

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



Brandon, Sweet Cheeks Farm (Winslow Farm) - \$15,000

The historic Winslow Farm, now called Sweet Cheeks Farm, includes approximately 8.5 acres of pasture and woodland along the Neshobe River in Brandon. The farm includes a main house, chicken coop, and a c. 1885 English-style Barn. A matching grant will support work to the barn that will include re-building the west elevation foundation by re-using the existing stones and replacing a section of the sill at the southeast corner. Once repaired, the barn will house the farm's animals and provide workspace for processing eggs and vegetables for sale.



Brattleboro, Stoddard-Goodenough Farmstead - \$3,000

The Stoddard family owned this historic farm for over 100 years before it was sold to Arthur Goodenough, a dairy farmer and poet of regional importance. The property was donated to the Farmstead Trust in 2004 and is now open to the public. It includes a c. 1784 house, attached barn and dairy room, stone root cellar, icehouse, and a c. 1840 English Barn, which the Trust plans to use for displaying early agricultural tools and implements. Barn grant funds will be used to replace the metal roof of the barn's west roof slope.



Grand Isle, Pearl House Farm - \$14,250

Pearl House Farm was founded in 1831 and is named for Stephen Pearl, a Revolutionary War soldier. The property, consisting of approximately 87 acres, is prominently located along East Shore Road in Grand Isle and includes several agricultural buildings. A matching grant will allow the new owners of this historic property to replace a section of foundation along the main barn's west elevation. Additional work includes framing repairs, drainage work, and minor roof repairs.



Jericho, Cilley Hill Road Barn - \$15,000

Known as the Secretary Ransom House, this property includes a collection of mid-19th-century barns and a rare octagonal wood silo. It was an active dairy farm until the 1960s. Currently the owners use the former dairy barn for raising chickens. They plan to expand agricultural operations to include hemp, mushrooms, and Nubian goats, using the dairy barn to support these operations. Grant funds will support work along the barn's north gable and west elevation, including pouring a new concrete footer and foundation, replacing deteriorated sills and siding, and installing new barn sash.



Lincoln, Wells Farm - \$7,500

Wells Farm, also known as the Merrill Place, consists of 112 acres with open fields, a small pond, Lincoln's oldest cemetery (c. 1802), and 75 acres of forest conserved by the Northeast Wilderness Trust. The 4-acre homestead has a house, four historic barns, a tool shed, vegetable gardens, and a fruit orchard open to the public. It is now owned by Vermont Family Forests, which uses the buildings for workshops and public gatherings. A matching grant will support work to rebuild the dry laid stone foundation of the middle barn.



Londonderry, Old Apple Farm - \$10,000

This c. 1820 English barn was likely relocated and reconfigured as a gable-front barn built into the bank. Previously used for housing cattle and milking cows, the barn was converted to house chickens and turkeys. The current owners purchased this property in 2018 and have embarked on an ambitious project to reinvigorate the property's apple orchard and completely rehabilitate the barn for storing gardening equipment, bee-keeping equipment, and supporting the orchard operations. Grant funds will support roof replacement and siding repairs to make the barn weathertight.

For more information, please contact:

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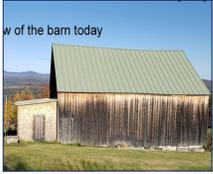
Northfield, Hewitt Farm - \$15,000

This 150-acre property includes land previously part of three hill farms. Up until the 1960s, there were multiple barns. Today, all that remains is the farmhouse and c. 1870 bank barn, part of the former Aldrich Farm. The current owner uses the barn for storage and to support haying operations on 40 acres of the property, which are still actively hayed each year. Grant funds will allow replacement of the failing concrete wall along the north side of the barn, previously installed without a proper footer. Funding will also enable necessary repairs to the roof and distinctive six-sided cupola.



Peacham, Peacham Hollow Farm - \$6,000

This active sheep farm consists of 37 acres of fields and woods bisected by Peacham Hollow Brook. It is known locally as the Samuel G. Hidden Place, honoring the owner who operated a sawmill here between 1820 and 1869. The current owners purchased the property in 2019 and breed sheep for meat and fiber. A matching grant will support work on the farm's main barn, including replacement of deteriorated framing at the northwest corner, installation of a French drain, and installation of gutters and downspouts to help control water run-off.



Plainfield, Plainview Farm - \$2,382

Formerly part of a small dairy hill farm, this c. 1810 barn now stands on approximately 10 acres and is used for storing mulch hay, farm and maple sugaring equipment, and lumber. The owners purchased the property in 2002 and has since undertaken restoration of the barn. This request funds the final phase of work necessary to put the building into full serviceable condition.



Richmond, Longhouse Farm - \$13,850

This 22.2-acre farm originally belonged to Nathan Fay, whose wool carding and cloth dressing business was the first of its kind in Chittenden County; this historic family farm is how Fay's Corner got its name. It was a dairy from the early 1900s through the 1980s. The current owners purchased the property in 2012 and have been working to revive the farmstead, growing vegetables and flowers, and raising pigs, cows, and chickens. More recently they have begun farming small batch craft hemp, using the barn to dry the harvested materials. Having completed major repair work on the west elevation, work on barn's east elevation now begins with repairs to the stone foundation, structural repairs, and replacement of siding.



