



The Woodstock Foundation, Inc.  
Billings Farm & Museum



2003 REPORT





LAURANCE SPELMAN ROCKEFELLER

FOUNDER, MENTOR, AND FRIEND

1910—2004

IN MEMORIAM:

## Laurance Spelman Rockefeller, 1910–2004

**W**hen Laurance S. Rockefeller died on July 11, 2004, he had accomplished what so many of us hope to do: he left the world a better place than he found it.



Laurance Rockefeller's commitment to conservation and preservation of natural beauty were renowned. A decent, honest, and generous man, Rockefeller used his financial resources and God-given talent to put his beliefs into action. Citizens of the world have benefited from his vision, as will generations to come. It is because of him that we are able to wander through the breathtaking Redwood National Park in California. It is because of him that we are able to discover thousands of stunning acres within the U.S. Virgin Islands. He knew firsthand the power of nature to restore the human spirit. Determined that others would share the opportunities he had to explore great tracts of undeveloped land, he gave to his country the gifts of national and state parks in Wyoming, Hawaii, New York, and his adopted home, Vermont.

Rockefeller was a player on the global stage, to be sure, and for his work he received the highest accolades our country offers to civilians: including the Medal of Freedom, the Congressional Gold Medal, and many others. But it is the town of Woodstock, Vermont, that in its life and prosperity pays perhaps the greatest tribute to the man and his vision.



*Mary French and Laurance Spelman Rockefeller  
at the Billings Farm in 1983.*

Laurance and Mary Rockefeller were devoted citizens of Woodstock because of its human scale, its beauty, and its heritage. From Mary, Laurance first learned about the character of Vermont—a distinctive character that rose out of the Vermont hills and that he came to understand has meaning for the entire Nation. Together, Laurance and Mary Rockefeller embraced this heritage and made Vermont the place that would carry forward their legacy.



They established the Woodstock Foundation as an instrument of their philanthropic spirit and the Billings Farm & Museum to model agricultural heritage and sustainability to the state and Nation. They gave their home to the people of the United States for creation of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. It was in Woodstock that Rockefeller applied his belief in conservation, sustainable land use, and heritage as values that are essential to culture, community, and the human spirit. Through the Foundation and his Woodstock Inn & Resort,

he undertook numerous projects over many decades that enhanced Woodstock's historic preservation, economic foundation, natural environment, recreational opportunities, and aesthetic appeal.



The Woodstock Foundation along with its partners—the Billings Farm & Museum, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, and the Woodstock Inn & Resort—embraces Laurance S. Rockefeller's philosophy that conservation, heritage, recreation, and community each play a necessary role in fostering a healthy human spirit. He was our founder, mentor, and friend, and we will miss him. We dedicate ourselves to honoring his memory by continuing his work. Buoyed by his vision, and following his excellent example, we look to the future, confident of our ability to make a positive difference in Woodstock, in Vermont, and for our Nation.

*UPPER RIGHT: The Congressional Gold Medal, presented to Laurance Spelman Rockefeller by President George H. W. Bush in 1991.*

## Chairman's Message

We were deeply saddened when on July 11, 2004 our founder, mentor, benefactor, and friend, Laurance Spelman Rockefeller, passed away. He was 94, and his death concluded a lifetime of extraordinary accomplishments and contributions to the Nation, Vermont, and Woodstock.

When Laurance and Mary Rockefeller founded the Woodstock Foundation in 1968 and the Billings Farm & Museum in 1983, they saw them as vehicles to carry forward their sense of land stewardship and civic responsibility and as expressions of their deep regard for the Vermont countryside and its rural traditions. In this way, they hoped not only to enhance Woodstock's special sense of community but also to make rural Vermont's traditions and values relevant to visitors.

In December, at its 36th Annual Meeting, Mr. Rockefeller presented his Congressional Gold Medal to the Woodstock Foundation. He had received the medal from President George H. W. Bush in 1991 following an act of Congress to honor Laurance for his lifetime of service as a conservationist and humanitarian. In making this extraordinary gift of his medal, Laurance recognized the Foundation's

accomplishments and expressed his confidence in the role that the Foundation will play as it continues his work in the areas of conservation, preservation, and sustainability, causes that he has championed for many decades.

We are honored to carry forward the legacy and vision of Laurance and Mary Rockefeller. For decades to come, their memory and this medal will serve as constant reminders of the importance of our mission to promote conservation, sustainable land use, and heritage as values that are essential to culture, community, and the human spirit. These values are reflected in the beauty of Woodstock and its surrounding hills and open space, in the vibrancy of its cultural life, and in the resilience of its economy—all of which were encouraged and enhanced by the vision and contributions of Laurance and Mary Rockefeller.

The American people face many challenges in the years ahead. The Woodstock Foundation, with its outstanding and dedicated staff, will be guided by our founders' principles. As we look to the future, we are confident of our ability to make a positive difference in Woodstock, in Vermont, and for our Nation.

*Clayton W. Frye, Jr., Chairman*



## ✂ President's Message

Our sadness at the death of our founder, Laurance Spelman Rockefeller, is tempered with appreciation for the many contributions and accomplishments of his long life and the many ways that his vision and humanity touched us all. A decent, honest, and generous man, he loved Vermont and made it his home.

With his beloved wife Mary, Laurance Rockefeller established the Woodstock Foundation and the Billings Farm & Museum to carry forward their legacy. They gave their home for creation of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park which operates in partnership with the Billings Farm & Museum. Through the Foundation and his Woodstock Inn & Resort, Rockefeller supported many projects that enhanced Woodstock's historic, economic, and aesthetic appeal.

Laurance S. Rockefeller's legacy is reflected in Woodstock and its environs. Here, he applied his belief in conservation, sustainable land use, and heritage as values that are essential to culture, community, and the human spirit. His contributions over many decades helped to nurture Woodstock's natural, recreational, and historical attributes, combining to shape and sustain a place of exceptional cultural and economic vitality.

The Woodstock Foundation with the Farm & Museum and its partner, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, as well as the Woodstock Inn & Resort, embrace Laurance Rockefeller's philosophy of conservation, heritage, recreation, and community, each furthering a healthy human spirit among citizens and visitors alike. These entities are in place and will carry forward his philosophy and vision

in Woodstock, in Vermont, and the Nation.

