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Two of Maine's Historic Landmarks Receive Restoration Grants
Lowe's and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to Fund Projects at Pemaquid Point Lighthouse in Bristol and Woodlawn Museum in Ellsworth

Washington, D.C. (Feb. 9, 2007)– Lowe's and the National Trust for Historic Preservation today announced that they are awarding nearly \$80,000 in grants to fund restoration projects in Maine. The American Lighthouse Foundation's Pemaquid Point Lighthouse in Bristol will receive \$50,000, and the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations' Woodlawn Museum in Ellsworth will receive nearly \$30,000 grant.

The Maine projects are among 10 grant recipients in six states, including Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Funding for these grants was provided by Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation through a \$1 million contribution to the National Trust. This is the second year that Lowe's has supported the National Trust for Historic Preservation with a \$1 million grant.

"With the support and generosity of our vendors, Lowe's is proud to support efforts aligned with our mission of improving the places where our customers, employees and families live, work and play," said Larry D. Stone, chairman of the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation. "Focusing on priority projects of the National Trust for Historic Preservation enables us to make dramatic and long-lasting improvements to these communities."

"Pemaquid Point Lighthouse and Woodlawn Museum are both unique and irreplaceable parts of our American heritage, and thanks to the funding from Lowe's, we'll be able to help ensure their preservation for future generations," said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "Lowe's has been an exemplary steward of our nation's history, and we're delighted to partner with the company to fund deserving projects."

Pemaquid Point Lighthouse in Bristol

For nearly 175 years, the white stone lighthouse at the entrance to Bristol's Muscongus Bay and John Bay has acted as a beacon for sailors and a source of inspiration for artists. The scene of many shipwrecks through the centuries, including the 1635 wreck of the British ship *Angel Gabriel* in which five people died and all 100 on board lost their belongings, Pemaquid Point is famous not only for its treacherous shoals but also for its dramatic setting.

With marine trade, fishing and the shipping of lumber increasing in midcoast Maine, Congress appropriated \$4,000 for the building of a lighthouse at Pemaquid Point in 1826. That structure soon crumbled and was replaced in 1835 by a stalwart new lighthouse.

The American Lighthouse Foundation's Pemaquid Point chapter will use the \$50,000 Lowe's grant to repair and restore the exterior masonry of the 1835 Pemaquid Point Lighthouse, a cherished state landmark depicted on the Maine state quarter. Because of considerable moisture/water intrusion, the lighthouse's mortar has thoroughly deteriorated. Professional contractors will set up and stage scaffolding around the 28-foot granite tower, remove existing coatings of sealant from the exterior walls, cut out deteriorated mortar joints and then renew, repoint and repaint the stonework.

Woodlawn Museum in Ellsworth

For 100 years, three generations of the Black family owned and lived in the stately brick house they called Woodlawn, built between 1824 and 1827. Today, the house, surrounded by landscaped gardens, barns and 180 acres of fields and woods, contains original furnishings and extensive archives that document Colonel John Black's role in the development of Maine's lumber industry. A rare time capsule, this beautiful home and its collections reveal much about changing economic, social and domestic conditions in the century between the 1820s and 1920s.

Open to the public since 1929, the property has not undergone large-scale preservation work since the 1930s. Woodlawn Museum will use the \$29,870 Lowe's grant to preserve the house's windows, which have been compromised by flaking paint and loose glazing. The grant will also be used to apply a film to the exterior of the windows that will protect the museum's collections from the damaging effects of ultraviolet light.

To select grant recipients, the National Trust's Northeast Office held an open competition to identify important historic preservation projects in a 10-state region from Maine to Delaware. The Northeast Office received 171 applications for a total requested amount of \$16 million in construction funds. To be eligible for grants, properties had to be at least 50 years old, open to the public and in need of assistance for bricks-and-mortar work. A selection committee composed of Lowe's and National Trust representatives reviewed applicants' proposals and made the final selections. The National Trust Northeast Office will work with each of the grant recipients to complete the projects over the next year.

