

preserve

R H O D E I S L A N D

2021 Annual Report



Preserve Rhode Island is the only statewide non-profit working to protect historic places through advocacy, stewardship, and preservation programs. Our mission is to protect Rhode Island's historic and unique places for present and future generations. Our Strategic Plan maps out our priorities into four broad categories:

STEWARD

Set examples for stewardship excellence and provide best-practice preservation services to owners of historic buildings.

PROTECT

Accomplish projects that preserve the quality of place in Rhode Island, expanding our work statewide.

ADVOCATE

Speak up to protect historic places and support policy initiatives that encourage preservation and prove that saving old places delivers economic benefits to the public.

ENGAGE

Increase public engagement with historic places to build a community of people who care and take action to preserve Rhode Island.

"Thanks to our generous supporters, Preserve RI has built its capacity to be preservation problem solvers--working with towns, organizations and individuals to save Rhode Island's iconic places and spaces. With your continued support, we will meet the economic, environmental and social challenges ahead, ensuring our past is part of our future."

- Valerie Talmage, Executive Director

Looking Ahead: Priorities for 2022

Preservation takes time, money and persistence. Many of our projects take years to complete or require continuing attention. In 2022, we will continue to:

STEWARD. With the first year of operation complete, nurture the conversion of the Walker House and Farm for success. Monitor easements we hold and expand the program to protect historic places. Ensure the continued preservation of Lippitt House with upgrades to the fire detection and alarm system, a brownstone repair project, and conservation analysis of the historically significant interior paint schemes.

PROTECT. Complete the Valentine Whitman house (c 1696) rehabilitation and adopt a plan for its preservation for the next generation. Expand Aquidneck Stone Wall Initiative where volunteers help repair walls at iconic places, including considering a workforce development component. Support preservation in local communities with our Community Preservation Response ("CPR") and The 1772 Foundation matching grant programs.

ADVOCATE. Support local advocacy efforts for threatened properties across the state. Advocate for a state bond initiative, tax incentives and programs to support economic health of historic downtowns and main streets.

ENGAGE. Provide virtual and on-site programming and tours at Lippitt House Museum. Honor the best of preservation with the Rhody Awards. Celebrate Rhode Island stone enders, a 17th century building type unique to Rhode Island. Spotlight the effects of climate change to historic places including areas threatened by flooding. Highlight projects and programs that incorporate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion into preservation practices, ensuring that preservation is relevant and accessible to all in our state.

2021 Achievement Highlights

- **Trained almost 40 volunteers in the art and craft of dry laid stone wall construction**, repairing a total of 1,431 feet of walls so far at Glen Farm in Portsmouth and Norman Bird Sanctuary in Middletown.

- **Managed a matching grant program** for historic preservation projects in partnership with The 1772 Foundation, **giving out \$100,000 for 13 projects across the state.**



- **Transformed the lawn at Walker House in East Providence into an urban farm**, with the help of our new tenant farmers, bringing a lively new use to the old house.

- **Acquired the Valentine Whitman house (c.1696) in Lincoln**, embarking on our most ambitious real estate preservation project to date, saving this structure with extensive renovation work and a plan for long-term stewardship.

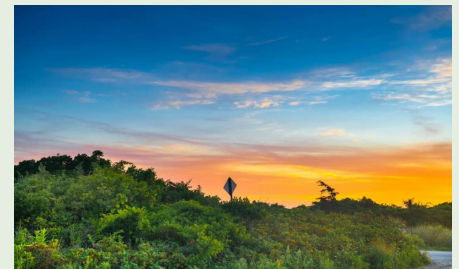


- **Added two preservation easements to our growing portfolio:** the historic Old Jail in East Greenwich and a beloved family property in Jamestown.

- **Persuaded lawmakers to approve \$20 Million of new funding for State Historic Tax Credits** with the collaboration of other historic preservation organizations and advocates.

