

Overview

The Division for Historic Preservation administers the Historic Barn Grants program, a state-funded program awarding one-to-one matching grants to individuals, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations for the rehabilitation and restoration of historic agricultural buildings that are the icons of Vermont's rural landscape. Created in 1992, the program is the oldest state-funded barn grant program in the United States. It has cumulatively provided over \$3 million in grant assistance for the preservation of 368 historic barns and agricultural outbuildings statewide.

Program funding assists with such work as the restoration of deteriorated foundations, roofs, timber frames, and, cupolas. Rehabilitation efforts support the continued use of these agricultural buildings and, in a few cases, allow for non-agricultural purposes for underutilized or vacant buildings. The work must conform to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation reviews applications and awards the funding each year. The maximum grant amount is \$15,000 and projects must be completed within two years of the award.

In 2015, the Advisory Council awarded 21 matching grants totaling \$247,134 to aid in the restoration and maintenance of significant buildings that contribute to Vermont's agricultural history. This funding will leverage \$589,887 in investment. Thirty-two applications were reviewed, with funding requests totaling \$378,559. Preservation of our historic agricultural resources not only protects Vermont's architectural legacy, it also generates jobs, supports independent businesses, increases civic participation and bolsters a community's sense of place and pride, while enhancing the experience of visitors. This program is continuously growing as completed projects promote community pride and awareness of grant opportunities. The trend shows an increasing number of project applications, with slightly more than half fully funded annually.

Historic Barn Grant Awards and Investment

Year	# of Grants Awarded	Amount Awarded	Total Project Cost
2015	21	\$247,134	\$589,887
2014	24	\$341,161	\$820,477
2013	19	\$240,182	\$552,697
2012	16	\$222,424	\$757,701
2011	21	\$193,907	\$598,196
2010	25	\$208,723	\$780,833

Program Financial Status

	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Appropriation Amount	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000*	\$200,000
Bond Amount	(\$1,934)	(\$1,340)	(\$733)	(\$1,007)
Amount Available to Grant	\$223,066	\$223,660	\$224,267	\$198,993
Expenditures to Date	\$219,016	\$167,333	\$17,404	\$0
Encumbrances Remaining	\$2,000	\$53,000	\$197,405	\$0
Remaining Balance	\$2,050**	\$3,327**	\$9,458**	\$198,993**

*All funds have been awarded to grant applicants, save the FY2016 allocation that will be awarded by the Advisory Council in February 2016..

**Grants were recently rescinded and the money will be used for the upcoming grant awards.



For more information, please contact:

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or visit: http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/preservation/grants/barn

Overview

The Division for Historic Preservation administers the Historic Preservation Grants program, a state-funded program awarding one-to-one matching grants for the rehabilitation of civic and community buildings that are a vital part of Vermont's historic downtowns, villages, and rural communities. Since the creation of the Historic Preservation Grants in 1986, more than 550 historic buildings owned by municipalities and non-profits have received nearly \$4.5 million, leveraging five times as much in non-state funds for these projects.

Grant funds awarded to historic community buildings such as libraries, community halls, town halls, museums, and churches, help pay for repairs to deteriorated foundations, roofs, steeples, structural members and exterior cladding, and windows.. Often, this work results in new uses for underutilized or vacant buildings. The work must conform to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation reviews the applications and awards funding each year. The maximum grant amount is \$20,000 and projects must be completed within two years of the award.

In 2015, the Advisory Council awarded twelve grants totaling \$199,367, resulting in an \$560,000 investment in our iconic community buildings. Forty applications were reviewed, with funding requests totaling \$1.8 million. Preservation of these historic civic and community resources not only protects Vermont's architectural legacy, it also generates jobs, supports independent businesses, increases civic participation and bolsters a community's sense of place and pride, while enhancing the experience of visitors. This program is continuously growing as completed projects promote community pride and awareness of grant opportunities. The trend shows an increasing number of project applications, with just 37% funded annually.

