

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

The Division for Historic Preservation administers state-funded matching grants for the repair of Vermont's historic agricultural buildings. These grants are awarded by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. To qualify, buildings must be at least 50 years old and/or listed, or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The maximum amount for each grant is \$15,000, with many recipients spending more than the required match.

Website: <http://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/barn-grants>

Awarded Project Summaries



Albany, Lawrence Farm - \$6,000

This Yankee Barn was built in 1833 and was used as part of a 280-acre dairy farm by the current owner's parents. In addition to the main dairy barn, the complex also includes a blacksmith shop and chicken coop. The barn is currently home to a miniature horse; the owner hopes to add other small animals to the farm and open it up to public for Open Farm Week and County 4-H clubs. Grant funds will support replacement of 23 deteriorated barn sash windows, repair of the doors, siding, and metal roof.



Brattleboro, Brook Meadow Farm (Brookacres) - \$15,000

Brook Meadow Farm is bound by two brooks feeding into the West River, an area of pre-contact Abenaki activity. The early 1800s barn was part of the farm previously known as Brookacres, which was owned by Phil "The Flying Dentist" Dunham. He used the barn for breeding Morgan horses and hosting his Harris Hill ski-jumping and XC ski youth service activities. Today, Brook Meadow Farm hosts a farm camp, welcomes local schools, and runs an egg and garden market, with a specialty in dahlias. A matching grant will support the most urgent work to improve the barn's post support system, make repairs to the framing, stabilization of the silo, and grading and drainage work.



Burke, Mountain View Farm - \$14,226

Elmer Darling established Mountain View Farm in 1883. This gentleman's farm includes a breeding barn for Morgan horses along with numerous other agricultural buildings. The horse barn is used for public events. Previously funding from VDHP addressed deteriorated portions of the barn's brick foundation. This grant will provide funding to replace the barn's asphalt shingle roof.



Corinth, Wilson Farm - \$15,000

This 171-acre property includes approximately 120 acres of mature forest, an abandoned 10-acre apple orchard, and 14 acres of pasture. The house and main barn, both built between 1790 and 1800, were owned by George Washington Wilson in 1858; his descendants retained ownership until 1951. The farmhouse and the farm have never been connected to the power grid. Grant funds will support a complete rehabilitation of the barn. Once restored it will support a small-scale farming operation, with a restored apple orchard and livestock including pigs, goats, turkey, and chickens.



Fairfield, Misty Maples Farm - \$15,000

Misty Maples Farm was founded in 1951 by the parents of the current owners. This active farm, set on 240 acres with multiple agricultural buildings, produces organic dairy and maple syrup products. A barn grant awarded in 2020 enabled repairs to the farm's horse barn. This second grant will support work on the heifer barn, which houses young cattle. The work includes repairs to the south front corner of the barn where the foundation is failing, and replacement of rotted sills and deteriorated siding.



Glover, Bread & Puppet Barn - \$14,365

Four generations of the Sherburne family have owned this property since 1846. John and Maria Scott purchased the farm in 1969, which was then given to daughter Elka Schumann and Bread and Puppet Theater around 1971. Since 1974, the theater buildings and performance land have been leased to Bread and Puppet Theater, a non-profit organization that hosts annual summer programs drawing thousands of visitors from around the world. Grant funds will support work to replace a section of the Museum Barn's failing foundation along with associated drainage work. This building was built between 1860 and 1862 and currently provides a small stage and an exhibit of puppets made over the past 50+ years.

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Awarded Project Summaries



Hardwick, Eastview Farm - \$10,000

This 69.9-acre property is dotted with multiple buildings including a c. 1870 hay barn that was expanded into a 100-cow tie barn in 1949. Although dairying on the property ceased in 1989, the barn is still in active agricultural use. The current owners grow organic vegetables including garlic and greens, and raise Scotch Highland Cattle, goats, and poultry. The barn is crucial to this operation as it is used for hay storage, garlic drying and curing, and houses farm animals. A matching grant will support replacement of the barn's leaking metal roof.



