

**Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation**

**End-of-Year
Action Plan Narratives
Federal Fiscal Year 2024
(October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)**

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Archaeology Heritage Center for Collections Management and Public Education *Facility is State funded; VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split*

The Vermont Archaeology Heritage Center (VAHC), which opened in September 2012, occupies 1,850 square feet at the Vermont History Center in Barre. The majority of VAHC is devoted to the curation of archaeological artifacts and archives dating to all time periods of Vermont's 13,000-year-old human past, with office, research, and museum space occupying just 384 square feet. The curated collection contains more than 1,000 archaeological sites in 2,200+ archival boxes that cumulatively house millions of artifacts. VAHC also serves as the headquarters for Vermont Archaeology Month. VAHC provides unique opportunities to educate communities, teachers, students, researchers, and the interested public about Vermont's archaeological history. Since its opening to the public in 2012, VAHC has hosted over 3,750 visitors. VAHC serves as the primary office for the State Archaeologist.

In FFY24, VAHC welcomed 400 guests and researchers. During Vermont Archaeology Month, the State Archaeologist hosted open houses as part of the annual trainings for archaeologists and architectural historian consultants. It was attended by 50 visitors. Two other public lectures were offered during Vermont Archaeology Month in September by the State Archaeologist. Four major site collections were received at the Heritage Center in 2024. Space for additional artifact collections continues to be a pressing concern and options for additional storage space are always being explored as the collection grows.

The Western VAHC Center at the Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell was established in 2016 (FFY15) with the assistance of a temporary archaeology intern working with the State Archaeologist and Site Administrator for Chimney Point and Mount Independence. All artifacts stored at this location were inventoried, then archived or deaccessioned as appropriate. This space currently holds all artifacts and associated archives from the western State-owned historic sites (Chimney Point, Mount Independence, and Hubbardton Battlefield). The space is currently being utilized for the Mount Independence Collections Stewardship Projects funded by an American Battlefield Protection Program Grant. This grant has allowed for the enhancement of our collection stewardship by the addition of state-of-the-art photographic equipment and GIS documentation of all artifacts recovered from Mount Independence, particularly those artifacts recovered prior to state ownership.

In 2020, the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM) was designated an official repository for Vermont State-owned underwater archaeological artifacts and related archives and documentation. LCMM provides an on-campus conservation laboratory that allows for study, conservation, archiving, and exhibition of remnants from Vermont waters. The curated state collections at LCMM come from five sites. Approximately 1,500 artifacts are housed in 64 boxes and in display cases at the Museum.

Archeological Investigation Permits *VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split*

Recognizing that the State of Vermont bears a special responsibility to care for the culture resources on its own land and under its waters, Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 22, Chapter 14, Subchapter 7, Section 762 and 764 and Subchapter 9, Section 782 state that the State Historic Preservation Officer, with advice from the State Archaeologist, may issue permits to qualified researchers and consultancies for them to conduct archaeological excavations on state land.

In 2024, VT SHPO issued five permits to consultancies and researchers. Four permits were issued to consultancies for the entirety of the calendar year to fulfill compliance work associated with contracts from state agencies and/or utility companies, and one permit was awarded to researchers undertaking a specific analysis at an underwater archaeological site in Lake Champlain. Such permits may stipulate that additional actions must be taken over and above the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for Archaeological Documentation* and the *Guidelines for Conducting*

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Archaeology in Vermont based on state statutes. The annual permits also state that all materials recovered from state land must be curated with the state and monies should be budgeted for their care. No collections have yet been archived at the Vermont Archaeology Heritage Center because of the terrestrial permitted projects. The underwater archaeological site materials will be curated at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, a designated state curation facility.

Architectural and Archaeological Surveys

VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

For FFY24, documentation efforts resulted in the recordation of 1,353 properties at the reconnaissance and intensive levels. The CLG program initiated the surveys of Shelburne (500 resources), Boyce Hill Town Forest (13 resources) in Fayston as part of the Mad River Valley Planning District, the town of Brandon (150 resources), Cambridge Village Historic District (114 resources), as well as the survey of 22 resources on Demers Avenue and Victory Circle in Hartford and 6 on Jones Circle in Norwich. National Register listings have resulted in the survey and documentation of 279 resources as part of three historic districts (one providing additional information), and 7 individual listings. Four properties were listed in the State Register of Historic Places, collectively including 49 resources surveyed. The survey resulted in 119 determinations of eligibility of the State Register and 146 determinations of eligibility for the National Register.

The historic context on the Vermont Ski Industry, prepared as a multiple property document, has been prepared and is being finalized. An individual nomination needs to be identified and prepared for full submittal of both documents to NPS.

Archaeological Survey efforts are tracked by the State Archaeologist. For FFY24, 101 archaeological site numbers were assigned. This number constitutes newly identified sites and those re-evaluated (initially without survey numbers), the latter being a process completed by the State Archaeologist. Most of the survey efforts were generated by Section 106 reviews, primarily through the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Vermont Agency of Transportation in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Rail Administration, and Federal Emergency Management Administration. Over 7,575 acres were surveyed as part of the archaeological investigations. A great effort has been undertaken to retrieve final archaeological reports from consultants for sites assigned archaeological site numbers, ensuring full documentation is available and up to date.

The Online Resource Center (ORC) now includes 36,384 records, all digitally available to the public. Of these, 26,604 are fully available and 9,780 have restricted data related to archaeological sites and underwater preserves.

Certified Local Government Program

VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

Outreach to Vermont's 20 CLG communities and those interested in pursuing designation continued to be a primary focus, generating keen interest in the program by CLG communities, with competitive grant awarding that included National Register nominations for historic districts, historic material analysis, preservation commission support, community preservation awards and education programming, and design review district guidelines. The Village of Woodstock became our newest CLG in July; since 2013, the number of CLG communities has increased by six. The City of Winooski has established a local historic preservation commission and is in the process of applying for CLG designation.

Three CLG communities were evaluated in this FFY: Montpelier, Norwich, and Shelburne. Waterville was scheduled for evaluation but sudden changes in staffing delayed this; the VT SHPO CLG coordinator will be working closely with Waterville in the next fiscal year to ensure compliance. One item continuing to linger is the reliance on Architectural Resource Inventory Surveys, State Register listings, and National Register listings to determine whether a property is subject to local design review. Directives on how to establish designated resources at the local level are

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continually provided, along with a recommendation on a separate overlay district and individual landmark determinations. This is an ongoing issue with several communities—not just CLGs—in Vermont and continues to be a focus of our efforts. During summer 2023, an intern researched zoning ordinances in every Vermont municipality to identify which towns have historic preservation regulations in place and how those regulations are being carried out. The City of Burlington has been granted CLG funding to examine their designation and project review processes, which hopefully will result in changes. For FFY25, evaluations will be conducted for Brandon, Mad River Valley Planning District, Rockingham, St. Albans City, Windsor, and Waterville.

Ensuring the pass-through match is met and less stressful, VDHP created an action plan with target dates for staff and pledged more of our Historic Preservation Grant Funding to the CLG program. VT SHPO continues to pledge 10% as part of our HPF grants, although 11% to 12% is typically awarded and contracted. The Vermont Advisory Council has requested it be raised to 15% and VT SHPO is reviewing the budget to determine possibilities; one uncertainty is the awarding of the HPF grant about eight months into the fiscal year and the uncertainty of that grant amount.

The CLG applications for FFY22 were awarded in January 2022 by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Through two rounds, SHPO received eleven applications requesting \$74,718 in funding from Calais, Hartford, Rockingham, Shelburne, Windsor, Cambridge Village, Mad River Valley Planning District, Montpelier, and St. Albans City. Projects in Hartford and Norwich were not funded. With the final closeout of these grants SHPO has funded \$73,244 with \$86,513 match.

For FFY23 two rounds of requests for proposals were put to the CLGs. The first round of seven applications was reviewed and awarded in January 2023. The second round had four proposals, three of which were funded in May 2023. The ten projects awarded received \$82,716, with a match totaling \$59,521. This award is 11.93% of the HPF. For FFY24 five applications were reviewed and awarded in January 2024. The five projects awarded received \$79,101, with a match totaling \$244,023. This award is 11.41% of the HPF. Eight applications were received for the FFY25 award with a total request of \$114,318. The required 10% funding of the Historic Preservation Fund Grant will be easily met as this will be our first competitive grant cycle in several years. The applications are focused on historic district nominations, education and interpretation, and planning and design review guidelines. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation shall review and award the project funding on January 23, 2025.

Projects for FFY22 included:

- Town History Tour of Calais, consisting of a full-color map/brochure, and audio tour of the historic places. The tour celebrates the town's many histories, including industrial and rural, pre-settlement and post-settlement, architectural, and social. Residents and visitors will better understand how and why this Vermont town with five hamlets grew as it did.
 - Project completed: The audio tour was recorded with locally well-known audio producer Erica Heilman along with fiddle music composed by one of the committee members. 20 sound files and archival photographs are incorporated into a new webpage for the project. Users will be able to download the full slate of episodes and drive or bike from site to site. The audio run-time is approximately 2 hours. The project will be publicly launched in the spring and the town is planning a launch party.
- History of Performing Arts in Hartford research project will connect to the community's historic buildings and performing art spaces through oral history interviews with residents who have firsthand experience attending and using these spaces. The grant agreement was finalized, and an RFP issued in July 2022. Coherit Associates was contracted, with a kick-off meeting held in October 2022. Coherit Associates focused on the research portion of the project, developing a list of candidates for oral history interviews.
 - Project completed: Generating a great deal of community interest and enthusiasm, the project has been completed. The contracted consultant was Coherit Associates, which researched Hartford's performing arts history and gathered a great deal of documentation. The scope of work included ten videotaped oral history interviews that captures the evolution of the performing arts over the last

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seventy years and 138-page report supplemented with historic photos and playbills and other fascinating documentation. Copies of the report were presented to Town and school libraries and the materials were made available to the public on the Town website. There were two well-attended community presentations.

