



Updates on New Hampshire's 2006 Seven to Save

The Preservation Alliance created the endangered properties list to draw attention and resources to irreplaceable New Hampshire landmarks. Advocates need a range of technical and financial resources as well as roll-up-your-sleeves help to advance their preservation projects.

Epsom's Historic Meetinghouse, Epsom, built in 1861, was slated for demolition by new owner Cumberland Farms. The Friends Group raised over \$90,000 and leveraged over \$100,000 in services to move the building about a mile east on Route 4 and place it on a new foundation. A 2010 warrant article asking for \$30,000 for an engineering and design study was defeated. Contact: Richard Frambach, Friends of Epsom's Historic Meetinghouse, 603-736-9295.

The Great Stone Dwelling in Enfield, built 1837-1841, is a highly significant example of Shaker architecture. The Enfield Shaker Museum's capital campaign for their six-story, 30,000-square-foot landmark is progressing. The Museum's themed, overnight program in the Great Stone Dwelling is one of their most popular new programs. Contact: Mary Boswell, 603-632-4346. www.shakermuseum.org. Photo courtesy Shaker Workshops, Inc.

The Philbrook Farm Inn and Croftie Farm, Shelburne, have provided lodging to White Mountain tourists since 1861 and are defining elements of Shelburne's rural, scenic and historic character. The fourth and fifth generation of the Philbrook family placed conservation easements on the 1,000 acre property and is seeking new ownership concepts to protect the nine historic structures. Contact: Ann Leger at Philbrook Farm. (603) 466-3831



New Hampshire's State Historic Sites, placed in the public trust, were facing enormous challenges due to state funding limitations. In 2007, the legislature created a new Bureau of Historic Sites and voted \$6 million in funding for the Parks system, with about \$350,000 slated to be used for immediate needs at the Historic Sites. Significant improvements are now system-wide. Contact: Ben Wilson, NH Division of Parks & Recreation, 603-271-3556.

The Stone Arched Bridge, Keene, completed in 1847 for the Cheshire Railroad, is one of the largest stone bridges ever built in New Hampshire. Vegetation, water infiltration and erosion of the roadbed threaten the integrity of the bridge. A committee of eight local organizations secured Preserve America grant funding to develop a plan with the NH Department of Transportation to restore the Stone Arched Bridge and incorporate it into the existing public trails network in the city. Contact: Philip Faulkner, Jr., 603-357-2728.

The Franco-American Centre / Centre Franco-Americain, Manchester, has served NH's Franco-American community since it was built in 1912. The Centre is currently leased by the N.H. Institute of Art with an option to purchase. Contact: 603-669-4045 or www.francoamericancentrenh.com

Hilltop Elementary School, Somersworth, built in 1927, is a neighborhood elementary school slated for closure pending construction of a large new building on another site. A Friends group formed to advocate for continued school use, but it closed in 2011. A city-appointed Ad Hoc committee is now focused on determining the best re-use scenario for Hilltop. Contact: Jerry Perkins 603-742-4455 x 7280.



The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance is the statewide membership organization dedicated to preserving historic buildings, communities and landscapes through education and advocacy. TMS Architects and Littleton Millwork provided generous support for the 2006 Seven to Save program.