Rutland, Idle Hour Farm - \$15,000

This historic farmstead was previously owned by the Vermont Marble Company. In 1938, the property was sold to Thomas Gerdon, Sr., who ran it as a dairy. It includes three barns constructed between 1820 and 1870, dairy barn, horse barn, and carriage house. The matching grant will address issues at the horse barn, including replacement of deteriorated sills, basement posts and braces, re-pointing of the stone foundation, and repairs to the cupola.



Ryegate, Whitehill Farm - \$7,500

The horse barn at Whitehill Farm was constructed c. 1810 and sits on 30 acres historically part of the 200+-acre hill farm owned by four generations of the Dixon family, who sold it in 1912. It is named for the Whitehill family who owned the property until 1964. The current owners purchased the property in 2002. The barn is used as storage by a neighboring jersey farmer who hays the fields and pastures heifers on the property. It also houses a "community apple press." Grant funds will be used to make the building weathertight, including repairs to the metal roofing and flashing, replacement of deteriorated siding, repair/replacement of existing doors and windows, and drainage work.



St. Johnsbury, Roots Too Farm - \$15,000

The current owners purchased this 35-acre farm from the Vermont Land Trust in 2016 as part of the Farmland Access Program. In addition to the farmhouse and main dairy barn, the property includes a horse barn, carriage barn, sheep shed, and hay barn. The owners have begun a certified-organic vegetable and fruit operation and converted the milk house into a farm stand. A matching grant will support work to repair the barn's stone foundation, install drainage along the west elevation and repair/replace deteriorated sills.

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Waitsfield, Stowell Farm - \$15,000

Stowell Farm consists of 3 buildings on 5.4 acres, including a potato barn, a re-purposed one-room schoolhouse moved to the property in the 1930s, and a c. 1798 English barn. The property is named for Nathan Stowell Sr., who built the original farmhouse and barn. Grant funds will be used as part of the much larger rehabilitation effort that requires dismantling of the barn to repair the hand-hewn timber frame. Once the barn is reconstructed, the owners plan to use it as a seasonal cultural facility, renting or donating the space for local retreats, events, gallery showings and local gatherings.



Wardsboro, Brigg Farm - \$15,000

The 19th-century barn and farmhouse of Brigg Farm are set within 78 acres on Fairview Road next to Fairview Cemetery. The farm was established c. 1809 by Amasa Turner. Wilbur Brigg purchased it in 1867 and erected the barn in 1879. His son farmed here until about 1917. The current owner's parents purchased the property in 1969 and used the barn for a small business, WoodSmith Gallery. Grant funds will be focused on removing silt in the barn's lower level, installing a drainage system, rebuilding the stone foundation, and repairing sills. After restoration, the owners will open the barn to the public in partnership with the Wardsboro History Group.



Washington, Bowen Farm - \$15,000

This modest English threshing barn was constructed c. 1900 and is part of a small complex of agricultural buildings that include a sugar house, greenhouse, woodshed, and chicken coop. Part of the former Bowen Farm, it was a productive farming operation with sheep, cows, and various crops. The 107-acre property is now conserved, and the current owners have sheep and a donkey, with plans to expand the flock and house them in the barn. Grant funds will be used to stabilize and repair the failing sill system.



Weathersfield, Wild and Rooted Farm - \$7,934

Acquired 1848 by J.M. Billings, this property was the location of the first discovery of soapstone in the area and had an active quarry. The 166-acre farm is now protected by a conservation easement and includes several agricultural buildings. A matching grant will allow the owners to address deterioration of the c. 1848 English barn's framing, including replacing deteriorated sills, installation of new stone piers to support the frame, and repair of deteriorated girts and posts using traditional timber frame joinery. This work will allow the barn to be used for housing cattle, goats and chickens.



Westford, Rollin Irish Farm - \$15,000

This 192-acre farm has been in the current owner's family since the 1840s. Most recently the farm was used to support a small dairy operation providing milk to the St. Albans Co-op. The farmstead includes multiple agricultural buildings, including a sheep shed, horse barn, and granary. The main hay and dairy barn, originally built in Milton and moved to this property in the 1890s, will be repaired with this grant funding.



Wilmington, Bassett Farm - \$8,450

Part of the former Bassett Farm, this 3.4-acre property retains a historic farmhouse and c. 1861 barn. Once a working farm up until the 1930s, it has not been actively farmed in over 70 years. The barn, which is currently leased to a neighboring farmer, is used to store hay and equipment. The owner will receive matching grant funds to replace the barn's asphalt-shingle roof and repair deteriorated windows and doors.



Woodbury, Lilley Farm - \$15,000

The 102-acre Lilley Farm includes a main house (c.1850), four-bay carriage barn, three-story high-drive barn (c. 1850) and milk house. The farm was occupied by the Lilley Family from the mid-1800s until Patrick Lilley's death in 1901. A matching grant will enable repair of the main high-drive barn, addressing drainage issues along the barn's east elevation and northwest corner. Repairs will be made to floor joists and siding at the northwest corner, and broken rafters near the south gable.

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