treasures throughout the region. They follow the less-known roads to quiet places, bustling festivals and a variety of unique experiences, providing exceptional journeys for visitors and residents alike.

The North Country offers some of the finest viewsheds and diversity of landscapes in New England. While it is best known for the majestic White Mountains, its small towns, varied forest environments, unique wildlife-viewing opportunities, small farms on rich river bottomland and challenging hilltops are major attractions as well.

Nevertheless, there is opportunity for expanded preservation activity. The North Country has only three heritage commissions, four Main Street communities and one local historic district.

During its work on the North Country Regional Cultural Plan, the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire held seven sub-regional meetings to acquire input from local residents. At every meeting the strong desire to identify, preserve and celebrate local treasures—natural, architectural and historical—was emphatically expressed by natives and relative newcomers alike.

In response to this phenomena—and to the compelling need for collaborative marketing for our small and under-funded history and heritage sites, the Arts Alliance and local partners at more than 30 historical societies and small museums are developing a North Country Heritage Map and Guide which will include itineraries based on locally-generated lists.



Cultural attractions like the Poore Family Farm can fuel tourism and economic development in the North Country.

Our thanks to Christine Walker for information in this article.

Many other economic initiatives are underway in the region, ranging from planning and marketing projects to new services and infrastructure for business. Increasingly, strategies include smart growth or downtown revitalization outcomes.

For example, a tri-town project in Bethlehem is taking place because of a unique agreement between three communities who will be working together regionally, limiting competition for infrastructure funds. Each community will receive equal tax revenues, regardless of where development occurs. It is hoped that this project will be a model for other communities within the state to consolidate resources and protect areas from unplanned development. One of the major long-term effects of this project is that communities will be preserving their downtown centers by building off existing infrastructure as opposed to build-out within each community in order to compete for tax revenues within the region.

As plans are developed for the North Country's future economic vitality, preservationists will continue to play a key role in ensuring that the region's historic, architectural and natural resources are part of the success story and not victims to it.

## WREN: North Country Success

*cont'd from page 1*

to 150 members. WREN has also provided resources and leadership for a number of revitalization initiatives that have energized Bethlehem's economic development and has initiated a number of locally focused projects, including a series of community-wide meetings of business owners, civic leaders and residents to envision Bethlehem's revival; creating and distributing a Bethlehem marketing CD and print brochure; and an innovative, original art street banner project driven by artists and volunteers.

WREN's work and model—success in creating a rural economic development strategy based on entrepreneurship as well as efforts to build and “brand” Bethlehem's creative economy—have drawn considerable interest. WREN regularly shares “lessons learned” with other rural economic development practitioners across the country through conference presentations and consulting.

# Around New Hampshire



*The Art Deco 1937 Manchester Airport Terminal building is now home to the New Hampshire Aviation Museum.*

## Rollinsford

The Col. Paul Wentworth House, one of the earliest and most architecturally significant New Hampshire homes to survive from the “First Period” of New England’s architectural evolution, has come home to Rollinsford.

Built around 1701, the Wentworth House was moved to Dover, Mass., in 1936. In 2001, the Rollinsford Historic Committee learned that the house had been sold out of the original Wentworth family. The new owner had other plans for the property and donated the house back to Rollinsford for public use.

A N.H. Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) grant was matched by local funds to transport the house back to Rollinsford where it has been reassembled adjacent to its original foundation. At press time, the restoration of the exterior was complete and original portions of the interior, including a corner cupboard, paneling and hardware, were being reinstalled in preparation for the grand opening in late September.

## Cornish

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site is one of 14 sites around the country that have received a grant from the National Trust’s Historic Artists’ Homes and Studios program. The awards were based on each site’s planning needs, the threat to the historic property, its collection or interpretation, and how the proposed project addressed the need or threat.

A unit of the National Park Service, the site features the home, gardens and studios of Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907), one of America’s greatest sculptors.

## Hooksett

Hooksett is the first New Hampshire town to be celebrated by the White House as a Preserve America Community, an initiative aimed at encouraging local efforts to preserve and strengthen the nation’s natural heritage. The Hooksett Heritage Commission spearheaded the application.

As a Preserve America Community, Hooksett will be listed in a Web-based directory highlighting the town as a heritage tourism destination, and will receive a roadside sign to announce its status.

