

# Chapter Four: Historic, Cultural & Scenic Resources

## I. HISTORIC & SCENIC RESOURCES

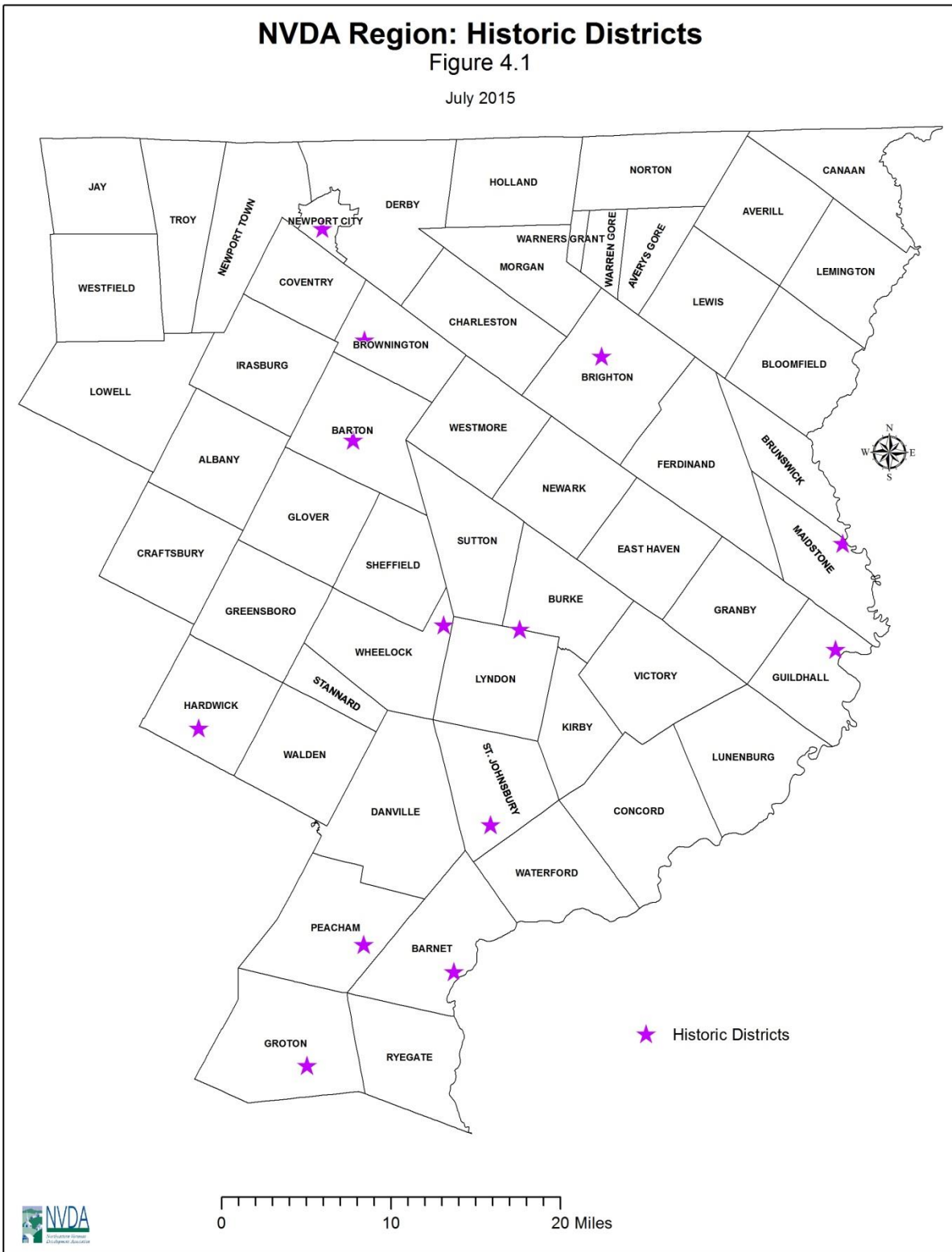
Preserving historic, archeological, and scenic resources enables communities to retain links to their past, maintain their traditions (including quality of life), and can bring economic benefits through increased property values and tourism. Indeed, there are federal and state programs to assist communities with preservation. Tourism has been increasingly beneficial for much of the New England region, and particularly for Vermont due to its abundance of scenic resources. The Northeast Kingdom is fortunate to have communities that have already identified some of their assets and protected a significant number of historic resources. These include historic districts, a large number of historic buildings, archeological sites, covered bridges, barns, and areas of natural or scenic beauty. Despite the work that has already been done, there are many historic, community buildings and meeting houses still in need of restoration and preservation. Table 4.1 gives some representation of the existing historic and cultural resources within the region. For more information on individual properties listed on the state and national registers, go to <http://orc.vermont.gov/Resource/Show-Resource-Table.aspx>

