

2006 Statewide Historic Preservation
Honor Award Presented to:

Victoria Mansion
Portland, Maine
For Tower and Brownstone
Restoration



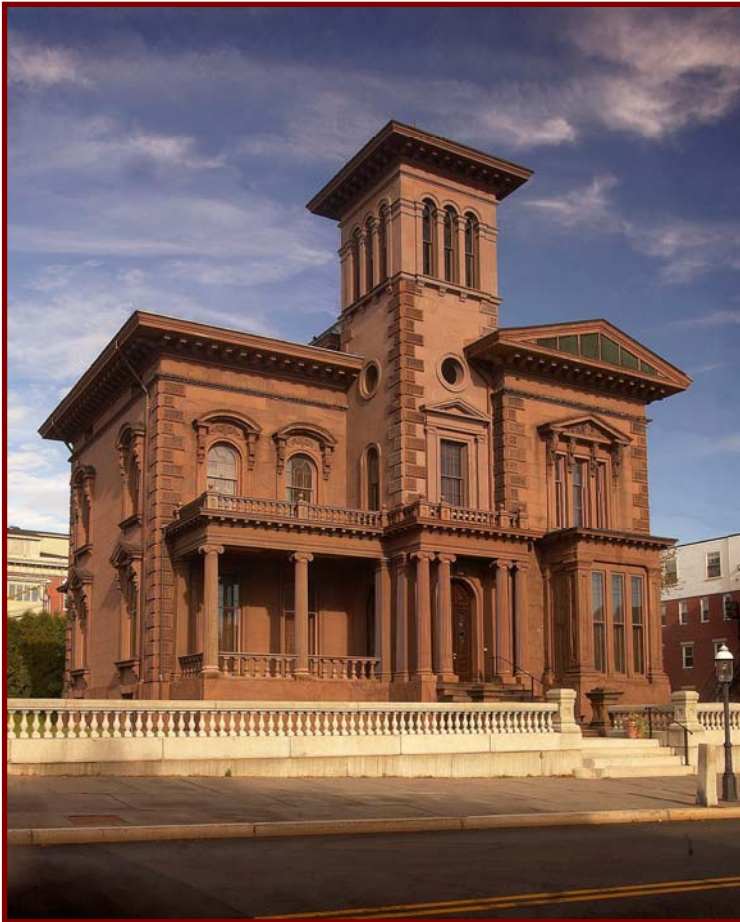
Nearly 150 years of Maine weather had taken a toll on Victoria Mansion's brownstone, to the point where the stone on the tower was failing. Flaking stone was a public hazard and water leaks were beginning to threaten the irreplaceable interiors. A dream team composed of some of the foremost preservation consultants and contractors in the northeast were pulled together to preserve, conserve, and restore the stone, decorative quoins and interior plasterwork and painted decorations. The \$1.5 million dollar project was supported by a \$400,000 Save America's Treasures grant and a Getty Foundation Architectural Conservation Implementation grant – requiring strict adherence to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and review by the National Park Service and the Getty Conservation Institute.

Removed stones were numbered and catalogued. Some stones were recycled, salvaged, recut and reused. Three dimension drawings were created and reviewed – and then the match game began. The team hand selected the replacement stone at the original quarry site in Portland, Connecticut – a process that took months. Then came innovative techniques including chemical consolidation, micropinning and grouting – and interlacing new stone with the existing stonework on the sides where the tower abuts the main body of the building. From 1/8" mortar joints to massive scaffolding and heavy equipment, they were able to accomplish all of this while the mansion stayed open to the public! The story is remarkable and received enormous and well-deserved press coverage. To quote Director Robert Wolterstorff, the project was "extremely delicate and challenging. The new conservation treatments pioneered for this project lead the field and will

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benefit the field nationwide.” Earle Shettleworth, director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, stated, “In short, the magnificence of the completed Victorian Mansion Tower Restoration project

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exemplifies the confluence of traditional high quality craftsmanship with sophisticated modern construction capabilities and historic preservation standards and best practices.”



Congratulations to Director Robert Wolterstorff, his Board of Directors and staff, plus the team of David Fixler, lead architect, and Marie Ennis, preservation engineer, both of Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, Consigli Construction Company, stone consultant Ivan Myjer (who by the way is the leading expert on brownstone in the nation), architectural conservator Andrew Ladygo, carpenter Caleb Hemphill, stone carver Christoph Henning, finishes consultant Brian Powell, roofer Victor Wright and electricians E.S. Boulos.

The Victoria Mansion is located at:
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