

National Endowment for the Humanities

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

Mont Vernon Library Charitable Foundation

Mont Vernon New Library Construction

Lot 4-45, on the North side of Grand Hill Road, behind the US Post Office

Mont Vernon, NH, 03057

CHA-86624

BACKGROUND

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awards grants and cooperative agreements to support research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. The proposed activity is supported with financial assistance authorized under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-209) to enable infrastructure development and capacity building, including through the design, purchase, construction, restoration, or renovation of facilities needed for humanities activities and historic landscapes.

PROPOSED ACTION

The Mont Vernon Library Charitable Foundation (MVLCF) on behalf of the Town of Mont Vernon (Town) proposes the construction of a new Daland Memorial Library in Mont Vernon, New Hampshire.

The Town will build a new library on land previously acquired for a library and a cemetery. The new Library will be constructed on a 10-acre portion of the 41.2-acre parcel, the balance assigned to the future cemetery. The lot is bounded by conservation land, a Town Park, residential areas and a US Post Office. The new, one-story slab-on-grade library building will be approximately 7,600 square feet. The site will feature a natural outdoor performance space in front and surrounding gardens.

The Town will also construct, as a separate project, a new road to provide library access, parking and cemetery access. The projects involve grading, trenching and other site work for the road and building construction. The road project will fill 0.21 acres of wetlands and include infiltration basins to protect the area from excessive runoff from the access road and new Library site. The applicant submitted a Condensed Environmental Assessment (EA) that documents the impacts of the proposed action. The EA for this project is incorporated by reference into this FONSI.

MITIGATION

The mitigation is incorporated by reference and can be found in Part III of this Condensed EA.

CONCLUSION

NEH hereby adopts the Condensed EA prepared by the MVLCF without modification for the proposed action described above. After reviewing the assessment and the supporting materials provided by the grant applicant, NEH finds that the assessment properly documents the proposal’s status of compliance with the environmental laws and requirements listed therein.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (44 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) and the National Endowment for the Humanities NEPA Implementing Procedures, NEH determines, with the mitigation measures described in Part III, the proposed action will have no significant adverse impact on the quality of the human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Approvals:

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Federal Preservation and Environmental Officer	Date
National Endowment for the Humanities	