



**Preservation Trust of Vermont:
Where We Worked in 2010**

- ◆ Field Service Projects in Partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation
 - ◆ Robert Sincerbeaux Fund Grants
 - Barn Assessment Grants
 - Preservation Grants in Partnership with the Freeman Foundation
 - ▲ Village Revitalization Grants in Partnership with Senator Patrick Leahy
 - Downtown and Village Center Work
 - ▲ Big Box Activity
 - ▲ Community Supported Enterprises
 - Easement Program
 - ▲ Tree Planting Grants, in Partnership with Bruce Lisman
- All symbols without numbers represent one project; multiple projects are indicated by the number.*



Preservation Trust of Vermont
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PRESERVATION TRUST OF VERMONT 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

From Paul Bruhn, Executive Director

We've never had a year like 2010. Normally, we have our successes and some losses. That's true of our day-to-day work, but this year all of that is overwhelmed by the loss of too many great and special friends and supporters.

All of us connected with the Preservation Trust have lost four extraordinary people who believed in our work and provided us with the tools and resources to do our jobs better and more effectively. More importantly, each one was a close personal friend with whom we shared special moments and experiences.

Henry Jordan was our Board Chair. He and his wife Barrie were committed to building a sustainable future for our work and our organization. Henry's joy of life infused our work and often gave us the energy to move forward. It would be impossible to overstate the importance of his leadership to the Preservation Trust and their passion for Vermont.

Frank Hatch and his wife Serena provided much support including a major gift to establish an advocacy fund that helps us do our best to protect and strengthen the essential character of Vermont. Frank was a particularly wonderful person to share ideas and strategies with; he helped us explore the evolving role of the Preservation Trust.

Bob Hoehl, with his wife Cindy, gave us the Grand Isle Lake House, which has become the public face of the Preservation Trust and the place where community leaders learn from each other and are inspired by what's possible. In addition, Bob served on our Board and brought common sense wisdom to our decision-making.

After the death of his father, **Houghton "Buck" Freeman** assumed the position of Chairman of the Freeman Foundation and, with his wife Doreen and their son Graeme, provided a remarkable level of financial support over the past sixteen years that has touched virtually every community in Vermont. If you enjoy the beauty of a restored public or community building in your town, you should know that the Freemans very likely had a part in the effort.

The Preservation Trust and our many local partners were not, of course, the only passion of these men and their families. Their philanthropic interests supported and inspired dozens of organizations in Vermont and hundreds more in places throughout the nation, literally touching the world. Their collective legacy in Vermont can be found in our village centers and downtowns, our farm and forest lands, libraries, new agriculture and community supported enterprises, our university and colleges, our healthcare system, and the many services that are so crucial to children, women, and families.

I hope we all can be good stewards of what these special people have provided us.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Trustees' Award for Organizational Excellence

At this year's annual conference in Austin, Texas, the Trustees of the National Trust for Historic Preservation presented the Preservation Trust of Vermont with their **Award for Organizational Excellence**. Here are excerpts from National Trust's announcement:

The Preservation Trust of Vermont was founded with the goal of helping Vermonters save their historic places and that is exactly what has happened. In just three decades, the group has helped communities across the state save more than 1,000 buildings—village stores, post offices, schools, barns—all returned to productive use. Just this year alone, the Preservation Trust's staff of five worked on 352 preservation projects in 155 communities....

"It's impossible to catalogue the impact the Preservation Trust of Vermont and its executive director, Paul Bruhn, have had on nearly every town in the Green Mountain State," said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "This group's passion, innovation, commitment and creativity have helped Vermonters keep their state a special place."

It is a great honor for us at the Preservation Trust to have received this award, but we consider it an award that celebrates the hundreds of community organizations and thousands of local leaders and volunteers all over Vermont who are committed to saving and using their special places. The work we do wouldn't be possible without them and our many other partners.

In Summary:

- In 2010 we provided **Field Service** support to 257 projects in 141 different towns. Each has a story about benefits or challenges for its community. Here are a few examples:
 - In Putney, we are working with the Historical Society to rebuild their downtown village store that was tragically lost to fire. The building was more than a store; it was a community gathering place and an economic engine for neighboring stores.
 - In Poultney, we are working with the community and the Episcopal Diocese to find new uses for two churches that are no longer used for parish services. One of the churches that is pristine with no electricity or plumbing, has been adopted by a Shakespeare Theater group that is committed to saving and using the building.
 - In Randolph, we are working with Vermont Technical College on the rehabilitation of the Federal style Allen House, which will serve as a model for energy sustainability and historic preservation best practices.
 - In St. Albans, we, VT Natural Resources Council, and Smart Growth Vermont supported the Northwest Citizens for Responsible Growth's continued opposition of a 150,000 square foot Wal-Mart outside of town, while we and others advocated for an 80,000 square foot store downtown.
 - Statewide, we worked with 52 churches, meetinghouses, and synagogues; 28 historical societies and museums; 26 town halls and community centers; 12 libraries; 8 performing arts venues; 4 historic bridges; a girl scout camp; and an historic baseball field.