- Program support, including assistance for the Historic Preservation Commission, preservation awards, and educational preservation programs, for Rockingham. The project will also include creation of digital renderings of the Rockingham Meeting House to display its original interior and exterior paint schemes, recently documented by Susan Buck. Focus was on the Kchi Pontegok project, an Underrepresented Communities NPS grant the CLG received in 2022. The kick-off meeting welcomed 100 attendees in June 2022. From June through September, underwater archaeology surveys were undertaken, and oral history interviews commenced.
 - Project completed: During the grant period, 36 Historic Preservation Commission meetings have been held. The Rockingham Village Walking Tour Brochure has been updated and reprinted; it was distributed August 1. Speakers' series was held in June with a focus on the Rockingham Meeting House Preservation Project. Old House Awards were presented to Saxton River Inn, 29 School Street in Bellows Falls, Wilbur Hall, and 12 Main Street in Saxtons River. The new full color Downtown Bellows Falls Walking Tour brochure have been produced and distributed. The Kchi Pontegok project has been featured at the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions 2024 conference and the 2024 Vermont Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference.
- Shelburne Historic Survey Update will record and evaluate the historic resources from the 2001 survey of the Village Center, Shelburne Falls, Village Residential, and Museum zoning districts. Approximately 500 buildings are located in these areas, of which an estimated 165 were built between 1930 and 1970 and thus not yet surveyed. SHPO finalized the grant agreement, with preservation consultant Brian Knight retained by the town.
 - Project completed: The reconnaissance-level survey of primarily post-1945 buildings identified 500 resources in the Village Center, Shelburne Falls, Village Residential, and Museum planning zones, collecting address, approximate date of construction, architectural style, brief architectural description, and outbuildings. The spreadsheet also provides information on previous surveys and NR listings, as well as a brief NR analysis and recommendations for further study. The consultant also provided a historic context report providing information on post war suburban development in Shelburne with research performed on architects and builders.
- Old South Church National Register nomination evaluating the national significance of this landmark Windsor building, designed and built in 1798 by renowned architect Asher Benjamin and subsequently updated in the Colonial Revival style. The project was contracted, and the town of Windsor retained preservation consultant Lyssa Papazian to research and prepare the nomination.
 - Project completed: The nomination was completed and the Old South Church in Windsor, Vermont was listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places at the National Level of significance on March 29, 2024. On June 17, 2024 an open house and talk was held with architectural historian Lyssa Papazian and master timber framer Jan Lewandoski to discuss the nomination process and the history of the Old South Church as designed and erected by Master Builder Asher Benjamin.
- Village of Cambridge National Register nomination will record and evaluate approximately 60 properties, consisting of residential, commercial, religious, and agricultural resources. The village was listed in the State Register of Historic Places in 1990. SHPO contracted with the village, which then posted an RFP for a preservation consultant. The second attempt resulted in the retainment of Jenny Fulton and Steven Englehart. A kick-off meeting was held at the community potluck to share ideas, facts, and research. In October 2022 a presentation was given to the historical society to engage their participation.
 - Project completed: The July 2023 flood made it difficult for the town to proceed with the project and they were concerned the flood damage could derail the nomination entirely. However, despite the damage the Village maintained its historic character and the community proceeded with the project.

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The draft National Register nomination has been completed and is going through final review by SHPO prior to presenting it to the Vermont ACHP and submitting it to NPS.

- Montpelier CLG will sponsor the 2022 Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference in St. Johnsbury. The Preservation Trust of Vermont will serve as the designated third part for the administration of the project, which supports planning, catering, facility rentals, system rentals, and speakers.
 - Project completed: The conference was held in June 2022. After a multi-year hiatus the conference resumed and despite the challenges of holding a large, in-person event during the pandemic in the pouring rain, it was a resounding success. The conference welcomed 275 attendees (350 signed up). Sessions revolved around the themes of Redefining Main Street and Rural Economies; Outdoor Recreation; Arts, Culture and Creative Industries; and Housing.
- Boyce Hill Town Forest Education Project will be undertaken by the Mad River Valley Planning District, resulting in research and documentation of the history of the Boyce Hill Town Forest, a 93-acre public resource in North Fayston. Originally settled as a hill farm in the early 1800s by the Boyce family, the property contained stone fences, cellar hole, viable apple orchard, and stone corral. The final report will include research results, mapping noting changes over time, and text to be used for an interpretive kiosk (part of another project). SHPO finalized the grant agreement, releasing an RFP in August 2022. Turning Stone Research was contracted and has begun to outline the research efforts.
 - Project completed: Sam Ford was hired as the research consultant and led a historical site walk with a group of interested community members. The final version of the Boyce Hill Historic Resource Survey was completed and MRVPD closed out the grant. The Boyce Hill HRS and other project materials were made available at a critical point during the Boyce Hill Steering Committee's creation of the Boyce Hill Management Plan. The comprehensive research into the parcel history was able to help inform the future management of the parcel, which was one of the identified goals of the Boyce Hill Town Forest Education project.
- Graveyard Conservation Program at the Rockingham Meeting House. The project brings a range of expertise and perspectives on graveyard preservation with workshop speakers on the history, landscape architecture, marker cleaning, and resetting. The second workshop highlights the creation of a cyclical maintenance plan and focuses on the cleaning and resetting effects. The grant agreement was executed. In May 2022 volunteers led the conservation project. The group included local business leader, retired facilities manager of Boston's Trinity Church with conservation responsibilities at Cambridge's Mount Auburn Cemetery, researcher and HPC commissioners, Rockingham's former municipal manager, the town's tree warden, and residents. To empower this group, the Historic Preservation Commission recommended the Selectboard appoint a town-wide Graveyard and Historic Landscape Advisory Committee. This advisory group was created October 4, 2022. From June to October, trees and hedgerows were pruned and cut back to restore the historic landscape. The field in the viewshed was bush hogged. Fence demarcating was started. A pilot program to clean and restore the markers was started, working with descendants of family plots for permission and donations. The community conference is set for May 2023.
 - Project completed. As a result of the efforts undertaken for this cemetery, a Cemetery Committee was appointed in January 2023 to advise the town on the management and maintenance of all town graveyards and cemeteries. In concert with the CLG, the Cemetery Commission has developed a cadre of volunteers and has begun work with several families to support restoration of family plots. This work is done with donated labor, equipment, and materials as well as financial contributions from families. Two family plots have been restored, and work has commenced on three others. A key piece of the grant is to fund a community-wide conference to bring a range of expertise and perspective on graveyard and cemetery preservation. The conference was held over September 9-10, 2023. Workshop leaders and speakers addressed the history of the RMH graveyard, landscape architecture, gravestone stone cleaning, and gravestone re-setting. Dennis Montagna, Northeast District Program Lead of Monument Research and Preservation of the National Park Service led workshops on the history of graveyards and cemeteries and stone cleaning. made a site visit to the RMH graveyard. Landscape architect and stone-waller Brian Post led workshops on historic

cemetery landscapes as well as techniques of stone repair and monument re-setting. Conservator Francis Miller of Conserve Art led workshops on stone resetting and conservation. There were 38 registrants, most from Rockingham, and with participants from other Vermont towns as well as from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and New Hampshire.

There are two major outgrowths from the CLG project: First, a Rockingham Graveyard Historic Preservation Work Group has formed. Interventions of at-risk stones began immediately after the September conference and continue, using material support from this supplemental grant. The group has already started major field assessment and will develop a phased conservation work plan for 2024. The group will meet monthly at the Rockingham Free Public Library to continue research and assessment of preservation needs of the meeting house graveyard. Dennis Montagna and Francis Miller have both volunteered to join in meetings via Zoom to continue conversations begun at the conference. The group expanded the scope of possible research and conservation efforts to include all five of the Town of Rockingham cemeteries. Alongside addressing immediate maintenance needed the committee is focused on digitizing plat maps for all cemeteries and laying out a coordinated plan for assessment that will guide priorities and timing for conservation at each of the cemeteries.

Second, in response to a community discussion about preserving the meeting house historic landscape, a major philanthropic gift has been made to the Rockingham Meeting House Association (RMHA) in support of cultivating restoration and on-going preservation of the graveyard and meeting house viewsapes. This is intended to bring professional expertise to re-establish historical authenticity to the landscape. A professional arborist has completed a survey of trees along the borders and hedgerows to determine how best to restore traditional views.

- Historic windows at the Rockingham Meeting House, a National Historic Landmark constructed between 1787 and 1801, will be evaluated. The resulting report will contain recommendations for window restoration, prioritized by need with a cyclical maintenance plan, and drawings of each of the 50 windows. SHPO executed the grant agreement, enabling the town to post an RFP and contract a consultant in August 2022. The report shall include two phases: Phase 1 is a preliminary condition report with cost opinions; Phase 2 will result in a formal Historic Structure Report (which is not part of this project funding).
 - Project completed. Basic window data was collected and documented during a LiDAR scan of the meeting house conducted in August 2022. By November 2022, the consultant had performed 5 site visits to focus on physical investigations of the architectural integrity of existing windows by mapping out the condition of each unit, taking photographs, sketching graphic drawings, and listing the aspect of each element of the window. The investigation covers window location; condition of the frame, jamb, and sill; condition of the sashes (rails, stiles and muntins); condition of the paint; problems with glazing; condition of the hardware; and overall condition of the window (rated as excellent, fair, or poor). The final report, with recommendations for restoration and conservation of the windows, includes documentation of age and condition, a priority listing of window sets by condition to guide preservation scheduling, near-term restoration and conservation cost estimates, a cyclical maintenance plan, and CAD drawings of a typical window set. Assessments became part of the Historic Structure Report undertaken by consultant and completed April 2023.
- St. Albans Museum will design and fabricate a series of educational panels highlighting the history and significance of five landmark buildings on Church Street, St. Albans City. These included the First Congregational Church (1892), Court House/Vermont Superior Court (1874), St. Paul's United Methodist Church (1873), St. Albans Museum (1891), and St. Luke's Episcopal Church (1860). The panels will be fabricated for outdoor display at each building. SHPO executed the grant agreement. The project was renamed Our Historic Church Street. Research has been completed on each building, along with photographs and prepared text, approved by representatives of each building.
 - Project completed: The walking tour was developed in coordination with the exterior wayfinding panels. The informational pamphlets were designed in agreement about the panel design. The

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pamphlets were printed and distributed to the visitors at each of the buildings discussed in the text, and at downtown merchants and the Chamber of Commerce. The information is also available on each building's website (except the Courthouse that does not have one). A QR code on each panel when scanned will bring people to the respective websites. An old fashioned street festival on Church Street included walking and guided tours (both the interior and exterior) of each building's historic architecture and significance as well as family fun with games and a scavenger hunt. The new St. Albans annual festival, "The Church Street Festival" continued in summer of 2024. Church Street was blocked off and the significance of its 5 historic buildings was celebrated.

For FFY23 two rounds of requests for proposals were put to the CLGs. The first round of seven applications was reviewed and awarded in January 2023. The second round had four proposals, three of which were funded in May 2023. The ten projects awarded received \$82,716, with a match totaling \$59,521. This award is 11.93% of the HPF.