## Manchester

Ribbon cutting ceremonies for the New Hampshire Aviation Museum took place in September. The museum is the first and only museum dedicated to preserving the state’s aviation history. It is housed in the beautifully restored 1937 Manchester Airport Terminal building, a fine example of the Art Deco style of architecture popular in the 1930s.

The preservation effort began when the City of Manchester and Manchester Airport management made a commitment to the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office to preserve the building as part of the overall airport expansion plan. For more information, call 798-3915.

## Preservation People on the Move

This August, the Preservation Alliance’s Program Associate Gabrielle DiPerri left the Preservation Alliance to begin an M.B.A. program at the University of New Hampshire. “Gabrielle was with the Alliance for nearly four years and is greatly missed,” said Jennifer Goodman, the organization’s executive director. DiPerri helped develop and implement two grant programs, many events and other constituent services and was praised for her can-do attitude and ability to grow with the organization.





# The Old Stone Wall

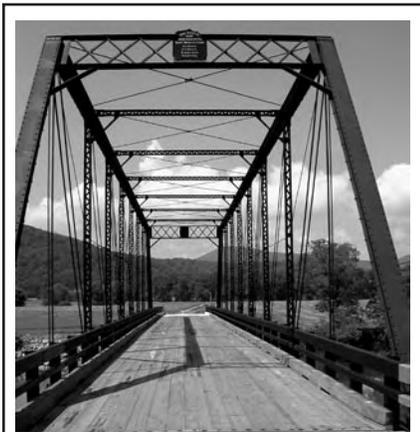
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State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources,  
Division of Historical Resources

Fall 2005

## Stratford-Maidstone Bridge Rehabilitated

James L. Garvin, *State Architectural Historian*



**Stratford-Maidstone Bridge.**  
*Courtesy photograph provided by Mark Richardson, NH Dept of Transportation*

July 23 saw the long-awaited rededication of the rehabilitated Stratford-Maidstone Bridge over the upper Connecticut River. One of New Hampshire's oldest metal spans, the 151-foot wrought iron bridge is a pin-connected Pratt truss. It was built in 1893-4 by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company of Connecticut, a fabricator that dominated the bridge-building business in northern New England in the late nineteenth century. By 1898, New Hampshire had more than eighty bridges built by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company, many of them displaying the distinctive lenticular truss design that was a Berlin trademark (*see photograph of the Berlin-built Depot Road Bridge on*

*page four*). Today, six Berlin bridges survive in the state, one of them in ruinous condition.

The Stratford-Maidstone Bridge was built at a cost of \$3,500 by the town of Stratford, New Hampshire, with financial assistance from the New Hampshire legislature and contributions from the Vermont towns of Maidstone and Brunswick. In keeping with a general effort in the late 1800s to reduce the number of company-owned toll bridges across the Connecticut River, the bridge was built as a "free" crossing. It remained a town-owned bridge until 1955, when the State of New Hampshire briefly took ownership of the span and the road leading to it. A change in state statutes in 1959 returned the road and bridge to Stratford, but the town declined to appropriate money for needed repairs and closed the bridge, eventually selling it for one dollar to a newly-created Maidstone Bridge Association in 1965. Despite efforts of the private association to maintain the bridge, it was closed to all traffic in 1990 and remained closed until 2005. The recent rehabilitation required that title to the bridge be transferred to the State of New Hampshire.

The two-year rehabilitation was directed and co-funded by the State of Vermont under a TEA-21 Transportation Enhancement grant that was diligently pursued for many

*(continued on page three)*



*Explore and Enjoy Our Heritage*

### VIEW FROM THE SOLARIUM

## Preserve America— Preserve New Hampshire

Our heartiest congratulations to the Town of Hooksett and the City of Keene for becoming the first in New Hampshire to be designated by the White House as *Preserve America Communities*.

*Preserve America* is a White House initiative, led by First Lady Laura Bush, that encourages and supports community efforts to preserve and enjoy our priceless cultural and natural heritage.

The *Preserve America Communities* program recognizes and designates communities that protect and celebrate their heritage, use their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization, and encourage

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*The DHR is a state agency, supported by the State of New Hampshire, by the federal Historic Preservation Fund (through a matching grant administered by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior), and by donated funds and services. In addition to its state functions, the DHR is also responsible for administering the federal preservation program in New Hampshire.*

## Moose (Plates) At Work



**New Hampton Town  
House.** *Courtesy  
photograph*

citizens of Chichester were out with their picnic baskets for an evening of fun, enjoying the restoration of the decorative cresting, balls and finials, and the commemorative plaque on the Depot Road Bridge (“Thunder Bridge”). Lucille Noel poignantly expresses Chichester’s gratitude to all of the contributors to the license plate program with the following words: “The bridge is once again as it was in 1887. It retains its ‘integrity of place’ and will continue to be a part of the town’s heritage and landscape for many more years to come. Many thanks...”

