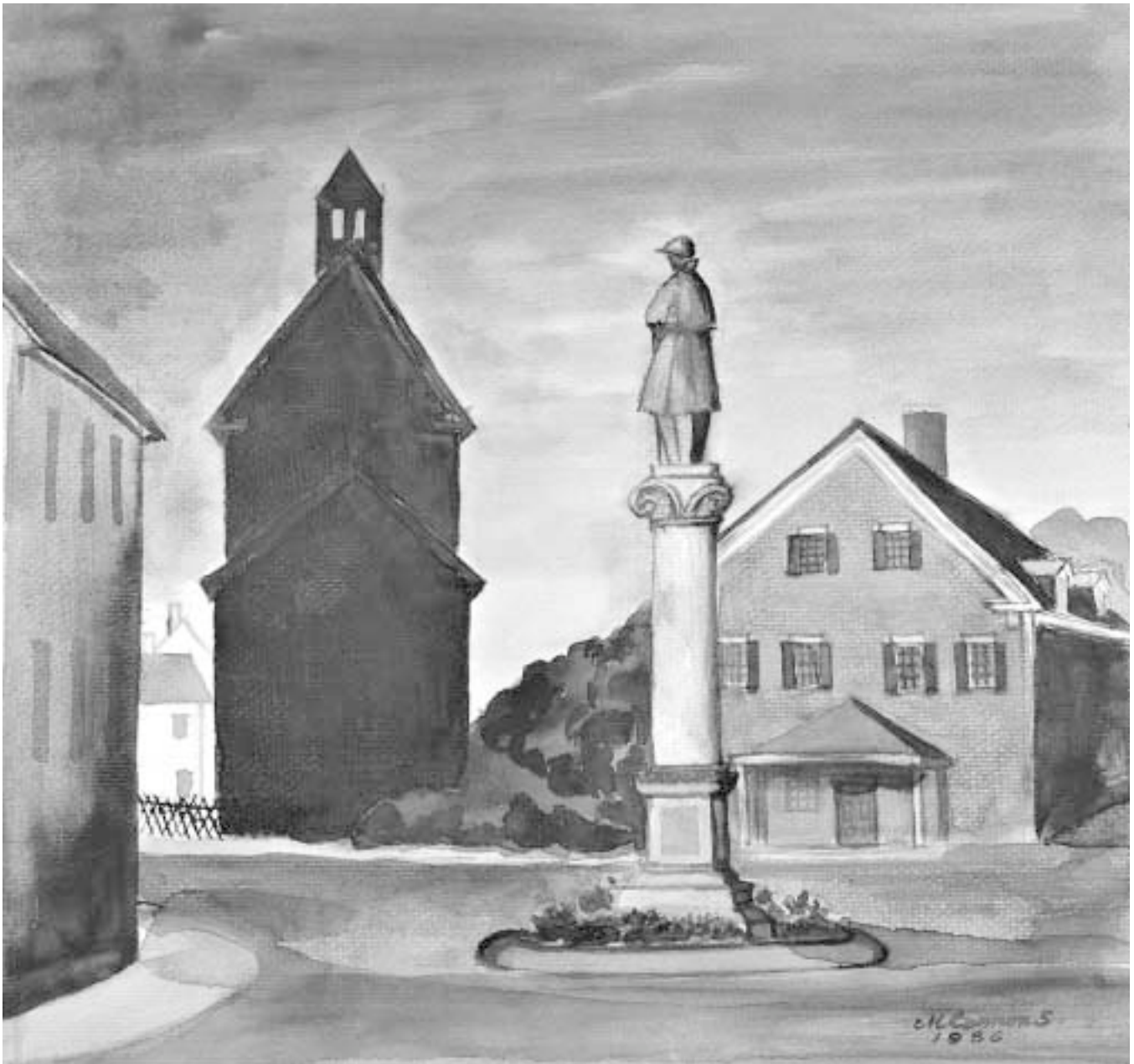

NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1823

2007 ANNUAL REPORT



The independent nonprofit that saves, preserves, and shares New Hampshire history.



