



St. Joseph Church, photo from
about 1897

Bartlett History Museum

Progress Report

Newsletter Supplement

Summer 2023

Persistence and determination along with an amazing level of support from hundreds of individuals, businesses and foundations have helped us move forward in our project to renovate and reopen the historic former St. Joseph Church building. Our list of “Completed” tasks heavily outweighs the list of “To Be Completed” tasks on the project plan. While we have some pretty significant work to be done to get to a grand opening of the museum, we are miles from where we started the renovation work in 2019. Yes, this project has taken quite a while to get to this stage but we have always held true to our vision that is the core of the project. That vision is to complete a major renovation of this historic former church to bring it back to a useful life as a cultural asset and museum to celebrate the history of Bartlett, Hart’s Location and Livermore. The Bartlett History Museum, owned and operated by the Bartlett Historical Society, will be a place for learning, research, and discovery, open to anyone who is curious about the history of these three towns and our region.



School Street view today



Donated Landscaping

We will always remember that the work we have completed to date and will complete in the future is all the result of very generous support from each and every donor to the project. Without your overwhelming donor support, this building would likely not be here today. That is why we say “This is Your museum.”

In this Progress Report, we’ll look back at our accomplishment highlights and bring you up to date on several recent developments that continue to have building visitors saying “WOW!” We’ll also take a look ahead to see what we need to accomplish to get to Opening Day!

How The Building Has Changed - The View From School Street

Our Bartlett History Museum building is located at 13 School Street in Bartlett. This street, once known as Carrigan Street and later Church Street, is the original 1890 site for the building. The building’s historic value comes from the fact that it is the first Catholic church in the Mount Washington Valley (formerly known as the Eastern Slope Region). Below are three different views of the building:



St. Joseph Church c. 1897

This is the original church building. Notice the appendage at the back of the building, this was an apartment for the priest. Also the building has a steeple.



Former St. Joseph Church 2016

The building is now no longer a church. Used by the school for storage, it has fallen into disrepair. The apartment and steeple were removed in the 1950s.



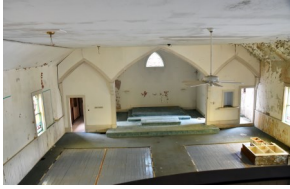
Future Bartlett History Museum 2023

We’ve given the building a makeover with a new roof, new siding, mobility assistance ramp, new sidewalks, new windows, a great deal of interior work and so much more.

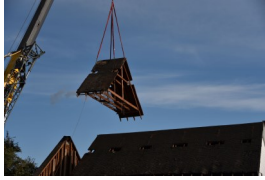
A color version of this Supplement is online at <https://www.bartletthistory.net/newsletter-archives>

A Quick Look Back At Some Of Our Key Renovation Accomplishments

It's always good to take a look back to remind ourselves just how far we've come on this project. Here are a few of key highlights:



Interior views in 2016 showing water damage, mold and general poor condition of the building



2020—The entire roof structure had failed so we removed it in six sections and installed a new engineered truss designed roof system. In the process, we squared the walls of the building to make it a rectangle again



2021 New interior framing was installed, choir loft is releveled, renovation focus is inside the building



2022 All new mechanical systems were roughed-in

Now, Let's Take A Close Look At Our Most Recent Accomplishments

A lot of hard work has been done both to the interior and exterior of the building. These represent major steps forward toward our completion of this renovation.



2022 A new assistance ramp has been installed to provide access to the museum for those with mobility challenges.

Also a new sidewalk to the adjacent parking lot was installed (also connecting to the new front walkway)



2022 New railings were installed on the granite steps at the front door of the building



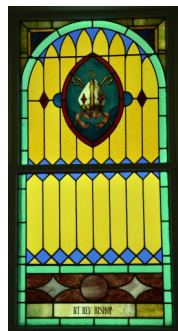
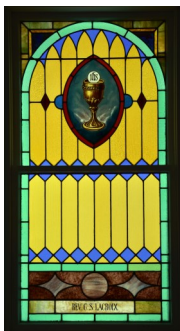
2023 Residing of the building is complete—new hemlock clapboards were installed; in the process of doing this work, we fixed several water damage issues with the sheathing & installed a new back door (back stairs still need to be installed).



Once the siding was on the building, we applied a second coat of paint making the building look brand new

The Interior Starting With The Stained-Glass Windows

Our plans have been to place the original stained-glass windows in lightboxes for illumination and preservation. At our July 4th Renovation Open House, visitors saw three of the eight windows backlit with the LED panels. It was quite a display. The stained-glass preservation, lightboxes and LED panels were made possible by generous grants from the Goldberg Foundation. Another generous donation from two BHS members made the refurbishment of the triangular Sodality of the Holy Rosary window possible.