These sentiments were also part of the message from the Newmarket community. In August the street was closed and the Newmarket Engine House devotees had a block party. The Tiger #1 handtub was there in full glory, returned to its restored historic setting. Moose Plate funds contributed to a comprehensive plan which will ultimately create a Handtub Museum in the Newmarket Engine House.

Those who have visited Jaffrey may have noted that all of the 50 original windows in the Jaffrey Meetinghouse have been painstakingly restored over the last two years. A combination of Moose Plate funds and Certified Local Government grant funds have helped make this centerpiece of the community safe from the elements and as lovely as ever. The New Hampton Town House is similarly snug, with yet another completed window restoration project.

The 1834 Sanbornton Town Hall has benefited from roofing,

paint and structural stabilization. In Sandown, the Sandown Historical Society and Museum, housed in the B & M Railroad Depot, was also protected from Old Man Winter, the wind, and the rain with the restoration of the deteriorated roof soffit and overhang. The dedicated efforts of the Sandown townspeople led the completion of this project in record time and under budget. Less noticeable but equally important are the architectural plans created for the Deerfield Town Hall.

There are a number of projects ongoing, and six more about to begin. The DHR would like to congratulate all of the new 2005 Conservation License Plate Grant award winners, and commend the communities who were not as fortunate financially, but demonstrate their commitment to preservation of their historical resources through forms of work and care every day.

This year, Cornish will commence structural work on the CREA Barn, in anticipation of next summer’s barn dance and celebration. The Wentworth Coolidge Mansion in Portsmouth will purchase materials for ultra-violet window protection for the interior of the building. The beautiful stained glass windows in the Laconia Public Library will receive some much needed attention, and the Deerfield Town Library will restore its slate roof. Candia and the Charles W. Canney Camp, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will add support to the efforts of the ten year old children at the Henry W. Moore School, who want to return the Candia War Memorial monument to its original glory. In Plymouth the town’s Parks and Recreation Department will preserve and protect the Boy Scout statue and fountain, and restore the original water bubblers and bandstand at the Town Common.

YOU can make more grants like these possible by purchasing Moose Plates—for information, go to <http://www.mooseplate.com>.

Pat Blevens  
*Program Assistant*

## Recent National Register Listings



**Chapel of the Holy Cross, Holderness NH. Listed September 2005.** Photograph by David Ruell.

The Chapel of the Holy Cross is architecturally significant as a fine representation of the Gothic Revival, certainly the finest such example in Holderness. It was constructed in 1884 and has served Holderness School continuously since then as the site of religious services. The chapel was designed by architect Charles Coolidge Haight, well-known for his work in the Gothic Revival idiom. Haight's design for Chapel of the Holy Cross is reminiscent in plan and form to English parish churches of an earlier time. Its continued use as a chapel has contributed to its excellent state of preservation and architectural integrity.



**Stanley Tavern, Hopkinton NH. Listed September 2005.** Photograph by Robert O. Wilson.

The Stanley Tavern on Hopkinton's Main Street is significant for architecture as well as commerce. Architecturally, this 1791 building is distinguished by late Georgian/early Federal design features often associated with New Hampshire seacoast houses of 20 years earlier. Serving initially as a tavern (1791 - 1864), it was modified in the Victorian period and in the 1920s with exterior additions and interior partitioning. A restora-

tion beginning in 2000 has returned the building's original characteristics, allowing it to express itself as a tavern once again.



**Colony House, Keene NH. Listed September 2005.** Photograph by Joslin Kimball Frank.

The Colony House, an 1819 dwelling with a c1900 service wing, has been recognized for its architectural significance. It exemplifies the Federal style in its lightness and delicacy, elongated windows with narrow muntins, hipped roofs, entry door framed by decorative sidelights and semi-elliptical transom light, sheltering portico on slender columns, and detailed entablature. The c1900 addition was carefully introduced, preserving the original character while enlarging and modernizing the house. The Colony House had been in danger of demolition for decades until its recent purchase by a Colony descendent who sympathetically rehabilitated it for use as her residence and guest house.

