

MOULTONBOROUGH GRANGE HALL STABILIZED FOR WINTER



Emergency stabilization of the Moultonborough Grange hall was completed by the Bedard Preservation & Restoration team at the end of October, just before the arrival of Hurricane Sandy. After the precarious structural condition of the Grange building's roof was discovered in June 2012, it was determined that repairs were necessary before the onset of winter. Since that time, the Moultonborough Historical Society has partnered with the Moultonborough Heritage Commission and other community friends to identify and take appropriate steps to save this landmark building, to fundraise for its needed stabilization work, and to plan for its future in Moultonborough Village.

The stabilization of the Grange building's failing roof system was generously funded by members of the community and by a key contribution from the Bald Peak Community Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. The emergency stabilization work was the first priority in the building condition assessment report with preservation guidelines now being finalized by Stephen Bedard of Bedard Preservation & Restoration LLC. This project was funded in part by a grant from the NH Preservation Alliance, which receives support for its grants program from the NH Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP). Additional grants are now being sought to secure funding for the further stabilization necessary to save the Grange building, which includes a roof system final repair, deck framing, and grade and foundation work.

The Moultonborough Grange hall is significant both for its architecture and for its social history in the community. In mid-October, the building was named to the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's 'Seven to Save' list. This designation will bring visibility to efforts now underway to fundraise for permanent stabilization work on the Grange building, and aid in finding potential partners and proposals for the eventual re-use of the property. It is anticipated that the Grange hall can once again play a key role in the life of the town, and contribute to the revitalization of Moultonborough Village.