

About the Preservation Trust.....

Vermont has a rich collection of historic properties, and the combination of historic communities and the countryside make the state a very special place.

Included are individual buildings like the Old Round Church in Richmond, Flynn Theatre in Burlington, and the buildings at Shelburne Farms. There are also historic districts which include small village centers, neighborhoods, downtown areas, and industrial sites. Examples include the Village of North Bennington, Park Street in Brandon, downtown Montpelier, and the marble works of West Rutland. Each of these historic resources adds to our economic and community health.

With generous support from a great many individuals, businesses, and foundations, the Preservation Trust has provided technical assistance and direct financial support to hundreds of community preservation initiatives. The Preservation Trust has also been at the forefront of the battle against sprawl in Vermont and in promoting downtown vitality. The Trust has provided major financial support and technical assistance to local citizens groups battling sprawl. At the same time, the Trust has worked closely with Wal-Mart to develop smaller scale stores located in downtown districts. Many of the Trust's other activities and projects are designed to stimulate a broader understanding of the importance and value of our historic architectural resources. The Preservation Trust is a statewide partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Here are some examples of what the Preservation Trust accomplished last year:

- The Trust provided over \$600,000 in grants and technical assistance to 55 preservation projects. Examples include the Williston Federated Church, Kimball Public Library in Randolph, and the Ethan Allen Firehouse in Burlington.
- In partnership with the Vermont Land Trust, the Preservation Trust established a barn restoration program that has already supported the rehabilitation of eight historic barns.
- With our urging and assistance Wal-Mart opened a new store in downtown Rutland, proving that new retail development can take place without sprawling into the countryside.
- For the second year, the Preservation Trust and the Vermont Country Store sponsored an award and grant program that recognizes the contributions of local storekeepers and small community stores.

Our Contributors Make Our Programs and Projects Possible

Each year the Preservation Trust must raise the funds necessary to carry out our many programs. Some contributors prefer to fund specific programs such as technical assistance grants or our newsletter Historic Vermont. Others provide support for the Trust's general fund budget.

Each contribution, no matter how large or small, makes a real difference. If you would like to help, please contact Paul Bruhn, Executive Director, Preservation Trust of Vermont, 104 Church Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401. Telephone 802-658-6647. Email: bruhnpa@vbimail.champlain.edu