*Christine Fonda Rankie  
National Register &  
Tax Incentives Coordinator*

## Have You (Re) Joined Our E-Mail Network?

The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance and the DHR share an e-mail network for news and messages. If you would like to add your name or organization to the list, send an e-mail message to [linda.wilson@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:linda.wilson@dcr.nh.gov). To respect the privacy of the list members, messages are sent as a "blind" or "undisclosed recipient" copy.

Unlike fancier automated lists, any message will set up the subscription, as long as your return address is clear. To post messages, send them to the same address for forwarding to the entire list.

There are no fees for membership and no obligations for members other than standard Internet etiquette. Members may pause or cancel their subscriptions at any time.

If you have been on the list in the past, but suddenly (and involuntarily) stopped receiving messages, your address may have disappeared during a recent DHR computer upgrade. If you want to rejoin the list, please follow the procedure above.

## **Stratford-Maidstone Bridge** *(continued from page one)*

years by Vermont state representative Janice L. Peaslee of Guildhall. Rehabilitation entailed reinforcing certain tension and compression members in the trusses, replacing the often-repaired steel floor beams and stringers of the bridge, and installing a floor of glued-laminated wooden panels. More dramatically, the project relocated the entire bridge 25 feet toward the New Hampshire bank of the river. Geological testing had revealed that the dry-laid granite abutments were tipping or were precariously placed on a sloping bedrock support, so the two State Historic Preservation Offices ultimately agreed that the bridge could be repositioned and supported on a new reinforced concrete substructure.

*James L. Garvin  
State Architectural Historian*

Do YOUR part  
to save  
NH's special places!



[www.mooseplate.com](http://www.mooseplate.com)

## Curator's Report

Evidence of the wide use of our information about State of New Hampshire portraits continues to accrue. The Class of Princeton 1970 featured our portrait of Royal Governor Jonathan Belcher (1681-1757) in the thirty-fifth reunion publication of the class this spring, and named Belcher an honorary classmate. Information about the portrait may be found at our web site <http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/> (go to "Publications of the Division of Historical Resources").

The loan of the original Mount Kearsarge flasher and pulsar unit (our #2002.174) to the New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society Museum will add to the aviation history of the Granite State housed at the NHAHS. The unit warned aircraft of the upcoming mountain for many years. We are pleased to make this loan for the benefit of the public.

The centennial of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty of 1905, ending the Russo-Japanese War, will be celebrated at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from June through December 2005. The Joint Legislative Historical Committee is supporting the exhibition with the loan of our State House portrait of New Hampshire Governor John McLane (1852-1911; governor 1905-1907). McLane started his own factory in 1867 and became the largest manufacturer of US Post Office furniture and equipment. He represented Milford, NH in the legis-

ture from 1885 and served both his terms in the State Senate (1891-93, 1893-95) as President of the Senate—the first person to do so.

On their departures from Portsmouth the Russian and Japanese delegations each made \$10,000 contributions to the state as a recognition of the time and effort expended by New Hampshire citizens and officials to ensure the comfort of the delegates while at Portsmouth.

Nathaniel Burwash was an important artist who lived and worked in Warner, New Hampshire during the 1930s. The State Library has accessioned and appraised forty-two works of art done by Mr. Burwash for the WPA in New Hampshire. These will be on display at Rivier College Art Gallery, Nashua, through October 25, 2005. Sister Theresa Couture, director of the College Art Gallery, is the curator of the exhibit. The art on display is but a portion of Mr. Burwash's work for the WPA. Some of these works have been exhibited previously, but the major part has never been shown publicly before.

*Russell Bastedo, State Curator*



**On July 14 the Chichester Historical Society honored the Depot Road Bridge and its entry into the National Register of Historic Places with a "Celebration at Depot Road Bridge."** Photograph by Lucille Noel, Chichester Historical Society. (See related story on page two.)

## Preserve America—Preserve NH (continued from page one)

people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs. Since the program began, Mrs. Bush has designated 247 communities as *Preserve America Communities*.

Benefits of designation include White House recognition; a certificate of recognition; a *Preserve America* Community road sign; authorization to use the *Preserve America* logo on signs, flags, banners, and promotional materials; listing in a Web-based *Preserve America* Community directory; inclusion in national and regional press releases; official notification of designation to State tourism offices and visitor bureaus; and enhanced community visibility and pride.

In addition, with the inclusion of an appropriation this year for the program, funds are available to designate *Preserve America* Communities to support planning, development, implementation, or enhancement of innovative activities and programs in heritage tourism, adaptive re-use, and "living history" programs that may be usefully replicated across the country.