The Lowe's grant award recipients are:

Delaware Grants

The Iron Hill Museum, Newark, Del. – Constructed in 1923 as a segregated one-room African-American schoolhouse and now used as a museum to showcase Delaware's mining, African-American and Native American history, the Iron Hill Museum will receive a \$92,275 Lowe's grant to install a new hot air furnace and oil tank, fire detection system and wood-shingle roof.

Maine Grants

Pemaquid Point Lighthouse, Bristol, Me. --For nearly 175 years, the white, granite lighthouse depicted on the Maine state quarter has acted as a beacon for sailors and a source of inspiration for artists. Due to considerable water intrusion, the lighthouse's mortar has deteriorated, and the \$50,000 Lowe's grant will be used to fund the repair and restoration of the landmark structure's exterior masonry.

Woodlawn Museum, Ellsworth, Me. – Built between 1824 and 1827, Woodlawn was the home of a prominent Maine lumber family for more than a century and has been open as a public museum for more than 75 years. The \$29,870 Lowe's grant will be used to preserve the museum's windows, which have been compromised by flaking paint and loose glazing.

Massachusetts Grants

Tremont Estates Building, Boston, Mass. -- Constructed in 1865 as the home of the Smith Organ Company, the Tremont Estates Building was abandoned and unused for years until it was reclaimed as artist studio space. The \$100,000 grant from Lowe's will be used to restore 238 historic windows in the building, which is now part of the Boston Center for the Arts.

Crane Estate at Castle Hill, Ipswich, Mass. -- Perched high above a barrier beach overlooking the Atlantic, the Great House at Castle Hill was constructed in 1928 as the summer home of a Chicago plumbing magnate. Now open to the public, the estate is the beneficiary of a \$52,800 Lowe's grant that will be used to repair and restore Castle Hill's concrete garden walls and entry stairs.

New Jersey Grants

Ellis Island Ferry Building, N.J. -- Built in the Art Deco style in 1934-35, Ellis Island's architecturally significant Ferry Building, which was used as a lunch room for immigrants, a waiting room for the departure ferries and a U.S.

Customs Office, has been vacant since 1954. The \$100,000 Lowe's grant will be used to restore the Customs Room, the final portion of unrestored interior space.

Count Basie Theatre, Red Bank, N.J. -- Constructed in 1926 and known for its magnificent sunburst dome and ceiling of 1,000 multi-colored lights, the theater named for Red Bank native Count Basie will use its \$100,000 Lowe's grant to defray the cost of installing a new roof.

New York Grants

Harriet Tubman Home, Auburn, N.Y. -- The New York home of the famed abolitionist, Underground Railroad operator, Civil War spy and nurse, suffragist, and humanitarian will benefit from a \$100,000 Lowe's grant to fund mechanical upgrades.

Pennsylvania Grants

Smith Memorial Playhouse, Philadelphia, Pa. -- A treasured landmark since it opened in 1899, the 24,000-square-foot Beaux Arts building designed exclusively to give inner-city children a safe and fun place to play, will receive a \$100,000 Lowe's grant to repair its severely deteriorated slate roof.

The Bryn Mawr Theater, Pa. -- Built in 1926 as a grand movie palace, Bryn Mawr's historic theater long ago covered its spectacular sky-lit atrium with tar paper and ceiling tiles. Now, thanks to a \$100,000 grant from Lowe's, the glorious skylight will shine once more.

To read more about each grant recipient, visit www.nationaltrust.org.

About Lowe's

Lowe's is a proud sponsor of Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross, United Way of America, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Home Safety Council, in addition to numerous non-profit organizations and programs that help communities across the country. Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation awards more than \$3 million annually to diverse organizations across the United States. Lowe's also encourages volunteerism through the Lowe's Heroes program, a company-wide employee volunteer initiative. Lowe's is a FORTUNE 50 company with fiscal year 2005 sales of \$43.2 billion and has more than 1,375 stores in 49 states. For more information, visit www.Lowes.com/community.

About the National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to protecting the irreplaceable. Recipient of the National Humanities Medal, the Trust was founded in 1949 and provides leadership, education, advocacy, and resources to save America's diverse historic places and revitalize communities. Its Washington, DC headquarters staff, six regional offices and 28 historic sites work with the Trust's 270,000 members and thousands of local community groups in all 50 states. For more information, visit the Trust's web site at www.nationaltrust.org.

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