

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

**End-of-Year  
Action Plan Narratives  
Federal Fiscal Year 2022  
(October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)**

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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 2,000+ 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 3,050 visitors. VAHC serves as the primary office for the State Archaeologist.

In FFY22, VAHC was reopened to the public after having been closed due to COVID. VAHC welcomed 250 guests and researchers. The State Archaeologist hosted a volunteer laboratory day with eight attendees and gave two lectures to the public during Vermont Archaeology Month in September. The Heritage Center accessioned several large collections in 2022 related to Federal Highway Administration and Vermont Agency of Transportation projects. Options for additional storage space will be explored in 2023.

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. The building was designed to include an archaeological laboratory, which will provide opportunities for further research and educational outreach once opened to the public. 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). Indeed, the State Archaeologist and Western State Sites Interpreter were able to accommodate several researchers in the space, which is also being utilized for the Mount Independence Collections Stewardship Projects funded by an American Battlefield Projection Program Grant. This grant has allowed for the expansion of curation by the addition of state-of-the-art photographic and GIS documentation equipment.

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 5 sites. Approximately 1,500 artifacts are housed in 64 boxes and in display cases at the Museum.

- The *OJ Walker* Collection: more than 200 artifacts in 7 boxes.
- The *General Butler* Collection: more than 200 artifacts in 18 boxes.
- The *Phoenix* Collection: more than 200 artifacts in 4 boxes.
- The Shoreham Sloop Collection: approximately 75 artifacts in 3 boxes.
- The Sloop Island Canal Boat Collection: over 400 artifacts in 32 boxes.

## 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 2022, 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 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 state curation facility.

## Architectural and Archaeological Surveys

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

Following a reorganization of all survey forms in 2020, SHPO prepared directions for the completion of the forms and is commencing on the creation of an online version. Survey forms now separately address cemeteries, bridges, landscapes, architecture, and archaeology. The contents of the forms continue to be updated as needed.

For FFY22, documentation efforts resulted in the recordation of 506 properties at the reconnaissance and intensive levels over 567 acres, notably less acreage than previous survey efforts. The largest effort continues to be the architectural survey of historic resources undertaken as part of National Register Historic District nominations, which this year were within more developed areas. With HPF funding through the CLG program, nomination of Bennington College Historic District generated 59 survey forms and the update survey of St. Albans City provided 117 survey forms. The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources documented the Lake Elmore Historic District, recording 12 historic buddings. The noise study related to the expansion of the Burlington International Airport surveyed 135 sample historic buildings over 100 acres. As part of the Historic Preservation and Barn Preservation Grants and Project Review, 41 properties were surveyed; 27 more properties were recorded on survey forms as part of State Register evaluations related to Project Review.

Archaeological Survey efforts are tracked by the State Archaeologist. For FFY22, 104 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. Over 5,100 acres were surveyed as part of the archaeological investigations.

The Online Resource Center (ORC) now includes 35,842 records, all digitally available to the public. Of these, 26,069 are fully available and 9,773 have restricted data related to archaeological sites.

## Certified Local Government Program

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

Outreach to existing 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. Woodstock Village, Woodstock Town, and St. Albans Town have all established local historic preservation commissions and are in the process of applying for CLG designation.

Five CLG communities were evaluated in this FFY: Town of Brandon, Town of Stowe, Town of Strafford, and Town of Williston. As with previous years, the few issues were noted by our CLG Coordinator during the evaluations are the need for better communication and ongoing trainings, plus the promotion of project ideas. Overwhelmingly, the

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CLG communities are excited and relieved with the extension from two to three years because of the contracting and project completion challenges. Staffing changes at these communities has resulted in project and paperwork delays, and training by SHPO of CLG requirements and benefits. Yet, 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 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. State designations for Downtown Designated Districts recently changed its criteria to ensure recognition is not reliant on local regulations for National Register-listed districts.

For FFY23, evaluations will be conducted for the Town of Bennington, City of Burlington, Town of Calais, Cambridge Village, Town of Hartford, and Town of Waterville. Woodstock Village, Woodstock Town, and St. Albans Town have all established local historic preservation commissions and are in the process of applying for CLG designation.

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.

For FFY20, CLG pass-through funding was awarded to nine communities, totaling \$79,523 of federal match. With the arrival of Covid, one of the grants was immediately cancelled and not included within our HPF application. Eight grants were contracted, totaling \$71,205 with a local match of \$69,011. The rehabilitation efforts at the East Calais Store increased the planned match by \$19,652. Projects include:

1. Bennington Historic Sites Kiosk, promoting historic locations in the downtown. Completed and installed August 2022
2. Burlington Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings Guidance Document, an illustrated guidance report to aid property owners (especially landlords). Completed and posted online; great model.
3. East Calais General Store revitalization study, resulting in the production of re-development design plans for the building's rehabilitation. Completed with store now under rehabilitation to serve the community once again.
4. Hartford Demolition Ordinance, clarifying the rules and ensuring alternatives are provided for property consideration in local review. Completed and under review by Town for adoption.
5. Norwich Barn Survey, recording at least 40 buildings and outlining a historic context related to framing methods. Completed and now model for other rural communities.
6. Rockingham Survey Overview will identify and organize all local, state, and national listings for the community, with a final report of resource status and recommendations for further survey and nominations. Also includes historic homes workshop, speakers' program, and preservation awards. Completed with increased awareness and appreciation of historic resources in town.
7. Shelburne Survey and National Register nomination of Shelburne Shipyard. Completed draft now under review by SHPO National Register coordinator.
8. Rewiring of 20 historic light fixtures (1913) at the Joslin Memorial Library. Completed, with lights once again illuminating this amazing library.

The CLG applications for FFY21 were awarded in January 2021 by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. SHPO received six applications requesting \$81,300 in funding from Bennington, Calais, Hartford, Montpelier, Rockingham, and our newest CLG St. Albans City. Projects in Hartford and Norwich were not funded. SHPO initially obligated \$73,750 with \$50,989 match. Projects include:

- Survey and National Register nomination for Bennington College. Survey of 70 resources completed and draft nomination approved by Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and SHPO for submittal to Keeper.

