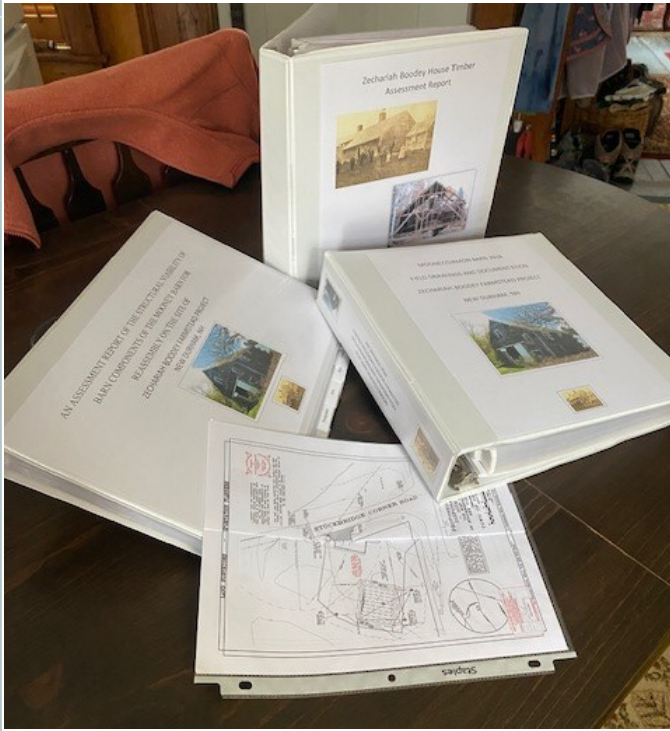


THE BOODEY CHRONICLE

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“CONTRACT AWARDED TO ARCHITECTURAL FIRM”



Another significant milestone was achieved for the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project this Fall. A “Letter of Agreement” between our chosen architect, Christopher P. Williams, PLLC, and the New Durham Select Board was signed during the Select Board’s September 9th meeting.

You, our supporters, have made all of this possible. Thank you for supporting the mission of our non-profit funding partner, the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative. Their donation of \$22,000.00 provided 78% of the necessary funding! Thank you to our volunteers who

have supported fund-raising events. Their support enabled all donations to go to the project. Thank you to our private citizens and contractors who feel this project is worthy of their valuable time, expertise, and support.

This Agreement secured the professional architectural services for the “development of a novel construction approach to facilitate the design and phased construction of a new building

rooted in the original layout of the homestead and modified with modern amenities to provide code-compliant meeting and event space. Initial work will be limited to that effort necessary to secure estimates for likely construction costs for the project overall and for the intended first phase of the construction, which is understood at this point to include reconstruction of the barn as a function space and an ell that will contain restrooms and amenities for the eventual larger building.” The resulting work will be for detailed construction drawings, which will be used to seek budgetary quotes for construction costs for the balance of work beyond the scope of donated

in-kind services and materials already implemented for site preparation.

Volumes of materials were delivered in mid-October to Mr. Norman Larson, Manager of the firm. The assessment reports for both the old original Cape House and the Mooney/Damon barn; the sketches and drawings made when each of these buildings was disassembled; the Committee’s conceptual drawings based on photographic and onsite evidence; and historical photographs; copies of the approved site-plans; and research regarding the properties will be reviewed and used to generate the next level of drawings.

The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Committee members are grateful to all who have contributed through our public-private partnerships, advancing our mission of “Preserving the Past to Support the Future.”

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ELDER BENJAMIN RANDAL(L) FOUNDER OF THE FREEWILL BAPTIST DENOMINATION

RANDAL(L) COMES TO NEW DURHAM PART 2 BY CHRISTINE EVANS

Newly married to Joanna Oram on November 28, 1771, the young couple settled in New Castle, New Hampshire, and started a family. They became members of the local parish. In 1774, Benjamin felt compelled to address the “deeper work of grace in the church and efforts for the salvation of those on the outside.”² He was approved to begin a gathering that offered reading printed sermons for prayer and singing. They were well-attended, but the pastor soon disapproved of the new gathering possibly seeing a rival. Randal(l) cannot find a place in his ancestral church to practice his newfound excitement and faith beliefs. “As a new convert on fire for the Lord, he talked about the Lord wherever he went.”³ Because he was outspoken, he was ostracized, lied about, and ignored by his pastor. He ended his relationship with the New Castle church. But kept meeting with the small group of friends who had also withdrawn from the church.

In 1775 as the Revolutionary War began, Benjamin Randal(l) joined the New Hampshire militia company in the army as an assistant commissary officer. He re-enlisted in 1776 as a sergeant in the company of Captain Calf and served for about a year and a half. It is said that during his service, in his spare time, he visited the sick and consoled those in need.