Today, the Farm & Museum serves as the gateway to Vermont's rural heritage for tens of thousands of visitors each year. It introduces the culture and agriculture of rural Vermont to visitors and provides enriching experiences to thousands of Vermonters, both young and old. Just as Vermont represents our Nation's rural beginnings for many Americans, the Billings Farm brings that heritage to life, presenting opportunities to interact and identify with agriculture and the rural heritage of this state and country.

As a gateway, the Billings Farm & Museum is a key element in Vermont's destination economy. Recently, *National Geographic Magazine* ranked Vermont eleventh on its list of 115 of the highest quality destinations in the world. Vermont achieved the highest ranking destination in the United States because of its attractiveness and the effective stewardship of its historical, natural, aesthetic, and cultural resources. This stewardship, combined with the vision and contributions of Laurance and Mary Rockefeller are all of a piece; Woodstock is an outstanding expression of both.

Laurance and Mary Rockefeller's legacy is reflected all around Woodstock: in its beautiful preserved historic village, its surrounding hills and open space, its cultural institutions, and its vibrant economy. All are anchored in this synergy of natural beauty, history, culture, recreation, and human spirit that is central to their vision.

*David A. Donath, President*

*LEFT: David Donath, Laurance Rockefeller, and Clayton Frye at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Visitor Center Expansion and Theater Dedication, July 12, 1999.*

THE WOODSTOCK FOUNDATION  
MISSION AND PURPOSE

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The Woodstock Foundation promotes conservation, sustainable land use, and heritage as values that are essential to culture, community, and the human spirit.



The Woodstock Foundation explores the integration of conservation, heritage, and human values, while advancing programs, projects, and collaborations for the benefit of the general public within the State of Vermont and nationally. Recognizing that an appreciation of nature, beauty, and heritage are essential to our sense of culture and community and to lift and inspire the human spirit, the Foundation reflects the broad-based philosophy and vision of its founders, Laurance S. and Mary F. Rockefeller.

2003

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# THE WOODSTOCK FOUNDATION



## Protecting Vermont's Integrity

*This editorial by Woodstock Foundation president David Donath appeared in the Burlington Free Press on July 7, 2004*

Earlier this spring, the National Geographic Society ranked Vermont 11<sup>th</sup> on a list of the 115 highest quality destinations in the world. Several weeks later, the National Trust for Historic Preservation identified Vermont as one of the most endangered historic places in America. On the surface, the coincidence of these designations may seem ironic, but digging deeper, they offer insights into how Vermont has come to be the special place we cherish. They also lay the seedbed for a strategy whereby Vermont can sustain itself and thrive in the coming decades.

Vermonters have begun to understand the double-edged challenge we face—that our state is supremely attractive and perilously fragile. Vermont earned National Geographic's Destination Stewardship recognition for the quality and integrity of its natural, cultural, historic, and aesthetic attributes. The high ranking suggests that, so far, Vermonters are doing a good job protecting these assets in the face of significant challenges.

At the same time, Vermont's economic challenges present ongoing threats to its quality and integrity, both as a place to live and as a destination. Although the National Trust focused its concern on the proliferation of Wal-Mart, the relationships between preservation and economic development are much more complex. Vermont's broad agricultural base remains in economic decline and with it, the distinctive character of the Vermont farm landscape is steadily vanishing. Vermont's industrial base, which was never robust, is shaky at best. Vermonters look to the future and rightly ask, "How do we develop our economy and create jobs in ways that preserve the character of this place?"

There are signs of hope. The creative sector shows vitality as an increasingly energetic mainstay of the Vermont economy. Vermont brand identity has gained enviable national and international reach, helping environmentally

friendly niche producers to thrive. And now, National Geographic's Destination Stewardship designation affirms the quality and, it is hoped, the sustainability of Vermont as a vibrant place for residents and visitors alike. How can these elements of creativity, brand, and destination be galvanized into a strategy that will provide a strengthened economic future while avoiding the kinds of growth that threaten the quality and character of Vermont?

Part of the answer lies in the protection of Vermont's natural, historic, and cultural assets. A key to economic sustainability, however, lies beyond simple protection. Through the appropriate and sensitive application of these assets, Vermont can enhance its effectiveness as a destination. Vermonters have the opportunity to shape the destination economy of their state, developing it into a sustainable and sustaining economic engine.

Vermont ranked as high as it did in the National Geographic Poll because of the quality of its attributes and because of the effectiveness of its stewardship. The poll critically evaluated destinations around the globe according to six criteria, including environmental and ecological quality, social and cultural integrity, and "condition of built heritage"—that is, historic places, archeology, and current structures. The poll also considered the nature of tourism in each destination, assessing to what degree tourism development is of "appropriate character" to the place.



*Continued on next page*

Vermont is not a theme park. Vermont is a real place, with a distinctive cultural character and a working landscape that is both beautiful and in transition. Its farm countryside is a national icon—a “home” for which the Nation longs. Shaped largely by an agricultural economy, Vermont’s working countryside, its rural culture, and its compact villages are among its most attractive attributes, for visitors as well as residents.

While Vermonters are justifiably wary of “commodified tourism,” environmentally sensitive cultural heritage tourism can and should be cultivated in Vermont. Vermont is a place for personal discovery. It begs for slower-paced, smaller-scaled, respectful exploration. Visitors need help and encouragement to discover this Vermont. If we can help them to do this successfully, we can further the stewardship of Vermont while we build the tourism base of our economy. We can take as our models the few destinations that outranked Vermont on the National Geographic list—places like Cape Breton, the Norwegian fjords, and Tuscany—that have long looked to their cultural heritage for insight into what appropriate tourism can be.

With our state simultaneously listed as a world class destination and as a highly endangered place, Vermonters should pause to reflect on its character and its future. The time is right for an exploration of how Vermont’s essential attributes work together, how they are cared for, and how they may help to shape our economic future. Through a combination of thoughtful stewardship and careful development, we can secure for our children a Vermont that is both a real place that they can cherish and a sustaining place in which they can make their futures.