Historic Preservation Grant Awards and Investment

Year	# of Grants Awarded	Amount Awarded	Total Project Cost
2016	12	\$199,367	\$561,565
2015	18	\$253,220	\$877,957
2014	17	\$257,404	\$627,788
2013	15	\$224,225	\$615,961
2012	15	\$221,493	\$1,294,978
2011	16	\$186,193	\$463,258
2010	19	\$204,353	\$1,919,373
2009	17	\$202,340	\$608,355

Program Financial Status

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Appropriation Amount	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$200,000
Bond Amount	(\$1,340)	(\$733)	(\$1,007)
Amount Available to Grant	\$223,660	\$224,267	\$198,993
Expenditures to Date	\$165,732	\$74,030	\$0
Encumbrances Remaining	\$57,591	\$150,200	\$199,367
Remaining Balance	\$337	\$37	\$0



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Overview

The Historic Sites Program, within the Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP), manages the appropriation funding for the repair of the 1858 library, plaster and stair restoration, and preparation of a conditions assessment for the Justin S. Morrill State Historic Site. Home of Senator Morrill, the homestead was constructed in 1851 and enlarged just seven years later. The house is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style of architecture popularized by Andrew Jackson Downing in the early 19th century. A scholar who read and collected books, Morrill used Downing's architectural handbooks to design his dream house, adapting the forms and details to suit his own particular vision. Morrill also planned the surrounding gardens, studying the romantic landscape movement with its formal yet picturesque plantings but selecting only those which would survive the wintery Vermont climate.

The homestead Justin Morrill created in Strafford is a National Historic Landmark, the first such honorary designation in Vermont. The property includes the house – dressed in furnishings from Morrill's Washington, D.C. home – carriage barn, cow barn, icehouse, foundation of a hothouse, sheep barn, farm shop, corncrib, and recently constructed education center. The FY2015 appropriation was to undertake the following projects:

- Restoration of the library addition Morrill had added to the homestead in 1858. Archiving manuscripts owned by Senator Morrill, the library restoration included shoring of the failing foundation, reconstruction of roof cresting and repair of the corner finial, and recladding of the flush exterior siding, painted pink as A.J. Downing recommended. This work was completed in the spring of 2014.
- Preparation of a conditions assessment report. The documentation will ensure proper preservation, restoration and maintenance of this historic building, prioritizing the work over a ten-year period. The last assessment was prepared in 1997 and much of the work outlined in that report has been completed or justifiably abandoned. This new assessment will provide 21st-century restoration ethics and techniques with a focus on how to implement best practices, ensuring deferred work is highlighted and budgets are appropriately prepared. VDHP is partnering with the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS) on the preparation and implementation of the conditions assessment report. BGS has a statewide contract with EMG Corps for conditions assessments of all BGS and VDHP buildings and structures. The assessment at the Morrill Site will be conducted in the late winter of 2016.
- Restoration of the damaged plaster along the stair wall extending back into the second-floor rear room of the 1858 addition. This work was to be completed before the opening of the 2015 season; however, during the winter months, the deteriorated condition of the plaster accelerated, exposing the source of the problem to be the roof. This roof is sheathed in pressed metal shingles, which is original to Justin Morrill's tenure 157 years ago. No work on the interior plaster or adjacent stair has been undertaken. This work should not be completed until an assessment is made by a roofer proficient in historic roofing materials. An assessment shall be done in early 2016 to evaluate the overall condition of the roof, with restoration of the plaster and stair balustrade to follow as appropriate.

Program Financial Status

	FY2015
Budget Amount	\$27,909
Expenditures to Date	\$13,640
Encumbrances Remaining	\$9,655
Remaining Balance	\$4,614



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Overview

The Roadside Historic Marker program promotes the creation of roadside markers commemorating individuals, events, and sites that have played a significant role in the prehistory and history of Vermont or the nation. It is a state-funded program, managed by the Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP). Since the creation of the program in 1947, 215 roadside markers have been placed throughout the state to draw the attention of the traveling public to our significant historic sites, downtowns, and villages; one historic marker was located in the Commonwealth of Virginia to commemorate Vermonters' sacrifice during the Civil War.

