

## 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://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/historic-preservation-grants>

## Awarded Project Summaries



### **Arlington, St. James Episcopal Church, \$20,000**

One of the earliest Gothic Revival-style churches in Vermont, St. James Episcopal Church was designed by English architect William Passman. It was constructed in 1829. The church continues to be used for worshipping by the congregation, with space available for a variety of community meetings and events, including suppers, meetings, concerts, and holiday activities. Matching grant funds from the Division for Historic Preservation will support restoration of four stained-glass windows.



### **Barre, Old Labor Hall, \$14,000**

The Barre Labor Hall was built by Italian granite workers as a local socialist union hall and headquarters of the Granite Workers Union. It is one of Vermont's 18 National Historic Landmarks and is still actively used for public meetings and events. Grant funds will enable masonry work on the chimney and exterior walls, replacement of the cracked granite entry steps, and interior repairs to an unused second-floor space that will be repurposed for additional meeting space and a labor library/research center.



### **Bennington, First Congregational Church of Bennington, \$8,000**

Constructed by builder/architect Lavius Fillmore in the Federal style, the First Congregational Church of Bennington replaced an earlier building on this site used for civic and religious purposes. It is open for worshipping, welcoming 10,000 visitors annually each day between June and September. The church will receive funding to repoint the stone foundation and repair/rebuilding the brick chimney, including installation of a bluestone cap.



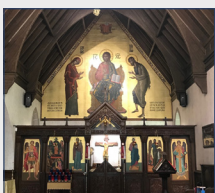
### **Bethel, Lympus Church, \$3,600**

Constructed as a church and meeting place at the Lympus crossroads in Bethel, this modest vernacular Greek Revival-style country church was constructed in 1837 and is still used seasonally for services and community events. The church will receive matching state grant funds to replace the leaking metal roof with a new galvalume standing seam metal.



### **Brandon Congregational Church, \$18,307**

Constructed between 1831-1832, the Brandon Congregational Church is a transitional Federal/Greek Revival-style structure that continues to serve as an important community landmark. It is the site of the local food shelf and provides space for a variety of local groups offer performances, meetings, and social services. Grant funds will enable slate repairs to the roofs of the main church and fellowship hall. The clocktower shall receive new flashing and carpentry repairs.



### **Burlington, Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church, \$18,465**

Originally constructed as All Saints Episcopal Chapel, this church was constructed of local redstone and stands as an iconic landmark in Burlington. The Greek Orthodox community purchased the chapel in 1961, converting it into a place of worship for the local Greek Orthodox and European Orthodox communities. Grant funds will allow repairs to the exterior and stained-glass windows, which includes installation of custom storm windows.

For more information, please contact:

Caitlin Corkins: [caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov](mailto:caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov)

802.828.3047

## Awarded Project Summaries



### **Charlotte, Lyceum School (Charlotte Grange #398), \$6,345**

Located in East Charlotte village, the Charlotte Grange was originally constructed as a Lyceum Hall about 1870. It served as a “Young Men’s Literary Club” and school before being acquired by the Grange in 1958. Today, it is a community space for rummage sales, dinners, library story time, and musical performances. A matching grant will allow the Grange to repair the entry doors and eight large schoolhouse windows.



### **Franklin Town Hall, \$16,500**

The Franklin Town Hall is a well-used community building beloved by this small northern border town. It was constructed in 1875 as a central community meeting house. The modest wood-frame structure hides arched ceilings and a stage ornamented by a painted curtain (artist Ray Hefflon, 1929). The building’s use has increased, welcoming drama productions, school events, library activities, summer learning camps, recreation department activities, and harvest dinners. A matching grant will allow the town to replace the building’s leaking metal roof.



### **Killington, Mission of the Church of Our Saviour, \$20,000**

Set on 172 acres between Woodstock and Rutland, Mission Hill Farm was initially a family homestead begun by Josiah Wood Jr. Elizabeth Wood Clement oversaw construction of the stone church in 1894-1895, then deeded the property to the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont to serve as a mission church. The property is still managed by an active congregation and widely used by the Killington Community for recreation. It includes five hiking trails open to the public. Grant funds will enable replacement of the church’s asphalt-shingle roof.



### **Lincoln, Burnham Hall, \$9,388**

Constructed with funds from a bequest in the 1920s, Burnham Hall is maintained by the Walter S. Burnham Committee. It is actively used for a variety of community activities such as fundraisers, weddings, rummage sales, educational classes, workshops, seminars, and concerts. It also provides space for Town Meeting, local elections, and public hearings/meetings. A matching grant will repair twelve of the original concrete windows sills.



### **Middlebury, Ilsley Public Library, \$5,350**

Ilsley Library was purpose-built as a library for the Town of Middlebury through the generous donations of benefactors, Col. Silas A. and Mary Ilsley. The iconic library is open six days a week, attracting roughly 150,000 visitors annually. A matching grant will help the Town to repair the library’s original 1923 windows.



### **Town of Shoreham, Old Stone Schoolhouse, \$18,500**

The Old Stone Schoolhouse was constructed in 1839 on land donated to the Town of Shoreham by Ashbel Catlin. The one-room school, built of local Pantton stone, accommodated grades 1 through 8 until 1889. In the 1920s and 1930s, the Boy Scouts held meetings in the building. In 1969 the Town began leasing it to the newly formed Shoreham Historical Society. More recently, with the support of local voters, the Town completed major foundation repairs to secure the structure. This matching state grant will fund replacement of the leaking wood shingle roof and repointing of the stonework.



### **St. Johnsbury, Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium \$20,000**

The Richardsonian Romanesque-style Fairbanks Museum was designed by the acclaimed architect, Lambert Packard. It was constructed in 1890-91 with funding provided by Franklin Fairbanks for use as a museum to hold his extensive collection of natural history specimens. Fairbanks vision of a public museum with a strong education component continues today as the museum hosts 30,000+ visitors and 12,000 students annually. The museum will use matching grant funds to address issues within the masonry of the museum’s north and south towers.

For more information, please contact:

Caitlin Corkins: [caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov](mailto:caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov)  
802.828.3047

## Awarded Project Summaries



### Swanton Public Library, \$13,641

Swanton's public library was created in 1898 by the King's Daughters, a philanthropic Christian organization. To house the library collection, the organization funded construction of a building in 1915 with the first floor used as a reading room and the second floor as a meeting space. Today, this active public library is owned by the Town and open for community programs, meetings, and education classes. The Town of Swanton will use state grant funds to repair the building's historic windows.



### Wilmington, Pettee Memorial Library, \$5,250

The plans for this Beaux Arts-style library were drawn by Paul C. Hunter, a renowned New York architect. Lyman Pettee donated funds for its construction in memory of his parents. The building has operated as Wilmington's library for nearly 115 years. In 2013, the slate and copper roof were replaced. Now, with the support of this matching grant, the original wood windows will be restored and weatherized to better protect the collection.



### Windsor, American Precision Museum \$20,000

The American Precision Museum occupies the four-story Robbins & Lawrence Company Armory, built in 1846. The company was a pioneer in manufacturing of interchangeable parts and mechanized production using waterpower. However, by 1966, years after the closing of the company, the building was in danger of being demolished. Edwin Albert Battison organized the purchase of the property for use as a museum devoted to historic machine tools. Matching grant funds will support window restoration work on the museum's south elevation.



For more information, please contact:

Caitlin Corkins: [caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov](mailto:caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov)  
802.828.3047