



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting*

Sunday, October 20, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Location: Low Tide Yacht Club, New Bedford, MA

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order by President [Diane Gilbert]**
- II. Approval of Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting**
- III. Nominations and Vote on Slate of Officers and Directors
[Dan Perry]**
- IV. President/Treasurer's Report [Diane Gilbert]**
- V. Featured Presentation—Erin Miranda, Executive Director,
Waterfront Historic Area League**



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting*

October 20, 2024

II. Review and Approval of Minutes of the October 15, 2023 Annual Meeting

1. **President Diane Gilbert called the Meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.**

2. **Approval of Minutes of the October 22, 2022 Meeting**

Daniel C. Perry presented a motion to accept the Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Steve Dupre, passing unanimously.

3. **Nominations and Vote for Slate of Officers and Directors**

Mr. Perry stated that the terms of the present officers and directors were not expired to warrant a vote. Mr. Perry asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Being none, he presented a motion to ratify the slate of officers and directors, directing the clerk to cast one ballot. Seconded by Brian Santos. President and Treasurer: Diane M. Gilbert [2026]; Vice President: Daniel C. Perry, Esq. [2026]; Clerk/Asst Treasurer: Brenda Dias [2026]; Directors: Steve Dupre [2025]; Susan Guiducci [2027]; Eileen "Ellie" Marland, Ph.D. [2026]; Brian Santos [2025]; Kerri Santos [2025]. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Perry declared the nominations and vote closed.

4. **President/Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Gilbert reported on DHPT's financials for the CY 2022 and YTD 2023 and DHPT's plans and accomplishments. She noted that the presentation will be added to the website www.dhpt.org. DHPT as stewards of the 1762 Akin House endeavors to keep the property well-maintained with environmental problems posing a challenge to mitigate in the past year due to climate change. The Akin House features indirectly in today's presentation as a witness site to the American Revolution. She extended an open invitation to tour the house.

5. **Mr. Perry presented a motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting, seconded by Mr. Santos, at 2:20 p.m.**

6. **Featured Presentation:**

Ms. Gilbert introduced Jonathan Lane, Executive Director of Revolution 250, to present a talk on the September 1778 British Raid of Bedford Village, Dartmouth Village on the Apponagansett River, and the environs.



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting*

October 20, 2024

III. Nominations and Vote on Slate of Officers and Directors

DHPT's OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS For Nomination and Ratification

President and Treasurer: Diane M. Gilbert [2026]

Vice President: Daniel C. Perry, Esq. [2026]

Clerk/Asst Treasurer: Brenda Dias [2026]

Directors: Steve Dupre [2025]

Susan Guiducci [2027]

Eileen "Ellie" Marland, Ph.D. [2026]

Brian Santos [2025]

Kerri Santos [2025]

Note: no terms are expiring during this 2024 annual meeting.



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's Financial Statement

***For Calendar Year 2023**

Balances as of January 1, 2023

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account	\$ 14,321.45
**Preservation Restriction Endowment	\$ 10,095.09
***Grant Account	\$ 14.19

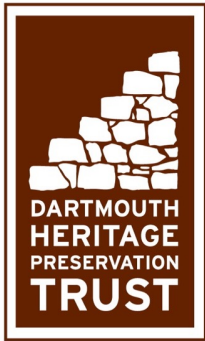
Total \$ 24,430.73

Balances as of December 31, 2023

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account	\$ 16,355.33
**Preservation Restriction Endowment	\$ 10,410.32
***Grant Account	\$ 14.19

Total \$ 26,779.84 Net Change: \$ + 2,349.11

*DHPT's Fiscal Year is Calendar Year. **DHPT holds and monitors two historic preservation restrictions: 1) Dartmouth YMCA Historic barn facility (original footprint) on Gulf Road; 2) Russell's Mills Schoolhouse exterior fabric located in the heart of Russell's Mills Village. Approved by the Massachusetts Historical Commission in perpetuity. ***Grant Account remains open and will be used for future grant awards.