## Partnerships

### Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park

The Woodstock Foundation partners with the National Park Service to operate Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, which was created by a gift to the American people by Mary and Laurance Rockefeller. The Foundation holds and manages a

dedicated endowment fund for the preservation and conservation of the Park’s historic resources. The Foundation facilitates visitation to the Park by providing a NPS information desk in the Farm & Museum Visitor Center, as well as public and staff parking and other resources.



### Grant Program

The Woodstock Foundation makes modest grants to non-profit organizations that support the quality of life of the community of Woodstock, Vermont. These organizations include health care providers, social and community services, the performing arts, cultural organizations, and educational institutions. In a number of cases, the missions and projects of these institutions are allied with those of the Foundation and the Billings Farm & Museum.

In 2003, the Foundation awarded \$75,100 to 42 organizations. Grants ranged in size from \$100 to \$6,000; the majority were for unrestricted purposes.



## Jackson Hole Preserve

Jackson Hole Preserve, Inc., is an independent organization within the organizational infrastructure of the Woodstock Foundation. Established by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in 1940 and led for many years by Laurance S. Rockefeller and his associates, JHPI is a nonprofit conservation and education organization which preserves areas of outstanding primitive grandeur and natural beauty and provides appropriate facilities for their use and enjoyment by the public. Although in recent years its pace of activities has slowed, JHPI has protected large sections of the Grand Teton country. It has been active in a number of other conservation activities including helping to save California redwoods, creation of Virgin Islands National Park, and establishment of Hudson Highlands State Park, just north of New York City.

## Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance

The Woodstock Foundation and the Billings Farm & Museum are pleased to continue their support of the museum community by providing office space and services for the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance, a 19-year old consortium of 250 Vermont museums, galleries, and historical societies.

Headquartered at the Farm & Museum for the past five years, VMGA offers workshops, publications, mentoring programs, and advocacy on behalf of Vermont's cultural institutions, both large and small, professional and volunteer.

## Vermont Creative Economy Initiative

Vermont is poised to build and sustain an innovative economic development strategy that places high value on heritage, arts, and culture as core to community life and economic vitality. "The creative economy" is a fairly new catchphrase for the strong relationship between a community's cultural and economic activity. Across the Nation, communities are working to articulate what the creative economy is and how we can deliberately invigorate it.

The Woodstock Foundation has played a significant role in conversations about advancing the creative economy in Vermont.

- ✎ In 2003, the Vermont Council on Rural Development convened the Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation [VCCI] to study the potential of the creative economy in Vermont and to develop a strategic plan to advance it. VCCI presented its findings and recommendations to the people of Vermont on October 4, 2004. Foundation President, David Donath, served as a member of VCCI. The Foundation also made a grant of \$5,000 toward the work of the Council.
- ✎ On April 26, 2004, the Upper Valley Community Foundation hosted the Upper Valley Creative Economy Summit in Woodstock. Three hundred people, representing business, government, and cultural organizations examined the creative sector and discussed how it can stimulate the economy of the Upper Valley. The Foundation supported the Summit through a \$2,500 grant.

ABOVE: "Canyon Light" by Conrad Schwiering, 1978, part of the Mansion art collection.

FACING PAGE: Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Mansion.

Photographs Courtesy Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP



*FACING PAGE: Mary French and Laurance Spelman Rockefeller  
on Billings Farm & Museum's Opening Day, June 16, 1983.*



## BILLINGS FARM & MUSEUM

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The centerpiece of the Woodstock Foundation is the Billings Farm & Museum, an operating dairy farm that continues a century-long tradition of agricultural excellence and sustainability. As Vermont's premier gateway for interpreting its rural culture and agrarian heritage, Billings Farm offers diverse, interactive programs to a broad audience. These programs focus on rural life, work, and land stewardship as reflected in the traditions and values of 19<sup>th</sup> century American farm families and as revealed in Vermont's rural history.

They showcase the progressive agricultural improvements advanced by Frederick Billings a century ago. Billings Farm & Museum showcases the farm of the historic Billings estate and serves as the agrarian counterpart to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park.

## Billings Farm & Museum Celebrates 20 Years

“If farming is to have a future in this state, indeed if Vermont is to have a future with farms, the Billings Farm & Museum will help to lead the way.”

As a gateway to our rural heritage, the Billings Farm & Museum shows thousands of visitors and students every year where rural Vermont has come from and why it is so important. It shows how ideas combined with hard work, with hands-on relationships between people and nature, between humans and dairy cows, the soil and the seasons. It shows how generations interact with the places they inhabit and the places from which they draw their sustenance, how generations can care for the places they pass on to their children.

In so many ways the Billings Farm represents the best of Vermont—past, present, and future. A clean environment, culture and heritage, tourism, and a strong economy go hand in hand. Indeed, they are all important to each other’s success. For us to succeed as a state it is places like the Billings Farm & Museum that will help lead the way, the Vermont way. Congratulations on twenty years of service to the people of Vermont and the Nation and best wishes for many more.

*Remarks by Governor James Douglas  
July 13, 2003*



*Governor Douglas with Assistant Farm Manager B.J. Hanfield during the naming of Jersey calf “Buttermilk.”*

## Looking Back at Vermont: Farm Security Administration Photographs, 1936–1942

An extraordinary exhibition of photographs documenting Vermont life in the years between the Great Depression and the beginning of World War II.

Looking Back at Vermont featured 70 images drawn from the Library of Congress archive—part of a collection recognized as one of the most telling chronicles of American life during the Roosevelt era. The exhibition evoked the hardship, hard work, and human spirit of our rural past in the harsh and beautiful Vermont countryside. The exhibition was organized by the Middlebury College Museum of Art and curated by writer and historian Nancy Price Graff.

The Farm & Museum developed a concurrent exhibition featuring photographs of the nearby George Miles Nelson Farm. Nearly 100 images of the Nelson family farm were taken in 1941 by photographers from the United States Department of Agriculture. The photographs were donated to the Billings Farm & Museum by the Nelson's daughter, Jean, and her husband, Albert Conklin, who took over the farm after Mr. Nelson's retirement in the early 1950s.



William Gaynor of Farfield, Vermont, 1941.

