

## Awarded Project Summaries



### **Barnet, William and Agnes Gilkerson Farm - \$20,000**

This farmstead was originally built by Scottish immigrants William and Agnes Gilkerson at the end of the 18th century and developed into a commercial dairy by the Kitchel family in the 1930s. The main barn was built in 1941 and is used today for agricultural storage. Grant funding will be used to repair the 1948 addition to the barn and the haymow, and to reroof the barn's concrete silo.



### **Barnet, Maplemont Farm - \$20,000**

This farm was settled by Willard Gill in 1844. Martin and Lizzie Turner acquired the farm in 1904 and renamed it Maplemont Farm. Turner ran a dairy and rebuilt the main barn in 1936 after a lightning strike. In 2019, the current owners established a sheep operation, using the barn for lambing and winter housing for animals. A grant will support replacement of deteriorated columns and concrete flooring in the barn's lower level, and repair barn doors and windows.



### **Bethel, Four Corners Farm / Terry Spooner Farm - \$20,000**

In 1782, this property was purchased by Ephraim Terry and used to raise sheep. In 1861, the farm was sold to Mills Spooner. At his death in 1905, Spooner was the "farmer of longest standing" in East Bethel. The new owners are returning the open fields, unused for the past 10 years, to perennial fruit (vineyard, berry) cultivation. Grant-funded work will include rebuilding the floor and sill systems of the main barn, installation of new drainage, structural and siding repairs, and door and window restoration.



### **Brattleboro, Retreat Farm - \$12,000**

Retreat Farm is a nonprofit formed in 2015 to steward, restore, and share this historic farmstead, once part of the neighboring Brattleboro Retreat. The farm was an important part of the hospital's healing mission. Today, the farm is open year-round, hosting seasonal events and partnering with two local farms which steward several hundred acres. Retreat Farm's campus includes 10 historic buildings and grant funds will aid in repairing slate wall cladding, added in 1901 for fire protection, on the Horse and Ox Barns.



### **Brookfield, Colgan Farm – \$20,000**

This property was owned by the Wardner family, who were among the first settlers of Roxbury and West Brookfield and ran the sawmill in East Roxbury. It originally encompassed 800 acres and was bought in 1920 by the Colgan family who operated a farm here for over 100 years. Today, Headwaters Farm and Forest owns and operates 70 acres as a community-based agriculture operation. A matching grant will help to replace the former dairy barn's failing metal roof.

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### **Calais, Old Wilbur Place - \$20,000**

“The Old Wilbur Place” was one of the founding farmsteads of the town of Calais. It was first settled by Revolutionary War-veteran Holden Wilbur in the 1790s, and subsequently farmed by several generations of his family. The matching grant will support replacing the c. 1870 barn’s failing foundation.



### **Cambridge, Powell Farm - \$2,000**

Truman Powell came to Cambridge in 1787 and was deeded this property by his father Martin. It remained in the Powell family for at least four generations. Rumor has it that the property was lost to Chester and Gladys Pratt in a poker game in 1944. Current owners are working to return the farm to active agriculture, operating a U-pick business known as Stony Grove, LLC. A modest grant will allow the owners to complete structural repairs to the property’s main barn.



### **Cambridge, The Farm Between / West Farm - \$18,987**

This property was purchased by Nathaniel Read in 1800. He started a tannery with journeyman John Warner, who became his son-in-law. The property was divided in the late nineteenth century and the Farm Between was inherited by Silas Read, who ran a dairy operation. Today, the Farm Between is an active perennial nursery and fruit farm. A matching grant will be used to repair and repurpose a deteriorated corn crib on the farm.



### **Chittenden, Baird Farm - \$18,195**

The Baird Farm has been owned by the Baird family since 1918. The historic barn, predating the Baird family’s arrival, was used for dairy production until 1996, when it housed dairy heifers and calves. Today the farm’s main source of income is the 14,000-tap maple operation. Grant funds will support work to rebuild the concrete foundation of the historic barn’s northwest elevation, installing new support posts in the lower level and replacing deteriorated siding, windows, and doors.



### **Danville, Morse Farm - \$18,753**

Known locally as “the old Morse Farm,” for its 20th-century owner State Senator George Morse, this property consists of 55 acres. Although in good condition, the main barn’s metal roof is leaking, and the barn’s large square cupola is in poor condition. A matching barn grant will help the owners to preserve the cupola.