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's Financial Statement

January 1 through December 31, 2023

Revenue: Contributions, gifts, memberships

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account	\$	16,953.62
PR Endowment (interest only)	\$	315.23
Grant Account (interest ineligible)	\$	0.00

Total Revenue: \$ 17,268.85

Expenses: (DHPT Cash (Ops) Account)

AH Wireless Alarm System _____	\$	384.00
AH Eversource Electric _____		431.78
AH Lawn care (maintenance) _____		1,800.00
AH Environmental Consulting, Analysis & Testing _____		2,007.91
AH Chubb Insurance _____		646.00
AH Kiosk (final payment) _____		363.15
AH Maintenance & Upkeep _____		1,637.00
Website hosting (Slocum Studio) _____		372.00
Website Redesign (partial payment) _____		3,500.00
Marketing & Fundraising _____		815.65
Zoom Account (final) _____		16.99
Public Archaeology Lab, Inc. _____		2,208.00
Filing Fees _____		90.00
P. O. Box _____		294.00
Events _____		353.23

Total Expenses: \$14,919.71 (Net Change: \$ + 2,349.11)

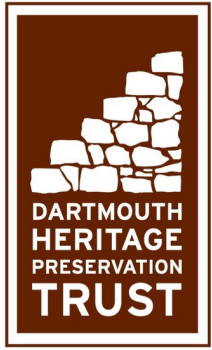


Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's Financial Picture

Balances as of September 30, 2024

DHPT	
Cash (Ops) Account	\$ 11,205.41
*Preservation Restriction Endowment	\$ 10,784.35
Grants Account (MCC)	\$ 80.81
<hr/>	
Total	\$22,070.57

*Account invested as an interest-bearing 10-month CD with APY 5% and matures November 2024.



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust

Accomplishments 2023-2024



- “Never Idle Hands—Living in Early America” at the Akin House on June 9, 2024. Funded in part by MCC grant of \$2,500.
- Conducted House Tours upon request and by appointment.
- Held Akin House Tours and Holiday Wreaths sale the Saturday after Thanksgiving (November 25, 2023) as fundraiser to benefit local Scouts.
- DHPT curated didactic displays to integrate artifacts with house history to interpret the lives of inhabitants over historic periods using identifications and other documentation from the Public Archaeology Lab, Inc.



Addressed partial solutions to manage the environmental conditions of the Akin House. Addressed the cellar flooding from driving rains. Alarm malfunction to monitor leaks. Consulted with early house experts and tradespeople.



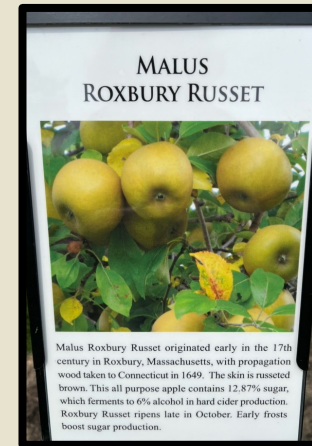
Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust

Accomplishments 2023-2024

Heritage Apple Trees were planted on the Akin House property in June 2024. There are now seven trees on the property of the type used during the 17th & 18th C.



Elihu Akin (1720-1794) – Last Will and Testament 33/60
“I give and bequeath to my beloved wife, Ruth Akin... and likewise six bushels of winter apples and as much summer fruits as she shall need yearly out of my orchard to the westward of the way thereof. Whenever the orchard shall bear fruit. ...”



Initiated project to upgrade DHPT's website www.dhpt.org in late December 2023. This work continues with a planned launch by the end of 2024.