- **Responded to 31 requests for Community Preservation Response (CPR)**, helping local advocates save historic places and advising organizations and owners about new futures for their historic sites.

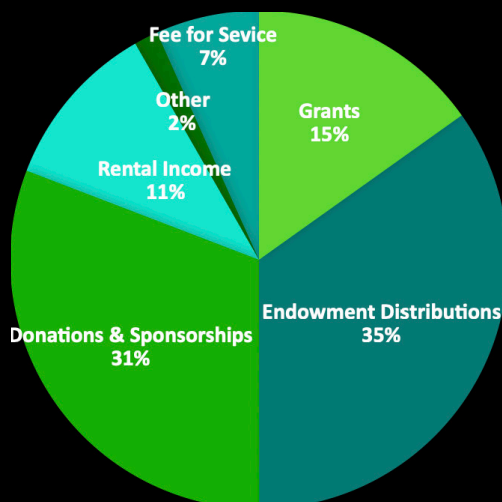
- **Completed the Scenic Third Beach project**, the second phase of the utility undergrounding in the iconic Paradise Valley, **removing 77 telephone poles along a 1.2 mile stretch** enhancing the scenic quality while improving coastal resiliency.



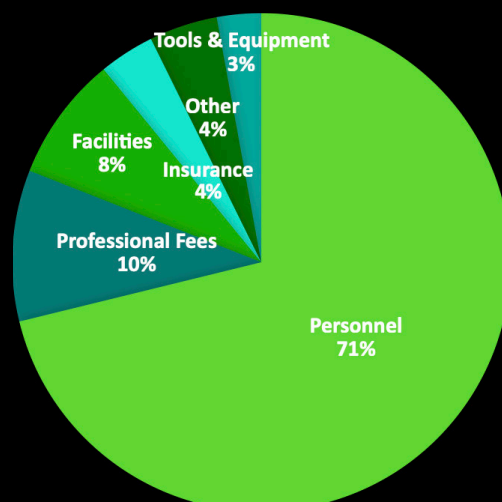
Photos from left to right: Walker Farmstand by Paul Trudeau, Valentine Whitman by Grace Gielink, Scenic Third Beach by Andrea Hansen.

In addition to contributions that directly supported Preserve RI's programs and operations as shown on these graphs, last year we raised more than \$550,000 as fiscal sponsor and project manager to support preservation projects across the state.

2021 Revenue* | Total: \$853,900



2021 Expenses* | Total: \$754,627



*Unaudited financials

2021 Donors

"Preserve RI is a passionate advocate for our historic places and they share my vision of what the future of preservation looks like for Rhode Island. ." - Kimberly Smith Barnett, Trustee

\$50,000 & Higher

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Legacy Partners have included Preserve RI in their long-range giving plans, providing Preserve Rhode Island long-term financial security and ensuring that our work will continue for years to come.

Mr. James Buttrick
Ms. Wendy Nicholas Dorsey and Mr. James Dorsey
Ms. Elaine Heebner
Mr. and Mrs. William W. Kenyon

If you have questions about making a Planned Gift, or wish to let us know that you have included Preserve RI in your estate plan, please email us at tpeterson@preserveri.org

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Paul Trudeau, Program and Property Manager

Lippitt House Museum's Community Outreach

Preserve RI's Lippitt House Museum expands the traditional role of a historic house museum. One way Lippitt House does this is through adult English Language Learner (ELL) classes in its virtual "Immigration & Change" outreach program. During multiple sessions with each class, staff talk with students about immigration in Rhode Island, discuss what life was like in the 19th century, and teach about voting rights history in addition to exploring the beautiful 1865 Lippitt House through images. We are grateful for the support of donors to Lippitt House Museum's annual fund who make programs like this possible.



Please visit LippittHouse.org and follow the museum on social media for information about house tours and other programs.



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Join our Anchor Circle and help Preserve Rhode Island's State-wide Impact

Be a Life-long Learner and Volunteer with our Stone Wall Repair Initiative

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