- Town of Brandon CLG: Historic Survey for the Town of Brandon will include an overall survey of the important historical areas, industries and people associated with the Brandon area. This study will focus on areas outside the identified historic districts and integrate the current information into a more cohesive historical perspective. This will include the old Brandon site, Forest Dale, and other areas outside the downtown core. The study will also focus on the manufacturing and industrial aspects of Brandon. It is estimated that approximately 50 properties will be surveyed. The final product will be a Survey Report summarizing the results of the project; an individual architectural survey form for each property; photographs of each property surveyed; and maps showing the location of each property within the town.
 - 2024 Project Update: Through a competitive procurement process, a fixed price contract was awarded to VHB, Inc. to perform the historic survey. Two meetings were held in Brandon and the visits were used by VHB to collect data and identify possible areas that are of interest. The final report was presented to the town July 2024. A number of locations were identified as being possible areas for future studies or consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It also suggested possibilities of expanding the current Brandon Historic District and establishing a historic district in the Forest Dale area.
- Town of Hartford CLG: Taft's Flat National Register Nominations will continue the work proposed in 2021 through the intensive level survey. Taft's Flat is a plateau between White River Junction and Wilder Village through which Route 5 passes. The 1869 Beers Atlas showed no road connection between White River Junction and Olcott (later changed to Wilder) and only two farmhouses and the farm of Orrin Taft. From 1879 to 1892, Taft sold off several parcels of land, spurring development of the area that continued through the 1960s. It contains six distinct subdivisions that date from the 1920s to the 1960s. The final product will be a report summarizing the review of the 2021 Intensive Level Survey, with recommendations for which subdivision to nominate to the National Register. In consultation with the town, National Register nominations will be researched and written and submitted to VDHP for listing.
 - 2024 Project update: Two historic districts were identified to proceed with nominations. Draft National Register nominations have been submitted by the consultant to SHPO for review and comment. On June 12, 2024, Architectural Historian Brian Knight gave a presentation on the history of the Demers Avenue development. Approximately 30 people attended the presentation. On August 21, 2024, Brian Knight gave a presentation on the history of the Victory Circle/Highland Park development. Twenty-five people attended. The events were recorded and is available to the public on the Historic Preservation Commission's webpage. On November 20, 2024, the Historic Preservation Commission sponsored an information meeting on the two proposed historic districts. Copies of the draft historic district nominations were made available to the public as well as being posted on the Historic Preservation Commission's webpage. The meeting was advertised and notices were sent to all property owners in the proposed districts.
- City of Montpelier CLG: Montpelier Historic Resources Scoping Study will have a consultant research and document the extent of Montpelier's historic resources throughout the city. With this information, the Montpelier CLG will have a full understanding of the city's historic resources and can develop a systematic approach to documenting individual properties and historic districts. Such resources include outbuildings and

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buildings known to be a part of the Civil War hospital in the College Hill area, as well as buildings within the area known as the “Meadow” adjacent to Route 12/Elm Street as it heads North out of the city. The final product will be a report summarizing the results of the research, including recommendations for State and National Register-eligible properties and districts. A prioritized list of survey and nomination projects will be provided to guide the work of the Montpelier CLG for the next several years.

- 2024 Project update: Consultant Lyssa Papazian completed field work and delivered an initial draft of her Report on October 19, 2024. After consultation with the City on revisions and final editing, including updating with maps provided by City of Montpelier Staff and a table of contents, the final draft Report was provided on November 19, 2024 for circulation to the MHPC for comment. The MHPC is scheduled to meet on December 10, 2024, to review the Final Report and if accepted the final invoice to Ms. Papazian can be paid shortly thereafter and the grant closed out.
- Town of Norwich CLG: Grant funding will be used to hire a consultant research and write a National Register nomination for the Jones Circle neighborhood, a compact residential development constructed in the 1950s/1960s by the National Homes Corporation. Based in Lafayette, IN, National Homes was a manufacturer of prefabricated houses. These houses were built in large sections, trucked to the desired site, and assembled. The 2015/16 Norwich windshield survey states that Jones Circle “not only is significant as a collection of this property type and suburban Colonial Revival style with great integrity but is a good example of discrete infill in a historic town center during the 20th century residential expansion Norwich experienced.” The final product will be a National Register nomination for the Jones Circle Historic District.
 - 2024 Project update: Brian Knight, the preservation consultant, with the help of Historic Preservation Commission volunteers used the research gathered for the nomination and shared an online presentation on March 14 for the community about the history of prefabricated houses in the U.S. and Jones Circle in particular. The draft National Register nomination has been submitted to SHPO and is currently being revised prior to being submitted to the Vermont ACHP for review.
- Town of Rockingham CLG: Grant funding will be used to pay the Rockingham CLG Coordinator (12 hours/week) to oversee the operations of the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission and manage ongoing activities such as the Speakers Program, Historic Homes Workshops, Historic Preservation Public Awareness Program, and Old House Awards. In addition, the CLG Coordinator is overseeing the Rockingham Meeting House Preservation Project. The final product will be a report on the activities and accomplishments of the CLG Coordinator and Commission, and the successful implementation of local CLG program activities.
 - 2024 Project update: Starting in July the CLG coordinator increased their hours from 12- 20 hours per week. The Historic Preservation Commission meets regularly and addressed a broad range of topics and projects during this grant period. Of particular note is the continued work on the Rockingham Meeting House curatorial oversight, the Rockingham Meeting House Graveyard Preservation Conference, The Vermont Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference 2024 was hosted in their community and the HPC coordinated several historic walking tours, outreach to local schools to support historic preservation work to fulfill community service requirements, and Rockingham Village Walking Tour Brochure was updated and reprinted. Bellows Falls Union High School held a Career Day, which included historic preservation information table. Historic Preservation Community Service, recruiting Bellows Falls Union High School, Compass School, and Vermont Academy students to do historic preservation-oriented work to fulfill community service graduation requirement. Speaker Series continued with sessions focused on Miss Bellows Falls Diner. The CLG coordinator presented at two national conferences.
 - “In Plain Sight...Kchi Pôntegok,” National Alliance of Historic Preservation Commissions Forum 2024, West Palm Beach Florida, July 31-August 4, 2024
 - Co-presented with Susan Buck, “Paint and Finishes of the Rockingham Meeting House,” A Rich and Varied Palette: Coloring New England’s Past An Historic Deerfield Forum, Deerfield, Massachusetts, September 13-14, 2024

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- Town of Stowe CLG: Grant funding will be used to hire an architect to prepare architectural drawings and site specifications for the next stage of revitalizing the Seaver Sawmill in Historic Moscow Village. Built in 1822, the Seaver Sawmill is a contributing resource in the Moscow Mill Historic District. A micro-generation hydropower site is planned for the mill, and the building is to be rehabilitated as part of the project. The final product will be architectural drawings of the building as it stands today, with proposed improvements. Third-Party Administrator: Stowe Electric Department.
 - 2024 Project update: In the first quarter of this grant Stowe Electric engaged VHB, Cole Engineering, Chris Carey Architects, and SLR International to complete the measured drawings and historic structure reports for the Seaver Sawmill and Millwright's Office. During this phase it was determined that the Second Office aka the Millwright's Office no longer retains significant historical characteristics that make it eligible for the State of Vermont historic registry. This is the result of alterations to the building that occurred before Stowe Electric took ownership of the property and the building. Stowe Electric's experts consulted with SHPO to verify that the Millwright's Office should be withdrawn from the listing, which was verified. Therefore, the structure is no longer part of this grant and the second quarter of this report. The drawings and Historic Structure Report have been completed and Stowe Electric is currently compiling the documentation to close out the grant.
- Town of Windsor: Grant funding will be used to support the publication of 100-150 hard copies of new book about the Warsaw neighborhood, a group of company-built houses on the Connecticut River floodplain just east of the 1909 Windsor Machine Company factory. It was acquired in early 1916 by National Acme Company and then 1936 by Goodyear Tire and Rubber's Windsor Manufacturing Corporation. Between the fall of 1916 and 1919 National Acme built two roads roughly parallel to the river and a short cross street, 67 small, single-family dwellings, 13 two-family houses, and three tenement buildings; the company also acquired existing housing in the area for its employees. Windsor's Warsaw was researched and written by local historian Kathryn Grover. The final product will be the publication of the completed book.
 - 2024 Project update: Project completed. The consultant, Kathryn Grover produced a manuscript prior and held a successful public presentation about the development of the book. She sought funds to print 150 copies of the book so that it could be printed and shared with property owners in this neighborhood. She reviewed multiple copies of galleys from the printer and the book was printed in October. She distributed 47 copies to neighborhood residents, interviewees, donors and the local library. The remaining copies are available at cost at the Windsor Public Library or the Windsor Vermont Historical Association website.
- Town of Rockingham CLG: Grant funding will be used to create a web-based ArcGIS Story Map narrating the historic, cultural, and social development of Rockingham, with a focus on the Rockingham Meeting House (1787-1801) and adjacent graveyard (1776) in the context of the historic districts of Rockingham Village and Parker Hill Village during the Euro-American development period (1752-1840). The online story map will be synchronized with QR two-dimensional matrix barcodes on two wayfinding kiosks at the meeting house (placed summer 2023). This project will provide a richer interactive engagement with the meeting house and surrounding villages for visitors in person and globally. Final products include the ArcGIS Story Map and two weather-resistant wayfinding signs.
 - 2024 Project update: The project entails creation of web-based ArcGIS StoryMaps narrating the cultural and social development of Rockingham, Vermont, with a focus on the Rockingham Meeting House and adjacent graveyard during the formative years of 1752 – 1840. The Arc/GIS Story Maps are completed and posted to the ESRI ArcGIS StoryMap cloud archive, available for viewing online
 - Rockingham Meeting House StoryMap - <https://arcg.is/155vqy0>
 - John Wolfe StoryMap - <https://arcg.is/000WD4>
 The StoryMaps are hosted without cost and can be edited over time. This initial phase of the project was completed on August 14, 2024. Next steps include using drone-based technology create video narratives of the Rockingham Village and Parker Hill Village area to expand visual sense of place, to be added to the existing StoryMaps and to design, print, and install wayfaring signage for the Rockingham Meeting House Graveyard.

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- Town of Rockingham CLG: Grant funding will be used to update and print 3,000 copies of the Bellows Falls Neighborhood Self-Guided Walking Tour brochure, providing information and education on the historic district. This will contribute to the Historic Preservation Commission's community development and heritage tourism strategy as outlined in the Rockingham Town Plan. The historic district was listed in 2002 with a boundary increase in 2007. The brochure was first created in 2016, providing an overall history, map, photographs, and information about select buildings and sites of historical, cultural, social, and architectural significance. The final product will be the newly designed, updated, and printed brochure.
 - 2024 Project update: The new walking tour brochure design has been completed and 5,000 brochures printed. Distribution to the community included Rockingham Town Hall, Waypoint Center (Bellows Falls welcome center), Bellows Falls Historical Society, Village square Bookstore, Windham Antique Center, and local restaurants and hostels.
- Town of Rockingham CLG: Grant funding will be used to provide supplemental funding for the Graveyard Conservation Project (funding through a CLG grant in 2022 (VT-22-10009). The program, driven by volunteers trained in the art of graveyard assessment, restoration, and conservation, focuses on the Rockingham Meeting House graveyard. The oldest graves date to 1776, predating the meetinghouse (1787-1801). The cemetery and meetinghouse, noted as one property, is a National Historic Landmark. The full project entails a community-based conference bringing a range of expertise and perspective on graveyard preservation. This additional request addresses increased costs used by stone preservationists for the workshops, catering costs, and headstone cleaning kits.
 - 2024 Project update: Funds from the supplemental grant went to conference catering and purchase of stone cleaning tools. On April 29, 2024 permission was granted to allocate the remainder of supplemental funds for the purchase of tools and material to implement the graveyard preservation work plan. To date (12-01-2024) work-carts, brushes, buckets, electric grass clippers, a weed-whacker, shovels, rakes, grass seed, and mulch hay have been purchased with the supplemental funds. Next Steps: The following steps are underway with the goal to complete by May 1, 2025 restorative planting of the Rockingham Meeting House Graveyard and complete the conference workplan. Guided by a nature based approach to landscape restoration, the goal is to improve the graveyard's degraded landscape and restore its ecological integrity with the use of native flora, recapturing an 18th and 19th century viewscape. Besides preserving a traditional viewscape the project will address climate change and improve biodiversity, creating benefits for people and the planet.
 - Research 18th and 19th century graveyard landscapes and native flora
 - Develop a planting plan for the graveyard
 - Consult with vendors to source heirloom seeds and stock native to the area
 - Dig in with planting to implement the plan
 Research and planning will make full use of National Park Service and USDA technical bulletins and be consistent with the SOI Standards.