The recognition granted to Hooksett and Keene would not have been possible without the leadership and immense hard work of two devoted citizens, Kathleen Northrup of Hooksett and Jeananne Farrar of Keene. Both are chairs of their respective heritage commissions. Putting the application together and documenting the important preservation accomplishments of the community and ongoing efforts to protect and enhance their heritage is no easy task—you can ask these ladies!

Our hats are off to Hooksett and Keene and to Kathy and Jeananne!

*James McConaha*

*Director, Division of Historical Resources  
NH State Historic Preservation Officer*

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# Preservation Resources

## Sacred Places Success Stories

Finding new uses for old buildings can be a complex but rewarding challenge and adapting sacred places can be the most challenging of all. Whitefield, Epsom and Manchester are just a few of the New Hampshire communities deciding the fate of religious properties.

In partnership with Partners for Sacred Places, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has compiled a dozen examples of how various communities have successfully adapted their former religious properties for new uses, retaining them as important anchors and architectural landmarks. Each case study illustrates the process by which preservation and adaptive reuse occurred and provides contact information to talk directly with local

decision-makers and experts. Go to [www.nationaltrust.org/issues/houses\\_of\\_worship/success\\_index.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/issues/houses_of_worship/success_index.html).

The National Trust wants to hear your stories and will continue to add to this list of case studies of successfully adapted religious properties from across the country. Contact the National Trust's Northeast Office at [nero@nthp.org](mailto:nero@nthp.org) (and copy [admin@nhpreservation.org](mailto:admin@nhpreservation.org)) to share your example. There's more information on Partners for Sacred Places and access to preservation resources at [www.sacredplaces.org](http://www.sacredplaces.org).

## HGTV Restore America Grants

In 2006, HGTV's Restore America will focus on revitalizing places where people live, through grants for residential projects. HGTV's Restore America is a partnership between the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Home & Garden Television (HGTV).

Since 2003, HGTV's Restore America has given 36 grants to projects across the nation that highlight preservation work. HGTV has told the story of these historic places through on-air and online content. Grants are available to nonprofit organizations and public agencies.

Approximately six to 12 grants will be awarded for projects such

as the adaptive use of historic buildings for housing, creating upper floor apartments in Main Street communities or restoring Save America's Treasures sites that continue to have a residential use. Grant applications must be postmarked by November 30, 2005. For more information visit [www.nationaltrust.org/restore\\_america/ra\\_grants.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/restore_america/ra_grants.html).

## The 1772 Foundation

The 1772 Foundation is a nationwide organization whose goal is to preserve and enhance American historical entities, particularly farms, industrial developments, transportation features and unusual historic buildings. To have your project considered, you must submit a one-page letter of inquiry that includes a synopsis of your project, a brief history of the site and a clear statement of funding needs. Inquiry letters are reviewed throughout the year. Selected projects are invited to submit a full application. Organizational applicants must have 501(c)(3) status. Strong local support is a prerequisite for funding and those organizations that have secured matching funds are more favorably considered. Grants are not made for schools, religious properties, operating expenses, management fees or professional fees. Most grants are in the \$15,000 to \$50,000 range. For more information, go to [www.1772foundation.org](http://www.1772foundation.org).



Many religious properties like this one in Whitefield face uncertain futures.

## Preservation People on the Move

Valerie Cunningham, preservationist and Portsmouth native, has been named the 20th recipient of the Robert Frost Contemporary American Award given by the Plymouth State University Alumni Association. Cunningham was cited

for researching, writing and teaching about local black history for 30 years, as well as for being a founder and president of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail. Cunningham has also played a critical role in the preservation and stewardship of the historic Pearl of Portsmouth. The award recognizes humanitarianism and devotion to the country "north of Boston."

Rebecca Williams is New Hampshire's new Field Representative from the Northeast Region of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Williams holds a Masters Degree in Historic Preservation from the University of Vermont and brings both preservation and grants management and development experience to her position.

# Walking Tours Spark Interest of Young Students

This past June, students at the Main Dunstable Elementary School in Nashua participated in a neighborhood walking tour through downtown Nashua to explore and study some of the city's oldest and most historic buildings. On their walk, the second stage of the New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects' Learning By Design program, students learned about their community by using their town's buildings as their virtual textbook.

