

The Center for Cainted Mall Preservation



COVER IMAGE:

Detail from the Kent House in Lyme, New Hampshire. This is one of the few houses where there is evidence of both Rufus Porter and J.D. Poor working together. Participants in the 2022 Talk & Tour had the opportunity to explore this home alongside two others.

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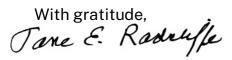
A Letter from the President

As we approach a new season, I can't help but look back at the past transformative year. We continue to find new ways to fulfill our mission-driven work. We reached over 8,800 people through social media as our number of followers continues to grow. We responded to dozens of inquiries from homeowners and connected them with valuable resources and individuals to ensure the preservation of painted plaster walls for future generations. Our Talk & Tour at three Vermont and New Hampshire decorated homes last fall drew nearly 50 attendees interested in this rare and historically significant art form.

Our reach continues to grow thanks to the financial support from our dedicated donors and members.

The Center for Painted Wall Preservation is in the midst of innovative outreach and research projects that will launch the organization into a new chapter this coming year. It's hard to contain my excitement for what is in store, and I hope you will share in my enthusiasm as you read more about these projects in this report. Our purpose is to protect these vulnerable art forms from destruction and ensure they are preserved for future generations to appreciate and study.

Thank you again for your unwavering support of this organization. Your continued generosity is critical to the fulfillment of our mission.





Mission

The Center for Painted Wall Preservation (CPWP) is dedicated to the research and preservation of eighteenth and early nineteenth century American paint-decorated plaster walls. Our goal is to survey and document these walls, in situ or in collections; to further the appreciation of this rare and vulnerable art form; and serve as a resource for the preservation of painted plaster walls for future generations.



A Rare Break Together

The CPWP Board of Directors had the chance to meet together in person again last fall at the home of Lynn and Tim Cook, owners of the Moses Kent House. Board members donate their time and expertise to keep our organization moving forward. Cheers to them!



Board of Directors

Jane E. Radcliffe, President

Museum Collections & Independent Maine Wall Researcher, CPWP Co-Founder

David Ottinger, Vice President

Architectural Salvage Contractor & Dealer, Conservation of Historic Buildings, CPWP Co-Founder

Ron Kley, Treasurer

Partner, Museum Research Associates

Dr. Brian Ehrlich, Secretary

Collector and Researcher of Early American Decorative Arts

Virginia H. Adams

Steward of Paint-Decorated Walls

Margaret Gaertner

Preservation & Historic Building Consultant

Julie Lindberg

Founder of Rufus Porter Museum, Retired Antiques Dealer, Collector, CPWP Co-Founder

Linda Carter Lefko, Board Member Emerita

Independent Wall Researcher, Historic Decorative Artist, CPWP Co-Founder and First President

Setting sail into a new year!
This charming detail of a sailboat floats in the stairwell of the Deacon Bailey House in Portland, Maine.

Board of Advisors



Jennifer Mass, Ph.D, Senior Advisor

President, Scientific Analysis of Fine Art, LLC

Darlene Bialowski

Contract Museum Registrar and Appraiser, Immediate Past CPWP President

Tony Castro

Conservator and Decorative Artist

Amy Cole-Ives

Architectural Historian and Conservator

Katey Corda

Conservator of Murals and Decorated Architectural Surfaces

Marylou Davis

Conservator of Decorative Paint and Gilded surfaces

Nancy Druckman

Art Advisor

Burton Fendelman, Esq.

Lawyer of counsel to CPWP

Helaine Fendelman

Appraiser and Antiques Consultant, Immediate Past CPWP Vice President

Polly Forcier

Wall Stencil Historian

Emelie Gevalt

Curator of Folk Art at the American Folk Art Museum, Former CPWP Board of Directors

Brock Jobe

Professor Emeritus of American Decorative Arts at Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library

Suzanne Korn

Historian, Researcher, and Artist

Johanna McBrien

Executive Director, Dedham Historical Society & Museum

Sumpter Priddy

Antiques Dealer

Nina Roth-Wells

Conservator

Christine Thomson

Conservator

Elizabeth Warren

Museum Consultant

Our Board of Advisors are "cut out" for the job, providing us their expertise and services even when we make stencil puns.

Stenciled decoration from the Drury House bedchamber in Epping, New Hampshire.

Digital Archive of Painted Walls

Coming soon to your screen!