For FFY24 five applications were reviewed and awarded in January 2024. The five projects awarded received \$79,101, with a match totaling \$244,023. This award is 11.41% of the HPF.

- City of Burlington: Grant funding will be used to hire a qualified consultant to research and write *preserveBTV*, a citywide visioning document identifying priorities for preservation that will enable sustainable, long-term use of the city's historic structures. Once completed, the *preserveBTV* will be integrated into the municipal development plan, *planBTV*, and inform updates to the Comprehensive Development Ordinance (CDO). The plan will provide the foundation to identify and prioritize buildings and sites for local designation and protection, as well as the best tools for implementation that balance priorities for the city's future, including regulatory tools, design guidelines, technical assistance, and funding mechanisms. A major anticipated outcome of this plan is a review of the city's existing regulatory language in the Comprehensive Development Ordinance (CDO) to assure both consistency with Vermont Planning, Development and Land Use Laws and appropriate consideration of the process and scope of its ordinances relative to the treatment of historic properties. The final product will be a city-wide historic preservation plan.

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- 2024 Project update: The Request for Proposals was issued November 14, 2024. Although issuance of the RFP was delayed by change in administration and staffing within the City, Burlington is confident it will advance and complete *preserveBTV* Preservation Plan within the grant timeline.
- Norwich CLG: Third-Party Administration by Norwich Community Collaborative, Inc.: Grant funding will be used to hire an architect/related specialists to prepare drawings and develop site specifications to guide the next stage of revitalization for the former Upper Valley Community Grange Hall, a contributing structure to the Norwich Village Historic District. This project will include documentation of existing conditions, programming, code review, and schematic design and development for a rehabilitation project that will meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Community use is the goal of this project after a historically appropriate rehabilitation (under the Secretary of the Interior's standards) of the building is completed by its new owner, the Norwich Community Collaborative Inc. ("NCC"). The NCC, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, will be the third-party administrator of this grant. NCC has already obtained an initial conditions assessment/structural engineering report, which these architectural plans will build upon.
 - 2024 Project update: Project is complete and final documentation is being gathered to close out the grant. Community visioning sessions were held in late 2023/early 2024 to generate ideas for what the building will be utilized for post-restoration. This work informed the architectural design as did other outreach efforts. In April, the Norwich Community Collaborative (NCC) ran a competitive RFP process and selected Studio Nexus (based in White River Junction) to prepare these plans. Studio Nexus was the architectural firm that performed the initial conditions assessment on the building. From April through November, the NCC worked with Studio Nexus on these plans which are ready to be submitted to the state fire marshal for approval. \$800,000 has already been raised in advance of the full capital campaign to implement the rehabilitation project.
- Rockingham CLG, Third-Party Administration by the Preservation Trust of Vermont: Grant funding will be used to support the presentation of the 2024 Historic Preservation and Downtown Conference in Bellows Falls. The conference will convene a diverse group of people and organizations to network and learn about historic preservation, community planning, and revitalization strategies. The audience of 200-250 includes individuals interested in community revitalization and historic preservation, architects, engineers, builders, historical society members, downtown leaders, municipal and state government staff, commissioners, historic preservation professionals, individuals from the nonprofit sector, and local community volunteers. The 2024 conference will focus on "Adaptive, Inclusive, and Resilient Downtowns," exploring how places of convening (such as historic downtowns) support the expression, discussion, and demonstration of diversity, equity, and inclusion, are changing in response to climate change and new populations, and are experiencing shifts in the uses of historic landmarks such as churches, granges, and general stores.
 - 2024 Project update: The Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference was held on June 5, 2024, in Bellows Falls, VT. The goal of the Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference is to convene a diverse group of people and organizations to network and learn about historic preservation, community planning, and revitalization strategies. Beautiful weather and an excellent host community made the 2024 conference a resounding success. Conference attendance once again exceeded expectations, with over 300 individuals registered for the day-long event. The attendees came from a wide variety of historic preservation backgrounds, including architects, engineers, builders, historical society members, downtown leaders, municipal and state government staff, commissioners, historic preservation professionals, museum professionals, individuals from the non-profit sector, and grassroots volunteers. The event was held in conjunction with the Creative Sector Convening, hosted by the Vermont Arts Council and Vermont Creative Network on June 6, which helped expand the network of attendees at both events. PTV has drafted the final reporting materials and anticipates closing the CLG grant by the end of FY25 Q2.
- Rockingham CLG: Grant funding will be used to pay the Rockingham CLG Coordinator (20 hours/week) to oversee the operations of the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission and manage ongoing activities such as the Speakers Program, Historic Homes Workshops, Historic Preservation Public Awareness Program,

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and Old House Awards. In addition, the CLG Coordinator is overseeing the Rockingham Meeting House Preservation Project. The final product will be a report on the activities and accomplishments of the CLG Coordinator and Commission, and the successful implementation of local CLG program activities.

- 2024 Project Update: The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) continues to fulfill its mission. First, to advise the Town Selectboard, Town Manager, and Development Director on matters related to historic preservation. Second, to promote historic preservation in the community by providing technical support to owners of historic properties and consultations, a speaker series, and events such as our Old House Award program. Third, to support the stewardship and interpretation of historic districts and sites including the Rockingham Meeting House (RMH). The Coordinator administers the CLG grant, serves as staff for the HPC, organizes programs, provides preservation assistance to the Town and community, and liaises with Vermont state agencies regarding activities such as Section 106 reviews and with the National Park Service as required. The Coordinator serves as conservator of the RMH, administering a cyclical operations and maintenance plan as well as special projects to ensure on-going conservation.

The Historic Preservation Commission continues to meet monthly, scheduled for the first Monday of each month. Since 01-18-2024 there have been 10 regular meetings and 1 special meeting. Speaker Series Support talks featured Rick Eckert, “Early Tinware Makers in Saxtons River,” October 27, 2024. The Sponsored the 27th annual Old House Awards program to honor and celebrate those property owners who maintain the historic nature of their homes, commercial buildings, and landscapes. An award ceremony was held on October 15, 2024 at the Rockingham Meeting House.

Upcoming special projects include: Direct the Rockingham Meeting House Preservation Project and the Rockingham Meeting House Capital Campaign. Coordinate Stephen Belaski Murals Restoration Project. Develop in collaboration with community partners Vermont 250 events in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence.

- Saint Albans CLG: Grant funding will be used to hire a qualified consultant to oversee the survey and documentation of approximately 300 properties in a 105-acre area on the west side of St. Albans City. This area represents the development of worker housing after the coming of the railroad to St. Albans in 1860. The survey area has local significance as an ethnic neighborhood that started as a mix of French Canadian and Irish families of railroad workers and evolved into a more fully French-Canadian community after the establishment of the French National Parish of Holy Angels Catholic Church on Lake Street in 1873. The Holy Angels Parish became the center of a thriving French-Canadian population in St. Albans and its region. Preservation of the French culture was aided by the church through creation of a French language parochial school and encouragement of the formation of French Canadian civic and fraternal groups. The proximity to Canada made this easier as many immigrants still had family in nearby Quebec. The final product will be a survey report, VARI survey forms, and a recommendation regarding eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.
 - 2024 Project update: The procurement process has been completed and Lyssa Papazian was hired as the historic consultant. A kick-off meeting has been held with the City Historic Preservation Committee and they are working on recruitment for volunteers to assist with the survey.

Eight applications were received for the FFY25 award with a total request of \$114,318. The required 10% funding of the Historic Preservation Fund Grant shall be easily met as this will be our first competitive grant cycle in a number of years. The applications are focused on historic district nominations, education and interpretation, and planning and design review guidelines. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation shall review and award the project funding on January 23, 2025.

Easements and Covenants

VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

Staff focused on the review of 18 historic properties for which VDHP holds easements and covenants, with an architectural historian and archaeologist assigned to conduct site visits and project reviews annually. Twelve properties with standing structures and six properties with archaeological sites were examined in FFY24. Archaeological easements included Claflin Farm in Charlotte, Beech Hill Property in New Haven, Brady Easement #2 in Addison, Miller Property in Addison, Elizabeth Cooper Mine in Strafford, and the Skitchewaug Site in Springfield. No development is planned at any of the archaeological easement properties.

At least six architectural easement agreements are expected as congressionally delegated spending and Save America's Treasures are awarded in Vermont using the Historic Preservation Fund. These easements are temporary, with the terms of the review based by the National Park Service on the award amount. The Wheelock Building in Barre is the newest easement granted to VT SHPO. It was previously owned by the City of Barre, which sold it with an exterior easement in 2024.

At the Granite Museum in Barre, planned work includes new lighting, repairs/reglazing to windows, painting, and panic bar on historic front door. The final easement report stressed the need to consult with VT SHPO prior to undertaking any proposed work for the coming year. Although the museum was not affected by recent flooding, other buildings on the property (which are not part of the easement) shall require great attention in the future and will likely delay planned work to the museum. At the Wheelock Building in Barre, this was the first annual inspection since the execution of the Deed Restriction on this property. The easement covers the exterior façade of the building, including the bellcast mansard roof and the mansard roofed two-story entrance tower on the east corner, round arched windows and dormer windows, wood modillioned cornices that wrap the side elevations, and the main entry in the tower. Work reviewed at the Adams-Sargent House in Ludlow included painting and new roofing of various outbuildings. The former small shed has been rehabilitated for use as a sauna, with no changes to the exterior appearance. Planned work focuses on additional masonry re-pointing and repairs, subject to finding a qualified contractor to complete the work; repair of the window trim and sash of the large Victorian picture window; and new exterior stairs to the second story of the carriage barn. Inspection of the Temperance Reed House in Lyndonville addressed wallpaper and non-historic chair removal, plaster repairs, and replacement of defective replacement windows. The rear shed was jacked up onto new metal piers, having a deteriorated foundation from which it was slipping. Planned work includes repair of the wrap-around and side porches, continued window maintenance, plaster repairs, and new fixtures in the kitchen and bath, replacing non-historic fixtures. The asphalt single roofing on the gable of the east elevation will be replaced with wood shingles to match the rest of the roof, and a new carriage will be constructed in consultation with VT SHPO. The easement at the Captain Dan Mather House is specific to protection of three walls of historically significant interior murals. An interior inspection confirmed the murals are still intact and in good condition overall with no changes from the previous inspection and documentation effort completed in September of 2021. In Montpelier at Redstone, work undertaken includes exterior carpentry repairs and painting of exterior woodwork with some additional work completed on the main porch; sections of the railing that were observed to have been removed were replicated and reinstalled or are on site for reinstallation, and several porch posts have been replicated and replaced. VT SHPO has recommended that any original columns or railings that will not be reinstalled should be stored on site. VT SHPO was unable to confirm if the leaking roof was repaired and observed the installation of a kitchenette; requests for confirmation and plans have been made to the owner. The New Haven Depot, moved in 2022, was evaluated under a new easement and the overall condition of the building is stable. It has been placed on its new foundation with limited grading completed to infill; additional grading will be necessary as the platform for the entry is reconstructed. Existing window and door openings are temporarily covered with plywood and prevent access as the building still has no floor. Plans for 2025 are focused on the installation of the new slate roof. At the Newport Federal Building, completed work included repairs to the granite entry and metal canopies, replacement of the addition roof, and updates to the elevator and alarm systems. Planned work includes replacing the concrete stairs of the addition and retaining wall and soundproofing for the 3rd-floor courtroom. Shelburne Farms Inn in Shelburne undertook replacement of the Tea Room entry stairs, as approved. Future projects include installation of an additional awning to match existing awning, capping the repaired chimneys, all of which have been reviewed and approved. The St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, the recipient of several federal grants, has installed a new flagpole; the eagle from the

