

MOULTONBOROUGH GRANGE HALL ON 'SEVEN TO SAVE' LIST



The Moultonborough Grange hall is one of seven community landmarks statewide recognized on the 'Seven to Save' list for 2012, as announced on Tuesday, October 16th at the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's annual meeting in Manchester.

"Our 2012 'Seven to Save' list contains the kind of places that you can't imagine your community without," said Maggie Stier, field service representative for the Preservation Alliance. "Advocates for these places know that saving the past enriches the present, and today we recognize seven great opportunities to transform threatened resources into vibrant community assets once again."

The Moultonborough Grange hall is owned by the Moultonborough Historical Society, and is significant both for its architecture and for its social history in the community. Since the building's critical structural condition was discovered in June 2012, the Historical Society has partnered with the Moultonborough Heritage Commission to identify and take appropriate steps to save this landmark building and to plan for its future in Moultonborough Village. The Grange could house a theatre or other cultural use upstairs, or be rehabilitated for a contemporary use such as a tavern or cafe.

As noted at the 'Seven to Save' announcement event, the Moultonborough Grange needs funding for stabilization and a re-use plan so that it can once again play a key role in the life of the village center. Kathy Garry, president of the Moultonborough Historical Society, noted at the event that "there is much work ahead, and supporters, partners, and proposals are welcome. We are very grateful for the visibility brought to our efforts to save the Moultonborough Grange by this 'Seven to Save' designation."