This collection of superb photos—many of which were included in this exhibit—is a tribute to the USDA, the skill of the photographers, and especially the Nelson family's success in farming during difficult times.

A series of daily activities and monthly public programs highlighted the exhibition:

- ✎ *What Depression? Vermont's Rural Families Keep on Farming*, presented by Jan Albers, author of *Hands on the Land*.
- ✎ *Vermont Quilts of the 1920s, 30s, and 40s*, presented by Richard Cleveland, founder and director of the Vermont Quilt Festival.
- ✎ *Looking Back at Vermont—A Curator's View*, presented by writer and historian Nancy Graff.
- ✎ *Our Neighbors Remember: A Roundtable of Reminiscences of the 1930s and 1940s* featured a gathering of local farm family members who shared recollections of growing up on their home farms.



George Miles Nelson Family of Woodstock, Vermont, 1941.

## Educational Programs

*The Farm & Museum's educational programs provide learning opportunities which address Vermont's Framework of Standards—in both vital results and fields of knowledge.*

The Billings Farm & Museum presents Vermont farm life as history, science, traditional culture, and human interaction with the environment through a series of in-depth programs offered throughout the year.

Since 1983, over 90,000 of the region's students from kindergarten through high school have been introduced to their heritage through the use of the Farm & Museum's resources:

- ✿ The working dairy farm
- ✿ Productive animals
- ✿ The restored and furnished 1890 Farm House, a technological, social, and scientific model for its era
- ✿ Possessions and tools from 19<sup>th</sup> century farm families

Our educational programs are based on inquiry and critical thinking. We use active teaching methods and *hands-on, minds-on activities* to encourage the discovery of connections between the past and the present, responsibility and learning, and a way of life.



Twenty-five programs are offered to the region's students during the school year. Fall and spring programming offer a range of experiences and instruction focused on the farm's dairy operation, livestock, crops, and Vermont's farm heritage. They include:

- ✿ *Corn: King of the Farm Crops*
- ✿ *An Apple a Day*
- ✿ *Pumpkins: Farming, Feasting, and Fables*
- ✿ *What Can You See? Explorations in Historic Photography*
- ✿ *The Land and the Hand: Making a Sustainable Way of Life*
- ✿ *Children on Hill Farms*
- ✿ *Possessions From the Past: Important Sources of History*
- ✿ *Up Close With a Jersey Cow*
- ✿ *Cow Pizza*
- ✿ *The Draft Horse: A Partner on the Land*
- ✿ *Sheep and Wool*

Intensive, day-long learning opportunities at the farm and in the farmhouse are offered during the late fall, winter, and early spring.

- ✿ *Life on the Farm: Explore the Past and Experience the Present*
- ✿ *The Family Farm: The Child's Role*
- ✿ *Simple Machines and Churning Butter*
- ✿ *Mapping the Farm's Water System*
- ✿ *Historic Celebrations of Christmas and Light*





## Home Schools

Home schools have participated in our educational programming for many years. In 2003, we expanded a series of educational programs designed especially for home schools. Home Schooler Days are

now offered in the spring and fall, featuring multi-age interactive study of the farm's livestock, crops, and Vermont's rural heritage. Program topics include: Spring on the Farm; Sheep and Wool; What Can You See? Explorations in Historic Photography; and Feed the Farm, Feed the Farmer.

## Pre-school Programs

Programs for Pre-schoolers, a series of interactive farm activities for children ages three and up, was piloted in the fall of 2003. The hour-and-a-half programs feature a seasonal farm-theme story, guided visit to the farm, hands-on activity, and a healthy snack.

Programs for Pre-schoolers—offered both mornings and afternoons—has been extremely successful. In 2003, nearly 600 children participated in pre-school programs.

## A Day in 1890: Living History for Young People

Students experience daily farm life in 1890 through work in the home and barns and 19<sup>th</sup>-century role playing. They explore the farmhouse using the kitchen and living spaces, the creamery, and laundry. A popular winter program for more than a decade, A Day in 1890 has been featured in *Vermont Life* and on Vermont Public Television's *RFD Vermont*.



## WE SALUTE GERALDINE BROWN



*The Woodstock Foundation and the Billings Farm & Museum express gratitude and appreciation for Geraldine Brown's significant contributions to the spirit, quality, and educational excellence of the Farm & Museum for the past 25 years.*

## Participating Schools 2003

### VERMONT

Academy School  
Albert Bridge School  
Barnard Central School  
Barstow Memorial School  
Bellows Falls UHS #27  
Bethel Elementary School  
Blue Mountain Union #21  
Braintree School  
Calais Elementary  
Canaan School  
Castleton Village School  
Cavendish Town Elementary  
Central Vermont Academy  
Cherry Hill Elementary  
Chester-Andover USD #29  
Christ The King  
Clarendon Elementary School  
Compass School  
Connecticut River Academy  
CP Smith Elementary School  
Currier Memorial UD #23  
Dorset Elementary School  
Dothan Brook School  
East Montpelier Elementary  
E. Taylor Hatton School  
Flood Brook USD #20  
Granville Village School  
Guilford Central School  
Hartford High School  
Hartland Elementary School  
Holy Family School  
Kurn Hattin  
Long Trail School  
Lothrop School  
Ludlow Elementary School  
Lunenberg & Gilman School  
Maple Street School  
Marion W. Cross School  
Mt. Holly School  
Neshobe School  
Newbury Elementary School  
Newton Elementary  
No. Bennington Graded School  
Northeast Elementary School  
Northwest Elementary School  
Ottauquechee School  
Pomfret Elementary School  
Poultney Elementary School



Randolph Area Vocational Center  
Reading Elementary School  
Rochester School  
Rutland Area Christian School  
Rutland Intermediate School  
Rutland Town Elementary School  
Saxtons River Elementary  
Seventh Day Advents  
Sherburne Elementary  
Shrewsbury Elementary  
South Royalton School  
St. Michael's Elementary  
St. Monica's School  
Stockbridge Central School  
The Mountain School at Winhall  
Thetford Elementary School  
Trinity Baptist School  
Turtle Island Children's Center  
Twinfield USD #33  
Union Baptist Christian School  
Union Elementary School  
Union Street School  
United Christian Academy  
Weathersfield Elementary  
Websterville Baptist Christian School  
Westminster Center School  
Windsor State Street School  
Woodstock Elementary  
Woodstock Union Middle School