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original pole is on display inside the museum. A new finial to match those on the other corner of the tower was fabricated from an original mold; this finial will replace the original flagpole. Modifications to reinforce the spiral stair in the gallery was completed, with unobtrusive support. Planned work includes exterior repairs to the tower detailing, installation of an automatic door opener for the ADA entrance in the basement, and excavation of the area below the side stairs and installation of a new drainage system to prevent water/salt from causing deterioration of the masonry. The Bradley Law Office in Westminster has been open to the public this year. A dehumidifier is running in the building and is monitored regularly. Suggested monitoring of the ceiling to either side of the chimney where cracking and discoloration was noted. A full list of proposed and necessary projects has been provided to VT SHPO to review. The University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge is in good condition although several outbuildings are in fair condition with need for general repairs and maintenance of leaks and rot. Repairs and waterproofing the foundation and drainage remain primary projects. Water damage caused the cornice at the south elevation of the main house to fail; it has been repaired. A tree damaged the wrap-around porch of the main house, and this is recommended for repair in kind as soon as possible. In the main barn, the conversion of two stalls in the lower section for a new breeding lab was completed as approved.

Federal Tax Credits

VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

Since 2012, 136 Vermont projects have received Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credits with over \$50.3 million in qualified rehabilitation expenditures bringing historic properties back into service; total project costs reached over \$287.5 million. Significantly, these projects have provided 1,062 housing units, both new and rehabilitated. For 2024, four completed projects in three Vermont towns and cities were granted \$1.08 million in RITC, leveraging more than \$5.4 million in qualified rehabilitation investment through the employment of contractors and purchasing of materials. Of the completed 2024 projects, three involved rehabilitations for housing, resulting in 18 units of new or rehabilitated housing. Three of these projects received Vermont Downtown and Village State Tax Credits as well. Projects completed include the Leonard Block at 14 Elliot Street in Brattleboro, providing ten housing units and the Kingman Block at 54-56 North Main Street in St. Albans, including 8 housing units. The Italianate-style Phoenix Block at 19 Central Street was rehabilitated to offer two storefronts along the busy commercial corridor of Woodstock, with office space on the two floors above. There are 48 active RITC projects at various phases currently being reviewed by VT SHPO and another 43 potential projects have been identified by the Vermont Tax Credit Reviewer. Applications are now accepted online by the National Park Service, a process that began in the fall of 2023 that should expedite application reviews. Part 1 applications for those buildings not yet listed in the National Register, a requirement of the program, must include a 90% draft of a National Register nomination application.

Historic Barn Preservation Grants

Grants are State-funded; VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

Begun in 1992 and funded through the Capital Budget, this is the oldest state barn grant program in the country. Cumulatively, it has provided over \$5 million in grants to support 504 projects devoted to the repair and restoration of historic barns and agricultural outbuildings. For State Fiscal Year 2024, of the 28 applications requesting \$477,574 funding, 21 projects were awarded grant funds totaling \$350,235. This leverages \$1,058,242 in restoration and rehabilitation efforts and provides approximately 60 preservation and construction jobs for Vermont workers. Grant applications for the FY25 funds are due were received in December 2024; \$300,000 is available. The 31 applications requesting \$463,562 in funding will be reviewed and awarded in February 2025.

BARN GRANTS Fiscal Year	# of Grant Applications	# of Grants Awarded	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Amount Awarded	Total Cost	Project
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2025	31	Grant award is February 2025	\$463,462	Grant award is February 2025	\$1,354,669 if all funded
2024	28	21	\$477,574	\$350,235	\$1,058,242
2023	39	30	\$503,940	\$372,988	\$1,046,550
2022	52	22	\$646,120	\$299,325	\$999,674
2021	44	20	\$523,904	\$230,866	\$594,949
2020	39	19	\$488,077	\$227,197	\$646,369
2019	51	15	\$720,336	\$203,126	\$619,023
2018	45	17	\$430,350	\$236,864	\$815,131
2017	33	17	\$413,815	\$211,369	\$596,706
2016	48	20	\$633,637	\$232,467	\$765,467
2015	32	21	\$378,559	\$247,134	\$589,887
2014	39	20	\$531,080	\$282,778	\$659,192

Historic Preservation Grants***Grants are State-funded; VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split***

Begun in 1986 and funded through the Capital Budget, this program has provided \$7.08 million in grants for the rehabilitation of 676 significant community buildings such as town halls, museums, theaters, libraries, recreation centers and other municipal resources. This is a 50/50 matching grant program, providing up to \$20,000 per application. All resources must be eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Projects must be completed within two years of awarding. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation ranks and awards the projects using criteria based on the Standards for Rehabilitation. For FY24, in December 2023, 19 of the 38 applications submitted were awarded \$321,340, leveraging \$1.78 million and about 40 preservation and construction jobs. The awarding of the FY25 funds was made in December 2024, funding 22 preservation projects in eight counties; 37 applications were received requesting \$633,588. The \$357,207 grant funding will leverage more than \$1.4 million in restoration and rehabilitation efforts.

Grant Year	Award	# of Grant Applications	# of Grants Awarded	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Amount Awarded	Total Project Cost
2025		37	22	\$633,588	\$357,207	\$1,396,837
2024		38	19	\$622,556	\$319,090	\$1,786,011
2023		38	20	\$606,251	\$321,363	\$935,463
2022		41	19	\$639,596	\$299,325	\$1.04 million
2021		37	13	\$550,669	\$204,896	\$465,818
2020		52	17	\$753,565	\$236,066	\$623,150
2019		43	14	\$633,343	\$212,982	\$734,636
2018		48	16	\$700,496	\$225,035	\$1,267,913
2017		48	15	\$702,420	\$195,779	\$632,820
2016		56	12	\$871,939	\$199,367	\$561,565
2015		40	18	\$631,794	\$253,220	\$877,957
2014		50	17	\$756,855	\$257,404	\$627,788

National and State Registers of Historic Places***VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split (National Register)******VDHP Staff are paid with 100% state funds (State Register)***

VDHP continues to work diligently to streamline the nomination process and has established a schedule of submission deadlines and quarterly Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) meetings dedicated to

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consideration of new and amended nominations and determinations of eligibility. All nominations are now available digitally through our Online Resource Center and posted during the ACHP evaluation period. Rules were established for scheduling and outreach for delisting, listing, and determinations of eligibility of properties from the State Register of Historic Places. Additional details shall be created through the state rulemaking process. Continuing the necessity for defining processes, a guidance document for National Register nominations in Vermont is being prepared to supplement the National Register Bulletins. Survey and determination of eligibility forms are being updated to clarify documentation necessary, sources of research, require repository contact, and SHPO/ACHP responses. Training for consultants was conducted in April and September of 2024.

For the Federal Fiscal Year 2024, VDHP successfully processed eight new nominations to the National Register, consisting of three new historic districts and five individual listings. Vermont now boasts a total of 296 historic districts and 12,321 individually listed buildings, structures, and sites listed statewide since 1966. The number of nominations processed and forwarded to the National Register of Historic Places for successful designation has increased over the previous six years. One reason for this increase is the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program and Congressionally Directed Spending for projects administered by the National Park Service; funding requires listing in the National Register of Historic Places within three years of award. The Certified Local Government Grant Funds, considered pass-through funding for VDHP's Historic Preservation Fund, supported the individual listing of Old South Church in Windsor. The iconic church was listed in 1975 as a contributing resource to the Windsor Village Historic District and was individually listed in 2024 for its national significance as a pioneering and influential example of ecclesiastical architecture. Designed in 1798, Old South Church is the work of Asher Benjamin, one of America's first professional architects and architectural authors. Its original design and renovation campaigns were emblematic of important regional changes in town and church relationships, the development over time of religious practice, and the evolution of architectural tastes. Johnny Seesaw's Historic District in Peru, first listed in the National Register in 2008, was delisted due to the significant alterations undertaken from 2015 to 2018 to ensure its continued viability as a business. These resulting changes created a loss of historic integrity, and the property was no longer able to convey its historic significance as a 1930s commercial and recreational enterprise. The primary building on the property, the historic Inn, was demolished and replaced by a new lodge. Four guest cottages were substantially remodeled and expanded with lower levels, and the pool and tennis court have been removed. The 2022 relocation of the New Haven Junction Depot, listed in 1978, required an update of documentation to the National Register. Because of its move away from railroad tracks, the Depot was no longer eligible under Criterion A for its association with the Rutland and Burlington Railroad Division of the Central Vermont Railroad, which greatly impacted the development and growth of villages and towns along its route in the late 19th century. The National Register confirmed the Depot remains listed under Criterion C despite the move for its Gothic Revival-style of architecture and confirmed the construction date of 1868. Nineteen nominations are presently being reviewed and processed. Elizabeth Peebles was named the new State Architectural Historian in September 2024 and will be overseeing this program.

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places provides automatic listing in the Vermont State Register of Historic Places; there were 4 new listings in just the State Register. This resulted in the listing of 49 resources, including buildings, structures, and sites individually or as part of historic districts. One hundred nineteen (119) properties were evaluated for eligibility for listing in the State Register of Historic Places were done this fiscal year and 146 were completed for the National Register.

Programmatic Agreement Review

VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

SHPO continues to evaluate all "active" Programmatic Agreements (PA). Focus remains on updating existing agreements to reflect digital submittals and introduce Section 106 Preliminary Review Forms, which are edited for specific programs or state/federal agency with exempt activity lists. Partner agencies have requested workshops or training on the preparation and administration of PAs considering some changes implementing the stipulations.

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SHPO consulted on seventeen memorandums of agreement, amendments, or project PAs under Section 106 in the FFY24 for eleven federal agencies. Agreements were executed for the replacement of bridges in Fairfield and Chester with the Federal Agency of Transportation and the Vermont Agency of Transportation; adaptive use of a former YWCA in Burlington for housing with HUD and the Burlington Community and Economic Development Office; the redevelopment of Dand Bar State Park with the National Park Service and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources; and replacement of a pedestrian bridge in Hardwick with USDA-Rural Development. The Section 106 Programmatic Agreement with the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development (through the Community Development Program) and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for the administration of the HOME investment partnership program was updated with minor changes and extended for five years. Relicensing with FERC resulted in three agreements for dam and hydroelectric projects in Newbury, Salisbury, and St. Johnsbury. Coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers included two agreement documents for dam removals in Calais and Thetford. At the state level, eleven agreements for adverse effects or program streamlining were executed, the majority with the Public Utilities Commission addressing solar installations and substations.