<b>Table 4.1: Northeast Kingdom Historic Districts and State Parks Listed on the National Register of Historic Places</b>	
<b>Caledonia County:</b>	<b>Date</b>
Barnet Center Historic District	07-12-1984
Darling Estate Historic District, Burke and Lyndon	08-23-2011
Downtown Hardwick Village Historic District	09-30-1982 Boundary increased 03-10-2004
Hardwick Street Historic District, Hardwick	06-22-1979
Maple St./Clarks Ave. Historic District, St. Johnsbury	04-05-1994
Peacham Corner Historic District, Peacham	12-18-2003
Railroad Avenue Historic District, St. Johnsbury	06-25-1974
Ricker Pond State Park, Groton	03-29-2002
St. Johnsbury Historic District (extension of Railroad Street district to include Eastern Avenue and connect with Main Street)	04-28-1980
St. Johnsbury Main Street Historic District (along Main Street, Eastern and Western Avenues, Park and Belvidere Streets, and Summer Street Common)	05-28-1975
Stillwater State Park, Groton	02-29-2002
Wheelock Common Historic District, Wheelock	08-30-2007
<b>Essex County:</b>	
Guildhall Village Historic District	09-27-1980
Maidstone State Park	11-29-2001
Island Pond Historic District, Brighton	01-31-1979
<b>Orleans County:</b>	
Brownington Village Historic District	05-09-1973
Crystal Lake Falls Historic District, Barton	07-07-1994
Crystal Lake State Park, Barton	08-30-2005
Newport Downtown Historic District, Newport City (Main, Coventry, Central, Second Summer, Third, School, Bayview, Eastern, Field, Seymour, Fyfe)	09-28-2006
Source: National Park Service	

# NVDA Region: Historic Districts

Figure 4.1

July 2015



Each historic district also contains a number of properties listed on, or eligible for the National Register.

## Historic Preservation Programs and Assistance

Criterion 8 of Act 250 protects scenic and aesthetic resources, historic sites, and rare or irreplaceable natural areas. A historic site is defined as "any site, structure, district or archeological landmark which has been officially included in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the state register of historic places or which is established by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as being historically significant." [10 V.S.A Section 6001 (9)]. If a site has been nominated, then designated as historic, the state provides a number of programs for communities and groups to help achieve their preservation goals.

The State of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation has a number of resources on its Web page explaining the programs available for historic and cultural preservation efforts, information, and technical assistance. [http://accd.vermont.gov/strong\\_communities/preservation](http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/preservation) These programs are available to communities, neighborhoods, individuals, and businesses and provide many benefits.

## Other Regional Resources

Local area Chambers of Commerce can provide much of the information on business & industry, schools, housing, local attractions, and services available in or near a municipality. Table 4.2, below, is included as a resource for additional information.