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- Survey and National Register nomination for village of Maple Corners in Calais. Survey of 32 resources completed and draft nomination under review by SHPO National Register coordinator.
- Design guidelines for the Montpelier Historic District. Draft design guidance completed, pending approval by planning commission and city council. Posted online at <http://placesense.com/montpelier/>
- Program support, including assistance for the Historic Preservation Commission, preservation awards, and educational preservation programs, for Rockingham. Completed with increased awareness and appreciation of historic resources in town; resulted in saving of historic stained glass windows.
- Material analysis for Rockingham Meeting House, a National Historic Landmark constructed between 1787 and 1801. Paint analysis conducted by Susan Buck, identifying iconic white building was originally red.
- Historic District nomination update for St. Albans City, first listed in 1980. Nomination approved by Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and SHPO for submitted to Keeper.

The CLG applications for FFY22 were awarded in January 2022 by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Though 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. SHPO initially obligated \$73,750 with \$50,989 match. Projects include:

- Town History Tour of Calais, consisting of a full-color map/brochure, and audio tour of the historic places. The tour will celebrate 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. SHPO finalized the grant agreement and the RFP for a consultant posted.
- 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 have been focusing on the research portion of the project, developing a list of candidates for oral history interviews. The Historic Preservation Commission will meet in January 2023 to assess progress, and a community meeting is planned for February 2023.
- 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. SHPO finalized the grant agreement, with town staffing and coordination with the Historic Preservation Commission ongoing. 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.
- 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. Survey work is underway, organized by areas.
- 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.
- 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

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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.

- 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. The conference was held in June 2022, and despite the pouring rain, welcomed 275 attendees (350 signed up).
- 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.
- 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 affects. 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.
- 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 conditions report with cots opinions; Phase 2 will result in a formal Historic Structure Report (which is not part of this project funding).
- 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. The work is expected to be finalized in January 2023. The walking tour is developed in coordination with the exterior wayfinding panels, proposed for unveiling in May.

Seven applications were received for the initial 2023 award and outreach continues to all CLG communities for project ideas to ensure the required 10% funding of the Historic Preservation Fund Grant is passed through to the local level. A second round of applications shall be reviewed and awarded in March 2023. SHPO plans to award 12% of funding.

## Easements and Covenants

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

Staff focused on the review of 17 historic properties for which VDHP holds easements and covenants, with an architectural historian and archaeologist assigned to conduct site visits and project reviews annually. Eleven properties with standing structures and six properties with archaeological sites were examined in FFY22. 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. The final easement execution is pending for the New Haven Railroad Depot, transferred to the town of New Haven from the Division for Historic Preservation prior to the building's relocation from the railroad tracks to the town center for safety reasons in 2022. Other easement agreements are expected as congressionally delegated spending and Save America's Treasures are awarded in Vermont.

At the Granite Museum in Barre, construction of the office and classroom spaces for the new Stone Arts program and installation of new heat pumps throughout are nearing completion. This portion of the project was reviewed and approved, including Section 106. A structural beam was removed from the auditorium to improve site lines and might require reinforcement with a new steel beam; this was not approved prior to execution. The final easement report stressed the need to consult with VT SHPO prior to undertaking any proposed work for the coming year. Work reviewed at the Adams-Sargent House in Ludlow included new fencing, repointing of the chimneys, modifications to built-in cabinetry, and new electrical for the third-floor suite created in the attic (proposed for the coming year and approved in 2021). The first inspection of the Temperance Reed House in Lyndonville addressed work ongoing/completed since transfer of the building from state ownership to private ownership. This included a replacement asphalt shingle roof, restoration of the roof configuration at the northeast corner; replacement of non-historic windows with custom wood-sash windows, clapboard and trim repairs, and insulation of walls from exterior from replaced clapboards. Work on the interior murals at the Captain Dan Mather House included high-level photo documentation and addition of signage about the murals. The house will be unoccupied over the winter, with facilities staff inspecting. It will be heated. In Montpelier at Redstone, only the exterior was evaluated as the property owner was not responsive. Work undertaken includes carpentry repairs, painting, replication of railing, new flooring for the ADA ramp, and removal of skirting on porch. VT SHPO was not consulted for this work and has provided the owner with notice, which was returned by the post office. Continued attempts to coordinate with the owner will be made. The Newport Federal Building received new security cameras and consultation continues for the soundproofing panels proposed for the courtroom. The State of Vermont is contemplating selling the building, possibly for housing and VT SHPO is engaged in those conversations. Shelburne Farms Inn in Shelburne expanded the lightning protection, repaired the chimney, and completed carpentry repairs. Two other buildings on this property received Save America's Treasures grants in 2022 and will be added to the easement review upon completion. The St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, the recipient of several federal grants, completed the removal of non-historic material closing in the spiral stair and shelving in the balcony was modified for safety reasons. Work at the Bradley Law Office in Westminster included restoration and cleaning of historic wallpaper and conservation of framed works and collections items. 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. There was re-grading of the gravel drive that was too close to the main barn and repairs to the cornice on the main house.

## Energy Efficiency for Vermont's Older Buildings

The Vermont Residential Building Energy Standards (RBES) and the accompanying handbook were updated in 2020; revisions are now being finalized for the new version in 2023. Although Vermont has had a historic building exemption form, just eleven (two in FFY22) projects have made use of this option since its conception in 2014. This exemption form was established to allow for specification flexibility for energy improvements on historic buildings to improve long-term performance and health of historic buildings for occupants. The form was updated for the 2023 version of the RBES. Through conversations regarding updates and projects coming to VT SHPO for regulatory

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review, it became clear that there were not enough education or tools to inform practitioners and owners about best practices and potential hazards with energy retrofits of older buildings. Accordingly, VT SHPO has promoted the form more, highlighted it on the website, and included it as part of energy efficiency packets.

VT SHPO continues to engage partners in a dialogue around the topic of improving energy efficiency in older buildings with treatments that do not jeopardize the long-term condition of the building or the health of the occupants. To partnership with the Preservation Trust of Vermont (PTV), VT SHPO produced whitepaper guidance. This included *Energy Conserving Features Inherent to Older Buildings; Homeowner Manual: DIY Energy Efficient Tips and Guidance When Working with Contractors: what to ask and how to interpret; Contractors Manual for Older Buildings; and Energy Conserving Features Inherent to Older Buildings*. The mission is to provide information to protect occupants and Vermont's building stock, while getting the most for our energy efficiency efforts by thinking intentionally. The initiative also provides access to studies examining previous energy efficiency projects, outlines treatment recommendations, and provides data to support that energy retrofits of older buildings cannot be a one-size fits all approach based on new construction specifications. VT SHPO and PTV are regular participants in conversations mandated by the Vermont General Assembly to address climate change, energy efficiency, weatherization priorities, effects on housing, and workforce development training/education. This requires consultation with Efficiency Vermont, Building Safety Association of Vermont, Vermont American Institute of Architects, Preservation Education Institute, Vermont Residential Building Energy Standards, Vermont Natural Resource Council, and the engineering department of the University of Vermont.