That same year, he and his brother attended William Hooper's ordination at the Berwick Baptist Church, which practiced baptism by immersion. After the service, Randal(l) and his brother were baptized. Randal(l) then began a robust, intense study of the Bible. He was soon asked to read sermons for the pastor in his absence. After significant reflection and responding to church members requesting that he preach his sermon, Randal(l) did just that and gained notoriety. He was invited to preach in several local towns and began to

have a powerful effect on the congregations.^{2 and 3} This was a time of significant change in the country. The Revolutionary War was underway, and local culture and communities were in flux.

Randal(l) preached at meetings in towns such as Lee, Barrington, Madbury, Exeter, Gilmanton, and New Durham. He strongly connected with the believers who attended to hear him preach at a revival. There was an independent frontier spirit in towns newly forming north and west of the Seacoast. They responded to Randal(l)'s new beliefs, the first of which was that he was convinced baptism should be for an “adult believer” and that they needed to be totally immersed. The second belief was that “grace and salvation are free gifts from God” and not predestined at birth.⁴

After hearing Randal(l) preach while visiting acquaintances in New Durham, several of New Durham's settlers invited him and his family to move to the town. The following fall, Randal(l) accepted the invitation to become the town's minister but opposed the practice of a pastor being supported by taxation. He would earn his livelihood.^{1 and 4} The Randal(l) family moved in an ox cart from New Castle on March 23, 1778. They arrived on March 26, 1778. Randal(l) purchased a 30-acre farm on the New Durham ridge. He was a tailor by trade from his sail-making days and farmed his property to support his growing family.

Established local churches and their ministers soon began to voice their concern and dislike of Randal(l)'s teachings, which did not follow traditional Calvinistic doctrine. Randal(l) was again threatened by community members who did not like his revivalist preaching style and new influence.²

He was called before a council of ministers in Gilmanton and again in Madbury to

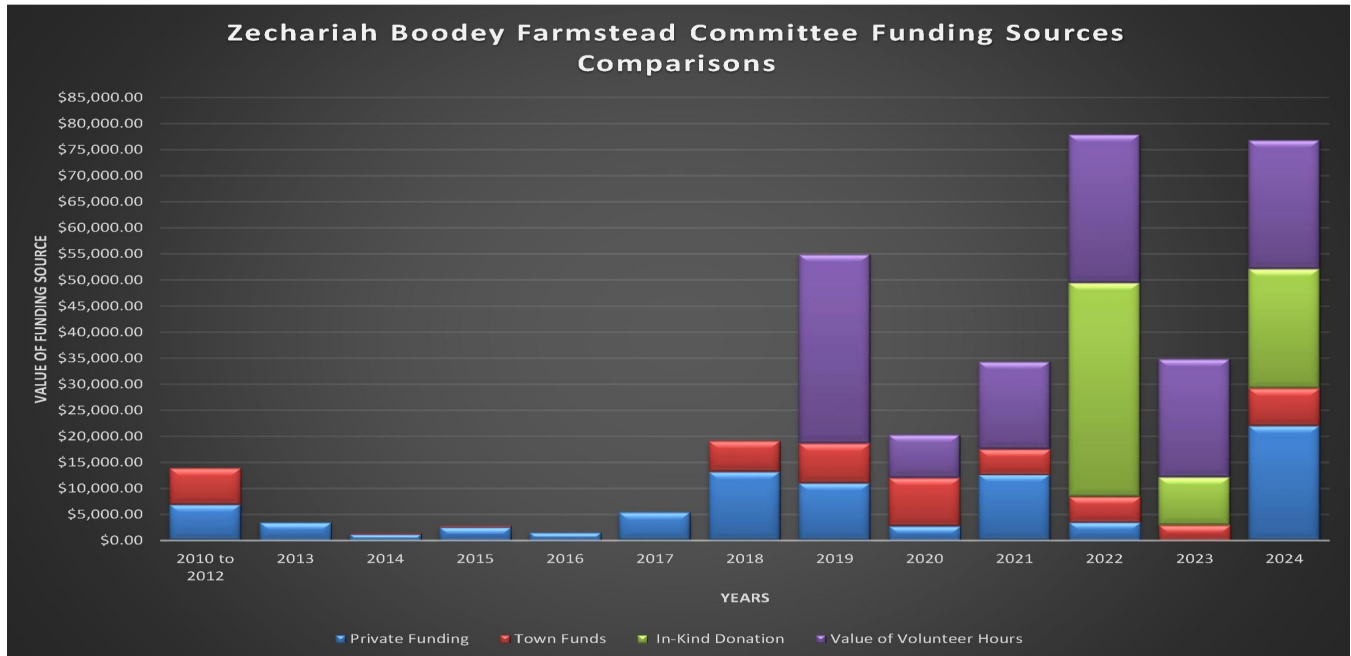
discuss his views, which were not in line with the established Calvinist views of the time. No determination was made. But a break from Calvinism had begun. “About the beginning of 1779, Elder Edward Lock, in Loudon and Canterbury, NH, separated themselves and protested against Calvin's election. In August of that same year, the brethren in Barrington, who had been considered a branch of the Berwick church, being of general sentiment, were embodied into a church and became separate and Elder Toser Lord, who having been previously ordained at Lebanon, Me, by Dr. Samuel Shepard and others, separated himself from the Calvinistic Church and, the same fall, became a member of the church in Barrington.”¹ Randal(l) attended and preached at the new Crowne Point Baptist Church in Barrington (In 1820, this area was incorporated as Strafford).

