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Demo complete on old Bath High School

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BATH—The kitchen-addition on the old Bath High School was demolished last week taking the Bath High School Preservation Committee a step closer to reaching its goal to return the school to its original façade.

"This is a major step forward in returning this property to community service," said Peggy Daw, president of the Bath High School Preservation Committee.

Contractor Toby Tetterton

completed the demolition.

Bath High School was built in 1921. The kitchen was added to the high school in 1966 to provide a cooking area and serving line.

The kitchen was added after the "period of significance," which ran between 1918-57, Daw said.

Permission was needed from the National Register of Historic Places to remove the kitchen area because the high school is on the register listing.

"The historic office felt the removal of the kitchen was

okay because it brought back the earlier and much more attractive appearance," Daw said, adding that personnel of the historic office served as consultants during the demolition process. "This keeps our vision of revealing the best architecture features."

With the removal of the old kitchen, Daw said she and her committee are hoping to continue renovations on various parts of the building.

"It is great that the town can use the 1939 vocational/gym building (as office space

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Demo

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and a location for town meetings). I hope to see another building in service soon," Daw said, adding that the committee focused its energy on the wing behind the old kitchen.

Eight new five-panel solid fir doors were delivered to Washington from a company in Oregon and installed. Windows were also replaced and work on the roof is complete.

"Our renovations are staged in a manner, one wing at a time," Daw said.

The renovations cannot continue without the commu-

nity's support.

The Bath High School Preservation Committee is hosting an auction on Sept. 12, at the Ormond Amphitheater. The event is free and open to the public.

"We can't do it without help from others. This is our biggest fundraiser," Daw said, adding that interested citizens may submit items for the auction. "We take anything from gift certificates to services to antiques."

The old Bath High School is one of three structures in historic Bath that form a triangle in the middle of town. The other two points are the old Swindell Store and St. Thomas Church, according to Daw.



Contractors completed the demolition of the old Bath High School's kitchen last week. The removal of the kitchen-addition takes the school back to its original historic state. (Photo by Karen Sayer)