



Norwich Historical Society

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

LOOKING TO 2025



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Above: Marion Cross students combined science, art, and community service while helping us create a new community mural celebrating Norwich conservation.

STEWARD CONNECT SUSTAIN

Our programs, collections care activities, and collaborations are all shaped by our guiding principles of stewarding, connecting and sustaining our organization and the community.

We continue to offer the very popular *Discover Norwich* program series on Zoom, a collaborative program series all about Norwich. Winter coffees will be an opportunity to visit NHS and learn more about our collections and see behind-the-scenes.

In the warm months we will be offering tours around town. We are preparing a new cemetery tour on Norwich during the Revolution and planning more evening history strolls at a cooler time of day.

Even our fundraisers are an opportunity to connect with each other and sustain our work. This year's garden tour is scheduled for June 14th and the Antiques Show is September 13th--two events not to be missed.

Watch for Walktober this fall when we collaborate with Norwich Recreation Department and other groups to offer all sorts of guided walks on the streets and trails.

We wouldn't be able to do our work without the generosity of our members, donors, and business sponsors. Your gifts of money and time provide us with the financial means and renewed energies and spirit to do all that we do. Thank you!

- Sarah Rooker, NHS Director

Our Mission: Norwich Historical Society cultivates a vibrant sense of place and community through discovering, preserving, and sharing the history of Norwich.

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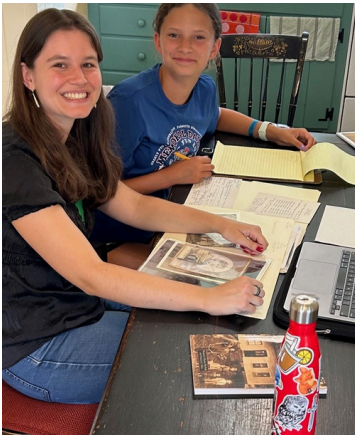
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NORWICH LEGACY SOCIETY

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2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



2024 was a year of connecting to the community. We teamed up with the Norwich Conservation Commission to create a new community mural celebrating 50 years of conservation in Norwich. We also gathered Norwich's nonprofits for a community fair showcasing the many offerings and services available to residents. Bringing groups together is part of our mission to use history to create a stronger community.

Each summer we welcome students to NHS for hands-on research experiences.

Above: Lauren Pigeon researched Norwich in the Revolutionary era and worked with young researchers. **Below:** Skyler Tomkins created an exhibit featuring our sampler collection.



Our Vision

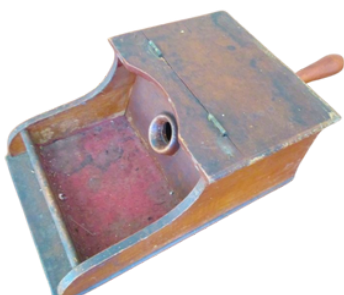
We envision a community where Norwich residents are grounded in their local history and landscape. They understand that history deepens their connections to each other and their community. As a result, they are more engaged citizens and better stewards of their community and the world.

This summer we changed our walking tour format to offer “summer evening strolls.” These proved to be popular in the cooler hours of the day. A new walk this year featured stories of Norwich women who lived and worked along Main Street. Of course, we also offered our sold-out Mid-Century Modern Tour, our history hike to Parcel 5, and our Main Street Civil War tour.

Discover Norwich, the Norwich Antiques Show, and a beautiful garden tour on Maple Hill Road were successful fundraisers this year. Many thanks to Gail Torkelson for organizing the Norwich Antiques Show. Thank you to Gail and Andy Torkelson, Cathy and Kurt Welling, and Libby and Peter Robbie for sharing their beautiful gardens at the Garden Tour.

ADDITIONS TO THE COLLECTION

We received a number of donations from the Norwich grangers including records, regalia clothing, these banners and ballot box.



We continued to care for the Lewis House and grounds. Many thanks to Chris Brady, Jonathan Streeter, and Dave Callaway for their help. Of course, collections care is also a major part of our work. Nancy Osgood continued to accession and document the collection while Heidi Webster, Ellen Blake, Elissa Close, Susan Haedrich, and Corlan Johnson worked in the archives. Deb Haynes has been helping us formalize our database. Our online offerings featured narrated letters from the collection. Thanks to Bob Bristol for his research and writing. Several community members contributed their voices to the project which brought the letters alive.