Browse Through Never-Before-Seen Homes

We have developed a file of over 450 locations with paint-decorated, plaster walls that have been documented and photographed over the past twenty-five years. This represents over **5,000 individual walls** — each one a significant artwork. Documenting these walls is of paramount importance. It creates a record of these vulnerable works of art. Many of these walls have suffered from incomplete, poor or no conservation at all. Others have been lost to severe deterioration or demolition. As an historical record, painted plaster walls reflect the cultural life of the nation. Recognized as America's first school of landscape painting, they tell a story of the life and times of rural America and their existence is ours to record and tell before they are lost.

Thanks to support from the **Leo & Dorothy Rabkin Foundation**, CPWP will publish these records as an online archive for the use of conservators, historians and homeowners alike. Entries will be searchable by technique, motif, artist, location, date and other relevant information. As a living database, newly documented walls and updated scholarship will regularly be added, making it an invaluable resource for ongoing research. We will share an update once the site is live. Stay tuned!

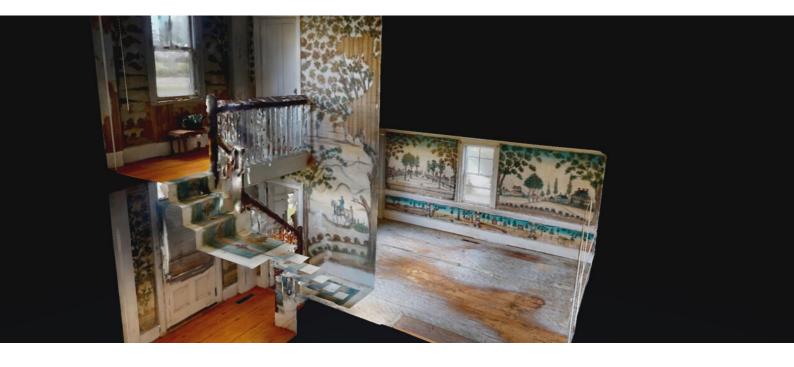


AND LEO RABKIN



Where the Future Meets the Past

A Virtual Museum of Immersive 3D Scans



Using New Technology to Showcase Early Painted Walls

During the past year the Center for Painted Wall Preservation (CPWP) worked with photographer Michael Wasserman, owner of Virtually Real Solutions, to capture **twenty-one paint-decorated interiors** using Matterport cameras and software to produce **3D models** of buildings and spaces. This technology is perfectly suited to capturing painted-wall decoration in immersive and engaging ways that allow the viewers to move through a virtual environment. The level of detail is astonishing – one can see fine cracks in plaster and texture in painted surfaces. Tags can be added to share information, similar to the way exhibit labels in a traditional museum provide additional information and context to a visitor.

The CPWP has received support from **The Decorative Arts Trust** (DAT) to create a virtual museum that incorporates these immersive 3D images. The **Dean F. Failey Grant** from the DAT will be used to fund content creation, website development and initial costs to launch a virtual museum showcasing historic painted interiors. The DAT underwrites grants in support of noteworthy research, exhibition, publication and object-based conservation projects through the Dean F. Failey Fund, named in honor of the Trust's late Governor.

THE DECORATIVE ARTS TRUST



Ensuring Preservation for Future Generations

CPWP's Efforts to Support Painted Wall Preservation

Each year, the CPWP fields questions from homeowners stewarding painted walls in their homes. We continue to provide support and resources to homeowners, conservators, art historians and enthusiasts to ensure painted wall preservation for future generations. We have many resources available on our website, including a newly-available Best Practices
Document compiled after CPWP's "Conserving Our Painted Past" Symposium hosted in 2020. Do you have early paint decorations in your home? Be sure to become a member of our Stewards Circle, a group of homeowners with registered painted walls.

Want to Help?

The Center for Painted Wall Preservation has created the Research & Scholarship

Endowment Fund to support painted wall research by offering grants to students or special programs devoted to increasing public knowledge of paint decorated walls. The Fund will support research initiatives aimed at defining, refining and promulgating best practices with respect to conservation, restoration, relocation and interpretation of 19th century decoratively painted plaster walls. The Carl M. Lindberg Family Foundation has generously donated the founding principal for the Fund, but additional funding is needed for the yield growth to provide the first grant.

