



Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead

HISTORIC PRESERVATION & SUSTAINABILITY APPRENTICESHIP



Applications Due March 1, 2023

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead is a non-profit nature preserve and non-traditional house museum that seeks to connect people to place through nature, history and the arts. Vaughan Woods is open to the public daily from dawn to dusk, programs are offered at the Homestead throughout the year, and an effort to catalogue the organization's collection of historical papers and artifacts is ongoing.

Spend your summer in one of Maine's most iconic small villages! Nestled on the banks of the Kennebec River, historic Hallowell is a picturesque community offering a vibrant main street and an active culture and arts scene. Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead is located in the heart of the small city and offers an 8-week summer apprenticeship for an individual interested in gaining hands-on experience in caring for an historic property, including a 1794 house and surrounding outbuildings, gardens and grounds. Join us in the early stages of our journey to blend old and new technologies and practices to make the site a model of environmental sustainability without compromising its historic character. Work with our experienced property team

— repairing 18th century windows and furniture, investigating ecologically sound mowing techniques, documenting antique wallpaper, monitoring humidity levels in collections storage areas, budget planning, caring for 200-year old apple trees — these are just a few examples of the interesting things they did last year!

Apprentices work along VWHH staff members on tasks that fall into three areas and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Nature Preserve:

- trail maintenance
- small repairs to stone bridges and retaining walls
- Invasive species removal

Historic House Museum:

- conditions assessments / building inspections
- energy use evaluation and environmental sustainability related projects
- traditional carpentry
- collections management
- program support

Gardens & Grounds:

- maintain historic paths, shrubs and structures in colonial revival flower garden
- planting and weeding vegetable gardens
- light lawn mowing and weed-whacking

(In 2023: garden projects may include, but are not limited to building raised beds for a food bank garden, researching and planting old varieties of medical herbs and perennials once grown on the property, re-establish old path from garden to cemetery, and drainage work surrounding buildings)

Independent Project Opportunities:

Guided by our experienced property team, apprentices may choose to take on an independent project to support their academic and/or professional goals. Examples might include.

Final Presentation

The Preservation & Sustainability Apprentice will be asked to give a final presentation about their experience and/or project to the VWHH Board of Directors and volunteers. Presentations are informal and in a supportive and friendly environment.

Compensation:

VWHH provides a stipend of \$1500 as well as housing. Accommodations are offered at Vaughan Homestead's Guest House, which is adjacent to the historic property, offers a sweeping view of the Kennebec River and is within walking distance of downtown Hallowell. The house will be shared with VWHH and Kennebec Land Trust interns. Roommates (two people/bedroom) *may* be necessary depending on the number of people hired each year.

VWHH Supervision:

The apprentice will report to Dan Mitchell, VWHH Property Manager; however, they will have the opportunity to work with a variety of staff members and volunteers.

Hours:

Flexible hours; 25-40 hours a week, including some Saturdays and Sundays; June-August; some weeks will consist of more work hours than others. The ideal start date is June 1; however, this could be flexible.

Qualifications:

Interested applicants must be able to perform physically demanding field work, enjoy working with the general public, be comfortable multi-tasking and be interested in historic preservation and landscape management.

- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong organizational and time management skills
- Ability to perform moderately strenuous manual labor
- Comfortable working outside
- Valid driver's license

How to Apply: Please send a cover letter, resume, and list of two references. Email full application to: katetremblay@vaughanhomestead.org

CONTACT: Questions may be addressed to Kate Tremblay at the above email address or via phone at (207) 622-9831.