Also, in partnership with PTV, VT SHPO outlined a presentation entitled, "Sustainable Communities: Conserving Our Natural and Cultural Resources." The 57-slide presentation sets out the goals to understand the importance of our historic buildings; the value of inherent efficiency of historic buildings and prompts the asking of the right questions about new materials and choices in the name of energy efficiency for older buildings. It was presented to the Dorset Energy Efficiency Commission and Design Review Board; it will be taped in 2022 for presentation elsewhere and online. See website: <https://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/planning/building-efficiency>

In October 2022, PTV and VT SHPO hosted the Energy Efficiency and Historic Preservation Lake House Retreat at the Grand Isle Lake House. The two-day retreat guided community activists and homeowners in the best solutions for weatherizing historic buildings, reinforcing that improvements for energy efficiency and reduced heating costs can happen while historic features remain intact. The message to the 11 participants discussing 10 projects was how historic buildings were designed to be efficient and how to take advantage of those inherit design elements like sunlight, water, and airflow. The retreat explored how best to approach the retrofits, providing examples, and contacts. Speakers included representatives from VT SHPO, Hunger Valley Construction, Efficiency Vermont, and USDA Rural Development. The retreat was well received and with grant funding from VT SHPO shall be part of the catalogue of Lake House Retreats annually.

## Federal Tax Credits

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

Since 2016, 72 Vermont construction projects received Federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credits (RITC), with over \$23.45 million in qualified rehabilitation expenditures bringing historic properties back into service; total project costs reached \$140 million. For 2022, fourteen completed projects in nine Vermont towns and cities were granted \$6.8 million in RITC, leveraging more than \$34 million in qualified rehabilitation investment through the employment of contractors and purchasing of materials. The program continues to have great success in supporting development and rehabilitation of housing and despite a pause or delay in construction caused by COVID, nine projects were completed in federal fiscal year 2021, while four projects were submitted for Part 2 approval. Of the completed 2022 projects, all fourteen involve rehabilitation for housing, resulting in 144 units of new or rehabilitated housing. Since 2012, 980 housing units have been created through the RITC program. Projects completed include Squire House in Bennington, Henry Shaw House in Burlington, Fort Ethan Allen Double Calvary and Artillery Barracks in Colchester, East Calais General Store, the Tuttle Block in Rutland, the US Customs House and Post Office in St. Albans, and

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Stevens House Annex and Colby House in Vergennes. Several of these buildings were underutilized with vacant upper stories that now provide much needed housing. There are 54 active RITC projects at various phases currently being reviewed by VT SHPO and another 40 potential projects have been identified by the Vermont Tax Credit Reviewer. Vermont was visited by our National Park Service Tax Credit Reviewer, along with NPS RITC leadership. The visit, the result of challenges with review timing and increasing Part 2 conditions, included a meeting with select preservation consultants and developers, and three site visits to projects in various phases of progress. This collaboration has improved our interaction with RITC staff and leadership, addressed the challenges of vague Part 2 submittals, reduced the number of conditions applied for Part 2 submittals, and re-established the 30-day review period.

## Historic Barn Preservation Grants

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

The Historic Barn Preservation Grant, begun in 1992, is the oldest state barn grant program in the country and cumulatively has awarded \$4.41 million in grants to support 455 projects devoted to the repair and restore of historic barns and agricultural outbuildings. This is a 50/50 matching grant program, providing up to \$15,000 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 the 2022 Barn Preservation grant period, several awards support traditional stonework repairs, including foundation work on the early-20<sup>th</sup>-century gambrel barn at Roots Too Farm in St. Johnsbury, the c. 1885 English Barn at Sweet Cheeks Farm in Brandon, and the c. 1870 Middle Barn at Wells Farm in Lincoln, which is a conserved 112-acre property open to the public and owned by Vermont Family Forests. Additional projects awarded include installation of drainage and siding and window repairs at the Rollin Irish Farm in Westford, timber frame repairs at the Bowen Farm in Washington, metal roof replacement at the Stoddard-Goodenough Farmstead in Brattleboro, and foundation, framing, and cupola repairs of the Horse Barn at Idle Hour Farm in Rutland. Of the 52 applications, 22 awards were made totaling \$299,325. This will support as many as 80 jobs, with total project costs reaching to nearly \$1 million. For a complete list of projects awarded, visit the Division for Historic Preservation's website at:

<https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/HP/Grants/Barn/2020BarnGrantsAwarded.pdf>

The 2023 grant awards will review 39 applications requesting \$503,940; \$300,000 is available. If all projects were awarded, total project costs would reach \$1.42 million. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation shall review the applications in February 2023.

<b>BARN GRANTS Fiscal Year</b>	<b># of Grant Applications</b>	<b># of Grants Awarded</b>	<b>Grant Amount Requested</b>	<b>Grant Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>
2023	39	Awarded February 2023	\$503,940	Awarded February 2023	\$1,426,953 (if all awarded)
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 Construction Budget, this program has provided \$6.08 million on funds for the rehabilitation and preservation of 615 of Vermont's iconic community buildings including 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.