We Make an IMPACT

Here is a glimpse at how the CPWP reached our audiences and made an impact in 2022



300+ subscribers received our Plaster Bits newsletter each month



700+ followed us on social media



40+ homeowner questions were answered by experts



50+ attended the Upper CT Valley Talk & Tour



1,000s of hours were donated by our Board of Directors & Advisors to support our communities

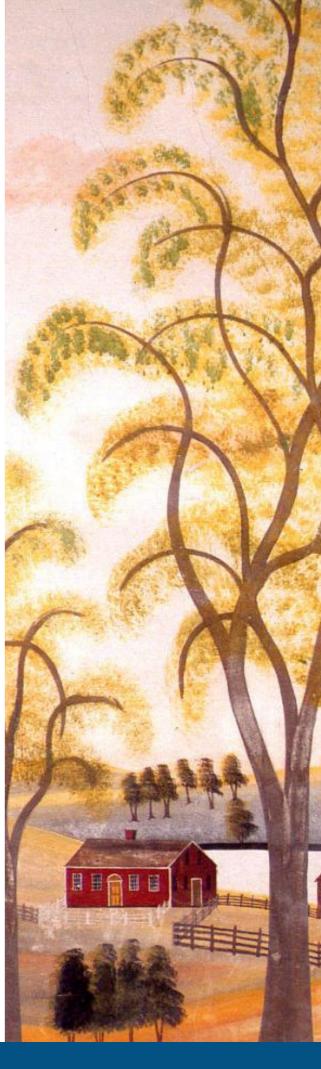


80+ *Plaster Bits* newsletters are available online



Interested in learning more about the *Plaster Bits* Vault?

Members have access to over 80 archived articles of groundbreaking scholarship and research through the CPWP website! Join or renew today!



Upper Connecticut River Valley Painted Wall Talk & Tour

September 24, 2022

Over fifty people gathered in September to visit muralled private homes along the Upper Connecticut River Valley. Following an informative introductory talk by Linda Lefko, attendees visited three spectacular examples of homes with muralled walls: the Elwin Chase House, the Meeting House Farm and the Moses Kent House.







It's all about the details

Attendees enjoyed walking through three houses in the Upper Connecticut Valley during the Talk & Tour. Above are close-ups from each home.

Left: Detail from a mural in the Elwin Chase House in Topsham, Vermont

Center: Detail from an overmantel at Meeting House Farm in Norwich, Vermont

Right: Detail from an overmantel at the Moses Kent House in Lyme, New Hampshire

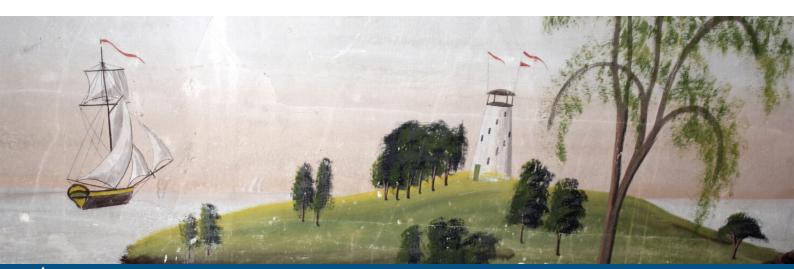


Your Support Makes All the Difference

| YOUNG PROFESSIONAL | \$15 |
|-----------------------|----------|
| INDIVIDUAL | \$25 |
| STEWARDS CIRCLE | \$75 |
| PATRON (MOST POPULAR) | \$100 |
| SUSTAINING MEMBER | \$250 |
| BENEFACTOR | \$500 |
| CHAMPION | \$1,000+ |

Members Keep Our Organization Moving Forward

Our members believe in CPWP's mission to **document and preserve** one of our country's **most vulnerable artifacts**: historic paint-decorated walls. We rely on the support of our membership and community to advocate for painted walls in the historic preservation, folk art and decorative arts fields. Memberships are tax deductible. Go to our <u>website</u> for more information and to sign up now!





Thanks to Our Supporters!

Individual Members

Marian Crenshaw Austin Mariel Capanna **David Colglazier** Cynthia DellaPenna Laura DeWitt Andrea Fitzgerald Katie Fitzgerald Grant Margaret Gaertner Roy Gedat Judith Graham Judith Hull Patricia Kimber Barbara Knickerbocker Laura Lacome **Gregory LeFever** Linda Lefko **Natalie Lounsbury** Peggy McClard Dennis McFadden Suzanne Morris Sarah Peck Baron Perlman Eileen Rogers Faye Snyder Gail Szafir Diane Thompson **David Nedwidek**

Stewards Circle

Timothy Cook
Marshel Roy Cunningham
Ann Marie Gooch
Alan Small

YOU make preservation, documentation, and access to painted walls possible!