Private citizens, legislators, communities, and state agencies prepare the application forms, provide suggested wording with supporting history and propose locations for marker placements. In 2015, Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in collaboration with the State Historic Preservation Officer approved 19 applications. Eleven marker applications are currently being evaluated and researched. The final text is reviewed by a team of interested individuals, staffs of the state and local historical societies, noted historians, as well as the professional staff of VDHP. Placement of the markers is done in collaboration with VTrans and Town garages. An interactive map has been created pinpointing the locations of each marker along with a recent photograph and related research. Four missing markers were found – one in New Jersey – and will be reinstalled in 2016.

Program Financial Status

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Appropriation Amount	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Bond Amount	(\$89)	(\$49)	(\$76)
Amount Available	\$14,911	\$14,951	\$14,924
Expenditures to Date	\$14,611	\$4,848	\$0
Encumbrances Remaining	\$300	\$10,103	\$14,924
Remaining Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0



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Overview

The Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP) manages the Historic Property Stabilization and Rehabilitation Special Fund in partnership with the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS). Established by Act No. 40 in 2011, the program was designed to finance the stabilization and rehabilitation of approved state-owned historic properties with the net proceeds from the sale and/or lease of other vacant or under-utilized historic properties owned by the state. This pilot program was to fill a funding gap and provide a higher level of stewardship for state-owned historic resources by allowing private sector partnerships to stabilize and rehabilitate underutilized properties. Sale or lease of any of the eligible properties was not to yield much money, because transfers and leasing was coordinated with local municipality and/or non-profit organization with a preservation and history focus.

Initially, the Fund included seven approved historic properties marked for sale or lease, the majority under the ownership of VDHP. Local historical societies with a preservation mission have accepted ownership of two properties—Hyde Log Cabin and Bradley Law Office. The transfers, which garnered no financial gains, included preservation deed restrictions. Seven properties are currently on the list, two of which were added in 2014 to explore rehabilitation options. Two of the properties were returned to active use with lease agreements and a third property has been opened to the public for tours by appointment. The decision to retain two other properties was the result of archaeological and historical research that identified the potential to yield significant information about prehistory and history; the buildings on these properties are not contributing to the identified significant contexts.

The lack of revenue from this pilot program has suggested it is not overwhelmingly successful. Therefore, it is proposed that:

- Fund be reduced from \$100,000 to \$50,000 for FY17. The fund will cover the costs for razing Bishop’s Cabin and removal of the materials in winter 2016. The remaining funds will be used to raze the Fuller Farmhouse at Hubbardton Battlefield if the Town and Historical Society are not able to find adequate funding for their use of the building.
- The following resources be removed from the list at the request of BGS and VDHP. St. Albans Farmhouse and Barn Arsenal & Fairbanks Buildings; Eureka Schoolhouse and Baltimore Covered Bridge; Burtch-Udall (Theron Boyd House); Kent Tavern Museum
- Fund be terminated at end of FY18.

Program Financial Status

	FY2011-2016
Appropriation Amount	\$100,000
Expenditures to Date	\$0
Encumbrances Remaining	\$0
Remaining Balance	\$100,000



