



The Poore Farm Historic Homestead and Museum



629 Hollow Road/Route 145
Stewartstown, NH



www.poorefarm.org



Story Map

What's Special About This Site

The Poore Farm features three barns, all of which were constructed in the first half of the nineteenth century. The most significant is the main barn. It contains a high drive which is accessed by a rare covered wooden ramp.

Barn History and Use

The Poore family obtained the property in the 1830s. The barns were used to house oxen, horses, cows, sheep, and other animals. The main barn housed horses on one side and cows on the other. The main barn was used for dairy production until J.C. Kenneth Poore passed away in 1983. Upon his death, the property was bequeathed to the Poore Family Foundation for North Country Conservancy to be used as an interpretive museum of the history of rural agriculture in New Hampshire's the North Country.



*Photo courtesy of Lowell Fewster with
a side view of the barn bridge*

*Photo courtesy of
Ryan Cutting*



Continued on the next page

Architectural Features

The barn has a stone foundation, sawn timbers joined with mortise and tenons, and a common rafter roof with major purlins and metal cladding. The barn contains wooden channels used to ventilate the moisture and odors generated by the animals out of the cattle stable.

Hay was brought to the high drive by horse and wagon and pitched down into the hay mows to be fed to the cows. There are short, boarded sides along the high drive to guide the horses and contain the hay stored above the floor level.

The manure produced by the cows was shoveled down through scuttle holes in the floor and stored in the basement. In the spring it was hauled out to fertilize the fields.



Photo courtesy of Ryan Cutting

What You Can Do Here Now

The Poore Farm Historic Homestead and Museum has many different educational and recreational activities for visitors to enjoy from June to September. There is a scenic picnic area, site tours, museum exhibits, hiking trails, and live demonstrations. The Bishop Brook Gorge Nature Center and Environmental Study Area encompasses 70 forested acres

which includes a campsite, trails, and an outdoor classroom that connects visitors to the natural environment. Special events, such as live concerts and performances, are held the farm's band shell and amphitheater.

For Further Reading

Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings, by Thomas Durant Visser (University Press of New England, 1997).

Barns: Their History, Preservation, and Restoration, by Charles Klamkin (Bonanza Books, 1979).

Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England, by Thomas C. Hubka (University Press of New England, 1984).

An Age of Barns, by Eric Sloane (Funk and Wagnalls, 1967).

Preserving Old Barns: Preventing the loss of a valuable resource, by John C. Porter and Francis E. Gilman (Peter E. Randall Publisher, 2019).