Patrons

Charles Anthony

Elizabeth Bedard

Lucinda Borrone

Jeffrey & Frances Carl

Lorraine Casinghino

Amy Cole-Ives

Marylou Davis

Nancy Druckman

Pamela and Brian Ehrlich

Emelie Gevalt

Rick Kershner

Ron Kley

Suzanne Korn

Debra May

Johanna McBrien

Stacey Mileti

Matthew Mosca

David Ottinger

Les & Joan Ottinger

Miranda Peters

Laura Phillips

Frederic C. Thompson

Matt Thurlow

Elizabeth Warren

Tracy Whitehead

Sustaining Members

Steve Buy

George G. Hayes

Benefactor

Jane E. Radcliffe

Champions

The Carl M. Lindberg Family Foundation

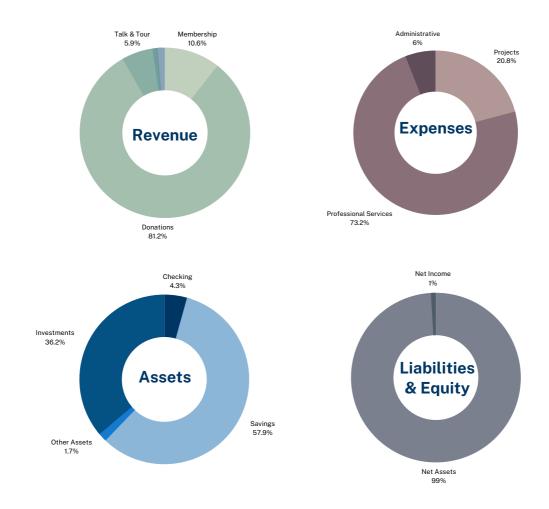


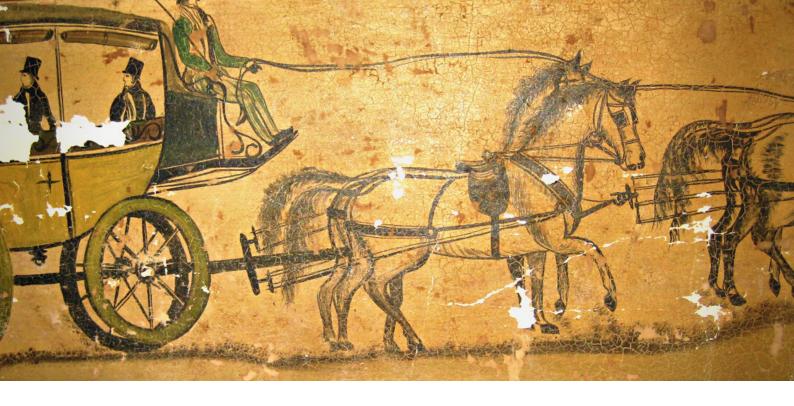
2022 Financials

Financial Outlook

Our organization continues to responsibly steward the financial resources provided by members, donors, and funders. The tables below do not reflect the \$15,500 Dean F. Failey Grant received through the Decorative Arts Trust for the virtual museum project (funds received in 2023). A majority of CPWP's assets are through grants and special funding received in support of specific mission-driven projects and programs.

| REVENUE | \$24,895.60 |
|----------------------|-------------|
| EXPENSES | \$24,021.05 |
| ASSETS | \$88,525.80 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | \$88,525.80 |





Events

Our Board of Directors is hitting the road in 2023! Come out to see us (no horse and carriage required).

April 29-30

Old House Emporium
Portland, Maine

June 5

Massachusetts History Conference Devens, Massachusetts

November 7

Tour of the Rufus Porter Museum and a private mural collection co-sponsored by the CPWP and RPM for the <u>New England Museum Association Conference</u>
Bridgton, Maine

November 8-10

New England Museum Association Conference
Portland, Maine

Date TBD

Maine Archives & Museums Conference Location TBD



We want to hear from YOU!

Interested in becoming a member, donating or volunteering? We look forward to connecting!

info@cpwp.org

www.pwpcenter.org P.O.Box 187 Hallowell, ME 04347