Barton Area Chamber of Commerce, Barton	<a href="http://centerofthekingdom.com/">http://centerofthekingdom.com/</a>
Burke Area Chamber of Commerce, East Burke	<a href="http://www.burkevermont.com">www.burkevermont.com</a>
Danville Chamber of Commerce, Danville	<a href="http://www.danvillevtchamber.org/">http://www.danvillevtchamber.org/</a>
Hardwick Area Chamber of Commerce, Hardwick	<a href="http://www.heartofvt.com/">http://www.heartofvt.com/</a>
Island Pond Chamber of Commerce, Island Pond	<a href="http://islandpondchamber.org/">http://islandpondchamber.org/</a>
Jay Peak Area Association, Troy	<a href="http://topofvt.com/">http://topofvt.com/</a>
Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce, Lyndon	<a href="http://www.lyndonvermont.com/">http://www.lyndonvermont.com/</a>
Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce, St. Johnsbury	<a href="http://nekchamber.com/">http://nekchamber.com/</a>
St. Johnsbury Chamber of Commerce, St. Johnsbury (also a Designated Downtown organization)	<a href="http://discoverstjohnsbury.com/">http://discoverstjohnsbury.com/</a>
Vermont's North Country Chamber of Commerce, Newport	<a href="http://www.vtnorthcountry.org/">http://www.vtnorthcountry.org/</a>

Northeast Kingdom Travel and Tourism Association (NEKTTA), the regional marketing organization for the Northeast Kingdom partners with NVDA in many efforts. NEKTTA is also involved in assisting individual businesses and the local chambers of commerce shown above with their marketing efforts. More about the NEKTTA organization can be found at their Web site <http://www.travelthekingdom.com/>.

## II. CULTURAL RESOURCES

### Public Libraries

The Northeast Kingdom is fortunate to have many library resources as centers of learning (many of which are architecturally significant) to complement the region's educational systems. It is important to keep all of these facilities updated to meet the informational and technological needs of area residents.

<b>Table 4.3: Public Libraries in the Northeast Kingdom</b>			
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Library and Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Web site</b>
Albany	Albany Public, 530 Main St.	(802) 755-6107	<a href="http://localpubliclibrary.com/AlbanyVermontpubliclibrary">http://localpubliclibrary.com/AlbanyVermontpubliclibrary</a>
Barnet	Barnet Public, 147 Church Street	(802) 633-4436	
Barnet	Macindoe Falls Academy, 37 Academy Lane	(802) 802-633-4472	
Barton	Barton Public, 100 Church Street	(802) 525-6524	<a href="http://barton-public-library.org/">http://barton-public-library.org/</a>
Barton	Jones Memorial Library, 1 Water Street, Orleans Village	(802) 754-6660	<a href="http://centerofthekingdom.com/services/jones-memorial-library">http://centerofthekingdom.com/services/jones-memorial-library</a>
Brighton	Island Pond Public Library, 49 Mill Street Ext	(802) 723-6134	<a href="https://islandpondpubliclibrary.wordpress.com/">https://islandpondpubliclibrary.wordpress.com/</a>
Burke	East Burke Community Library,	(802) 626-9823	<a href="http://www.burkevermont.org/library-east-burke.php">http://www.burkevermont.org/library-east-burke.php</a>
	West Burke Public Library, 135 Main Street, West Burke	(802) 467-3717	<a href="http://www.burkevermont.org/library-west-burke.php">http://www.burkevermont.org/library-west-burke.php</a>
Canaan	Alice M. Ward Memorial, 27 Park Street	(802) 266-7135	<a href="http://www.aliceward.org/">http://www.aliceward.org/</a>
Concord	Concord Public, 360 Main Street	(802) 695-2220	<a href="http://www.concordvt.us/">http://www.concordvt.us/</a>
Craftsbury	Craftsbury Public, 12 Church Street, Craftsbury Common	802 586-9683	<a href="http://www.craftsburypubliclibrary.org/">http://www.craftsburypubliclibrary.org/</a>
	John W. Simpson Memorial Library, 1972 E Craftsbury Rd East Craftsbury	(802) 586-9692	
Danville	Pope Memorial Library, 121 Park Street	(802) 684-2256	<a href="http://popememoriallibrary.org/">http://popememoriallibrary.org/</a>
	Brainerd Memorial Library, 4215 Bruce Badger Memorial Hwy, North Danville	(802) 424-1403	<a href="http://www.brainerdmemoriallibraryvt.org/">http://www.brainerdmemoriallibraryvt.org/</a>
Derby	Dailey Memorial Library, 101 Junior High Drive	(802) 766-5063	<a href="http://daileymemoriallibrary.org/">http://daileymemoriallibrary.org/</a>
Derby Line	Haskell Free Library and Opera House, 93 Caswell Avenue	(802) 873-3022	<a href="http://haskellopera.com/library/">http://haskellopera.com/library/</a>
Glover	Glover Public Library, 51 Bean Hill Road	(802) 525-4365	<a href="http://gloverlibrary.org/">http://gloverlibrary.org/</a>
Greensboro	Greensboro Free Library, 53 Wilson Street	(802) 533-2531	<a href="http://www.greensborofreelibrary.org/">http://www.greensborofreelibrary.org/</a>
Groton	Groton Free Public Library, 1304 Scott Hwy	(802) 584-3358	<a href="http://grotonlibraryvt.org/">http://grotonlibraryvt.org/</a>
Guildhall	Guildhall Public Library, 7218 Vt. Route 102	(802) 676-3054	
Hardwick	Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 North Main Street	(802) 472-5948	<a href="http://www.jeudevinememoriallibrary.org/">http://www.jeudevinememoriallibrary.org/</a>
Irasburg	Leach Public Library, 130 Park Avenue	(802) 754-2526	
Lowell	Lowell Community Library, 100	(802) 744-2447	

