

## Montpelier Historical Society Annual Report

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The Montpelier Historical Society (MVHS) continued to rebuild in 2025 after a period of inactivity between 2010 and 2022.

Continuing our series on Montpelier neighborhoods, we presented a well-attended program in June entitled “From Crossroads to Roundabout: A History of North Main Street.” The program was generously supported by The Gray Residence, whose recently expanded 1941 building on Main Street was described during the program.

A highlight of the year was the return of the Marquis de Lafayette to Montpelier on June 28 as part of a recreation of his famous 24-state, 13-month “Farewell Tour” 200 years ago. Participants waved French flags, listened to gracious remarks from the French general who in 1825 was the last living general of the American Revolution, and learned about Lafayette’s influential life.

This past year we made our online catalog available to the public at <https://hub.catalogit.app/montpelier-vermont-historical-society>. The database includes images and descriptions of Montpelier-related objects, photographs, and printed materials in our growing collection. This resource is a good way for residents to learn about the material culture of Montpelier’s past!

We began displaying some of our collections in a glass case in Stone Hall at Greenway Institute (formerly Vermont College of Fine Arts) where we also have some collections storage space. We have an 1800s spinning wheel that was sold in Montpelier on display in the window of Everett Insurance on State Street and are working to create a display in another business’s window downtown.

Office space and collections storage continues to be a challenge for the Montpelier Historical Society. Although our collections are currently well cared for and out of the flood plain, we continue to search for a more permanent home in which to catalog and display our collections.



*Employees of Wyman's General Painting and Spraying pose for a photograph on the roof of the company's garage at 62 River Street in the summer of 1936. Wyman's specialized in painting gasoline stations and fuel tanks across New England and New York. The company grew over the years and transitioned to selling and maintaining service station equipment into the 1980s.*