

New Hampshire

# Preservation Alliance



2009 Annual Report

# Strengthening the Preservation Movement during the Perfect Storm

Many of us were battered about by “perfect storms” this past year as the economic recession combined with other forces to create major personal and professional challenges.


In the preservation world, municipal and state budget cuts created greater demand for our basic services. Green products flooded the marketplace, along with long-held “new is better” consumer desires. Our constituents scrambled to connect neighborhood stabilization, transportation projects and weatherization stimulus funds to preservation goals. Thanks to strategic management and partnerships, and your input and support, the Preservation Alliance is not only weathering the storm, but using it to advance our work.

We hope this report’s stories and statistics give you a sense of this past year and future opportunities. During Town Meeting season, we exceeded our goals for the adoption of heritage commissions by municipalities across the state. Five communities assisted by the Alliance sought a favorable vote by citizens at Town Meetings, and all five were adopted. Our winter and spring workshops for preservation and community development advocates were sold out, and the crowd for our May awards announcement was our largest yet. We are very pleased with the N.H. Climate Change Action Plan’s focus on existing buildings and inclusion of our goals for encouraging school renovation. Our communications and weatherization survey results reinforced our role as a valued resource, and The Corporate Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation selected the Preservation Alliance as a finalist for its Dunfey Award for excellence in organizational management in an especially competitive year.

As we developed our strategic plan for 2009-12, we celebrated the success of the previous three years--the period of the largest gains in the organization’s history in terms of scope of services, impact, and budget. Our board and staff have positioned the organization to expand its aid to community preservation project leaders and homeowners, do more for North Country constituents, and to advocate for community-centered schools and weatherization.

Your support and suggestions are the foundation of our work. Thank you very much for your participation.

Sincerely,

  
John W. Merkle  
Chairman of the Board

  
Jennifer Goodman  
Executive Director



Cover photos, top to bottom: Seven to Save listee and winner, Langdon Town Hall; revitalization of Pandora Mills in Manchester; Saving the Sash workshop, Jaffrey.

Page one photos, left to right: Funding for Historic Preservation Workshop, Concord; award winner, Moffatt-Ladd coach house, Portsmouth; site visit, Minot-Sleeper Library, Bristol.

the Perfect Storm

# Meeting the Preservation Needs

## Field Service Program

The Field Service program works in association with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and local partners to meet our state's growing preservation needs.

In FY 2009 we worked in over 100 cities and towns and assisted 148 projects, providing information and resources, answering technical questions and conducting coaching and training sessions.

Highlights of FY 2009 included:

- **Our 3-year-old Seven to Save program has seen significant progress at 21 sites, while we declared 8 sites now saved.**
- **Mentoring workshops and training for churches, in cooperation with Partners for Sacred Places, included a city-wide workshop in Claremont.**
- **In-depth work on building new partnerships and devising solutions to preserve the nationally significant African-American history of Noyes Academy in Canaan.**
- **We convened a statewide task force to address issues facing owners of historic small mills and dams.**

## Services for Old House and Barn Owners

Our Old House & Barn program assists owners of older homes and barns by answering technical questions, providing resource materials and offering programs and workshops around the state. Our summer barn tour and lecture in Sanbornton was a great success attracting over 100 eager barn enthusiasts! Fall found us in Hancock learning about 19th Century Decorative Wall Painting and touring three historic homes with original murals and stencils. Other programs offered through our Old House & Barn Program included: Saving the Sash (window workshop in Jaffrey); Town-wide Barn Survey Program (Bedford); Painting Your Historic House (Concord); and our very popular Old House & Barn Detective Workshop (Brentwood).

## Small Grants

The Alliance's two matching grant programs helped us work effectively on behalf of specific properties.

Preservation Services Grants focus on saving important community landmarks by helping projects in the early stages of their development. We provided local non-profit organizations and municipalities with funding to obtain specialized assistance for projects such as the foundation assessment of the 1804 Langdon Meeting House, a preliminary condition study of the 1833 Austin Hall in Strafford, and multiple studies of ADA issues in historic buildings in Deerfield, Kingston and Sanbornton.

Barn Assessment Grants are a valuable tool for barn owners who need guidance on how to repair and maintain their historic agricultural buildings. These grants provide funding for a barn restoration professional to assess privately-owned barns. Consultants visited and prepared reports on many barns across the state including an 1840 carriage barn in Somersworth, an iconic 1885 dairy barn in Goffstown, and a rare 18th century double English barn in Grantham.

## Strengthening Preservation Policy

Our public policy work advocates for favorable preservation decision-making at the state and local levels. Our board, staff and consultants identify needs and opportunities and work cooperatively to influence public opinion. We were pleased to note increasing use of preservation planning and investment tools this year.