### CONNECTICUT

Fraser-Woods School

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

Bernice A. Ray School  
Canaan Elementary School  
Charlestown Primary School  
Cornerstone Christian Academy  
Cornish Elementary School  
Enfield Elementary School  
Franklin Elementary School  
Fuller Elementary School  
Greater Claremont Christian School  
Hillsboro Christian School  
Jonathan M. Daniels School  
Kearsage Elementary School  
Lebanon Junior High School  
Lyme Elementary School  
Mascoma Valley Regional High School  
Monadnock Waldorf School  
Montessori Discovery School  
Mt. Prospect Academy  
New Life Christian Academy  
Plainfield Elementary School  
Rivendell Academy  
Sacred Heart Public School  
School Street School  
Simonds Elementary School  
St. Joseph's School  
St. Mary Elementary School  
Stark Village School  
Sunapee Middle High School  
Thornton Central School  
Warren Village School  
Woodsville Elementary School

# The Billings Farm

The Billings Farm operates in the spirit that Frederick Billings set forth when he established the farm in 1871 and which the family has carried forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This heritage combines responsible farm practices with productivity rooted in agricultural science and economics—as well as a sensitivity to Woodstock and the larger farm community. These concepts define the Farm & Museum’s educational mission.

The sustainability measures that we practice and share with our visitors through interactive programs and daily interpretation include:

- ✿ **An Integrated System of Crop Rotation** which balances the needs of the herd and the land. The systematic rotation of a variety of feed and forage crops has improved soil quality, while reducing fertilizer and herbicide applications by 80 percent since the program was implemented. The feed production program allows us to feed our livestock a higher quality ration tailored to their nutritional needs and has dramatically improved the ratio of feed cost to milk revenue.
- ✿ **Composting Manure** provides a higher fertilizer value while avoiding the problems associated with non-point pollution in the watershed. It also significantly reduces the odor of the spread manure.
- ✿ **Erosion Control** along the Ottauquechee River and Barnard Brook. Planting buffer strips along the banks and floodways has held the soil, despite severe ice dams in recent years.

## 2003 HARVEST REPORT

### CORN

- 38 acres of dry shell corn for grain. 85-day corn has yielded 145 bushels per acre.
- 13 acres corn silage—fermented feed. 102-day has yielded 23-tons per acre or 299 tons.

### ALFALFA HAYLAGE & BALEAGE

- 34 acres alfalfa. Alfalfa is considered the “queen of the hay crops” because it produces the highest protein. This year’s crude protein level was 21.5 percent—the highest that we have achieved to date. We produced 120 tons of haylage and 175 round bales.

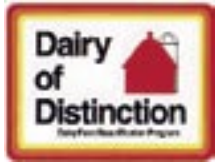
### GRASS HAY FIELDS

- 75 acres grasses. We harvested over 2500 square bales and 187 round bales.



# Awards and Recognition

## DAIRY OF DISTINCTION AWARD



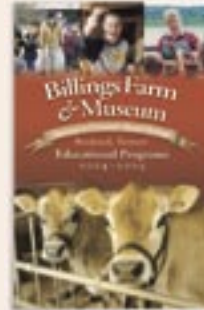
Billings Farm has been designated a **Dairy of Distinction** by the Vermont Department of Agriculture.

This program operates throughout the Northeast and recognizes the hard work and dedication of dairy farmers who maintain attractive, well-kept farmsteads which promote a positive image of the dairy industry.

Farm judging takes place each June and is based on a number of criteria: clean and attractively finished buildings; neat landscaping, roads, and lanes; and well maintained fences. Judges also consider other aspects of the farm operation including cleanliness of the livestock, feed areas, and manure management.

The Dairy of Distinction Award is based on the concept that attractive farmsteads will enhance consumer confidence in the wholesomeness of milk, stimulate milk sales, and encourage public support for the industry.

## PUBLICATION AWARDS



### *Educational Programs 2003-2004*

*First Place: Education  
Publication Design*

by the New England  
Museum Association for  
excellence in design and  
effective communication

### *Celebrate the Holidays*

*Third Place: Promotional Brochures*

*Looking Back at Vermont*

*Honorable Mention: Posters*

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### "TOP 10 WINTER EVENTS" IN 2003

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#### *A Sleigh Ride Weekend and Christmas at the Farm*