Project Review

VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

VDHP reviewed and consulted on 1,914 projects in 2024, which is 19 projects less than the prior year. Management of the projects from submittal to concurrence was completed manually as the project review team, consisting of 5 full-time (one limited service) and 2 very part-time staff, does not have an adequate computerized system, which would assist the team in more efficiently monitoring and supporting Vermonters; the digital database is currently under construction by ADS, modeled after the database used by the Natural Resources Board for Act 250. This shall provide a significant improvement for efficiency, accuracy, and productivity, and is expected to be tested in February of 2025 and in place for use by Spring 2025. Despite the manual operations they have mastered, the Project Review Team continues to maintain a 93.1% completion rate within 30 days or less based on programmatic agreement stipulations. The rapid acceleration of projects, especially those for larger hydroelectric dams, requires repeated consultation over several years. The expedited and increased number of consultations necessary to address flood emergencies with Vermont Emergency Management and FEMA have created delays in other reviews, lowering the team's completion rate slightly. Twenty-two memorandums of agreement and programmatic agreements were signed for Section 106 and 22 V.S.A. activities (13 were executed in FFY20 and FFY23; 30 signed in FFY21). The team reviewed 1,325 development projects receiving federal funds, permits, or licenses for their potential impacts to historic buildings and structures, historic districts, historic landscapes and settings, and known or potential archaeological resources; this is a decrease of 122 projects from FFY24, but consistent with FFY23. Fourteen projects reviewed for Section 106 were the result of Congressionally Directed Spending. Under state statute, VDHP staff processed 155 projects under Criterion 8 of Act 250, which is a decrease of 107 compared to FFY23 but reflects the construction delays and material shortages caused by Covid and the statutory changes in review requirements. Under Section 248, for Vermont Public Utilities, 97 projects were reviewed and 10 memorandums of agreement for adverse effects were executed. The number of projects reviewed under Section 248 continues to hold steady at an increase from the Covid era, which is likely due to changes in the permitting process. For state involvement under 22 VSA chapter 14, 72 projects were reviewed, which is a 39% increase from FFY24.

The review team continues to spend time on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of hydroelectric projects. For 2018 to 2027, we are anticipating 285+ concurrent relicensing processes. Many of these licensed projects have not had historic resource survey and identification studies completed and will need them during the study periods of the relicensing. It is likely that most facilities will also need new or updated Historic Property Management Plans. For FFY24, three memorandum of agreement was signed with FERC for the relicensing of the Gage Hydroelectric Facility Flashboard Replacement Project in St. Johnsbury, a project programmatic agreement for the Newbury Hydroelectric Project, and removal of sediment at the Sucker Brook Diversion Dam in Salisbury. There are approximately 27 active FERC projects currently under consultation. Vermont is reviewing the relicenses for 30% of all hydroelectric plants in the United States.

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	Findings of "No Properties" or "No Effect"	Findings of "No Adverse Effect" or "Adverse Effect"	Projects Memorandums of Agreement	Properties Reviewed for NR Criteria
Federal Agency with Programmatic Agreements	1,060	191	5	559
Federal Agency without Programmatic Agreements	265	74	12	347
State Regulatory Reviews	245	79	11	295
Subtotal Project Review	1,570	344	28	1,201
Total Project Review Activity	1,914		Review Completion within Statutory Deadline	93.1%

Public Lectures and Teaching/Consultant Training

VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split:

VDHP staff gave 35 lectures/presentations and participated in 42 workshops and lectures this fiscal year (a list of the events can be found at the end of this document). Staff offered webinars addressing the application process and criteria for eligibility for Section 106 compliance review, historic preservation grants, and state tax credits. Consultation training and partner training were held for archaeologists in April and architectural historians in September. The focus of these presentations were processes of the VT SHPO, new guidance documentation, changes to processes and procedures at VT SHPO and NPS, highlighting challenges, and showcases success stories. For archaeology, the analysis of findings was presented to show how data collected feeds goals of Vermont. For architectural historians, recent State and National Register listings were presented.

The annual Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference, which is the bi-annual Vermont statewide preservation conference, was held in Bellows Falls, Vermont. The conference was organized by the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, where VT SHPO is located, and the Preservation Trust of Vermont (PTV). It was attended by 300+ registrants on June 5, 2024. The attendees came from a wide variety of historic preservation backgrounds, including architects, engineers, builders, historical society members, downtown leaders, municipal and state government staff, commissioners, historic preservation professionals, museum professionals, individuals from the non-profit sector, and grassroots volunteers. The event was held in conjunction with the Creative Sector Convening, hosted by the Vermont Arts Council and Vermont Creative Network on June 6, which helped expand the network of attendees at both events. As a community that has reimaged itself countless times, from a gathering place and home of the western Abenaki to a center for the forest products industry, to a haven for artists and the creative economy, Bellows Falls has welcomed the future while staying true to itself. This conference will explore that spirit of reinvention and provide participants with proven strategies for community revitalization. Sessions are centered around the following themes and are inclusive of a wide range of topics that are relevant to communities small and large: resiliency, adaptation, inclusive spaces, and creativity.

VDHP participated in all Preservation Retreats in collaboration with PTV. The events are designed to support individuals and communities in the development of historic preservation projects. Attendees present challenges or issues that once solved will move the projects forward. Peers, funders, technical support providers, and staff of PTV and SHPO provide insight, ideas, suggestions, and collaborative solutions. Christine Graham of CPG Fundraising

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assisted with the Navigating Uncertainty retreats, created in response to the closing of historic places and businesses due to Covid. Other retreat topics included Libraries and Maintenance Planning, Sustainable Preservation, Churches and Sacred Places, and Arts & Cultural Heritage. All retreats are two days, providing interaction and sharing of lessons learned. These retreats are held annually, with SHPO as an ongoing partner and presenter.

VT SHPO presented the first Preservation Excellence Award to the City of Rockingham in August 2024. The award, planned as an annual commemoration, recognized the city's dedication to its historic preservation stewardship of the Rockingham Meeting House and historic district, which are being reevaluated. The city has annual preservation awards for owners, educational programming, and publications that recount the history of the community.

Roadside Historic Site Markers

Site Marker Staff are paid with 100% state funds

Through statute as part of our mission for promoting state history, VDHP is charged with approving and overseeing the creation and installation of Vermont Roadside Historic Site Markers. This is the smallest state program with a great reach and overwhelming popularity. The program was established in 1947, with the installation of ten markers the first year and sixty more within the following three years. It was initiated as a temporary program that has since grown with 330+ historic markers placed statewide, with one in Virginia, to commemorate events significant to local communities, the state, and nation. More than twenty applications for new markers are typically submitted annually, depleting funding within months of allocation. Funding projections are expected to put the program on pause for a year.

In fiscal year 2024, twenty-three new or replacement markers were installed, honoring Vermont's history. New markers in production at the foundry and recently installed include the Grand Army of the Republic Highway, Burlington Country Club and Waubunakee Golf Club, Missisquoi Village (one side in French), Revolutionary War Patriot Seth Warner, Shaftsbury's Old Mill, author of *Invisible Man* Ralph Ellison, Prosper Ski Lodge, Bag Balm, Vermont Country Store, Sylvia and Charity, and Long Trail Lodge.

Working with the foundry that has created the markers for Vermont since 1947, a full inventory with dates of production has been created and the online database was updated to reflect the numbers of production. The online interactive map was upgraded from a shortlist story map to an interactive web application, providing full access on all mobile devices, and allows visitors customized tours by marker content type, or regions of the state (it went live in FFY20). The application includes thematic identification that allows study of marker topics, including African Americans, Native Americans, Civil War, Revolutionary War, religious edifices, bridges, education, women's history, and state-owned historic sites. Funding is earmarked for markers related to the Revolutionary War, the founding of our nation, and events/life related to this period; installation shall coincide with the 250th Anniversary events of 2025 to 2027.

Staff Changes

- Victoria Sample left State employment in May 2024. Her position as the State Historic Sites Section Chief has not been filled and the job description is being re-evaluated. The title was changed to Director of State Historic Sites in July 2024.
- Lindsay Pacheco joined in March 2024 to serve as the administrative coordinator for the Project Review team and assistant to SHPO.
- Devin Colman, having worked at the Division for Historic Preservation for sixteen years, left the position of State Architectural Historian to serve as director of the University of Vermont's Historic Preservation Graduate Program in August 2024.
- Elizabeth Peebles, hired as Historic Resource Specialist-Architecture in 2015, was approved to serve as the Vermont State Architectural Historian in September 2024.

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- Polly Allen, a historic preservation consultant, was hired temporarily to assist with the transitions (and paternity leaves) of the Project Review Team. Her tenure ends July 31, 2025.
- Greg Socinski, hired as a temporary employee under ARPA in November 2022 to assist the Project Review Team, was made a permanent full-time employee on October 1, 2024 to serve as the Historic Resource Specialist-Architecture. The temporary limited-service position has not yet been filled.

State-owned Historic Sites

State-Owned Historic Sites Staff are paid with 100% state funds

The State-owned Historic Sites connect visitors to the places where Vermont's history happened. The Vermont State Historic Sites Program requires the stewardship of 24 historic sites, consisting of 75 buildings, 7 bridges, 7 monuments, and 919 acres including a Native American cemetery, the homes of Presidents Chester A. Arthur and Calvin Coolidge, two nationally recognized Revolutionary War sites, three architecturally significant buildings representing design and construction from the first half of the 19th century, a monument to a Revolutionary War patriot, and the iconic Bennington Battle Monument – the tallest building in the State of Vermont and second tallest unreinforced masonry building in the United States. Since Covid and due to flooding and extreme deferred maintenance issues, just eight of the eleven sites open annually to the public were operating again.

The sites welcome an average of 63,000 annually; for 2020 the number of visitors touring the Vermont State Historic Sites reached just 18,214 and during the 2021 season there were 44,229 visitors. For the 2022 season, the historic sites were visited by 44,566 and in 2023 the total visitation reached 35,674 (more visitors explored the outdoor spaces, but we have no mechanism to tabulate visitation). However, for 2024, attendance reached 81,167 visitors. This is due to the increased marketing efforts, some updated exhibits and new programs, growing interest in Vermont's 250th anniversary commemoration, and a desire to be visiting and exploring again after Covid and flooding. This is the highest visitation on record for the historic sites since 2002. The collected statistics record more than 1.736 million visitors have been welcomed by Vermont's State Historic Sites since 1998. Revenues from admissions, gift shop sales, donations, and rentals typically provide 45% of the sites' budget. With Covid in 2020 this number was reduced to less than 15% and the loss of revenue coupled with the effects of the July 2023 flooding continues to affect operations. However, admission fees were increased for the first time in nine years, providing much needed income from receipts. Admission fees were modification to be consistent with those of Vermont State Parks. Admissions and gift shop sales totaled \$512,053, which is an 11% increase over 2023.