Hardwick, Plank House Farm - \$15,000

The c. 1810 English Barn was moved to this property in the mid-1800. The property was used a summer residence beginning in the 1920s and went through several changes of use from wood plantation to supporting a heard of beef cattle and later sheep. It is locally famous as the barn where a "Hollywood lady kept rescue lions." Today the barn is used for housing rabbits, chickens, and beef cattle. Grant-funded repairs will allow for expansion of space for animals and equipment, creation of a calving stall and housing for a bull, young stock, or pigs. Work will address major foundation repairs, including installation of drainage, replacement of deteriorated sills, and new flooring system.



Hinesburg, Livery Horse Farm - \$15,000

Previously part of a dairy farm owned by the Goodrich and Lavigne families, the current owners bought the farm's 27 remaining acres in 1992 and converted the interior of the main dairy barn into box stalls for horses. The barn now supports a successful 30-year business training kids to ride horses, with summer camps and after-school programs. Less than a mile from the town center, the farm regularly welcomes the local 4H club and partners with the Hinesburg Recreation Department to host year-round programs. A matching grant will support work to replace the roof's framing system and cladding.



Pawlet, Consider Bardwell Farm - \$15,000

Founded by Consider Stebbins Bardwell, this property is reputed to be the site of the first cheese factory in Vermont. It is still an active operation producing artisanal cheese. The farm has several masonry agricultural structures, including a brick blacksmith shop, granary and hog house, smokehouse, and corn crib. The unique former cheese house has a plastered masonry exterior, originally scored to look like dressed stone. A state grant will support repairs to this building's exterior by stabilizing the existing masonry and then re-building failed stonework and gravel with the appropriate plaster coating in several layers to match the original construction technique including scores to match the original faux stone appearance.



Pittsford, Cadwell Farm - \$15,000

This property has been in the Cadwell family since the 1840s. The 1910 gambrel barn is the centerpiece, and the adjacent 300 acres supported a dairy operation until 1973 when milking operations ceased. Since that time, the fields have remained open and are partially conserved and/or in use by neighboring farmers. The barn is now used for charitable events, theatrical productions, and family gatherings. Matching grant funds will support work to replace the failing concrete foundation and repairs to the lower-level framing.



Plainfield, Gale-Bancroft Barn - \$15,000

This c. 1840 barn was once part of a small farm that consisted of a two-acre house and orchard lot in the lower village of Plainfield, along with a 15-acre pasture sold off in the early 1900s. The two-acre house lot still retains a portion of the historic apple orchard that is still producing. The barn is used for pressing cider, hay storage, and goat shelter for a neighbor's animals. A grant will address several areas of concern, including drainage work, foundation repairs, structural repairs, and replacement of the north slope of the barn's metal roof, providing space for bicycle maintenance and repairs.



Rupert, Aines Farm - \$14,226

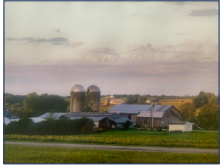
This c. 1890s barn, originally located in Danby, was part of the Silas Griffith Farm. In 1932 it was dismantled and moved to the Aines Farm to replace an earlier structure lost to a fire. The current owner purchased this farm from the Vermont Land Trust in 1994, running a dairy operation. In recent years, the farm has transitioned to raising cows for beef and maple sugaring with the barn still used for housing animals and feed. A grant will help fund repairs to areas of deteriorated framing and siding on the north and south ends of the barn.

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Shelburne, Luduc Farm (Bread and Butter Farm) - \$15,000

The current owners purchased the conserved 143-acre Luduc Farm in 2009. The main barn was constructed by Obrick Lapierre c. 1900, using salvaged timber from earlier structures. Previously a large dairy operation, today the farm is a diversified organic vegetable, cattle, and pig farm, hosting year-round events and educational programs. A grant award will fund several repairs, allowing expanded use of the barn as a three-season classroom and event space for such partnerships as UVM's Farmer Training program, Agroecology Program, and Middlebury College's New Perennials Program.