Board comings and goings: We thank Carolyn Clinton for her many years of service on the Board including an extra year as President, Carla Vincent for serving as Treasurer so capably, Don Bartlett for his work designing a planned giving program, and Terry Appleby for his service with finance and facilities. We welcome Bob Bristol, Nancy Morley, and Jim Westrich as candidates to the Board in 2025.

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Gardener's Supply
Half-Step Beer & Wine
James LaMontagne Landscape
Mont Verde Gardens

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Lewis Society (\$1000+)
Pompanoosuc Mills

Steward Level (\$500+)
Norwich Square Properties
Webster & Donovan Excavating
Windows and Doors by Brownell

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Ledyard Bank
The Norwich Inn
The Norwich Times
Otto & Associates
Riverlight Builders, Inc.
Stave Puzzles

Supporter Level (\$100-249)
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Haynes & Garthwaite Architects
Norwich Bookstore
Norwich Technologies
RE/MAX Group One Realtors
The Richards Group

2024 Garden Tour Sponsor
Sargent Designs

2024 Antiques Show Sponsor
William Smith Auctions

FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Craig Scarborough Memorial Fund
JoyVel Charitable Fund
Norwich Lions Club
Norwich Women's Club
Stettenheim Foundation
Ann H. Symington Foundation
Town of Norwich



21st ANNUAL NORWICH ANTIQUES SHOW

Saturday, September 13, 2025, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Are you looking for that perfect antique for your home? This wonderful show and sale attracts some of the region's finest dealers, showcasing fine country to formal antiques on the beautiful grounds of the Norwich Historical Society. We'll be holding our annual antiques "Road Show" evaluating the value of your own treasures and a "Doctor is In" tent where experts will be available to look at your antiques and answer your questions about storage, repair, and care.

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William G. and Ann Marie Smith

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Gillian Folley White

Kim King Zea

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Nancy Osgood

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Barry Smith

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Cynthia Drake

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Carolyn Clinton and Sheldon Novick

Richard and Jane Nylander

Peter and Betty Waterman

Christopher Joy and Cathy Velenchik

FINANCES

Condensed Balance Sheet

(without depreciation) as of :

9/30/23

9/30/24

Assets

Cash & Equivalent	\$164,237.48	\$164,318.21
Property, Plant & Equipment	\$469,623.47	\$463,435.63
Total Assets	\$633,860.95	\$627,753.84

Liabilities & Equity

Current Liabilities	\$638.99	\$1,847.66
Retained Earnings	\$465,358.95	\$462,994.36
Unrestricted Retained Earnings	\$13,848.33	\$57,500.25
Restricted Funds	\$93,354.25	\$95,718.84
Net Income	\$60,660.43	\$9,692.73
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$633,860.95	\$627,753.84

Condensed Operating Profit & Loss Statement

(without depreciation) for Years Ending:

9/30/23

9/30/24

Revenue

Annual Campaign	\$26,820.00	\$24,950.27
Membership	\$14,955.00	\$13,904.05
Business Donors	\$4,500.00	\$6,050.00
Town Appropriation	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Special Events	\$18,258.97	\$23,061.99
Restricted Funds	\$68,860.19	\$2,928.40
Other	\$7,124.14	\$4,708.87
Total Revenue	\$148,518.30	\$83,603.58

Expenses

Office Operations	\$52,049.73	\$57,845.06
Building & Grounds	\$17,640.15	\$8,957.08
Restricted Funds	\$13,446.46	\$1,968.15
Other	\$4,721.53	\$5,140.56
Total Expenses	\$87,857.87	\$73,910.85

Net Operating Income*

\$60,660.43

\$9,692.73

**We are so very grateful for the legacy gifts, memorial contributions and other special donations that boosted our restricted funds last year. Because these funds are for specific purposes (such as capital improvements to the Lewis House, collections acquisitions, and growing an endowment), they are not strictly operating funds.*