- As part of the Field Service Program, we awarded **50 Robert Sincerbeaux Fund** grants for technical assistance. Architects, contractors, engineers, and consultants fulfilled these grants at a greatly reduced fee as a community service for nonprofit organization.

Barton Memorial Hall	Morrisville, River Arts, Bornemann Building
Bennington, St. Peter's Episcopal Church	New Haven Municipal Building
Brattleboro Arts Initiative, Latchis	Newport, Memphremagog Rentals
Brattleboro Museum and Art Center	Newport, St. Mark's Church
Burlington College	North Hero, Island Arts
Burlington, Robert Hull Fleming Museum	North Hero Community Center
Castleton Masonic Lodge	Northfield United Church
East Burke, Mountain View Farm	Panton Town Hall
Animal Sanctuary Barn	Poultney, Trinity Church
East Concord Methodist Church	Poultney United Methodist Church
East Montpelier, Old Brick Church	Randolph, VT Technical College, Allen House
East St. Johnsbury, Grove Cemetery	Rockingham Arts and Museum Project
Octagon Spring House	Sheffield Baptist Church
Fairfax Community Center, Baptist Church	Shoreham, Platt Library
Ferrisburgh Meeting House	South Pomfret, Abbott Memorial Library
Goshen, Ruth Stone Cottages	St. Johnsbury Historical Society, Machine Shop
Granville Town Hall	Starksboro Town Hall
Hardwick Center for Agricultural Economy, Atkins Field Granite Shed	Tunbridge Church and Parish House
Huntington Municipal Building	Vergennes, John Graham Emergency Shelter
Huntington Town Hall	Westminster Town Hall
Island Pond, Christ the Episcopal Church	Windsor, Historic Windsor, VT Housing and Conservation Board Workshop
Jericho Center Community Center	Windsor, The Old South Church
Killington, Church of our Savior Mission Farm	Vermont Housing and Finance Agency
Lincoln Burnham Hall	Vermont Humanities Council
Lower Waterford Congregational Church	Vermont Interfaith Power and Light
Ludlow, Tyson Church	Vermont Statewide, Gozaik Heritage Tourism Sites Documentation
Middlebury Community House	
Montpelier, Christ Church	

- Statewide we visited with 35 barn owners to provide technical assistance for repairs; ten received **barn grants** for a condition assessment. Many barn owners subsequently applied for a grant from the Division for Historic Preservation.

Benson, Tyler Barn	Montpelier, Saudek Barn
Brookfield, Fink Carriage Barn	North Hero, Island Arts Barn
Brookfield, Forrer Barn	Richmond, Bonneau Barn
Isle La Motte, Goodsell Ridge Preserve	Ryegate, Nelson Barn
Isle La Motte, Strata Barn	Westford, Evelyn Manley Trust Barn

- The Preservation Trust holds **historic preservation easements** on over 90 properties around the state. Among these are 87 historic buildings, two archaeological sites, and two structures: the Mad River Glen Single Chair Lift and the Martin Covered Bridge in Marshfield. The Preservation Trust solely holds a number of the easements, but the majority are co-held with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. Each year we provide stewardship visits to the easement properties. A complete list of easement properties can be found on our web site.
- Our partnership with the **Freeman Foundation** enabled us to award eight **Preservation Grants** totaling \$180,000. It is impossible to overstate how important each project is to its community.

East Burke, Mountain View Farm Animal Sanctuary Barn
 East Concord Methodist Church
 East St. Johnsbury, Third Congregational Church
 Guilford, Friends of Algiers Village, Guilford General Store
 Island Pond Town Hall
 Lunenburg Congregational Church
 Lunenburg Methodist Church
 Lunenburg Old Town Hall

- Through a new **Community Forestry Project**, the Preservation Trust is offering grants for tree planting in Designated Downtowns and Village Centers. Funding for this effort is provided by Bruce Lisman. In 2010, nine communities received Tree Planting Grants.

Bristol	Peacham
Middlebury	Poultney
Montpelier	Waterbury
Morristown	Woodstock
Newport	

- In partnership with Senator Leahy, the **Village Revitalization Initiative** awarded \$675,000 to six community development and historic preservation projects in 2009. Two projects were added in 2010: a grant to Housing Vermont for the rehabilitation of the Ellis Block in Springfield, and to Friends of Algiers Village for the rehabilitation of the Guilford General Store. An additional amount was secured for the Putney Historical Society, following a devastating fire, which destroyed the building. The total grant over the two years is \$925,000.

Guilford, Friends of Algiers Village for the Guilford General Store
 Poultney, Green Mountain College for Bentley Hall
 Putney Historical Society for the Putney General Store
 Randolph, Chandler Center for Arts and Music
 Readsboro Hometown Development Corp. for the downtown Bullock Block
 Richmond Historical Society for the Richmond Round Church
 Shoreham, Newton Academy
 Springfield, Housing Vermont for the downtown Ellis Block

- As we end the year, we are mindful of the efforts of thousands of volunteers across the State who care about their communities and are working to protect their special places. Together these efforts help to safeguard the character of Vermont.