



The statewide advocate for Rhode Island's historic places

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preserve Rhode Island's Preservation Easement on Shakespeare's Head Provides Pathway to Securing its Future

Preserve Rhode Island (Preserve RI), has acquired a new preservation easement on the building called Shakespeare's Head, located at 21 Meeting Street, Providence. The property, formerly owned by Providence Preservation Society (PPS), was sold last week to the Civis Foundation for operation by the Center for Reflective History, a new nonprofit organization established this year to uncover, preserve, and explore the social histories associated with the building over two and a half centuries. The preservation easement will protect the building's key exterior and interior elements, as well as a portion of the rear garden. The building's exterior is also protected as part of the College Hill Historic District.

Preserve Rhode Island currently holds 12 preservation/conservation easements across the state, with 3 more in various stages of negotiation. An easement is a binding legal contract that protects the historic, architectural, or scenic qualities of a property, ensuring that they will not be destroyed or inappropriately altered. This provides owners of historic properties with the ability to sell their property with peace of mind, knowing that the historic significance and integrity will be protected by Preserve RI in perpetuity.

Many of Preserve RI's easements involve the sale of a historic property owned by a non-profit or town that doesn't have the resources to properly maintain the property. Many of these properties are also underutilized or vacant. "The easement program is a wonderful way to allow organizations to focus their energy on their missions, without becoming increasingly burdened by the cost and time it takes to be good stewards of a historic property. A preservation easement allows new owners to reactivate a space while assuring the public it will continue to be protected as a historic resource," said Sheryl Hack, Executive Director of Preserve RI. "We commend the Providence Preservation Society for their decision to ensure the protection of Shakespeare's Head so that it may be enjoyed for generations to come."

preserve
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Photos: [Click here to access.](#)

About Preserve Rhode Island

Preserve Rhode Island is Rhode Island's statewide advocate for historic places. The 69-year-old nonprofit provides guidance for local preservation groups, finds productive and adaptive reuses for threatened buildings, advocates for the revitalization of historic places to stimulate local economies, and engages the community through public programs at Lippitt House Museum.

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