

Old Surry Village Schoolhouse Report

2019 saw many changes and finishing touches to the Old Schoolhouse/Firehouse. On June 8, 2019 the Old Surry Village School hosted the 4th Annual Open House. Residents were given the opportunity to view the “rehabilitated 19th century schoolhouse”. Many have been watching the changes and to finally see the grand old building restored and furnished with its’ original 20th century desks was a sight to behold.

Last year the following items were completed at the school. The wall boards on both floors were painted and new maple flooring installed on the first floor. New interior doors were installed. The kitchen was reassembled and appliances installed. The bathroom fixtures are in place. Safety signage has been installed throughout the building and smoke detectors hardwired where necessary. In September a new roof was installed and work the cupola is 90% complete. We are investigating having a well drilled and use of the existing dry well to get the plumbing ready for early summer.

Along with several annual fundraisers at the school, this last year saw several non-fundraising events well attended by Surry residents. This included public apple pressing, trunk a treat and the Surry Historical Society presented 3 sessions of Surry history during the month of October. In December we held Christmas at the Old School where Santa came to visit. We also had private citizens hold birthday parties and bridal showers.

The project and volunteers were honored in November to receive an Award presented to historic preservation projects throughout the State of Maine by Maine Preservation. This nonprofit member-based

statewide historic preservation organization nominated our project and the project was selected as one of thirteen to receive this Honor Award.

We are also pleased to announce that the Maine Historic Preservation Commission in Augusta has approved our nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This nomination is being sent to the National Park Service Register staff in Washington for final approval. Volunteers, donors and all residents of Surry should be very proud of this designation. We will hold a celebration for this honor.

The honors and accomplishments of the Old School project reflect Surry's commitment to preserving our past for generations to come.

We wish to sincerely thank Gary L. Mosley for his generosity, expertise and volunteer service to the town and committee on this project.

Submitted,

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