

THE BOODEY CHRONICLE

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“COMMUNITY ACTION ACHIEVES ANOTHER MILESTONE”



PERSPECTIVE FROM NORTH EAST (STREET SIDE)

Thank you for helping us reach this milestone! Your generous support has brought the project to a pivotal stage! We are excited to unveil the formal conceptual schematics created by the award-winning architectural firm Christopher P Williams Architects.

During the December 11 Select Board meeting, Norman E. Larson, AIA, LEED AP, and Jason Moore, AIA, NCARB, from Christopher P. Williams Architects, along with members of the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Committee, proudly presented formal conceptual design schematics of the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project. Norman stated, “that aided by volumes of photographs, data, and research compiled over the years and provided by the committee,” they were able to understand the

Committee’s objectives for the venue. These schematics will serve as a resource for the organization when seeking “budgetary quotes” to estimate the project's completion costs.

The schematics provide visual views of the project from both exterior and interior perspectives, along with dimensional layouts for the reassembly of these historic buildings and the construction of new buildings.

The Committee wishes to thank Norman and Jason for turning the Committee’s vision of reassembling and constructing the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead into a functional, attractive space that will serve the community’s needs and serve as a gathering spot for events and activities. We thank them for guiding the volunteer group through the project’s development stages. The project and the committee have greatly benefited from their expertise, design skills, and guidance. It’s exciting to see the vision come to life in formal layouts. This partnership is rooted in shared goals: preserving and restoring historic buildings.

Founded in 1984, Christopher P Williams Architects is an award-winning firm with a rich history of working with historic buildings across New England. They have been recognized for their preservation, restoration, and reuse efforts.

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Pictured Back Row L to R are Jason Moore and Norman E Larson of Christopher P Williams Architects, LLC, ZBF Committee members Scott Drummy and Christine Evans. Front row L to R are ZBF Committee member Sherry Cullimore, Select Board members Dot Veisel and Rudy Rosiello.

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THE TALE OF A YANKEE BARN: THE DAMON-MOONEY BARN



Damon-Mooney Barn circa 2018 North and West profiles



Zechariah Boodey Farmstead circa 1890—note barn is to left

Replacing the barn, which was once part of the original layout of the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead, was crucial for the project's future use and sustainability. As a gathering place and a historic property that generates revenue, it would provide funds for ongoing operations, events, activities, and property maintenance. The preservation, repurposing, and reuse of the Damon-Mooney Barn support this goal. Interestingly, this barn is directly connected to the town's early history and has a tale to tell.

In the early eighteenth century, on the west boundary of New Durham was the unchartered community known as New Durham Gore. The citizens of Gore would come to New Durham for government and religious meetings. New Durham's earliest records include tax assessments and records of marriages, births, and deaths from the Gore. The history of these two communities is so intertwined that it is impossible to separate the two.

A Plan for Alton (so called), recorded in 1764 and 1765, shows that the east upper section lot number 18, located in what is now known as Chestnut Cove, near Roberts Cove, was reserved for Masonian Proprietor Colonel Thomas Wallingford (1697-1771). His grave marker bears the inscription "Colonel of a Regiment, an Honorable Judge of the Superior Court of this Province." He is also listed among the wealthiest people in NH. The reservation of this lot was solely for investment and to add to his wealth. He never lived on this land.

At some point, the lands were sold to early settlers with dreams of independence and a place they could own. Alton was granted its town charter and named Alton in 1796. Fast forward to the year 1898. A map from this time period shows the location and lists the owners of dwellings in Alton. A Mr. A. Berry is listed at the site where the Damon-Mooney house is located. Additional research identified that Mr. Alonzo Berry is the subject, and his

wife is Grace Berry. Alonzo executed a 50-year lease of the property to Mr. Herman Dock on September 22, 1902. Following the death of Alonzo Berry, around 1928, Bertha Damon and her husband, Lindsay Todd Damon, purchased 250 acres of land and buildings.

Bertha Louise Clark was born in Chester, Connecticut, in 1881. She attended Northfield Seminary and graduated from Pembroke College at Brown University in 1905. Her first marriage brought her to California, where she could call J. Robert Oppenheimer and his wife, Albert Bender, and Ansel Adams, her friends. Bertha had a Mediterranean-style house built, which she sold to Oppenheimer and his wife in 1941. In 1928, she would remarry. His name was Lindsay Todd Damon. It was following this marriage that they purchased the 250 acres of land and buildings along the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee in Alton, NH. She lived a remarkable life, and it was while she was in Alton that she authored two books, the first one released in 1938. Some of her other accomplishments include a passion for architecture and designing houses, and she was a famous humorist and lecturer. She also created extensive gardens on the property in Alton, and soon became president of the local garden club. Bertha died at her home in California in 1975.