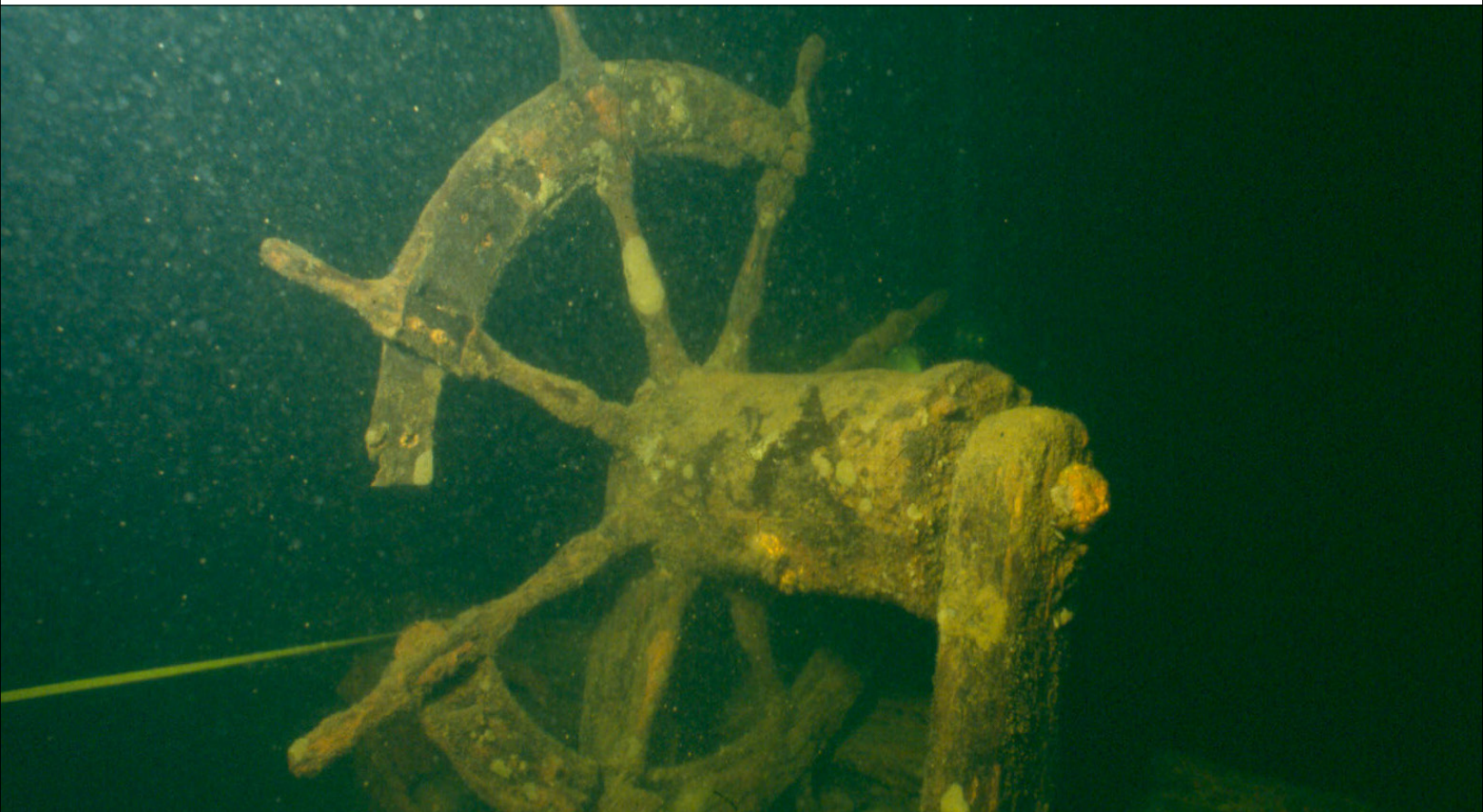
Overview

The Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP) administers the Lake Champlain Underwater Historic Preserves, founded in 1982. The mission of the program is to protect irreplaceable historic shipwrecks from anchor damage and artifact collecting by fostering awareness and public education. VDHP's Survey Archaeologist supervises the program with the aid of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, U.S. Coast Guard, Vermont State Archaeologist, State of New York officials, and a team of dedicated professionals who volunteer their expertise and time. Essential to the success of the program is the public partnership, with registered divers identifying and monitoring these preserves.

The significance of this program is growing rapidly as social media educates and attracts the diving public about our Underwater Historic Preserves, which include the late 19th- and early-20th-century wreckage of canal boats, steamboats, sailing vessels, a schooner, and a horse ferry. During 2015, the Capital appropriation funds covered the cost of locations moorings and identification buoys, underwater signs, and emergency equipment for the response boat provided by the Vermont State Police for Underwater Preserve monitoring. The funding also provided for the identification of additional sites that could be opened to the public as preserves, conservation of recovered artifacts, and above-water interpretive displays. Experienced certified divers who travel by boat to the sites perform much of the work, funded by a grant to the Maritime Museum.

Program Financial Status

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Grant Amount	\$24,851	\$34,886	\$29,849
Expenditures to Date	\$24,851	\$34,794	0
Encumbrances Remaining	\$0	\$92	\$29,849
Remaining Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0



For more information, please contact:

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