



Vermont



NeKArts
Hardwick

NeKArts

The Northeast Kingdom Arts Council

www.nekarts.org

NeKArts is headquartered in the historic Hardwick Town House. It's mission is to provide both educational and entertaining programming to the residents of the Northeast Kingdom and surrounding areas while preserving and maintaining the historic Hardwick Town House.

NeKArt's Facts

The Town House was built in 1860, originally serving as Hardwick Academy, the town's primary school. In 1898 the facility was renovated. A new entrance hall, raked seating, and a stage were added and the second story was converted in to a balcony. Hardwick had a first rate opera house.

Concerts, lecture series and variety acts graced the stage and usually packed a full house well into the early twenties of last century. Falling second place to the offerings of roadside tent shows and the local movie house known as The Idle Hour, the Town House activities diminished to few annual events and town meetings for the next forty years.

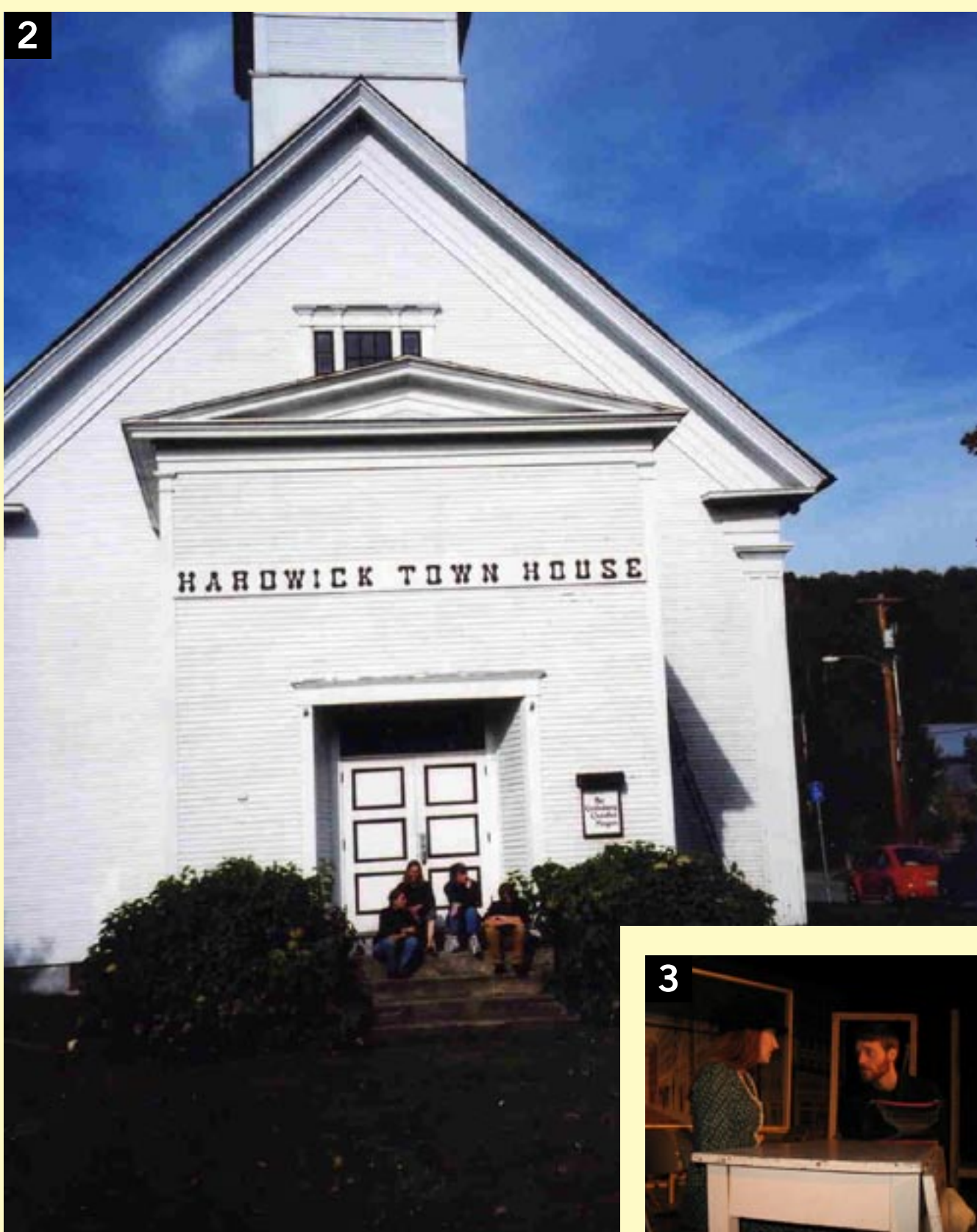
In the 1970's The Craftsbury Chamber Players made the facility their summer home and have since been performing to residents of the surrounding communities.

In 2001 the Northeast Kingdom Arts Council was formed to take stewardship of this building and bring life back to this facility on a year round basis. Today the opera house is open year round and is the community gathering space. The building hosts the local high school drama club, Town Meeting, lectures, dramatic and musical productions, and a gallery for local artists.

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1. Intoning a street scene on one of the historical theater curtains.
2. A small group gathers outside the Hardwick Town House.
3. A scene from one of our many community theatrical productions.
4. One of the local residents viewing the historical photos on display.