In 2021 for the Historic Preservation grants, 13 of the 37 applications submitted were awarded \$204,896, leveraging \$465,818 and about 25 construction jobs. Funding through the Capital Construction Bill increased for this program from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for fiscal years 2022-2023. A matching Historic Preservation Grant of \$20,000 was awarded to the Town of Randolph to support traditional plaster restoration of the main auditorium at the Chandler Music Hall. This important local entertainment venue was constructed through the philanthropy of Colonel Albert B. Chandler. In 1947, it was deeded to the Town, which considered demolishing the building before a local group spearheaded an ambitious rehabilitation project beginning in 1972. Today the Chandler attracts about 20,000 visitors annually, with musical events, children and youth programming, and art exhibitions. Also, the Henry Sheldon Museum in Middlebury, the Town of Moretown, and the Enosburg Masons received grants supporting restoration, repair, and weatherization of historic windows – important both for the preservation of these historic features as well as the overall energy efficiency of these public buildings. Grants were also awarded to fund structural repairs at the McIndoes Falls Academy in Barnet, historic restoration of the prominent two-story porch at the East Calais General Store, and steeple repairs at the Granville Town Hall. For a complete list of the projects awarded visit the Division's website at: <https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/HP/Grants/HP/FY2021GrantsFunded.pdf>

For the 2022 grant cycle, applications for 39 proposed projects were received, requesting \$606,251 with \$321,363 available. If all projects were awarded, total projects costs would reach \$1,178 million. Twenty of those projects were awarded in December 2022, leveraging just under \$1.0 million in project costs and about 40 construction jobs. These projects include such landmarks as Old Brick Church in Athens, which will have custom storm windows; Brookline Meetinghouse that will have a new foundation; restoration of windows and the firetruck door at the Chester's Yosemite Firehouse; Fort Ethan Allen Water Tower in Essex will get a new roof; and the Lyndon Sanborn Covered Bridge will be restored. The Fletcher Free Library in Burlington, one of four Carnegie libraries in Vermont, will receive funding for masonry repairs and cleaning; this funding is augmented by municipal and congressionally allocated funds.

Grant Year	Award	# of Grant Applications	# of Grants Awarded	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Amount Awarded	Total Project Cost
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 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.

In 2022, VDHP successfully processed twelve nominations to the National Register with 266 historic districts and 12,316 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 five years. One reason for this increase is the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program administered by the National Park Service; funding requires listing in the National Register of Historic Places within three years of award. Through this program six nominations were evaluated, resulting in the listing of the Rupert Village Historic District (74c/23nc), Addison Town Hall, Governor Hunt House in Vermont, Valley Hall in Hyde Park, Bridgewater Village School, and Broad Brook Grange Hall in Guilford. Another observation is the need to update historic district nominations originally listed in the 1970s and 1980s as buildings and structures have been altered or demolished, and additional historic context information has been researched. The Perley Block in Enosburg Falls and Bull House in Bennington were listed through the Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit program. Together with the New York SHPO, VT SHPO processes the multiple property documentation form for Canal Boat Wrecks of Lake Champlain in Vermont and New York and the accompanying nomination for the Sloop Island Canal Boat. Eighteen more nominations are presently being processed.

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places provides automatic listing in the Vermont State Register of Historic Places; there were no listings just for the State Register. This resulted in the listing of ninety resources, including buildings, structures, and sites individually or as part of historic districts. Thirty-eight properties were evaluated for eligibility for listing in the State Register of Historic Places were done this fiscal year.

## 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.

SHPO consulted on thirteen memorandums of agreement or project PAs under Section 106 in the FFY22 for nine federal agencies. The two PAs executed were related to FERC hydroelectric projects, one at Bolton Falls in Duxbury and Wrightsville on North Branch in Washington County. Memorandums of agreement were signed with Federal Highway Administration and the Vermont Agency of Transportation to allow replacement of the historic yet deteriorated New England Central Railroad Bridge in Royalton and the divestment of the 1896 Bethel Bridge No. 4, which had been in storage with hopes of reinstallation elsewhere but was too severely deteriorated. Two agreements to address adverse effects were executed with the Environmental Protection Agency. The project at the St. Johnsbury Armory allows for the remediation of hazardous materials and rehabilitation with a historic resource documentation package recording the building, particularly the drill hall that will be demolished, and with public interpretation murals and illustrated educational booklet. In Brattleboro, the historic resource documentation package for the property at 11 Arch Street shall enable future adaptive use of the c. 1895 power plant following the remediation of contaminated

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soils. The adverse effects related to the renovation of the Rutland Carrier Annex of the U.S. Postal Service, known also as the John L. Cootey Building, continue through a second phase that will correct damage caused by the inadequate first scope of work. The Cootey Building is a c. 1929 automobile showroom that features the only Art Deco polychrome terra cotta façade in Vermont. Several of the mitigation agreements addressed adverse effects to culverts and dams that were too small and aging and required replacement. No program programmatic agreements were signed this fiscal year; several are pending execution and renewal in FFY23. At the state level, eleven agreements for adverse efforts or program streamlining were executed, the majority with the Public Utilities Commission addressing solar installations. Grant-in-Aid funding, Better Places, and Better Roads programs were provided with streamlined agreement documents including exempt activities.

## Project Review

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

VDHP reviewed and consulted on 1,863 projects. Management of the projects from submittal to concurrence was completed manually as the project review team, consisting of 4 full-time 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. In FFY23, an additional architectural historian will be added to the team and the State Archaeologist shall be curtailing regular involvement but shall continue to oversee consultation for the Green Mountain Forest and Army Corps of Engineers projects. Most significantly in FFY23, a computerized application is being designed to manage projects from submittal to completion following an application just unveiled for the Natural Resources Board overseeing Act 250 permits. Overall, despite the manual operations they have mastered, the Project Review Team continues to maintain a 96% completion rate within 30 days or less based on PA stipulations. The rapid acceleration of projects, especially those for larger hydroelectric dams, is requiring consultation three to four times. Thirteen memorandums of agreement and programmatic agreements were signed for Section 106 and 22 V.S.A. activities (13 were executed in FFY20 and 30 signed in FFY21).

The team reviewed 1,454 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 205 projects from FFY20 and 410 projects less than FFY21. Under state statute, VDHP staff processed 240 projects under Criterion 8 of Act 250, which is consistent with FFY21 and presumably continued to be related to construction delays and material shortages caused by Covid. Under Section 248, for Vermont Public Utilities, 79 projects were reviewed and seven memorandums of agreement for adverse effects were executed. The number of projects reviewed under Section 248 was well below that of FFY21 but an expected reduction due to rule changes implemented in 2020 that sparked a notable increase of 87%. For state involvement under 22 VSA chapter 14, 90 projects were reviewed, which is a 41% increase from FFY21 and slightly up from pre-Covid reviews as a result of American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding.