Shoreham, Douglas Orchards Barn - \$15,000

Douglas Orchards was conserved by the Vermont Land Trust in 2020. It consists of 184 acres planted with fruit trees and berries, offering pick your own strawberries, cherries, and apples. The farmstead includes multiple agricultural buildings including a machine shop/barn, cold storage building, cider mill, and a former dairy barn. The oldest section of this barn dates to c. 1800 and matching grant funds will address structural repairs, roof repairs, and replacement of deteriorated siding. Once repairs are complete, the owners plan to expand use of the barn to display and retail specialty lumber and finished wood products from trees harvested on the property.



South Burlington, Stone House Farm Barn - \$15,000

Known as the Stone House Farm, this property consists of an early stone farmhouse and five agricultural outbuildings: a main barn, multi-use barn, carriage house, stable, corn crib, and milk house. The property was used for sheep farming and then dairy farming, but the agricultural buildings fell into disuse and are now in poor condition. Matching grant funds will support work to replace the main barn's metal roof as a first phase of a larger rehabilitation effort. The owners hope the barn can be used as an educational tool and will use the hayloft for storage of hay from nearby farming operations.



South Royalton, Swift Farm - \$14,226

The Swift Family's ownership of this historic farmstead dates to the late 1700s. The Woolley Family bought the farm in 1906 and raised livestock and draft horses for 60 years. In 1969 the original farm acreage began to be sold off and around 1976 a large cow barn and silo on the property were deconstructed. Now, after 40+ years of neglect, a new owner will use matching grant funds to start restoring the remaining agricultural buildings. Grant funds will support a complete rehabilitation of the run-in shed to be used for hay storage, winter shelter for cattle, and spring calving.



Stafford, Pennock Farm - \$15,000

This farm was originally owned by Ezekiel Parish. It was farmed by his wife Mary Pennock's father after the land was confiscated from Ezekiel Parish for his loyalty to Britain during the Revolutionary War. The c. 1780 barn on the property is one of the oldest in Stafford. Grant funds will support the first phase of stabilization work to save this significant building for future use.



Thetford, Hughes Barn Museum - \$15,000

The Hughes Barn Museum is located on the former Coombs property. The land and buildings were used as a local museum beginning in the 1950s and were formally conveyed to the Thetford Historical Society in a bequest by Emma Coombs in 1963. The main barn was constructed c. 1840 but due to concerns about its structural condition following a flood in 2017, it is not currently open to the public. Using grant funds, the Historical Society will complete necessary structural repairs to allow the barn to be open to the public once again.



Tinmouth, McNamara Farm (Forget-Me-Not Farm) - \$2,830

The gambrel-roofed dairy barn at Forget-Me-Not Farm was constructed c. 1930 by the McNamara Brothers. The current owner has farmed the property for the last 45 years, originally using the barn for an active dairy operation before transitioning to a horse rescue facility in the mid-1980s. Today the barn is used to store hay and feed for horses, which are trained by Saratoga Warhorse, a non-profit veterans/first responder program. It also has a small farm store. A modest grant will support repairs to the barn's slate roof.

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Tunbridge, Bennett Farm - \$14,226

This historic farmstead includes a main Greek Revival-style house built in 1840, with attached sheds, and a connected c. 1830 English barn and larger c. 1860s addition. The farm was founded in 1789 and was owned and farmed by the Orvis Tracy Family and noted Tunbridge personality Marion Mentzer. Today, the Bennett family lease the open fields and barn to a local farming family. Grant funded work includes foundation repairs at the barn's northwest corner and framing repairs at the southwest corner, supporting the continued agricultural use of this barn.



West Brattleboro, Stark Farm - \$14,226

The Kahn/Stark Barn is located on a spectacular hill farm in West Brattleboro. The land was purchased by Clark Stark in 1865 and was farmed by three generations of Starks until 1962. Artists Wolf Kahn and Emily Mason acquired the property in 1968. Prior to their passing, Kahn and Mason set up two foundations to continue the archival work and legacy of their substantial body of artwork. The foundations are in conversation to move these archives to Vermont, making the Stark Farm available to visiting scholars, archivists, writers, and painters. A matching grant will support work to address drainage issues, to re-support basement posts, and complete framing repairs at the main barn.