On July 25, 1947, Bertha sold the land and buildings known as the "Gate House" to Clifford O. and Eveline E. Mooney. The deed and mortgage describe the parcel of land and reference the eighteenth-century barn when distances from the boundary lines are given.

Dr. Clifford and Eveline Mooney were very active in their community. Dr. Mooney was an osteopathic physician who practiced from his home at the "Gate House." Mrs. Mooney was a teacher. Mrs. Mooney was an avid gardener, raising both vegetables and flowers.

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Old photographs show the couple planting fruit orchards, just beyond the barn.

It is remarkable that the Damon - Mooney Barn retained its original threshing floor, which typified -an early eighteenth-century Yankee barn. English Tying joints are present. The timber's joinery was custom -mated to its neighbors and marked using Roman numerals, typical of the English Scribe Rule, a system that custom-fits each joint to an adjoining one. At some point, around the 1830s, the barn's function changed to house livestock, and an addition was added to the east gable end of the barn.

This barn's age and its style is similar to one that was on the original Zechariah Boodey Farmstead site in New Durham. "The Annals of the Boodeys in New England" mentions Zechariah building his home and barn when he first settled in New Durham in 1769.

With the help of historic photographs and oral histories from descendants of the Boodey family, it is clear that there have always been outbuildings and barns on Zechariah Boodey's property, lot 49, as shown on the 1750 Plan for New Durham. At some point after 1890, the barn near the Boodey Cape House was removed. The log cabin and the addition were taken down before that time. Fortunately, the original layout of the buildings' stone foundations had not been disturbed when the preservation efforts began.

The Damon - Mooney Barn and the Zechariah Boodey Cape House, known collectively as the Zechariah Boodey

Farmstead, are places associated with the lives of persons and events that are significant in our community and our nation's past. These historical landmarks embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, style, period, and construction method, and are part of our shared heritage, something we can all be proud of. Preserving these historic landmarks safeguards our shared heritage. These buildings will once again serve as a gathering spot for future generations, hosting a variety of historical and cultural programs, as well as civic, educational, social, or private events and activities for audiences. The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project aims to be a key support for efforts that continue to attract residents and visitors to our village core. It seeks to enhance community vibrancy and promote support for local businesses, active recreation, retail trade, and cultural experiences.



Damon-Mooney Barn circa 2018 South and East profiles

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PERSPECTIVE FROM SOUTH EAST (STREET SIDE)

The Belmont Mill and the Canterbury Shaker Village are among the projects they have partnered on.

Preserving these historic landmarks safeguards our shared heritage. A family home once served as a gathering place for brave pioneers who dared to lead in their beliefs during a pivotal time in our nation's founding history. These buildings will once again serve as a gathering spot for future generations, hosting a variety of historical and cultural programs, as well as civic, educational, social, or private events and activities for audiences. The Zechariah

Boodey Farmstead Project aims to be a key support for efforts that continue to attract residents and visitors to our village core. It seeks to enhance community vibrancy and promote support for local businesses, active recreation, retail trade, and cultural experiences.

The Committee's next goal is to develop a request for proposals for the project's completion costs. This approach will enhance the Committee's ability to seek funding through private and public partnerships.

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*"PRESERVING THE PAST
TO
SUPPORT THE FUTURE"*



MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve 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

www.newdurhamnh.us/boodey-farmstead-committee

Facebook: Zechariah Boodey Farmstead

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

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

COMPARISON OF FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE ZBF PROJECT

You've made this all possible! The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project continues to benefit from a strong private/public partnership for fulfilling funding goals. We are so proud to share that for every \$1.00 of Town Finds appropriated for the project, the Committee has matched the contribution by raising \$3.95 to match through private sources. The chart illustrates the break down of funding sources over the years. At the close of 2025 we are honored to share the following data: Private Funding (Blue Bar) is \$90,321.71; Town Funds (Red Bar) is \$42,074.00; In-Kind donations (Green Bar) \$76,056.75; and value of Volunteer Contributions (Purple Bar) is \$158,084.07! Thank you so very much for your support and faith in the mission of the Committee.