[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [AKIN HOUSE](#) [BLOG](#) [EVENTS](#) [CONTACT US](#) [PHOTO GALLERY](#)

[GIVE](#)



We started with the 1762 Akin House

**PRESERVE OUR LOCAL HERITAGE AND
PROTECT OUR HISTORIC LEGACY FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

[READ MORE](#)



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust

Looking Ahead 2024-2025



- House Tour Saturday after Thanksgiving in Partnership with the local Scouts. Sale of Holiday Wreaths (November 30, 2024) to benefit the Scouts.
- Two-day weekend event scheduled for June 28 and June 29. Militia Training at the “Akin Farm” to include an encampment to re-enact Revolutionary War activities. “Never Idle Hands–Living in Early America” will include new and returning participants.
- Plan and deliver living history programs with partner organizations.
- Continue to assess and implement solutions to manage the climate and environmental conditions of the Akin House to be historically faithful to an 18th century house. Ongoing maintenance.



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust

Akin House: Let's Look Back to 2001-2006



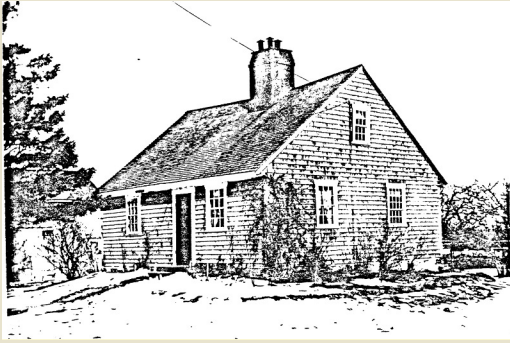
2001

We must go back in time to appreciate how far we've come.



Photos taken in 2004





2006 Proposal: Cultural Heritage Center

[Report to Select Board on September 24, 2006 by WHALE]

“The Little House with a Big Story to Tell”—“Pete” Baker

COMPLETED but Ongoing

- The Akin House will tell the story of the people who lived in the house since it was built through exhibits of photographs, oral and written histories. Interpretive displays will tell their story in context to the community.
- Site study: Exhibits will portray the historical context of the landscape in relation to the house (roads, outbuildings, orchards, gardens, surrounding farmland)
- Archaeology: Workshops and exhibits will show relationships between lifestyle and artifacts (outbuildings, foundations, pottery sherds, iron instruments, glass, tools, bones, personal belongings)
- Genealogy: Workshops will inspire visitors to learn about the life of the Akin inhabitants from deeds and wills and other archival sources
- Community history: farming, fishing, shipbuilding, entrepreneurship and other forms of economic development from colonial days to the present
- Historic context through maps: 250 years of change in South Dartmouth’s shelters, landscape and streetscape, through division of land, plans realized by early to later landowners, changes in population and density, will be displayed.



Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust

Present Day



We must go back in time to appreciate how far we've come.



History of the Akins & the Elihu Akin House: Why is this house historically significant?

By 1761, Elihu Akin (1720-1794) starts his shipbuilding business in what is now known as Padanaram Village with his elder half-brother, James (1706-1804). His shipyard, Akin's Wharf, was at the foot of Prospect Street. [The village of Akin's Landing later became Padanaram when Laban Thatcher (1772-1833), another shipbuilder on what is now South Wharf, renamed it citing a biblical verse.]

Before the Revolution, Elihu Akin becomes one of the wealthiest men in town living in a large Georgian house on the corner of Elm and Prospect Streets. He had a town tavern license and like his father, served as a Selectman.

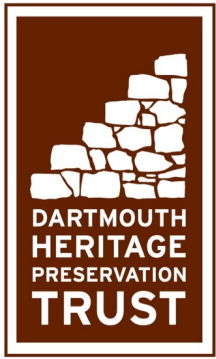
On August 26, 1759, Job Mosher (1737-1804) married Amie Akin (1738-1804), daughter of James Akin, Elihu's older brother. In 1762 Jacob Russell, yeoman, sold eighteen acres of his land to Mosher, a house carpenter.

In 1767, Mosher sold the eighteen acres to Jonathan Delano, Jr. In the deed, Mosher refers to the eighteen acres as "My homestead farm where I now dwell with all my buildings and fences."