The review team continues increase time spent on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of hydroelectric projects. For 2018 to 2024, we are anticipating 25+ 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 FFY21, two memorandums of agreement have been signed with FERC for relicensing projects: one at Bolton Falls in Duxbury and Wrightsville on North Branch in Washington County. There are approximately 22 active FERC projects currently under consultation. Vermont is reviewing the relicenses for 30% of all hydroelectric plants in the United States.

	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	1,083	124	6	409
Federal Agency without Programmatic Agreements	161	86	7	253
State Regulatory Reviews	311	98	11	259
Subtotal Project Review	1,555	308	24	921
<b>Total Project Review Activity</b>	<b>1,863</b>		<b>Review Completion within 30 Statutory Deadline</b>	<b>96%</b>

## Public Lectures and Teaching/Consultant Training

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

VDHP staff gave 42 lectures/presentations and participated in 72 workshops and lectures this fiscal year (a list of the events can be found at the end of this document). Covid continues to reduce the number of lectures, presentations, and trainings offer by staff. Staff offered webinars addressing the application process and criteria for eligibility for the historic preservation grants and state tax credits. Consultation training unfortunately continues to be cancelled since 2020. Webinars presenting the basic requirements and topics of special notice are planned for 2023. Training requirements, especially those outlined in programmatic agreements, are being reassessed for virtual presentation, ensuring availability to a wider audience.

The annual Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference, which is the annual Vermont statewide preservation conference, was held in St. Johnsbury, 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 275+ registrants. The keynote was a panel exploring the groundwork that St. Johnsbury' downtown renewable possible, exploring community and economic development strategies, and the intersection of the creative, recreational, and food economy that helped turn the tide and bring a renewed sense of community pride and vibrancy to the town. Sessions explored the repurposing of the Danville train station, revitalization of a former hotel for housing, connecting communities with religious properties losing congregations, history on social media, community-driven childcare solutions, the adaptive use of a mid-century school for apartments, the connection of communities through the new Lamoille Valley rail trail, incremental development making big changes to small downtowns, creative economic development, small housing projects, equitable and inclusive downtowns, main street achievements, and holistic approaches to rural community revitalization.

VDHP sponsored and participated in seven 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

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Fundraising assisted with the Navigating Uncertainly retreats, created in response of the closing of historic places and businesses due to Covid. Other retreat topics included Libraries and Maintenance Planning, Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings, 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, presenter, and sponsor. <https://ptvermont.org/our-work/retreats/>

This year, VDHP hosted four interns from the University of Vermont. Each was assigned to a staff person and project, with set goals, expectations, and designed oversight. The success of this outreach and education has prompted a partnership between the University of Vermont's Historic Preservation program and VDHP for annual internships; a memorandum of agreement was signed in 2021 guaranteeing internships. Projects included preparation of text for the Revolutionary War-era roadside historic site markers, compiling documentation of the accessioned Nielson Archaeological Collection, transcription of the 1872 Ruth Morrill diary (wife of US Senator Justin S. Morrill), cataloging of letters of Senator Morrill, identification and documentation of 26 buildings constructed to the designs of architect W.R.B. Wilcox in Burlington, and research related to the application for the Champlain Glass Company roadside historic site marker for Burlington.

## Roadside Historic Site Markers

### ***Site Marker Staff are paid with 100% state funds***

Through statute as part of house mission for promoting state history, VDHP is charged with approving and overseeing the creation and installation of Vermont Roadside Historic Site Markers. This is smallest state program with a great reach and overwhelming popularity, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program was established in 1947, with the installation of ten markers the first year. Since then, 305 site markers have been 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.

In fiscal year 2022, ten new or replacement markers were installed, honoring Vermont's history. Such markers include commemoration of Governor Israel Smith's Rutland home, Revolutionary War hero Major Ira Day of Williamstown/Brookfield, Green Mountain Perkins Academy in Woodstock, site of the Hectorville Covered Bridge in Montgomery (bridge in storage), the Guilford Grange Hall, and Stone Church in Poultney now known as Stone Valley Arts. Markers have been installed commemorating significant African Americans such as Dinah, a slave who prompted the Vermont Supreme Court case, *Selectmen of Windsor v Stephen Jacob*, in 1802. The Pate-King House in Burlington is noted as the home of Clela Pate, who secured a mortgage solely in her name and opened her home as a hotel and apartment. The Pates house was among ten sites in Vermont advertised in Black travel, restaurant, and gas station guides. It was the longest continuously advertised site in Vermont listed in *Hackley and Harrison's Hotel Guide* and the *Negro Motorist's Green Book*. Not yet in production, a marker for African American author Ralph Waldo Ellison has been approved for Fayston, the small hamlet where he began writing the *Invisible Man* (published 1952). Several of these new markers were promoted on Vermont television and public radio, attracting interest, and prompting new marker applications. Eight markers were rehabilitated or replaced due to age, vehicular accidents or vandalism, or text that has proven inappropriate today. In response to recent events across our country, review of all Vermont Roadside Historic Site Markers for cultural humility, accuracy, and context began. Twenty-five new markers are now being reviewed or are in production. The Vermont Covered Bridge Society proposed markers be placed at all standing covered bridges, a list that includes 100 structures; two markers will be placed each year as funding allows.

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,

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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 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events of 2025 to 2027. In 2022, the foundry experienced significant delays, increased pricing, and staffing changes. This has resulted in a temporary halt in the production and repair of markers; production in 2023 is expected to take 8 months.

## Staff Changes

- Bill Jenney retired in March 2022 after 34 years as the Regional Sites Administrator, caring for the Eureka Schoolhouse and Baltimore Bridge, Old Constitution House, and President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Sites.
- Rejoice Scherry joined VDHP in May 2022 as the Regional Sites Administrator for Old Constitution House and President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Sites.
- Tracy Martin retired in June 2022 as the State Historic Sites Section Chief, a position she held for 7 years. VDHP is continuing to interview for the position.

## State Plan

The next state plan was expected to be rolled out in late fall 2021, covering 2022-2027. It was delayed due to staffing capacity, increased in projects due to Covid, reassignment of staff to assist with Covid responses, and lags in National Park Service staff responses. An extension was requested and granted. As part of the evaluation taking place, NPS suggested the plan be extended beyond five years. VT SHPO, with the consent of the Vermont ACHP and staff, opted for a six-year plan period that will more closely align with the gubernatorial elections every two years and leadership positions. The draft for 2023-2029 was submitted in August 2022, with editing taking place in October and November 2022. It was accepted by NPS in December 2022. The new goals were uploaded to the HPF database and on the VT SHPO website.