Selected by the Vermont  
Chamber of Commerce



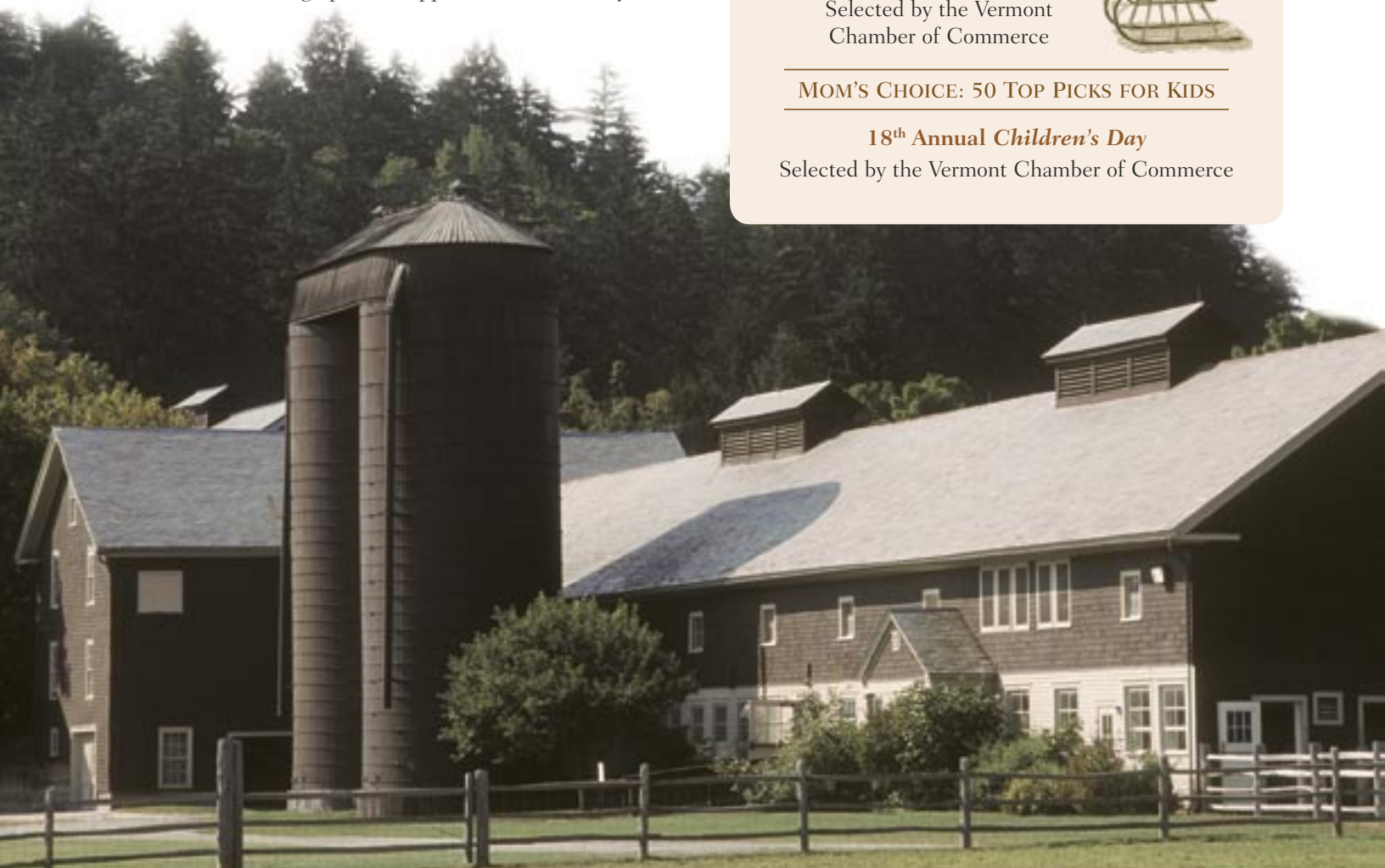
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### MOM'S CHOICE: 50 TOP PICKS FOR KIDS

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#### *18<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Day*

Selected by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce



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The Farm & Museum's 33 adult and junior volunteers contributed a total of 1,217 hours in 2003. Although the majority of their time centered around school programs and special events, our talented friends also shared their expertise in a wide variety of activities—ranging from performing at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration and helping to install the *Looking Back at Vermont* exhibition, to demonstrating the use of jack jumper sleds at our winter events. Their good will and enthusiasm is a constant for the Farm & Museum and we, and our visitors, are profoundly grateful.

*BELOW: Jo-Ann Ecker overseeing the butter making process with students.*

*RIGHT: Catie Baumgartner making ice cream with young helpers.*

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 Lindsey Johnson-Suddarth  
 Howard & Heather Johnston  
 Ann & Dan Jones  
 Mr. & Mrs. Vincent  
 Weaver Jones  
 Wane & Lee Joselow  
 Shawn Joyce & Family  
 Jeffrey & Rachel Kahn  
 John & Amy Kamb  
 Sesh Kamireddi  
 Mary Ann & Mike Kaplinsky  
 The Kappel Family  
 Margaret Karagas &  
 Jeremy Stephenson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Katims  
 Peter Kaufman & Ann Waterfall  
 J.P. & Annamaria Kealy  
 Peter & Tina Kebalka  
 James & Leeva Keith  
 Ruth & Eugene Kellogg  
 Patrick & Diane Kennedy  
 John & Susan Kent  
 Laura & Sherman Kent  
 Thomas Kerner & Kate Murphy  
 Beth Kerr & Valerie Reed  
 Sejung Kim  
 Angela Kingsbury  
 Kimberly Klauer  
 Frederick D. Knapp  
 Donna & Jeff Knight

Victoria Knox  
 The Knutzen Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. Laszlo Korbl  
 Mark Kostegan  
 Patricia Kovolyan  
 Suzanne & Lee Kowalski  
 Tom & Linda Krikawa  
 Stephen Kriss  
 Elizabeth Kuhlmann &  
 Stuart Haworth  
 Linda J. Labriola  
 Mark Lamarre &  
 Kimberly Walsh  
 Anne Lamb  
 Erin Lamb  
 Thomas & Vicki Lamb  
 Helene & Richard Lang  
 Gillian, Mark & Cameron Lang  
 Lori Langan  
 Kathleen & Walter Langille  
 David & Cheryl LaPrade  
 Luciano Lauretti  
 Barbara & Joel Lazar  
 Jill Leavitt  
 David & Lisa Leblanc  
 John & Mary Lee  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lee  
 Elaine Leibly  
 Curtis & Sally Lemay  
 The Leslie Family  
 Donald Lesmerises  
 Jeff & Holly Levison

Caroline & David Levy  
 & Family  
 Richard Levy &  
 Colleen Kilbreath  
 Greg Lewin & Joy Schloemer  
 Donna Lewis  
 Jeff Lewis & Nancy McLane  
 Dean Wilcox & Jane Lipson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Livingston  
 Jeffrey & Elizabeth Locke  
 Joanna & Norwood Long  
 The Long Family  
 Bonny & Michael Longley  
 Daniel & Louise Longnecker  
 Michelle Longo  
 Chris & Judy Louras  
 Virgil & Rosemary Lunardini  
 Bill Lundberg  
 Janet Lyngdal  
 Julia & Derek MacDonald  
 Joseph C. MacEachern  
 The MacMaster Family  
 Dean Madden &  
 Usdni Hanfstirgl  
 Susan Maerlender  
 Jim & Cathy Maher  
 Michael & Miencke Maher  
 Nicole Maiden  
 Mina Makiuchi  
 David & Ann Malenka  
 The Sean Mallon Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Manice  
 Kathy Mann