2007 ANNUAL REPORT

Financial report for the fiscal year October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2007. Audited financial statements are available at nhhistory.org or by contacting Director of Finance Dorothy Duclos at 603/856-0602.

NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

30 Park Street
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MUSEUM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORY

The Hamel Center
6 Eagle Square
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

603/228-6688 ♦ nhhistory.org

Cover: Monument Square, Ashland, New Hampshire, 1986. Watercolor on paper by Marian Cannon Schlesinger depicting the Thompson Grist Mill, the Ashland House, and the granite and bronze monument dedicated to men from the town who served in the Civil War. Promised gift of Marian Cannon Schlesinger.

Right: New Hampshire Historical Society's library entrance, 1911.

Page 7: New Hampshire Historical Society's museum.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Society ended its 2007 fiscal year with a cash operating deficit of \$35,811, which represented 2% of our total cash operating expenses. From an expense standpoint, this deficit resulted entirely from a 30% year-over-year increase in utilities costs to run our sophisticated climate control systems. The utilities costs were \$39,959 over budget.

There is also good news. Our total increase in net assets—after the operating deficit—was \$1,474,162. More than half of this increase came from donations to the endowment, of which \$492,690 were bequests. As you know from my prior reports, in 2005 the Society established the practice of putting every penny we receive in bequests into the endowment. I am pleased to announce that this practice recently became policy by vote of the board of trustees. This means that a bequest of your hard-earned savings will work in perpetuity to support the Society rather than being treated as operating income and spent to make up for any cash operating deficits.

In caring for our collections, our biggest obligation is not to ourselves, but, as our founder John Farmer described it “to posterity, who will best know how to appreciate their value.”

The rest of the increase in net assets came from fundraising for the John L. Frisbee Education Fund—which now stands at more than \$1,200,000—and from investment returns on the endowment. The value of the endowment stood at \$11,065,531 at fiscal year-end on September 30, 2007, up 21% year-over-year, but it needs to be much higher to sustain the Society long term.

Please take a moment to look at our financial statements. We worked with our auditors to develop a new presentation format for the income statement that does all of the math for you so that you can readily see our true operating results. Operating results reflect how well management is doing in running the Society’s finances. As far as I can determine, we may be the only historical society in the country that presents its financial statements in such a transparent way. No longer will you have to pull out a calculator and dig through footnotes in our audited statements to

determine if investment gains and endowment gifts are masking an underlying cash operating deficit.

You may be wondering why the board of trustees and I are so focused on making the Society’s operations more transparent and improving its long-term financial strength. The answer is simple. You, as a supporter, deserve to know what we are doing with your contributions. And, we know that you expect us to manage this important institution in a way that will ensure its successful operation in perpetuity.

Perpetuity is a long time. Despite the great programs that we offer for current-day enjoyment and education, we have a fundamental duty to save, preserve, and share our enormous collection of archives and artifacts. We also have the obligation to add to our collection in the future. The collections are extremely valuable historical assets. But, they are also financial liabilities. It costs a lot of money to acquire them, conserve them, care for them, and make them available to researchers and the public. The 30% increase in utilities costs for climate control that drove last year’s small deficit is but one example of that financial liability. The collections are what define us and what make us a unique organization that simply cannot be replicated.

So, yes, we’ll admit to being more than a bit preoccupied with our long-term future. The Society is in reasonably good shape today because of the foresight of those who came before us over the past 185 years. In caring for our collections, our biggest obligation is not to ourselves, but, as our founder John Farmer described it, “to posterity, who will best know how to appreciate their value.” On behalf of those future generations, thank you very much for your support!



Bill Veillette
Bill Veillette, Executive Director



Leaders Circle members recognize their support is vital to preserving New Hampshire's heritage. The Society is very fortunate to have a number of loyal donors who have served as leaders in unrestricted annual giving to the Heritage Fund beginning at \$1,000. Listed below are inaugural members in 2007. The asterisk represents continued and new members as of June 6, 2008.

