

Castine Historical Society
Buildings & Grounds Committee
Annual Report
August, 2021

Over the past year, due to COVID-19 concerns, the Buildings & Grounds Committee was not able to meet, nor was it particularly active. A small number of items were attended to at Grindle House and Abbott School, and we will continue to address normal maintenance issues in the coming months.

Budget:

Our 2020 Annual Budget for B&G was decreased significantly due to overall budget cuts related to COVID and the postponing of the House and Garden Tour.

2020 Budget

\$56,600 Budgeted however this amount was cut due to COVID
\$37,742 Spent

2021 Budget

\$59,100 Budgeted
\$20,798 Spent to date (January – June)

We cleaned the exterior of Grindle House this past spring; a light wash with mechanical sprayers was sufficient to remove mold/mildew from clapboards and trim.

We cleaned out a number of boxes of unused/obsolete printed materials. These were sent to a shredding operation along with other items from Grindle House.

New building signage was installed at the front of Abbott School to replace last year's signage.

McKee Patterson, Pedrick Sweet and I assembled and installed new display racks and a bracketed sign in the Abbott School Gift Shop.

I continue to install new sidewalk memorial bricks at the front of Abbott School whenever there is an order to do so.

I replaced the front door hydraulic closer at Abbott School, and continued to make minor repairs.

During the coming year, if there are available funds, we hope to be able to complete a small number of needed improvements, as well as pre-planning for possible future uses of Abbott School (as part of a long-term planning exercise).

These include:

- Planning and physical improvements at the rear entry to Grindle House

- Furniture (table) for the Reading Room at Grindle (this will allow researchers to work alongside and under the guidance of the CHS Curator).
- Preliminary assessment and pre-planning of Abbott School improvements
- Normal maintenance and minor projects (memorial bricks, weed control, signage, door repair, etc. on an as needed basis).

Planning:

Our B&G Committee is comprised of long-time CHS members who are a fabulous source of knowledge and history regarding the properties, as well as newer members well-versed and experienced in the architectural design and construction fields. It is my desire as Chair of the Committee to exploit and encourage engagement in preliminary planning for long term/capital improvements.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Pelletier, Chair