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Manning  
 The Marcus Family  
 Ron & Lisa Marra  
 Wendy & Jack Marrinan  
 Thomas Marsden  
 Gordon & Kathy Marshall  
 Muhammad Masood  
 John & Patsy Mathews  
 The Maxham Family  
 William F. McCalpin  
 Kathleen & James McCarthy  
 Kim & Tim McCarthy  
 Scott & Pam McClain  
 Luanne & Guy McDonough  
 Joseph & Carey McGee  
 Brian & Rosemary McGinty  
 David McKenna  
 John McNamara  
 Catherine & Garrett Mead  
 Paul Meaney &  
 Victoria Fullerton  
 Katherine J. Mears  
 John Mears & Family  
 Cristina Meirelles  
 Andrea Melville  
 Nancy Menton &  
 Dan Mendelsohn  
 Steven Mentzer  
 Peg & Ed Merrens  
 Terre & Esther Mesler  
 James & Margot Meyer  
 Robert & Jane Meyer  
 Elaine & Joseph Meyers

Doreen Michalah  
 Andrew & Meghan Milewski  
 Alison & Eric Miller  
 Fred Miller & Debra Rabideau  
 Gerard F. Miller  
 Richard & Pam Miller  
 Ken & Ellen Minami  
 The Minyard Family  
 Denise & Jim Mitchell  
 Amy Mitrani  
 Jack & Gina Moore  
 Karen Moore  
 Andrea, John & Kathleen  
 Moran  
 Maria Jose Moresco  
 Elisa Morrison  
 Burr Morse  
 Daniel & Janet Mullen  
 James B. Murphy  
 Jim Murphy & Susan Sanders  
 Bridie Napier  
 Allissa Nelson  
 Charles & Carol Nettleship  
 Hannah Nichols &  
 Stephen Johnson  
 Ron Nickerson  
 Lars Nielson  
 The Niemczyk Family  
 Jay Niles  
 Dan & Bif Noble  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence M.  
 Noble, Jr.  
 Laurie Norris & family  
 Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Norton  
 Soyoung Lee Nottelmann  
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 Sarah & John O'Connor  
 Robert A. O'Leary  
 Catherine Oatway  
 J. R. Oldham  
 Charles & Dorothy Olmstead  
 Lance Olson & Peentz Dubble  
 The Orday Family  
 Kim Ornvold & Gloria Zahka  
 John, Jennifer, & Christina  
 Osborne  
 Nancy & Bill Osgood  
 Aaron & Miriam Osofsky  
 Nina Ovrin & Jerry Schwartz  
 Carolyn Owens  
 Charles Pace  
 Richard & Sandra Paczkowski  
 Sophia Padnos &  
 Scott Karambis  
 Gene & Sarah Paige  
 Dennis & Virginia Palmer  
 Ron & Cathy Paprocki  
 T. Brook Parker



David & Pamela Patterson  
 Alex & Melissa Pease  
 Deborah Peate  
 Peter & Arlene Peregrin  
 Bill Perkins  
 John & Jennifer Perry  
 Jon & Bonnie Peterson  
 Angelo Petreccia  
 Linda Phelps  
 Deborah Phillips  
 Bruce Piasecki &  
 Andrea Masters  
 Nancy Pike  
 Lynn Pilcher & Chris Heintz  
 Daniel & Kristina Pineau  
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 Lynn & Tim Porter  
 Scott & Maryann Postans  
 Kenneth & Wanda Powell  
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 Paul Randolph  
 Wendy Rasmussen  
 Jerald & Lois Raticoff  
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 Anne & Ken Rawson  
 Laura Ray  
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 Larry & Rita Rees  
 Christy Regan  
 Robert Reuter  
 Roger & Joan Baney Reynolds  
 Philippa Richards &  
 Bob Coates  
 Bob & Jane Richards  
 Marlene & Roger Richards  
 Anita L. Richardson  
 David Richardson  
 Diana Richardson  
 Jim Richardson  
 Anne Richter-Geschardt &  
 Brian Moe  
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 Judy Riha & Julie Jones  
 Duncan Ritchie &  
 Renee Van Couyghen  
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 Laurence Roberts Jr. &  
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 Scott & Emily Rodi  
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 Marcia Rogers  
 Andy & Kim Rohm  
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 Daniel Roos  
 Amanda & Daniel Root  
 Charles Ross  
 Arline & Barry Rotman  
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 Timothy & Michele Rowland  
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 The Russo Family  
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 Mark & Maria Schmidt  
 Michele Schnabel  
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 Rosemarie & Lou Scibetta  
 Greta Scott & Charlotte Gridly  
 Kandy & Gertie Seace  
 Ray Sears  
 Meg & Bruce Seely  
 Wendalyn Seiple  
 Ken Seiter  
 Kevin Shannon  
 Janet Shea  
 Pat & Tom Shebell  
 Guy & Teri Sheldon  
 Jo Shelmutt & Mark Melendy  
 Michele Sheperd  
 Mary E. Shepler  
 Laurie Shetlick  
 Dennis Shillen  
 Peter & Julie Shoemaker  
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 Robert F. Shurtleff Jr.  
 Rebecca Siegel &  
 Michael Maddalena