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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	FY2007 Total	FY2006 Total
CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT					
Contributions and memberships	\$ 283,762	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 283,762	\$ 282,923
Grants, gifts, and fundraising	262,535	96,533	706,433	1,065,501	951,012
Contributed goods and services	25,298	-	-	25,298	15,798
Total contributed support	571,595	96,533	706,433	1,374,561	1,249,733
INVESTMENT AND EARNED INCOME					
Earned income and special events	358,994	-	-	358,994	310,503
Rental income, net of related expenses	383,312	-	-	383,312	383,613
Trusts and other investment income	106,501	-	-	106,501	111,120
Investment return designated for current operations	310,960	-	93,656	404,616	376,044
Transfer of funds in accordance with investment policy	93,656	-	(93,656)	-	-
Total investment and earned income	1,253,423	-	-	1,253,423	1,181,280
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	31,600	(131,600)	100,000	-	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES, BEFORE INVESTMENT RETURN IN EXCESS OF AMOUNT TRANSFERRED FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS	1,856,618	(35,067)	806,433	2,627,984	2,431,013
EXPENSES					
Museum and exhibitions	388,759	-	-	388,759	357,177
Library	253,719	-	-	253,719	216,381
Education	111,104	-	-	111,104	128,681
Publications	72,732	-	-	72,732	83,224
Museum store and visitor services	183,212	-	-	183,212	156,016
Buildings, grounds, and security	95,839	-	-	95,839	96,016
Membership, development, and public relations	324,460	-	-	324,460	294,534
Administration	297,335	-	-	297,335	284,828
Collections acquired by purchase	77,689	-	-	77,689	62,596
TOTAL EXPENSES AND COLLECTION ITEMS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE BEFORE ENDOWMENT ADDITIONS AND DEPRECIATION	1,804,849	-	-	1,804,849	1,679,453
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES OVER EXPENSES BEFORE INVESTMENT RETURN IN EXCESS OF AMOUNT TRANSFERRED FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS, ENDOWMENT ADDITIONS, AND DEPRECIATION	51,769	(35,067)	806,433	823,135	751,560
LESS ADDITIONS TO ENDOWMENT	114,420	-	806,433	920,853	725,369
ADD BACK RENTAL DEPRECIATION	61,907	-	-	61,907	66,049
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES OVER EXPENSES BEFORE INVESTMENT RETURN IN EXCESS OF AMOUNT TRANSFERRED FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS AND DEPRECIATION	\$ (744)	\$ (35,067)	\$ -	\$ (35,811)	\$ 92,241
INVESTMENT RETURN					
Unrealized investment gain	569,989	-	225,250	795,239	393,170
Realized investment gains (losses)	123,913	-	41,177	165,090	98,458
Investment expenses	(47,076)	-	(18,202)	(65,278)	(57,070)
Investment income, actual dividends, and interest	244,630	-	87,269	331,899	222,790
Total investment return	891,456	-	335,494	1,226,950	657,348
Less amount designated for current operations	310,960	-	93,656	404,616	376,044
Total investment return in excess of amount transferred for current operations	580,496	-	241,838	822,334	281,304
TRANSFERS TO ENDOWMENT	114,420	-	806,433	920,853	725,369
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES OVER EXPENSES BEFORE DEPRECIATION	694,172	(35,067)	1,048,271	1,707,376	1,098,913
DEPRECIATION	233,214	-	-	233,214	247,436
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	460,958	(35,067)	1,048,271	1,474,162	851,477
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 11,914,831	\$ 201,349	\$ 2,640,397	\$ 14,756,577	\$ 13,905,100
NET ASSETS, ENDING	\$ 12,375,789	\$ 166,282	\$ 3,688,668	\$ 16,230,739	\$ 14,756,577

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