The Village Preservation Society of East Hampton

35 Years of citizen action to protect and preserve the historic structures, residential character and quality of life in East Hampton
THE MISSION OF THE VILLAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

The Village Preservation Society was founded in 1982 to preserve historic structures and protect neighborhood character and the quality of life in the Village of East Hampton. Through collaboration with Village and Town governments and local organizations, we preserve the past, protect our heritage and anticipate future needs.

The planned demolition of the historic Gardiner Brown house (c. 1740) was the catalyst for concerned citizens to join together and found the Village Preservation Society in 1982.
WHO WE ARE

OUR MEMBERSHIP
With over 400 active members, (over 30% of the Village population) we have a broad representation of Village residents.

OUR VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS
Since inception 35 years ago, nearly 75 local residents have given their time in service to our community.

WHAT WE DO

• Conduct quality of life surveys to help us understand residents’ concerns regarding issues that impact the quality of life in the Village
• Communicate those concerns to our elected officials and propose policy
• Attend public hearings and serve as a watchdog and advocate
• Monitor zoning changes and implementation of Village and Town codes
• Work to create historic districts and preserve our historic structures
• Raise funding for key projects often in collaboration with sister organizations
• Make annual preservation grants
• Sponsor educational forums and host discussions and debates with candidates running for elected office

Built in 1731, the Town House was both school and Town Hall for over a century.

The restored belfry at St. Peter’s Chapel in Springs, houses a bell that dates from the Civil War.

The first secondary school in the State of New York, the Clinton Academy is managed by the East Hampton Historical Society.
WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED?

Thirty-five years of collaboration with Village and Town Governments and fellow community service organizations have led to many achievements, both large and small. The cumulative impact of this work has been dramatic in both historic preservation and our quality of life.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Quality of life surveys have helped identify critical issues such as the need to improve the availability and quality of healthcare, the necessity of some type of deer management program, and the need to formulate an airport traffic policy.

VPS Founded

Support for Village Comprehensive Plan

VPS opposes Connecticut car ferry service

A&P Megastore defeated

Montauk New London ferry approval overturned

1980

Village Lot Law

Borden Farm Upzoned

Main Street Historic District established

Landmarks Ordinance passed

Gardiner Brown House saved from demolition

Beecher House preserved as new Village Hall

$150,000 raised for Gardiner Windmill restoration

1985

1990

1995

Money raised for preservation of the Town House

Hook Historic District established

Hunting Lane Historic District established

Hunting Lane Historic District established

First VPS Quality of Life Survey identifies need for greater access to healthcare

PRESERVATION

These achievements would not have been possible without the support of our members.
We have been honored to collaborate with and support the following organizations:
The East Hampton Village and Town Governments • The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation
The Ladies Village Improvement Society • The East Hampton Historical Society • Garden Club of East Hampton
Quite Skies Coalition, Ltd. • The Long Island Clean Water Partnership • Concerned Citizens of Montauk • The Thomas Moran Trust
The Amagansett Life Saving Station • Neighborhood House • Wildlife Rescue, Inc. • St. Lukes Episcopal Church

Educational forums have been held and capital has been raised for important restoration projects and deer population management.

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<tr>
<td>Village Comprehensive Plan adopted</td>
<td>East Hampton Healthcare Foundation established and Pantigo Place property purchased</td>
<td>Village Sign Ordinance revised</td>
<td>VPS hosts first Deer Management Forum</td>
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<td>VPS funds restoration of the Hook Schoolhouse</td>
<td>Ocean Avenue Historic District established</td>
<td>VPS hosts Aircraft Noise Forum</td>
<td>VPS adopts Aircraft Noise Policy</td>
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<td>Former Buick car dealership becomes Village green space</td>
<td>North End Cemetery headstone restoration</td>
<td>VPS hosts Water Quality Forum</td>
<td>VPS advocates for use of CPF monies for Water Quality Improvement</td>
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<td>VPS raises $100,000 for Spay-A-Doe Deer Management Program</td>
<td>$5,000 gift to Life Saving Station</td>
<td>$10,000 grant for Thomas Moran House restoration</td>
<td>VPS proposes small lot zoning changes to protect neighborhood character</td>
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VPS Chair Joan Osborne discusses deer control with CBS news


VPS 2013 Welcome to Summer Party. L to R: Pat Mercer, Katy Graham, Missy Egbert Sheehan, Joan Osborne and Mary Busch

The Village Preservation Society presents the Village with a check for $100,000 to fund Spay-A-Doe campaign 2014

VPS Trustees Andy Goldstein and Andrée Dean present Town Supervisor Bill Wilkinson a VPS grant for purchase of an ATV for the Ocean Rescue Squad in 2010

Airport Noise public hearing at LTV studios, 2014. L to R: Peter Wolf, Ken Lipper, Councilwoman Kathie Burke-Gonzalez, and VPS Executive Director, Kathleen Cunningham
WHILE MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, MANY CHALLENGES REMAIN:

TRANSPORTATION:
- Traffic control, taxi cab and ride-sharing regulation, road safety for pedestrians and cyclists, aircraft noise management

VISITATION:
- The regulation of long and short-term rentals including AirBnB and VRBO

DEER MANAGEMENT:
- The humane management of an out-of-control deer population that is damaging habitats, spreading disease and causing traffic fatalities

WATER QUALITY:
- Protecting our drinking water and the quality of our water bodies for fishery and recreational uses

DENSITY AND GROWTH:
- Zoning policy, controlling the redevelopment of small Village lots with much larger structures that change the character of neighborhoods

LONG-TERM PLANNING:
- A Village Comprehensive Plan, which focuses on many of these same issues, last conducted in 2001, is due to be updated

HOW CAN YOU HELP?
- Become a member of the VPS and receive our newsletter
- Get involved, attend our forums, annual meeting or consider serving on our Board
- Give to our annual appeal

To join, please contact us at 631-324-3524 or at villagepreservationsociety.org
VPS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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