Architects Bruce Hamilton AIA, Scott Vlasak from Bruce Ronayne Hamilton Architects, Inc., and Rob Garand from Dennis Mires The Architect P.A. prepared the students for the tours by visiting the classrooms and teaching them about measurement skills, drawing to scale, and how to sketch buildings on grid paper. Students practiced these skills on their walk, and stops included the Unitarian Universalist Church, the Stark House, the Amherst Street Fire Station, First Congregational Church, the Hunt Building, and Nashua City Hall. In addition to the walks and sketching, groups of students were given different buildings to research and present to the class. Many students really enjoyed the experience, as exemplified by the amount of effort put into the class presentations. In a thank you note to one of the architects, one student wrote, "I'm starting to think about designing buildings. It seems pretty fun."

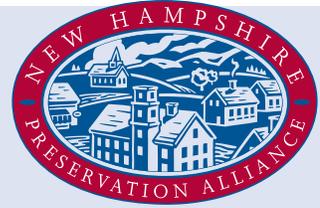
Parents and teachers alike were also pleased with the program's success, and they are undoubtedly happy that the program will be coming back to the Main Dunstable Elementary School on September 17. One parent wrote, "As an observer, I could not guess how

many future architects were walking with me on the field trip. However, I can say that at the end of the program, not one child will ever be intimidated by this career path." And with education in the fields of architecture, preservation, design and site planning as part of the AIA's built environment program, coupled with a perspective of the value of the historic buildings in their home town, future Architects from the Main Dunstable Elementary School in Nashua will undoubtedly have an eye for saving the past.

*For more information on AIA's Learning By Design Program, you can visit the New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at [www.aianh.org](http://www.aianh.org). For a "how-to" on community-based walking tours geared toward historical societies and heritage commissions, contact the Preservation Alliance.*

*Also, look into the Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) program from the National Park Service at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/>. TwHP uses properties listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places to enliven history, social studies, geography, civics and other subjects. TwHP has created a variety of products and activities that help teachers bring historic places into the classroom. Hundreds of free lesson plans are available online.*

*"...at the end of the program, not one child will ever be intimidated by this career path."*



## 20th Anniversary Preservation Celebration and Reunion November 8, 2005

Join us at the Capitol Center for the Arts for what promises to be a provocative and fun event to mark our 20th anniversary as we reflect on past preservation successes and hope to inspire for the future.

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

4:00 p.m. Behind-the-Scene  
Tour (space limited)

5:00 p.m. Registration

5:30 p.m. Program begins

Enjoy a lively presentation of people and projects who have shaped New Hampshire's preservation movement with special contributions by theater professionals and enthusiastic amateurs, and a conversation about the character of New Hampshire's communities and their future. Our special guests will include Lewis M. Feldstein, President of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Judson D. Hale, Editor in Chief of Yankee Magazine and Governor Walter Peterson. The Alliance will recognize 2005 Preservation Achievement Award winners, and offer behind-the-scenes tours of the theater.

Tickets are \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. Check your mailbox for an invitation, or [www.nhpreservation.org](http://www.nhpreservation.org) for more.

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# Webster Farm Saved!

Thanks to a major commitment by the state's Land and Community Heritage Investment program (LCHIP), a purchase and sale agreement has been signed that will save the 141-acre Daniel Webster Farm in Franklin. LCHIP will contribute \$750,000 to anchor an effort to protect the farm as a cultural and natural resource and prevent it from being developed. The Trust for Public Land secured the agreement following work by an ad-hoc group to oppose residential development on the site and by the Webster Farm Preservation Association to purchase the property from the owner, P.D. Associates. The Preservation Alliance has provided advice and support to preservation advocates and potential investors over the last several years.

The Trust for Public Land and the Webster Farm Preservation Association

are working in partnership with LCHIP to preserve the land and buildings. A reuse study led by the Preservation Alliance and the Franklin Historical Society is underway to help refine stabilization and revitalization strategies for this complex site.

"Few New Hampshire properties possess deeper history or greater cultural, archaeological and ecological value than the 141-acre Webster

Farm," said New Hampshire's State Architectural Historian James Garvin. The farm was the family home and retreat of Daniel Webster, one of the nation's greatest 19th century orators, political figures and statesmen. The National Trust for Historic Preservation listed it in June as one of the "Eleven Most Endangered Historic Sites in the United States."



*Preliminary steps are being taken to preserve the buildings of the Webster Farm (Leigh Webb, photo at left; Gail Rousseau Photography, above)*



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