



Staff photos by Joe Phelan

**MOP-UP:** George Luckhurst sweeps up inside, above, and George Rogers moves items to sweep around them, below, Friday at the Old Town House Museum in Litchfield. Members of the Historical Society of Litchfield aired out the building, swept away dust and cobwebs, and raked the lawn in front of the one-story clapboard building on Hallowell-Litchfield Road.

LITCHFIELD

# A new life for old Town House

## Grant powers revival at historic building

BY BETTY ADAMS  
Staff Writer

LITCHFIELD — The Old Town House Museum got a sprucing-up Friday in advance of some major renovations to preserve the circa-1840 building that began as the Town Office.

Members of the Historical Society of Litchfield aired out the building Friday, swept away dust and cobwebs, and raked the lawn in front of the one-story clapboard building adjacent to Veterans Memorial Park on Hallowell-Litchfield Road.

They're hoping to welcome Litchfield schoolchildren on tours this spring.

The building houses a barn room, a

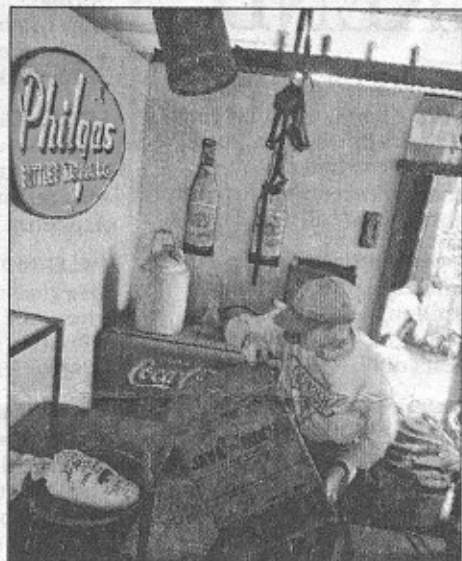
Victorian parlor, a schoolroom, a general store and a room devoted to the various businesses that once flourished in town.

Society members recently learned they were awarded \$4,040 for museum renovations from the New Century Community Program, which is administered by the Maine State Archives. The town has agreed to kick in \$3,060 for renovation work.

Historical Society member Christine Stenberg said she would do \$490 worth of in-kind work cataloging the museum.

Those amounts should cover the \$7,100 estimate for repairs.

Stenberg said Pownalborough



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# Litchfield

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Restorations has scheduled repair work for midsummer. The repairs will include replacing rotted clapboards, fascia boards and corner posts. Then members will paint the outside of the building and seek another grant to fix the roof.

Stenberg notified selectmen she found the building's original shutters in the back ell, and said she plans to see if she can paint and rehang them.

The group also is considering trying to get the building on the National Register of Historic Places.

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