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 Marlo J. Simmons  
 Barbara Simon & Bruce Bender  
 Suzanne Simon & Bill Brawley  
 Walter Simons & Hilde Baert  
 Ilna Singh  
 Hazel Sive  
 Robert & Linda Sivret  
 Cronin & David Sleeper  
 Gunilla & Leif Smedman  
 Dr. & Mrs. Maury Smith  
 Cathryn & Nathan Smith  
 Neil Smith & Family  
 Scott Leete Smith  
 Stevan A. Smith DMD  
 Liz V. & Tao Smith  
 Dimitrios & Juli Smyrnios  
 Jane Soderquist  
 Robert & Carole Soloff  
 Susan M. & Paul H. Sorensen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Laurence T. Sorkin  
 Kathy & Alfonse Sorrentino  
 Jeffrey & Willa Speiser  
 Haven & Beryl Spencer  
 Sarah Spinella  
 Mary & Henry Stankiewicz  
 Edmund & Heather Stanton  
 Tom & Sandy Stark  
 Lydia & John Starosta  
 Matt & Sophie Starr  
 Rob & Kathrine Staub  
 Kathleen Stavaski &  
 Mark Dove  
 Charles G. Stearns  
 Suzanne Stebenne  
 Arthur Steinberg & Family  
 Paul Steiner  
 Alisa K. Steinert  
 Paul Stephenson &  
 C. Monica Kaczyk  
 Peter & Kimberly Stern  
 Roberta Stewart  
 Waddell & Kristina Stillman  
 Greg Stoddard & Mary Spraker  
 Julie Straus  
 David & Nancy Streeter  
 Michel Sturm  
 Harriet Sullivan  
 John Sullivan & Family  
 Keli Sun  
 Jim & Jan Surette  
 Susan & Seth Szold & Family  
 Lee Tabas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Talcott  
 Tammy Tallman  
 Jennifer & Michael Taxman  
 John & Lucy Taylor  
 William W. & Mary D.  
 Teahan, Jr.  
 Patricia Tedesco  
 David Russell & Ellen Terie  
 William Terry  
 Markus Testorf  
 Irv & Hetty Thoma  
 Roy & Margaret Thomas  
 Paul & Suzanne Thompson  
 Janice & Roy Thompson  
 Peter W. Thoms  
 The Ticehurst Family  
 Robert Tichner  
 Mr. & Mrs. John M. Timken  
 Alexandra & Benjamin Tisdale  
 J. E. Tonra  
 Gail & Andy Torkelson  
 Jennifer Totaro  
 Barbara & Jay Tracey  
 Paul & Sarah Travil  
 Karen Tyler  
 Amy & Jeff Ulness  
 Ron & Tamry Underwood  
 Eileen & Jim Urquhart  
 Elizabeth & Herbert Usilton

Andrew Vadnais & Nancy Lyon  
 Ken & Carole VanMeter  
 Colleen Visconte  
 Ralph & Kirsten Waddell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Wadleigh  
 Suzanne Wadsworth  
 Matthew Waite  
 George Walgrove  
 Phillip & Deborah Walters  
 Adam & Crystal Washburn  
 Brian Watson  
 Jerold Weiner  
 Julie & Jonathan Weiss  
 Meghan Weldon  
 Bob & Wendy Wells  
 Rachel West  
 Holly & Craig Westling  
 Mark & Joan Whaley  
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald W. Wheeler  
 Bill Mlacak &  
     Joanna Whitcomb  
 Lee & Marion White  
 David & Allison Whittaker  
 Gilbert Whittemore &  
     Anstis Benfield  
 Mr. & Mrs. Roger Wiggins  
 Kim & Mark Williams  
 Stan & Jenny Williams

Mr. & Mrs. Fielding L.  
 Williams, Jr.  
 Kathleen & David Willis  
 James & Margaret Wilson  
 Jonathan & Alita Wilson  
 Matthew & Janet Wilson  
 Paul & Jean Winter  
 Christianne & William  
 Wohlforth  
 Anne & Harry Wollman  
 Carol & Jeff Wood  
 Karl & Phyllis Wood  
 Bonnie & Steven Wood  
 Harold B. Wright  
 Amy & Colby Wyatt  
 Kathy Meyer & David Wysocki  
 Arthur Young  
 Donald & Mary Zimble  
 The Zimet Family  
 David & Camille Zimmerman  
 Paul Zintl & Lisa Frost  
 John & Susan Zuccotti

**Individual**

Judith G. Allan  
 Betty Barba  
 John Barker  
 Donald F. Berth  
 Cynthia M. Billings

David Lane Billings II  
 Nancy Bourdon  
 Richard Clapp  
 Marjorie Clogston  
 Claire Coleman  
 Josephine Crocker  
 Bonnie Dankert  
 Louise Denham  
 Geraldine DeNicola  
 M. Dana Emmons  
 Michael H. Forster  
 Gretchen Frank  
 Meg Gluckman  
 Paul M. Golas  
 Glennis Gold  
 Juliet Grant-Suttie  
 Marguerite Grudberg  
 Russell J. Handelman  
 Charles V. Hardiman  
 Lucy Houghton  
 Sherman Howe, Jr.  
 Julie Inman  
 Evelyn I. Johnson  
 Mary Johnstone  
 Lincoln Kerney  
 David Lamphere  
 Patricia Adams Lent  
 Laurie Lombard  
 George Lynch, Jr.

Suzanne E. Markloff  
 Denise U. Martin  
 Edith F. McClure  
 Richard Muehlke  
 Mary Ellen OBrien  
 Jerry Ann Putt  
 Irene Quinn  
 Kelly Rappuchi  
 Lynn Rauch  
 Dolores Rawding  
 Joan Reese  
 Cassie Root  
 Robert W. Rosenberger  
 Erica Rothenfluh  
 Martha B. Scott  
 Janice Senackerib  
 Betsy Bass Shands  
 Calee Simpson  
 Catherine Smith  
 Anna K. Supple  
 Pat Wallace  
 Emilie Welles  
 Jane Williamson  
 Kevin Wilson  
 Mrs. David H. Winton  
 Kay Wood  
 Gwyn Worthington





# Billings Farm & Museum

## Jersey Dairy Farm

- Cow barn
- Calf nursery
- Trophy room
- Milk house
- Horse barn
- Chicken barn
- Wagon barn

## 1890 Farm House

- Farm office
- Family living quarters
- Creamery
- Ice house

## Vermont Farm Life Exhibits

- Cycle of Growth
- Grain Harvest
- Machine Threshing
- Haying
- Milking
- Butter Making
- Farm Workshop
- Farm Home & Community
- Maple Sugaring
- Ice Cutting
- Apple Orchard

## Upon This Land Introductory Exhibit

- Family Album Wall
- Evolution of the Billings Farm

## Theater

*A Place in the Land*, our 30-minute Academy Award®-nominee film.

## Films and Audio

- *Ben's Water Tub*  
Farm Workshop Exhibit
- *Early Ice Cutting Films*  
Ice Cutting Exhibit
- *Maple Sugaring Reminiscing*  
Sugaring Exhibit

Route 12 & River Road  
Woodstock, Vermont 05091

802.457.2355 / fax 802.457.4663  
[www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org)