Despite the delays, staff met five times in 2022 to review and finalize the format, context, and goals, along with annual strategies and targets. Great emphasis was placed on the evaluation of the existing goals, achievements, challenges, and reality of capacity, funding, and equity. A survey was created and put online with access provided directly to partners and consultants via email; it was posted on our website and included in email signatures of staff. Between its posting in February 2020 and October 2021 when it was taken down, the survey was reviewed 292 times, providing direct feedback. Interaction with the public for review of how SHPO has achieved its goals and what new or ongoing goals was conducted virtually through roundtables, annual meetings of preservation partners like Preservation Trust of Vermont, and the quarterly newsletter of the Community Planning and Revitalization Division at ACCD. Text related to achievements and challenges of individual programs like the Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credits and State Grant Program have been prepared. Projects such as the Vermont 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission, reburial of 30 War of 1812 soldiers, and the relocation of the historic 1868 New Haven Junction Depot will be highlights. Images have been collected for inclusion in the final document, which will be online and in hard copy. It is now being designed by the Chief Marketing Office.

### Preservation Forward Together

#### Goals, Objectives, and Actions

##### Goal 1: Advocate for Historic Preservation

Objective: I. Improve the coordination of activities under the National Historic Preservation Act and the Vermont Historic Preservation Act.

Objective: II. Educate the public that historic preservation is culturally, financially, and environmentally beneficial and worthwhile.

##### Goal 2: Recognize Historic Places

Objective: I. Identify and document Vermont's archaeological and historic resources

Objective: II. Support cultural resource disaster planning and recovery

##### Goal 3: Expand Public Outreach and Information Collaboration

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Objective: I. Continue development of computer tools for staff and easily accessible public interfaces.

Objective: II. Collaborate with educational partners

Objective: III. Provide guidance and programming on research, documentation, and best preservation practices.

Goal 4: Cultivate Pride of Place and Stewardship

Objective: I. Advocate for the value of historic preservation through cultural tourism.

Objective: II. Encourage responsible stewardship of archaeological and historic resources.

## 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 22 historic sites, consisting of 74 buildings, 6 bridges, 5 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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. Due to Covid, just six of the nine sites open annually to the public were operating again for this third year. The 2022 seasonal schedule and days/hours were more in line with pre-Covid seasons; these have been expanded further for the 2023 season. All six gift shops were open. Pandemic cleaning measures were implemented once again in coordination with Vermont State Parks, Vermont Historical Society, local historical societies and museums, and the National Park Service's Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Outdoor spaces, such as trails and parks, were heavily visited even at the sites closed. 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%. 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 (more visitors explored the outdoor spaces, but we have no mechanism to tabulate visitation). The collected statistics record more than 1.4 million visitors have been welcomed by Vermont's State Historic Sites since 1998.

In January 2021, VT SHPO was informed by VTrans of pending upgrades to the rail line to accommodate the extension of Amtrak passenger service from its current terminus in Rutland north to Burlington and increasing freight rail activity. Due to the exceptionally close proximity of the 1868 New Haven Depot (owned by VDHP since 1975 because of its historical and architectural significance) to the active tracks, VTrans determined it was "necessary to relocate the station to meet the safety standards required for the operation of the Amtrak service at full speeds. At the current location, the proximity of the building requires current freight rail traffic to observe a slow order through this segment to assure that there are no incidents. A slow order will not be possible on a long-term basis for passenger service to be successful." Moreover, the depot greatly obscures sightline distances from the north to the rail line's intersection with U.S. Route 7. Trains cannot stop quickly enough before the intersection because of the obstructed view caused by the historic depot, which has been leased to commercial tenants since 1986. Together with VTrans, VDHP, ACCD, and the Town of New Haven have actively undertaken the relocation of the brick depot 1.6 miles from the railroad tracks to the center of the village. Ownership of the building was transferred to the Town of New Haven, which plans to use it for community activities, support of the historical society, and as a museum. The National Park Service approved the relocation; thus, the building shall remain listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architecture (it will no longer be eligible under Criterion A for its history because of the relocation). The move happened January 12, 2022, and the new foundation is being prepared.

VDHP also 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 these are open to recreational divers as Vermont's Underwater Historic Preserve, with an estimated 480 diver visits

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(504 visits in FY21, 360 visits in FY20, 588 visits in FY19). 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 Meeting. Partnering with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in 2018, VDHP has visited all seven bridges to assess conditions and address rehabilitation plans. Two of the bridges have recently been restored and stabilized for pedestrian traffic. Plans are underway to use the Fisher Covered Railroad Bridge in Wolcott as part of a rail trail, a rehabilitation project that will stabilize the western abutment. Discussions are ongoing about the treatment of the rail tracks that remain inside the bridge. SHPO and VTrans continue to explore the deaccessioning/demolition plans for two of the bridges due to severe structural issues and a railroad depot too close to the tracks.

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 been below \$350,000; the biennial allocation was \$678,888, which enabled maintenance to progress steadily. The projected maintenance needs are estimated to be over \$1.0 million for the urgent and high priority projects (excluding Bennington Battle Monument). 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 \$375,650 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 and will inform the drainage remediation. The 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 \$12 million of necessary stabilization, repairs, and improvements to the monument, which is the second tallest unreinforced masonry building in the United States.

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

## 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

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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 FFY20, the ACHP met nine times during the reporting period, one of which was in person. All members have been reappointed by the governor. David Donath, appointed as historian in September 1994 by Governor Howard Dean, passed away in December 2022. The historian chair has not yet been filled. The ACHP approved ten new Roadside Historic Site Markers. They reviewed and awarded eleven Certified Local Government program grants, twenty Historic Barn Grant grants, and nineteen Historic Preservation Grant grants. The ACHP determined thirty-eight properties eligible for listing in the State Register and voted to forward six nominations to the National Register.

