

HERITAGE COMMISSION

Annual Report for 2019

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.

In 2019, the commission focused its efforts on the renovation and preservation of the Elizabeth Yates McGreal home on Old Street Road, a project we've actively promoted for the past several years. In our meeting on September 12th, representatives from the state (including, Ben Wilson, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer; and Susan Francher and A. J. Dupere, New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands) committed to making significant renovations to the McGreal home, supported in part by Moose funds. The current plan is to use the house to accommodate a caretaker while maintaining its historic nature. There will be updates to all utilities, exterior and interior painting, chimney repair, and updates to the kitchen and bathroom.

The Demolition Review Committee, a subcommittee of the Heritage Commission, handled several demolition requests in 2019. This included site visits to properties and public hearings. The commission also provided input to the Planning Board on a proposed development on Concord Street requiring demolition.

Given the volume of demolition requests, the commission created a demolition review checklist to make the demolition review process and timeline more clear to property owners. The checklist is designed as a handout at town offices and for posting on the town's website.

In 2020, the commission will monitor the Main Street Bridge mitigation projects, negotiated as part of the bridge renovation. This includes the cataloguing and reassembling of stones on the bridge to resemble the current configuration plus the creation of a pamphlet on the historic and architectural significance of the bridge. We will continue our support for and collaboration with the Monadnock Center for History and Culture, including the posting of historic photos of the Main Street Bridge in the windows at Roy's Market. The commission will also

continue its active support of the NH Preservation Alliance and its important outreach efforts in the community.

The commission extends our thanks to Melissa Stephenson, Secretary, for her service
to the Heritage Commission

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Shaughnessy, Chair
Debbie Kaiser, Alternate
Karen Kambol, Secretary
Jason Pellettieri
Tina Rapp
Peggy Van Valkenburgh
Doug Ward
Tyler Ward, Select Board, liaison