	Ranch Road		
Lunenburg	Gilman Public Library	(802) 892-5969	
	Alden Balch Memorial Library, 24 E. Main St.	(802) 892-5365	<a href="https://aldenbalchlibrary.wordpress.com/">https://aldenbalchlibrary.wordpress.com/</a>
Lyndon	Cobleigh Public Library, 14 Depot Street, Lyndonville	(802) 626-5475	<a href="http://cobleighlibrary.org/main/">http://cobleighlibrary.org/main/</a>
Newport	Goodrich Memorial Library, 202 Main Street	(802) 334-7902	<a href="http://www.goodrichlibrary.org/">http://www.goodrichlibrary.org/</a>
Peacham	Peacham Library, 656 Bayley Hazen Rd	(802) 592-3216	<a href="http://peachamlibrary.org/">http://peachamlibrary.org/</a>
Ryegate	South Ryegate Public Library, 140 Church Street, South Ryegate		
St. Johnsbury	St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 1171 Main Street	(802) 748-8291	<a href="http://www.stjathenaeum.org/">http://www.stjathenaeum.org/</a>
Troy	William & Lucy Rand Memorial Library, 160 Railroad Street, North Troy	(802) 988-4741	<a href="http://randmemoriallibrary.my-free.website/">http://randmemoriallibrary.my-free.website/</a>
Walden	Walden Community Library, 135 Cahoon Farm Road, West Danville	(802) 563-3000	
Waterford	Davies Memorial Library, 532 Maple Street, Lower Waterford	(802) 748-4609	<a href="http://daviesmemoriallibrary.org">http://daviesmemoriallibrary.org</a>
Westfield	Hitchcock Museum, 1252 Rte. 100	(802) 744-8258	<a href="http://hitchcocklibrary.blogspot.com/">http://hitchcocklibrary.blogspot.com/</a>
Source: NVDA 2015			

In addition to public library resources in the region, Table 4.4 shows a number of alternative public and private learning institutions possessing cultural and informational resources worthy of mention. Internet addresses have been provided as well.