- **Nearly a third of towns in New Hampshire have now adopted barn preservation easements through the 79-D historic barn preservation tax incentive program.**
- **Over 10 communities have now adopted RSA 79-E, a tax incentive program that encourages re-investment in historic downtowns.**
- **The Preservation Alliance was picked as one of 6 national pilots to study and promote community-based schools. Our "green" goals for encouraging school renovation are included in the new N.H. Climate Change Action Plan.**
- **The Alliance is working with land trusts to include historic and cultural assets in conservation projects.**

# of New Hampshire

## Historic Theater Curtains

The Alliance partnered with *Curtains Without Borders* of Burlington, Vermont, to sponsor an inventory of historic painted theater scenery in New Hampshire. Over 100 curtains (including this one in Wilmot) have been documented. When communities rally to preserve their theater curtains, they often take on rehabilitation of the buildings as well. We are helping several groups bring back these underused spaces, adding vitality to their communities.



## Seven to Save

The town of Ossipee's Whittier Covered Bridge (1870) is one of just twenty surviving examples of the Paddleford Truss design. Named to the Alliance's 2007 Seven to Save list, it received emergency stabilization while volunteers applied for and won federal and state grants for major repair work. In early July the bridge was moved off its abutments for easier reconstruction access. The Alliance's 2008 *Seven to Save* listing of the state's metal truss bridges has helped our collaborative efforts to save these endangered resources as well.

## Effective Community Preservation Planning

The Alliance partnered with the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources to offer six public forums that introduced basic planning tools such as local historic districts, state and national register listings, demolition review ordinances and downtown development tax credits. As a result, Freedom (pictured) Brookfield, Chichester, Errol and Moultonborough all passed ordinances creating new Heritage Commissions. Our well-attended sessions at the annual statewide New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning Conference provide community volunteers with updated information and resources to enhance their effectiveness.



# Board of Directors, FY 2009

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*Walking tour of Meredith during 2008 board retreat*

## Additional members of Preservation Alliance committees

Steve Bedard	Marion James
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## Preservation Alliance Staff

Jennifer Goodman, Executive Director  
 Heidi Schultz, Development Associate  
 Maggie Stier, N.H. Shared Field Services Representative  
 Beverly Thomas, Program Associate

Sarah Dangelas Hofe, Program Consultant  
 Elaine Lof, Program Consultant  
 Jim Marshall, Bookkeeper

# Financial Report FY 2009

Independent Accountants' Review  
 at [www.nhpreservation.org](http://www.nhpreservation.org)

### REVENUE:

Total Contributed.....	\$282,827
Events .....	\$22,120
Interest Income .....	\$1,406
Program/Management Fees .....	\$12,050
Merchandise .....	\$2,263
Endowment Draw .....	\$17,500
Endowment Contributions.....	\$8,375

**TOTAL REVENUE .....** \$346,541

### EXPENSES:

Administrative.....	\$49,850
Fundraising.....	\$40,161
Preservation Services.....	\$189,061
Preservation Policy.....	\$37,898
Event Expenses.....	\$12,023

**TOTAL EXPENSES .....** \$328,993

### CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

**FROM OPERATIONS .....** \$17,548

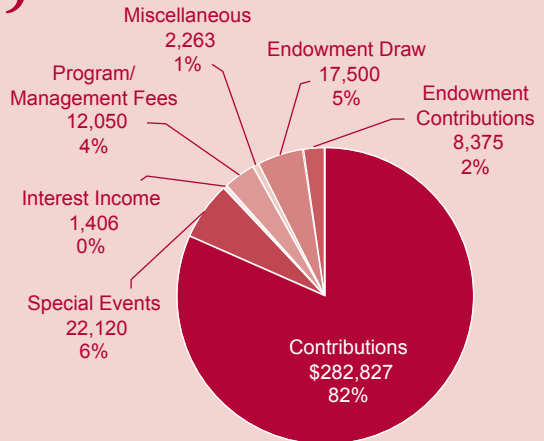
Net Investment Return .....

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS ....** \$(69,754)

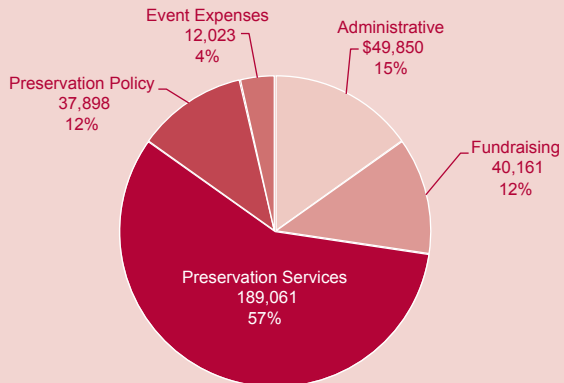
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING ... \$767,136

NET ASSETS - ENDING .....