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### **Hartland, Fairview Farm - \$20,000**

In 1834, this farm was purchased by diplomat William Jarvis, responsible for introducing Merino sheep to the US, for his daughter Mary Cutts. In 1887 it became known as Fairview Farm and operated for over 90 years. The Butter Barn was built before 1789 and a northern section, likely an icehouse, was added c. 1888 by May and Charles Gates, who operated the largest private dairy in Hartland at the time. The south section was reconfigured by the Gates for butter production. The owners hope to expand its use following rehabilitation, including restoring the functionality of the milk cellar.



### **Hyde Park, North Hyde Park Road Barn - \$20,000**

This c. 1850 gambrel barn is part of a former 75-acre dairy farm and was originally used to store hay. New owners intend to reestablish the property as an agricultural operation (native plant nursery, specialty cut flowers, growing and cultivation of forest farmed products and related retail and workshop activity). A matching grant will support important stabilization work including jacking up the barn, repairing the foundation with new footings, and installing new sill timbers and post bottoms.



### **Island Pond, Arba Joy Farm - \$12,300**

This former dairy farm has been in the Stevens/Maxwell family since 1893 and has long been known as the “Arba Joy” farm. The c. 1890s gambrel barn was modified to accommodate a stable in its lower level in 1960 and is a visible landmark on a well-traveled route into Canada. The current owner will use grant funding to replace the north side of the barn roof.



### **Panton, Agricola Farm - \$20,000**

This former dairy farm complex dates to 1840 and includes a dairy barn, a horse barn, three silos, and a farm shop. The property was recently converted by the current owners into a hog and sheep farm with the main barn used to house almost 200 pigs and over 100 sheep. Matching grant funds will support repairs on the barn’s slate roof.



### **Peacham, Elijah Martin Homestead - \$20,000**

The original Elijah Martin house was constructed in 1785. Its barn dates to the early half of the 1800s with later expansions in 1902. According to Peacham Historical Society, the homestead hosted an inn, a bar, and a tannery. It then supported a working dairy up until about 1982. Today, the barn is being used for seasonal public events. Grant funds will be used to replace the barn’s leaking metal roof.

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### **Plymouth, Coolidge Farm - \$20,000**

This historic farmstead was home to Calvin Coolidge, then Calvin Galusha Coolidge, the great-grandfather and grandfather, respectively, of President Calvin Coolidge. The property is currently owned by the eighth generation of the family and is visible from the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. The farmstead includes a c. 1802 classic corn crib adjacent to the farmhouse and grant funds will support framing repairs, foundation/stonework, and roof replacement of this structure.



### **Pomfret, Pomfret Highlands Farm - \$20,000**

This well-preserved hill farm was one of the lots creating the town of Pomfret, surveyed in the 1760s and originally owned by Noah Paine. Paine's descendant Asa Paine built the farmhouse in 1830. In addition to the farmhouse, there is a c. 1845 English Barn and several other agricultural structures. Grant funds will support rehabilitation of the English barn including a new roof, and repairs to the structure, siding and sliding barn doors.



### **Richmond, M.S. Whitcomb Farm / East Monitor Barn - \$20,000**

The Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) purchased this 233-acre parcel in 2008. Built in 1901, the East Monitor Barn was originally part of the M.S. Whitcomb Farm and is one of the few remaining large-scale monitor barns of its time. It supported a substantial dairy operation that continued until 1985. Today, the entire property is conserved and in active use by VYCC, including a 12-acre certified organic farm. A matching grant will support repair of the barn's slate roof.



### **Strafford, Pennock Road Barn - \$20,000**

This farm was originally owned by Ezekiel and Mary (Pennock) Parish and was farmed by Mary's father after the land was confiscated from Ezekiel because of his loyalty to Britain during the Revolutionary War. The c. 1780 barn is one of the oldest in Strafford. A matching grant will fund a new corrugated metal roof and work to rebuild the sill/floor system of the barn.



### **Westford, Rollin Irish Farm - \$8,000**

This 192-acre farm has been in the current owner's family since the 1840s. The main barn was originally built in Milton and then deconstructed and moved to this property in the 1890s. Today, it is used for storage by a neighboring farmer who also pastures livestock on the property. A matching grant will support work to replace siding removed during previous drainage work and sill replacement and repair deteriorated windows.