



Montgomery Historical Society
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Montgomery Historical Society Wins Preservation Award

Nov. 4, 2011. The Montgomery Historical Society was recognized by the Vermont Historical Society and League of Local Historical Societies for excellence in Historic Preservation at its annual meeting held November 4th at the State capitol in Montpelier.

The preservation project addressed structural restoration of the timber framed, lower section of the gothic tower of Pratt Hall, a former Episcopal Church built in 1835 in the heart of Montgomery Village. It also included unanticipated structural work, and restoration of gothic architectural details to the exterior of the tower's front façade, returning the building to its circa 1875 appearance.



Circa 1875 Appearance

July 2011

“Initial analysis indicated about \$15,000 of work was needed to the bottom sill, joists and vertical studs of the tower” said MHS Chairman Scott Perry. “A grant of \$7,500 was received from the VT Div. for Historic Preservation in June of 2010 and the Society raised the matching amount. Once work began more serious structural problems were soon discovered.”



Restoration In Progress

The Society received additional grants from the Eastman Charitable Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the TD Bank Affinity Membership Program. The remaining balance was funded by Society membership dues and special contributions. St. Onge Construction contributed demolition and debris removal of the front steps, Lutz's Automotive provided plowing of the work area, and Society volunteers cleaned and removed construction debris, constructed new steps, and made minor interior repairs.

In making the award, the VHS said ""The scope of the project, and commitment to the careful quality workmanship despite the hurdles encountered is inspiring. It is evident that your society realizes and greatly appreciates the treasures within your community."

"Likewise the generous support by our members and the community shows we value the preservation of our common heritage" Said Perry. Pratt Hall is open by appointment. More information is at www.montgomeryvt.us/mhs.htm.



Vermont Historical Society Executive Director,
Mark Hudson presents Montgomery Society Board members
Scott Perry, Pat Farmer, and Bill McGroarty with an award for
Excellence in Historic Preservation.