### REVENUE FY 2009



### EXPENSES FY 2009



# Thanks to Our Donors!

The Preservation Alliance gratefully acknowledges the generosity of all donors and would like to give special recognition to members and donors to the Annual Fund at the \$100 and above level during the fiscal year 2009. The Annual Fund helps us bring the best tools and resources to communities throughout the state and work year-round to advance preservation.

## Major Donor

Paula & Colin Cabot  
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Otto Fund of the New Hampshire  
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## Contributing Sponsor

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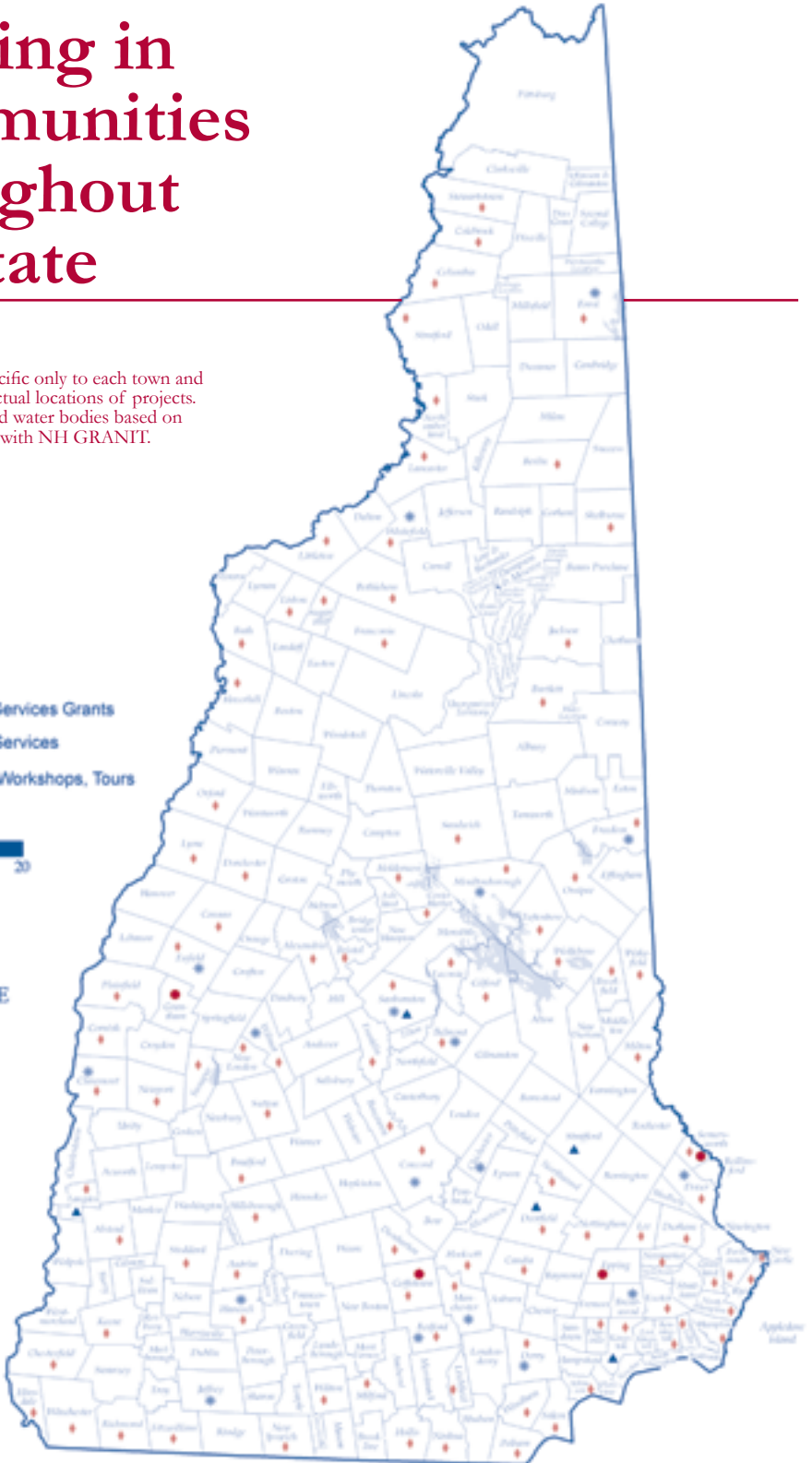
# Working in Communities throughout the State

## FY 2009

Point locations are specific only to each town and do not represent the actual locations of projects. Political boundaries and water bodies based on 1:24,000 data archived with NH GRANIT.

### LEGEND

- Barn Grants
- ▲ Preservation Services Grants
- ◆ On-site Field Services
- ✱ Conferences, Workshops, Tours



# Business Partners

## Leadership Sponsors

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R & T Electric, Inc.  
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PO BOX 268 • CONCORD, NH 03302-0268

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