## Vermont Archaeology Month 2022

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

Vermont Archaeology Month (VAM) celebrated its 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022. Its mission every September is to provide exposure, education, and outreach about archaeology and Vermont's deep and rich human past. Lingering trepidation surrounding COVID-19 caused some former partners to decline to participate in their regular programming again this year. Nevertheless, VDHP hosted and co-hosted thirteen events, all but two of which took place in person. Although attendance at both virtual and in-person events varied, cumulatively over 350 people participated in the programs and lectures offered. Notable events included the 27<sup>th</sup> annual atlal! championship at the Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison, and the 9<sup>th</sup> annual James B. Petersen Memorial Lecture at the University of Vermont.

## 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 four new members. Notable topics discussed at the VCNAA meetings in FFY22 include the following (this is not a comprehensive list):

1. Ethnic School Mascots Ban
2. Tax exempt status of certain Abenaki lands
3. BIPOC Truth and Reconciliation Commission
4. Abenaki language on Vermont State Park signage
5. Statewide Abenaki education/curriculum mandate

## SHPO Staff Trainings and Presentations

### **Historic Resources Specialist: Archaeology, Yvonne Benney Basque:**

#### Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Advanced Metal Detecting for the Archaeologist, Arnold's Bay Project – October 1-2, 2021
- The Role of Anti-racism in Archaeology: William A. White III – Virtual Presentation February 8, 2022
- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Arnold's Bay Research Project Virtual Archaeology Conference – February 17, 2022
- National Park Service, Reviewing Flood Adaptation Proposals Virtual – February 23, 2022

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- Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting Chicago – March 31 – April 2, 2022
- Listening Session, Elevating Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Federal Decision-Making – April 8, 2022
- Historic Preservation and Downtown Conference St Johnsbury – June 9, 2022

### Presentations Given:

- Weathersfield Historical Society Volunteer Archaeology at the Rev Foster House – June 10, 2022
- Living History Expo Vermont Archaeological Society, Essex – September 17, 2022

## **State Architectural Historian: Devin Colman**

### Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- National Register Program Coordinator Quarterly Virtual Meetings
- CLG Program Coordinator Quarterly Virtual Meetings
- GeoEnlightenment: Bending Lines – Maps and Data from Distortion to Deception, Garrett Dash Nelson/Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center/Boston Public Library – December 10
- From Mansards to McMansions: Styles of the Recent Past. NAPC webinar – December 9
- 2022 Downtown & Preservation Conference, St. Johnsbury – June 9
- New SHPO Reviewer Training Webinars by National Park Service – August 10, 17, 24
- The Craft of Timber Framing Workshop, Montpelier – August 29-September 3

### Presentations Given:

- Bungalow in a Box: Kit Houses of the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Virtual Presentation for Historic New England – December 3
- Modernist Houses in New England, Virtual Presentation for Yestermorrow Design/Build School – February 16
- Bungalow in a Box: Kit Houses of the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Virtual Presentation for Education and Enrichment for Everyone – February 18
- Bungalow in a Box: Kit Houses of the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Virtual Presentation for Richmond/Huntington/Bolton Community Senior Center – March 10
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Residential Architecture, walking tour for UVM Historic Preservation Program – September 19
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Modernist Architecture, class presentation for UVM Historic Preservation Program – September 26

## **Tax Credits & Grants Coordinator, Caitlin Corkins:**

### Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Rockingham Meeting House Paint Analysis with Susan Buck (virtual) – November 3
- TPS Flood Adaptation Guidelines for RITC projects (virtual) – February 23
- Calculating Carbon Savings from Building Reuse and Retrofits – National Trust (virtual) – April 12
- Main Street Building Codes Workshop – APT (virtual) – August 2-4
- Vermont Community Leadership Summit, Randolph – VCRD – August 10
- The IRC & the Rehabilitation Tax Credit – TPS (virtual) – August 23
- The Craft of Timber Framing, Montpelier – August 29-September 2

### Presentations Given:

- VCRD Action team, Milton – November 17
- Bennington, 219 Pleasant Street project ribbon-cutting – December 17
- Affordable Housing & Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credits training (virtual) – February 8
- KWVermont Realtor Tax Credit training (virtual) – March 18
- Norwich Historical Society, CLG Project – Vermont Barn Panel (virtual) – March 31
- CVRPC Village Center Designation Training (virtual) – May 31
- State Tax Credit Webinar (48 registered, 36 attendees) – June 2
- Downtown and Preservation Conference – panel moderator – June 9
- Listening Session with National Park Service TPS Staff – Jun 24
- Preservation Trust Retreat – Community Supported Enterprises – July 11-12
- Preservation Trust Retreat – Sacred Places – September 13-14
- Downtown Managers Retreat – September 20-21
- Downtown and Village Center tax credit awards ceremony, St. Albans – September 27

**Senior Historic Preservation Review Coordinator, R. Scott Dillon:**

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Arnold's Bay Conference (virtual) – February 17
- “Beyond Borders: Unheard Voices from the Odanak First Nation.” (virtual) – April 29
- Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting Chicago (virtual) – March 31 – April 2
- “New Insights into the Ewing Site, Shelburne, VT.” Vermont Archaeological Society Online Lecture (virtual) – May 12

**Director of Preservation, James Duggan:**

Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Engineering's webinar series:
  - Historic Sheet Metal Roofing
  - Foundation Waterproofing Replacement in an Urban Environment: A Historic University Building Case Study
  - Six Lessons Learned on Detailing for Durability from Six Iconic Houses
  - Lab Live: Metal
  - Terra Cotta: Understanding and Rehabilitating Historic Facades
  - Evaluating Existing Building Structures through Load Testing
  - Modern Approaches for Ancient Artifacts: Overseeing the Penn Museum Renovation Project
  - Petrography: A Closer Look at the Built Environment
  - Understanding Common Fire and Smoke Protection Features in the Building Code
  - Building Science Principles in Action: Answers to Your Everyday Questions
  - Wind Loads: Codes, Design, and Implementation for Buildings and Moored Vessels
  - Building Performance Problems: How Building Enclosures and Mechanical Systems Interact
  - Joining Metals: Structural Considerations for Bolting and Welding Methods
  - The Art of Engineering Art
- National Park Service:
  - Landmarking Labor: Labor History and the National Historic Landmarks Program
  - Reviewing Flood Adaptation Proposals
  - National Initiative to Advance Building Codes Workshop - State, Local, Tribal, Territorial Partners
- Alliance for Response, All-Network Meeting
- Foundation for Advancement in Conservation, Connecting to Collections Care (C2C):
  - Museum Security Fundamentals
  - Extreme Weather
- National Fire Protection Alliance - Fire and Emergency Protection Plan Development
- National Trust for Historic Preservation - Calculating Carbon Savings from Building Reuse and Retrofit
- Association for Preservation Technology:
  - Materials Talks - Architectural Plywood: History and Preservation Considerations
  - Materials Talks - Hidden History of Building Paper
- International Masonry Institute: How To Incorporate Preservation Training into Your Construction Project
- Texas Historical Commission:
  - OSHA 101: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Your Museum
  - Understanding and Upgrading Your Collection Preservation Environment

