

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

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 \$5 million, leveraging five times as much in non-state funds for these projects.

Website: <http://acd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/historic-preservation-grants>

Awarded Project Summaries



Barnard General Store, Barnard - \$6,150

Constructed as a general store, this building continued in private commercial operation for over 160 years. The Barnard Community Trust, a non-profit organization, purchased the building after the store closed, and now leases it to a commercial operator. The building is at the center of Barnard's village, across from public access to Silver Lake, and serves both locals and tourists. Matching grant funds will support structural repairs, drainage work, and moisture remediation in the store's basement.



Grand Trunk Railway Station, Brighton (Island Pond) - \$20,000

Built in 1903-4 in the center of Island Pond, this station was originally used for passenger service before being converted to freight crew and maintenance quarters; it was abandoned in the 1980s. The railroad donated the building to the Town of Brighton in 1990, and it is currently leased to several tenants, including a local bank, police department, and Island Pond Historical Society. Grant funds will offset the costs of replacing building's failing asphalt-shingled roof.



Eaton House at Old Stone House Museum, Brownington - \$14,000

This late Federal-style house was built by Cyrus Eaton, a trustee of the Orleans County Grammar School. It was acquired by the Old Stone House Museum in 1971 for its administrative offices and is now used for collections storage and as the library/research center. This is one of seven buildings owned and maintained by the museum. A matching grant will allow the museum to replace the building's wood-shingled roof with historically appropriate wood shakes.



Old West Church, Calais - \$20,000

Constructed between 1823 and 1825 by five Protestant denominations, the Old West Church is maintained by the Old West Church Association. Open daily, the building is used for a variety of public uses, including religious services, plays, memorial services, weddings, concerts, festivals, public forums, and tours. It stands as an excellent and intact example of an 18th-century meeting house. Grant funds will support work to repair and paint the building's tower lantern and spire.



Danville Congregational Church, Danville - \$8,250

The Danville Congregational Church has been a site of worship since 1792, with the current church building dedicated in 1897. In 2014, the congregation embarked on an ambitious multi-year capital campaign to restore and rehabilitate this historic building, as well as address facility needs. Grant funding will now allow the church to restore eight custom-built historic wooden storm windows protecting stained-glass windows in the sanctuary.



United Church of Fairfax, Fairfax - \$9,644

This brick and timber Greek Revival-style church was constructed in 1838, and enlarged in 1850. It has been in continuous use since that time. The church houses the local food shelf and is used by several community groups on a regular basis. Grant funds will support work to repair and protect the slate roof at the west side of the building, with the replacement of missing and broken slates and installing a new metal drip edge, snow belt, and ridge cap.

For more information, please contact:

Caitlin Corkins: caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov

802.828.3047

Awarded Project Summaries



Town Hall Theater, Middlebury - \$9,400

Middlebury's first town hall, this building included spaces for offices in its lower level with large theater space above. When the town moved its offices in 1960, the building went through a period of decline. In 2000, the building was purchased by the Town Hall Theater, Inc., which completed a \$5 million restoration to create a flexible state-of-the-art theater, now in its 10th season. Grant funds will support ongoing exterior masonry repairs to replace approximately 500 spalling bricks.



Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier - \$20,000

Christ Episcopal Church was first organized in 1840, with construction of the current church in 1866-68. The church, its neighboring Parish Hall, and outdoor courtyard facing State Street are extensively used by the public. In the past five years, the congregation has undertaken several large building projects, supported in part by a previous Historic Preservation Grant. The focus of the current grant project is to address masonry at the church's façade and bell tower, including flashing and roof repairs.



Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier - \$20,000

Founded in 1894, the Kellogg-Hubbard Library initially housed a public library and art gallery. The library has expanded multiple times, most recently with construction of an addition in 2000. It is one of the busiest libraries in Vermont, with over 210,000 patron visits annually. Grant funds will support restoration of the main building's large historic window sash, making them operable once again.



Pawlet Town Hall, Pawlet - \$8,500

The Italianate-style Pawlett Town Hall was built cooperatively between the town and a local businessman to serve as a town hall and commercial enterprise. The building continues to serve as the town hall, housing municipal offices. The second-floor auditorium is used for a variety of meetings and contains a historic plaster ceiling with delicate decorative stenciling discovered in 2009. Grant funds will support continued work to restore this highly significant historic element of the building.



Rochester Public Library, Rochester - \$4,856

Constructed as a Unitarian church, this building was originally one story, but was raised with a new ground floor added in the second half of the 19th century. In the 1930s, Rochester's Congregational, Unitarian, and Methodist congregations merged, and the church was deeded to the town for use as a library. A matching grant will support restoration of one of the building's seven stained glass windows—the "Guernsey" window—which had become so deteriorated that it was temporarily removed.



Platt Memorial Library, Shoreham - \$9,544

Designed by Mary Mixer Platt, this library was donated to the Town of Shoreham in honor of her late husband. Significant investment has been made in the building over the past 10 years, including sensitive efficiency upgrades and a major addition in 2011 that doubled the library's square footage. Grant funds will now be used to address the library's historic front entry by rebuilding the marble steps and column supports, and restoring the wooden columns supporting the portico.

For more information, please contact:

Caitlin Corkins: caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov

802.828.3047

Awarded Project Summaries



Handy Memorial, South Royalton - \$16,000

Located on the green in South Royalton, this memorial was erected to honor Hannah Hunter Handy, who rescued boys captured during the 1780 Royalton Raid. It is the only monument in Vermont commemorating action taken by a woman during the Revolutionary War. The monument, made of Barre granite, was crafted by Adams and McNichols of White River Junction. Grant funds will help the town restore the monument, including building a new base and constructing a new internal support system.



Congregational Church, St. Albans - \$19,794

One of three churches at the top of Taylor Park in St. Albans, the First Congregational Church is still used for worship and by various community groups, including the Franklin County Food shelf, Watershed Mentoring program, and multiple music groups. It also houses the “town clock.” Grant funds will tackle multiple masonry repairs at the church’s exterior, including work at the tower pinnacles and deteriorated brick buttresses.



Strafford Town House, Strafford - \$20,000

Built as a meetinghouse for both religious worship and secular business, the iconic Strafford Town House is owned by the Town of Strafford. It is still used for town meetings and as a polling station each year. Well over 1,000 people visited the Town House in 2017. Although the building is in relatively good condition, the upper level of its iconic tower, including the belfry, lantern and spire, will be restored with the aid of this matching grant.



North Universalist Chapel, Woodstock - \$18,897

North Universalist Church was constructed in 1835. An adjoining structure known as the “parlors addition” was added in 1885, housing a fellowship room and kitchen. The church still has an active congregation of roughly 150 members and is used for a variety of religious and community purposes. Grant funding will support efforts to complete roofing, flashing, and siding repairs to the parlors addition and its connection to the main chapel.



For more information, please contact:
Caitlin Corkins: caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov
802.828.3047