<b>Table 4.4: Public and Private Learning Institutions</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Website</b>
Community College of VT	St. Johnsbury/Newport	<a href="http://www.ccv.vsc.edu">www.ccv.vsc.edu</a>
Lyndon Institute	Lyndon Center	<a href="http://www.lyndoninstitute.org">www.lyndoninstitute.org</a>
Springfield College	St. Johnsbury	<a href="http://www.spfldcol.edu">www.spfldcol.edu</a>
Sterling College	Craftsbury	<a href="http://www.sterlingcollege.edu">www.sterlingcollege.edu</a>
Lyndon State College	Lyndonville	<a href="http://www.lsc.vsc.edu">www.lsc.vsc.edu</a>
North Country Career Center	Newport	<a href="http://nc3.ncsvt.org/">http://nc3.ncsvt.org/</a>
Burke Mountain Academy	East Burke	<a href="http://www.burkemtnacademy.org">www.burkemtnacademy.org</a>
Northwoods Stewardship Center	East Charleston	<a href="http://www.northwoodscenter.org">www.northwoodscenter.org</a>
St. Johnsbury Academy	St. Johnsbury	<a href="http://www.stjohnsburyacademy.org">www.stjohnsburyacademy.org</a>
Source: NVDA 2015		

## Museums

Museums are another excellent cultural and informational resource, as well as a link to the distant and recent past. There are many museums in the Northeast Kingdom worth visiting and popular ones include the Old Stone House Museum in Brownington; the offbeat Bread & Puppet Museum in Glover; and the Athenaeum,

Fairbanks, and Maple museums in St. Johnsbury. Each of these has a wide array of exhibits and programs for all ages. Table 4.5 lists the region's resources for historic information and museum collections.

<b>Table 4.5: Historical and Museum Collections in the Northeast Kingdom</b>	
	<b>Location</b>
Barnet Historical Society – Goodwillie House	Barnet
Crystal Lake Falls Historical Society - Pierce House	Barton
Old Stone House Museum / Orleans County Historical Society	Brownington
Alice Ward Library	Canaan
Concord Historical Society ( <a href="http://www.concordvthistorical.noconek.com/">http://www.concordvthistorical.noconek.com/</a> )	Concord
Craftsbury Public Library	Craftsbury
Derby Historical Society	Derby
Hardwick Historical Society (Memorial Bldg.)	Hardwick
Haskell Library and Opera House	Derby Line
White School Museum	East Burke
Bread and Puppet Museum	Glover
Greensboro Historical Society	Greensboro
Holland Historical Society	Holland
Island Pond Historical Society	Island Pond
Shores Memorial Museum	Lyndon Center
Goodrich Memorial Library	Newport
Missisquoi Valley Historical Society	North Troy
Peacham Historical Society	Peacham
Maple Grove Museum and Factory	St. Johnsbury
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum	St. Johnsbury
St. Johnsbury History & Heritage Center	St. Johnsbury
Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium	St. Johnsbury
Stannard Historical Society	Stannard
Hitchcock Memorial Library and Museum	Westfield
Source: NVDA 2015	

---

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES FOR HISTORIC, CULTURAL & SCENIC RESOURCES

### HISTORIC, CULTURAL & SCENIC RESOURCE GOALS

- Future development should follow traditional development patterns, while providing for economic development opportunities and livable communities.
- Significant historic, cultural, and scenic resources within the region should be identified and preserved.

### HISTORIC, CULTURAL & SCENIC RESOURCE STRATEGIES

- Promote local and regional tourism, since it an important part of our economic base.
- Assist communities to preserve and maintain historic downtowns, village centers, buildings, and rural and scenic landscapes.

- Rehabilitate and re-use significant cultural, architectural, and historic sites, and community facilities, whenever feasible.
- Promote local traditions, skills, crafts, and the performing arts within the region.
- Utilize federal, state, and local programs for developing or preserving local cultural and historic assets.
- Disseminate information about historic tax credits to businesses and property owners.
- Assist communities to designate downtowns and village centers under the Vermont Downtown Program.
- Support local cultural resource initiatives to revitalize communities and downtowns.
- Assist municipalities with securing funding and technical assistance to conduct a comprehensive survey of local historic resources.