YEAR	ATTENDANCE	ADMISSIONS RECEIPTS	GIFT SHOP RECEIPTS
2024	80,776	\$512,053 total	
2023	36,274*	\$218,483**	\$242,988
2022	44,566	\$279,873 total	
2021	42,229	\$160,701	\$175,733
2020	18,214	\$34,876	\$50,273
2019	63,655	\$236,931	\$207,125
2018	62,674	\$230,167	\$203,448
2017	64,890	\$249,096	\$216,064
2016	64,334	\$223,805	\$193,074
2015	50,756	\$197,209	\$205,879
2014	51,285	\$212,523**	\$169,698
2013	49,694	\$212,893	\$204,437
2012	64,474	\$190,387	\$207,109
2011	60,408	\$159,888	\$171,599
2010	62,445	\$178,054	\$207,504

*due to July flooding, all sites closed for most of July; Morrill and two Underwater Preserves remained closed for season.

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**increased admission prices.

VDHP owns two metal lattice bridges, five covered bridges, and the Forestdale iron blast furnace, as well as serving as custodian of all underwater sites under Vermont waters, including exceptional historic shipwrecks. Nine of the underwater preserve are open to recreational divers as Vermont's Underwater Historic Preserve, with an estimated 300 diver visits for 2024, totaling more than 600 individual dives. Beginning in 2024, two additional sites were opened, offering a total of eleven underwater preserves on the Vermont side of the lake. None of the bridges are in service, although some are open to pedestrians; the Scott Bridge reopened to pedestrian traffic in May 2017 and was used for wedding ceremonies and the Covered Bridge Society Annual Meetings. Partnering with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), VDHP has visited all seven bridges to assess conditions and address rehabilitation plans. Three of the bridges have recently been restored and stabilized for pedestrian traffic. The most recent was the Fisher Covered Railroad Bridge in Wolcott that is part of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. A week from opening, the trail was devastated by the July 2023 flooding, which damaged the Fisher Covered Railroad Bridge. Repairs included reconstruction of the western abutment and wing wall, replacement of damaged siding and bottom cord, and reinstallation of the matting over the deck. The bridge opened as part of the trail in December 2023. A new agreement between SHPO and VTrans to address the Fisher Covered Railroad Bridge as part of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is being prepared. SHPO and VTrans continue to explore the deaccessioning/demolition plans for two of the bridges due to severe structural issues; the Town of Pittsford is interesting in the utilization of the Hammond Covered Bridge as part of a proposed trail and VDHP is exploring estimates for the rehabilitation based on the significant structural issues.

In Frederick, Maryland, at the Monocacy National Battlefield Park, a granite monument honoring the 10th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment was placed by the State of Vermont in 1915 on two parcels associated with the Civil War Battle of Monocacy (July 9, 1864). Since 2019, VDHP has been working with the National Park Service and the Battlefield Park to transfer the two continuous tracts of land to the United States Park Service. Permission for the transfer was granted by Governor Phil Scott and the Vermont General Assembly in 2020. The effort is expected to be completed in 2025, which will ensure best preservation and interpretation practices for the monument and property.

Under the stewardship of the Director of Preservation, a position created in 2019, conditions studies are being prepared and major maintenance projects projected for the next ten years. The total appropriation annually for maintenance through the Capital Construction Bill has reached \$685,000, with a requested increase to \$700,000 for the biennial allocation. In 2001, the appropriation for sites major maintenance was \$150,000, supported by specific project line items that often reached \$680,000 in total. The deferred maintenance, combined with severe weather events and the effects of climate change, are aging the historic materials at a steady rate and require immediate intervention with careful long-term planning and circular maintenance. The projected maintenance needs are estimated to be over \$1.0 million for the urgent and high priority projects (excluding Bennington Battle Monument). The July 2023 flooding damaged the 2007 Education Center and 1851 Mansion of the Justin Morrill Homestead, as well as the stream and bridges; the foundation and hand-blocked wallpaper of the 1786 Theron Boyd House; and the foundation and roof of the pre-1777 Old Constitution House. FEMA public assistance was applied for all three properties.

Water and drainage management engineering studies were completed in December 2019 for the Senator Justin S. Morrill State Historic Site, recommending significant deferred and proactive work totaling over \$400,000 for the preservation of this National Historic Landmark property. SHPO received a Save America's Treasures grant in 2021 to address some of the needs at the Morrill Site. The required archaeology was completed in 2022 that informs the drainage remediation. Archaeology provided insight to the 1851 construction of the building's foundation, which is uncut round rocks on the east side. In April 2022 a nationally recognized team of specialists were retained to examine the issues at the Bennington Battle Monument, including but not limited to water infiltration, mortar repointing, spalling of stone, structural integrity of metal stair and entry lintels, emergency lighting, and elevator operations. This year-long study has projected \$40 million of necessary stabilization, repairs, and improvements to the monument, which is the second tallest unreinforced masonry building in the United States. In 2023, VDHP received \$409,960 from the National Park Service's Semiquincentennial Grant Program for the Old Constitution House. This funding

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will address the HVAC mechanicals (needing to be moved above the floodplain) and remediate the mold that invaded the building while closed in 2020 during Covid. The project scope also includes window restoration, dendrochronology to properly document its construction date, and amendment of the National Register of Historic Places nomination.

Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Program and VDHP Staff are paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) is a seven-member state review board, appointed by the governor. The ACHP, created by the Vermont Historic Preservation Act, augments the efforts of VDHP and serves as the State Review Board as required by the National Historic Preservation Act. Four members of the ACHP are recognized professionals in the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, and archeology. Three members represent the public. Council members are appointed to three-year renewable terms. By Statute, the members are charged with approving nominations to the State Register of Historic Places, reviewing nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, assessing of the survey documentation for historic properties, approving the Predictive Model for archaeologically sensitive areas; annually evaluating the activities of VDHP outlined in State Historic Preservation Plan, recommending projects seeking state and federal grant funding, and providing consultation on state and federal undertakings that may affect historic properties.

For FFY24, the ACHP met eight times during the reporting period. All members have been reappointed by the governor. The ACHP approved 23 new Roadside Historic Site Markers. They reviewed and awarded five Certified Local Government program grants, 28 Historic Barn Grant grants, and 38 Historic Preservation Grant grants. The ACHP determined 119 properties eligible for listing in the State Register (38 in 2022 and 47 in 2023) and voted to forward eight nominations to the National Register (six in 2022 and ten in 2023).

Vermont Archaeology Month 2024

Program is state-funded; VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split

Vermont Archaeology Month (VAM) celebrated its 29th Anniversary in 2024. Its mission every September is to provide exposure, education, and outreach about archaeology and Vermont's deep and rich human past. VDHP hosted and co-hosted eighteen events. Although attendance at both virtual and in-person events varied, cumulatively over 400 people participated in the programs and lectures offered. Notable events included the 29th annual atlatl championship at the Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison, a virtual lecture about the Paleoindian period presented by the State Archaeologist, and the 11th annual James B. Petersen Memorial Lecture at the University of Vermont.

Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission

Created by Executive Order, the 250th Commission has been meeting since March 2021, with the State Historic Preservation Officer serving as chair of the 14-person commission. The Strategic Plan, created under the leadership of the chief performance office, includes four primary measures: 1) Increase commission capacity and productivity; 2) Increase relevance of 250th history; 3) Enable arts and cultural heritage organizations and school participation; and 4) Increase partner and public awareness of 250th commemorations. These measures are being reviewed and updated as needed. Subcommittees include admin & finance; research & historical; marketing & public outreach; school & teacher outreach; and arts & cultural heritage organizations. Interns were hired to outline text for 20 new Revolutionary War era topics, include women and life in general for the period. Teachers, especially social studies teachers, were engaged with the excellent assistance of the Agency of Education and Vermont Historical Society, utilizing the Vermont Alliance for Social Studies. Native American state and federally recognized tribes are being engaged and a member of the Abenaki appointed to the Commission. A strong focus is being placed on diversity and inclusion as part of the planning, and presentation of history. Regional and national meetings have been convened to share ideas, garner support, and ensure borders are blurred for the commemoration. A support staff

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person was contracted to assist the commission and develop the website, which went live in October 2024. <https://anniversary250.vermont.gov/> Due to limitations as the support staff is contract, some additional work continues to be provided by Staffing the commission and the five subcommittees have stressed capacity of VDHP and SHPO, and because of the great need to ongoing, uninterrupted marketing and communication with partners, contracting for staff to provide leadership and organization is greatly needed. Twenty-eight grants, with funding from Vermont Covered, have been provided through the Vermont Historical Society on behalf of the 250th Anniversary Commission to help communities plan and prepare for the upcoming anniversary. The Department of Libraries has purchased ebooks, books, and audiobooks from the approved Revolutionary War and Vermont History reading list of the 250th Anniversary Commission; access will be provided for lending through all libraries. Funding continues to be required to expand outreach, marketing, engagement, support communities and organizations with commemorations and event planning, teacher training, and provide books for school and public libraries about this period in our history. Funding requests for 2026 and 2027 are planned to support implementation grants to communities, the arts, and humanities.

Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs

Program is state-funded; VDHP Staff is paid with a 60% HPF/40% state split; commission members are paid by state funds.

VDHP provides administrative support and legal guidance to the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs (VCNAA), a gubernatorial board of nine citizens charged by state statute to review tribal applications for state recognition and promote Native American cultural heritage. The VCNAA met ten times this fiscal year, which is four times more than required by statute. Procedures were written in 2018 that outline the responsibilities of the VCNAA, meeting set up, agenda preparation and noticing, and minute requirements. With the guidance of SHPO, the governor reappointed one current member and appointed two new members; presently there are three openings to the commission. Notable topics discussed at the VCNAA meetings in FFY24 include the following (this is not a comprehensive list):

1. Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission
2. Coordination with State Health Improvement Plan workgroup
3. Updated Website
4. 250th Anniversary Commemoration Perspective
5. Lank Acknowledgement Resource Documentation
6. Education Justice Coalition
7. Indigenous Homelessness Data Collection

SHPO Staff Trainings and Presentations

Historic Resources Specialist—Architecture: Polly Allen

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- VDHP, NPS, FEMA: Flood Adaptation Training, Old Labor Hall, Barre, June 2024
- ACHP: Exploring the Chair's Report: Reviewing and Modernizing Federal Historic Preservation Standards, March 2024

Presentations Given:

- Vermont History Day: Planning and Participation in Vermont's Most Exciting Student Day for History, Craftsbury Public Library, January 2024
- The Stephen Fish Red House: Preservation and Planning for Significant Local Resources, Fair Haven Historical Society, Fair Haven American Legion, January 2023

Historic Resources Specialist: Archaeology, Yvonne Benney Basque:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