Jonathan Delano, Jr. dies at sea and his widow Lydia sells the property to Elihu Akin for 109 pounds and ten shillings, witnessed by Abner Ricketson, Robert Bentley, Stephen Delano with Benjamin Akin, Elihu's brother, as Justice of the Peace; recorded June 12, 1770. It is believed that Akin bought the house and the surrounding farm as an investment. [Deed Book 53, Page 154]



Highlights of Historic Research conducted and written by Peggi Medeiros from various primary and secondary sources.



**Dartmouth Heritage Preservation
Trust's Annual Meeting
October 20, 2024**

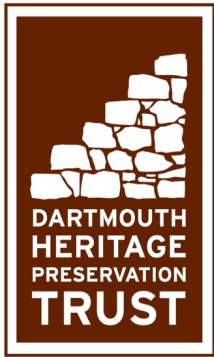


**WITH GRATITUDE TO ALL
DONORS AND SUPPORTERS!**

*To Donate, for Progress Reports, and DHPT News, Look
for Our Newsletters,
and Visit www.dhpt.org.*

For a Tour of the Akin House by Appointment or For Any Other
Reason, Contact: Diane M. Gilbert, d.m.gilbert51@gmail.com,
(508) 965-7265.

Preserving Our Heritage *from the Foundation Up*
P. O. Box 87026, Dartmouth, MA 02748 **JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!**
DHPT is a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization.



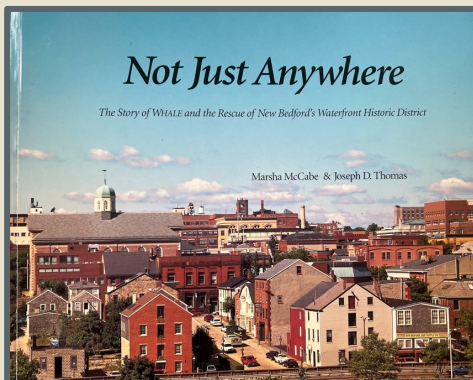
**Dartmouth Heritage Preservation
Trust's Annual Meeting
October 20, 2024**



Featured Presentation

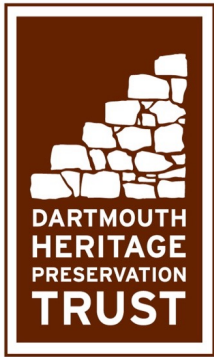
**Erin Miranda, Executive Director of the Waterfront
Historic Area League (WHALE)
"Preservation through Partnerships"**

WHALE has had a long history of completed historic preservation projects throughout New Bedford. There are countless success stories that prove again and again that historic preservation is impossible without partnerships and collaborators. WHALE's work and impact continue under Erin Miranda's leadership.



Perhaps Sarah Delano (1904-1994), WHALE's President from 1966-1982, said it best:

"If you bulldoze your heritage, you become just anywhere." WHALE was founded to ensure that New Bedford is "Not Just Anywhere."



**Dartmouth Heritage Preservation
Trust's Annual Meeting
October 20, 2024**



Featured Presentation

**Erin Miranda, Executive Director of the Waterfront
Historic Area League (WHALE)
"Preservation through Partnerships"**

A case study: The 1762 Akin House

It started with an abandoned old house saved from the wrecking ball by WHALE with Dartmouth's Community Preservation Funds and generous donors. It continued with DHPT in 2008 when WHALE transferred the deed to the Town of Dartmouth with DHPT to continue the preservation work and act as its stewards. As envisioned, DHPT converted the property into a "study house" and Cultural Heritage Center and Education Facility.

Erin Miranda's Bio:

Erin joined the Waterfront Historic Area League, Inc. in New Bedford as Executive Director in August 2023. From 2004 through 2023 she worked with Preservation Massachusetts, most recently as President and Executive Director. Erin brings over twenty years of non-profit administration, programming and preservation expertise to WHALE and its work across New Bedford. Central to WHALE's mission as a non-profit and Community Development Corporation is the rehabilitation and revitalization of historic buildings. Erin holds a degree in Historic Preservation from Roger Williams University and a lifelong resident of the SouthCoast.