

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

NHPT

The New Haven Preservation Trust

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Across the nation, preservation is pondering its own past and thinking about its future anew. What history does preservation seek to tell? What communities does it serve? What responsibilities does it bear? For over sixty years the New Haven Preservation Trust has been active in our city. But how can it ensure that for the next sixty years preservation is equitable, impartial, and constructive?

Early in 2022, the New Haven Preservation Trust adopted a new strategic plan. Its goals include listening to and engaging a broader and more diverse group of people; making a case for historic preservation that engages racial and social justice and sustainability; and supporting a new generation of committed and active preservationists. The results are starting to be visible and will become all the clearer over upcoming years.

The 2022 Annual Awards celebrated Fair Haven and were presented at a festive outdoor event at Quinnipiac River Park. The 2022 House Preservation Award recognized the renovation of 51 Perkins Street, built by shipbuilder James Woodhouse around 1872; the Merit Award honored the renovation of the Studio Building at Cold Spring School, and the Landmark Award was given to the City of New Haven Department of Engineering for the restoration of the Grand Avenue Bridge.

A unique contribution to the Trust's educational outreach in 2022

was the publication of *The Builder Book: Carpenters, Masons and Contractors in Historic New Haven*, containing the stories of twenty-three builders, researched and written by Susan Godshall and Jack Tripp, with images by Jean Pogwizd. This eye-catching and informative publication associates personal biographies with descriptions of structures that are still standing in the City. Over 500 copies were distributed at no charge, thanks to a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office.

The Trust gradually shifted out of COVID mode, with events held on Zoom, outdoors, and indoors. Presentations included "New Haven, a Great Manufacturing City", by Bruce Clouette; "Visions and Vistas: The Olmsted Firm and their Landscapes in New Haven County Olmsted", by Jenny Scofield and Christopher Wigren, in collaboration with the James Blackstone Memorial Library in Branford and as part of the nationwide celebration of Olmsted's bicentenary; and "Nine Squares in a 'Wilderness': The Mysteries of Early New Haven" by Mark Peterson, at the historic Center Church on the Green.

In-person tours also returned as a central part of the Trust's broader activities. Tours were held of the ongoing renovation of The Chittenden House, led by Leland Torrence and Marshall Reuben; of the Farmington Canal, led by Lisa Fernandez and Aaron Goode, and of City Point, led by Alex Johnston,

both as part of the International Festival of Arts & Ideas; of the Richard C. Lee Federal Courthouse, led by Dinah Milton Kinney and Robin DeKam Tabora; of Paul Rudolph's Temple Street Garage, by Sean Khorsandi, as part of DOCOMOMO tour day; and of Congregation Mishkan Israel's chapter and cemetery, led by Peter Alpert and Michael Dimenstein, in collaboration with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven.

The Trust also joined with organizations and individuals in the year-long celebration of the bi-centenary of the birth of Donald Grant Mitchell, coordinated by Barbara Lamb. Numerous tours and talks highlighted the many interests and skills of the visionary designer of much of New Haven's parks system. The Trust hosted an architectural and historical walking tour, led by Barbara Lamb and Aaron Helfand, of four former farm structures, now all residences, at Michell's Edgewood Farm.

Wins, draws, and losses were recorded for individual historic buildings. The developer has now relocated the Pinto House, one of the oldest remaining structures on Orange Street; thanks to a coalition of neighborhood and city organizations, the "ultra-dense" development at the corner of Whitney and Trumbull that would have included the demolition of the Edward S. Gaylord house, was withdrawn; but the 1880 Pierce N. Welch House on Sherman Avenue, eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, was demolished to make way for a driveway at the St Raphael's campus of Yale-New Haven Hospital.

The demolition of the historic Chandler Pardee House at 265 Townsend Avenue was a cause of consternation for many in the City. The Trust continued its advocacy with City Hall, focusing in particular on helping the City develop and make public a map of historically

designated buildings and districts. NHPT staff were pleased to be invited to join a task force to revise the City's demolition ordinance.

A highlight of the Trust's direct preservation work is the granting of matching funds from the Trust's Historic Structures Fund, for small-scale reproduction or replacement, by owners, of features that preserve the integrity of a historic building. In 2022, projects for a porch and entryway at 459 Dixwell Avenue and repair of a large column at 500 Prospect Street were completed.

The Trust has also continued its exploration of social media. Particularly well received were the series of posts on styles of architecture in New Haven distributed throughout May 2022, marking Preservation Month, and birthday posts honoring New Haven architects. The Trust's website now includes a list of endangered properties.

Following the resignation of Executive Director Alex Eginton, the Trust was delighted to appoint Sarah Tisdale as Director of Preservation. Tisdale's role includes responding to queries from the public and building owners, site visits and map updates, advising applicants to the Historic District Commission, administering the Historic Structures Fund, and coordinating with the City and with the State Historic Preservation Office, as well as writing, especially for the website and social media. In 2022 Tisdale was part of a newly formed team that includes Molly Durand as Office Administrator, Glenn Trunkfield as Financial Administrator, and Mary Lee Weber as Director of Outreach.

This is my final report as Board President. It has been an honor to accompany the Trust through many changes and challenges over the past six years and to spend time with so many people committed to recognizing this City's unique history.

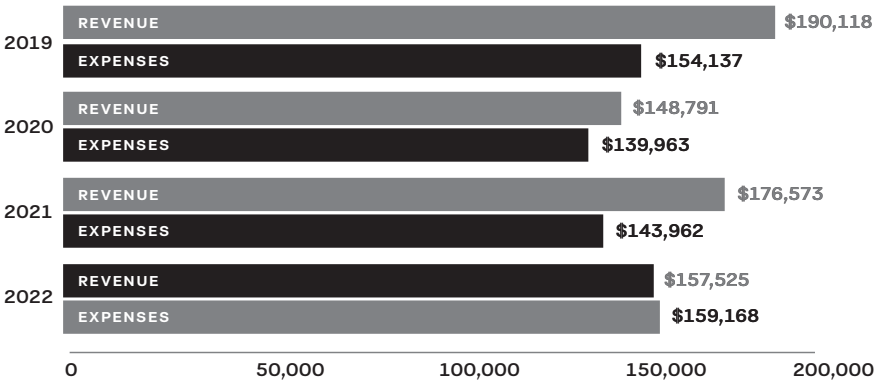


FINANCIAL SUMMARY *Pending Audit*

Statement for 2020, 2021, and 2022 (Unrestricted Funds)

| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| INCOME | | | |
| Membership | \$12,671 | \$20,381 | \$21,860 |
| Fees-for-Service | \$3,380 | \$2,989 | \$10,205 |
| Grants | \$64,822 | \$88,713 | \$61,930 |
| Events | \$18,518 | \$6,059 | \$2,485 |
| Contributions | \$49,400 | \$58,431 | \$61,045 |
| Total Income | \$148,791 | \$176,573 | \$157,525 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Administration | \$43,703 | \$66,679 | \$65,396 |
| Program | \$14,072 | \$11,333 | \$20,174 |
| Personnel | \$82,188 | \$65,950 | \$73,598 |
| Total Expenses | \$139,963 | \$143,962 | \$159,168 |
| NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | \$8,828 | \$32,611 | (\$1,643) |
| RESERVES, RESTRICTED FUNDS, ENDOWMENT, CASH-ON-HAND | \$334,447 | \$420,844 | \$358,112 |

Historic Operating Revenue and Expense Comparison



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