
HERITAGE COMMISSION 2018 REPORT

The mission of the Peterborough Heritage Commission is to identify, preserve and protect the historical, architectural, cultural, and social heritage of our town and to preserve historical landscapes, views, and buildings in their landscapes. These historical and natural resources reflect the spirit of our community and must be preserved for the appreciation and benefit of future generations.

Significant efforts were focused on the 100-year anniversary celebration of the Town House and Monadnock Center buildings, which were constructed in 1917-1918. The Heritage Commission members collaborated with Michelle Stahl, director of the Monadnock Center for History and Culture, to create and fund events to mark the anniversary. This included a popular pop-up museum around town, a photographic exhibit at the Town House, and a culminating Veteran's Day celebration. On Veterans Day, the townspeople also gathered on the Town House steps to recreate a photo from 1918 of the building's opening celebration. These photos will be displayed at the Town House.



Other activities included ongoing work of the Demolition Review Committee, a sub-committee of the Heritage Commission, regarding demolition requests for historically significant buildings. In cases where buildings could not be salvaged, the commission encouraged recycling and salvage of materials wherever possible. The commission also had a walkthrough of the Elizabeth Yates McGreal home at Shieling Forest with representatives from the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to discuss the status of the building's repairs.

In 2019, the commission plans to continue its collaboration with the state regarding rehabilitation options for the McGreal house. It will continue bringing historic photo exhibits to the Town House and will update its brand presence to enhance external communications.

The commission extends a special thanks to Sheila Kirkpatrick and Dick Estes for their long-time service and to Bruce Batten, who recently completed his term on the commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Shaughnessy, Chair

Melissa Stephenson, Secretary

Tina Rapp

Peggy Van Valkenburgh

Doug Ward

Debbie Kaiser, Alternate

Jason Pellettieri, Alternate

Tyler Ward, Select Board, liaison