Presentations Given:

- Instructor – *Architectural History of New England*, Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Warren
- Instructor – *Green Preservation*, Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Warren
- Guest Lecture “*Historic Preservation*” & Jury Panel participant at Dartmouth Architecture, Hanover, NH; virtual from Montpelier
- Vermont History Day Judge, Montpelier
- Walking tour of Kent's Corner Historic District, Calais, University of Vermont Graduate Program in Historic Preservation
- Walking tour of Sen. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, Strafford, University of Vermont Graduate Program in Historic Preservation
- Walking tour of Sen. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, Strafford, Colonial Dames of America
- Walking tour of Kent's Corner Historic District, Calais, Yestermorrow Design/Build School Semester Design Program

## 2022 HPF VT SHPO Summaries

- VACDaRN Steering Committee meetings

### **Historic Sites Regional Administrator, Elsa Gilbertson:**

#### Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Aesthetic Addictions: Psychological Perspectives on Collecting from Rudolf II to Charles Foster Kane, Henry Sheldon Museum, Virtual
- Old Maps, New Pathways: Cartography, Museum Collections, and Decolonial Possibilities, Henry Sheldon Museum, Virtual
- AmeriCorps NCCC: A Resource for Nonprofit and Government Agencies
- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Virtual Archaeology Conference, Arnold's Bay, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Virtual
- Inquiry into the Revolutionary Mind: What Were You Thinking Ethan Allen and Justus Sherwood? at Mount Independence State Historic Site
- Introduction to Contracts, VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development

#### Presentations Given:

- Conserving the Past, One Artifact at a Time, Mount Independence State Historic Site
- Hike into History, co-presenter, Mount Independence State Historic Site

### **Historic Resources Specialist: Architectural Historian, Elizabeth Peebles:**

#### Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- Bungalow in a Box: Kit Houses of the Early Twentieth Century, Historic New England, Virtual – November 3
- The English Barn in America, Barn Alliance, Virtual – November 3
- Rockingham Meeting House Paint Analysis, Virtual, November 3
- Section 106 Resource Identification, National Preservation Institute, Virtual, November 18
- Ensuring Life Safety in Adaptive Reuse: Using NFPA 101A for Alternative Approaches to Code Compliance, NPS, Virtual, January 31
- Reviewing Flood Adaptation Proposals, National Park Service, Virtual, February 23
- Calculating Carbon Savings from Building Reuse and Retrofit, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Virtual, April 12
- Historic Retrofits: The New Paradigm for the Age of Climate Change, Virtual, April 27
- Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference, Saint Johnsbury Vermont, June 9
- Main Street Building Codes on Main Street Workshop, APT, Virtual, August 2-4
- Building Performance Problems: How Building Enclosures and Mechanical Systems Interact, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Virtual, August 26
- National Initiative to Advance Building Codes Workshop, FEMA, Virtual, September 6
- Workshop on Environmental Compliance and Historic Preservation Review Procedures, FCC, Virtual, September 13

#### Presentations Given:

- Historic Preservation and Affordable Housing Developments, Virtual, February 8

### **Historic Resources Specialist: Archaeology, Jess Robinson:**

#### Trainings/Presentations Attended:

- National Register Coordinator Overview – NR/NHL Archaeology and Section 304 Compliance (virtual) – October 5
- Eastern States Archaeological Federation Conference (virtual) – November 5-6
- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Arnold's Bay Conference (virtual) – February 17
- National Association of State Archaeologists Annual Meeting (virtual) – March 30
- "Beyond Borders: Unheard Voices from the Odanak First Nation." (virtual) – April 29
- Audrey HSU Middlebury College Senior Thesis Defense – May 4
- "New Insights into the Ewing Site, Shelburne, VT." Vermont Archaeological Society Online Lecture (virtual) – May 12

#### Presentations Given:

- Montshire Museum of Science Archaeology Day Presentations – October 2
- "A Brief Overview of the Archaeological History of Vermont." Castleton University Anthropology Class at the Vermont Archaeology Heritage Center – November 5

## 2022 HPF VT SHPO Summaries

- “Examining the Timing, Extent, and Potential Coevality of Early Holocene Archaeological Complexes in the Far Northeast.” Eastern States Archaeology Federation Conference (virtual) – November 6
- “A Brief Overview of the Archaeological History of Vermont.” Castleton University Anthropology Class (virtual) – February 6
- “An Overview of Vermont Archaeology: Practice, Theory, and Results.” Historic Preservation Graduate Program Lecture, University of Vermont, April 12
- “An Archaeological Overview of the Franklin County Area.” Swanton Library – August 8
- “An Archaeological History of the Connecticut River Valley.” Lower Waterford Library – August 25

### **Historic Sites Regional Administrator, Rejoice Scherry (started May 2, 2022):**

#### Presentations Given:

- 1920s Popular Culture as Seen in Music, Killington-Pico Rotary Club – September 14

### **State Historic Preservation Officer: Laura V. Trieschmann**

#### Trainings and Presentations Attended:

- Rockingham Meeting House Paint Analysis, Virtual, November 3
- Downtown and Preservation Conference, St Johnsbury – June 9
- Lake Champlain Basin Program Steering Committee Quarterly Meetings
- Regional New England SHPO Quarterly Meetings
- 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Collaborative Meetings
- Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership International Summit, Saranac Lake, NY – September 19
- Vermont Climate Workforce Coalition – September 8
- Electrical Vehicle Supply Equipment Exemptions, Section 106 – June 2
- Preservation Action Lobby Days, virtual – March 7-10
- National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program Programmatic Agreement, Annual Meeting, virtual – February 2
- Prohibition Social, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes
- Bungalow in a Box: Kit Houses of the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, virtual, Historic New England

#### Presentations Given:

- Preservation Roundtables, virtual – June 16