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- [Fetterman Archaeological Preserve Virtual Tour Premiere Q&A, 2024 Virtual Lecture Series with the Archaeological Conservancy, Virtual, January 25, 2024](#)
- [Colonial and Indigenous Cultural Landscapes in CT: The Gungywamp Site, Gunn Historical Museum, Virtual, February 5, 2024](#)
- [Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Virtual Archaeology Conference 2024, Virtual, February 15, 2024](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Section 106 Training and Forum - Session 1 Virtual August 5, 2024](#)
- [Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 14 – April 20, 2024](#)
- [2024 Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference, Rockingham, June 5, 2024](#)
- [Housing and Urban Development Environmental Considerations for the Community Project Funding Program, Virtual, June 11, 2024](#)
- [How Grassroots Initiatives Preserve and Protect Tunisian Cultural Heritage Featuring Barbara Anglisz, Vermont Archaeological Society Virtual Talk, June 27, 2024](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Resiliency Training, Johnson, June 28, 2024](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Section 106 Training and Forum - Session 3, virtual, September 26, 2024](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Section 106 Training and Forum - Session 2, Virtual, September 5, 2024](#)

Presentations Given:

- [Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Archaeology Training, Archaeology Heritage Center, April 26, 2024](#)
- [Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Architectural Historian Training, Archaeology Heritage Center, September 27, 2027](#)
- [Vermont Archaeological Society Annual Meeting, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, September 28, 2024](#)

Tax Credits & Grants Coordinator, Caitlin Corkins:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- [NPS, Technical Preservation Services Advanced Training for Frequent Program Users, virtual, October 16, 26, November 2, 16, 29, 2023](#)
- [Historic New England Summit, Providence, RI, November 2-3, 2023](#)
- [NPS/SHPO Historic Tax Credit Coalition Report Discussion, virtual, November 30, 2023](#)
- [Technical Preservation Services Preservation Brief 16 – Substitute Materials, virtual, January 25, 2024](#)
- [PastForward Online Symposium – National Trust, April 3-4, 2024](#)
- [Dr. Thomas Hubka lecture, *Back House, Little House, Back House, Barn* – Hardwick Historical Society Annual Meeting, May 5, 2024](#)
- [National Park Service Flood Adaptation Guidelines, Barre, June 24, 2024](#)
- [Technical Preservation Services/SHPO Biennial Reviewer Training, Indianapolis, IN, July 15-17, 2024](#)
- [National Trust webinar: Insuring Historic Properties in an Increasingly Challenging Marketplace, September 13, 2024](#)

Presentations Given:

- [Preservation Trust of Vermont Retreats, Grand Isle, Energy Efficiency and Historic Preservation \(October 10-11, 2023\); Community Supported Enterprises \(Oct. 17-18, 2023\).](#)
- [State Downtown Tax Credit Press Event, Montpelier – October 23, 2023](#)
- [ADA and Historic Preservation, BDCC Knowledge Bites, Virtual, December 7, 2023](#)
- [UVM Historic Preservation Graduate Program presentation on RITC – January 31, 2024](#)
- [State Tax Credits 101, St. Johnsbury – March 14, 2024](#)
- [Homes For All Summit moderator, Barre, March 14, 2024](#)
- [Preservation Trust of Vermont Retreats, Grand Isle, Historical Societies and Historic Buildings, \(May 21-22, 2024\); Community Revitalization through Non-Profit Ownership \(June 12\)](#)
- [State Tax Credit Workshop, Barre Town, June 27, 2024](#)
- [State Tax Credit Applicant Webinar \(virtual\), July 9, 2024](#)
- [Preservation Trust of Vermont Retreats, Grand Isle, Fundraising and Project Management \(July 10, 2024\); New Housing in Old Buildings, \(September 11-12, 2024\)](#)

Senior Historic Preservation Review Coordinator, R. Scott Dillon:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- [Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Virtual Conference, virtual, February 17, 2024](#)
- [FEMA Section 106 Training - Session 1, virtual August 5, 2024](#)

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- LWCF Section Program Alternative, NPS, virtual, April 16
- Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 14 – April 20, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training- Session 2, virtual, September 5, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training- Session 3, virtual, September 26, 2024

Presentations Given:

- Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Archaeology Training, Archaeology Heritage Center, April 26, 2024

Director of Preservation, James Duggan:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Flood Adaption Training – Johnson, VT with NPS staff
- Attend an overview of climate change projects underway by NCSHPO and NPS (online)
- ACD Vacuums: A New Tool for Combating Combustible Dust Hazards
- International Masonry Institute: Brick Replacement & Restoration [AEC Webinar]
- Understanding and Advancing the Preservation Trades

Presentations given:

- Walking tour of Kent's Corner Historic District, Calais, VT, University of Vermont Graduate Program in Historic Preservation,
- Walking tour of Sen. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, Strafford, VT University of Vermont Graduate Program in Historic Preservation
- Yestermorrow class "Architectural History of New England" online
- University of Vermont Graduate Program in Historic Preservation lecturer "Managing Historic House Museums" in-person
- Vermont History Day Judge
- Remarks at West Townsend Stone Arch Bridge project grand opening
- Juror ~ Providence Preservation Society Awards 2024, Providence RI

Historic Sites Regional Administrator, Elsa Gilbertson:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- "Mapping Mount Independence: Digital Mapping Project," Mount Independence State Historic Site, in person, October 1, 2023
- "Muster at the Mount: From the Ground Up" daylong symposium, Mount Independence State Historic Site, in person, October 21, 2023
- C2C Care of Geological Collections, virtual, January 23, 2024
- Women of Webster Cottage, Howe Library, Hanover, NH, virtual, March 28, 2024
- "Hessians: German Soldiers in the American Revolutionary War" illustrated talk by Dr. Friederike Baer, Mount Independence State Historic Site, in person, June 15, 2024

Presentations Given:

- "Mapping Mount Independence: Digital Mapping Project" grant project overview, Mount Independence State Historic Site, in person, October 1, 2023
- Muster at the Mount: From the Ground Up daylong symposium, master of ceremonies/moderator, presentations for "A Point in Time: In Their Own Words" and "2023 Reunion of the Mount Independence Class of 1776/77," Mount Independence State Historic Site, in person, October 21, 2023
- Brown Bag Lunch History Discussion: Revolutionary War Historic Fiction of the Northeast, Mount Independence State Historic Site, panel, in person, July 27, 2024
- "Strong Women of Vermont's South Lake Champlain Valley during the American Revolution," Chimney Point State Historic Site, in person, August 25, 2024
- "Points of Interest: Lake Champlain Bridge Guided Walk," Chimney Point State Historic Site, in person, September 15, 2024

State Architectural Historian, Elizabeth Peebles:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Flood Adaptation for Rehabilitation Historic Buildings, NPS, Barre, June 24
- LWCF Section Program Alternative, NPS, Virtual, April 16

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- Annual Meeting, Vernacular Architecture Forum New England Chapter, Providence, RI, March 6
- PastForward Online Symposium, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Virtual, April 3-4
- Stabilizing Masonry Construction: How to Recognize Issues & What to Do, International Masonry Institute, Virtual, January 16
- Brick Replacement & Restoration, International Masonry Institute, Virtual, November 28
- Historic New England Summit, Historic New England, Virtual, November 2-3
- The Rotunda at the University of Virginia, International Masonry Institute, Virtual, October 10

Presentations Given:

- Sacred Places in Bennington, Rutland, and Windham Counties Preservation Retreat, Preservation Trust of Vermont, Bennington, April 24
- Historic Preservation Review, Vermont Bankers Association, Virtual, March 7
- Energy Efficiency & Historic Preservation Retreat, Preservation Trust of Vermont, Grand Isle, October 10-11

State Archaeologist, Jess Robinson:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- National Association of State Archaeologists virtual meeting and NAGPRA Presentation, virtual, April 7, 2024
- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Virtual Conference, virtual, February 17, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training, Session 2, virtual, September 5, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training- Session 3, virtual, September 26, 2024

Presentations Given:

- The Archaeology of the Winooski Site and Native People in Vermont. Winooski Memorial Park, October 13, 2023
- An Archaeological History of Vermont prior to European Contact. Community College of Vermont, November 15, 2023
- An Overview of Precontact Native Archaeology and History in the Lower Missisquoi Region. Saint Albans Museum, December 6, 2023
- Paleoindians Sites, Site Patterning, and Travel Corridors Along the Southern Arm of the Champlain Sea. Norwich University Environmental Science Lecture Series, February 2, 2024
- An Overview of Vermont Archaeology: Practice, Theory, and Results. Historic Preservation Graduate Program Lecture, University of Vermont, March 26, 2024
- Recent Discoveries in Floodplain Archaeology in Vermont. Vermont Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, September 19, 2024
- An Archaeological History of Western Vermont and Eastern New York. Rupert Historical Society, Rupert, September 26, 2024

Historic Sites Regional Administrator, Rejoice Scherry:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Vermont Historical Records Program meeting in Grand Isle, VT on June 25-26, 2024

Historic Resources Specialist: Architectural Historian, Greg Socinski:

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Brick Repair and Replacement, International Masonry Institute, Virtual, November 28, 2023
- Mass Masonry Buildings, Part 2: Investigating, Diagnosing, and Mitigating Leakage Problems, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Virtual, December 15, 2023
- Preservation Brief 16: Substitute Materials on Historic Building Exteriors, Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, January 25, 2024
- Adaptive Reuse: Setting Expectations Through the Ages, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Virtual, February 23, 2024
- Incorporating Art into Historic Districts, National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, Virtual, February 29, 2024
- Iconic Buildings, Iconic Details: Mid-Century Modernist Academic Buildings, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Virtual, March 8, 2024
- Climate Change and Buildings, PastForward Online Symposium, National Trust of Historic Preservation, April 3, 2024, Virtual
- Climate Action in Practice, PastForward Online Symposium, National Trust of Historic Preservation, April 4, 2024, Virtual

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- Housing and Historic Preservation, National Alliance of Preservation Commissions & Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, May 23, 2024, Virtual
- Preserving the Freeman House in Los Angeles, Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, May 29, 2024, Virtual
- Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference, Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development, Bellows Falls, VT, June 5, 2024
- VCDA Annual Spring Conference, Vermont Community Development Association, Hardwick, VT, June 25, 2024
- Adapting Historic Buildings for Flooding, National Park Service, Manchester, VT, June 26, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training, Federal Emergency Management Agency, September 5, 2024, Virtual
- FEMA Section 106 Training, Federal Emergency Management Agency, September 26, 2024, Virtual

Presentations Given:

- Architectural Historian Consultant Training, Vermont Division of Historic Preservation, September 27, 2024, Barre, VT

Laura V. Trieschmann, State Historic Preservation Officer

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Virtual Conference, virtual, February 17, 2024
- Adapting Historic Buildings for Flooding, National Park Service, Manchester, VT, June 2024 (three presentations)
- Climate Action in Practice, PastForward Online Symposium, National Trust of Historic Preservation, April 4, 2024, Virtual
- FEMA Section 106 Training - Session 1, virtual August 5, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training- Session 2, virtual, September 5, 2024
- FEMA Section 106 Training- Session 3, virtual, September 26, 2024
- Dr. Thomas Hubka lecture, *Back House, Little House, Back House, Barn* – Hardwick Historical Society Annual Meeting, May 5, 2024
- ACHP: Exploring the Chair's Report: Reviewing and Modernizing Federal Historic Preservation Standards, March 2024

Presentations Given:

- Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Archaeology Training, Archaeology Heritage Center, April 26, 2024, Barre
- Vermont Division of Historic Preservation, Architectural Historian Consultant Training, September 27, 2024, Barre