In March 1780, Randal(l) was received into this church and ordained by Elder Toser Lord and Rev. Edward Lock, Baptist ministers with similar doctrinal views. He was given the title of Elder Randal(l) in New Durham. “They came to the conclusion that a church needed to be embodied that would teach and preach free will, free grace, and free salvation for every man.”²

Soon after being ordained, Elder Randal(l) met with and appointed a committee to draft the New Durham church's new articles of faith and covenant. “The establishment of the New Durham church was the foundation of the Free Baptist denomination.”² On June 30, 1780, the group of seven met with Zechariah Boodey in the east room of his home.⁵ The covenant was agreed upon and signed by Robert Boodey, Margary Boodey, Joseph Boodey, Nathaniel Buzzell, Mary Buzzell, Judith Cartel, and Elder Benjamin Randal(l).

Foot Notes and References: See page 3

COMPARISONS FUNDING SOURCES OVER THE YEARS



The project has benefited from a strong public/ private partnership with a number of funding sources over the years. To date funding sources have been: Private Funds \$86,240.84; In-Kind Donations \$73,056.75; Town Funds \$40,873.00. The Committee is very appreciative for the Town’s funds, and proud that for every \$1.00 of town funds, the Committee has raised \$3.90 to match, thought private funding sources.
 Bar Color Coding: blue Private funding; red Town Funds; green In-kind donation; purple value of Volunteer Hours.

Foot Notes and References: See page 2
 1 The Life of Elder Benjamin Randal, by John Buzzell
 2 The Life and Influence of Rev. Benjamin Randall, by Frederick L. Wiley
 3 The Journal of Benjamin Randall and the First Free Will Baptist Church in New Durham, NH, Edited by Dr Roy Thomas
 4 Two Hundred Years of Kingdom Community. A History of the Bow Lake Free Will Baptist Church in Strafford, NH, by Reverend Carolyn Clarke
 5 The History of New Durham, by Ellen Cloutman Jennings
Annal of the Boodey’s in New England, by Robert Boodey Caverly
A Spiritual Journey. The Beginnings of the Churches in Strafford, NH, by Reverend Carolyn Clarke
 The spelling of Randal(l)’s last name has been spelled with a single or double “L” depending on the source of information.

DONATION OF MILLED LUMBER

July 25, 2024 loading the milled material donated by Robert Hamilton. Volunteers: Pete and Joey, Hwy Dept, plus use of backhoe with forks. Steve Orlowicz, Tom Baker, Mark McFadden, Crissa Evans, and Cathy Orlowicz. Loaded and done in 1 hour.



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*“PRESERVING THE PAST
TO
SUPPORT THE FUTURE”*



MISSION STATEMENT

To reconstruct the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead, while maintaining historical integrity of the buildings; to teach future generations about our collective pasts; featuring New Durham's importance in that history; provide a useful asset for the community.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Catherine Orlowicz, Chair
Scott Drummey, Vice Chair
Cheryl Cullimore, Secretary
Christine C. Evans, Member and
Family Representative

Donations may be made to:
Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative
PO Box 45
New Durham, NH 03855
Please make check payable to ZBF Collaborative
501(c)(3) Non-Profit Funding Partner
Visit their website www.zbfcnh.org

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS
PROJECT OR WAYS YOU CAN
SUPPORT,
PLEASE VISIT**

[www.newdurhamnh.us/
boodey-farmstead-
committee](http://www.newdurhamnh.us/boodey-farmstead-committee)
Facebook: Zechariah Boodey
Farmstead

**SPECIAL DATES AND
EVENTS:**

- July 19, 2025—Return of “Boodey Hometown Fair”
- Hometown Cookery Cookbooks are available , Contact Chair

Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Storage Unit Annual Inspection, clean up, and assessment of interior conditions July 24, 2024



July 24, 2024: Storage trailers for the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Barn component pieces. Includes, but not a complete list: sheathing, braces, timbers, doors, windows, frames for windows, hardware, and pieces of interest from their original sites.

The photographs below show Vegetation cleared away around and under the storage trailers. There are no signs of trailer failure or pest infestation. The trailers are located at the Transfer Station behind the Department of Public Works.