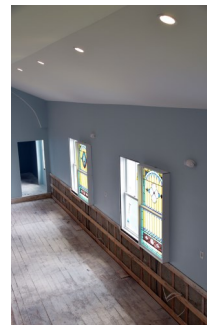
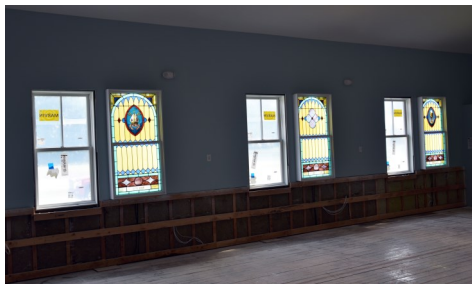
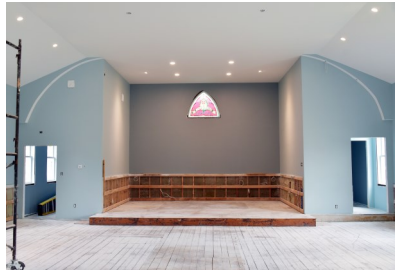


Continuing With The Interior Of The Building

Ever since we had the asbestos, mold and lead paint work completed, the building's interior has had the original hemlock frame exposed for all to see. People marveled at the size of the lumber used because the wall studs are true 2" x 6" hemlock lumber. Other beams are much larger.

Now, sheetrock covers the studs and beams and a first coat of paint has been applied to all of the walls. The installation of lighting is underway. A generous donation from two BHS members is covering the cost of the four chandeliers that will hang high above the floor of the Display Area. The interior of the museum is really taking shape. Here are some photos to show the progress.

The interior wall color is called Tudor Ice with an accent wall of Citadel Blue (Wouldn't it be fun to be the person who comes up with these names!)



These photos reflect the new interior of the building. In the bottom left photo, we are showing the placement of the stained-glass window lightboxes as they will be in the finished building. There will be three more lightboxes on the opposite side of the room and two additional lightboxes on the wall below the triangular window.

With the help of our General Contractor, Bill Duggan, we've carefully thought through how each change will improve the building. Again, this is all possible because of the generosity of hundreds of donors.

What's Left to Accomplish to Reach the Opening Day?

Our number of remaining work items in the checklist gets shorter with each accomplishment. The largest item facing us is the purchase and installation of all of the trim work in the building. This includes the trim around all of the windows and doors, the wainscoting and chair rail plus associated molding, and several other trim details. We plan to apply a first coat of paint to the trim before we install it and then the finish coat after it is in place. Other things include (these are the larger items):

- Completion of the electrical, plumbing and HVAC details
- Fixing some flooring issues and painting the original floor boards in the Display Area
- Installing additional flooring in the foyer, back exit area, lavatory and Curator's workspace.

On the next page, we've outlined several things that we need to accomplish to get to a grand opening of the museum. With your continued help and support, our success is guaranteed!



What Remains To Be Done To Open The Bartlett History Museum?

Here's a list of the items (with funding estimates) that we need to complete to open *our/your* museum.

HVAC	
Install Air Exchanger	\$6,000
Miscellaneous details	
Electrical	
Purchase 4 chandeliers	\$10,000
Motorize ADA Door	\$4,000
Complete Electrical	\$7,000
Install switches, plugs, fixtures	
Install LED panels for stain-glass lightboxes	
Miscellaneous details	
Plumbing	
Complete Plumbing	\$6,200
Purchase & install ADA lavatory fixtures	
Connect to municipal water & building septic	
Assemble Curator's Work Space & hot water heater	
Flooring	
Purchase & install sheet goods flooring	\$8,000
Display & stage area floor finishing	\$1,500

For questions or to discuss a donation, please contact Phil Franklin, BHS President at 860-638-7966 or 603-374-5023 or at Phil@BartlettHistory.org
As always, we thank you for all of your support for this project

Carpentry	
Complete all interior carpentry (materials & labor)	\$75,000
Purchase all trim lumber for pre-install painting	
Install window trim, wainscoting, chair rail	
Install interior doors, ADA ramp, floor repairs	
Miscellaneous details	
Miscellaneous	
Build exterior backdoor stairs (material & labor)	\$1,500
Rebuild entire basement bulkhead	\$10,000
Purchase interior paints and stains	\$3,000
Septic system changes (2024)	\$10,000
Museum Road Sign	\$1,000
Refurbish museum display cases	\$750
Museum setup costs (i.e., moving displays & other units, supplies, etc.)	\$1,500
Landscaping	\$1,000